It has come to my attention that Clyde and Dorothy Bell are celebrating 55 years of marriage, and both are also celebrating their 85th birthdays this year. There will be a family and friend celebration on Saturday, November 27. On behalf of the entire Penfield community, I would like to recognize these wonderful milestones and send the couple very special congratulations for many more years of life and happy marriage. Congratulations Clyde and Dorothy!

Last week I had the opportunity to attend an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Lucas Dailey of Troop 363 located at the Church of the Holy Spirit. I presented Lucas with a certificate of recognition on behalf of the Town Board. Lucas has been in scouting for seven years. For his Eagle project, Lucas organized 166 hours of service for a restoration project for the Webster Rural Cemetery. In addition to scouting, Lucas is a junior at Webster Schroeder High School where he is a “high honor roll with distinction” student. He is a member of the school concert band, and is a first degree black belt in Tae-Kwon-Do. I continue to be impressed with the youth of our community, these are the future leaders, and Lucas exemplifies this in everything he does. Congratulations Lucas!

From time to time I am asked about unregistered vehicles parked in driveways, parking of boats, RVs, campers, setback requirements, dumping of waste material in compost piles, and maintenance requirements for windows, gutters, and steps. If you’re curious about any of these topics, there is a very good illustration on the Town’s website entitled “Up to Code—Keep Our Town Looking Good.” Log on to www.penfield.org and click on departments, then click on Building and Zoning, then choose “Up to Code.” This one-page document may answer a number of your questions. If you would like to speak to a representative of Building and Zoning please call 340-8636.

It is Rochester and we’re approaching December, which means like it or not, winter weather will soon be upon us. The Town Highway Department and the Sheriff’s Department work very closely to make sure the roadways are safe during snow events. When the snow starts piling up, many residents face the challenge of finding a place to put it when they clear their driveways. Here’s some information that may help. The New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law specifically states, “No person shall throw or deposit upon any highway any snow or other substance likely to injure any person, animal or vehicle upon such highway.” The State has made it very clear that snow or ice must not be deposited on a roadway. Depending on the circumstances, violators may face civil and criminal penalties. Whether you shovel, use a snow blower, or contract with a plow operator for snow removal, make sure the snow you remove is deposited in your own yard. Also, it is important to remember that snow banks should never be so high as to limit your view or that of an oncoming motorist when pulling out of a driveway. I will provide further winter tips in future columns.

The Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf is extremely busy preparing to give support to needy people and families in our community this holiday season. The Food Shelf always welcomes nonperishable groceries and personal care products. If you would like to support this important effort, please call 234-0799 to make arrangements to donate items. Monetary contributions are also welcome to help the Food Shelf purchase some of the perishable products families need each week. Checks should be made payable to “Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf” and mailed to 1862 Penfield Road, Penfield, NY 14526. Lastly, do you have gently used games, toys, books, stuffed animals that your family no longer needs? Please consider donating them so they can be used as gifts for children who may not otherwise receive gifts at this time of year. We are accepting your donations at the Town Hall through December 15; call 340-8647 to learn more. Thank you in advance for supporting this very worthwhile program.

Hanukkah begins at sundown on Wednesday, December 1. Consistent with our past practice, we will be lighting a Menorah in the rotunda of the Town Hall. The Menorah symbolizes the burning light in the Temple, as well as marking the eight days of Hanukkah, the festival of lights. Our Town Clerk Amy Steklof will be coordinating this program; more details will be on our website at www.penfield.org and on PCTV.

Mark your calendars for the Penfield Symphony Orchestra (PSO) concert “Happy Holidays” on Monday, December 6 at 7:30 PM featuring “Sarasate” with William Hunt on violin and many holiday favorites. The concert will be held at the new Penfield High School Auditorium. For more information on the PSO and the rest of the season concerts, log on to www.penfieldsymphony.org.

Until next week, see you around town! -Tony, www.supervisor@penfield.org, 340-8630