Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column
May 1, 2017

I was asked by Penfield Librarian Bernadette Brinkman to remind everyone of a wonderful event coming up on Sunday, May 7 at 2:30 PM when the Penfield Public Library will screen an episode of Live From Lincoln Center entitled “Sinatra: Voice for a Century.” Seth Macfarlane hosts Christina Aguilera, Bernadette Peters, Sting, and other performers paying tribute to the Chairman of the Board in honor of his 100th birthday. Those interested may register in person at the library, by visiting the library website at www.penfieldlibrary.org, or by calling (585) 340-8720. Do not delay, this program will fill up quickly due to Mr. Sinatra’s popularity!

Last Friday, April 28, was the 145th anniversary of Arbor Day. How did this tradition begin? Nebraska was a largely treeless prairie region when, on April 10, 1872, it became the first state to celebrate Arbor Day by planting trees. The celebration came a few months after J. Sterling Morton, a vice-president of the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture, first proposed to the board that the day be set aside for tree planting and that they should offer a "special premium" or prizes for the county and individual that planted the most trees on that day. The board approved his resolution and it was reported that more than a million trees were planted in the state that first year.

Closer to home, I have had the honor of planting several trees at Atria Penfield over the years to enhance their beautiful grounds for residents and visitors to enjoy. This year Atria planted the official tree of Penfield, the red maple. Members of the Atria staff, lead by Executive Director Charlene Wiwel and Engage Life Director Merica Fingar, gathered with many of their residents to plant and dedicate this year’s tree. Atria Penfield is an assisted living facility that offers activities to allow their residents to maintain healthy lifestyles by encouraging movement and socializing with their peers. We are fortunate to have these type of facilities in Penfield to support our senior population, thank you for all you do!

Stella Maliborski, a resident at Sage Harbor at Baywinde in Penfield, celebrated her 104th birthday on Sunday, April 30. I stopped by to present her a certificate of recognition only to be told she is out to lunch and an afternoon of activities…I’m thinking this is the main reason she is 104…active and on the go! Stella, on behalf of the Town Board and the entire Town of Penfield, happy birthday and wishes for many more.

In my previous column I told you about Marisa Zwick, the sixth grader who organized a Penfield clean-up on Earth Day. My action item was to report back to you with the amount of garbage and trash that participants collected around the town. Everything was loaded into one of our DPW trucks and we crossed the scale to learn that the group collected an impressive 1,360 pounds of garbage that we were able to send off to the landfill. Once again, many thanks to Marisa and her family, 54 students from Penfield schools, several teachers, and many parents.

Last week, Town Board member Linda Kohl and I had the honor of attending an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for the newest Eagle Scout in troop 260, Michael R. Dedee. For his Eagle project, Michael constructed a boardwalk over a swale near the south boundary of Finn Park to make a trail safe and passable year-round. On behalf of the town board and the entire community of Penfield, I would like to congratulate Michael on this achievement. Your commitment to scouting is a benchmark for your fellow scouts. You should be proud of your accomplishment, I know your family, friends, and community are!

Veterans Park and the Penfield Town Hall complex was full of noise and excitement with the opening day of Penfield Little League (PLL) last Saturday. It is a sure sign of spring when all our ball fields fill up with eager athletes! We are fortunate to have some of the best facilities in Monroe County and a great partnership with Penfield Little League. I look forward to many hots and innings of baseball over the next three months!

Until next week, be well and be safe!

Tony

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