The third annual Monroe County East Side Communities “Stop Hunger Now” event will take place on Friday, April 15 (2:30–4:30 p.m. and 5:00–7:00 p.m.) and Saturday, April 16 (8:30–10:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.) at the Penfield Community Center. The goal of this program is to package 100,000 meals for sustainable communities around the world. More than 70 percent of these meals are consumed by elementary school children whose parents want them to stay in school and help build their communities. For more information or to donate to this wonderful program, please go to www.events.stophungernow.org/monroecommunities or, for up to minute content, www.facebook.com/stophungernoweastsidecommunities.

The second annual “Good Neighbor Day” is scheduled for Saturday, May 14 to help neighbors perform various spring cleaning tasks. This program was started to honor the late Terry Rothfuss, who set the benchmark for being a “Good Neighbor.” Terry was always ready and willing to help anyone at any time. He passed away in 2014, leaving a huge hole in our community. Terry’s family and friends want to carry on his legacy of friendship by continuing to help their community and inspire others to do the same. On “Good Neighbor Day” volunteers come together to do light yard work and spring cleanup for seniors, veterans, or those who are disabled. Volunteers will meet at the Rothfuss Floy Mar Farm, 1865 Salt Road, at 8:00 a.m. for refreshments and to receive assignments. Volunteers should plan to work until noon at the latest. Please join this effort, I hope to see you there!

The next Flapjack Saturday Community Fundraiser sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Penfield at 1862 Penfield Road will be held on Saturday, April 16, 8:00–10:00 a.m. Come get cozy with an awesome all-you-can-eat breakfast of delicious pancakes, pure maple syrup, scrambled eggs, sausage, and more—all for just $4.00 per person, $3.00 for children 10 and under. All April proceeds will directly support Resolve of Greater Rochester, a group dedicated to intervening and preventing domestic and sexual violence against women. Mark your calendars for April 16, it will be the best breakfast in Penfield!

If you have been by the Penfield Town Hall and Veterans’ Memorial Park you will have noticed that the installation of new children’s playground equipment adjacent to the Dolomite Lodge is nearing completion. The old playground equipment was replaced to meet current state standards and ensure the highest level of safety possible for our youngest residents. We timed the project to remove old equipment during the winter months and install new equipment in early spring to make sure everything is ready to go when the nice weather finally arrives. I am looking forward to bringing my two granddaughters to test it out once we complete construction.

At the last meeting of the Penfield Town Board a resolution was passed to authorize the resurfacing of the tennis and basketball courts at Veterans’ Memorial Park to ensure these facilities are in the best possible condition to support the active use they receive during the year. We will post signs prior to the work so residents will know when the facilities are off-line while resurfacing is performed.

The last concert of the season for the Penfield Symphony Orchestra will be held Monday, May 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Penfield High School Auditorium. This concert is entitled “A Romantic Celebration” (music from Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet). Free rides are available from Lifespan by calling 872-0774. For more information about the PSO and future performances go to www.penfieldsymphony.org.

Until next week, please don’t be discouraged by the recent bout of wintry weather—spring is just around the corner!

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