

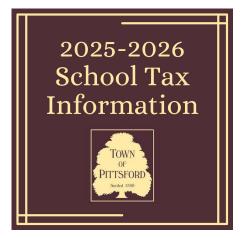
News & Reviews

September 24, 2025

Town of Pittsford - a Clean Energy and Climate Smart Community

See listings below for

Upcoming Activities, Town Board Meetings & Community Meetings



SCHOOL TAXES: FULL PAYMENTS DUE NEXT WEDNESDAY, 10/1

School Tax on-time full payments are due by Wednesday, October 1. For your convenience, the Tax Receiver's Office will be open from 8:00am to 5:00pm on Wednesday, October 1.

Payments may be made in person, by mail, or by using a secure drop box available 24/7. Drop boxes are located at both the front and back entrances of the Pittsford Town Hall, 11 South Main Street. Please include your payment coupon and a contact

phone number on your check. Failure to do so increases processing time. Payments can also be made at Canandaigua National Bank, 18 State Street, in Pittsford Village, or online through Monroe County. A 2.75% fee will be applied for using this online payment service. To pay online, click <u>HERE</u>.

Canandaigua National Bank will continue to accept *full payments only* through October.

Second and third installment payments cannot be accepted at Town Hall. They should be made payable to: Monroe County Treasurer and mailed to PO Box 14420, Rochester NY 14614 or delivered in person to the Monroe County Office of the Treasury (39 West Main Street, Monroe County Office Building Room B-2, Rochester, NY 14624.)

Late fees start at 2% after October 1. Under New York State Real Property Tax Law §924(3), towns have no authority to waive or refund interest on late tax payments.

Please Note: We strongly discourage paying your tax bill via your banking Electronic Checking/Online bill pay system. If you are paying your bill with an online bill pay system, please be aware that your bank still mails us a paper check without a USPS postmark. Therefore, your payment is not considered received until we physically

receive the payment in our office. We do not recommend sending payment in this manner.

NYC-BASED CECILIA WHALEN DANCE COMPANY CELEBRATES THE ERIE CANAL BICENTENNIAL WITH ORIGINAL DANCE PERFORMANCE

Join choreographer Cecilia Whalen in the Canal Exhibit space on Saturday, September 27, for two back-to-back opportunities to hear her speak about her new dance, *The Erie Canal Project*. This original piece was choreographed especially for the Erie Canal Bicentennial. She will offer two 30-minute lectures and Q&A sessions at 1:00pm and 2:00pm, sharing her research, maps, documents, and materials that inspired her original dance work, *The Erie Canal Project*.



Then, return the next day, **Sunday, September 28**, at 2:00pm, to watch Cecilia's dance company and students from Nazareth University perform *The Erie Canal Project*. The event will begin with a brief introduction by Miss Whalen, who will discuss the inspiration behind the project and its development. Conceived to celebrate the Erie Canal Bicentennial, the dance features depictions of the surveying, digging, and towing that created and animated the canal, blending modern and postmodern movement with touches of Irish step dance. The dance was partly developed during Whalen's residency at the Baryshnikov Arts Center.

The performance is funded by a grant from Monroe County, with additional funding from the Town of Pittsford. It is sponsored by Nazareth University, the Village of Pittsford and the Town of Pittsford, and is free and open to the public. *The Erie Canal Project* is performed by members of Cecilia Whalen's Dance Company and Nazareth University students, including Diego Gómez, Priscilla Vasquez, Natasha Schmid, Ghislaine van den Heuvel, Rebecca Pelleri, Kai McCoy and Tara Kuhl.

To learn more about her works, visit <u>Cecilia Whalen's website</u>. A video about the piece is available here: <u>Cecilia Whalen Dance Company</u>.

The performance will take place at the Carpenter Park Pavilion at the Port of Pittsford. The Town of Pittsford and Nazareth University are co-sponsoring the performance, which is free and open to the public.

ERIE CANAL BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IS SEPTEMBER 27 & 28

The Village of Pittsford will host a community-wide celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Erie Canal on Saturday and Sunday, September 27 & 28, 2025. This special weekend will showcase history, music, food, and fun as Pittsford celebrates its history along the historic waterway.



One of the highlights will be the arrival of a flotilla of canal boats, including the Sam Patch, the Riverie, the Colonial Belle, and the historic replica Seneca Chief, the vessel that carried Governor DeWitt Clinton when the Canal opened in 1825. Visitors can enjoy live music, a canal history exhibit, guided tours, dance performances, and a festive welcome at Schoen Place. There will also be a dock decorating contest, village-wide sidewalk sale, and plenty of activities for all ages.

We're proud to contribute to the Village Celebration by hosting two Town performances in Carpenter Park at the Port of Pittsford on Sunday, September 28. Carpenter Park is located at 22 North Main Street.

At 2:00pm, we'll host the Cecilia Whalen Dance Company performance of *The Erie Canal Project*, an original dance piece inspired by traditional folk music and Canal history. The performance is at the Carpenter Park pavilion. In the event of rain, the event will be held at the Pittsford Community Library in the Fisher Meeting Room. (See the above article for further details about this performance.)

At 3:00pm, musician, singer and songwriter Don Dwyer brings Songs and Stories of the Erie Canal to life. Based in the Buffalo, NY area, Don has performed across New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Tennessee, sharing music that captures the history, struggles, and spirit of the 19th century.

For many years, Mr. Dwyer performed with the Irish Volunteers Civil War Band, appearing at events such as the Gettysburg Music Muster, the Windham Civil War Heritage Gathering, the President James Garfield Home Civil War Weekend, and the Mumford Civil War Weekend. He has also performed for historical societies across the region.

Don proudly honors his family's history—his 3x great-grandfather and great-uncles, Irish immigrants who fought in the Civil War—through his performances.

In addition to his repertoire of the Erie Canal and the Civil War, Don has been a part of the Irish music scene for 30 years, performing with Sons of the Gael and St. Brendan's Fancy. Visit his website to learn more: <u>Don Dwyer Civil War Music</u>.

Please bring your own chairs to the dance and the Don Dwyer concert. The Town will also host the New York State Museum's traveling exhibit, "Enterprising Waters: New York's Erie Canal," which will be displayed at the Spiegel Community Center (Sept. 14–20) and the Pittsford Community Library (Sept. 21–26) before moving to Schoen Place for the big weekend.

We have Town programs information at www.townofpittsford.org/eriecanal200. Find complete Erie Canal Bicentennial event details on the Pittsford Village website at bit.ly/canal-bicentenial.

HISTORIC PITTSFORD OPEN HOUSE & PORCH SALE THIS SATURDAY

Historic Pittsford is pleased to join in the community-wide celebration of the Bicentennial of the Erie Canal with a special Open House and Porch Sale at the Little House on Saturday, September 27.

Stop by from **9:00am to 12:00pm**. Historic Pittsford board members will be on hand to greet you and answer your questions about Pittsford's rich heritage and the canal's impact on our community. Browse the one-day-only Porch Sale! It features a remarkable assortment of items



from the Little House basement. Among the items are two marble mantels, two brass chandeliers, a folk-art painted barn, a well-used shovel, porcelain plates, and many more one-of-a-kind treasures. There is no provenance for these items. Cash or credit card accepted. Proceeds from the sale will benefit Historic Pittsford's ongoing efforts of education and advocacy. Come and shop! Take home a unique treasure!

The 200-year-old Little House is located at **18 Monroe Avenue** next to the fire station. It serves as Historic Pittsford's office, mini-museum, and resource facility. We encourage everyone to stop by and enjoy the day's activities throughout the Village. Join us in celebrating this important milestone in our community and our nation's history.

A LETTER THAN LOOKED OFFICIAL How Fraudsters Exploit Public Records Check the senders address Verify notices Sign up for alerts Be skeptical of fees Check your records periodically Report scams Think Before You Click!

A LETTER THAT LOOKED OFFICIAL: HOW FRAUDSTERS EXPLOIT PUBLIC RECORDS

Recently, a NYS resident received what appeared to be an official notice from her Town. It listed her name, address and even details from her building permit application. The letter, written with an urgent tone, claimed her permit fee was overdue and provided wiring instructions. Alarmed, her initial instinct was to send the money straight away to avoid menacing "late fees," as outlined in the letter. Thankfully, the resident took a pause and decided to call the Town first. It was only then that she learned the letter was entirely fraudulent.

Across New York State, including Pittsford, scammers are exploiting public property records, such as deeds, mortgages, and tax rolls, to craft convincing mailings, calls, and emails. Using real details, such as addresses, purchase prices, and mortgage balances, they pressure residents into paying unnecessary fees or disclosing personal information. Public records must remain open under state law; therefore, counties focus on implementing safeguards such as fraud alerts, enhanced ID checks, and public education.

How It Affects Pittsford Residents

Because Monroe County property information is public, scammers can:

- Send "official" letters selling unnecessary deed copies.
- Demand application fees or claim unpaid taxes/liens.
- Pose as lenders or officials to "verify" your loan or Social Security number.
- Target seniors with refinance or reverse-mortgage pitches.

These schemes cause financial loss, compromise personal data and create anxiety—especially for seniors or new homeowners.

Precautions You Can Take

- Check the sender's address for exact domain matches and subtle misspellings.
- **Verify notices** with the Monroe County Clerk's Office, your lender or the Town directly using numbers from official websites.
- Sign up for alerts—Monroe County offers free property fraud notifications.
- Be skeptical of fees—the County and Town will never demand payment by phone, gift cards or wire transfer.
- Check your records periodically on the County Clerk's site.
- Report scams to the NYS Attorney General's Consumer Frauds Bureau and the FTC.

Prime Targets and Outreach

Seniors, new homeowners, immigrants and those under financial stress are especially vulnerable. The best way to help these at-risk groups is through OUTREACH. Consider sitting down with elderly parents or children embarking on their first home-buying adventure to review these tips. To spread the message further, bring the topic up at family gatherings, senior lunches, neighborhood meetings, and post warnings on social media. Encourage at-risk residents to sign up for official alert services and assist them in doing so. Awareness prevents fraud.

A Word from the Town of Pittsford

The Town *will never* request wire transfers, gift cards, cryptocurrency, or personal banking information to process municipal services or taxes. Official Town communications direct you to secure channels and include verifiable contact information at www.townofpittsford.org. If you're even slightly unsure about a message, call Town Hall at (585) 248-6200 to confirm.

Public records are essential for transparency, but they can also give scammers opportunities for exploitation. Understanding how these schemes work and taking a few simple precautions can help you and your loved ones protect your information and finances.

PITTSFORD HISTORIAN'S OFFICE CLOSED FOR THE DAY TOMORROW, SEPTEMBER 25

The Pittsford Historian's Office will be closed tomorrow, September 25. The Historian's Office is located in the Spiegel Community Center and is open on Thursdays from 11:00am to 3:00pm or by appointment. As Town and Village Historian, Vicki Masters



Profitt can provide information about ancestry, historic buildings, genealogy and historical facts about Pittsford and its past residents. Reach her at 248-6245 or vprofitt@townofpittsford.org. To learn more about the department's services, visit www.townofpittsford.org/historian. The Community Center is located at 35 Lincoln



NARCAN TRAINING & SERVICES INFO AT LIBRARY THIS TUESDAY, 9/30 - LEARN TO SAFELY STOP AN OPIOID OVERDOSE

The Pittsford Community Library will offer free public Narcan training and opioid awareness information this Tuesday, September 30, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Library hallway. Stop by to receive a free Narcan training and a Narcan kit from the Monroe County Health Department. Narcan (Naloxone) is a nasal spray that can be administered immediately to treat an opioid overdose. The opioid crisis continues at an alarming level. Approximately every other

day, someone in Monroe County dies from an opioid overdose. There is no community immune to this crisis – learn how to save a life with Narcan. This drop-in program is free; no registration required.

The Pittsford Community Library is located at 24 State Street. To learn more about upcoming Library programs, visit the sign up for the <u>Library's weekly eNewsletter</u>, visit the <u>Library's online program calendar</u>, or call (585) 248-6275. For complete Library information, including hours of operation, visit <u>www.townofpittsford.org/library</u>.

FREE 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. This program is free and open to everyone aged 50 and above.



The Spiegel Community Center is located at 35 Lincoln Avenue. To learn more about our programs, activities, and services for seniors, visit the <u>Seniors page</u> on the Town website, read the <u>Seniors program</u> info brochure online, or call our Senior Programs Office at 248-6235.

EASY FITNESS OPTIONS FOR SENIORS THROUGH PITTSFORD RECREATION

Does the thought of planning an exercise regime overwhelm you? Good news! We've done the work for you! Pittsford Recreation offers 11 different weekly classes designed

especially for older adults. They're free for Pittsford residents and just \$3 per class for others.

Here's a sample of what you can try:

- Seniors Yoga (Mon & Fri, 9:00–9:50 AM) – Gentle movement and breathing to improve flexibility and mobility.
- Zumba Gold (Tue & Thu, 9:00–9:45
 AM) Latin-inspired dance fitness, no experience needed.
- Arthritis Senior Fitness (Mon & Wed, 10:00–11:00 AM) – Low-impact, joint-friendly strengthening.
- Balance Classes (Tue, 10:30–11:15 AM + Online Mondays) Build confidence and prevent falls.
- Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention (Tue & Thu, 1:00 PM beginner / 2:00 PM advanced) Gentle, evidence-based SUN style Tai Chi.
- Line Dancing (Wed morning beginner & advanced) Fun, social, and great exercise.
- ...and more, including Nia Mind-Body-Spirit Fitness, Feldenkrais Method, Get Fit & Stress Less, and Square Dancing.

Download and print the <u>Seniors Program Calendar</u>, updated monthly, which lists all programs, including exercise classes. All in-person classes are held at the **Pittsford Community Center**, **35 Lincoln Avenue**. The Monday online Balance Class is offered via Zoom. Call the Seniors Office for the link.

Pre-registration is required. Call **(585) 248-6235** for details or check the latest Pittsford Recreation brochure mailed to homes.

The Town's Spiegel Community Center is located at 35 Lincoln Avenue. To learn more about our programs, activities and services for seniors, <u>click here to visit the Seniors'</u> <u>page</u> on the Town website, <u>read our Seniors program info brochure online</u> or call the Senior Programs Office at 248-6235.



CHILDREN'S SCAVENGER HUNT AT LIBRARY SATURDAY, 9/27

Piltsford Recreation

SENIOR EXERCISE

YOGA

MIND-BODY FITNESS

ARTHRITIS SENIOR FITNESS

BALANCE CLASS

ZUMBA GOLD

TAL CHI

LINE DANCING

GET FIT AND STRESS LESS

SQUARE DANCING

Families, join us for a Scavenger Hunt this Saturday, September 27, from 10:00 to 4:00 in the Children's Room at the Pittsford Community Library! Come in to find the hidden characters and win a prize! And maybe check out a book or two while you're there ...

The Pittsford Community Library is located at 24 State Street. To learn more about upcoming Library programs, sign up for the <u>Library's weekly eNewsletter</u>, visit the <u>Library's online program</u>

<u>calendar</u>, or call (585) 248-6275. For complete Library information, including hours of operation, visit <u>www.townofpittsford.org/library</u>.

PITTSFORD FALL BUCKET LIST CHALLENGE

Does your family have a fall bucket list? Seasonal bucket lists are a great way to live intentionally, prioritize loved ones, and make wonderful memories. If you don't have one, we can help you start! Here are 10 bucket list ideas to help you make the most out of this spectacular season right here in Pittsford:

- Take a fall hike 1.
- Visit a local farmstand
- 3. Go on a leaf hunt
- 4. Carve a pumpkin
- 5. Read a scary book
- 6. Visit a corn maze
- 7. Pick apples
- 8. Make s'mores
- 9. Bake a pie
- 10. Attend the Town of Pittsford's Family Halloween Fest!



We've designed a colorful, two-page Fall Bucket List printable just for you and your family! The first page contains the above list; the second has links to the Town's trail system, local farm stand information, and spooky book recommendations for all ages. Download the Fall Bucket List printable here: www.townofpittsford.org/files/2025-09/Fall Pittsford Bucket List.pdf

What would you add to the list?

UPCOMING COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN PITTSFORD

- Pittsford Chamber State of Pittsford presentation, featuring updates by Town Supervisor Bill Smith, Village Mayor Alyssa Plummer and School District Superintendent Mike Pero; Thursday, 9/25, doors open 7:30am, 7:45am light breakfast, 8:00am presentations, 8:50am Q&A, The Highlands of Pittsford Hahnemann Club, 301 Stoutenburgh Lane. Free and open to the public but advance registration required; visit www.pittsfordchamber.org/events/state-ofpittsford/ to register and for additional information.
- Erie Canal Bicentennial Celebration, September 27-28, throughout the Village of Pittsford, community-wide celebration will showcase history, music, food and fun as Pittsford celebrates its history along the historic waterway.
- Pittsford Fire Department Open House, Saturday, October 4, 10:00am 2:00pm, Fire Station #1, 8 Monroe Avenue; children's activities, fire trucks on display, firefighters available to provide safety information, free and open to the public, more info forthcoming at www.pittsfordfd.org

TOWN OF PITTSFORD BOARD MEETINGS

Design Review & Historic Preservation Board, Thursday, 9/25, 6:00pm, Town Hall (lower level), 11 South Main Street; the meeting agenda is posted at least two days prior to the meeting on the Town website here:

www.townofpittsford.org/minutes

COMMUNITY MEETINGS CALENDAR

- <u>Village Board of Trustees</u> meetings are generally the second and fourth Tuesday
 of the month at 5:00pm, Village Hall, 21 North Main Street; more information
 and participation details will be listed on the Village website <u>here</u> as the meeting
 date approaches
- American Legion Rayson-Miller Post 899 Tuesday morning breakfast and socializing, every Tuesday, 8:00-9:30am (kitchen closes at 9:15am), Post 899, Pittsford Village Hall lower level, 21 North Main Street; open to all meet and socialize with veterans; no charge but donations accepted. Eligible veterans welcome to join the Post; click this link for membership information or visit the Rayson-Miller Post website
- <u>Pittsford Rotary Club</u>, Wednesdays (weekly), 7:00am, Pittsford Community Library, 24 State Street; meetings also can be accessed live via Zoom check the Pittsford Rotary Facebook page for virtual meeting details
- Women's Club of Pittsford charitable organization serving the community through service projects and civic improvement; membership is open to any woman living in Pittsford or the surrounding areas, new members always welcome! Meetings are usually held the second Thursday of the month, September through June, at 6:00pm at the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center, 35 Lincoln Avenue; Visit the website at www.womensclubofpittsford.org for more information
- <u>Pittsford Art Group</u> conducts monthly member meetings (in person and online) featuring a guest artist; new members are welcome! The PAG also hosts juried and non-juried shows and displays artwork at various locations throughout Pittsford. For further information or to become a member, please visit www.pittsfordartgroup.com and fill out a Contact Us form.

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TV-12 PITTSFORD CABLE CHANNEL 1303 is on seven days a week. Find the <u>current schedule here</u>.

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