Hurricane Sandy visited Penfield and created power outages for more than 1,500 of our residents. RG&E crews worked close to twenty hours on and four hours off each day replacing poles and wiring, and working with town tree crews to remove downed trees from electric lines. As I write this weekly column (Nov 2), 26 of our residents are still without power and we understand it will be restored very soon. The storm was projected to be much worse than it was; however, any damage to property, loss of power and flooding is serious. I would like to recognize and thank those that helped to restore power, cleaned up roadways and checked on residents without power to make sure they were okay. These helpful actions make our community strong.

The Northeast Fire District reminds me of the generous support they have received from Wilbert’s Premium Recycled Parts. Wilbert’s dedicated an area at their site for the fire department to use as a “jaws-of-life” training center. Our first responders are called out to many serious car accidents that require cutting out windows, cutting pillars and roof removal, door removal and dash board roll-backs to rescue accident victims. All of these are high stress situations; having the ability to train under controlled conditions at this training center prepares first responders for dealing with the very worst conditions. On behalf of the entire community of Penfield, I would like to recognize and thank the Wilbert Family for their dedication and support of our local emergency responders. What you have done by providing this area has—and will continue to—saved the lives of many accident victims.

A reminder to our residents, town offices will be closed on Monday, November 12 in observance of Veterans Day. The Penfield Library will be closed on Friday, November 9 for staff training; however, it will be open on Monday, November 12 and will host a number of special programs that day for our young residents.

The Penfield Volunteer Ambulance provides free blood pressure checks on the third Tuesday of every month at the Community Center from 11:00 a.m. to noon. The PVA will be at the Community Center next on November 13. Please stop by, it is good to know your numbers.

If you’ve been thinking of providing financial support to the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf (PEFS), this is a good time to do it. The PEFS has received an anonymous dollar-for-dollar matching pledge of up to $10,000 through the end of 2012. To donate, call 234-0799 or email penfieldfoodshelf@gmail.com. This generosity comes at a time when demand on the food shelf has increased. Also, the PEFS is settling into its new location at 1618 Jackson Road where there will be an open house Saturday, November 10, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Please stop by with your donations of non-perishable foods and personal care products.

Please support the Penfield Players in their upcoming performance of Dearly Departed, by David Bottrell and Jesse Jones, directed by Wyatt Doremus. This heart-stopping comedy involving the Bible Belt family of Bud Turpin has a funeral to plan, and between the feuds, marital flings and macaroni and ham loaf surprise, it might just escalate into a multiple-coffin memorial service. By the time the Turpines sort through the hangovers, money problems and headstone engraving options, they’ve learned that coping with life’s losses can turn out to be drop-dead funny. Performance dates are Fridays November 9 and 16; Saturdays November 10 and 17. All performances are at 8:00 p.m. at the Penfield Community Center, 1985 Baird Road. Pre-sale tickets are available at Penfield Recreation Department for $12 or $15 at the door.

Until next week, be well and be safe.

Tony
supervisor@penfield.org
340-8631