

# THE PITTSFORD MESSENGER

Town of Pittsford Community Report

Volume 11 • Issue 3

Autumn 2005

## Town Supervisor's autumn report

On September 17, we started a new chapter in our community's history with the opening of the new Pittsford Community Library. We knew we were being looked on favorably from above when right at 10 o'clock, the time the ribbon cutting was scheduled to begin, the sun came out and a beautiful blue sky appeared overhead.

We have been experiencing record crowds at the Library and have received a lot of kudos for the interior design of the building. We knew the floor plan offered very cozy and intimate areas for people to get comfortable and were confident that the space would provide a positive experience for all library users.

In the main corridor, to the right of the entrance to the Library, you will notice a large brass plaque. This plaque dedicates the Library to the residents of Pittsford. It is your support, your ideas and your vision that were instrumental in shaping this building.

Since the opening of the Library, I have seen more people on the streets of the village. Surrounding businesses have indicated that they have been busier than expected. All the more support for the decision to keep this important public facility in our community center.

If you have a chance, please take a look at the newly reconstructed entrance to the Port of Pittsford Park, leading from the library parking lot. New stairs and landscaping provide a safer and more attractive entryway to this beautiful little park.

On page 2 of this newsletter, you will find information about the proposed 2006 operating budget. The

budget is currently under review by the Town Board and myself; budget workshops will continue to be on our meeting agendas through the end of October.

The 2006 budget includes a proposed tax rate increase of 1.37% which would result in an increase in town taxes of \$9.87 to the average homeowner.

We are forever mindful that tax dollars are *your* dollars. This budget assures that we are able to continue providing the quality services that you expect in the most efficient manner possible.

In a time when rising medical benefits are strangling other budgets,

the town was able to realize a savings of \$117,000 as a result of changes in the medical benefits we offer our employees and retirees. Employees still receive quality medical benefits at much more affordable premiums.

Any time you have comments or questions about your town government, I encourage you to come out and address the Board and I, or send e-mail to [bcarpenter@townofpittsford.com](mailto:bcarpenter@townofpittsford.com).



**Bill Carpenter**  
*Supervisor*

## Get town news delivered on-line!

In July, the town launched a weekly on-line newsletter chock full of information about town events, services and programs. This exciting new project was designed to enhance communications with residents and to promote a greater sense of community and citizen participation.

*News & Reviews*, published each week on Wednesday, provides information and updates about relevant and timely town topics including:

- operations (leaf collection, snow removal)
- recreation, library, and senior programs
- community events
- notices of board meetings
- "good news" from the town (awards and recognitions)
- services (rabies clinic)
- special announcements

**How to subscribe:** Residents who wish to receive the e-newsletter can enter their subscription request on the town Web site at [www.townofpittsford.com](http://www.townofpittsford.com). Subscription forms are also available in all town facilities.

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

### King's Bend Park lodge reservations

2006 Open Registration for King's Bend Park lodge reservations will be held in the park's North Lodge on Saturday, December 3, 9AM - 12N (residents only; non-residents may register beginning 1/2/06).

Please note that reservations are not granted on a first come, first serve basis. Reservation requests will be collected throughout the morning, with lottery selection beginning after 12N. Following the 12/3 open registration, requests for 2006 lodge reservations may be made at the Spiegel Community Center between the hours of 9AM and 4PM or mailed to 35 Lincoln Avenue, Pittsford, NY 14534.

Information about the lodges, the reservation form and park rules and regulations are available at the Community Center and on-line at [www.townofpittsford.com](http://www.townofpittsford.com).

For further details, please call the Town of Pittsford Recreation Department at 248-6280.

### Upcoming events & dates to remember

- *Lawn debris service change*  
Collection of bagged and containerized debris ONLY  
10/29 - 12/23
- *Family Halloween Fest*  
10/30, 2 - 5PM, St. John Fisher College
- *Candlelight Night*  
12/6, 5 - 9PM, Village

# Town proposed operating budget

## Town holds line on 2006 taxes

On Tuesday, September 6, Supervisor Carpenter submitted his proposed 2006 operating budget to the Town Board for their review and ultimate adoption. The \$13,276,283 budget calls for an increase in appropriations of \$592,000. The proposed tax rate increase is 1.37%, which translates to an increase in town taxes of \$9.87 to the average homeowner.

The largest increases in expenditures are concentrated in four areas of the budget—utility costs, fuel costs, the Library, and yard debris service. Given the escalating price of gas and heating oil, we have budgeted an additional \$100,000 to cover these costs. We will also realize an additional \$98,000 in operating and maintenance expenses for the Library, consistent with estimated projections for this new facility. The contracted portion of our yard debris

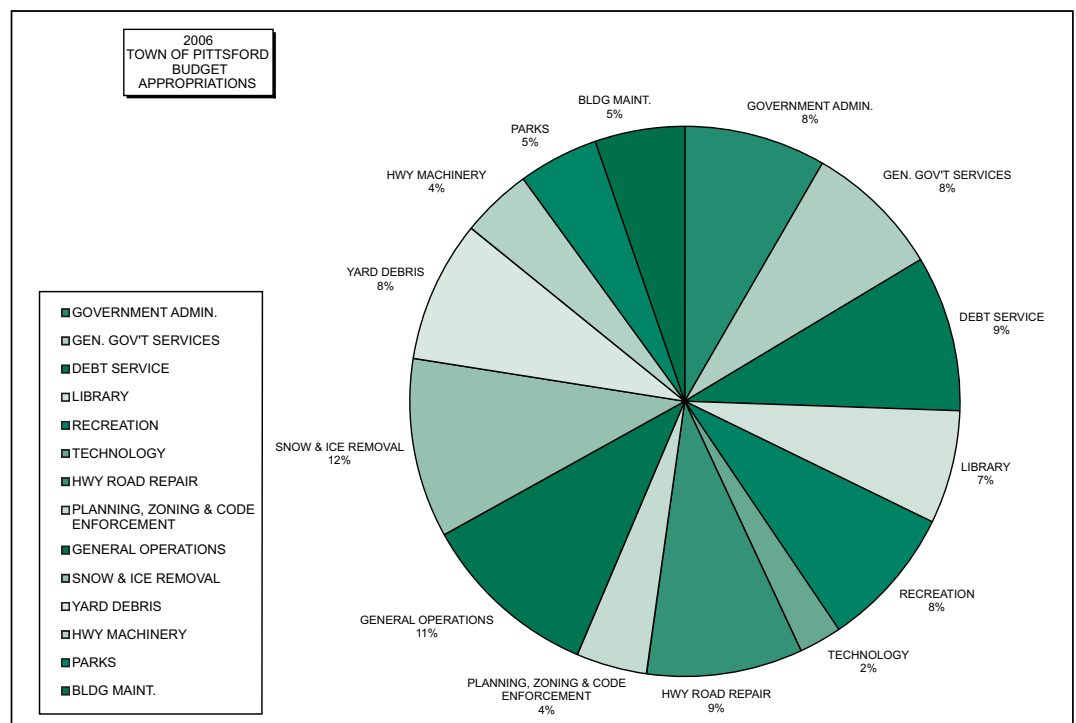
program, the bagged and containerized collection, will be re-bid in 2006 and we expect to see an increase in the cost of that service.

The 2006 operational budget is also seeing expenditure *decreases*. Based on a change in employee medical benefits which was implemented by the Town Board at the end of 2004, a savings of \$117,000 is realized in the 2006 budget.

The Town Board remains dedicated to providing quality services and programs while holding the line on taxes. Developing the annual operational budget is a challenging process requiring careful review and consideration of fiscal responsibilities and opportunities. We encourage community comment on the proposed budget. Please e-mail your thoughts to [bcarpenter@townofpittsford.com](mailto:bcarpenter@townofpittsford.com).

## APPROPRIATIONS

### Proposed 2006 Town of Pittsford Operating Budget



## Town facilities and services

### An invitation from the Library Director

On September 17, we celebrated the grand opening of the new Pittsford Community Library. The first library in Monroe County was established in Pittsford in 1803. Now, two centuries later, we're pleased to open the doors to a brand new facility, acknowledged as one of the best of its kind, anywhere.

A library helps define the soul of a community. It will be a center of education and exploration, and a community gathering spot - a place that all visitors enter with excitement and exit with satisfaction. Within its walls are the latest technologies

to aid in student projects, exciting spaces for children, and attractive reading areas for adults.

Our new library was conceived and designed with the user in mind. Floor plans, materials, furniture, and colors were chosen to provide welcoming and useful spaces. Whether your intention is to conduct scholarly research on the computer or sit in the garden with a favorite work of fiction, your new Pittsford Community Library awaits you. I hope you'll visit soon!

Marjorie Shelly, *Director*  
Pittsford Community Library



*A day of celebration! The view from State Street on Saturday, September 17, as the town's annual fall festival "Pittsford Celebrates" and the grand opening of the new Pittsford Community Library culminated in a brilliant fireworks display. Photo courtesy of Pittsford resident Andy Chatman.*

#### Library programs

The Pittsford Community Library has several new programs debuting this fall for adults, young adults and children/families.

Short descriptions follow. For further information, please call 248-6275

#### ADULTS

- Tech Talks: Informal, personal technology-related discussions led by local experts. Will meet 10/17, 11/14 and 12/5, 7-8PM.

- Travelogues: Featuring Galapagos Islands/Machu Pichu (10/20), Beijing (11/17), and Sweden's Ice Hotel (12/15), 7-8:30PM.

#### YOUNG ADULTS

- Draw Manga/Anime! Local artist Mary Beth Dolan will offer instruction in drawing faces, figures, and action poses. 12/4, 2-3:30PM.

#### CHILDREN

- Detective Club. Children in grades 3-5 solve mysteries, learn about codes, fingerprints and footprints. 11/19, 2-3PM.

- Family storytime. Holiday stories from around the world. 12/3, 2-3PM.

#### Library hours

Mon.-Thur.. 10AM - 9PM  
Friday ..... 10AM - 6PM  
Saturday..... 10AM - 5PM  
Sunday..... 1PM - 5PM

#### Loan periods

Most materials ..... 3 weeks  
CD Roms ..... 2 weeks  
Videos/DVDs ..... 1 week  
Hot Books ..... 1 week

# Town Family Halloween Fest

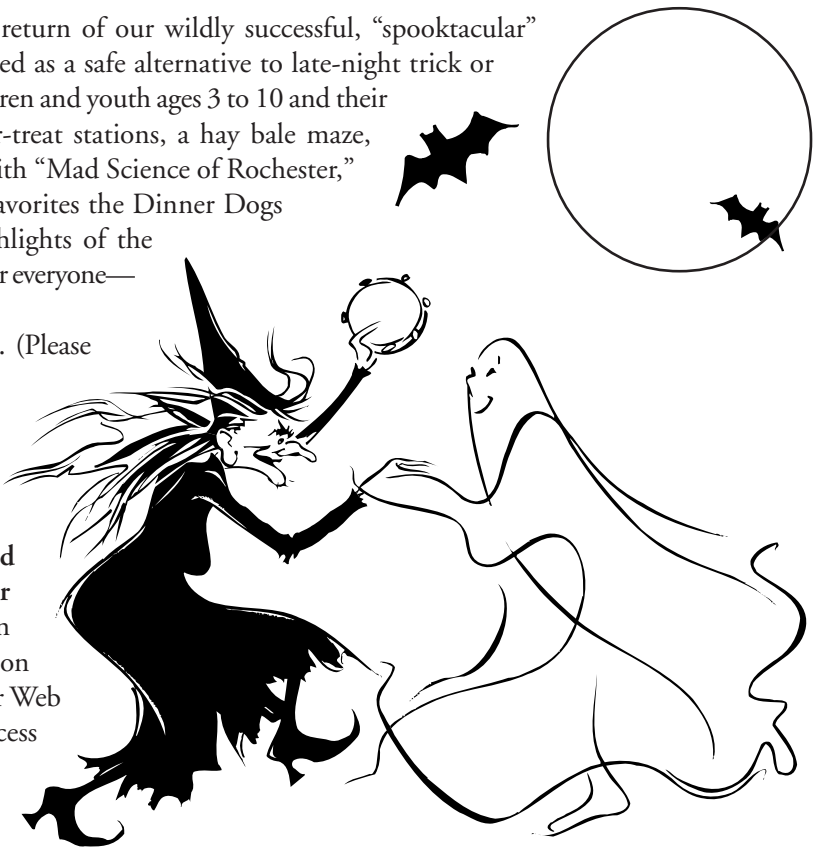
## Treat the kids to some frightfully good fun!

The Town of Pittsford is pleased 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 and their families. Activities will include a haunted walk, trick-or-treat stations, a hay bale maze, performances by “The Magic Guy” and interactive fun with “Mad Science of Rochester,” games, crafts and more! Music will be provided by kid favorites the Dinner Dogs and Mike Kornrich. A costume parade, one of the highlights of the afternoon, is scheduled at 3:30PM. There’ll be something for everyone—ghosts, goblins, and mere mortals alike.

Come to St. John Fisher College on **Sunday, October 30**. (Please note this event has moved to Sunday.) Convenient parking will be available in Lot A/B with shuttle service drop-off at the doors of the Student Life Center. Festivities begin at 2PM and will conclude at 5PM. It’s 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 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) and Pittsford Public Access television channel 12.

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



**Town of Pittsford**  
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