The Local History Room (LHR) is looking for information on two topics. The first has to do with the fact that women were granted the right to vote in New York State in 1917, and we are approaching the 100th anniversary of this event. The Penfield LHR is trying to locate information on town residents—especially women—who were involved with women’s suffrage in the early 1900s. If you have family letters, diaries, or other information on this topic, we would love to hear from you!

Next, do you have photos or information about a family member from Penfield who served in WWI or WWII? The LHR is collecting this information for the archives and would love to include whatever you have to share. We can scan photos or documents, so you will still have your originals. Please call Kathy Kanauer at 340-8740 or stop in to the LHR if you have material to share. Thank you in advance for anything you can assist us with on both of these very important initiatives.

I am reminded by the members of the First Baptist Church of Penfield, 1862 Penfield Road, that they will host a Chicken Barbecue on Saturday, May 7 from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. (or until sold out). The chicken dinners will be prepared on site by Gale-Wyn Catering. Dinners are $10.50 and include a barbecued half-chicken, coleslaw or macaroni salad, salt potatoes, roll and butter, plus a dessert. Bring your family, invite your friends, and tell your neighbors. Eat in or take out, it’s delicious either way! This facility is handicapped accessible.

In recent years rain gardens have become increasingly popular as a means to enhance landscaping and improve water quality. Our Recreation Department has partnered with the Monroe County Stormwater Coalition to hold a special class entitled “Rain Gardens, a How-to for Homeowners” at the Penfield Community Center on Wednesday, May 4, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Rain gardens are an easy and effective way to help improve local water quality because they are designed to collect rain water from rooftops and driveways and allow it to soak back into the ground through nature’s filter of specific plant materials. Come and learn what rain gardens are, how to create one, and the best plants to use. Class size is limited so please call Penfield Recreation to sign up at 340-8655, option 6.

Last call…if you have not signed up to participate in “Good Neighbor Day” to be held Saturday, May 14 it is not too late! We are looking for volunteers to help seniors, veterans, or those who are disabled to do light yard work and spring cleanup. We need volunteers of all ages, so bring the whole family. Volunteers will meet at the Rothfuss Floy Mar Farm, 1865 Salt Road, at 8:00 am for refreshments and to receive assignments. Also, are you someone who could use the extra hand, or do you know someone who could? Let us know! We will bring scrap to the Penfield Drop-off, rake out flower beds, plant flowers, fix lawn damage from plows, and much more! To sign up to help or be helped, please call Sabrina at 340-8651, or email srenner@penfield.org.

Important Dates and events in History: April 30, 1789 – George Washington is sworn in as the first president of the United States; April 30, 1970 – American forces invade Cambodia; April 30, 1975 – Saigon falls to invading armored columns of re-equipped North Vietnamese Forces in violation of the Paris Peace accords signed in 1973. American Embassy and all remaining American elements are evacuated by helicopter ending America’s involvement in a noble, but costly and divisive Vietnam War.

Until next week sharpen up the blades of the lawn mower, dust off the patio furniture, and start thinking about what needs to be done in the garden…spring is upon us!

Tony

supervisor@penfield.org