Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column
March 25, 2019

Last week, I had the honor of attending the 52nd Annual Awards Banquet of the Penfield Volunteer Emergency Ambulance (PVEA). This 100-member organization responds to more than 4,000 calls annually and logs 55,000+ volunteer hours of service to provide high level emergency response to Penfield and surrounding communities for mutual aid support.

Many members were celebrated at the banquet; I would like to highlight a few special awards. Hugh Franklin received the 2018 PVEA Outstanding Service Award; Evan Fendt received PVEA Employee of the Year Award; Richard Sperduto was recognized for logging more than 979 volunteer hours in 2018; and Anne Krutell completed 35 years as a valued member of the organization.

We are so fortunate to have this amazing organization supporting and serving Penfield and our residents. On behalf of the entire community, I want to recognize everyone who is part of PVEA. Thank you for your service, you make a difference each and every day!

I recently reviewed the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf (PEFS) 2018 Annual Report and want to share some of the wonderful things they do to support Penfield residents in need. Last year, they distributed 35,100 pounds of fresh produce, provided 485 holiday “dinners with fixings” to families, served 98 families each week, and supported 103 children with additional summer food. PEFS could not do the work they do without a group of about 70 motivated volunteers. Their annual operating budget is $35,000. PEFS relies on private donations from local businesses and individuals to purchase foods including fresh meat, produce, eggs, cheese, and milk. Their local retail partners include Penfield Aldi’s, Penfield Wegmans, Schutt’s Apple Mill, Webster Target, Wickham Farms, and the Penfield Walmart.

If you would like to learn more about PEFS and the work they do for our Penfield Community, please go to www.penfieldecumenicalfoodshelf.org, check them out on facebook.com/penfieldecumenicalfoodshelf, or contact them at 234-0799. Thank you in advance for any financial or food donations you are able to provide in support their mission “to alleviate food insecurity in the Penfield community by providing nutritious food to those in need in a compassionate, respectful and non-judgmental manner.”

Penfield residents in need of a new or updated passport are invited to attend “Passport Night in Penfield” on Thursday, April 4, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM at the Penfield Town Hall, 3100 Atlantic Avenue. This service comes to Penfield through a partnership of the Monroe County Clerk’s Office and the Town of Penfield. Please call Town Clerk Amy Steklof at 340-8629 to sign up in advance; however, registration is not required.

The Penfield Public Library is offering a number of children’s programs during spring break week (April 15-19). Please visit https://penfield.libraryweb.org/ for a complete listing of these programs and others offered by Penfield Public Library.

The next scenic trek hosted by the Penfield Trails Committee will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Channing H. Philbrick Park. Come celebrate Daniel Penfield’s selection of “The Hollow” as the best mill site in all 97,000 square miles of the Genesee lands in 1795. Meet at the kiosk on the north side of the bride and look for the hike signs.

Even though the weather has not yet been ideal for yard work, my office has received several calls asking about the availability of mulch. As in past years, we have placed mulch in the parking lot west of the town hall for Penfield residents to pick up. We will keep this pile stocked now through early summer...help yourself! The mulch pile gets many visitors when warm weather sets in, please supervise children and pets at all times.

Important dates and events in history: March 25 – Celebration of National Medal of Honor Day; March 29, 1973 – the last of American forces leave Vietnam; March 30, 1867 – the United States purchases the Alaska Territory from Russia for 7.2 million dollars; and on March 30, 1870 – the 15th Amendment is added to the Constitution. The 15th Amendment to the Constitution granted African American men the right to vote by declaring that the “right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”

Until next week enjoy the start of some nicer weather, it is just around the corner!

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