I received a reminder from the Penfield Business Association (PBA) that they are hosting their second annual golf tournament on Monday, July 16 at the Penfield Country Club to benefit the Shepherd Home. There is still room for interested golfers and “wannabe” golfers. The tournament is a scramble format that starts at 12:30 p.m. and includes golf, prizes, lunch and dinner. If you have questions or would like additional information, you can contact Laurie at 202-7564 or log on at www.penfieldbusiness.org.

The town board recently approved Mathnasium, a math learning center to be located at 1802 Penfield Road in the Four Corners behind Dunkin Donuts. Mathnasium Learning Centers specialize in teaching kids math the way that makes sense to them. Students can go to Mathnasium year-round to catch up, keep up and to get ahead in math. An open house is scheduled for Saturday, July 21 and Sunday July 22, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. Stop in to see the facility, or log on at www.mathnasium.com/penfield.

The 2013 budget process is underway. Department heads have submitted first drafts of their budgets and the comptroller and I will begin review meetings next week as we prepare for the “tentative budget” submission to the town board at the September 5 meeting. The board’s goal is to manage costs, control spending and look for innovative ways to work smarter with fewer resources. Three areas I am watching very closely are: increased health care costs estimated to be up 12 percent; New York State pension costs up 20-plus percent; and workers compensation costs up 12 to 15 percent. The potential total cost impact to the 2013 budget is more than $300,000 above the 2012 budget. Our challenge is to look for ways to absorb the mandated costs, preserve services and not increase taxes.

The next “Passport Night in Penfield” is Thursday, August 2 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall auditorium. This program, sponsored by Monroe County Clerk Cheryl Dinolfo and supported by Penfield Town Clerk Amy Steklof, is very popular and gives our residents the convenience of filling out applications, having photos taken and speaking with experts regarding what needs to be done to issue new or updated passports. For more information or to make an appointment, please call 340-8629.

Dates for your calendar: Amphitheater & Kiwanis Stage Series – July 16, Penfield POPS Band; July 17, Rod Blumenau; July 19, Bart and Kevin. All performances begin at 7:00 p.m.

Registration for “Hunter Safety Education” began on July 11. Class size is limited to a maximum of 20 participants. These courses are FREE and held in cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. You must be at least 11 years of age to take these classes and at least 12 to obtain a hunting license. For more information check out page 37 of the summer 2012 Recreation Brochure or log on at www.penfield.org.

Until next week, be well and be safe!
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