Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column
January 7, 2019

The Penfield Trails Committee’s next free guided is this Saturday, January 12, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Ellison Park. In January, we normally encourage you to dust off your cross country skis or snowshoes and enjoy us for a trip through this very scenic park; however, based on the weekend forecast, this will be a traditional walking hike. The route will follow the predominately flat portions of Ellison Park on the north side of Blossom Road. Meet at the north side of the parking lot off Blossom Road and look for the hike signs.

Consider picking up your trails “passport” and take it with you on these hikes as you discover the trails of Penfield. Passports are available at the Penfield Recreation office or either Penfield Wegmans stores (Rt. 441 or Empire Blvd). A special thank you to Wegmans, our wellness partner!

By now, everyone who normally receives a tax bill should have received their 2019 County/Town Tax Bill. Each year I prepare a supervisor’s message to share information you may find helpful as you review your bill. This message is available online at www.penfield.org (go to “departments” then click on “Tax Receiver”). If you have any questions regarding your bill, please contact the Tax Receiver at 340-8626. I welcome any suggestions you may have to better or further explain the elements of your tax bill.

Are you looking for opportunities to have your children spend more time outside and away from the TV and electronic devices? Consider signing them up for Pen-Rec’s “Running Wild” after school program! This unique survival skills program by Earthworks is designed to teach ancient knowledge and understanding of the natural world combined with unique instruction on the time-honored techniques of wilderness living. Expect your child to learn about the wonders of their environment and all its natural processes through immersion in a full sensory experience with nature. Earthworks staff encourage kids to explore while working closely with peers to practice wilderness skills such as shelter building, fire making, wild crafting, identification of flora and fauna, use of plants for food and medicine, purification of water, natural navigation, responsible tool use, and more. The curriculum combines unique outdoor games with challenges that give children the confidence to discover the outdoors in a safe and meaningful way. Their goal is to activate each child’s curiosity and love for learning while fostering personal growth, social responsibility, and bonds that last a lifetime.

This six session program for ages 8 to 15 is held at Veterans Memorial Park behind the Town Hall and runs from Monday, February 11 through March 25 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM (no class February 18). The fee is $80.00 and the registration number is 118080-B. If you are interested do not delay, this program will fill up fast!

The next few van trips with Pen-Rec’s “Out to Lunch Club” promise to be fun. The January 18 trip is a visit to Label 7 and Pittsford Farm and Dairy. Lunch is on your own. Depart the Community Center at 11:30 AM and return by approximately 2:00 PM. On February 15 the club goes to the Irish Mafia Brewing Co. in Bloomfield. Again, lunch is on your own. You depart the Community Center at 11:00 AM and return approximately by 2:30 PM. The fee for each of this programs is $10.00. The registration numbers are 149450-01 and 149450-02, respectfully.

The Penfield Public Library has a great lineup of programs planned for winter break week (February 18 to 22). These programs are very popular and tend to fill up very quickly so do not delay in signing-up. Check out page 43 of the Winter/Spring 2019 Pen-Rec brochure or go to www.penfieldlibrary.org for complete details.

Important Dates and Events in History: January 8, 1815 – American forces win the Battle of New Orleans; January 12, 1945 – American forces liberate the Philippines; this year January 21 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday will be observed.

This Wednesday, January 9, is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. If you see a New York State Trooper, Monroe County Sheriff, Rochester Police Officer, or a local community Police Officer, please thank them for their service and keeping our communities safe!

Until next week,
Tony

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