The 2018 Penfield Recreation Master Plan Committee recently completed a Recreation Input Survey to gather feedback from residents on the town’s recreation resources and offerings. They would now like to invite Penfield residents to participate in the next step of the Master Plan Update process, which is a Public Input Forum to be held on Thursday, November 29, 7:15 to 8:30 PM at the Penfield Community Center, 1985 Baird Road. This is an opportunity to speak directly to staff and the committee regarding Penfield’s current and future indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities and needs.

The more input received from the community, the more effective the plan will be for the next five years. If you are interested in this topic please attend and participate in person. If you have ideas to share but cannot attend there is also an opportunity to give input online at www.penfieldrec.org (click on the quick links on the right side and choose 2018 Master Plan Update). Thank you in advance for your support on this very important project!

Does your family have what it takes to be elves? Why not find out at Santa’s Little Elf Training Workshop on Saturday, December 8 at Dolomite Lodge to learn the basic skills needed to be Santa’s helper! Meet Santa himself and take part in his ultimate training program. Register as a family for $10.00 and choose your time: 11:00 AM (#412660-A) or 12:30 PM (#412660-B) There is limited enrollment, please register early!

Holiday gift wrapping help needed: The Monroe County Sheriff’s Office needs help wrapping gifts for their 2018 toy drive on Tuesday, December 18, 8:30 to 11:30 AM. Bus transportation to the Monroe County Sheriff’s headquarters downtown will be provided and will depart the Penfield Community Center at 8:30 AM. Participants should meet at the community center no later than 8:15 AM. Dozens of gifts will be waiting to be wrapped, refreshments will be provided, and there will be a tour of the facility and a meet-and-greet with some of the officers of the Monroe County Sheriff’s Office. If you would like to be a part of the team, please call 340-8655, option 0 to reserve a spot.

One last reminder... residents may begin reserving Penfield lodges and shelters for 2019 on Wednesday, December 5 at 10:00 AM. 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 5 to avoid reservation delays. For more information and to obtain a household account, please log-on at www.penfieldrec.org. Our lodges are very popular and demand is high, sign-in early to get your preferred date(s) for rental.

Mark your calendars for the Penfield Symphony Orchestra concert to be held on Monday, December 3 at 7:30 PM in the Penfield High School Auditorium. This concert is entitled Favorites for the Holidays and is sponsored by Canandaigua National Bank & Trust. Music Director and Conductor Dr. David Harman has lead the PSO for nineteen years and promises another wonderful performance to help everyone get into the holiday spirit. Free rides to the concerts are available through Lifespan by calling 872-0774. Please call two weeks before the concert, rides are subject to driver availability. For more information on this concert and others during the 2018-2019 season, please go to www.penfieldsymphony.org.

After a long delay by the contractor, work has actively started back up on the town’s 1.2-plus kilowatt solar project located at the DPW facility on Jackson Road. This project we are undertaking with Tesla is now due to be completed in the first quarter of 2019. Power generated from this system will go towards off-setting the cost of electricity for our three major facilities: the town hall, community center, and DPW. To give you a sense of the electrical power projected to be generated annually from this system, it would power the equivalent of 300 homes per year for the life of the panels which is project to be 25-plus years. The installation costs and materials are being paid for by Tesla with no Penfield taxpayer funding. Tesla and the Town of Penfield will share in the profits generated from the project.
Until next week, please enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends and remember why the day was established. In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. For more than two centuries, days of Thanksgiving were celebrated by individual colonies and states. It wasn’t until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held each November. Sadly, what Thanksgiving has become to many is a cloud of media hype, sales pitches, marketing tactics, and blitz commercialism. Please take a moment during the day to give thanks!

Tony

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