Last weekend I had the honor of attending an awards extravaganza at Master Kim’s Taekwondo Institute located in Panorama Plaza. Grandmaster YK Kim from Orlando, Florida—a modern day philosopher, speaker, producer, writer, director, star of the movie Miami Connection and the founder of Martial Arts World Magazine—was in town to present two awards. YK Kim presented Grandmaster Kim with the “Living Legend Lifetime Achievement” award, and also presented the “Master Instructor of the Year” award to Master Kim, son of Grandmaster Kim. This is the first time that these distinguished awards have been presented to a father and son.

Additionally, Grandmaster Sang Lee of Colorado Springs, Colorado was in town to support Grandmaster Kim and Master Kim for this International Hall of Fame moment. Grandmaster Lee is a thirteen-time undefeated national champion, and in 1988 was the first US Olympic Taekwondo Head Coach.

Master Kim’s Taekwondo Institute has locations in Penfield, Irondequoit, and Greece. Their programs continue to grow and expand to serve our community in so many ways by “adding value through values.” My wife and I are fortunate to have our two granddaughters involved in the Institute. One is a black belt at the age of nine and the other is working to achieve her black belt over the next year or two. We continue to be impressed with the character building lessons and activities provided at Master Kim’s, as well as the number of special community service projects the Institute provides. For more information on Master Kim’s programs go to www.masterkims.com.

On behalf of the town board and the Penfield community, I would like to congratulate Grandmaster Kim and Master Kim on these prestigious awards they received from Martial Arts World magazine.

As you read the next few sentences you will be saying to yourself, “Really?” Even though we have been enjoying a wonderful stretch of Indian summer, our DPW has asked me to remind residents that winter and snow plow rules go into effect starting November 15 and run through April 1. This means that no parking is allowed on all roads and highways between 2:00 and 7:00 a.m. each day to allow DPW crews to safely and effectively plow and salt the roads. For more information regarding winter and snow plow rules, please visit www.penfield.org.

Looking for something different to do on a Sunday? Come and join the Penfield Local History Room and the Legacy at Villagewood for a Jane Austen Holiday Tea. This event is a fundraiser for the adult Daytime Education at Recreation (DEAR) programs at Penfield Recreation. The event will be held Sunday, December 6 at the Penfield Town Hall and begins at 12:00 p.m. with tea, finger sandwiches, and of course, sweets! Guests will be treated to a Jane Austen fashion show and an English Country dance demonstration presented by Lisa Brown, the region’s most notable expert on Jane Austen and a member of the Jane Austen Society. Tickets are $10.00 and are now on sale. Seating is limited so be sure to purchase early by calling Penfield Recreation at 340-8655.

Residents may begin reserving Penfield lodges and shelters for 2016 on Tuesday, December 1 at 10:00 a.m. Lodges and shelters may be reserved online or in person; however, we highly recommend reserving online. You will need a Penfield Recreation household account in order to reserve, so please make sure you do this before December 1 to avoid reservation delays. For more information and to obtain a household account, please go to www.penfieldrec.org.

Until next week, enjoy this wonderful weather, and please remember not to block drainage ways and catch basins with leaves. As always, be well and be safe!