I had the honor and pleasure of attending a volunteer appreciation brunch last weekend sponsored by The Nature Conservancy for contributions to the Thousand Acre Swamp. The Town of Penfield has a wonderful partnership with The Nature Conservancy as we share common property lines along this well known sanctuary. The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. Several dates to mark on your calendar to start the 2012 season include Saturday, April 14 at 9 a.m. which is the annual Thousand Acre Spring Work Day to help keep the trails in good condition. Bring your willingness to work along with gloves, boots, rakes and shovels for this trail maintenance project, refreshments will be provided. Friday, April 20 at 6:30 p.m. is the "Family Stroll in the Swamp;" this hike is paced for families. Friday, April 20, 8 p.m. "Mars Over the Swamp," leaders will provide telescopes, bring a flashlight. Saturday, April 28 at 8 a.m. is "Return of the Bluebirds." Binoculars will enhance your sightings.

I would like to thank the Penfield Rotary for the opportunity to present a combination of the "Wellness of the Town" and "Business Vitality" presentation to their membership at a recent weekly meeting. This has become an annual event which gives us both an opportunity to discuss community projects and programs. Rotary's theme is "Service Above Self" and they provide a very key foundation to this great community of Penfield...thank you for everything you do!

The spring weather appears to be here to stay, and with it brings spring showers. Our Public Works Department is asking all residents to be mindful of leaves and pine needles clogging up storm drains and drainage pipes. Keeping these devices free flowing will help to minimize flooding of private property and roadways. A small amount of effort could save a lot of headaches and potential damage. If you are aware of a major drainage problem in your neighborhood, please report that to the Highway Department at 340-8710 and one of our employees will review the site. Thank you in advance for that extra set of eyes.

The American Red Cross reminds me that the beautiful weather has resulted in a lower than anticipated turnout for blood drives and the blood supply has dropped to extremely low levels. Out of an estimated 38% of the population that is eligible to give blood, only about 8% actually donates. Each day, more than 38,000 blood donations are needed in the U.S. Currently type O negative, type B negative, type A negative and type O positive are at extremely low levels. St. Joseph's Church, 43 Gebhardt Road will be hosting a blood drive on Good Friday, April 6th from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., please consider donating, it does make a difference!

The Penfield Public Library will be hosting a series of programs during April recess for children in grades kindergarten through 5th grades. For details on these programs and many more, please log on at www.penfieldlibrary.org.

On behalf of the Town Board and Town employees, we wish all of our residents a Happy Easter.

Until next week, enjoy the spring weather!

Tony
340-8631
supervisor@penfield.org