

From the Supervisor

A Commitment to Continual Improvement

You can't look around Pittsford this summer without noticing the many municipal improvements in progress.

Recently our Parks and Public Works Departments completed four **new pickleball courts** at Thornell Farm Park. While we were at it, we rebuilt and resurfaced the tennis courts and the basketball court as well.

A notable addition in Town is our **new handicapped-accessible kayak launch**. You'll find it on the canal path, by the parking lot for the Town's Sewer Department Office at 3899 Monroe Avenue. For those whose mobility is limited, the launch makes it easier than ever to get on the water to enjoy the beauty of our canal. It makes it easier for everyone. The gangway and docking area are sloped



Our new handicapped-accessible kayak launch is ready for use! You'll find it on the Canal path by the parking lot for the Town's Sewer Department Office at 3899 Monroe Avenue. The launch makes it easier than ever to get on the water and enjoy the beauty of our canal, especially for those whose mobility is limited.

to accommodate wheelchair use. Guiderails and handrails make the launch easy to negotiate. The nylon kayak slide offers access and stability when launching and docking. The launch accommodates paddleboards and canoes as well.

As we've done in recent years, we've launched an aggressive program to **fully repave many neighborhood streets** this summer. For these streets we'll grind away the old surface with a milling machine and pour fresh asphalt. Town crews also will replace damaged guttering and

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Bill Smith
Town Supervisor

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Picnic & Program: The Erie Canal, the Early Years – King's Bend Park

Wednesday, August 24 · King's Bend Park, North Lodge · Erie Canal Scholar and Historian Craig Williams

5:00pm Entertainment · 5:30pm Picnic Dinner · Presentation at 6:00pm

Join us for a summer picnic and learn about the early history of the Erie Canal – including the King's Bend. Part of the original – and somewhat meandering! – route of the Erie Canal, the King's Bend eventually became what is now King's Bend Park. Enjoy music by Pete Morrissey and a picnic dinner (sandwich, chips, cookie and beverage), followed by a wonderfully informative presentation by Erie Canal scholar and historian Craig Williams. Presented in partnership with the Pittsford Recreation Department, the event is free but advance registration required – visit www.townofpittsford.org/recreation to register online or call **248-6280** for more information.

King's Bend Park is located at 170 Jefferson Road.

See the back page for a schedule of our month-long series of events celebrating 200 years of the Erie Canal in Pittsford!



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will upgrade storm sewer pipes and drains. We've scheduled most of this work for August.

In addition, the Town will undertake **preventive sealing** on the full span of many other neighborhood streets this year. It is work we've already begun. This preventive maintenance puts a new surface on the road. It is cost-effective, long-lasting and provides a clean and attractive roadway once completed. It protects the underlying asphalt. And the process itself minimizes road closures and interruption of traffic. Doing this preventive resurfacing provides a tremendous savings to taxpayers.

As ever, for each neighborhood where we've planned road work, the Town will contact those of you who live there by mail. We'll let you know when work will start, what it will entail and how long it will last. If you see Town crews on your street doing work on the storm sewers, you're likely to receive notice shortly thereafter.

I'm pleased to report that the State Department of Transportation's work **rebuilding the North Main Street Bridge** proceeds ahead of schedule. Latest estimate is that it will open in mid-August, well ahead of the planned re-opening of September 1. So as we grin and bear the transient inconvenience, let's thank our friends at the State DOT for working so efficiently to give us a safe way across the canal for decades to come. One of life's many examples of short-term sacrifice for long-term gain.

The construction phase of **sidewalk projects** begins soon. You'll see Town crews and contractors preparing the pathway and pouring concrete for a new sidewalk on **Stone Road**, connecting Stonebridge Lane to the existing sidewalk at the intersection of Stone and Tobey Roads. Work also begins this season on Stage 1 of a new sidewalk along the north side of **French Road**. Extending the existing walkway from Monroe Avenue to the French Road entrance to Nazareth College, the new sidewalk will span from that point to the eastern entrance of Winding Road. A third major sidewalk project for this season will completely replace with concrete and widen the deteriorated **Washington Road sidewalk** from the cemetery entrance to the pedestrian crosswalk at Cranswick Lane. When finished, this will provide a complete, handicapped-accessible concrete walkway from North Main Street in the Village to the Cranswick pedestrian crossing.

Also this season you'll see Town crews repairing culverts on **Brickston Drive** and **Colonial Parkway** and relining sewers on **Alpine Drive**. Storm sewers and sanitary sewers comprise an important component of municipal infrastructure. To most of us, they're out of sight, out of mind – until something goes wrong. Our job at Town Hall is to do everything we can within reason to prevent things from going wrong. Relining sewer pipes, as we'll be doing on Brickston and Alpine, represents effective maintenance that lasts for decades. Relining puts off for at least that long the

need to replace the pipes altogether, which is monumentally more expensive than relining.

Using Federal Funds Wisely

In the last newsletter I outlined Town improvements for which we've earmarked funds received from the federal government under the American Rescue Plan Act.

Since then, the Town has mounted a major effort to solicit further public opinion on this subject. If you attended **Paddle and Pour** at the end of May, you'll likely have seen at the Town information tent our suggestion box for ARPA projects and the informational posters outlining what the funds can be used for, with examples of various possibilities.

Following our review of these suggestions, the Town has approved more **Highway Department Initiatives** that will add and improve roads, sidewalks and culverts. We've approved additional funding to support the good work of **Pittsford Youth Services** as well. Although an independent organization, PYS is the agency with which the Town and the School District contract to provide the youth and family counseling that's been so important to many Pittsford families.

Elsewhere in this *Pittsford Messenger* you'll find a full summary of ARPA-funded projects that the Town has approved to date.

Expanding Summer Events

In May we resumed the ever-popular **Paddle and Pour Festival** for the first time since the COVID hiatus. Logistic constraints forced it across the canal to the Library parking lot for this year, but once again we could begin the summer with a festival on the canal, against the backdrop of the crew regatta. Thanks to leaders of the **Pittsford Crew**, yet again, for their collaboration – and for all that they do.

Our Friday night **Summer Concerts** kicked off early in June. This year we've expanded the series to 11 performances, continuing through the end of August. We've added an additional **Concert for Kids** at the Spiegel Community Center, providing three performances, with two of them in August.

Our **Family Outdoor Movie Nights** have returned as well. There are four showings this year, all at the Sutherland High School fields. Two of these showings will be in August.

The Town's annual **Main Street Food Truck & Music Fest** is our second "bookend" event of the summer. This year on September 10, it will feature popular musical performers, an array of food choices and plenty of family activities.

You'll find the Town's complete schedule of events for 2022 at www.townofpittsford.org/events.

Care for Our Community

We all need to remain mindful about **litter**. It's become a conspicuous problem in recent months along main roads and in residential neighborhoods. One culprit is unsecured garbage and recycling bins. Please make sure these are properly closed and secured. A little wind can spread a lot of

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litter through a neighborhood! And although I can't imagine this reminder is necessary, please remember that throwing garbage from your car is disrespectful to others, to the environment, and is illegal. A central component in that bundle of characteristics that make Pittsford the place we value and love has to do with the physical beauty of the community, its architecture, its countryside and its neighborhoods. Litter compromises our environment and the aesthetic quality of all of our lives.

Care for Ourselves

Recently in Pittsford we've seen an alarming resurgence of **young people jumping from bridges into the Canal**. For the sake of your own life and health, please **don't do this**.

You don't know what's under the water. We've retrieved shopping carts, construction material, metal and other potentially dangerous debris from the canal. The water is murky. You won't see something submerged until it's too late. A fatal or life-changing injury isn't worth the jump. Being impaled on a piece of metal. Hitting your head and drowning. Paralysis from spinal injury. All possibilities. Not to mention ingesting the dirty water of the canal, or risking infection from whatever germs lurk in it.

Young people are capable of doing stupid and dangerous things. As an ex-young person myself I speak from personal knowledge. That's why there are parents.

Parents, please be alert to any intentions your offspring may have about canal jumping. Please do your best to prevent it.

I remember well the tragedy on the Canal railroad bridge in 1997, here in Pittsford. It cost two high-schoolers their lives.

Yes, tragedies happen. But this kind of tragedy is completely avoidable.

At my request the Monroe County Sheriff's Office has stepped up enforcement. **Jumping from bridges is illegal**. There will be zero tolerance and violators will be subject to tickets for maximum penalties even for the first time. **Don't do it**.

Let Me Know!

As always, among the resources most useful to me in carrying out my duties as Town Supervisor are the advice, comments and ideas of you, our residents. I keep an open door at Town Hall and welcome visits from residents during regular business hours Monday through Friday. I'm available by phone at **248-6220** and by email at **wsmith@townofpittsford.org**. Or stop by my monthly Supervisor's Open House at the Library – dates are listed in the Town's weekly eNewsletter.

Let's all continue to have fun this summer, and make it a safe and healthy one!

PITTSFORD PLAYGROUND PASSPORT PROGRAM UNDERWAY!

Visit all five playgrounds and you might win a free week of Summer Day Camp!

Here's a great way to have some family fun outdoors – and you might win a prize! Pick up a Pittsford Recreation Playground Passport at the Spiegel Community Center front desk any time throughout the summer. Then visit each of our five Town playgrounds and record the date of each visit on your passport. Once completed, return your passport to be entered into a grand prize drawing for a free week of Summer Day Camp in 2023!

The winner will be announced in the fall.

TOWN PLAYGROUNDS:

Great Embankment Park • 631 Marsh Road

Hopkins Park • 5 Barker Road

King's Bend Park • 170 W. Jefferson Road

Spiegel Community Center • 35 Lincoln Avenue

Thornell Farm Park • 480 Pittsford-Mendon Road



Town Tax Office is Going Green!



A Message from Town Clerk, Renee McQuillen

In an attempt to reduce costs and spare the environment, the Tax Office is asking for your help.

Starting with the 2022-23 school tax collection we will not automatically send receipts for payments received from accounts not held in escrow. State tax law requires us to mail a receipt for accounts not held in escrow, if requested by the property owner. To request a receipt, place a checkmark in the small box on your payment slip. But please consider obtaining your receipt online through Monroe County's Real Property Portal instead: **www.monroecounty.gov/property**.

We would also like to remind property owners that you must include your payment coupon with every payment. Without the coupon, payment processing is delayed and we must reprint your tax bill to properly credit your account.

We really appreciate your consideration in helping us go green!

Using Federal Funds for Community Improvements

The Town of Pittsford received \$2.8 million in federal funds under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Meant to mitigate the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, ARPA funds allow municipalities to recoup lost revenue and complete deferred projects, programs and maintenance. Projects must be able to be completed using the ARPA funds, without requiring additional or ongoing funding sources, as long-term funding is not available.

In 2020 and 2021 the Town incurred a variety of pandemic-related expenses. In light of lost income due to COVID, we deferred various maintenance, projects and services, to protect taxpayers. This approach helped us meet the needs of the pandemic despite the financial drain. But it meant putting off some maintenance, some improvements and some desirable programs and services. With ARPA funds the Town can now fund the projects, programs, maintenance and improvements we had to defer.

Each Town department was tasked with identifying postponed and other necessary and desirable projects and improvements for ARPA funding. **To date, the Town Board has approved approximately \$1.9 million in funding for these projects, as described below.**

Currently Approved ARPA-Funded Town Projects

Most recently approved projects:

Improving and Maintaining Our Roadways

At our June 21 Town Board meeting, our Commissioner of Public Works Paul Schenkel presented proposals for road maintenance at the Pittsford Cemetery and elsewhere, repairs to aging culverts and catch basins in two neighborhoods, sidewalk improvements to boost connectivity and ADA access on Main Street, fleet maintenance, and needed repairs to our Highway Department facilities. The Town Board approved these improvements, listed below. For more details visit www.townofpittsford.org/arpa-funding.

Highway Department Improvements:

- Additional Road Maintenance – preventive maintenance, repaving, and maintenance of the Pittsford Cemetery roads
- Brickston Drive Culvert Repairs & Sewer Relining – including catch basin and sinkhole repairs
- Colonial Parkway Culvert Repairs – including stone veneer and wall caps work
- Sidewalk Improvements – replacing asphalt sidewalk with concrete on South Main Street and additional spot repairs around Town
- Vehicle Fleet Maintenance – to address purchase and delivery delays and cost increases
- Highway Garage Facility Repairs – preventive maintenance, roof & rain gutter repairs

The cost of these improvements is \$663,000.

Supporting Pittsford Youth – PYS Services

Over the course of the pandemic, Pittsford Youth Services has seen a significant increase in the need for counseling, mental health and other support services. At our June 7 Town Board meeting PYS proposed a one-time allocation of ARPA funding from the Town to meet these increased and critical needs of the young people and families here in our community. The request contained funding for a variety of essential services, including:

- Two years of support for additional therapy space (\$7,700/year)
- One year of support for the addition of two social workers to assist with additional programming needs (\$14,000)
- Funding to host a second Youth Summit during the 2022-23 school year, covering planning, presenter stipends, therapists, food and supply expenses (\$5,000)
- Additional funding for Camp Heartstrings, which would allow for more children to attend by offering two age-specific sessions (\$5,000).

The Town Board approved these requests. For more details visit www.townofpittsford.org/arpa-funding.

The total cost of support for the above services is \$39,400.

Previously approved projects:

Library Improvements:

Youth & teen overdue fines eliminated, additional self-checkout kiosk, new touch screen displays, facility maintenance and updates, landscaping improvements.

The cost of these improvements is \$170,000.

Parks and Trails Improvements:

Sports courts, parking lot and building improvements, new pollinator garden, Farm View Park improvements, and the Auburn Trail connections project.

The cost of these improvements is \$281,930.

Pickleball Courts:

Four new regulation pickleball courts at Thornell Farm Park.

The cost of this project is \$20,000.

Sewer Department Improvements:

Sewer relining, pump station upgrades, facility maintenance and improvements.

The cost of these improvements is \$498,200.

Technology Improvements to Protect Your Data and the Town's:

Security, compliance, software and equipment assessments and upgrades, staff training.

The cost of these improvements is \$161,700.

Additional ARPA Funding Opportunities: What other projects should we fund?

We want to hear from our residents! Give a suggestion anytime at comments@townofpittsford.org. To learn what types of projects can be funded, and for details about our current ARPA-funded projects, visit www.townofpittsford.org/arpa-funding.



New Pickleball Courts are Open

Just in time for 4th of July weekend, we completed construction of four new pickleball courts at Thornell Farm Park. The courts are available for public use on a first-come, first-served basis from dawn to dusk daily. We've resurfaced the tennis courts and basketball court there as well. All are open for your enjoyment.

An ARPA-funded project

Child Watch Community Helpers Week

Our Child Watch participants celebrated a “Community Helpers” theme week with visits from the NY State Police, the Pittsford Volunteer Fire Department and Pittsford Volunteer Ambulance. Many thanks to Trooper Jason Klewicki, firefighters J.J. Phillips and Nathan Zampella, and Pittsford Volunteer Ambulance member James Carver for stopping by to share some safety information and some fun!



Road Work Under Way

We have a busy road work schedule this season. The Town’s 2022 Road Work Schedule provides the current work schedule and project updates for Town road work under way and scheduled for this year in Pittsford. It also includes information about the road maintenance process and factors contributing to the need for road maintenance. Find it on the Town website at www.townofpittsford.org/dpw/highway.

Veterans Monument Tribute Bricks Program on Hold

The supplier of engraved bricks for the Town’s Veterans Monument Tribute Bricks program can’t get materials to make the bricks at the moment. For the time being, please wait to place any further orders for bricks. We will reinstate the program once materials become available and we’re able to resume the program. Check www.townofpittsford.org/vet-monument and the Town eNews for updates.

Main Street Food Truck & Music Fest is Sept. 10

Our Food Truck & Music Fest is Saturday, September 10 from noon to 9:00pm on Main Street in the Village. It's a full day of food, music and fun!

Join us for a wide variety of delectables from mobile cuisine vendors and local eateries, a wine and beer garden, family activities, children's entertainment, shopping at Village merchants, and live music all day – including a headlining performance by the **Zac Brown Tribute Band**. Plus, the Pittsford Youth Services **Duck Drop** will take place at the canal. Then we'll close things out with a bang: **fireworks** at 9:00pm!

Food Trucks, Wine & Beer Garden, family activities and music will take place along South Main Street from the Four Corners (Monroe/State streets) to Locust Street. The PYS Duck Drop will take place in Carpenter Park at the Port of Pittsford, 22 North Main Street.

You'll find more details for the Food Truck and Music Fest, including a complete schedule, on the Town website at www.townofpittsford.org/foodtruckmusicfest as the festival date approaches.



Still Plenty of Town Events this Season!

Summer Concert Series

Fridays at 6:30pm through August 26
Carpenter Park at the Port of Pittsford

Family Outdoor Movie Nights

Thursdays at dark, August 11 & 25
Sutherland High School fields

Concerts for Kids

Wednesdays at 6:30pm, August 3 & 17
Spiegel Pittsford Community Center field

Main Street Food Truck & Music Fest

Saturday, September 10, Noon - 9:00pm

Family Halloween Fest

Sunday, October 23, 2:00 - 5:00pm
Spiegel Pittsford Community Center



A great time getting to Meet the Machines.



Getting funky at Paddle and Pour with Shine.



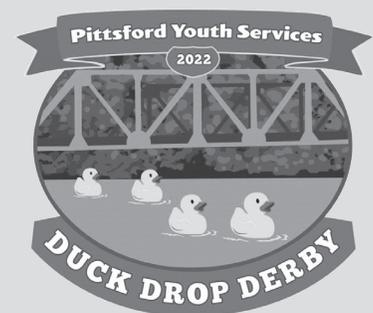
Our American Legion members lead the Memorial Day parade.



Find complete events details at www.townofpittsford.org/events

PYS Duck Drop is Sept. 10 – Volunteers Needed!

The Pittsford Youth Services Duck Drop Derby returns to the Town's Food Truck & Music Fest this year and they need your help! PYS is looking for youth volunteers to assist with advance ticket sales and to work at the event, which will be held September 10. It's a great opportunity to earn community service hours and be part of a fun community activity. Interested volunteers should contact PYS Executive Director of Administration Jill Lennox at jlennox@pittsfordyouthservices.org.



Paul M. Spiegel, 1920 – 2022



Pittsford has lost a great friend, a gentleman and a scholar. Paul Malone Spiegel died on June 10, 2022, at the age of 102.

A life-long Pittsford resident, Paul's family roots run deep in our community. His grandfather owned a wagon shop at the Four Corners in the Village. Paul was born and raised at 6 Main Street and attended the Pittsford School – in the same building that today holds our Spiegel Community Center, named in his honor. At the rededication in 2018 of our Community Center following its renovation, Paul was there to lead us in cutting the ribbon.

Proudly serving our country in combat during World War II, Paul was recognized several times for gallantry in action. He returned home, spent some time teaching, and made his initial career in the insurance business.

Fortunately for Pittsford, he then chose to become involved in local government.

Paul served as Pittsford Town Supervisor for over 20 years. From 1966-1987 he led our community with skill and dedication, working diligently to improve our community while also striving to preserve its historic character.

His love for Pittsford continued and flourished beyond retirement. For years Paul formally chronicled Pittsford's history. Using newspaper accounts and his own extensive photo collection, he published 28 volumes of "Echoes of Old Pittsford" – capturing the people and happenings in our community from 1879 through World War II. His 5-volume "Pittsford Scrapbook" series of historic photos offered a personal glimpse into the lives of our fellow residents, chronicling them up through the mid-1980s.

Paul attended our Memorial Day ceremony this past May. At 102 years old his dedication to country and community shone as brilliantly as ever. For decades Paul marched in the Memorial Day Parade wearing his uniform from World War II – which still fit. Last year he donated it to the Town Historian's office, so this year, at what none of us knew would be his last parade, he just wore the uniform cap.

Thank you, Paul Spiegel for your leadership, your stewardship, your dedication to Pittsford and its residents – for all you've done for Pittsford. You've left an indelible mark on our community.

HeatSmart Pittsford Promotes Clean Energy & Free Energy Audits



The Town is working with HeatSmart Monroe and Color Pittsford Green to promote clean heating and cooling options through a HeatSmart Pittsford community outreach and education

campaign. The campaign will spread the word about clean heating and cooling technologies to help make Pittsford homes more energy-efficient and less dependent on fossil fuels. An **information session will be held at the Pittsford Community Library on Wednesday, September 28 at 7:00pm.** The meeting is free and open to the public – register at <http://Bit.ly/heatsmartpittsford>. Attend to find out how you can sign up for a **free, no-obligation home energy assessment** and receive a **free report on your current home heating demands and options for sustainable improvements**, including home insulation/air-sealing improvements and/or a heat pump system.

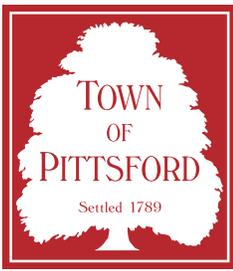
Adopting sustainable practices like improved insulation and air-sealing and using affordable heat pump technology can enhance indoor air quality, decrease negative impacts on the environment, and can lower your energy costs. Taking action now will help make the Pittsford community cleaner, greener and more sustainable long into the future!

Technology Help for Seniors

Seniors – do you need help with your electronic devices? Sign up for a one-on-one "Tech with Ginny" session at the Spiegel Community Center. Bring your cell phone, tablet, iPad, laptop or other electronic device and Ginny will work with you to resolve your tech problem. These 30-minute sessions are available from 9:30am to noon each Thursday. Reserve your time slot by calling the Senior Programs office at **248-6235**.



Seniors – get tech help at the Community Center with Ginny!



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Supervisor

William A. Smith, Jr.

Town Board

Kate Bohne Munzinger
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Cathleen A. Koshykar

Kim Taylor

Stephanie M. Townsend

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Stay up to date by following the Town of Pittsford on social media. You can find us on:



The Pittsford Messenger Summer 2022

www.townofpittsford.org

We're Celebrating 200 Years of the Erie Canal in Pittsford!

The original Erie Canal was built between 1817-1825. It reached Pittsford in 1822. The Town Historians have partnered with the Pittsford Community Library, the Town Recreation Department, Historic Pittsford and the Village of Pittsford to offer a series of events and programs in August to commemorate **the Canal's bicentennial**. See the schedule below. For ongoing updates, visit our Erie Canal: 200 Years in Pittsford webpage at www.townofpittsford.org/canal200pittsford.



Erie Canal: 200 Years in Pittsford Programs and Activities Schedule

Free, unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, August 3, 6:30 – 8:00pm

Sam Patch Canal Packet Boat Twilight Tour with Pittsford Town Historians
\$20 per person, register online at www.townofpittsford.org/recreation

Saturday, August 6, 10:00am – Noon

Historic Schoen Place Walking Tour
Free; register online at www.townofpittsford.org/recreation

Wednesday, August 10, 4:00pm

Lemonade on the Lawn at Village Hall
All ages invited for Canal-related children's stories

Thursday, August 11, 9:30am

Canalside Storytime – stories, songs and fun for ages 1-6, Pittsford Community Library program in Carpenter Park at the Port of Pittsford, no registration needed

Tuesday, August 16, Noon

Seniors lunch featuring Canal songs with John Dady at the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center VanHuysen Community Room; \$6.00 per person, call Pittsford Seniors Office to register at **248-6235**

Friday, August 19, 6:30pm

Canal history table at Town Summer Concert by the Pittsford Fire Department Band, in Carpenter Park at the Port of Pittsford

Monday, August 22, 7:00 – 8:00pm

The Conception of the Erie Canal – program by Erie Canal Museum educator Derrick Pratt, at the Pittsford Community Library

Wednesday, August 24, 5:00pm

Picnic & Program: The Erie Canal, The Early Years – King's Bend Park, with Canal scholar and historian Craig Williams, also featuring historic canal songs and others by Pete Morrissey; free, but registration required; online program registration at www.townofpittsford.org/recreation

Saturday, August 27, 10am - Noon

Erie Canal Cemetery Tour at Pittsford Cemetery with Town Historians Audrey Johnson and Vicki Masters Proffitt

Tuesday, August 30, Noon

Seniors lunch featuring Canal trivia with the Town Historians, at the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center VanHuysen Community Room; \$6.00 per person, call Pittsford Seniors Office to register at **248-6235**

All month long in August: Schoen Place Scavenger Hunt & Historic Pittsford Schoen Place Self-Guided History Tour – find info at www.townofpittsford.org/canal200pittsford

Visit www.canal200pittsford.org for full program details.