Last week, I was honored to attend the dedication of the Dr. Raymond A. Santirocco Monroe County Crime Lab Library. The library dedication is a tribute to Ray Santirocco’s commitment and leadership in the field of Public Safety. I had the pleasure of knowing Ray for more than 25 years and served with him on the Penfield Town Board and the Monroe County Legislature. Ray had many passions—his family, politics, music, and public safety to name a few. Monroe County is recognized as a leader in public safety across the country; much of this is credited to the work Ray did for emergency planning, the 911 center, and support of fire and police across the region. Congratulations to Ray’s wife Berthe Santirocco and all his family. Thank you for sharing Ray’s talents with our community of Monroe.

Penfield’s Memorial Day Ceremony of Remembrance was another wonderful and moving event with more than 400 in attendance at the Amphitheater and many more watching live on PCTV. A special thank you goes out to the Penfield Pops Band and conductor Dick Stacy, the Penfield High School Voice Class Students and vocal teacher Diane Abrahamian, Boy Scout Troops 310 and 312, Pastor Zackary Dressner, and Andrew Strawhand, Commander VFW Post 820. I would like to also recognize all the members of our town staff who participated, lead by Sabrina Renner. If you would like to honor or remember a veteran or active service person with a rose at the 2013 Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony, please contact Sabrina at 340-8651. Thank you for honoring our heroes.

For those that are interested in a three-mile walk, the Finger Lakes Regional Burn Association informs me that the 2012 Summer Burn Camp Walk will be held on Sunday, June 10 at 9:30 a.m. Enjoy a wonderful day of fun and fitness at Durand Eastman Park and Seabreeze Amusement Park, all while raising the necessary support to send a youth burn survivor to Summer Burn Camp. For more details or to pre-register, log on to www.flrba.com.

I recently attended the 2012 “Kiwanis International Distinguished Service Award” ceremony to recognize those members of Law Enforcement and Firefighters of Monroe County and the City of Rochester who respond above and beyond the call of duty. This impressive group of men and women place themselves in harm’s way each and every day for the protection of us all. To them it is no big deal; they are “just doing their job.” I would like to recognize and thank all members of law enforcement and fire and emergency services for everything they do to keep us safe!

Well, after a lot of interest, discussion and planning, the much anticipated new dog park at Ellison Park is officially open. I attended the ribbon cutting of this new fully contained four-acre off-leash facility last week. The dog park features both wet and dry areas in a safe environment. Over the last several years I have received many calls from residents looking for a suitable place to take their dogs and allow them off leash to run and play. The dog park is located at Ellison Park in the Willow Grove area on Blossom Road across from the tennis courts.

Boy Scout Troop 310 of Penfield recently held an Eagle Court of Honor to add Conor Trippe, their 51st Eagle Scout, to their growing list of distinguished members. I had the honor of recognizing Conor on behalf our entire community. Conor is a senior at Penfield High School. He completed the necessary requirements to pass his Eagle Board of Review this past spring with a project in Corbett’s Glen that included the design and installation of three park benches along the north trail and mulching more than one-half mile of trails within the glen. Congratulations Conor on achieving the rank of Eagle.

The Town’s Energy & Environmental Advisory Committee reminds us that we can help the environment by removing garbage from bike paths, parks, school grounds, nature trails and community centers. Also, as we look to spend more time at the local beaches or lakes in the area, remember that roughly 80 percent of marine debris actually comes from land-based sources.

On behalf of the entire Penfield community, our condolences go to County Legislator and former Penfield Town Councilwoman Debbie Drawe and her family on the passing of her mother, Marion Brown. Marion served the Town of Brighton for more than 20 years as a councilwoman and Town Clerk. She was a past Chairman of the Brighton Republican Committee and was the recipient of the Paul Harris Fellowship Award.

Important dates and events in history: June 6, 1944—Allied forces invade Normandy (referred to as “D-Day”) opening of the second front on the continent of Europe; June 10, 1915—the Girl scouts are established.

Until next week, I hope to see you around our great community!

Tony
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