A special thank you goes out to Penfield Rotary, Penfield Recreation and R Community Bikes for a very successful community bike drop off event last week. This second annual event to benefit R Community Bikes took in 250 donated bikes, up from last year’s count of 222. This volunteer effort will allow donated bikes to be repaired and distributed to children and adults within the City of Rochester and County of Monroe who cannot afford one. Also, I would like to recognize all of our residents who donated to this effort, through your generosity many people will benefit…thank you!

Last week town staff had the honor of hosting the Harris Hill School 5th grade students for their annual visit to the Town Hall to discuss local government and participate in various demonstrations. This is always a great learning event for town employees and the students. Presentations were made by the Town Clerk, Animal Control, Recreation, Building, Sewer, Engineering and Planning. I want to recognize and thank the Harris Hill staff who coordinated this field trip: Miss Durr, Mr. Playfair, Mrs. Silco, Miss Tugwell and Mrs. Schonblom. We are already looking forward to next year!

Update…we received notice that the Penfield Road bridge west of Panorama Plaza will not open until mid-November. Monroe County and its contactor have encountered some additional items of work that require the bridge to remain closed for another month. They have assured us that they will be working as quickly as possible to get things opened back up as soon as possible.

The economy maybe struggling, but the fraud business is booming so say the experts. Fraud involving investments, mortgages and the Internet is growing as scam artists use new channels and technology that did not exist over the last decade. Recently I was invited by the Legacy at Willow Pond to welcome a group of seniors and their families to a seminar focused on helping them make informed and educated decisions concerning their future. One of the presenters on hand was Jim Lynd from Lifespan who spoke about scams, fraud and identity theft that are specifically targeted at the elderly. Jim encouraged all of those in attendance to pick up the October 2012 copy of “Consumer Reports” and read the section on America’s Worst Scams. Coming from a background in security, even I was amazed at what is being done to prey on our elderly population. If you know of a family member or neighbor who has been or currently is being targeted please contact Lifespan at 244-8400 or log on at info@lifespan-roch.org they can assist and guide older adults and caregivers.

I am reminded by the Penfield Library staff that there are several interesting programs coming up for our younger residents: Family Halloween Crafts on Saturday, October 27, 11:00-11:45a.m. for ages four to 10; Nutcracker Storytime is Saturday, November 10, 11:00-11:45 a.m. for ages three to 10; Tales for Tails is Monday, November 12, 10:30- 11:30 a.m. for children in grades K-5; and Library Lego Lab is Monday, November 12, 1:30-2:45 p.m. for children in grades 1-5. Please note that children seven and under must be accompanied by an adult. For more information on these programs and many more offered by the Penfield Library, please log on to www.penfieldlibrary.org.

Last call…you have one last chance to fill out the Penfield Recreation community needs assessment survey to help us shape the future of Penfield Recreation. The survey will only take five minutes of your time. You can log at www.surveymonkey.com/s/PenfieldRec, thank you in advance for your participation.

Until next week, I hope to see you out in our great community!

Tony
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