Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column

Week of June 2, 2014

There is a structure at 1600 Jackson Road known as the “white house” which is part of the Veterans’ Memorial Park at the town hall complex. More than a decade ago this house was acquired as part of a land acquisition to expand the park for rectangular fields for soccer. The house was used for some town programming, most recently by the US Department of Agriculture as a field office as they were testing for the plum pox virus of fruit trees in Wayne County. Due to the house’s age, structural concerns, and an opportunity to reduce this asset from our insurance coverage, we plan on demolishing it in the coming weeks. We also identified multiple training exercises working with the Northeast Joint Fire District that will demo the building at no cost to the town and provide necessary training to assist the district in meeting state requirements for certified firefighters. The week of June 9 the Northeast Joint Fire District will conduct various exercises of simulated roof venting and search and rescue. That will be followed on June 14 or 15 (depending on weather) with a controlled burn exercise. Please make note of these dates and activities, and do not be alarmed by the exercises or controlled burn. This training opportunity is beneficial for the fire company and all of our residents who count on their services.

I would like to thank everyone who joined us for the Memorial Day Ceremony of Remembrance and Parade of Roses. This very popular program continues to grow and we had record attendance on a beautiful sun-filled day to recognize our veterans and active military personnel who have given so much for our freedom. I would like to recognize and thank our keynote speaker Richard Stewart, president of Honor Flight, for his inspirational words and the Penfield Pops Band for their reflective music. Also, I would like to acknowledge Boy Scout Troops 310 and 312 for their participation of set-up, leading us in the pledge, and the lowering of the flag. Finally, the three essay winners were fantastic and helped us all reflect the true meaning of the holiday. We will plan to post their essays on our website for all our residents to enjoy. You can view the complete ceremony at www.penfield.org.

Rothfuss Park Farm Walk for Kids...hey kids here’s something just for you! Rothfuss Park’s agricultural history makes it a fun place to explore. The Farm Walk is one way to learn about the tools, animals, and crops that were once the life of this former farm. Pick up a Farm Walk Passport at the red box near the playground and follow the instructions inside. Complete all three walk themes and bring your book to Penfield Recreation for a special prize. The program will begin on June 6 and runs June, July, and August. Getting healthy learning about history, a great combination!

I would like to remind all residents of the “Penfield Farmers’ Market” located at Grossmans Garden & Home, 1801 Fairport Nine Mile Point Road. The market runs every Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Vendor spaces are still available but are filling up quickly. This season promises to be a wonderful experience to shop for local fruits, vegetables, breads, preserves, wine, eggs, dairy and meat products, homemade foods, and much more. If you have home grown or homemade products and want to be part of this growing farmers’ market in Penfield, please contact the market manager, Rebecca Ward at 377-1982, X-224 to reserve your spot!

Last week the town board held a public information meeting on a proposed solar array project at the Department of Public Works facility at 1607 Jackson Road. The Town of Penfield has a goal of achieving long-term energy cost reductions and price predictability using clean, sustainable energy that could support a high percentage of the town’s electricity needs. As a result of the meeting and the positive feedback from residents and other interested parties, the town board has elected to take the next step in the process to review available funding through NYSERDA, a power purchase agreement, local funding, or some combination thereof. I will keep you updated on the progress and we will hold future information meetings to keep neighbors and residents updated on the project.

Until next week, enjoy the nice weather and many activities in our great community!

Tony

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