The “Friends of the Penfield Public Library” asked me to remind you that their 37th annual used book sale is just around the corner, running from September 10-14. More than 95,000 items will be for sale including books, videos, DVDs, CDs, vinyl records, games, puzzles and software. The sale begins with a member only pre-sale on Tuesday, September 10 from 2:00 to 9:00 p.m. If you are not a member, no problem! Stop in at the library before the sale and join, a one-year membership is only $5.00. The sale runs Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Friday is half-price day and sale hours are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday is $3.00 per bag day from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Shoppers are encouraged to bring their own bags, and baby strollers and shopping carts are prohibited due to narrow aisles.

Interested in a canoe adventure and reliving LaSalle’s exploration along Irondequoit Bay? Try taking a guided trip led by naturalist and historian Dick Frietas. Eight “explorers” per “war canoe” will travel the Ellison Park Wetlands to LaSalle’s Landing and learn about his multiple trips to our great community. The adventure takes place three different times on Sunday, September 15 from Bay Creek Paddle Center located at 1099 Empire Blvd., choose from tours at 12-2 p.m., 2-4 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. Please register through the Penfield Recreation Department by calling 340-8655 or log on at www.penfieldrec.org. There is a $22.00 fee for this program.

2014 budget update…next year’s budget continues to take shape and I will be presenting the “Tentative Budget” to the Town Board with Town Comptroller Bob Beedon on Wednesday, September 11 at 7:30 p.m. Please note that this would normally have been done the first Wednesday of the month; however, due to the Rosh Hashanah Holiday, we have moved it a week and will have a special town board legislative session in conjunction with our normal work session. The Office of the State Comptroller recently set the allowable levy growth factor for local governments with fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014 at 1.66%. Under the tax levy cap formula put in place two years ago, the allowable rate of increase in the levy is limited to the rate of inflation or 2%, whichever is less. As the inflation factor is currently at 1.66%, the legally permitted increase in the levy is set at 1.66% for 2014. The inflation growth factor is based on growth in the 12-month average of the Consumer Price Index at a point six months before the start of a fiscal year.

As I was doing some much needed clean up and clean out of the LaFountain shed and garage over the weekend, I accumulated a rather large pile of items to be discarded. Our normal refuse collection day is Tuesday and it would have been very easy to add most of the items to the normal trash collection this week. However, as our family continues to look for ways to reduce materials that get sent to the landfill, I pulled out my “ecopark” list of accepted items card to check out what I could recycle. Amazing…I was able to recycle the following items in a one stop drop: electronic waste, bulk cardboard, printer cartridges, Styrofoam packing, fluorescent bulbs, clothing, scrap metal, several flags, and approximately seven gallons of old paint. This is only about a third of the list of items that Ecopark will accept; I wish I had a bigger truck! If you have visited “ecopark” you know what I’m talking about. If you haven’t, you should check it out. It is located at 10 Avion Drive, 14624 and open Wednesday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Household Hazardous Waste drop-off requires an appointment. For more information, log-on at www.monroecounty.gov/ecopark. Consider getting a few neighbors together to pool your recyclable items and take over a car or truck load of materials—you will be glad to get rid of items you never use and you will feel good about recycling and not impacting the landfills!

As I am writing this column, it dawns on me that Labor Day is just a few short weeks away. Please enjoy this time before the kids head back to school and we get into our fall routine. Be well and be safe…I look forward to seeing you out and about this great town!

Tony
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