Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column  

Week of December 21, 2015

I will begin this week by responding to residents who have called my office or stopped me out in the community to ask why they do not consistently find my column in the Penfield Post. First, I thank you for following this column and your concern for its whereabouts.

Since I began writing a weekly column six years ago, my goal has been to share news that is interesting and useful for Penfield residents. I like to cover all the great things going on in our community and keep you updated on news that impacts our town, including updates on state and federal actions and unfunded mandates. From your frequent feedback, I have learned many residents rely on my weekly updates. I often get requests to address specific topics and do my best to cover those items in a timely fashion.

It’s true, over the past several weeks my columns have not always made it into the print edition of the Penfield Post. As the printed news industry continues to adapt to the digital age, staffs are reduced, local reporters seem to be a thing of the past, and publishing teams are working multiple jobs to manage multiple deadlines for print, digital, and social media. Weekly deadlines have become fluid with inconsistent direction to content providers like myself. It is a vicious circle and a frustrating situation for all involved.

I assure you I do write my column each week, and I will continue to do so and submit it for publication. At times I also invite town staff to guest-write columns of particular interest to residents. I recognize I cannot control the internal resources of the newspaper and production timing. To that end, if you are a regular reader of this column in the Penfield Post and you cannot find it in print, please consider logging on to www.penfield.org. On the home page you will see my most recent columns (published every Monday morning for the current week) in the blog feed and you can click the link below my photo for an archive of past columns. The Penfield Post also publishes the column online.

On to the news! At the last town board meeting of 2015, Mitchel Krenzer of Troop 312 continued an annual tradition and presented the Town of Penfield with a holiday wreath on behalf of the troop. We are honored that Troop 312 donates a beautiful wreath that we prominently display at the town hall for all to enjoy.

The next Penfield Trails Committee hike is Saturday, January 9 at Ellison Park. If Mother Nature cooperates, dust off your cross country skis or snowshoes and join them for an exhilarating trip through this scenic park. If there is no snow the hike will still take place and will be just as fabulous. Hikers will follow the mostly flat portions of Ellison Park on the north side of Blossom Road. All hikes are free; however, we ask that you pre-register by calling Penfield Recreation at 340-8655. Look for the hike signs!

The town board’s organizational meeting is Wednesday, January 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall auditorium. At this meeting the Penfield Town Board establishes the rules of procedure, approves general contracts, board/committee appointments, leases, committee assignments, and more. Prior to the meeting at 6:00 p.m. local elected officials will be sworn-in to start the New Year. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting and swearing-in or you may tune in and watch it live. Time Warner Cable continues to make adjustments to the local public, education and government (PEG) channel locations with little to no communication to town staff. Depending how your TV is configured, you can o view all of our meetings live on one of the following channels: 12; 13.02; 5.12; 98.4.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the town staff for a great year supporting Penfield residents. Our employees are second to none across Monroe County and they demonstrate that each and every day—thank you team! I also want to recognize the Penfield Town Board for the guidance and support they provide me each and every week to ensure your town government is working as efficiently and effectively as possible. Thank you Andy, Linda, Paula, and Rob. Lastly, on behalf of the town board and our entire staff, may you have a Merry Christmas and happy holidays!