Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column

Week of July 14, 2014

I would like to recognize the Penfield Recreation team for making our 2014 Independence Day Celebration one of the best in recent years. The weather was perfect, the parade was fantastic, and the music, food and fireworks at Harris Whalen Park topped off a perfect day. Great job on another successful event for the Penfield community!

I recently participated in a ground breaking ceremony for a 33,000 sq. ft. expansion the Eastside Family YMCA. This expansion brings together a relationship between the YMCA and the University of Rochester Medical Center to better serve the community in overall fitness, recovery from chronic illness and injury, and other wellness programs. Their goal is to open in the spring of 2015. Go to http://www.rochesterymca.org/eastside-expansion for details.

The town’s Employee Wellness Team reminds us to ditch sugary drinks and turn to water this summer. Families can make drinking water a fun, competitive game by tracking family members’ daily water consumption. Strive for eight cups each day. Without water, our bodies would stop working properly. Why? Water makes up more than half our body weight and a people cannot survive more than a few days without it. Along with being an important part of body fluids, each cell depends on water to function normally. Water also helps our immune systems fight off illness. We need water to digest food and get rid of waste, and you can bet water is the main ingredient in perspiration. Help your body feel great by drinking water when you’re thirsty, and be sure to drink extra water when it’s warm out.

Next week’s concert series at the Penfield Amphitheater & Kiwanis Stage: Monday, July 21 – Penfield Pops Band; “Cool Jazz” Tuesday, July 22 – Dan Schmitt & the Shadows, and “Kids Fest” Thursday, July 24 – Mike Kornrich. All shows begin at 7:00 p.m. Great food is available each night and there will be a wine tent at the Cool Jazz series. The amphitheater is located at 3100 Atlantic Ave. behind the Town Hall. I hope to see you there!

The Penfield Players will perform a staged reading of the provocative comedy “Why Torture is Wrong, and the People who Love Them” on Saturday, July 19, at 2:00 p.m. at the Penfield Community Center. A staged reading is a style of theater in which the actors, rather than memorizing the lines, interpret them while holding their scripts. Like storytelling, staged readings can create images by suggestion that could never be realistically portrayed on stage. Readers’ theater frees audiences from the physical limitations of conventional theater, letting imaginations soar. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. This will be the only performance, so mark your calendars.

The town’s 2015 budget process is underway. All department heads have submitted their initial plans and we are gathering data on pension costs, medical premiums, insurance rates, workers compensation figures, and more. As has been my practice, I will update everyone as to how things are shaping up for 2015. Our goal is to adopt the budget on October 15 and file it with Monroe County and New York State. The town board is committed to stay under the state mandated tax cap which will require holding the line on costs and reducing overall spending.

Until next week enjoy the beautiful summer weather!