



# News & Reviews

January 6, 2021

Town of Pittsford - a Clean Energy Community

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

## BEING A SAVVY LGBTQ+ ALLY LIBRARY PROGRAM THIS TUESDAY

This Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00pm, the Pittsford Community Library offers a free online program with author Jeannine Gainsburg about how to be a considerate and supportive ally to members of the LGBTQ+ community. Gainsburg will discuss her encouraging and fun new guidebook *The Savvy Ally: A Guide for Becoming a Skilled LGBTQ+ Advocate*. She will talk about her

inspiration for writing the book, share some common LGBTQ+ etiquette bloopers to avoid, and offer some ally tips in an upbeat, accessible and nonjudgmental style. An email with the Zoom link will be sent the day of the program. The program is free and open to the public; registration is required to receive the Zoom link. [Register online via the Library Program Calendar](#) or visit [www.townofpittsford.org/home-library](http://www.townofpittsford.org/home-library) and use the Library Program Registration link.



### ***Message from Supervisor Smith:***

#### **ROTARY FOOD DRIVE BRINGS CITIZENS TOGETHER TO HELP OTHERS**

This past Saturday, the second day of our new year, I joined fellow members of the Rotary Club of Pittsford at our Spiegel Community Center to collect food for distribution by the Pittsford Food Cupboard. Despite some nasty weather at the start of the day, we hung in there, collected a variety of items, and did some good for our fellow residents in need.

The collaboration among the Town of Pittsford, the Rotary Club and the Food Cupboard makes our community stronger. I'm honored to be a part of it, and thankful for the service and generous spirit these two essential organizations bring to our community. There will be **another collection at the Community Center (35 Lincoln Avenue) next month, on February 6** from 9:00am – 12noon. As usual, volunteers working will be taking COVID-19 precautionary measures, including wearing face coverings and gloves and maintaining safe distances. The drive-through format makes donating quick and easy. If you're able, I hope you'll consider donating!

#### **COMMUNITY SOLAR ADMINISTRATOR TO CORRECT PROBLEM WITH MAILING FOR PUBLIC MEETING**

##### ***Another meeting to be scheduled and additional mailing sent***

The third-party Administrator for our Community Solar plan, Joule Community Power/Roctricity, was supposed to have sent a letter to all Pittsford households, about an initial public meeting on

the program, in time for delivery well before the scheduled meeting date of December 16. The letters never arrived in time, because the Administrator used bulk mail. The same thing happened in Irondequoit, which is using the same Administrator.

Because the letters arrived extremely late, many of you may have missed the public information session. Supervisor Smith has required Joule/Roctricity to hold a second public meeting. This time the Town will oversee the mailing, which will be by first class mail, to be paid for by Joule/Roctricity. The date of the meeting is being finalized now; as with the December 16 meeting, it will be online. The Town will also publicize the meeting on the Town website, on social media and in our eNews.

If you would like to view the recording of the December 16 meeting, you can find it here: <https://presskithero.com/p/mcp/videos>.

In the weeks ahead, we will be posting online the answers to frequently asked questions and other information about the program; visit Supervisor Smith's Facebook page and the Town Facebook page, as well as the Town's Community Solar web page [www.townofpittsford.org/community-solar-pittsford](http://www.townofpittsford.org/community-solar-pittsford). As always, should you have any specific questions, please call the program helpline directly at (585) 244-0244.

Our community solar program allows the residents and small businesses of the Town of Pittsford to subscribe to a local solar farm and save up to 10% on electric bills, while supporting local renewable energy generation. We appreciate your understanding as we work with Joule to ensure you have the information you need to take advantage of our Community Solar program, the next step in Pittsford's long legacy of commitment to a healthy and sustainable environment.

### **SENIORS - SING VIA ZOOM WITH THE PITTSFORD HIGHLANDS CHORUS!**

Seniors, the Pittsford Highlands Chorus meets – and sings! – on Zoom every Monday from 1:30 - 2:30pm. A perfect opportunity for fun and fellowship, the chorus is open to all – no auditioning and no prior experience necessary. It's a great way to celebrate and experience the joy of music! If you're interested in joining, call The Highlands at 586-7600 and leave your name and contact information with the receptionist. Choral director Rhonda Wright will contact you to set you up on Zoom.

### **TOWN AND COUNTY 2021 PROPERTY TAX BILLS MAILED - DUE 2/10**

Pittsford residents: if your property taxes are not in escrow, you should be receiving in the mail this week your 2021 Town and County tax bill. If you do not receive your tax bill by January 11 you can obtain a copy of your bill as follows:

1. Download and print a copy directly from the Monroe County website at [www.monroecounty.gov/apps/propertyapp.php](http://www.monroecounty.gov/apps/propertyapp.php), OR
2. Call the Town Tax Office at 585-248-6215 to have a copy of the bill emailed to you, OR
3. Email the Town Clerk/Tax Receiver at: [ldillon@townofpittsford.org](mailto:ldillon@townofpittsford.org) to receive a copy of your bill.

The interest-free Town and County property tax payment deadline is February 10; first installments are also accepted by or before February 10. Please be sure to read all the instructions and information written on the back of your bill carefully. Payments may be made to Pittsford Town Hall (11 South Main Street) by mail or mail slot only; mail slots are located at the back door or to the right of the front door. Payments may also be made [online](#), or at Canandaigua National Bank (18

State Street, Pittsford). Payment stub (see page 2 of bill) must accompany payment. Please include a phone number on your check, if possible.

It is also **strongly** advised that you do NOT pay by electronic check, as these payments do not receive a U.S. postmark and may arrive late. The payment stub (see page 2 of your tax bill) must accompany your payment. Please include a phone number on your check, if possible.

**Please also note:** If you are paying your tax bill with an online bill pay (electronic banking) system through your bank, please be aware that your bank still generates and mails a paper check to the Town and it may take as long as two weeks or more to reach the Town offices. This type of mail does not receive a USPS postmark. Therefore, the Town can only consider your payment received on the date it is physically received in our office.

### **TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR LIMITED INCOME SENIORS AND THOSE WITH DISABILITY AUTOMATICALLY RENEW FOR 2021**

Those with limited income who are seniors or are disabled and who received a Town property tax partial exemption in 2020 will not have to renew their exemption for 2021. The Town Board vote on December 30, 2020 allowed the Town Assessor to grant 2021 seniors and disability tax exemptions to all those who had received such exemptions in 2020. These exemptions therefore automatically renew for 2021. As always, veterans exemptions are permanent once filed, with no renewal necessary.

### **REMINDERS**

#### **FOOD CUPBOARD TO OFFER DELIVERY TO SENIORS IN PITTSFORD**

***Sign up in advance, delivery dates for January are 1/8 and 1/22***

The Pittsford Food Cupboard will begin in January to offer delivery of groceries and supplies to senior citizens that reside in Pittsford. There are no income requirements to participate. Seniors interested in receiving home delivery must sign up for the program in person at the Pittsford Food Cupboard offices. The Food Cupboard will offer fresh produce, wholesome breads, frozen meat and dairy items in addition to non-perishable canned goods. Deliveries will be available on the second and fourth Friday of each month, between 11:00am and 2:00pm.

#### **Those who wish to receive home delivery must meet and follow these guidelines:**

- Reside in the 14534 zip code
- Be 65 years of age or older
- Sign up for the program in person at the Food Cupboard office; please bring a picture ID and current piece of mail to verify your address
- Be able to call the morning of your delivery to choose menu items or to leave a message with your food preferences
- Someone must be home to accept the order when it is delivered

The **winter delivery dates** (second and fourth Friday of the month) are: January 8 and 22, February 12 and 26, March 12 and 26.

The Pittsford Food Cupboard is open Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:30am – 1:30pm and the first and third Saturday of each month from 9:30 – 11:30am. For more information, call (585) 264-9860 and ask for Claire or visit [www.pittsfordfoodcupboard.net](http://www.pittsfordfoodcupboard.net).

## **ELDERBERRY EXPRESS TRANSPORTATION SERVICES UNDERWAY**

### ***Service currently limited to medical appointments & grocery trips***

The Elderberry Express has resumed some transportation services for Pittsford residents age 55 and older. At this time, only requests for medical appointments and grocery store trips can be accommodated. All COVID-19 precautions will be followed; drivers and passengers will be required to wear a mask.

The Elderberry Express is a free transportation service for Pittsford residents age 55 and older. Volunteer drivers currently will transport seniors to and from medical appointments and grocery shopping trips. **Services must be scheduled at least two days in advance to ensure driver availability;** Monday appointments must be scheduled by the prior Thursday. Staff members will be in the office 9:00am – 12 noon Monday through Friday to take calls. To schedule, call 248-6237 during this time. If you must call after office hours, please leave your name, phone number, address, appointment time and type of service requested (medical appointment or grocery store trip), and a staff member will return your call to confirm your transportation.

Elderberry Express also is **in need of volunteer drivers** willing to help provide transportation, from one to a few times per month, to seniors in Pittsford. Each trip takes between one to two hours. This small time commitment makes a big difference to seniors who can get out and about but can no longer drive. By volunteering your time you can give others the gift of continued independence. Can you help? Call or stop by the Elderberry Express office in the Senior Programs Office at the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center, 35 Lincoln Avenue, telephone 248-6237.

## **TOWN CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING**

You can be green even in the winter - recycle your Christmas tree! Town of Pittsford crews will pick up trees placed curbside as long as all plastic bagging and all decorations are removed. Weather permitting, Christmas trees are picked up each year from the week after Christmas through the end of January. Christmas trees also may be dropped off at the Highway Garage, 60 Golf Avenue, from 7:00am until dark, Monday through Saturday. All trees gathered will be chipped and reused as mulch. The mulch will be available in the spring free to residents in the spring at the East Street storage site located just before the gate to the Town Parks Department office building (enter at 34 East Street).



## **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](mailto: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](http://www.townofpittsford.org/home-channel12) and use the On-Demand links to view previously recorded meetings.

## UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN PITTSFORD

- **Supervisor Saturday with Bill Smith** - join the conversation with Town Supervisor Bill Smith at this casual open house, topics of discussion based upon attendee interest; Saturday, 1/16, 9:00 - 10:00am, Fisher Meeting Room (first floor), Pittsford Community Library, 24 State Street

## TOWN OF PITTSFORD BOARD MEETINGS

- **Planning Board**, Monday, 1/11, 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](http://www.townofpittsford.org/home-minutes)

## COMMUNITY MEETINGS CALENDAR

- [Village Board of Trustees](#) meeting, Tuesday, 1/12, 6:30pm, virtual meeting through videoconferencing; more information and participation registration details will be listed on the Village website [here](#) as the meeting date approaches
- [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](http://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](http://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](http://www.bit.ly/pclupdates). For virtual children's programming check the Library's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/PittsfordLibrary/](https://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM20785).

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Pittsford, NY 14534

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