Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column

Week of April 18, 2016

The Rochester Press-Radio Club’s (RPRC) annual Day of Champions Children’s Charities Dinner will be held on Tuesday, May 31 at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center. This event is always well attended and sold out, especially this year as New York Yankee legend Mariano Rivera, the Coca-Cola Sports Personality of the Year Award recipient, will be at the head table.

Now imagine being a young Penfield Little League athlete who is also involved with Penfield Challenger Baseball as a “buddy” to an important new friend through the Kids Miracle Making Club (KMMC), a club of kids working to enhance the lives of other kids with special needs.

So far, this scenario seems normal for 14-year-old Holden Leibenguth, the soft-spoken, quiet young man from Penfield who—according to KMMC president Steve Pellow—has done tremendous work for Challenger Baseball and the kids of the KMMC. Holden’s contributions do not stop there; he came up with the idea of the “Home Run Heroes Project” to share his love of baseball with kids of every ability. Given his love for baseball, and knowing how much his buddy Adam and other challenger players love the game, Holden’s project focused on fundraising and purchasing baseball equipment and baseball-themed video games so the kids at Mary Cariola Children’s Center, CP Rochester, and Golisano Children’s Hospital could enjoy the game on the field, in the gym, and in their hospital rooms. Holden is an amazing young man on and off the field.

Can this story get any better? It does. The RPRC has named Holden Leibenguth as Honorary Chair for this year’s dinner. As part of this honor, Holden will be seated at the head table next to Mariano Rivera, where he can tell the Yankee great all about the good work of Penfield Little League and Penfield Challenger Baseball. I cannot think of a better ambassador to represent our community—thank you Holden, you and your family should be very proud!

On to the performing arts...The Penfield Players annual melodrama returns with Sneakypete Underhand’s Devious Dealings—or The Doctor is IN(sane). Shows are at 8:00 p.m. April 29 and 30, and May 6, 7, 13 and 14. There is also a matinee performance May 1 at 2:00 p.m. All performances will be held at Penfield Community Center, 1985 Baird Rd. Audiences will have the opportunity to boo, cheer, and throw popcorn when this melodrama, directed by Virginia Monte and written by Billy St. John, takes the stage.

The setting is the 1920s Hollywood. Sneakypete Underhand, a villainous doctor, and his henchwoman, Nurse Heide Bedpann, are hired to work at a silent movie studio where Sneakypete quickly hatches a plot to kidnap a top star, Verily Speakwell. When script girl Paige Turner stumbles onto Sneakypete’s plot, the dirty doctor ties her to the studio’s buzz saw, only to have her rescued by camera operator Cameron Mann!

To order tickets, call the box office at 585-340-8655, option 6, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or visit Penfield Recreation online at www.penfieldrec.org. Click on "Registration & Reservations" then "Browse Tickets" link and search by date. Select a performance and follow the prompts. Please note: advanced tickets ($12) must be purchased online or called in by 4:00 p.m. the Thursday before the show date. Availability cannot be guaranteed after that time.

Save the date...opening day for Penfield Little League is Saturday, April 30 at 9:00 a.m. For me, this marks the true beginning of spring! The day will start with the annual parade of teams to the fields from behind the town hall followed by introductions by President Greg Kamp and then the first pitch...play ball!

Until next week, enjoy the milder weather and be well and be safe performing those yard chores.

Tony

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