Great music at the amphitheater began June 1 with the Wegmans Music Fest and ended August 4 with Gap Mangione and his Big Band; everything in between was a hit with Penfield residents—what a great summer at the Penfield Amphitheater & Kiwanis Stage. These quality programs were made possible in part by the support of several local businesses and service organizations that assisted with underwriting costs. Sponsors include Baker Commodities, Costich Engineering, ECC Technologies, M&T Bank, MRB Group-Engineering Architecture Surveying, Passero Associates Engineering Architecture, Penfield-Perinton Kiwanis, Synergy Global Solutions, Legacy at Willow Ponds and Wegmans. On behalf of the entire Penfield community, I would like to recognize and thank these businesses for their support in making the 2012 music season one of our best!

But wait, we have one last exciting event before the amphitheater is taken down for the season—and this one has become a community favorite—so mark your calendars for “Tastin’ the Blues” on September 15 from noon to 4:00 p.m. “The Scandals” will open up for “Steve Grills and the Roadmasters” who bring their hard-driving Chicago style blues. Dundee will be providing a lineup of locally brewed beer for sampling, and I will be cooking up gallons of the “Supervisor’s Favorite Chili” recipe to compete with all the local chefs, culinary specialists, short-order cooks, hash slingers and mess sergeants out there, so bring it on and show us your best chili recipe. A great time is had by all who attend; I hope to see you there.

Budget update 2013: The town board has asked several departments to make modifications to their submitted budgets. We have asked all departments to reduce costs and cut spending so that we can absorb inflation and some of the unfunded mandates being pushed down by New York State. We recognize this is not always a popular decision; some programs may need to be modified and we may even need to stop performing certain tasks. Our goal continues to be managing costs in all departments. There is a need to reduce the size and cost of government at all levels. We continue to look at innovative ways to accomplish the same tasks at lower costs so we do not have to increase taxes. This objective helps residents and businesses across the community.

Keep an eye on your mail boxes, the 2012 fall edition of the PenRec Brochure should be arriving this week. Please do not take it directly from mail box to blue box; read it through, there is great information about programs, activities and more inside. Fall registration begins September 4 unless otherwise noted. I would like to recognize Recreation Director Chris Bilow and his entire team for pulling this season of wellness together for our residents, it certainly adds to our quality of life in Penfield.

On behalf of the town board, I would like to welcome Dr. Stephen L. Grimm as the new Superintendent of Schools for the Penfield Central School District, we look forward to partnering with Dr. Grimm and his team on projects that support our residents.

Important dates and events in history: August 15, 1914 – The Panama Canal opened for business. August 21, 1959 – Hawaii is the 50th State admitted to the Union.

As summer quickly seems to be coming to a close, enjoy these last few weeks on vacation, at the pool, visiting family or just relaxing. Be well and be safe in all you do…I hope you are having a great week!

Tony
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