

# THE PITTSFORD MESSENGER

Town of Pittsford Community Report

Volume 10 • Issue 3

[www.townofpittsford.com](http://www.townofpittsford.com)

Autumn 2004

## Pittsford Supervisor's autumn report

In this issue you will find information about the proposed 2005 operating budget. This is a budget that the Town Board, staff and I recognized would be a difficult one and worked hard to keep as low as possible.

There are two parts to this budget story. The first is about a new appropriation. The 2005 operating budget includes the first bond payment for the construction of the new community library. In 2005, we will be making a payment of \$560,560, which in itself becomes the biggest driving force in this budget.

The second part of the story involves the impact on the 2005 operating budget of increased fuel and utility costs, and benefit costs. We are proud to tell you that we are holding the line on this side of the budget. Outside of the library bond, increased spending was limited to 1.5%, increased taxes account for 1.25% and tax increase was held to 1.02%.

The proposed budget results in the average taxpayer paying an additional \$59.01 in town taxes of which \$52.67 or 89% is for the library bond.

I often hear residents talk about the property taxes which the Town Board and I recognize are a significant expense in their lives. Your property taxes are allocated to a number of municipal entities including the Town, School District, Monroe County and the Village, for those 1200 residents.

The Town provides you with a number of services that you benefit from on a very regular basis. Yard debris collection, snow removal, road repair, recreation programs, library services, parks and other open spaces to name just a few. Your town government is also the most accessible level of government that you can interact with easily and readily.

We believe that town taxes are reasonable for the services offered. Of the total property taxes you pay, less than 10% are required to support town services. Inside this newsletter you will find pie charts that describe the property tax allocation for a town and village resident.

We also believe that Pittsford benchmarks well when compared to the other 18 Monroe County townships. We are proud to report that our proposed tax rate of \$3.04 is the seventh lowest in Monroe County.

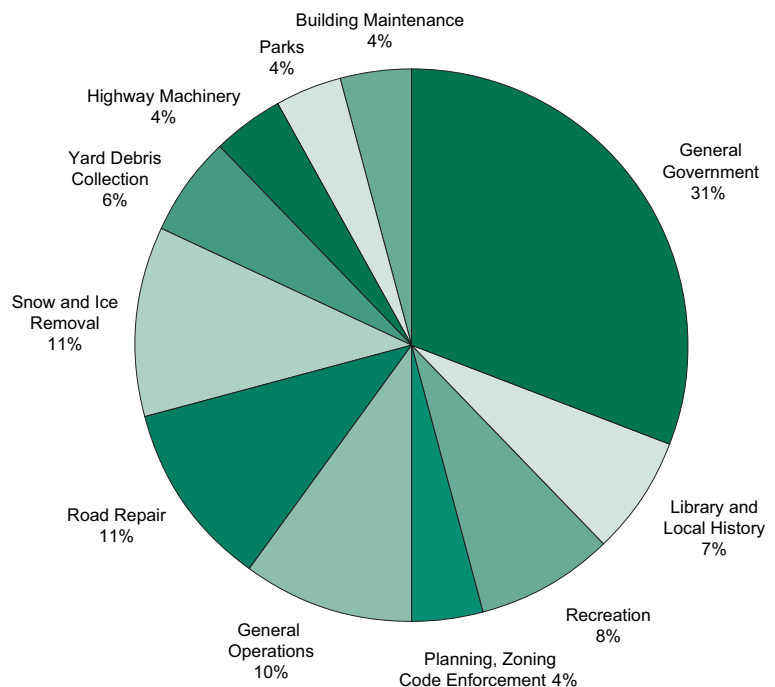
The Town Board and I understand the importance of providing you with the best services and best facilities possible while also holding the line on taxes. I believe we have



**Bill Carpenter**  
*Supervisor*

been successful in reaching this balance which the data bears out.

### Town of Pittsford 2005 budget appropriations



### Tips for roadside mailbox installation

Winter is only weeks away and leaf collection will soon give way to snow removal. The Highway Department would like to share some tips for roadside mailbox installation and maintenance that will assist in efforts to steer clear of mailbox mishaps with our snowplows.

Please consider the following guidelines when installing and/or maintaining your roadside mailbox:

- Proper placement height is 42" from the bottom of the mailbox to the ground. At this height, our plow wings will safely pass underneath.
- Position your mailbox carefully in relation to the side of the road. It is difficult for our equipment to avoid contact with a mailbox that overhangs the shoulder, pavement or curb.
- Remember...These tips also apply to the location of your newspaper box.

A routine check of your mail and paper boxes this fall will help us all this winter. *Thank you!*

### Library story time

Preschoolers are welcome to attend drop-in story times on Thursdays, 10:15AM at the Pittsford Community Library. Enjoy a variety of books, songs, and fingerplays each week. There is no registration. Pick up a schedule at the library or call 248-6275.

## Town finances

### Where do your tax dollars go?

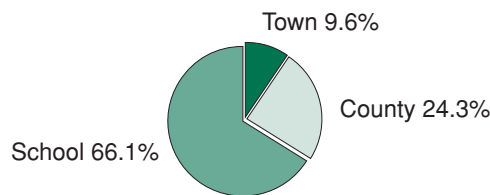
Annually, you pay your property taxes, but do you know the percentage of your tax bills that are required to support town services? Do you also know how our tax rate in Pittsford compares to other Monroe County towns?

Town taxes represent less than 10% of the total property tax bill. As you will see in

the pie charts below, a town resident pays \$31.79 per thousand in property taxes, of which 9.6% or \$3.04 is required to support the town budget. A village resident pays \$35.55 per thousand in property taxes, of which 7.3% or \$2.35 is required to support the budget.

Tax Jurisdiction	Tax Rate
Town	\$ 3.04/1000
County	7.72/1000
School	21.03/1000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 31.79/1000</b>

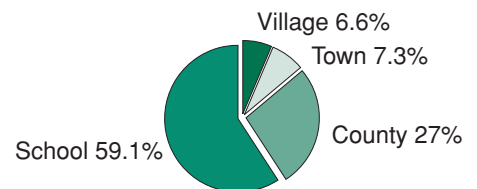
TOWN TAXPAYER



TOTAL TAX (\$200K house) \$ 6,358.00

Tax Jurisdiction	Tax Rate
Village	\$ 2.35/1000
Town	2.58/1000
County	9.59/1000
School	21.03/1000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 35.55/1000</b>

VILLAGE TAXPAYER

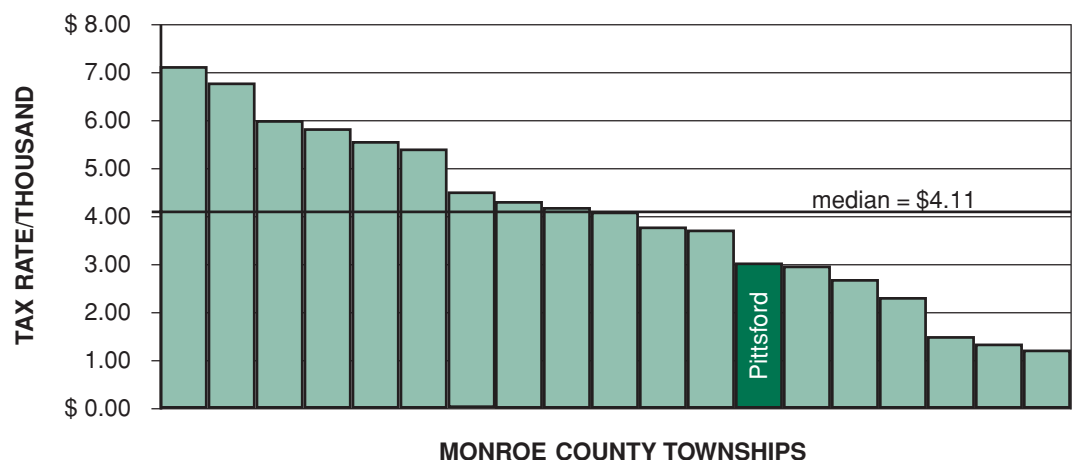


TOTAL TAX (\$200K house) \$ 7,110.00

Based on the average valued home of \$225,000, a town resident would pay \$684 to support town services and a village resident would pay \$581. This covers the cost of snow removal, road repair, yard debris collection, parks, recreation programs, library services, maintenance and operation of town buildings, repayment of bonds to

support the Greenprint as well as general town services.

The tax rate paid by Pittsford taxpayers is the 7th lowest in Monroe County. The chart below identifies how the Pittsford tax rate compares to the other towns as well as how it compares to the median tax rate.



## Town facilities

### New addition at King's Bend Park



*Playground equipment has arrived at King's Bend Park. In response to park users' requests for a children's activity area, this fun new play and exercise space was opened in September. The Town Department of Public Works was responsible for designing and constructing the playground area and assembling the equipment.*

### Lodge reservations for 2005

Residents of the Town of Pittsford may request 2005 lodge reservations at King's Bend Park during an Open Registration scheduled for Saturday, December 4. Registration will be held at the Spiegel Community Center, 35 Lincoln Avenue, from 9AM - 1PM. On subsequent days, lodge reservation forms may be mailed or dropped off at the community center.

During the first two weeks of December, each resident may submit two reservation requests. Reservations will be assigned based on availability. Multiple requests for the same date will be assigned by lottery drawing. Please note that reservations are not granted on a first come, first served basis. Reservation requests will be collected throughout the morning, with lottery selection beginning after 1PM.

Notification of reservation approval will be made by Saturday, December 18. A deposit will be required following that time. If a reservation could not be secured, two additional requests may be submitted beginning the third week in December. Please note that lodges will not be open on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Reservation forms will be available at the Open Registration or you may visit the town Web site at [www.townofpittsford.com](http://www.townofpittsford.com) to print out a form in advance. Detailed lodge reservation information and park rules and regulations are also available online.

Non resident requests for lodge reservations may be submitted to the Spiegel Community Center by mail or in person starting Monday, January 3 at 9AM.

### Winter recreation programs

Resident registration for winter recreation programs running January through March will begin on Monday, December 6. Non-residents may enroll for classes beginning on Monday, December 13. Look for your copy of the winter recreation brochure to arrive in the mail the week of November 15. To pick up a copy of the brochure or a flyer on new programs, stop by the Spiegel Community Center, 35 Lincoln Ave. Information and registration forms are also available online at [www.townofpittsford.com](http://www.townofpittsford.com).

### Mulch available at East Street site

Good quality wood and leaf mulch are available to residents free of charge at our East Street facility.

The mulch produced by the Highway Department is a valuable by-product of our yard debris recycling program. Wood mulch can be used around trees, shrubs, put in your gardens and turned under to rot. Leaf mulch can be used for the same purposes and to enrich top soil.

By providing this service, we are keeping yard debris out of the waste stream and recycling for a worthwhile purpose. If you have questions, please call the Highway Department at 248-6270.

# Town Family Halloween Fest

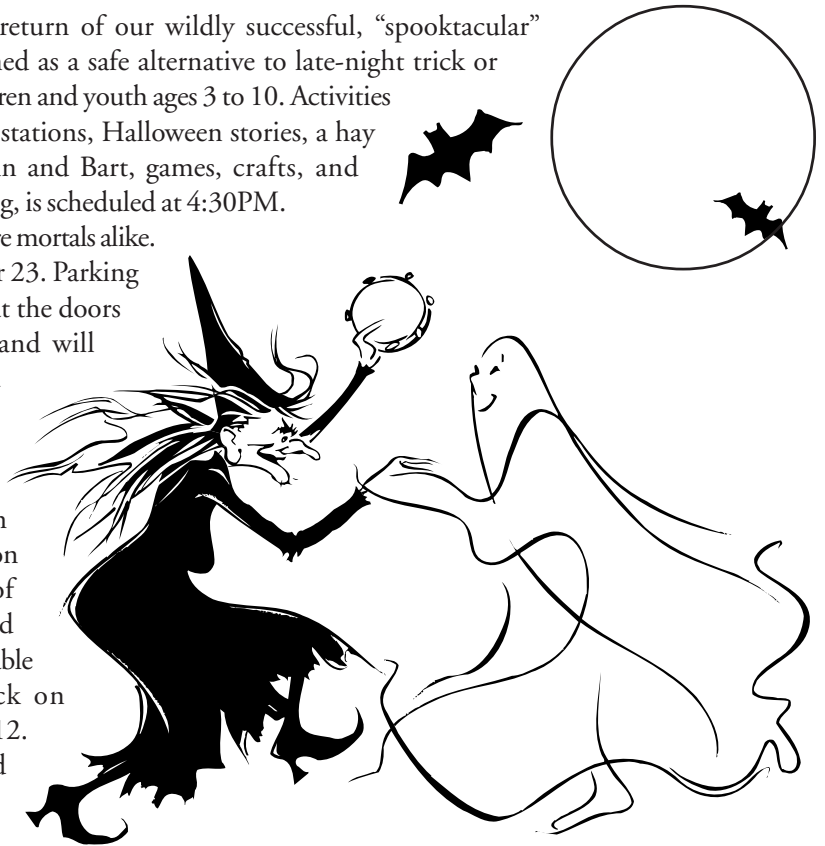
## Treat the kids to some frightfully good fun!

The Town of Pittsford is proud to announce the return of our wildly successful, “spooktacular” community event—*Family Halloween Fest*. Designed as a safe alternative to late-night trick or treating, this seasonal celebration is planned for children and youth ages 3 to 10. Activities will include a Disney villain haunted walk, trick-or-treat stations, Halloween stories, a hay bale maze, a musical performance by kid favorites Kevin and Bart, games, crafts, and more! A costume parade, one of the highlights of the evening, is scheduled at 4:30PM. There’ll be something for everyone—ghosts, goblins, and mere mortals alike.

Come to St. John Fisher College on Saturday, October 23. Parking will be available in Lot A/B with shuttle service drop-off at the doors of the Student Life Center. Festivities begin at 3PM and will conclude at 6:30PM. Various Pittsford organizations and youth groups will be on hand to provide a fun and enjoyable Halloween experience for the whole family.

No admission will be charged. However, a canned good donation for the Pittsford Food Cupboard (one item per person, please) will be appreciated. For more information about this event, please contact the town’s Director of Information at 248-6229 or call the Town of Pittsford Recreation Department at 248-6280. Details are also available on our Web site at [www.townofpittsford.com](http://www.townofpittsford.com) (click on “Community”) and Pittsford Public Access TV channel 12.

Costumes are encouraged for children, and moms and dads, too. Come join the family fun at the Halloween Fest!



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