Members of the Friends of the Penfield Library hosted their annual recognition for the many volunteers who give so much to make our library the best in the Central Library System. The Friends tied their luncheon together with “National Best Friend Day” which was Sunday, June 8 to join “best friends” at this very special event. I would like to recognize Librarian Bernadette (Bunny) Brinkman and her entire staff for the work they do for all of our residents each and every day!

It would not be spring in Penfield if I did not host the Cobbles second grade class at the town hall to discuss local history and government! It is hard to believe that I started this tradition when our oldest daughter, Jennifer, was a seven-year-old second-grader; now 27 years later, I still look forward to seeing the students’ smiling faces and discussing everything going on in our great community. I continue to be impressed with their knowledge of Penfield. I would like to wish them all the best as they prepare for third grade. These children represent our future, and I will say our future looks very bright.

This past Saturday was opening day for the Penfield Little League (PLL) Challenger program. This is the fifth year I have had the opportunity to participate in the pre-game ceremony. Dedicated PLL members, parents, and buddies provide opportunities for boys and girls with physical and developmental challenges to enjoy the benefits of participation in Little League. All who participate are winners. I would like to thank Steve Pellow from PLL who was the catalyst to start the Challenger Program in Penfield…you have made a big difference in so many lives!

Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low assembled 18 girls from Savannah, Georgia on March 12, 1912, for a local Girl Scout meeting. She believed that all girls should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually with a goal of bringing girls out of isolated home environments and into community service and the open air. Within a few years, Daisy’s dream for a girl-centered organization was realized. Today, Girl Scouts of the USA has a membership of over 3.2 million girls and adults. In fact, more than 59 million women in the U.S. today are Girl Scout alumni. This past Sunday I had the privilege of recognizing 17 young ladies who have earned Girl Scouting’s highest honors—Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards—for making a lasting difference in our community and the world at large. Please join me in congratulating these young ladies on their accomplishments.

This year’s Gold Award recipients are Catherine Mary Catapano, Charlotte Kurzweil, Meaghan Hoitt, and Katie Yorko. Silver Awards went to Jordan Egger, Elizabeth Yorko, Rachel Peterson, Logan Savitchef, Karis Halley, Emiliana Martinez-Nobrega, Carly Fanning, Amanda Vick, and Hannah Seppala. Bronze Awards were earned by Grace Kurzweil, Julia Pelletier, Gabriella Tilia, and Sophia Vigneri.

Last reminder…the Veterans Resource Picnic will be held this Saturday, June 21 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Veterans' Memorial Park. There will be food, music, games for the kids, and an antique car show! All veterans are entitled to a number of benefits and services. Veterans and their families are invited to join us for an afternoon of community, fun, and opportunities to speak with local representatives from veterans’ services such as Monroe County Veterans Agency, Veterans Administration, and local social organizations. Lunch is free for veterans and $3.00 for all others. Please register by calling 340-8664. Veterans please be sure to bring your DD214 form with you.

Until next week enjoy the summer weather!

Tony