Last week Penfield Rotary held the “Wally Ashnault Recognition Golf Tournament” to celebrate Wally’s 50 years of membership in Rotary. All proceeds from the tournament will be used to fund service projects to benefit local and international communities. Wally is a well known attorney in Penfield and an active advocate in all aspects of the community. I had the honor of first meeting Wally in the mid-1970s and have seen first-hand over these many years the time and service he has dedicated to Rotary and our town. Wally, on behalf of the entire Penfield community, congratulations and thank you for your service—you have made a difference in so many ways to so many people!

Several weeks ago I shared with you that Javier Perez, a Boy Scout from troop 260 located at St. Joseph’s Church, was planning his Eagle project and would be organizing the first annual “Run of Gratitude 5K” to support St. Joseph’s School. I’m happy to provide this update. The event was extremely successful with more than 170 participants. Javier shared with me that he was able to raise $5,000 for the school. In true scout fashion, Javier was also very quick to thank all of his fellow scouts and leaders for helping him make this race so successful. The journey to receive the Eagle designation is long and involved with less than five percent of scouts achieving the esteemed rank. I want to congratulate Javier on fulfilling his requirements for his Eagle project, and I look forward to attending his Court of Honor in the future to present him with a certificate of recognition on behalf of the Penfield community.

“The Gift of Life”…the American Red Cross and the Penfield Recreation Department will be holding a blood drive on Wednesday, June 19 from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Penfield Community Center. All donors will be entered to win a $200 gift card. To schedule an appointment, please contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS. If you donated blood on or before April 24 you are eligible to donate at this drive. Please consider donating, it makes a big difference in so many lives!

Recently, members of the town board had the honor of attending several Eagle Courts of Honor to present certificates of recognition to three of the newest Eagle Scouts in our community. From troop 363, Michael Josselyn’s Eagle project was to lead and manage a garden re-design for Webster Comfort Care Home; he organized 200 hours of service for this project. From troop 312, Benjamin L. Trageser and Collin Van Bork earned the rank of Eagle. Benjamin’s project was to resurface the sand volleyball courts in Fairport, which included adding many yards of new material, edging, and repositioning net posts. For his project, Collin renovated the front signage and landscaping for his church, Webster Christian Reformed Church. On behalf of the entire community of Penfield, I would like to recognize and congratulate Michael, Benjamin and Collin for attaining the rank of Eagle; great job guys, your family and friends must be very proud.

Last week I had the honor of joining the Penfield Library staff, the Friends of the Library, and all the library volunteers for their annual special recognition breakfast. The Penfield Library is a fabulous resource for our entire community; we are blessed to have a wonderful staff to assist all our residents’ needs. However, the staff cannot do this alone, and they do not have unlimited resources. Our library is fortunate to have a dedicated and involved group of volunteers who provide hundreds of hours of support each and every year. Also, the Friends of the Library donate equipment and financial resources to enhance and expand the library’s programs and materials. This is yet another example of Penfield’s community spirit—so many people giving of themselves for the good of all our residents. A special thank you to all the volunteers for all you do!

Until next week, I hope to see you around the town!

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