Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column

Week of May 26, 2014

May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month, and it’s a great time to cheer the kids on for being active! Regular physical activity has major benefits for kids, including improving bone and heart health—and the whole family can get involved. Engaging in physical activity as a family can be a fun way to get everyone moving. Studies show that kids who believe they have the skills to be physically active are more likely to be active. Children who feel supported by friends and family, or are surrounded by others interested in physical activity, are more likely to participate. Children need 60 minutes of play with moderate to vigorous activity every day, but it doesn’t have to occur at once, it all adds up! And remember, sleep is just as important as play and is an essential part of living an active life.

I have been asked several times if I walked to and from work last Friday in recognition of “Green Your Commute Day” when we were all encouraged to walk, run, bike or carpool. Due to the heavy rains and flooding I did not have a chance to participate as planned; however, on Monday I did walk the 3.7 miles both to and from the town hall, which accounted for 15,581 of my total 17,579 steps for the day. You certainly get a different perspective of neighborhoods when walking rather than driving. I had an opportunity to speak with a number of residents I normally may not see and I look forward to future walks to or from work…thank you to those who asked!

The Penfield Rotary’s 17th Annual Golf Tournament is Monday, June 2 at Shadow Lake Golf Club. This year’s theme is “Keeping Our Community Up To Par.” Participation helps Rotarians fund service projects in local and international communities. Sponsorship opportunities are available at all price levels. Garber Acura and A.R. Pierrepont Co. have joined as sponsors for this year’s event. The registration table opens at 11:00 a.m., followed by lunch and a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. Registration is $125 per golfer and includes lunch, cocktail hour, and Shadow Lake’s classic barbecue dinner. Dinner only is available for $40. Sponsorship and golf tournament registration information can be found at www.penfieldrotary.org. If you have any questions about golf and/or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Bill Pethick (585-388-8546) or Bob Smith at srsmit@frontiernet.net.

We have started the 2015 budget process with all department heads and the town comptroller. This process will run from now until the official budget adoption on October 15. We will be faced with many of the same challenges in 2015 as we have in previous years: working to stay under the New York State imposed tax cap, identifying ways to absorb ever-increasing unfunded mandates coming from federal and state governments, and looking for ways to better manage an increasing fringe benefit rate. As in past years I will provide regular updates. I always welcome thoughts and ideas from our residents as to how we better manage costs and reduce spending.

Penfield Community Victory Garden, located at 1747 Five Mile Line Road, still has a few beds available to rent for the 2014 season. If you are interested in being part of this great community of amateur gardeners, please call (585) 340-8651, email srenner@penfield.org, or visit www.penfieldrec.org.

The 2014 Children’s Summer Reading Game begins June 30 and runs through August 6 at the Penfield Public Library. This popular program is for children entering kindergarten through sixth grade. For complete Reading game and summer program information, please contact the library at 340-8720, x4016 or visit www.penfieldlibrary.org. Special thanks to the Friends of the Penfield Library and the many local businesses providing prizes for the summer reading program.

Until next week, I hope to see you at the Music Festival & Food Truck Rodeo on Friday, May 30 or out and about at another great event in our community!