Town of Penfield Supervisor’s Column  
October 29, 2018

Harris Hill principal Marc Nelson and his team recently invited a group of community leaders to visit and observe the school’s Kinesthetic Movement Lab. Kinesthetic is a multi-sensory approach to teaching math and literacy that incorporates physical exercise (hop, walk, crawl, dance, and stretch) to encourage students to practice concepts such as addition and subtraction, telling time, mapping, managing money, and other skills.

The Kinesthetic program helps students master concepts while simultaneously offering teachers and students an overall sense of well-being. Incorporating these exercises during the day, before testing, or during transitions allows teachers and students to feel energized, focused, and prepared to learn. Here are a few comments we heard from students about the program: “It makes learning fun,” “It is good to move around and learn (rather) than just sitting in class all day,” and “I can better focus.”

I would like to recognize and thank Principal Nelson, Physical Education Teacher Pam Stark, and fourth grade teacher Janine Roode and her class, for allowing us to join in for part of their school day—it was a wonderful experience! Programs like this help to make the Penfield School District one of the leaders in Monroe County and New York State.

Over the weekend, I attended the 13th annual closing reception and awards ceremony for Penfield Art Association’s Autumn Show and Sale at Legacy Willow Pond. This was the ninth year I had the honor of selecting and presenting the award for the “Best Penfield Scene.” All of the artists do a wonderful job of capturing a part of Penfield that they enjoy from the past or present. This year the award went to Kathy Lindsley for her watercolor work entitled “The Clark House.”

The Penfield Art Association (PAA) presents three annual shows: one in October at the Legacy at Willow Pond Way of Penfield, one juried show in February at Barnes & Noble Bookstore in Pittsford, and the Spring Show and Sale at the Penfield Community Center in June. Additionally, the group has rotating exhibits of members’ artwork in various public and business establishments. To learn more about this organization that has been part of the Penfield Community for more than 55 years, please visit www.penfieldartassociation.com.

The next guided scenic trek hosted by the Penfield Trails Committee will be held on Saturday, November 10 from 10:00 AM to noon at the Webster Four Mile Creek Preserve. Join the committee and meander through deep woods pockets along the twisting water course glens winding toward Lake Ontario. Meet in the parking lot at the southeast corner of Phillips and Lake Roads and look for the hike signs. While the hike is free you are asked to register by contacting the Penfield Recreation department at 340-8655, option 0.

As we are knocking on November’s door and the Thanksgiving holiday is fast approaching, please consider donating to the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf (PEFS). The food shelf is a wonderful resource to help support individuals and families in Penfield with fresh and non-perishable food. Each week the PEFS supports more than 95 families; during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays they will provide more than 470 dinners. Thank you in advance for supporting this wonderful organization. Your donations do make a difference in many lives. For more information on PEFS or to see their current list of needed items, please go to www.penfieldecumenicalfoodshelf.org

Join the Penfield Recreation Department for a trip to Geva Theater on Wednesday, November 7 from 12:45 to 5:00 PM for the performance of Thurgood, by George Stevens, Jr. and directed by Lou Bellamy. This is the inspiring story of the first African-American to sit on the Supreme Court of the United States. Thurgood spans the impressive 58-year career of Justice Thurgood Marshall from his early days as the civil rights lawyer arguing the landmark case of Brown vs. Board of Education to the end of institutionalized segregation in 1954, and his appointment to the highest
government post for an African-American in modern times.

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court in the land. The bus leaves the community center at 12:45 PM and returns at 5:00 PM. For more information, please contact Pen-Rec at 340-8655.

Important dates and events in history: October 29, 1929 – The New York Stock Market crashes to an all-time low (referred to as “Black Tuesday”), signaling the start of the Great Depression; November 1, 1952 – the United States detonates the 1st thermonuclear device; and on November 2, 1783 – the Continental Army is disbanded.

Reminder: Please check catch basins near or in front of your home for leaves that may be blocking the flow of storm water. We do not want to see anyone’s property flooded by the recent heavy rains we have experienced and will be seeing again later this week...thank you in advance for your attention.

Until next week, keep a watchful eye out for the safety of our youngest residents as they are out trick-or-treating this Wednesday in the dark and dreary weather. We want everyone to have a good time and get home safely!

Tony

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