I would like to start the column off this week by recognizing all the Penfield students in both the Penfield and Webster School Districts who completed another school year. Your hard work has paid off and will continue to do so throughout your life. Good luck to all the graduating seniors as you prepare to attend college and other begin other exciting endeavors this fall. Thank you to all the teachers, teaching assistants, teachers’ aids, and parents who helped in the classrooms during the 2010-11 school year, you all make a difference each and every day…enjoy your summer!

Our Highway Department recently completed a rebuild of the Devonshire/Corwin Drive neighborhood roadways. The process used is a “recycle in place” technology where a roto-tiller type machine grinds the existing asphalt and leaves it in place. The road is then coated with a liquid emulsion product to firm up the base, then a new hot asphalt top is put down. By utilizing this technology, the Town of Penfield is able to recycle all the existing road materials, provide a better road base, and complete the job in about half the time which minimizes disruption to residents.

I was reminded by the Penfield Business Association (PBA) that they are in the process of accepting nominations for the 2011 Daniel Penfield Award. This award is given annually by the PBA to honor a local business person who has positively impacted the Penfield business community through their community involvement, business practices and overall character. Nominations will be accepted through July 15 and will be reviewed by the awards selection committee. The winner will be announced at the PBA Awards Dinner on October 27. For more information, contact secretary@penfieldbusiness.org.

SPECIAL NOTE: The Town is working with the American Red Cross to hold a blood drive on Thursday, June 23 at the Penfield Community Center from 2–7 PM. As we head into summer, blood supplies are at a critical low within our region. To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS or just walk in. If you donated on or before April 28, 2011 you will be eligible to donate. I plan on donating at 4:00 PM that day, consider joining me for this very worthwhile need. Hope to see you there!

Members of the Penfield Community Victory Garden will be holding their second annual “garage sale” on Saturday, July 2 from 10 AM–3 PM at the garden site. Money collected from this sale will be used for future beneficial projects. You can help in a number of ways—you can donate gently used items by contacting Dot Brenneis at 387-0883 or ddbrenne@yahoo.com to make arrangements for pick-up/delivery, or you can stop by the garden the day of the event to purchase “that latest treasure.” The community garden is one of the newest jewels in this great community.

In closing, I want to encourage our residents to support all of our local farmers, farmer’s stands and farm markets, not only during the upcoming summer and fall growing season but all year long. We are so fortunate to have the quality and variety of these operations in our community that have helped to keep our rich agricultural heritage generations strong. Farming has been, and will continue to be, a cornerstone of this great community. I want to recognize, on behalf of all our residents, the farmers of Penfield for everything you do to help preserve our agricultural heritage…thank you!

Until next week, I look forward to seeing you out in the community.

Tony

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