



# PENDLETON

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HOME TOWN NEWS ~ WINTER EDITION ~ 2022

## YOUR TOWN BOARD

### SUPERVISOR

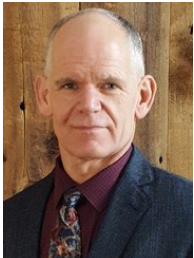


**Joel Maerten**  
625-8833

### COUNCILMEN



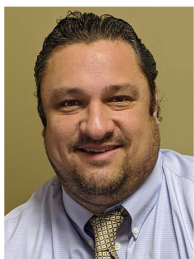
**David Leible**  
957-6242



**Joe Hickman**  
625-8833



**Justin Graham**  
909-2969



**Jason Evchich**  
210-3263

## From the Supervisor's Desk...

It's been a few years now that I've been writing quarterly newsletter articles and I'll be honest, I'm running out of new ideas of how to start an article in a unique way that will grab everyone's attention. However, there are a few exciting items to share, so I guess what I'll say is please read on. I'm pretty confident you won't be disappointed.

This fall the Town Board approved a contract with the Niagara County Sheriff's Office for a full-time Deputy Sheriff to be assigned exclusively to the Town of Pendleton. We have worked closely with the NCSO in recent years, addressing a wide-variety of resident concerns. However, with the rapid growth of the Town and other factors, there are limitations in what law enforcement can do on a dedicated basis to help address these concerns. This brought us to this point of working on an agreement to have a dedicated officer for the Town, a model that has been in place in the Town of Wheatfield for quite awhile.

As the year moves closely to an end, Sheriff Fillicetti is working to recruit an experienced NCSO deputy who will be solely focused on our Town's needs. We anticipate the officer to get to work getting to know the Town, residents, Town employees, the members of the Wendelville Fire Company, and others who this deputy will be working with on a regular basis. Additionally, the Town is home to the Starpoint School campus, which is populated by a large population of kids and adults and I personally will feel good knowing there will often be a trained responder nearby to respond to any calls for help.

To give you a basic understanding of the big picture, there will be no change to the number and frequency of NCSO and NYS Police patrols in the area. This extra patrol will increase the presence of law enforcement and will not be a replacement. The major factors influencing this move include concerns for roadway safety, crimes such as car break-ins, and general public safety. As we move through 2022 updates on this initiative will continue.

Another exciting bit of news is the anticipated construction of the new community center during 2022. This has been a topic for many years and through the award of grant funding and use of building fund reserves we are finally able to make this project a reality. The new building will be constructed where the current log cabin is located south of the Town Hall. Time has not been kind to the log cabin and it's condition is now such that it is not salvageable. Once completed, the new community center will have flexible space to be used by community groups conveniently located adjacent to the Town Park.

Also this coming year we anticipate construction of a new salt storage building and stand-by generator for the Public Works Facility. Though not as exciting as the two previous items, this project is equally important as our public works employees are often on the job when bad weather rolls in, presenting problems for all. The majority of the cost of this project is fortunately also covered by grant funding.

Another smaller project that will soon be underway includes upgrading of security systems in all Town buildings and the addition of more security cameras. Cameras currently located around buildings will be upgraded and new cameras will be located around the Town campus, including in the Town Park. The increase in NCSO patrols will certainly be an important component in safety and security on Town property, but cameras are also an essential element as the number of people using the Town Park has increased significantly.

Winding this down, the Town Board recently approved the 2022 budget which is once again under the New York State tax cap. Though I outlined a lot of work taking place, the costs are

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~ Barbara Neri



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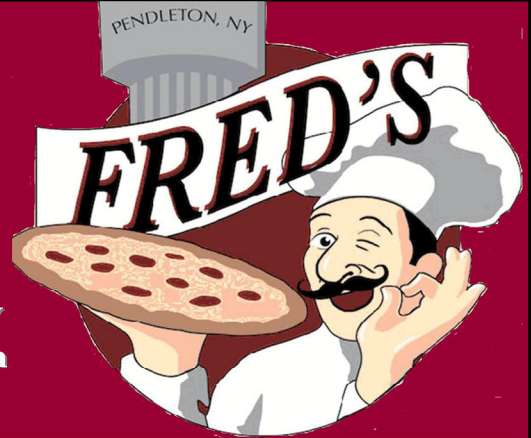


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(Continued from page 1)

largely covered by grant funding and reserves which have been funded over the years specifically for these types of investment. Fortunately, revenues in general have been strong and we've been able to invest in many needed updates and upgrades.

Finally, I'll repeat my usual closing with a reminder that all meeting documents for the town board, planning board, zoning board of appeals, conservation board, and recreation committee are all available on the Town's website. Additionally, town board meetings are streamed live online. Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact any member of the town board and contact information is also available on the website. Thank you!

Joel

### Winter Parking Reminder!

Parking is prohibited on all town roads, North Tonawanda Creek Road and Bear Ridge Road between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

December 1st – March 31st

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS

I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I would also like to thank Carl and Craig in the Highway Department for the dedicated years of service and hard work they have given to our town and residents, in keeping our town in good condition. I wish them the best in their retirement and future. GOOD LUCK AND THANK YOU!

Councilman Leible

**"May your walls know joy,  
may every room hold laughter,  
and every window open to great  
possibility." ~ Mary Anne Radmacher**

**"Kindness is like snow,  
It beautifies everything it covers."**

~ Kahlil Gibran

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

As of this newsletter, I will have retired after serving as the interim Highway-Water-Sewer Superintendent.

I would like to take this time to thank the Pendleton Town Board with having a good working relationship with me. The approval to purchase a new Tandem dump truck, Gradall and other equipment that will aid in the work of the Public Works Department.

To all employees of the Public Works Department: A big thank you for pulling together and accomplishing all that we did this year. Your hard work is appreciated!

Also, Carl Gross my Highway Deputy and Aaron Bair my Water-Sewer Deputy that have gone above and beyond to help me this year in implementing and carrying out all the work that had to be done. The help you gave me is very much appreciated! THANK YOU! Carl has also retired as of the end of 2021. I wish Carl all the best in his retirement!

In closing, I would like to congratulate Dave Fischer, the new 2022 Town of Pendleton Highway Superintendent. I wish Dave the best in his new endeavor.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2022!

Craig Walter,  
Highway-Water-Sewer Superintendent

"The joy of brightening other lives,  
bearing each others' burdens,  
easing each other's loads and supplanting empty  
hearts and lives with generous gifts becomes for  
us the magic of the holidays."

~ WC Jones

"Winter, a lingering season,  
is a time to gather golden moments,  
embark upon a sentimental journey,  
and enjoy every idle hour." ~ John Boswell

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## PENDLETON VETERANS ASSOCIATION



Hello Pendleton. We here at the Pendleton Veterans Association (PVA), we hope you all had a great holiday season with your family and friends. Let's keep the joy going into the future.

Our annual Veterans Day Ceremony and wreath laying

commenced at the PVA Monument on Thursday November 11, 2021 at 11:00am. An invocation, presentation of the colors, pledge to the flag and words from our Town supervisor Joel Maerten were well received. Taps were played by a bugler from a National all volunteer group "Bugle Across America" that performs taps at burials and military functions gratis.

As a follow up to the fall newsletter stating that the Town board passed a resolution honoring PVA member Gordon Bellinger with naming the new PVA monument flagpole in Mr Bellingers honor. The Flagpole was officially dedicated in his name on Veteran's Day. Mr Bellinger is a Vietnam Veteran, recipient of a Bronze Star, a tireless Veteran advocate and we are proud and humbled to have him in our organization. Thank you Gordie for your service.

By the time you read this our (PVA) elections will have happened. If anyone would be interested in the results please contact us thru the town clerks office and leave a message there.

"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings."

~ William Arthur Ward



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"The holiday season is a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us."

~ Anonymous

### NOTE to all members

please remember that dues are due in January. Please be prompt with your dues payment as we want to finalize our budget for the year.

Thanks to Veterans Nick and Katie Graves owners of the 'Craft Coffee House' for their generous and delicious no charge breakfast for Veterans on Veterans day. Stop in and say Hi to them.

During the October and November PVA meetings there were discussions to change bylaws that restricted PVA membership to Residents of Town of Pendleton only. A motion was made, voted on and passed, that Past or present residents can join the PVA.

The Community building project to replace the Historical building "Log cabin" is moving along and will soon be in the construction bid phase. More to come as things progress.

### FUTURE PVA MEETING DATES

- |                                          |            |
|------------------------------------------|------------|
| * January 5 <sup>th</sup> 2022 - 1:00pm  | BOD - Noon |
| * February 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2022 - 1:00pm | BOD - Noon |
| * March 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2022 - 1:00pm    | BOD - Noon |

An evening meeting could replace one of the above times. An email will be sent to all members and posted on the electronic billboard at town hall if changed.



Greg Metzger

PVA Board Vice President

## PENDLETON SENIORS

As we leave the year 2021 behind, we look forward to a return to normalcy. While some changes caused by Covid were "interesting" – those summer meetings in the park!! – it's nice to know we're back to our regular meeting place at Wendelville Fire Hall on Campbell Blvd. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

We've added several members recently, and would welcome any Pendleton residents age 55 and older to join us. Bring your own lunch – we eat at noon!! There are a lot of interesting conversations, a 50/50 raffle, an occasional speaker, fun parties, and some travels. Come and see what we do and become part of our group!!

Information will be available early in the year about our day trips throughout the area. These trips are open to all town residents.

All officers will remain the same for 2022: Joyce Lane, president; Joan Wright, vice president; Donald Lanternier, secretary; Pat Ward, treasurer.

Please watch the Pendleton website for information and/or changes. And kindly remember those members of The Armed Forces and our Veterans. Happy Holidays!!





Picture lineup is: Lion Tom Valentine, Middle School Art Teacher Amanda Alvarez, 2nd place Colin Campbell, 1st place Alexis Brydges, 3rd place Madelyn Jagow, Lion Cheryl Smith and Middle School Principal Dr. Corey Gray.

**"Be always at war with your vices,  
at peace with your neighbors,  
and let each New Year find you a better person."  
- Benjamin Franklin**

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Wishing you Happy  
Holidays and the very best in  
the New Year!*

## PENDLETON LIONS CLUB

The Pendleton Lions have been keeping busy this past quarter.

Scholarship checks have been sent to the 10 Graduating Starpoint Seniors that won them. Please keep this in mind for your future Starpoint graduate.

By now you will have received your new edition of the Pendleton Directory with information and ads for our local businesses. Please take the time to read through it and check out how much our town has grown and the many businesses we have here.

We have recently done the Peace poster contest at Starpoint. Winners were 3<sup>rd</sup> place Madelyn Jagow, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Colin Campbell, and 1<sup>st</sup> place Alexis Brydges. Alexis's charity was Pets Alive of WNY on Campbell Boulevard we will be sending them a check.

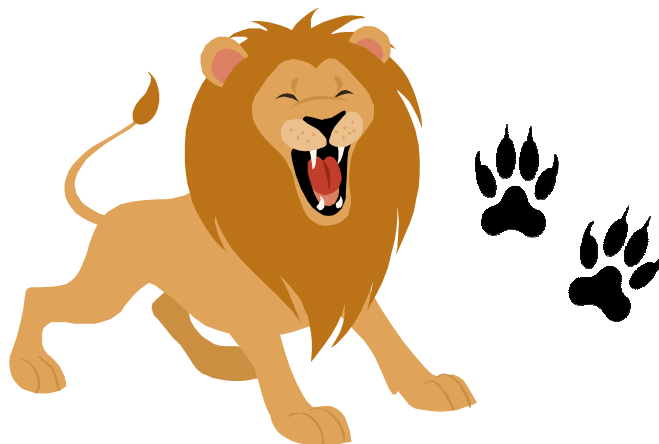
We are continuing our support of the Food Pantry at St. Paul's United Church of Christ.

It is with great sadness that we will be honoring Robert Kramer, with a donation to the Pendleton Food Pantry. He volunteered and supported them for many years. Bob was a founding member of the Pendleton Lions and a Lifetime Lion. He will always be remembered as a great supporter of the Pendleton Community and will be greatly missed by all.

Keep in mind we do collect and distribute some minor medical equipment, canes, wheelchairs, shower seats, etc. We also will remove and reuse metal wheelchair ramps if they are in good shape and donated. Please be on the lookout for our Lions glasses donation boxes in our local businesses since we do collect, refurbish and donate those all over the world.

As always thank you very much for all your support. Please check our **Pendleton Lions Website** at [www.PNYLC.org](http://www.PNYLC.org).

Pendleton Lion Secretary, Cheryl Smith



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• [kandylandkids@gmail.com](mailto:kandylandkids@gmail.com)

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AND LEARNING  
GO HAND IN HAND!



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## TOWN CLERK

Hello and happy holidays! It has definitely been another trying year with continuous ups and downs due to the Covid pandemic. To say that it has changed the way we live and work is an understatement. We are constantly trying to find ways to improve the services that we provide to our residents and welcome your feedback and suggestions.

By now you have noticed that your water bills are different. Some of you dislike the new format while others love it. In time these bills will seem as normal as the old postcard style did and we appreciate your patience while you are getting used to this change. In the near future I hope to implement direct withdrawal options for those of you who are interested in this payment option.

I have included some important information for the upcoming months below.

### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE – TOWN HALL CLOSED

New Year's Day (observed)	December 31 <sup>st</sup>
Martin Luther King Day	January 17 <sup>th</sup>
Presidents' Day	February 21 <sup>st</sup>

The 2022 Recycling & Trash Collection calendar, which will include the Bulk Trash Pick-Up Schedule, will be mailed to all residents from Modern Disposal Services at the end of December. This can also be found on our website once it is released. This past year has been quite a transition for both residents and staff. We are working with Modern Disposal Service on a regular basis to help find ways to improve the service in the Town. In the meantime, here are some important tips to remember:

1. Only waste placed inside the cart is accepted. No bags, unless they are tagged.
2. Extra bag tags can be purchased at the Town Clerk's office for \$5.00 each.
3. Additional tote/refuse service can also be purchased for an annual fee of \$55.00.
4. Bulk trash is collected once per month. Each parcel is allowed a maximum of three items. (See schedule below)

If you have a missed collection, please call Modern Disposal's customer service number directly at 716-754-8226.

### BULK COLLECTION SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH

See maps included in this newsletter on opposite page and at [www.pendletonny.us](http://www.pendletonny.us)

Week A (RED Map)	Week B (BLUE Map)
January 11 <sup>th</sup>	January 18 <sup>th</sup>
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	February 22 <sup>nd</sup>
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	March 22 <sup>nd</sup>

### TRASH COLLECTION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH

**Tuesday trash collection will not be affected by the holidays during this quarter.**

### TAX COLLECTION

Town/County tax bills will be mailed out by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Bills must be either paid in person at the Town Hall, Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., by placing in the locked drop box outside of Town Hall, or by mailing to:



**Town of Pendleton  
P.O. Box 2305  
Buffalo, NY 14240-2305**



**\*THIS ADDRESS IS ONLY FOR TAX PAYMENTS.  
THE WATER BILL PAYMENT ADDRESS HAS  
NOT CHANGED.\***

You may also pay **ONLINE** by going to <https://egov.basgov.com/pendleton/>.

**IMPORTANT:** If you pay your bills through your bank's online bill paying program, please make sure that you are sending them to the address stated above. You will also need to allow enough time for your check to be mailed to and received at the collection office. The envelopes sent by your bank do not have a USPS postmark that is stamped by the Post Office therefore it will be considered paid the day it is actually received in the office. The payment must be received in the office by the due date in order to consider it a timely payment. (Real Property Tax Law §925.)

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions please call me at 625-8833 ext. 112.

It is my pleasure to serve as your Town Clerk.

Warmest regards,

Debbie Maurer

[dmaurer@pendletonny.us](mailto:dmaurer@pendletonny.us)

### NEED A PASSPORT?

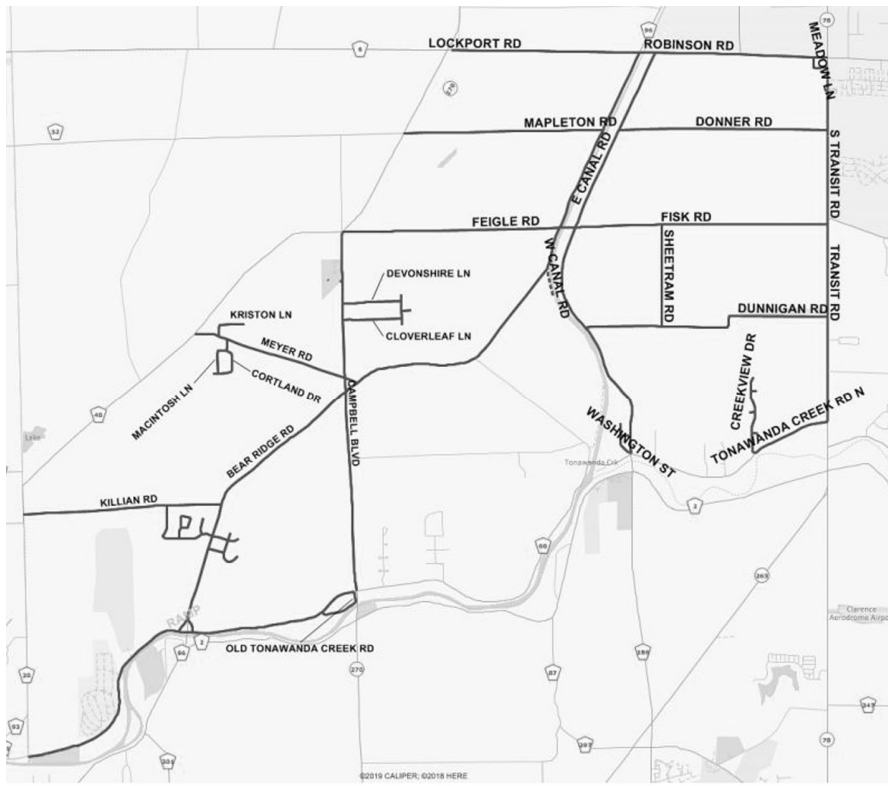


The Town of Pendleton is an approved Passport Acceptance Facility.

Call 716-625-8833, Option 3, to schedule an appointment!

More information can be found on the **Passport Information Page** on our website at [www.pendletonny.us](http://www.pendletonny.us).





“You don’t have to be great to start, but you have to **START** to be great!”

~ Zig Ziglar



“It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things.”

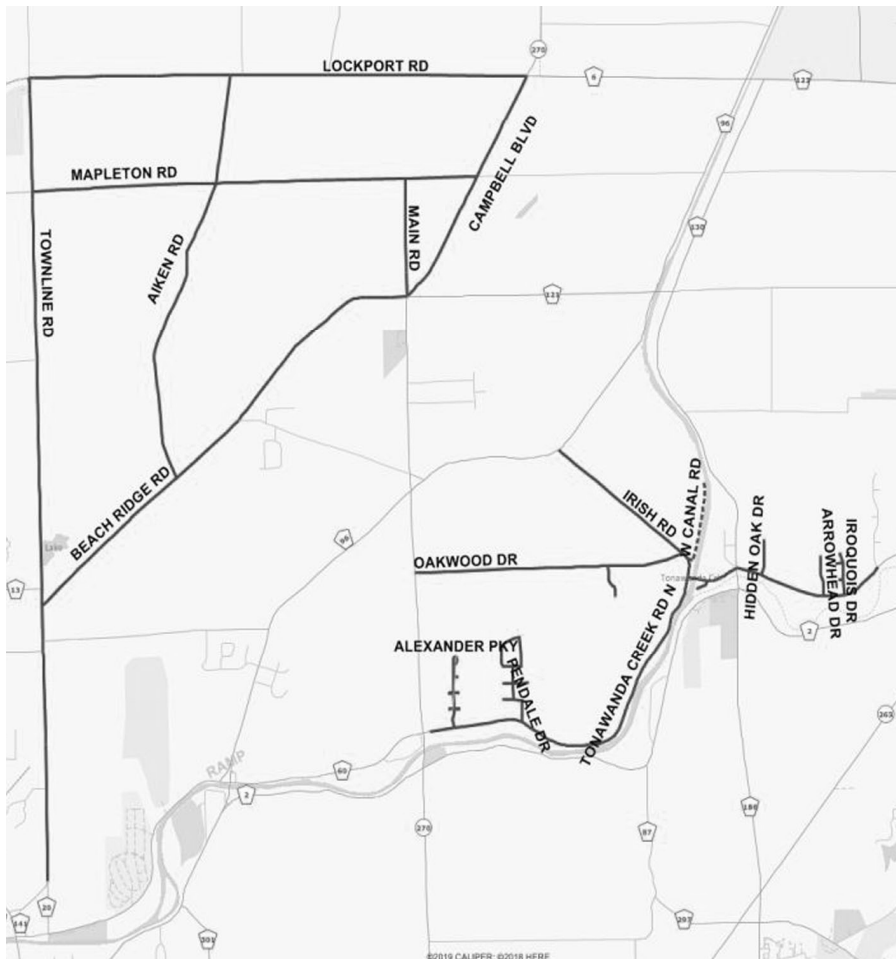
~ Leonardo da Vinci

“Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears, and never regrets.”

~ Leonardo da Vinci

Blue Map pictured above.

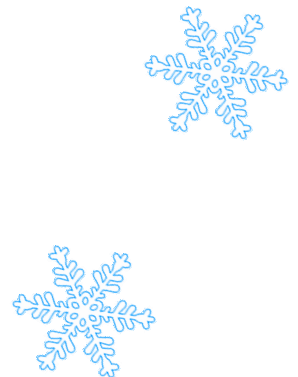
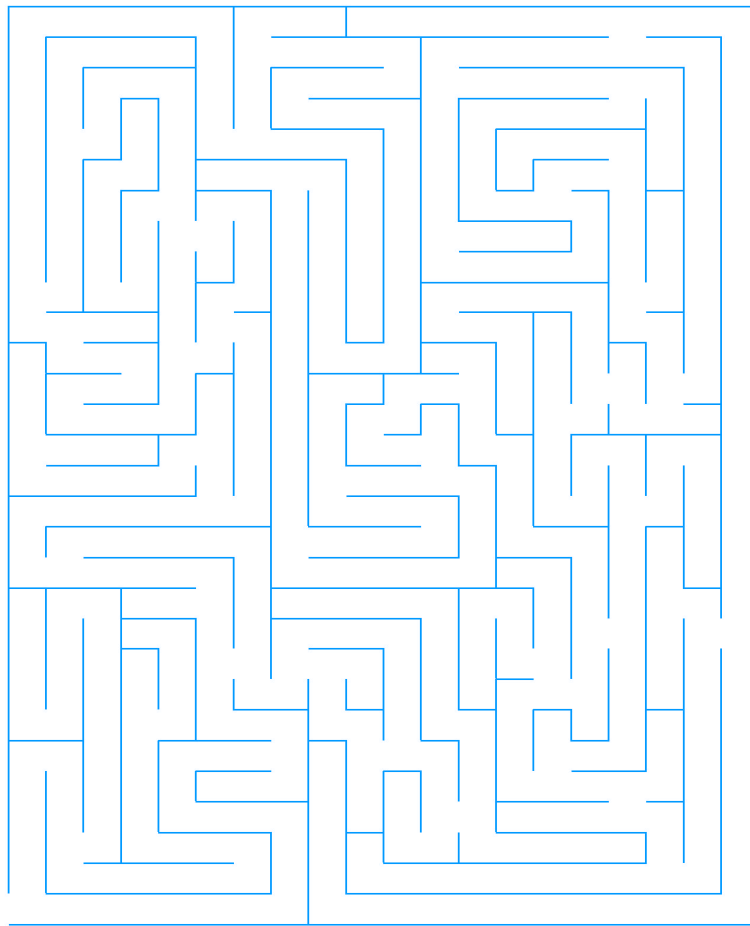
Red Map pictured below.



### Town Hall Phone Extensions

TOWN HALL 625-8833	EXT.
ASSESSOR	116
BUILDING/ASSESSOR CLERK - Kim	131
BUILDING INSP/CODE ENF - Ron	115
BUILDING INSP/CODE ENF - Joe	114
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK - Noreen	110
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK - Stephanie	109
JUDGE KEVIN MACK	128
JUDGE MACK'S CLERK - Jim	119
JUDGE EDMUND MAZIARZ	117
JUDGE MAZIARZ'S CLERK - Barb	120
PLANNING BOARD - John	125
SUPERVISOR - Joel	113
SUPERVISOR'S SECRETARY - Claudia	121
TOWN CLERK - Debbie	112
WATER BILLING - Rita	111
PUBLIC WORKS 625-8033	

Get Mr.  
Snowman to  
the North Pole  
before he melts  
away.



How many words can you find in the phrase  
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Believe it or not there are 1,638 words containing three letters  
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- Ceramic Tile
- Wood Floors
- Remnants
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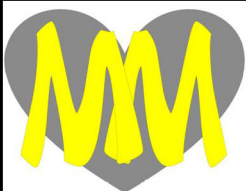
WINTER  
WOOD

D I S H O V E L V F S N O W B O U N D  
 N P K R Z T L T R L W C L H T M R A W  
 K K A S G M W Z E K O E E V W X S G I  
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 U Z J P Z Y Q Z Q E X X S R G Y J N A  
 Q N Q V Z X O Y L U G Q Q J G E V K K

"The more that you read  
the more things you will know.

The more that you learn  
The more places you'll go."

~ Dr Seuss



# Mason's Mission

*Every child deserves the right to play*

We would like to first wish all of you  
a very Merry Christmas and a Happy  
New Year for 2022. We hope it brings  
everyone good fortune and fun!

Speaking of fun, Mason's Mission was able to do our meat raffle again this year and it was awesome! It sold out in 7 hours and thanks to all of our 300+ supporters raised \$20,000 for our projects coming up! See our website for our newest partner Explore and More Museum! Also we have noticed a very nice and welcoming uptick of support from right here in town. If you didn't know, about 85% of our support comes from out of our town and it is awesome to see more resident's take interest in town! One of those big 'Thank You' we have is for Pendleton resident Dawn Pytlik! She, along with her employer, The Peter Tower Foundation, awarded us/her with a very nice 20 year service discretionary award for our work in and out of town and her dedication to The Peter Tower Foundation. A very nice surprise we received on Giving Tuesday. So again thank you Dawn and to all the growing resident's that are starting to take notice of what we and the town are doing to improve inclusion, accessibility and diversity in our town and all of WNY!

## WENDELVILLE FIRE COMPANY NEWS

As we enter the New Year 2022 we are renewed in hope; hope that we, our family and all friends will enjoy good health and prosperity. Hope that the Covid Pandemic with all its' variants will disappear from the earth! Hope that generosity and good will banish selfishness and greed; hope that the weather will be reasonable, "God willin' and the creek don't rise!" Ah, yes! Our hopes are as diverse as we are!

We are ready for fresh starts and new beginnings, that's for sure, but it takes more than "wishin' and hopin". It takes hard work and discipline to accomplish real change. Let us wish each the best of conviction as we start again, one more time!

We at the Fire Company are starting fresh with a new slate of both Firematic and Executive Officers.

Pendleton Residents, here are your Officers for 2022

### FIREMATIC OFFICERS

Chief - Matthew Berry

Assistant Chiefs:

1<sup>st</sup> Assistant: Shawn Christman

2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant: Bruce Culligan

3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant: Rich Misztal

Captains:

Bill Drexler    Mike Johnson    Ken Kalbfliesh

Truck Captain 27-A8: Jamie McDonough

Lieutenants:

Jon Welka    Chris Moeller    Bill Wagner

Truck Lieutenant 27A8: Kieran Hickman

EMS Officers

EMS Captain: Steve Keelty

EMS Lieutenant: Mike Confer

Appointments:

Ed McDonough, Fire Police Captain

Safety Officer: Russ Talma

Chief Mechanic: Ken Kalbfliesh

Infection Control: Tom Izard

Reports and Records: Mike Johnson

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President: Joe Riester

Vice President: Russ Talma

Secretary: Mark Walter

Financial Secretary: Ed McDonald

Treasurer: Jeff Bannister

Trustees:

1 yr: Ed McDonough

2 yr: Dale Donovan

3 yr: Les Spoth

Sgt. At Arms: John Sattelberg

These members will be installed at our Installation in February.

We are always looking for more volunteers. Call Clem at 799-3723 for more information.

### INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT EVERGREEN TREES

- Evergreens are year-round trees meaning they keep their leaves all year.
  - Not just pines are evergreen. Any plant that keeps its leaves every season is classified as an evergreen.
  - Thousands of different species of trees are considered evergreens.
  - Some species of evergreens are fir, holly, redwood, pine, laurel, juniper, hemlock and palm trees.
  - There is no specific color of an evergreen. For example, a palm tree typically has a brown trunk with green palms. A Blue Spruce, which is also an evergreen, has a brown trunk as well, but has silver-blue needles.
  - Evergreen trees live on every continent except Antarctica.
  - It is a popular belief that evergreens live best in cooler forests but they can thrive anywhere.
  - Some specific evergreens are able to survive in drought conditions.
  - Regions that lack a dry season have broad-leaf evergreen forests.
  - The majority of tropical plants are evergreens. Rainforest evergreens need constant warm temperatures to survive.
  - Douglas Fir, Blue Spruce, White Spruce and Eastern White Pine are just a few types of evergreen trees that people choose each year for a Christmas tree. About 1,000,000 acres of the United States is covered in farmed Christmas trees. Christmas tree farms plant two or three seedlings to take the place of every Christmas tree harvested.
  - Evergreens provide medical ingredients, lumber, firewood, and even food so they are considered valuable resources to humans.
  - The largest evergreens in the world are Redwood trees (Giant Sequoias) which can grow over 115 meters (380 feet) tall.
- These interesting facts were found at  
ScienceWithKids.com



## PENDLETON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We had our latest meeting of the Pendleton Historical Society at the town hall on Monday, November 15. Dennis Caisse was our speaker. He spoke about Jesse Hawley and his involvement with the Erie Canal. Mr. Hawley lived from 1773 to 1842 and created the actual route that the canal would take. He also had a diverse career in the public sector even after he was jailed for business debts. We live in a very historic area that led to the expansion of our country as Mr. Caisse pointed out.

Our next meeting will be in March, probably still at the town hall. We hope by then the community center will be taking shape. Some of the members have been packing up our artifacts before they are moved into storage.

We will be having a Christmas party/luncheon at the Fieldstone Restaurant on December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. You must prepay \$19 to Doreen Nielson.

We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. Think about joining our group...new members always welcome! Dues will be due at our March meeting.

### NEWS FROM NIAGARA COUNTY

By Legislator Tony Nemi

As I write this, Niagara County is deep into its annual budget process. I am happy to say that our tentative budget is looking very good. Right now, the proposed budget would reduce the tax rate by 4.4 percent per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

We would be at the lowest rate at least since Niagara County moved from a Board of Supervisors to a Legislature form of government 50 years ago. The overall budget stays under the tax cap for the 11th straight year, something that we have worked very hard to maintain.

The county budget is always under pressure from unfunded state mandates, which are demands New York State puts on the county and then expects us to fund. The New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) even launched an advocacy effort on this issue, called the "9 for 90 Campaign." This effort highlights the fact that just nine state mandates could potentially consume 90 percent or more of county property tax levies statewide. In Niagara County, these nine mandates account for nearly \$74 million of our total tax levy of \$88 million, which is 92 percent.

Thankfully, our sales tax revenue has continued to rebound from the pandemic. Niagara County business activity has been increasing throughout 2021 and we



expect to see that continue next year. The budget plans for a \$2.9 million increase in sales tax revenue, about four percent. This year, we continue to maintain a fund balance equivalent to six percent of our budget as well as \$200,000 in a contingency fund. We always want to be in a position where we can weather the unexpected, as happened during the beginning of the pandemic.

\*\*\*\*

I want to acknowledge the great work of the Niagara County Department of Public Works during the last construction season. First, there was the early summer storm that did significant damage to West Canal Marina Park. Thankfully, our crews were able to salvage many of the trees.

There was significant road work, particularly on Bear Ridge Road. The bridge between Irish and West Canal was replaced, and work was done on a culvert south of the Bear Ridge/Campbell intersection. Also, significant paving work was completed. I want to thank the public for their patience as roads were closed or reduced to one lane. We are a growing community with much more traffic on our roads which means we need to continue to invest in maintaining them to ensure safety and traffic flow.

Speaking of safety, I want to update on the DPW traffic study regarding the intersection of Bear Ridge and Tonawanda Creek. Wendel Architects and Engineers was hired to perform that traffic study and make any recommendations on how to improve the intersection. As soon as the county has the final report, I will be sure to make it public so the community can express their views.

**"You can never do a kindness too soon, for you never know when it will be too late."**

**- Ralph Waldo Emerson**

**"Be kind whenever possible.  
It is always possible."**

**- The 14th Dalai Lama**

## PENDLETON TOWN HISTORIAN

“Cold in the earth – and fifteen wild Decembers,  
From those brown hills, have melted into spring:  
Faithful, indeed, is the spirit that remembers  
After such years of change and suffering!”

‘Remembrance’ by Emily Brontë

There are no words to describe the seriousness of the fate that had befallen Miss Sarah Mumford. Her individual thread was cut short by the fates of antiquity in the prime of her life. Who was Sarah Mumford? What brought her to Pendleton?

Sarah was born in 1883. It is suggested, by historical documents, between Monroe and Wayne Counties. She had sisters and according to the 1892 census, there was three young ladies in close proximity: Grace, Kittie and Satie.

On April 22, 1895, Sarah (also known as Mary Ross) was adopted by a well-to-do Pendleton family from the Rochester Orphan Asylum. John Calder, bookkeeper for the Rochester Common Council, was in charge of the paperwork for the adoption. Sarah's mother was resident of the neighboring Rochester State Hospital. Cora Mumford is listed as a patient at this facility and seems to fit the description. Sarah's father had passed sometime before.

She had siblings via adoption: two brothers and a sister (one brother which preceded Sarah in life and in death many years before). A familiar face on the Pendleton farm, she was large for her age and attended school for a time. This was her home for the next four short years.

On Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup> 1899, Sarah was reported

missing by her adoptive father. According to eyewitness testimony, Sarah left the house around 9 p.m. bareheaded. A search party was assembled and spent the next several hours in vain. In the early morning hours of June 9<sup>th</sup>, Charles Bliss discovered Sarah's body at Sweeney Crossing on the Shawnee train tracks. She was 16 years of age.

The murder mystery was a shock to Victorian sensibilities yet it was best mulled over the daily periodical and a hearty breakfast. The news certainly permeated Erie County, Genesee and other areas nearby. In fact, one could find articles about the slaying as far south as Martinsburg, West Virginia.

The adoptive kin was arrested and housed at the Niagara County jail. A trial was declared null and void when the jury reached a “no bill” verdict. No one was charged with the crime and it remains unsolved to this day.

The modern day (ongoing) search party for the origins of Sarah Mumford would have not been possible without: Nancy Pritchard, Larry Naukam, Jerry Miller or Laura Prosser-McCabe, and many others. Ms. Prosser-McCabe is the devoted keeper of Miss Mumford's grave. After years of neglect, it's black patina was removed to reveal a dazzling white. It is a marvel to behold in the daylight. Rest peacefully, sweet Sarah.

Any questions, comments, corrections or additions are gratefully considered.

Carissa Smith  
(716) 342-9767  
CSmith@Pendletonny.us  
God Bless.



**“Approach the New Year  
with resolve to find the  
opportunities hidden  
in each new day.”**

~ Michael Josephson

**“Twenty years from now you will be more  
disappointed by the things you didn’t do  
than by the ones you did do,  
so throw off the bowlines,  
sail away from safe harbor,  
catch the trade winds in your sails.  
EXPLORE. DREAM. DISCOVER.”**

- Mark Twain

**“Learn from yesterday, live for today,  
hope for tomorrow.”**

~ Albert Einstein

**“It doesn’t matter where you came from, all  
that matters is where you are going.”**

~ Brian Tracy



## Assessment News

This continuing section of our newsletter shows the Arm's Length sales for the previous quarter. Not included in Arm's Length sales are construction sales, estate sales, foreclosures and sales between relatives. \* Land sizes under one acre are not listed. Because sales will eventually affect what your home is assessed, it is important for property owners to see what is sold in town, and the sales prices.

	ADDRESS	SELLER	SALE PRICE	ASSESSED VALUE	SQ FT LA	STYLE	YEAR BUILT	LAND *
02/26/21	6640 Aiken Road	Dan Turk	\$162,000	\$100,000	1224	Cape Cod	1960	.49
03/04/21	6679 East Canal Road	Jason Ritz & Meghan Phipps	\$180,000	\$107,800	1091	Cape Cod	1958	1.90
03/30/21	4822 Meyer Road	Harold & Jane Ruppert	\$215,000	\$160,000	1500	Ranch	1958	5.20
03/31/21	5162 Oakwood Drive	Lara Bell LLC	\$439,000	\$295,000	2180	Colonial	2021	.60
04/01/21	7072 Bear Ridge Road	Three Sons Properties	\$365,000	\$174,000	3485	Colonial	1950	2.10
04/05/21	6282 Bear Ridge Road	Gerald Berzer	\$136,500	\$113,500	4036	Colonial	1957	4.80
04/21/21	5180 Feigle Road	Sandi Pfohl	\$250,000	\$158,786	1404	Ranch	2002	29.80
04/30/21	4720 Beach Ridge Road	Robert Smist	\$152,500	\$144,000	1926	Split Level	1955	.85
06/17/21	6371 Townline Road	Lisa Anderson	\$170,983	\$120,000	1450	Cape Cod	1957	2.90
06/25/21	7138 Pendale Circle	David & Jolene Rice	\$486,000	\$325,500	2584	Colonial	1996	.70
07/07/21	7197 Creekbend Drive	Murray & Marcia Hewitt	\$621,000	\$305,000	3071	Colonial	2011	.60
07/08/21	6153 Townline Road	Joseph & Sarah Ciepiela	\$395,000	\$219,500	2461	Colonial	1987	2.10
07/12/21	6913 Bear Ridge Road	Jason Kaese & Jacqueline Shaffer	\$231,500	\$130,000	1276	Old Style	1835	1.10
07/16/21	5773 Fisk Road	Michelle Barczak	\$276,000	\$185,000	2038	Old Style	1880	2.80
07/27/21	4195 Beach Ridge Road	Donald Ertel	\$240,000	\$140,000	1548	Ranch	1966	.74

### REMINDER

If you move from your primary residence in Pendleton it is your obligation to notify the Assessor's office. Each residence that is receiving the Star Exemption signed the Star application acknowledging that they would notify the Assessor of their change in residency.

Please remember **all** exemptions are due **by March 1<sup>st</sup>**. If you will be turning 65 in 2021 you may be eligible for the Enhanced Star. If you believe you might be eligible please call the Assessor's office 625-8833 ext. 131. If this is your **FIRST** time applying for Enhanced Star, then you will do so through our office. If you are switching to the **Star Credit Check**, then you do so online at [www.tax.ny.gov](http://www.tax.ny.gov) or by calling (518) 457-2036.

**\*\*\*Anyone receiving the Enhanced Star including Aged exemption recipients must now be Enrolled in the mandatory New York State Income Verification Program (IVP)\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\*IF YOUR TOTAL INCOME IS \$30,000 OR LESS, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AS YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO THE AGED EXEMPTION\*\*\*\***

We celebrate another year ending and a new one beginning.  
 Let us look back and appreciate the experiences we had  
 and learn from the mistakes that we made.  
 And better still, let us look forward to this new year  
 with the anticipation and excitement of a child.  
 Embrace this new year with a positive outlook  
 and a determined spirit to make all your dreams come true.

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As the new year begins,  
pick one positive word to represent  
what you want the year to hold for you.  
As the year think of this word often,  
say it aloud. You'll see what you think  
about does come true.

**"Take time to appreciate the  
people who have encouraged  
you over the past year.  
Send them a message telling them so.  
You will start their new year  
out on a positive note."**

*~ Robert Rivers*

**"This bright new year is given me  
to live each day with zest,  
to daily grow and be my highest  
and my best!"**

*~ William Arthur Ward*

**"Rather than saying good luck and  
good fortune to you this New Year,  
let me say work hard, laugh often,  
continue to learn, help others, pray  
for wisdom and then good fortune  
will see you this coming year."**

*~ Robert Rivers*



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contact: Scoutmaster  
Chris Schultz,  
716-625-7936



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