As supervisor, I represent Penfield on the 19-member Monroe County Supervisors Association. Each of the supervisors has liaison responsibilities to various boards and committees. I am liaison to the 2012 Operating Practices Board for the 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Department and the County Fire Advisory Board. Prior to becoming supervisor, I was the Director of Fire and Security at Kodak that included a 9-1-1 communications center. I am honored to represent the Supervisors Association on these very important Public Safety Boards.

Fuel costs have been in the news of late and I recently spoke with a local news station on the impact of rising costs on our town budget. The Highway Department has the largest fleet with more than 30 major pieces of equipment. The cost of fuel is a key component of the budget that has continually grown over the years. From a history standpoint, in 2009 the fuel budget was $145,400, in 2010 it was $183,400, in 2011 it grew to $223,200 and our 2012 budget stands at $290,000. Other costs that have been impacted by increased oil costs are blacktop, plastic sewer and drainage pipe, and more. To help reduce fuel use at the town level we have a ‘no idol’ policy, we minimize trips to job sites and minimize the number of vehicles taken out for projects. The mild winter has helped with managing costs and we will be looking for other creative ways to manage these costs as prices increase.

The next Penfield Symphony Orchestra (PSO) performance is "Music for a Sunday Afternoon" on March 25 at Casa Larga. A variety of selections will be performed by the PSO and other musicians. For more details and tickets, please log on to www.penfieldsymphony.org . This show sells out early so do not delay in reserving your tickets.

With spring just around the corner, consider becoming involved with Penfield's Community Victory Garden. There will be a class on the subject Thursday, March 29 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center. Come familiarize yourself with the garden, its policies and your fellow community gardeners. Also learn about the Rochester area "Plant-a-Row for the Hungry" program. For more information or to register for this event, log on at www.penfield.org and click on ‘Parks and Recreation.’

"Be in Contact." Register for text messaging notifications for Penfield Recreation programs to receive updates and information like weather cancellations, field changes and location changes. Minimize extra trips and be on top of the information that affects your family's plans. Log in to WebTrac online registration, select "contact us," in the comment area add your cell phone number and carrier, and you will "be in contact"!

There is one more free informational meeting scheduled for the Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) program on Tuesday, April 17 at the Eastside YMCA, 1821 Fairport Nine Mile Point Road (Route 250) at 7 p.m. Enjoy delicious seasonal and locally grown produce by joining the Wickham Farms CSA program. Refreshments will be served, no registration is required.

Important dates and events in history: March 15, 1820 - Maine is the 23rd state admitted to the Union. March 16, 1802 - Congress establishes the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

A March Wellness Tip...donating blood is an easy way to save a life!

Until next week, I hope to see you out and about in this great community.

Tony
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