Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column
Week of December 8, 2014

The 2015 Winter/Spring edition of the Penfield Recreation "PenRec" brochure will be hitting mailboxes in the coming week. Registration begins Friday, January 2 unless otherwise noted. Popular programs fill up quickly, so do not delay signing up for your favorites. Please visit www.penfieldrec.org to view the brochure online and register.

There is still time to drop off non-perishable food goods for the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf (PEFS) for the upcoming holiday season. You can find donation containers inside the Penfield Community Center adjacent to the Recreation Office and at the town hall in the rotunda. All donated items will be dropped off to PEFS by December 20. Thank you to all who have been so generous to date, your generosity does make a difference for many of our Penfield families.

Are you looking for a different gift to give this holiday season? Are the holidays coming too quickly, and are you feeling pressure that you have not even started your Christmas shopping? We may be able to help you! Gift certificates from Penfield Recreation are available in any denomination and can be used for classes, wellness merchandise, performances, lodge rentals, and much more. To purchase with your credit card call the office at 340-8655(option 6) or stop by the office, our staff would love to see you!

Once again, I have been reminded by the Monroe County Sheriff’s Department, Zone A to "watch out" for those who want to do their holiday shopping at your expense. Vehicle break-ins are at their highest level at this time of the year. Make sure your vehicle is always locked and do not leave gifts or valuables in your vehicle overnight. If you are out at the store or mall consider locking gifts in the trunk and out of sight or cover them up to disguise. Also, vehicle break-ins at gyms and other sports facilities are higher this time of the year. Be aware of your surroundings, park in a lit area, have your cell phone in hand, and do not place your purse or wallet in the trunk at the facility before you walk in to exercise — you never know who is watching!

The Shepherd Home presents its annual "Wings of Light Luminaria" event on Monday, December 15 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. The luminaries are small bags holding sand and a lighted candle. They will all be lit at once to create a glowing nighttime holiday display on the grounds of the Shepherd Home at 1959 Five Mile Line Road. There is still time to purchase but don’t delay. You can honor or memorialize a friend or loved one with a personalized luminary. Come join in a peaceful evening of light, laughter, and love. To learn more, please visit www.shepherdhome.org.

I would like to recognize and thank Dave Woodward, owner and operator of Woody Acres Farm located at 1530 Harris Road, for donating the annual Christmas tree for the Town Hall rotunda. The 14-foot tree will be enjoyed by many Penfield residents throughout the holiday season. This is another example of the very generous and caring residents we have in this great community. Dave, may you and your entire family have a very healthy and happy holiday season.

Mark your calendars for a special holiday donation. The American Red Cross is holding a holiday blood drive on Wednesday, December 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Penfield Community Center. You can schedule a donation appointment by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or just walk in! This is one of the best presents I can think of giving this holiday season.

I would like to recognize and thank Boy Scout Troop 312 for donating two wreaths to the Town of Penfield at our last town board meeting. Boy Scout Mitchell Krenzer was on hand to represent the troop and present the wreaths to his aunt, and town board member, Paula Metzler. The troop wanted to recognize the Town of Penfield for support during the year including Eagle projects and attending various troop functions. The wreaths will be proudly displayed at town facilities.

Until next week, enjoy the current mild weather for this time of the year…be well and be safe!