In this week’s Farm Market/Garden Center series, I would like to highlight Grossmans Garden and Home at 1801 Fairport Nine Mile Point Road. Established in 1984, Grossman’s Country Nursery came to life out of a 10-acre corn field, with the Grossman homestead built in the center of the property in 1983. For the first 13 years of the business Larry Grossman designed and created one project at a time. One project, one crew, one client. In 1994 Larry married Frances, and with her guidance, their garden art department was created. Little did she know she would soon leave her job and work full time at the nursery. As their business grew, Larry and Frances continued to refresh and renew the operation with the same commitment to provide their customers with homegrown flowers, trees, shrubs, garden art, and furniture, offering their customers fun and easy gardening solutions for outdoor living.

In February of this year, Grossmans Garden and Home, one of the 2015 “Revolutionary 100 Garden Centers,” was purchased by Penfield residents Jon and Erika Stone. In addition to carrying on the tradition of Grossmans, they will be growing the business on all fronts. They are excited about the addition of a new Hardscape Design and Sales Center. The design center will allow visitors to visualize how elements, like outdoor kitchens, fireplaces, patios, trellises and retaining walls, would feel in their own backyard. The Stones also look to bring new events for adults and children and new product lines and gift ideas to Grossmans. All of the company’s employees were retained during the transition, with Larry Grossman staying on as landscape designer. For more information about Grossmans Garden & Home and their products and services, go to www.grossmans.com...and please remember to shop locally, it does make a difference for the entire community!

Route 441 reconstruction is well underway and I am looking forward to the repair of potholes and damaged catch basins, as well as the placement of new pavement. Villager Construction Inc. is the contractor selected by the NYS Department of Transportation for the project. They have extensive experience in road construction and pavement management. A significant part of the construction will be done after hours to minimize traffic disruption; however as with any construction project, there will be delays. Please use caution, reduce speeds, and obey traffic control signs and flagman. While there will be some inconveniences over the next several weeks, the final results will be well worth it for our residents.

The next Penfield Trails Committee free guided hike is Saturday, August 8 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in Ellison Park. Come and discover the off-beat pathways that reveal the natural vistas carved by 10,000 years of Irondequoit Creek flow. Meet at the south entrance at 1008 Penfield Road and look for the hike signs. All events are held rain or shine. For more information, go to www.penfieldrec.org and click on Penfield Trails.

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, July 28 for “Cool Jazz” featuring Gap Mangione and the New Blues Band, and also Thursday, July 30 for “Kids Fest” featuring the “Dinner Dogs.” Both of these concert series have been crowd pleasers over the years! Music starts at 7:00 p.m. and great food is available each night with a wine tent on July 28 for your enjoyment.

Starting in early August I will begin to share the various milestones of the 2016 budget process so our residents have a feel for how things are shaping up for next year. I will discuss impact of the state and federal budgets on Penfield, proposed new plans and programs, as well as timelines for information meetings and public hearings.

Until next week, enjoy the summer weather. Be well and be safe!

Tony

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