

Port of Pittsford Park improvements to benefit boaters, concert-goers

As summer begins to wind down we can look back at another successful events season in Pittsford. A key part of this experience was the Town of Pittsford's Summer Concert Series, held Friday evenings from June through mid-August at the Port of Pittsford Park, just across the canal from Schoen Place.

Whether in lawn chairs, on blankets or even in boats, those from our community and beyond had the chance to enjoy a beautiful evening along the canal each week with music from outstanding local performers – from blues and jazz to pop, country and big band. And next year, some changes now in the works will make this experience even better.

Through a cooperative effort with the Village of Pittsford, the Town of Pittsford will be receiving funding for improvements to the Town's Port of Pittsford Park. The Village received a New York State matching grant to use for improvements to Schoen Place and offered the Town the option of utilizing and matching a portion of the funds from this grant in order to make improvements to the park. Our portion of this grant process is nearly finalized and plans are in place to implement the following improvements to the Port of Pittsford Park:

- replacing the current stage with a covered pavilion-style stage;
- removal of the existing dock;
- addition of a new, longer dock with two levels to accommodate smaller as well as larger boats;
- installation of power pedestals placed along the entire length of the park, which will provide electricity and potable water for use by boaters;
- lighting along the length of the park which will match the lighting in Schoen Place;
- an informational kiosk highlighting Town and Village events and amenities;
- additional landscaping in context with the current character of the park.

The improvements will be completed by a combination of contractors and staff from the Town's Public Works department. We will begin the initial work in late September of this year and plan to have the project complete by late spring, 2012.

We are proud of the programs and services the Town of Pittsford offers to those wishing to enjoy our stretch of the Erie Canal and look forward to sharing these new improvements with the community. As always, should you have any feedback or suggestions, please feel free to reach me at bcarpenter@townofpittsford.org or stop by and see me at Town Hall.