

# A festival of Penfield's sounds and flavors

*The town, schools and Wegmans are partnering to pull off a weekend-long free music festival.*

**By AMY CAVALIER**

Messenger Post Staff

What better way to kick off the 2007 season at the Penfield Amphitheater and Kiwanis Stage than with a smorgasbord of local food and music?

How about with free food and three days of free music?

"There are concerts throughout the year," said Penfield

High School junior Corinne Shaffer, "but you only get to see one or two groups at a time. This way, you get to see the best of all the groups in one afternoon."

The town of Penfield, the Penfield School District and Wegmans are sponsoring a Music Festival Friday, June 1 through Sunday, June 3. There will be free music at the Penfield Amphitheater all weekend. The festivities kick off Friday evening with the Second Annual Taste of Penfield and wind down with the Penfield Symphony Orchestra's annual Picnic POPS concert Sunday.

At the Taste of Penfield, there will be free pizza from Mark's, gnocci from NapaGino's and ice cream from the new Sugar Shack, to be enjoyed listening to the Penfield High School jazz combos and "Tower of Power," 1970s funk as performed by Penfield High's Jazz Ensemble. On Saturday, the Penfield hot-dog cart will be set up so audiences can purchase snacks, or they can pack a picnic and set up on the lawn.

Shaffer is helping organize the event as part of her Business in Music class she's taking with Jim Doser, music department. Assistant Director

of Penfield Recreation Steve Orsini is coordinating things from the town's standpoint.

He said Penfield/Wegmans Music Festival has been going on for many years, featuring bands from the Penfield school district and wrapping up with the Penfield Symphony Orchestra's Picnic POPS concert. Over the years it has been held in such venues as the community center and next to the Penfield Road Wegmans. When the amphitheater came online four years ago, Orsini said, it was a "perfect venue" for the music festival.

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STAFF PHOTO/CARRIE ANN GRIPPO

**Junior Corinne Shaffer is helping organize this year's Music Festival weekend, sponsored by the town of Penfield, Penfield-area schools and Wegmans Food Markets. Corinne is working on the festival as part of her Music in Business class.**

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The amphitheater season runs July 10 through August 4, with a final Tasting the Blues event Sept. 15. There are Cool Jazz Tuesdays, Kids Fest Thursdays, Saturdays in the Park and several other shows, along with the Young Open Honest Players' summer musical, intermingled throughout the season.

Shaffer, who plays cello, said she has gotten valuable learn-

ing experience planning the Penfield/Wegmans Music Festival weekend and various other concerts.

"I've always been excited about music and being a part of the planning stages when I'm not playing," she said.

Shaffer said she realized that pulling off a weekend event like the music festival would be a lot of work, but "there's little things I never would have thought of."

There are details like coordi-

nating all the music groups and arranging trucks and volunteers to transport the musical equipment to the stage for show time.

"This is the stuff I never would have thought of," she said.

For more information, visit [www.penfield.org](http://www.penfield.org) or [www.penfield.edu](http://www.penfield.edu).

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