I am regularly asked about the availability of electronics recycling—specifically FREE events to dispose of old and unused electronics. I just learned of one such free event being sponsored by Senator Joe Robach in conjunction with Time Warner Cable, Sunnking Electronics, Monroe County, and Waste Management on Sunday, February 28 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Monroe County Ecopark facility located at 10 Avion Drive near the airport. For a complete list of accepted and unaccepted items, please go to www.robach.nysenate.gov or www.sunnking.com.

Once again, I have been reminded by the Monroe County Sheriff’s Department, Zone A, to ask you “watch out” for those who want to do their holiday shopping at your expense. Vehicle break-ins are at their highest level this time of the year. Make sure your vehicle is always locked, and do not leave gifts or valuables in your car overnight. If you are out shopping 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 season. Be aware of your surroundings, park in a lit area, have your cell phone in hand, and stash your purse, wallet, or valuables in your trunk before you arrive at your destination—you never know who is watching!

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

Members of the Creative Gardeners of the Penfield Garden Club have a tradition of decorating the town hall rotunda with beautiful greens and wreaths for the holidays. We are grateful that they have visited us once again to spread their holiday cheer in welcome to all town hall visitors.

Lastly, I want to thank Town Clerk Amy Steklof for preparing the annual Menorah table. On behalf of all our employees and residents, a special thank you goes out to Woody Acres, the Creative Gardeners, and Amy Steklof for your efforts in making this a special holiday season for Penfield residents!

The Shepherd Home presents its annual “Wings of Light Luminaria” event on Monday, December 12 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM. The luminaries are small bags containing sand and a lighted candle; each bearing the name of a loved one being remembered. All the luminaries will be lit at once to create a glowing nighttime holiday display on the grounds of the Shepherd Home at 1959 Five Mile Line Road. Come join in for an evening of light, laughter, and love. To learn more, please visit their website at www.shepherdhome.org.

Are the holidays coming too quickly? Are you feeling the 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 anything we sell including classes, wellness merchandise, performances, lodge rentals, and much more. To purchase with your credit card call the office at 340-8655 (option 0) or stop by the office, our staff would love to see you!

Penfield Recreation has put together another great lineup of activities during school break weeks in December, February, and April. The Winter/Spring 2017 PenRec brochure will hit your mailboxes this week, so be sure to check out the upcoming offerings for school breaks and the coming months. You may also log on now to browse the entire brochure at www.penfieldrec.org.

The Recreation Department asked me to remind everyone that although winter has just begun, it is not too early to sign up for summer camp. If you register online you will receive a 10 percent discount. Due to the popularity of our camp programs they tend to fill up fast, so don’t delay!

**Important Dates and Events in History:**
- December 11, 1941 – Germany and Italy declare war on the United States.
- December 12, 1800 – Washington, D.C. becomes the official capital of the United States.
- December 15, 1791 – The first Ten Amendments to the Constitution known as the “Bill of Rights” are ratified.

Until next week, plan accordingly for the winter mix we will be seeing across the area. Allow for extra time to get to work and appointments; watch for icy spots under the snow that will cause slipping hazards; if the snow accumulates please clear your cars before driving to avoid not seeing another vehicle or pedestrian, and don’t forget to keep that neighborhood fire hydrant clear!