This past Saturday, a hardy group gathered for the ribbon-cutting for the new box turf field at Rothfuss Park. The temperatures were cold, however the sun was shining on this wonderful event as members of the Penfield Youth Lacrosse joined Senator Rich Funke, local elected officials, and many residents who came together for the celebration. I was honored to cut the ribbon with Senator Funke who provided an $80,000 grant for this newest sports turf field for use by our youngest residents. We were also honored to have Heidi Rothfuss, who is recognized as one of the top women LAX players in the region, in attendance.

The Rothfuss family did not want to see this land developed for homes once they stopped farming the land; they worked with the Town and the Nature Conservancy to preserve this area for generations to come. Since 2002 the Town has been developing the property for use by all residents for hiking, soccer, playgrounds, and now a box field. A special thank you to Senator Funke for helping to make this dream a reality. I look forward to watching many games at this field in the future!

Over the summer the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) conducted survey work and deep hole tests at the corner of Atlantic Ave and Five Mile Line Road as they study this intersection for improvements. It is their intent to construct turn lanes in all directions over the next several years. They will look to conduct public information meetings once they have finished some preliminary designs to allow all residents to see what is being planned for that intersection. In early designs they were considering a roundabout; however, based on the size of the area and—more importantly—traffic volume, they have abandoned that design and look to move forward with traditional turn lanes. Once we have received dates and times of the information meeting details will be posted at www.penfield.org and information will also be shared on social media.

Last week the Penfield Business Chamber (PBC) held its annual meeting. The Town and Penfield Central School District attended and provided updates on business development in Penfield and the state of the school district. This is always a wonderful event and opportunity to provide our local businesses with an overview of all the exciting things going on in the town and schools. I want to thank the PBC for hosting this annual event.

The annual Holiday Luncheon with Daytime Education at Recreation (DEAR) will be held on Thursday, December 5 at the Penfield Community Center. The menu will include unbreaded chicken cutlets, ziti with vodka cream sauce (gluten-free pasta will be available), pork tenderloin with a chive mustard honey cream sauce, broccoli salad, and dessert. The party will continue after lunch with live music from Kit Nelson. The program begins at 12:00 PM; the fee is $10.00.

The next senior adult day trip is “Dickens Christmas” scheduled for Saturday, December 7. The group will depart from the Penfield Community Center at 9:30 AM and return at 4:30 PM; the fee is $15.00.

The December scenic trek sponsored by the Penfield Trails Committee will take place on Saturday, December 14 from 10:00 AM to noon at the Thousand Acre Swamp. This guided hike will tour the paths and boardwalks of the Nature Conservancy’s Thousand Acre Swamp. A variety of habitats including woods, meadows, and a pond will be covered. The guide will emphasize winter lore such as identifying...
trees in their winter dress, looking for tracks (if there is snow), and other signs of animals. Meet at the rear of the Penfield Volunteer Emergency Ambulance Building on Jackson Road and look for the hike signs.

Save the date for the next PSO concert to be held on Monday, December 16 at 7:30 PM at the Penfield High School Auditorium. The program, entitled “Holiday Gifts,” is sponsored by Canandaigua National Bank & Trust.

Until next week, as you start to think about a holiday wreath, Christmas tree, or special gifts for family and friends, please remember to visit one of our many farm markets and farm stands—you will be amazed by the number of decorations and unique gifts they have to offer...be well and be safe!

Tony

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