MAKE SOMEONE WHOLE AGAIN...without A, B, and O, we can’t save anybody. You are the #MissingType we need. The American Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive at Penfield Community Center on Wednesday, June 13, 2:00 to 7:00 PM. To schedule your life-saving appointment, please call 1-800-Red-Cross, or visit www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor keyword: penfieldcommunitycenter. Your donation does make a difference...thank you in advance for supporting this very important event!

Last week, our Director of Public Works and I attended an open house meeting with the NYS Department of Transportation regarding the planned maintenance paving project of Routes 941B and 404 (Empire Blvd.) from Helendale Road in Irondequoit to Gravel Road in Webster, including all of Penfield. This project, proposed for 2019, will consist of the following work: a two-inch deep milling and paving operation; a change to the pavement markings from Plank Road to the Bay/Creek Street intersection with a left-turn lane for westbound traffic turning onto Plank Road and a center two-way left turn lane; an extended center two-way left turn lane from Kirkland Drive toward Gravel Road; adjustments to existing manholes and drainage structures; replacement of ground-mounted signs; sidewalk ramp rehabilitation as needed to meet ADA standards; and pedestrian signal upgrades.

The schedule of work for this project is as follows: completion of design work – July 2018; bid opening – October 2018; start of construction – spring of 2019; and substantial construction completion – fall of 2019. The current estimated construction cost is $3.4 million. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Farrelly, Project Design Engineer, at (585) 371-9242 or by email at Daniel.farrelly@dot.ny.gov. As the NYSDOT gets closer to the actual start of construction, we will add additional general information to our website for Penfield residents.

Speaking of roadwork, Monroe County DOT will begin a preventive maintenance project in Penfield commencing today, Monday, June 4, on Creek Street running from Browncroft Blvd. to Plank Road. The project involves milling and resurfacing this portion of Creek Street. The project will continue through the remainder of June.

It was a bit warm Friday night for the music and food truck rodeo at the Penfield Amphitheater & Kiwanis Stage, but the music was hotter! Food trucks were lined up and served a variety of great food and drink. A special thank you goes to all the Penfield School performing groups—this event is a wonderful way to kick-off our summer concert series.

Mark your calendars for all of this year’s programs at the Penfield Amphitheater & Kiwanis Stage: Tuesdays Upstage, Thursdays Kids Fest, Saturdays on Stage, the Penfield Pops Band, and Tastin’ the Blues. For more details on performances please check out page 8 of the Summer 2018 PenRec brochure or log on to www.penfieldrec.org.

I would like to recognize Barbara Quinn, Coordinator of Dayton’s Corners School/Museum, and her team, for the wonderful annual pie social that was held yesterday, June 3. While the afternoon turned wet, it did not dampen the spirit of the more than 75 people who showed up for a tour, to visit with teachers, and of course, to enjoy lemonade and a piece of pie from Bakers Street Bakery. This school-museum is a wonderful asset in our community and is enjoyed by more than twelve hundred fourth graders each school year...great job ladies!

I would like to close this week’s column by recognizing a wonderful man that I have had the honor of getting to know over the years—the Reverend James A. Schwartz, pastor of St Joseph’s Church and the Church of the Holy Spirit. Fr. Jim was ordained on June 1, 1968, and celebrated 50 years of Priestly Ministry this past weekend at St. Joseph’s and will do so next week at Holy Spirit. Congratulations Fr. Jim and thank you for your service to our community, you have touched many lives with love and friendship during your 50 years!

Until next week, consider performing a random act of kindness for a friend or neighbor, it is amazing how good that can make you both feel!

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