

### **Recreation programs continue during Spiegel renovation**

The Town’s project to renovate, upgrade and expand our community center rapidly approaches its next phase. We expect work to begin in late summer or early fall. In anticipation of the work beginning, we’ll be shutting down the Spiegel Community Center effective August 18. This coincides with the end of our summer recreation programming.

The building will close. Most of our recreation programs will continue, in other locations for the duration of the Spiegel construction. These locations will include the Pittsford Community Library, several of our local schools, the Senior Center at 3750 Monroe Avenue and at the Town’s recently purchased facility at 5611 Palmyra Road.

The Palmyra Road building, situated across Marsh Road from the Post Office, will serve as the interim community center. During the Spiegel renovation it will house our wellness and fitness programs such as karate, ballet, aerobics, yoga and others. It also will house our Recreation Department’s offices during the construction at Spiegel.

The Town has a deeply-rooted tradition of partnering and cooperating with other jurisdictions. This resounds to our benefit during the Spiegel close-down. We’re profoundly grateful to the Pittsford Central School District for accommodating us with space in Pittsford’s elementary schools for our After School programs for children in kindergarten through grade 5. These programs will be offered at Jefferson Road Elementary, at Mendon Center Elementary, at Thornell Road Elementary and at Park Road Elementary.

The Library will host babysitter training, academic offerings and seminar-style classes. The Senior Center will be the site of bridge class and Martial Arts for Women, among other programs. We will make the Town Hall meeting room available for community group meeting reservations as well.

Following the August 18 close-down, we’ll vacate the Spiegel Center by month’s end. Interior preparations for construction can then proceed. As I write this, the project bid schedule is being finalized. We expect to have a contractor on board by the end of August, with construction likely to begin by September. It should take about 12-14 months. While this may vary somewhat, we expect to open the refurbished Spiegel Center by the fall of 2018.

A project of this magnitude requires tremendous planning and coordination. At times it can create more than a bit of inconvenience. Think of it, as I hope you will, as a short-term sacrifice for long-term gain. The Spiegel project represents a long-awaited transition to a first rate facility to serve our residents for decades to come.

Fall recreation programs begin on September 3. They’ll run through December 30. Registration for programs begins on August 21 for Pittsford residents and on August 28 for all others. You can find complete program information and online registration at [www.townofpittsford.org/home-recreation](http://www.townofpittsford.org/home-recreation).

Should you have questions about or comments to share regarding the Town’s Spiegel Community Center Restoration and Improvement project, please contact me at 248-6220 or [bsmith@townofpittsford.org](mailto:bsmith@townofpittsford.org). You may also contact our Recreation Director, Jessie Hollenbeck, at 248-6284 or [jhollenbeck@townofpittsford.org](mailto:jhollenbeck@townofpittsford.org).