Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column
Week of October 27, 2014

As we all prepare for the upcoming heating season, RG&E has asked me to remind Penfield residents of the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO), a colorless, odorless gas that can quickly harm you and your family. Exposure to CO can cause flu-like symptoms including headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea and loss of muscle control. Prolonged exposure to CO can lead to serious illness and even death. CO is produced by incomplete combustion from boilers, furnaces, water heaters, gasoline engines, stoves, generators, lanterns and natural gas ranges. The incomplete combustion of charcoal, oil, wood or propane also can produce CO, which may reach dangerous levels in enclosed or partially-enclosed spaces and poorly ventilated areas. To help keep you safe, RG&E recommends the following practices: Use CO detectors (New York state law now requires CO detectors in most residences); have a professional check heating systems, chimneys, flues and vents once a year; always read, understand and follow manufacturers’ instructions when using supplemental heat sources such as space heaters or fireplaces; never use an emergency generator indoors, including the garage; and never use a natural gas stove, oven or charcoal grill as an indoor heat source.

Last week I attended the dedication and ribbon cutting of the RTS Transit Center located between St. Paul Street and North Clinton Avenue downtown. This state of the art facility will help those using public transit make connections across the county and region. For more information, and to follow the progress, log on to www.myrts.com/transitcenter.

More than 900 residents came out last Friday for the annual “Family Halloween Fun” night to partake in games, trick-or-treat, hayrides, crafts, coffee and hot chocolate, personal pan pizza, the Historic Ghost Walk, and more. I would like to recognize the many community volunteers who help make this event so successful. Boy Scout Troop 312, Penfield High School Baseball Team, local farmers and their families (Woodward, Rothfuss), the Young Open & Honest Players, the Daytime Education at Recreation volunteers, Tim Hortons, Penfield Fire Company, and the Community Garden Club. Your dedication to the Penfield Recreation Department and the community of Penfield does not go unnoticed...thank you for the gift of your time, it made a difference in the success of this event!

The last program of the Environmental Discussion Series is scheduled for Monday, November 3 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Town Hall. To wrap up this sequence of events, Ram Shrivastava from Larsen Engineers will discuss Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems and how these systems can be designed to generate up to 100% of a site’s electrical load. The topics of costs and NYSERDA incentives will be covered as well as available tax credits. There will be plenty of time at the end of the presentation for questions. While the program is free, participants are asked to register by calling Penfield Recreation at 340-8655 or logging on to www.penfieldrec.org. I hope to see you there!

The Penfield Business Association (PBA) will host its Annual Meeting and Economic Development Presentation on November 13 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. at the Penfield Country Club, featuring Jim Costello, Business Development Director for the Town of Penfield. Jim will present the current state of economic development in Penfield and share news about upcoming projects on the horizon. Each of Penfield’s business districts will be discussed during the presentation and there will be an opportunity for questions. For more information about this program and others scheduled throughout the year, please go to www.penfieldbusiness.org.

One last shout-out for the Penfield Rotary’s Fall 2014 Charity Euchre Tournament to be held Sunday, November 2 at The Legacy at 40 Willow Pond. Tickets are $20 per person if purchased by October 31 or $25 per person the day of the event. For more information or to purchase a ticket, contact Christian at 451-4143. All proceeds will benefit Camp Haccamo for children and adults with a wide range of disabilities and other Penfield Rotary programs.

Until next week...remember to set your clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 2 and replace the batteries in your smoke detectors.