

News & Reviews

December 16, 2020

Town of Pittsford - a Clean Energy Community

***See listings below for
Upcoming Activities, Town Board Meetings & Community Meetings***

COMMUNITY SOLAR PUBLIC INFO MEETING ONLINE TONIGHT

***Program will lower electricity costs, access
100% renewable electricity***

Learn about Community Solar in Pittsford TONIGHT at an [online Public Information Session](#) to be held at 6:00pm. This new program will give residents and small businesses access to renewable energy with guaranteed savings for participants. As a community, Pittsford is taking steps to achieve local environmental goals. The Town of Pittsford is partnering with the Towns of Brighton and Irondequoit, the Village of Pittsford, Joule Community Power and our local partner Rocrtricity, to form Monroe Community Power.



Through Monroe Community Power, the Town of Pittsford is now offering residents and small businesses a fully vetted Community Solar program. Those who choose to participate in this program will be able to subscribe to a local Community Solar project, support the generation of renewable energy, and can save up to 10% on their entire RG&E electricity bill.

As a resident (homeowner or renter) or small business who enrolls in Community Solar you can:

- Access the benefits of solar without needing to install panels on your rooftop or property*
- Save up to 10% annually on your electricity costs
- Support the development of clean, renewable electricity in NY State
- Participate without risk because you may cancel without penalty at any time

***Please note:** if you have your own solar panels or participate in another solar program, you already receive solar credits and are thereby ineligible to enroll in a community solar program.

The **Community Solar** program helps the Town achieve its environmental goals. It creates a fund for sustainability projects in Pittsford paid for by the third-party program administrator,

Joule Community Power. For every enrollment, the administrator contributes \$50 to the sustainability fund.

Enroll and learn more at www.monroecommunitypower.com/enroll

Ask questions or get help with enrollment by calling Roctricity at **(585) 244-0244**.

You are invited to join Town Supervisor Bill Smith and the Monroe Community Power team remotely TONIGHT (Wednesday, December 16) at 6:00 PM at a **Public Info Session** where they will discuss the program and answer your questions.

RSVP and get the virtual meeting details at www.bit.ly/pittsford-solar-1216.

Community Solar represents the next step in Pittsford's long legacy of commitment to a healthy and sustainable environment. We're pleased to be able to offer it to you!

A Message from Supervisor Smith:

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN APPROVED

The Town and Village Boards, meeting in joint session, approved our joint Active Transportation Plan.

This culminates a thorough public process based on work by a joint Town-Village Citizens' Committee, our consultant and by citizens of Pittsford in the public workshops. Our Town-Wide Survey on the Plan, and last year's Community Survey that included issues relevant to the Plan, gave shape to the final product as the process proceeded.

A healthy and sustainable community is a principal goal for both the Town and Village administrations. The Plan represents another step toward that goal. It's about non-motorized ways of getting around. Its goals are to make Pittsford even more walkable and more conducive to bicycling, to improve and extend Town Trails and to improve safety for everyone on foot, or on a bike.

As the Plan came together, in recent years both the Town and Village moved forward with elements of the Plan that have public support. For example, for the Town we've:

- Built and completed the East Avenue Sidewalk
- Completed a trail connecting the Auburn Trail and the Canal Towpath as part of our new Nature Preserve
- Improved and cleared most of the Auburn Trail, with more to come
- Complete remapping all 86 miles of Town trails
- Launched the "Trails Passport Program" to encourage use of our trails
- Carried forward planning for safe pedestrian crosswalks on Thornell Road and Railroad Mills Road
- Engaged with the Town of Perinton about a trail connecting Bushnell's Basin to Thornell Road
- Worked with the County on the planned replacement the culverts along Stone Road - the necessary first step to construct the Stone Road Multi-use Trail

There's a lot in this Plan, so there's more to be done. That's why the Town Budget for 2021 funds:

- \$100,000 for Active Transportation Plan projects
- New Trail building and maintenance machinery
- A part-time Grant-Writing position, to help us go after grants to pay for improvements included in the Active Transportation Plan.

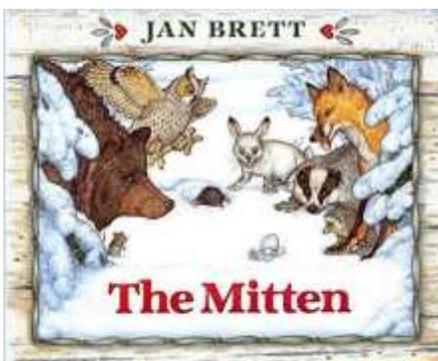
Among our community's great strengths is the close and successful working relationship between the Town and Village governments. I couldn't ask for a better, more knowledgeable, more dedicated municipal partner than Village Mayor Bob Corby. Special thanks to Mayor Corby and to Village Trustee Renee Stetzer for their work on the Plan as members of the steering committee. Thanks to the members of the Village Board who participated in our meeting to enact the Plan. Thanks also to members of the Village Planning Board who devoted so much of their time to reviewing this Plan.

Thanks to the residents who gave up their time to serve on the Citizen's Committee, to our Town Board for supporting the Plan and to Commissioner of Public Works Paul Schenkel for all of his work and expertise that went into it – and into all of the projects I've mentioned.

And of course, thanks to all of our residents of Pittsford who gave shape and meaning to this Plan with their participation in the workshops, the Active Transportation Plan Survey, the Community Survey and their communications to both Town Hall and the Village Hall.

I'll keep you updated on carrying out the Active Transportation Plan's recommendations as we proceed with improvements to make Pittsford even more of a healthy and sustainable community. The best is yet to come.

Bill Smith, Pittsford Town Supervisor



"THE MITTEN" STORY WALK UNDERWAY

Display will be up at Community Center through this Saturday, 12/19

The time is right for a winter story come to life – and some crafty fun! Stop by the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center up through this Saturday, December 19 and take a stroll through our **"The Mitten" story walk in the Community Center field**. Follow the story of Nicki, a young Ukrainian boy who has lost a mitten in the snow, and the animals who try to make a home of the mitten! Participants are asked to

follow physical distancing guidelines and bring a face mask to wear when within 6 feet of those outside of their group.

Once you have completed the walk, stop at the Community Center front desk and pick up a **themed craft pack to take home!** Craft packs are available Monday through Friday from 8:00am – 6:00pm and Saturdays from 10:00am – 5:00pm.

The Spiegel Pittsford Community Center is located at 35 Lincoln Avenue. For more information about the event, call the Community Center at 248-6280.

A REMINDER – STAY SAFE: WEAR A MASK, KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, WASH YOUR HANDS!

The holiday season is here and more people are out and about. Family members may be heading home from college. More folks are out shopping. It's therefore more important than ever to take the simple steps to keep yourself, and others, safe. Town Supervisor Bill Smith, School Superintendent Mike Pero, School Board President Amy Thomas and Village Mayor Bob Corby remind you to wear a mask when you are among others outside of your immediate family, maintain a safe physical distance and wash your hands frequently – especially after being out in public. See their [COVID-19 safety video message here](#). The health of our community – our people, our businesses, our services and amenities – affects us all and is our shared responsibility. We're all in this together. Please stay well, be safe and show your Pittsford Pride – wear your mask!



REFLECTING THE LIGHT OF THE SEASON

This year the pandemic prevented us from celebrating together the Chamber's annual Candlelight Night Christmas tree lighting and Chabad of Pittsford's annual Chanukah menorah lighting as we usually do. But these two symbols are still shining bright. They remind us of the holiday season's true meaning: the light that shines upon us all – the light of compassion, of understanding, of hope – binds us all together.

The tree and menorah are in front of the Phoenix Building, at the corner of Main and State streets in the Village. **Many thanks to Village Mayor Bob Corby** for this wonderful photo!



FOLLOW THE LIBRARY ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM FOR UPDATES

As we head into the winter months, the Pittsford Community Library staff is focusing on our community and thinking about how best to serve our residents. Our Library team will continue to prioritize safety with in-person services, and expand digital collections and programs. For updated program information, follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PittsfordLibrary/ and Instagram at www.instagram.com/pittsfordcommunitylibrary and visit their updates web page at www.bit.ly/pclupdates.

HOLIDAY HOURS FOR TOWN FACILITIES

In observance of the **Christmas** holiday, all **Town offices** (including Town Hall and the Parks, Sewer, and Highway departments), the **Spiegel Pittsford Community Center**, the **Pittsford Community Library**, and **Town Court** will be **closed Thursday, 12/24 and Friday, 12/25**.

The Spiegel Pittsford **Community Center also will be closed on Saturday, 12/26**.

In observance of the **New Year's** holiday **all Town offices** (including Town Hall and the Parks, Sewer, and Highway departments), Town Court, and the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center will **close at 1:00pm on Thursday, 12/31 and remain closed on Friday, 1/1/21**.

The Spiegel Pittsford **Community Center also will be closed on Saturday, 1/2/21**.

The Pittsford Community **Library will close at its usual time of 5:00pm on Thursday, 12/31 and remain closed on Friday, 1/1/20.**

In case of an emergency requiring Town of Pittsford services during holiday closures. please call (585) 248-6212.

Please see the complete daily schedule below:

Thursday, 12/24

CLOSED ALL DAY

All Town offices and facilities, including Town Hall, the Parks, Sewer, and Highway departments, Town Court, the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center and Seniors programs, and the Pittsford Community Library

Friday, 12/25

CLOSED ALL DAY

All Town offices and facilities, including Town Hall, the Parks, Sewer, and Highway departments, Town Court, the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center and Seniors programs, and the Pittsford Community Library

Saturday, 12/26

Spiegel Pittsford Community Center and Seniors programs closed all day

Thursday, 12/31

CLOSING AT 1:00pm

All Town offices (including Town Hall and the Parks, Sewer, and Highway departments), Town Court, and the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center

CLOSING AT 5:00pm

The Pittsford Community Library

Friday, January 1, 2021

CLOSED ALL DAY

All Town offices and facilities, including Town Hall, the Parks, Sewer, and Highway departments, Town Court, the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center and Seniors programs, and the Pittsford Community Library

Saturday, January 2, 2021

Spiegel Pittsford Community Center and Seniors programs closed all day

REMINDERS



HELP PYS BRIGHTEN THE HOLIDAYS FOR PITTSFORD FAMILIES IN NEED – BUY A DUCK!

Buy a commemorative duck ornament or donate a gift card in support of the PYS Family Fund

If you would like to help a family in the Pittsford community that needs a little extra support this holiday season, please consider donating to the Pittsford Youth Services (PYS) Family Fund. Your contribution will benefit families in the Pittsford community who are unable to afford basic items this holiday season such as food,

clothing, toiletries, and gifts for their families. You can make a donation, contribute a gift card, or buy a duck! Those making a donation of \$25 or more will receive a commemorative duck ornament. PYS is also collecting a variety of gift cards to give to families – find a complete list of needed gift cards on their [website](#).

The pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the social and emotional health of our community. Many families are facing difficult times. PYS hopes to bring some relief – and holiday joy – to those in need. Due to pandemic precautions, PYS is unable to host their 'Giving Trees' in community facilities to collect gift donations this year, so direct donations are more important than ever. Please consider giving if you can. **For more information and to make a donation, go to www.pittsfordyouthservices.org.**

Pittsford Youth Services provides counseling and social work services for our schools and the greater Pittsford community, and has been serving the families of Pittsford since 1969. If you would like more information about PYS programs and services, visit their website: www.pittsfordyouthservices.org or email info@pittsfordyouthservices.org.

SEASONAL PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN EFFECT THROUGH APRIL 1, 2021

In order to facilitate snow removal, Town of Pittsford seasonal parking restrictions are currently in effect through April 1, 2021. Parking of any vehicle on public roads - including state highways and on the shoulder of all roads - is prohibited each year from November 15 through April 1 in all areas within the Town and outside of the Village. During this time, please don't park on or along public roads outside of the Village. Please note violators may be ticketed or towed.

When the snow flies, we need roadsides clear of vehicles so our plows can get through. This is especially true in neighborhoods, where the streets are narrower. Vehicles parked along the roadside can hinder plows accessing your neighborhood. Please help us keep our streets safe and accessible!

ASL INTERPRETER ALWAYS AVAILABLE AT TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

The Town of Pittsford has an American Sign Language interpreter available at every Pittsford Town Board meeting, to interpret for those who need this service. Those who can't attend a Town Board meeting in person but are planning to watch the meeting's live stream can confirm their need for the interpreter by emailing comments@townofpittsford.org. Requests can be made in advance or can be emailed through the first ten minutes of the meeting. An on-demand Town Board meeting video with closed captioning will be available within 48 hours of the meeting; visit www.townofpittsford.org/home-channel12 and use the On-Demand links to view previously recorded meetings.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN PITTSFORD

- **"The Mitten" Story Walk**, December 14-19, Spiegel Pittsford Community Center field, 35 Lincoln Avenue; stop by the Community Center front desk after completing the walk to pick up a themed craft pack to take home. Physical distancing and face masks required when in contact with others outside of your group.
- [Pittsford Youth Services Family Fund Donation](#) – buy a commemorative duck ornament, make a donation, or donate needed gift cards; donations benefit families in the Pittsford community who are unable to afford basic items such as food, clothing and gifts for their

families. For information and to make a donation, visit www.pittsfordyouthservices.org or contact PYS at info@pittsfordyouthservices.org.

- **Coats for Seniors Coat Drive Canceled** – due to COVID-19 restrictions and safety measures, the Monroe County Office for the Aging and Medical Motor Service of Rochester's annual Coats for Seniors coat drive cannot be held this year; it was originally scheduled to take place during December.

TOWN OF PITTSFORD BOARD MEETINGS

- **Zoning Board**, Monday, 12/21, 7:00pm, ONLINE ACCESS via Zoom video conferencing; information for accessing and viewing the meeting can be found on page 2 of the meeting agenda; the meeting agenda is posted at least two days prior to the meeting on the Town website here: www.townofpittsford.org/home-minutes

COMMUNITY MEETINGS CALENDAR

- [Community Solar Program Public Information Meeting](#), Wednesday, 12/16, 6:00pm – ONLINE MEETING; RSVP at www.bit.ly/pittsford-solar-1216 to receive the virtual meeting details
- [American Legion Rayson-Miller Post 899](#) **TUESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST MEETINGS CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE** due to COVID-19 coronavirus social distancing requirements. Eligible veterans welcome to join the Post; for [membership information](#) visit the [Rayson-Miller Post website](#)
- [Pittsford Rotary Club](#), **WEEKLY IN-PERSON MEETINGS CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE** due to COVID-19 coronavirus social distancing requirements; check the Pittsford Rotary Facebook page for virtual meeting information.
- [Pittsford Art Group](#) is conducting monthly meetings for members via Zoom and typically displays artwork at the Pittsford Town Hall, Village Hall, The Friendly Home, Star Physical Therapy and the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsford. For further information or to become a member, please visit www.pittsfordartgroup.com or contact PAG president [Margie Mitchell](#)

Town Facility Closures

Spiegel Pittsford Community Center - building is open 8:00am - 5:00pm Monday through Friday and open during program hours evenings and weekends. Senior "Grab N Go" meals will continue every Wednesday and Friday; pickup is at the bus loop behind the Community Center. Registration for low-risk activities and virtual programs begins in advance of each session. See Program Info & Registration link at www.townofpittsford.org/home-recreation. Programs will continue to open as we receive further guidance.

Pittsford Community Library - the Library is now open for limited hours and services; enter from the parking lot entrance. The Library also has many online resources, programs and activities for all ages to enjoy. For current Library hours, services, resources, and other updates, visit the Library's update page at www.bit.ly/pclupdates. For virtual children's programming check the Library's Facebook page www.facebook.com/PittsfordLibrary/. The Book Drop return area is open; please only deposit returned books; for information on book sale donations visit www.pittsfordlibraryfriends.com. Regular due dates for all materials have resumed; check your receipt or your Library account for exact due dates. Low contact pickup of Library materials is available for Monroe County Library System cardholders.

Town Hall is open to residents by appointment only; in-person meetings will be limited and allowed only when absolutely necessary. Calls should be made to the department related to the inquiry. Town Hall remains staffed to handle business online and by mail, phone, email and the "drop slot" to the right of the front door of Town Hall.

Town Clerk: All services of the Town Clerk are available online, by mail, phone and email. If necessary, an appointment can be arranged. Contact at 248-6210 or ldillon@townofpittsford.org, mail materials to Pittsford Town Clerk's Office, 11 South Main Street, Pittsford NY 14534. Services info at www.townofpittsford.org/home-clerk.

Town Court: Pittsford Town Court sessions are being scheduled on a limited basis. Town Court staff are available via phone and email Monday - Friday from 9:00am - 5:00pm; call (585) 248-6238 or email at pdromgoole@townofpittsford.org. Visitors must follow appropriate health safety and social distancing requirements for Court appearances and Court Office visits.

All Town Playgrounds: residents may use Town playgrounds at their own risk, as it is not possible for the Town to keep equipment appropriately sanitized after every use. Those using Town playgrounds are expected to observe COVID-19 social distancing and hygiene protocols.

All Town Parks: Farm View Park and Hopkins Park are closed as of November 2020 and will remain closed through the spring of 2021. All other Town parks remain open; all courts are open, all athletic fields are open to groups of 25 individuals or less, and all trails and walkways are accessible. Those using Town parks are expected to observe COVID-19 social distancing and hygiene protocols.

Thornell Farm Park: the park is open and per State requirements, all grass and turf sports fields are open to group activities of 25 individuals or less; the tennis courts, trails, walkways and the playground are open to residents. COVID-19 social distancing and hygiene protocols are required.

King's Bend Park Lodges: the lodges are open for reservations; per State and Federal governments all COVID-19 safety guidelines must be followed while at the lodges. Lodge capacities will adhere to New York State COVID-19 guidelines. Please note COVID-19 social distancing and hygiene protocols are required.

The Mile Post School: the building is closed to the public until further notice, as the site is being used as a Public Works crew operation center.

Building Department: As of May 15, 2020 the Governor has begun the phased reopening of New York State. The Town of Pittsford and the surrounding Finger Lakes region have met the criteria set by the Governor to reopen. Construction is included in Phase 1 of the reopening plan. As construction moves forward, all COVID-19 safety guidelines set by the State and Federal governments must be followed while on the job site. To protect the community and limit the spread of COVID-19, the Town of Pittsford has altered accordingly its inspection and permitting procedures. See the Town of Pittsford COVID-19 Building Inspection Procedures for details; additional information can be found here: New York State Construction Guidelines. For more information contact Town of Pittsford Building Inspector Mark Lenzi at mLenzi@townofpittsford.org or call the Town Building Department at 585-248-6265.

Town Public Works - Highway, Sewer and Parks Departments: All operations continue. Crews in these departments are following hygiene and social distancing protocols in light of the COVID-19 threat.

Monroe County Services at Town facilities:

The County has suspended until further notice Passport Services at Town Hall and Mobile DMV service at Pittsford Town Court. Find updated information for Monroe County DMV here <https://www2.monroecounty.gov/clerk-COVID-19>.

Further information and updates can be found at www.townofpittsford.org/covid-19info.

COVID-19 Coronavirus Information Links

Further Town of Pittsford COVID-19 coronavirus information and updates can be found at www.townofpittsford.org/covid-19info.

[Pittsford Central School District COVID-19 Coronavirus Updates](#)

You can find information on COVID-19 coronavirus at the County Health Department's website: <https://www2.monroecounty.gov/health-index.php>.

Additional information about business closure requirements throughout Monroe County can be found on the County's Website: www.monroecounty.gov

The CDC also has information on its website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/share-facts-stop-fear.html>.

In addition, the CDC has information relevant to anyone planning to travel outside of the United States: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM20785.

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