Each day the Red Cross needs to collect 15,000 blood donations to meet demands, and yet only about three percent of the population donates. It is so important that generous donors give regularly so blood products of all types are available whenever and wherever they are needed. The next opportunity to donate in Penfield is on Saturday, May 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. Joseph’s Church, 43 Gebhardt Road. Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule your lifesaving donation appointment, or just stop in, they would love to see you. Thank you in advance for your support.

Last week, on behalf of the community of Penfield, I had the honor of presenting Atria Senior Living residents Betty Youngs and Gerry Yahn proclamations recognizing their one hundredth birthdays. Betty was a fifth grade teacher and social worker, while Gerry was employed at Eastman Kodak and was the first Fire Marshal of Irondequoit. When asked their advice on how to live to age 100, Betty’s response was, “Be honest and in good spirit, have good manners and a good sense of humor. Always take care of your family and friends.” Jerry’s response was, “I lived well, slept well, had good parents — and I can’t tell you the fourth one!” To Betty and Gerry, on behalf of all the residents of Penfield, happy birthday and best wishes to you both.

Many members of my family had the honor of attending the 50th anniversary of the Penfield Players last weekend. The evening was sold out like any great show. Penfield resident and Channel 13 news anchor Don Alhart was master of ceremonies for the evening. Co-chairs Don Bartalo and Lee Kirk put together a memorable program that included guest speaker Ralph Meranto, JCC CenterStage Director, and Career Achievement Recognition for Jack Haldoupis, Artistic Director at Blackfriars. The Penfield Players have put on more than 150 shows and entertained thousands since 1965, and are respected as one of the oldest continuous community theater groups in the region. Congratulations and a big thank you to the Penfield Players for 50 years of outstanding entertainment!

So now that the Penfield Players have celebrated their 50 year anniversary, what’s next? Death-trap by Ira Levin and directed by Jack Simel. In this play, two playwrights play a deadly game of cat and mouse, each seemingly eager to help the other, but the plot twists and turns until the very end. In this fatal game, who is the cat and who is the mouse? Performances are at 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays May 1, 2,8,9,15,16 with a special matinee 2:00 p.m. Sunday, May 3. Reserve you tickets in advance for $12 by contacting the Recreation Department at 340-8655 or you may purchase at the door the day of the event for $15. For more information go to www.penfieldplayers.org.

Important Dates and Events in History: April 30, 1975 – Saigon falls to invading armored columns of re-armed, re-equipped North Vietnamese Forces in violation of the Paris Peace accords signed in 1973. The 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, I hope to see you out in the community. Please stop me to say hello and tell me what you most like about this great town.

Tony

supervisor@penfield.org