



# PENDLETON

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HOME TOWN NEWS ~ WINTER EDITION ~ 2023

## YOUR TOWN BOARD

### SUPERVISOR

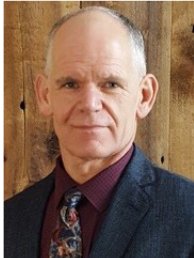


**Joel Maerten**  
625-8833

### COUNCILMEN



**David Leible**  
957-6242



**Joe Hickman**  
625-8333



**Scott Lombardo**  
625-9080



### *From the Supervisor's Desk...*

Another year is quickly coming to an end and, as promised in the last newsletter, I have a lot of updates to share. However, before going into a lot of details, I'd like to acknowledge Justice Maziarz's retirement, with his final days of court service taking place. Justice Maziarz has spent many hours over many years serving the Town of Pendleton and he's seen the demands on town courts increase as quickly as the demands on town governments in general. Thank you, Justice Maziarz, for your service and dedication, as you've always risen to the occasion to dutifully meet the expectation of your oath of office.

Visually, all can already see physical changes to the Town campus on Campbell Boulevard, as a new structure was constructed at the Public Works Facility and construction is underway in the Town Park on additional improvements. Fortunately, much of the work you're already seeing is being funded by various forms of grant funding. The planning and coordinating of these projects takes considerable time, effort, and, to a certain extent, luck.

Many years ago it was noted that a new salt storage building was needed, as the old building is in disrepair and too small to meet today's needs. The Town received a grant award that fully funds the cost of the construction of this building as well as the installation of a stand-by generator for the Highway Garage. The Town Board recently awarded the contract for the generator and we anticipate this project being completed in 2023. During extreme weather events the public works crews and emergency services are actively working for Town residents and, in the event of a power outage, crews will have reliable access to fuel and repair facilities.

Looking to the Town Park, work is underway on the construction of a splash pad and an additional lavatory facility. Additionally,

more park improvements are planned for the park in 2023. It's great to see the Town Park become a central point of recreation for all as the Town continues to focus on improving park spaces. The cost of the current projects are substantially covered by grant funding from New York State. Most of the balance of the cost of these projects is being covered by reserve funds accumulated from "greens fees" paid by development in Town, specifically saved for parks and recreation projects.

At the moment, the Town Board anticipates advertising for bids for construction of the Town's new community center. This project has been many years in the planning and we're excited to finally make this dream a reality. The new building will be constructed on the location of the current log cabin in the Town Park, as this structure has been determined to be beyond repair and in need of demolition. The community center project is being funded through a grant awarded by the Greenway Commission as well as by using reserve funds specifically accumulated over many years specifically for this project. The new community center will provide space for community groups to meet, as there is actually insufficient spaces in Town to meet the current demand. Additionally, a location adjacent to the Town Park has many advantages.

This year also was the first year of the Town's dedicated road patrol which has been



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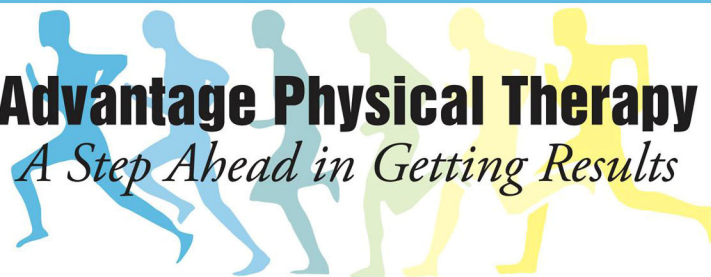
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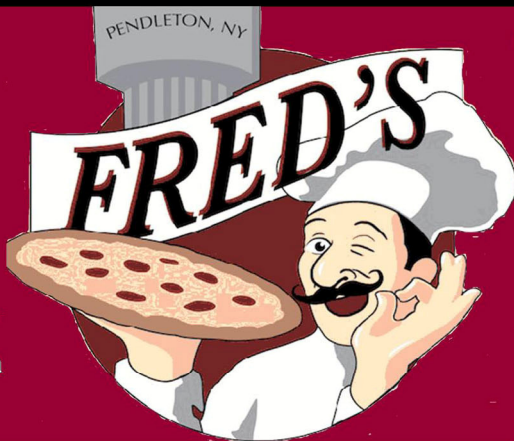
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(Continued from page 1)

made possible through a contract with the Niagara County Sheriff's Office (NCSO). As noted in previous newsletter articles, the Town has a great ongoing relationship with law enforcement and leaders in the law enforcement community are up-to-date on the concerns of the Town's residents. However, we are basically in competition for finite resources with every other community that has similar concerns. Having a full-time deputy specifically focused on the Town has been a great benefit to all, as we have one deputy able to focus each day only on the Town. This agreement with the NCSO will continue in 2023.

The above updates bring us to one common focus and that is the Town's finances. In November the Town Board approved the Town's 2023 budget, which once again includes a tax increase which is below New York State's tax cap calculation. That being said, the Town relies more heavily on revenues such as sales tax disbursements, than it does on property taxes. Regarding these revenues, the Town has experienced a significant increase since at least 2021 and we can conservatively expect these revenues to remain strong in the future. With no debt and consistent revenues, the Town continues to be in a strong financial position.

Further, as noted above, there are a lot of projects underway and the costs in all areas of Town operations

continue to increase. However, with significant grant awards and funding of various reserves, we are able to see these projects become a reality without undermining the Town's finances. These expenditures benefit all and are meaningful investments in our Town.

Finally, you may have noticed new Town public works equipment either at the Public Works facility or around town. Through outside funding and savings, the Town has been able to get ahead on equipment replacement as we anticipated the significant increases in costs and long lead time on orders. These expenditures have avoided cost increases, as best we could, while ensuring that Public Works has reliable equipment to meet the needs of our residents. Keep in mind that major pieces of equipment cost in the hundreds of thousands of dollars each.

In closing, I encourage all to check the Town's website frequently, as documents such as Town Board meeting minutes are added to the website as they become available. Also, please feel free to contact any member of the Town Board with questions or concerns.

Thanks! Joel

**"Your present circumstances don't determine where you go. They merely determine where you start." - Nido Qubein**

**"No matter how hard the past,  
You can always begin again."  
- Buddha**

"The bad news is time flies. The good news is you're the pilot." - Michael Altshuler

"Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has plenty, not upon your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." - Charles Dickens

**"A grateful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all other virtues."  
- Cicero**

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow." - Melody Beattie

**"Thanksgiving Day comes, by statute, once a year; to the honest man, it comes as frequently as the heart of gratitude will allow." - Edward Stanford Martin**

"Let us remember that, as much as been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips, and shows itself in deeds."  
- Theodore Roosevelt

**"My Thanksgiving is perpetual. It is surprising how contented one can be with nothing definite - only a sense of existence." - Henry David Thoreau**



## PENDLETON VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Hello Pendleton residents. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season. That being said, if any Pendleton resident that has a relative or friend currently serving our country, that did not make it home for the holidays, please let them know that we here at the PVA know how that feels and we wish them well going forward in the new year.

The Pendleton Veterans Association (PVA) is always looking for new members and welcome resident Veterans interested in becoming members to join and attend our monthly meetings currently held the first Wednesday of every month at 1pm at the town hall. Membership applications are available at town hall. Evening meetings for those that cannot attend daytime meetings are held several times annually. Watch the electronic billboard at town hall, the town web site or facebook for special dates and messages. NOTE – See below for 02/01/23 evening meeting info.

The PVA attended and manned an information table at the town business fair on October 1, 2022 at the Pendleton United Methodist Church. It was well attended and we answered many veteran related questions from town residents.

The PVA was invited to attend a Purple Heart ceremony, 11/10/22, at the Memorial located in the vestibule of the Fine Arts Building at Starpoint High School. This Memorial honors the three Starpoint Alumni that made the ultimate sacrifice for their Country. The ceremony was sponsored by the Niagara County Purple Heart Chapter which donated a Ceremonial Purple Heart flag and a display plaque. Both the Flag and Plaque are on permanent display next to the Memorial. The PVA at the same time donated a Ceremonial US Flag for permanent display at the memorial site.

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, Veterans Day, the PVA hosted a solemn wreath ceremony at Town Hall. The total purpose of which was to honor all past and present Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. The ceremony was well attended even though the weather did not cooperate. Prayers were said by Pastor John Rence and speeches were delivered by PVA members Michael Zimmerman and Angelo Otero. All of which are veterans speaking from their hearts. A beautiful Wreath was placed on the monument by our Honor Guard. All told a wonderful Solemn Event.

### **SPECIAL COMMENTARY**

You never know where a simple conversation will take you. A PVA member was recently made aware of a Veteran buried in a town cemetery that had fought in the Civil War. This occurred during a visit to Veteran owned PENDLETON STAR PHARMACY. The PVA

was unaware of this veteran. The information was brought forward to us by his Great-great granddaughter (Janet Karnes) who lives in Pendleton and works at Pendleton Star Pharmacy. We here at the PVA maintain an Honor wall in the Town Hall displaying all known Veteran residents past and present that we can verify. We went into action and were able to find the Veteran's death record in town records along with internet searches that gave us records showing his muster in dates (8/29/1862), discharge dates (6/26/1865), rank (private). We also confirmed he served in the New York Volunteer 151<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment Company B which fought in known 32 battles over his 3 years enlistment. Private Charles Steiner passed away in 1911 and lived on Washington Street in Pendleton and is buried in the Bear Ridge cemetery. The PVA has located his grave stone in said cemetery. With that information it more than satisfies the PVA's requirement for proof of service and residency. We will be proudly adding his name to the Wall of Honor.

NOTE - - - Starpoint graduates or soon to be. Are you unsure of your future, your higher education or career path is not yet known. Why not consider investigating military service. There are hundreds of opportunities for specialized training that can be translated to civilian careers. Paid college tuition, trade school or higher education benefits are available after your initial enlistment service. Not to mention career path opportunities including life pensions, lifetime health insurance, and others available after 20 years service. Contact your recruiter for info.

The PVA will hold an evening meeting in February 2023 at Craft Coffee House. The meeting is set for February 1, 2023 at 5:00pm.

Greg Metzger, PVA - VP

**“Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude.”**

~ Harry S. Truman

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## PENDLETON TOWN HISTORIAN

Prior to mechanical dredging, manual filtration was the only way to ensure a smoother journey on a canal or river. During the latter half of the 16th century, the mud mill became available in the Netherlands. A mud mill, or two flat barges equipped with a conveyor or treadmill, was a buoyant machine used to deep clean the water channel. This process made it easier for merchant ships to navigate waterways.

As the middle of the 19th century approached, the invention of a steam powered dredger was introduced. This particular waterlogged vessel resembled a packet boat with a crane dangled beyond the stern.

The dredgers of today possess a sophistication that far exceeds their predecessor. The machines are often upgraded. There is an annual cleaning of the barge canal. A modern dredger creates a slurry that whips sediment to the surface. It makes it easier to skim - much like the net used for a swimming pool. This ensures a deeper water bed for superior water travel.

\*The photograph for this article is from a private collection. This particular dredging crew was responsible for Pendleton's portion of the Erie Barge Canal in the 1930s.

I would like to thank the entire Town of Pendleton (and observers beyond) for their commitment to preserving the past while embracing the future. A noteworthy 'thank you' to the late Susan Youngs for whom this leg of the journey would be impossible (may we continue to hold dear the curiosity we have nursed since our youth). My son, Declan, who shines brightly as a beacon of wonder and inspiration. The countless individuals that have contributyed, inquired, or assisted in this journey. The best is yet to come.

You may reach me at the following:  
CSmith@pendletonny.us • (716) 342-9767

God Bless & Stay Safe,  
Carissa D. Smith  
*Town Historian*



## WATER/SEWER BILLING DEPARTMENT

All water/sewer payments should be mailed to:

Pendleton Town Hall – Water  
6570 Campbell Boulevard  
Lockport, NY 14094

- Remember to include the lower portion of the water bill with your payment.
- Please do not staple or paperclip your payment.
- Billing cycles occur quarterly in January, April, July and October.
- Water bills are mailed out by the last Friday of the billing month.
- If you do not receive a bill by the end of the first week of the following month, please contact the billing department.
- For your convenience there is a lockbox located at the back entrance to the Town Hall.
- If you pay through a 3rd party (your online bank payment) please allow 10 business days for mailing.
- You can now pay online with a check or credit card at: [www.pendletonny.us](http://www.pendletonny.us) Look on the left-hand side and click on “View OR Pay Your Water Bill Here!” Enter your account number and pin to pay.
- We now offer automatic bill payment options. Scroll across the top of the homepage until you get to departments; Scroll down and click on Water/Sewer; on the right side click on Water Bill Payment Options; Under Automatic Bill Payment you will find a link to the ACH application.

If you are selling your home, please contact the Public Works Department at 625-8033 as soon as possible to schedule a mandatory water/sewer line inspection. There is a \$50.00 fee for the inspection which will be added to your water/sewer bill. The inspection takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. You must have your water & sewer lines inspected before you sell your home!!!

When you receive your actual closing date, please contact the billing clerk at 625-8833, ext. 111 to schedule a final read, the reading must be done the day of your closing.

If you are purchasing a new home, please contact our office ASAP to set up an account.

If you are leaving the area temporarily (Vacation) please be advised that the post office will not forward water bills, even if you have a forwarding request at the post office. Please consider prepaying your bill to avoid late charges.

If your contact information changes (phone number and/or mailing address) please notify the billing department as soon as possible. We need updated contact information to reach you in case of an emergency.

Please visit our website at [www.pendletonny.us](http://www.pendletonny.us)

for more detailed water billing information. When you get to the homepage, click on Departments at the top of the page, scroll down and click on Water/Sewer, go to the right side of the page for Rates and Information.

You can also view Meeting Minutes and previous Town Newsletters by clicking on the respective link from the homepage under Town Highlights. The Town Code link is also there, as well as the Town Map.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and all the best for a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Please remember ALL the men and women in our Armed Forces, past and present. Without them we would not have the freedoms that we enjoy every day.

Rita Dispenza, Account Clerk



### WINTER PARKING REMINDER!

Parking is prohibited on all town roads, North Tonawanda Creek Road, and Bear Ridge Road, between the hours of 1:00am and 6:00am December 1st – March 31st.



### Town Hall Phone Extensions

| TOWN HALL 625-8833               |  | EXT. |
|----------------------------------|--|------|
| ASSESSOR - Tom                   |  | 116  |
| BUILDING/ASSESSOR CLERK - Kim    |  | 131  |
| BUILDING INSP/CODE ENF - Ron     |  | 115  |
| BUILDING INSP/CODE ENF - Chris   |  | 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  |
| PUBLIC WORKS 625-8033            |  |      |
| GENERAL QUESTIONS - Julie/Dara   |  | 101  |
| WATER BILLING - Rita             |  | 111  |





## TOWN CLERK

Happy New Year! I hope that you are enjoying the holiday season and are staying warm. The Town Clerk's office has been very busy lately with passport applications. It seems that many people are ready to get out of the cold and head for warmer weather. I can't say that I blame them! Just in case you weren't already aware, the Town Clerk's office is an official Passport Acceptance Agency. We are here to help you with NEW passport applications. Unfortunately, we cannot accept passport renewals for most situations. Please check <https://travel.state.gov/> for instructions on renewing your passport. You can also give us a call if you have questions or to make an appointment. Appointments are recommended.

I have been considering a new project for the upcoming year. I am hoping to bring the Hometown Hero Banner Program to Pendleton to honor our past and present members of the Armed Forces. There is a lot to be done to achieve this goal and I am grateful that the Pendleton Veterans Association has offered to join forces with me to accomplish this. I will provide updates as soon as they become available.

I also wanted to inform you that we have a Pendleton Food Pantry food donation box located in the lobby of the Town Hall for your convenience. Feel free to drop off food donations which are picked up regularly. The Pendleton Food Pantry is located at Christian Faith Chapel, 5733 Tonawanda Creek Road. It is open on Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. I would like to thank all of the volunteers for keeping the food pantry going.

Please take a look at the important scheduling information below:

### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE – TOWN HALL CLOSED

|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| New Year's Day (observed) | January 2 <sup>nd</sup>   |
| Martin Luther King Day    | January 16 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Presidents' Day           | February 20 <sup>th</sup> |

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

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

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.

Any calls regarding uncollected refuse or recycling should be made by calling Modern Disposal directly at 716-754-8226.

### 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 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.

Warmest regards,  
Debbie Maurer

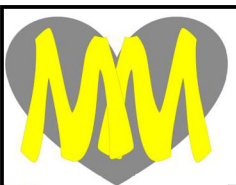


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# Winter Blessings Word Search

CANDY CANE  
CELEBRATE  
CHRISTMAS TREE  
COMMUNITY  
COOKIES  
DECORATE  
ERIE CANAL  
FAMILY  
FRIENDS  
GIVING  
HOLIDAYS  
HOPE  
HOT CHOCOLATE  
ICICLE  
JINGLE BELLS  
JOYFUL  
LOVE  
NEW YEAR  
PEACE  
REINDEER  
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## Mason's Mission

*Every child deserves the right to play*

Hello all and  
Merry Christmas  
from Mason's  
Mission!



We hope that your Christmas and holiday is going super for you all! If you have not noticed we have begun construction on the new bathroom and Supermatty's Water Wave at town park complete with real adult size changing tables, space and waterproof wheelchairs for the kids who cannot get their chairs wet!! We are planning a nice ceremony this summer when we open it. Our town park will be an amazing asset for years to come when the work is done that also includes the town's new community center, paved parking lots, no more stone, dust and potholes. All accessible and smooth.

We are very proud and happy to see the town's #1 asset, the town park, get some much needed improvements and we thank the town and its residents for all the support. Speaking of support, our meat raffle raised over \$17,000 and we thank all the residents that volunteered, donated baskets, came or all three! We also had our ribbon cutting for Explore Some More with Mason's Mission at the Explore and More Museum in late October and it was great! The picture here is from the ribbon cutting. So big things happening and Mason's Mission is continuing our efforts to bring family and community together all over WNY. Thank You! The Evchich's



You can make over 250 words out of the phrase  
'Happy New Year!' How many can you find?



"You're off to great places!  
Today is your day! Your  
mountain is waiting, so...get  
on your way!"

"Why fit in  
when you were  
born to stand  
out?"

## Dr. Seuss Quotes

"Think left and think right and think  
low and think high. Oh, the thinks you  
can think if only you try."

"I like nonsense, it  
wakes up brain cells.  
Fantasy is a necessary  
ingredient in living."

"You have brains in your head and feet in your shoes. You can steer  
yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know  
what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go..."

**WE WISH YOU A**  
**Merry CHRISTMAS**

**You're invited to worship**  
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**Christmas Eve Services**  
7:00 & 11:00 PM

**Live Music & Devotions**  
Evenings on our Facebook Page

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[PENDLETONCHURCH.ORG](http://PENDLETONCHURCH.ORG)

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## PENDLETON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Greetings from the Pendleton Historical Society. Not much to say. Our next meeting will be on March 20 at the town hall at 1pm. At our last meeting we learned about the tragic life of Mary Todd Lincoln - so much sadness. Soon the log cabin will be torn down in preparation for the new community center. Much to look forward to. We have enjoyed meeting at the town hall these last meetings. We participated in the Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 2. Hopefully, you all came and enjoyed the hot chocolate and popcorn and were able to purchase our famous box of homemade cookies. We sold some of our artifacts that we won't need in our new smaller space. Thanks to all who helped with these events.

## PENDLETON FOOD DRIVE

The Pendleton Food Pantry wants to thank everyone for donating to the Boy Scout food drive on November 12. Pendleton residents are great. The Scouts collected non perishable food items that were needed for the food pantry located at Christian Faith Chapel, 5731 Tonawanda Creek Road. Troops 47 and 98 did a great job collecting, delivering, and sorting the food items. The food pantry thanks also the Heritage Christian group for their continuing help with the food pantry. We have a great partnership with the individuals and the church. We are always looking for donations. They can be dropped off at the town hall or pantry. The pantry is open on Thursdays, from 8:30am to 11:30am. Anyone needing food is welcome to come at that time. Any perishable items left at that time are driven to St. Luke's Mission in Buffalo by two volunteers. We thank them for that service. No one should go hungry, especially in our town.

**Kax Solutions & Services wishes you all a very joy-filled and healthy holiday season and a happy New Year!**

## FROM THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Happy Holidays to All!

Yes, we are at that time of year again. How quickly the weather can change! We just had our first major snowstorm for this snow season. The guys worked over 20 hours from Saturday to Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> to clean the roads and make them safe. Hopefully this is not a sign on how the winter is going to go. But if it is, we are well prepared for the busy season.

As a reminder pushing snow across the road is unsafe and illegal. Please make sure if you have a plow service that they are aware of this law. Besides it being illegal, pushing snow into ditches blocks them from flowing freely as snow melts.

Pendleton has a ban on street parking from December 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>, beginning at 1am and ending at 6am. With that being said, please try to keep your cars off the road as much as possible so the plows can get through.

### OFF ROAD DITCHES

We were able to get some much needed off-road ditches cleaned in late summer and early fall. One ditch alone, off Oakwood Dr. was 1650 feet long and was quite a challenge. Another major ditch off Mapleton was cleaned along with other smaller ditches. This should

help with the flooding that is experienced in these areas. After our last heavy rains, it looks promising.

Because of the drier summer & fall this year, we were able to mow roadside and off-road ditches. Many have not been done for a few years because of wet weather. Weather & time permitting, we will make efforts to clean other off-road ditches through the winter.

### PARKS

During the winter we will be demolishing the log cabin, which has housed the Historical Society and the Veterans, to make room for the new Community Center. Now something to look forward to in Spring/Summer when warmer weather beckons us from our homes. The Town of Pendleton along with Mason's Mission will be adding a Splash Pad and new bathrooms to the town park. If you have been over near the park you may have noticed the work that has already been done. This is great for our community and gives our families other activities to enjoy.

Much of the work for the splash pad, bathrooms, & community center will be done by both the Highway & Water/Sewer Departments. This is possible because of the diverse abilities of our public work employees. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me

David Fischer, *Highway Superintendent*  
Office: 716-625-8033 Cell: 716-909-1409  
Email: dfischer@pendletonny.us



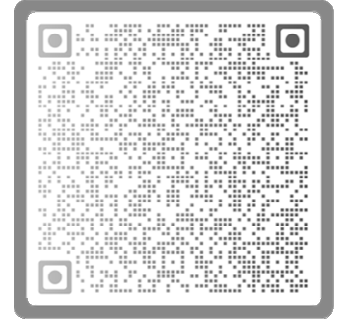
## PENDLETON FARM & HOME DAYS

As we gear up for Pendleton Farm & Home Days 2023, we can't help but reflect on all that we have to be thankful for from PFHD 2022! It has always been the mission of our committee to bring together the families, businesses and organizations of Pendleton to celebrate our wonderful town. With over 7,000 people in attendance at our 4th annual event, we've been so encouraged to see how Pendleton Days has grown over the years!

An undertaking of this magnitude wouldn't be possible without the dedicated volunteers who selflessly give of their time and talents to make this festival a success. In addition to the 35 committee members who plan with us throughout the year, we also had over 135 people volunteer with us during the week of the event. We have ideas for exciting new additions for Pendleton Days, and we would love to have even more participants join us to help make those ideas a reality! If you're

interested in getting involved with Pendleton Farm & Home Days 2023, please fill out the survey below, or email [pendletondays2022@gmail.com](mailto:pendletondays2022@gmail.com) so we can let you know about our upcoming January planning meeting.

We are always looking for ways to expand and enhance Pendleton Farm & Home Days, and we want to hear from the residents of Pendleton on what we can do to make this event even better. Please take a moment to complete our short survey, and you'll be entered for a chance to win an Uncle G's gift certificate! You can access the survey at <https://forms.gle/u5g6VXdNKHbUd5nw8> or by using your phone camera to scan the QR code below. We look forward to making Pendleton Farm & Home Days 2023 our best year yet!



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### PENDLETON SKI CLUB

Congratulations! Holiday Valley Affiliate Pendleton Ski Club is now signed up for fun!

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**"Every year we make a resolution to change ourselves. This year, make a resolution to be yourself." - Unknown**

**"I hope you realize that every day is a fresh start for you. That every sunrise is a new chapter in your life waiting to be written."**

**- Juansen Dizon**

**"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year." - Ralph Waldo Emerson**

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

**- Michael Josephson**

## **INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE ERIE CANAL**

- The Erie Canal is a man-made waterway in New York State that connects the Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean.
- The canal runs 363 miles (584 kilometers) between Buffalo, NY on Lake Erie and Albany, NY. From Albany the Hudson River continues the waterway to New York City.
- Work began on the canal on July 4, 1817 in Rome, NY and was officially completed on October 26, 1825.
- The original canal was 4' deep and 40' wide. It also had to span a 571' rise in elevation from its beginnings on the upper Hudson River, near Albany until it reached Lake Erie in Buffalo. They managed this by building a series of 83 'locks'. Locks are structures that allow boats to be raised or lowered by changing the level of water beneath them.
- The idea of the canal was mocked by many as a "waste of money" and nicknamed 'Clinton's Ditch' and 'Clinton's Folly' because the canal's building was championed by New York Mayor, Governor, and Senator Dewitt Clinton.
- The canal was built by immigrants (mostly Irish) who earned a \$1 a day shoveling rocks and dirt by hand, while masons lined the sides of the canal with stone.
- Although the Erie Canal was built by amateurs, by the time it was completed the engineers had learned so much about building canals they traveled around to help build canals throughout the country.
- An immediate success, The Erie Canal encouraged people to move west and settle the Midwestern United States.
- It also helped the economies of many cities throughout New York State. It also caused many 'Boomtowns' to appear along the canal.
- Rochester, NY became America's first 'boomtown' as a result of the building of the Erie Canal.
- The completion of the canal was marked by a statewide 'Grand Celebration' culminating in successive cannon shots along the length of the canal and the Hudson, a 90-minute cannonade from Buffalo to New York City.
- A flotilla of boats, led by Governor DeWitt Clinton aboard the Seneca Chief sailed from Buffalo to New York City in ten days. Clinton then poured Lake Erie water into New York Harbor to signify the 'Wedding of the Waters'.
- The Erie Canal was an engineering marvel that is still impressive even by today's standards. Its construction allowed people and goods to travel the 363 miles from Albany to Buffalo in 5 days rather than 2 weeks, and it reduced freight shipping rates by 90%.

The above information was found online on the following websites: [kids.kiddle.co/Erie\\_Canal](http://kids.kiddle.co/Erie_Canal); [kids.britannica](http://kids.britannica); [mentalfloss.com/14-navigable-facts-about-Erie-Canal](http://mentalfloss.com/14-navigable-facts-about-erie-canal).

**"ANY NEW BEGINNING IS FORGED FROM THE SHARDS OF THE PAST, NOT FROM THE ABANDONMENT OF THE PAST."**

**- CRAIG D. LOUNSBROUGH**



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## 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. 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.

| DATE     | ADDRESS                   | SELLER                           | SALE PRICE | ASSESSED VALUE | SQ FT LA | STYLE       | YEAR BUILT | LAND * |
|----------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|----------------|----------|-------------|------------|--------|
| 07/01/22 | 7275 Lakeview Court       | Donald Gunning                   | \$640,000  | \$342,500      | 4596     | Colonial    | 2000       | 1.5    |
| 07/06/22 | 5040 Mapleton Road        | Sarah Freunds Schuh              | \$343,000  | \$118,000      | 1638     | Cape Cod    | 1962       | 0.72   |
| 07/27/22 | 7149 Pendale Circle       | Roberto Soliman                  | \$550,000  | \$258,500      | 2638     | Colonial    | 1995       | 0.80   |
| 07/27/22 | 7439 Bear Ridge Road      | Michael Freunds Schuh            | \$250,000  | \$127,800      | 1228     | Cape Cod    | 1950       | 5.20   |
| 07/29/22 | 6895 Townline Road        | Ben and Cole Axberg              | \$241,000  | \$150,000      | 1873     | Ranch       | 1957       | .57    |
| 07/29/22 | 20 Alexander Pkwy         | Karen Osborne-Lumsden            | \$380,000  | \$95,000       | 1745     | Ranch       | 2001       | .67    |
| 08/03/22 | 5780 Fisk Road            | Mary Doel                        | \$300,000  | \$135,000      | 1509     | Ranch       | 1977       | .75    |
| 08/18/22 | 5470 Tonawanda Creek Road | John Sexton and Rosanne Oliverio | \$500,000  | \$220,000      | 3200     | Ranch       | 1976       | .64    |
| 08/24/22 | 6560 Sheetram Road        | William Nimetz                   | \$325,000  | \$170,000      | 1974     | Colonial    | 1978       | 1.90   |
| 08/25/22 | 7278 Lakeview Court       | Timothy Devin                    | \$580,000  | \$291,900      | 3204     | Colonial    | 1999       | .60    |
| 08/31/22 | 6978 Hidden Oak Drive     | Randy and Renee Brenon           | \$595,000  | \$278,100      | 2852     | Colonial    | 1992       | .72    |
| 08/31/22 | 7260 Ridgeview Drive W    | Donna Butler & Gwen Slaughter    | \$450,000  | \$263,700      | 2606     | Colonial    | 2003       | .60    |
| 09/01/22 | 6340 Bear Ridge Road      | Gerald May                       | \$80,000   | \$100,000      | 1047     | Old Style   | 1929       | 5.50   |
| 09/02/22 | 4905 Brauer Drive         | Ryan Homes                       | \$529,990  | \$304,200      | 2460     | Colonial    | 2022       | 1.27   |
| 09/02/22 | 3 Alexander Pkwy          | Gail Isaacs                      | \$283,000  | \$85,000       | 1500     | Ranch       | 2022       | .67    |
| 09/09/22 | 4563 Ridgeview Drive S    | Kevin Joerg                      | \$535,000  | \$305,400      | 3140     | Colonial    | 1999       | .90    |
| 09/13/22 | 6282 Bear Ridge Road      | Flip Side Restorations Inc       | \$525,000  | \$113,500      | 4036     | Colonial    | 1957       | 4.80   |
| 09/13/22 | 6155 Aiken Road           | Michael and Corrie Schebell      | \$449,999  | \$174,000      | 1586     | Colonial    | 2006       | 1.0    |
| 09/15/22 | 7310 Bear Ridge Road      | Jeffrey Gramlich                 | \$387,310  | \$118,800      | 1486     | Ranch       | 1945       | .92    |
| 09/15/22 | 4805 Beach Ridge Road     | Thomas and Shelley Murray        | \$290,000  | \$170,000      | 2372     | Split Level | 1961       | 1.90   |
| 09/15/22 | 7023 Meadowbrook Court    | James & Tricia Sauer             | \$430,000  | \$201,300      | 1707     | Colonial    | 2018       | .70    |
| 09/26/22 | 6096 Aiken Road           | Linda Denormand                  | \$214,000  | \$126,900      | 1464     | Ranch       | 1960       | .52    |
| 10/4/22  | 6764 Bear Ridge Road      | Gary and Mary Kelschenbach       | \$365,000  | \$157,200      | 1881     | Ranch       | 1963       | .57    |
| 10/11/22 | 5131 Feigle Road          | Aaron & Rebecca Delmonte         | \$510,000  | \$247,000      | 2567     | Colonial    | 2013       | 5.60   |
| 10/14/22 | 4961 Devonshire Lane      | Joshua & Jillian Morrow          | \$490,000  | \$240,000      | 2448     | Colonial    | 2016       | .57    |
| 10/18/22 | 5234 Pendale Court        | Timothy & Maureen Reinhart       | \$409,900  | \$217,000      | 2176     | Colonial    | 1993       | .60    |
| 10/18/22 | 4076 Lockport Road        | Cortni Brown                     | \$165,000  | \$85,000       | 1838     | Old Style   | 1860       | .43    |
| 10/18/22 | 7326 Pendale Road         | Estate of Robert King Jr.        | \$390,000  | \$221,300      | 2045     | Colonial    | 1993       | .70    |
| 10/19/22 | 5965 Tonawanda Creek Road | Meyers Irrev Trust               | \$190,000  | \$130,000      | 2088     | Old Style   | 1934       | .73    |
| 10/21/22 | 6834 Bear Ridge Road      | Estate of Jeffrey Lindaman       | \$250,000  | \$130,000      | 1664     | Old Style   | 1850       | 5.0    |

### REMINDERS:

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.

As a resident/owner of property in Pendleton, there are property tax exemptions that you may be entitled to – including STAR, Enhanced STAR, Senior Citizens, Veterans, Agricultural and people with Disabilities. For information on any of these exemptions you can either visit the NYS Department of Tax and Finance website [www.tax.ny.gov](http://www.tax.ny.gov) or visit the Assessor's office at Pendleton Town Hall or contact us by phone at 716-625-8833.

If you are signing up for Basic Star, you need to go to the NYS website noted above or call (518) 457-2036 to sign up for the Basic Star Credit (which is a check from NY State vs. receiving an Exemption). Additionally, any resident/owner who is currently receiving a Star Exemption can switch to the credit program by contacting New York State Department of Tax and Finance, via their website or phone number.

If you are a resident/owner of a property and are turning 65 by December 31, 2023, you may be eligible for the Enhanced Star Exemption. Contact the Pendleton Assessor's office at 716-625-8833 ext 131 for additional information. All Enhanced Star applications require enrollment in the NY State Income Verification Program (IVP). Note, if you are currently enrolled in the Enhanced Star Exemption or Credit, you do not need to renew your application (unless you are contacted by our office or NY State).

The forms for all the exemptions and the IVP program are available at Town Hall or can be obtained via the NY State website. Deadline for all exemptions is March 1<sup>st</sup>.



Above: 20N District Governor Mike Yost, Pendleton Lion President Kim Baglio, Pendleton Lions Secretary Cheryl A. Smith and Niagara County Legislator Tony Nemi.



Middle School Principal Dr. Corey Gray, Art Teacher Amanda Alvarez. Peace Poster winners Brookelyn Belling, 2nd place, Samantha Rucci, 1st place, Sophia Hart, 3rd place, Lion

# Happy Holidays!



## PENDLETON LIONS CLUB

In September PDG Lion Jeff Jarvis installed our new officers for this year. President is Kim Baglio, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Dan Hamm, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Brian Mau, Treasurer Tom Valentine, Secretary Cheryl Smith, Directors are Marty Ciccattello, Mike Dio,

Dave Bratek, and Rich Niezgoda, Past President Chris King.

Scholarship checks have been sent to the 8 Graduating Starpoint Seniors that won them. They are Marissa Chase, Michaela Staskiewicz, Riley Hamm, Emilie Burt, Luke Blas, Emma Browka, Madison Beckman and Trevor Hasley. We award these scholarships every year so please remind your Starpoint Senior to check with their guidance counselor for the application.

We have recently done the Peace poster contest at Starpoint. Winners were 3<sup>rd</sup> place Sophia Hart, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Brookelyn Belling, and 1<sup>st</sup> place Samantha Rucci. Samantha donated her award to Christ Episcopal Church.

In October we hosted District Governor Mike Yost at Cammaratas Restaurant. He presented Lions service awards: **10** years to Lions Tom Valentine and Ken Smith, **20** years to Lions Timothy Murphy and Edward Maziarz, **35** years to Lion Jim Behrens and a **50** year one to Lion Robert Pusateri.

At that same dinner we were also honored to have our Niagara County Legislator Tony Nemi attend and he presented us with a monetary donation from the Community Partnership Fund. This will help us to keep

assisting our Pendleton Community where needed.

As always 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. 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. The same with hearing aids that are no longer needed.

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  
[www.PNYLC.org](http://www.PNYLC.org)

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