

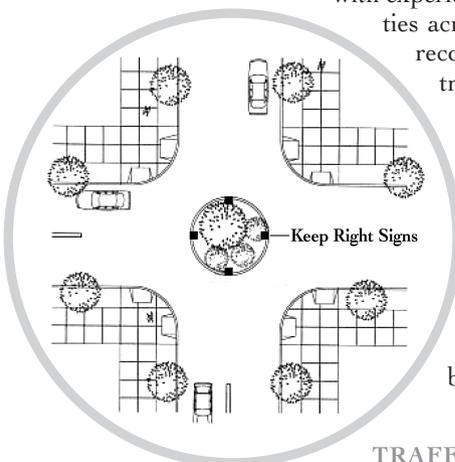
## Help For Our Hassled Pedestrians

### Study Aims To Make Village Streets More 'Walker-friendly'

Speed counts conducted in September on a number of Village streets revealed that 15% of the drivers travel 15 miles per hour or more over the posted limit on many of our main streets. Excessive speeding diminishes residents' quality of life; threatens the viability of the Village's pedestrian-oriented business district; and poses a serious safety issue. A growing number of complaints from residents and business owners led the Village Board to study ways to alleviate what many see as the Village's most critical problem.

Trustee Tom Farlow has coordinated a fact-finding effort aimed at making Pittsford Village more pedestrian-friendly. Two consultants—Walkable Communities and Rochester-based SRF & Associates—collaborated on the study. SRF & Associates gathered data on traffic volume and speed at six sites within the Village. Walkable Communities, with experience in over 1400 communities across the country, developed recommendations for "calming" traffic in the Village. The consultants walked Village streets and conducted a design workshop with residents and business owners in September.

The firms' initial recommendations were presented to the Village Board members in October.



TRAFFIC CALMING CIRCLE

### What The Report Recommends

One of the most important conclusions of the study is that the width of the traffic lanes on many Village streets encourages speeding. Our goal is to redesign Village streets to provide visual cues to drivers that slow speeds are required. The techniques proposed in the study have been used successfully in many other similar communities, says Dan Burden, of Walkable Communities. A few of the techniques recommended by the consultants include the following:

- **Roundabouts:** These smaller versions of a traffic circle slow speeds at intersections. Roundabouts have been shown to reduce speed at intersections to 15 - 20 mph, resulting in fewer accidents, Burden says.
- **Median islands** provide two benefits: They slow traffic, and they provide a safe stopping place for pedestrians crossing a busy road. Burden recommends creating a median in the middle of the North Main St. bridge, and a median island or a roundabout at Jefferson Rd. near Sutherland High School.
- **Landscaped islands** were recommended as traffic-calming devices for Jefferson Rd. east of Eastview Terrace.
- **Crossing islands:** Smaller in size than median islands, these curbed stopping places for pedestrians are recommended for the use of pedestrians crossing State Street.

**Enhanced pedestrian crossings:** Using mixed paving materials and extended curbs can highlight pedestrian crossing zones. These are recommended for State St., South Main St., and at the intersection of North Main St. and Washington Rd. *(For the latter site, Burden recommends that a roundabout be considered in future years.)*

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## FROM THE MAYOR

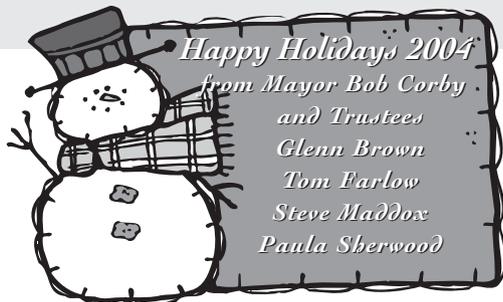
*Bob Corby*

**Bob Corby**  
*Mayor, Village of Pittsford*

In recent years the Village has increasingly pursued grant opportunities for funding. As the greater Pittsford community has grown, demands on the Village have increased to accommodate more traffic, businesses, parking, and visitors. In many ways, the changes have been beneficial. Our business district is the most successful of the ten villages in Monroe County. Continued investment in the village has resulted in the rehabilitation of many buildings ranging from the DelMonte Lodge to the Old Pickle Factory on Grove Street.

Increased through traffic has accelerated the deterioration of Village streets. Greater parking demands have necessitated the hiring of a parking enforcement officer. Seasonal decorations, landscaping improvements, and park area maintenance have increased put increased demands on the Village DPW. Increases in building activity have put greater demands on our administrative staff and volunteer boards. Over the last decade multiple planning initiatives have been undertaken to ensure we adapt to the times and the changing environment around the village.

Grants from a variety of sources have allowed us to keep up with the increased demands and maintain a relatively stable tax rate. This year's grant projects either underway or completed include the Schoen Place pavilion and park improvements, a boat pump-out dock, archives inventory and management, indexing of meeting minutes, microfilming historic records, construction of a handicapped entrance to the village hall, and remodeling the interior of the building to provide handicapped bathrooms. In total, grants have provided several hundred thousand dollars to our annual budget this year. In the coming year we are looking to identify new grant opportunities including participation in the Certified Local Government program.



## Order In The Hall!

*Two grants help organize, preserve Village records*

**Remegia Mitchell** doesn't wield a gavel, but she has created order—and easy access—to more than 120 years of Village Board records dating from as far back as 1888. More than 8,000 pages have been examined and organized both chronologically and by subject, and are now being indexed through a sophisticated computer program.

Mitchell's indexing work is supported by a \$20,000 grant from the Archives Division of the NYS Department of Education. The grant is designed to create a comprehensive index of the collected minutes of the Village Board of Trustees. Once complete, the index will permit easy public access to past records, while reducing the potential for damage to original documents. Included in the grant are funds for a new records management computer, printer, database software, and instructors for staff in their use.

But Mitchell's work doesn't stop there. She has written and received a second grant from the same agency, this time for \$12,500, to acquire a microfilm reader-printer and to fund the staff hours required to prepare for filming 13 record series of historical documents, including minutes, deeds, rights of way, and historical data on every structure in the Village. When finished, more than 44,000 images will have been preserved on microfilm.

Organizing a century's worth of papers was a daunting task, Mitchell admits. But she understands the importance of her work. "Some of these records, such as the old leather-bound minutes books, are so fragile that it has been impossible to make them accessible to the public," she points out. "Through indexing and microfilming, we can make the history and development of the Village available to anyone researching a question."

## Help For Our Hassled Pedestrian

*continued from cover*

**White paint guides:** Paint can be used effectively—and inexpensively—to enhance crossways and identify bike lanes. Burden recommended re-stripping South St., eliminating the center line and creating two double lines on each side of the road, effectively narrowing the roadway and slowing traffic.

**Angled back-in parking:** Recommended for Sutherland Street at the High School. Since this method of parking narrows the roadway, it slows traffic, while providing additional parking spaces.

A written draft report with specific recommendations for different streets will be available for public review and comment. An important element of the plan is input from the New York State Department of Transportation, the Pittsford Volunteer Fire Department, and the Town of Pittsford. The Village Board hopes to begin implementing recommendations of the plan next spring.

## Canal Pavilion Dedication

### Celebration Honors Pittsford's Bodem, Holzwarth, And Berggren

This Autumn, thousands of walkers, bikers, rollerbladers, and rowers have paused to admire the new canal-side pavilion at the east end of Schoen Place. Here, memorial benches welcome passers-by; a sturdy roof offers protection from both sun and rain.

On September 18, a large crowd gathered at the Pavilion to honor three people whose tireless efforts over the years helped focus attention on the Pittsford portion of the canal, and alerted the community to its rich potential. The three are: **Mary Bodem**, long-time chair of the Village's Planning and Zoning Board; **John Holzwarth**, former Village Mayor and long-time Vice Principal at Pittsford-Mendon High School; and the late **John Berggren**, former Town Board member.

In his comments at the dedication, Village Mayor Bob Corby praised their efforts, saying: "the success of Pittsford's vibrant Erie Canal waterfront can be traced directly to the tireless efforts of these three Pittsford citizens."

Mary Bodem and her husband, George, former Monroe Avenue residents, came east from Minnesota for the

event and were eagerly greeted by old friends. Also attending were Jack Holzwarth and his son Paul, from Camillus; and from Pittsford, son Bob and grandchildren Savannah, Mikayla and Ben; and daughter Sue Troup, her husband Dan and sons Michael and Steven. John Berggren's two children—John, from Bloomfield, and daughter Ingrid, from Springwater—also attended.

Following the dedication of the Pavilion and the adjacent memorial plaza, the group adjourned to the Village Hall for a celebratory reception.

In August, New York's Secretary of State Randy A. Daniels officiated at the Pavilion's ribbon-cutting ceremony, an event that marked the completion of the \$300,000 canal-side improvement project on Schoen Place. Daniels used the opportunity to praise Pittsford's vision. Two-thirds of the cost of Pittsford's canal development project was state-funded, through New York State grant monies gained with the assistance of Sen. James S. Alesi and a New York State Multi-Modal Grant. The remaining cost was drawn from Village funds.

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## A Vintage Treasure is Found!

### Plaque Honoring Una Hutchinson Returns To Village Hall

The late Una Hutchinson, long-time Village resident, teacher, and activist, was honored 40 years ago with a brass plaque commemorating her efforts to establish a library here. That library she founded was first located in the Little House on Monroe Avenue before moving to the Wiltsie Building (*now the Village Hall*) in 1937.

When the library moved to the old Star Market Building on State St. in 1973, Una's plaque went with it. Last year, as the library moved to temporary quarters, the plaque was to be discarded. Fortunately, fate and the family stepped in to return it to its original home at Village Hall.

Early this year, town worker Rick Mortensen discovered the plaque while helping to empty the library building before its demolition. Here's where the family chain response begins: Rick showed the plaque to a co-worker, Jamie Hutchinson, a great-nephew of Una. Jamie told Andy Smith, another great-nephew, whose family had lived in Una's two-family house for many years. Andy reported the discovery to his cousin, Mayor Bob Corby (another of Una's great-nephews), and suggested the plaque should be returned to its original location in the Wiltsie Building.

Una's honorary tablet is now once again on view. Stop by and have a look the next time you visit the Village offices.

#### *Who was Una Hutchinson?*

The daughter of Irish immigrants, Una Hutchinson was a bright and spirited woman, the kind of committed citizen who makes a difference. For many years, she taught history at Monroe High School, one of the city's finest, and played an active role in the Democratic Party (*then strong in Pittsford*).

As early as 1920, Una and her sister, Margaret Hutchinson Lusk, began promoting the idea that Pittsford needed a library. With help from the Rayson-Miller Post of the American Legion, the Pittsford Community Library was founded. Between 1937 and 1973 the library was housed in the Wiltsie Building on North Main Street, where for a while a branch of the Hutchinson family had lived.

In 1932, Una was elected president of the library board. Thirty-two years later she was honored for her dedication and presented with the plaque that once again graces the wall of its original home.

## Two New Members Join Key Committees

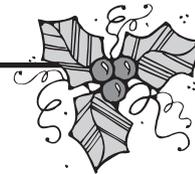
*We welcome two new members to the PZBA and APRB*

**Tom Dannhauser** is the newest member of the Pittsford Zoning Board of Appeals. Tom and his wife Mary moved to Locust Street from the city a few years ago. Both work in the labs at Kodak, Tom in research, Mary in the fields of health, safety, and the environment. Because they both have long workdays, the Dannhausers were attracted to the Village for the quick and easy access it provides to the canal, library, and nearby parks. The presence of so many older homes also appealed; their own 1894 residence, next to the Presbyterian Church, is a special pleasure.

In preparation for joining the PZBA, Tom has been studying zoning issues, learning the details of our own codes, as well as state regulations.

**Scott Latshaw**, a new member of the Architectural and Preservation Review Board, already is more than a little familiar with the committee's work. When he and his wife Jennifer bought Gertrude Lusk's 1905 house on the corner of Sutherland St. and Monroe Ave. two years ago, they worked closely with the APRB to ensure that the restoration they were undertaking would follow prescribed codes. For a time, Jennifer worked in the Village office as a secretary, until baby Emma, now four months old, arrived to join four-year-old Anna.

Scott, who works at Paychex, says he joins the committee dedicated to the idea of preserving the Village's historic architectural fabric.



## Thank You, Paul Atwell!

Paul has been a dedicated Part-time Village Employee for the last 10 years having first joined the Village employ on June 1, 1994. He has served the Village as an Enforcement Officer monitoring on-street parking violations and representing the Village in Town Court. He has patrolled the Village streets and sidewalks while courteously and tactfully fostering good will and cooperation among residents, merchants and visitors. Paul has carried out his duties year 'round in all weather conditions including intense heat, cold, wind, rain, sleet, snow, and hail. He has responded numerous times over the course of the years to emergency "Code C" (*coffee and/or cookies*) calls from the Office Staff. His off-site radio communications to the Village Office caused him to become affectionately known as "Portable Paul". Atwell's presence as a Village employee will be sorely missed by all.

## More Thanks—

**To Jeff Mason, owner of Northfield Common including Pittsford Lumber Co.** Jeff has generously helped enhance our website by donating images of maps and canal-side scenes. Jeff grew up in the Village; he and his father, the late John Mason, were instrumental in developing Schoen Place, and Jeff continues efforts to enhance it as a community resource, as well as a very attractive shopping milieu. Thank you, Jeff!

**To Tom Sanna & Bristol Gardens!** Summer is over, but our gratitude remains. Thank you, Village resident Tom Sanna, owner of Bristol Gardens, for once again helping select the flowers that graced our hanging baskets this year. Thanks to you (*and the watering crew from our DPW!*) our streets looked beautiful.

**To Nancy Bolger & Kim Corby** who make this newsletter a great success!

## Oh, Oh! . . . That's a No-No!

If a community runs smoothly, it's most likely because its citizens respect the rules designed to keep its wheels well oiled. With that in mind, we remind you of a couple of old ordinances, and a new one.

### About parking . . .

It's probably no surprise that parking on sidewalks in the Village is prohibited by state law; the reasons are obvious. Please also be aware that parking on lawns is now prohibited by Local Law #1 (2004) for safety and aesthetic reasons.

### Hold that saw and hammer . . .

If you're considering changes to the exterior of your house, remember: Before any work is done, you must submit your plans to the Architectural Review Board. Call the Village Office (586-4332) for more information, and/or check our website for a complete listing of Village codes.

### Lions and tigers and bears—oh, no . . .

A new state law requires that any resident harboring a wild animal in his/her home must report its presence by April 1. The necessary report form can be picked up at the Village Office, along with a list of animals that must be reported. The information will be forwarded, as the law requires, to the Pittsford Fire Department, the County Sheriff's office, and Pittsford Ambulance.

### House numbers . . .

Please be sure your property has address numbers clearly visible. This could save precious time should you need emergency services.

**The Village Code** is now available on our website ([www.villageofpittsford.org](http://www.villageofpittsford.org)). Just click on 'Village Code' from the homepage.



# BENCHES & BRICKS

*Give A Holiday Present That Lasts!*

Dick and Diane Dennison of Golf Avenue are reaping special pleasures from their family's support of the Village's "Benches and Bricks" program. When their five grandchildren bike or hike along the canal, they always stop for a minute to see their own names incised in the bricks that form a rondel on the Schoen Place walkway.

More than once, friends from the past have phoned the Dennisons to say they've just enjoyed a moment's rest on the canal-side bench that bears a plaque that reads: "For our parents, Dick and Diane Dennison, in honor of their 40th anniversary." For the former Village Trustee and his family, the bench and bricks are perennial symbols of their deep attachment to this community.

More than two dozen commemorative benches are now in place along Schoen Place and South Main Street, including, among others, those honoring deceased residents Andrew D. Wolfe (*given by Vivienne Tellier-Wolfe*); Lynne Brown (*given by her husband, former Deputy Mayor Glenn O. Brown*); Ted and Margaret Zornow (*given by Mayor Bob Corby and his sister, Catharine Gardner*); and Cortland and Marguerite Newcomb (*given by their son, Michael*).

Our benches are a bargain at \$695 each, says Trustee Paula Sherwood, who chairs the Benches-and-Bricks program. "In New York City's Central Park, some 1,500 benches have been 'adopted' by those who want to memorialize relatives and friends lost in the 9/11 disaster," she points out. "Each of those benches cost \$7,500, and sales are totaling about \$1 million a year."

***Looking for a long-lasting holiday gift?***

***How about a commemorative bench or brick?***

For more information, please call the Village Office at 586-4332



## BRICK ORDER FORM

Commemorative bricks to be inset along the Erie Canal Walk can be ordered for \$100 each (*or 5 for the price of 4*).

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_brick(s). Imprint the brick(s) as follows: Limit 2 lines, 15 characters per line including spaces and punctuation:

**Brick 1**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Brick 2**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Brick 3**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Brick 4**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Brick 5 – FREE if you purchase four!**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:  
*Village of Pittsford*  
*Commemorative Brick Program.*

## FROM THE DPW SUPERINTENDENT

I would like to first take a few moments to introduce the Village crew. Many of you see the crew, a few stop and chat with them, but few know who they are.

- **Andy Caschetta** is the crew's outdoorsman. He has been with the Village since April 2001. He enjoys raising and training dogs at his Mendon home.
- **Pete Calabrese**, is married to Sue and has a son named Jacob. Pete has been with the Village since September 2001 and lives in East Rochester.
- **Steve Green**, is the father of two sons, Matthew, 6, and Dustin, 8. He has been with the Village since October 2001 and is an East Bloomfield resident.
- **Rob Harter**, our newest member and East Rochester resident, was added to the crew in September 2004. Rob is married to Samantha and has a son named Joseph. He has recently returned from serving in the Navy Seabees.

The Village is *very proud* of the hard work provided by these men. It is because of them that our community is always looking its best!

During the summer months, the crew has been busy, along with the help of the Town of Pittsford Highway Department (*thank you Pittsford Highway!*), with the reconstruction of Heatherhurst Drive. There had been new gutters poured and road resurfacing. The summer months also kept our crew busy with maintenance of all trees and flowers throughout the village. New trees require a tremendous amount of watering. We appreciate the residents whom have helped us to tend these young saplings.

With the Fall upon us, we have been busy picking up leaves. Bringing back each leaf that drops for recycling is an awesome job. Leaves will be picked up weekly as long as the weather permits. (*The crew does not have a set leaf schedule but does a 'round' each week.*) Leaves may be piled loose by the curb during the fall. At all other times, they are to be placed in containers like other debris.



**Scott Spencer**  
DPW Superintendent

But winter is on our doorstep soon and with it brings the usual reminders. Residents should be mindful to maintain the hedges along the sidewalk, as pathways need to be clear for the sidewalk plow and for pedestrian safety. The crews will also be pruning trees throughout the winter season. Refuse and recycle containers should be placed on the driveway of the property so the plows can move along the sidewalk and road without needing to stop to move containers. This is especially important during storm conditions. Parking along the village streets is restricted between 2 am to 6 am from November 1st through April 15th for snowplowing purposes (*Village Code Article III §195-11*). Tickets will be given to those vehicles parked during these times. Limited brush pickup will occur from November 1 through March 31 due to limited equipment being configured for snow and ice removal. Branches should not exceed 6 feet in length.

Other reminders: Trees and other debris generated by a private contractor must be gathered and disposed of at the Town of Pittsford Highway Garage on Golf Avenue. Items such as appliances and building materials must be discarded by your private waste hauler. The Village DPW can not recycle these items. Street light outages should be reported to RGE at 586-1111 (option 5). Any questions regarding services could be directed to the Department of Public Works at 586-9320.

Enjoy the upcoming holiday season and have a safe winter!

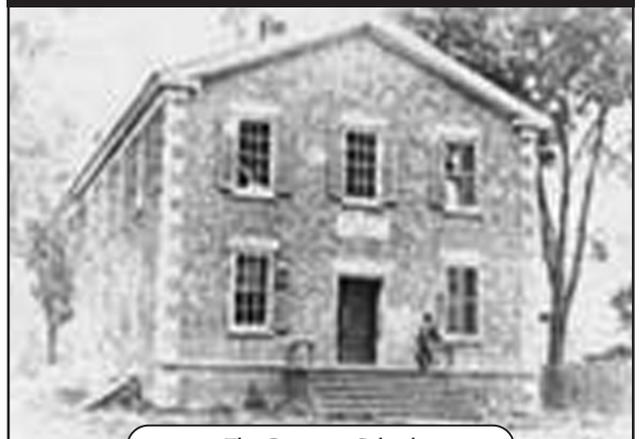
- Scott Spencer



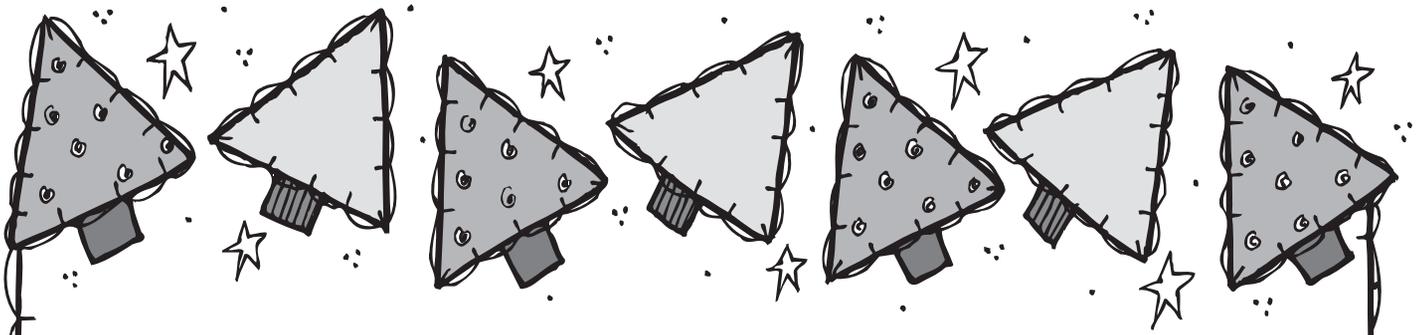
## A New Face At The Village Hall

**Linda Habeeb** has joined the Village staff as part-time secretary to the Architectural and Preservation Review Board and the Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals. A new resident now living on State St., Linda for 28 years was a copy editor at Lawyers Cooperative Publishing Co. She is a welcome addition to our staff!

## Pittsford Scrapbook Courtesy of Paul Spiegel



The Grammar School



*Our Trees, Our Treasure*  
**Village Implements Urban Forestry Program**

Pittsford's tree-lined streets always have been a source of pride for Village residents and of pleasure for visitors. Here, as in other communities, our arboreal heritage is at risk, endangered by a range of factors, including traffic-related pollution, road salt, weather, and the inevitable effects of aging.

An inventory of all trees growing on Village property— their age, species, condition, and location—has been prepared by Urban Forestry L.L.C.; copies are available at the Pittsford Community Library and at the Town Historian's office. Using the inventory's electronic database, our DPW crew is developing a five-year pruning rotation schedule. They also will maintain and update the inventory's database.

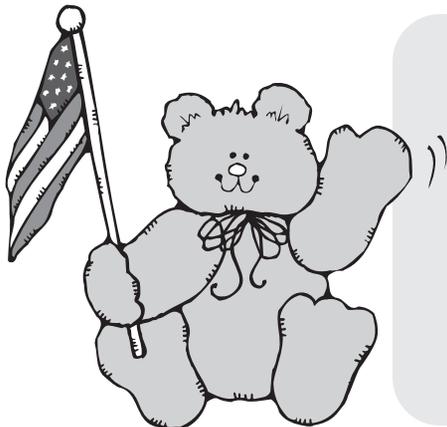
In addition, a line item has been added to the Village budget to cover the cost of tree purchases and care, and to acquire the services of a forestry specialist to educate the DPW crew in current planting, pruning, and maintenance methods, for both new and existing trees.

### **Adopt-A-Tree Program**

Just like any child, a new tree will flourish only when it gets lots of TLC. With approximately 800 trees on our present Tree Inventory (*and more to come*), kind-hearted "godparents" are being recruited to help the DPW crew care for the newcomers.

If your curbside is graced with a freshly planted sapling, won't you consider joining the Adopt-a-Tree Program? Responsibilities are not arduous, and consist mostly of providing the youngster with extra water to drink during the hot Summer months.

*Let's help keep Pittsford green!*



### ***Soyanara, Professor Moriwaki!***

For the second time, Pittsford has been visited by a law professor from a Japan. Mayor Corby received the second visit this summer from Toshimasa Moriwaki, Ph.D., a professor in the Department of Political Science at Kwensei Gakuin University. Japan recently restructured its regional governments by consolidating local governments. Due to the degree of problems caused by the change, Dr. Moriwaki was interested in studying how American local government works.



# *Candlelight Night*

*Tuesday, December 7th  
5:00 – 9:00 p.m.*



**Family fun** in a sparkling winter setting!

**Evening tree-lighting** ceremony at the Phoenix Building!

See a **firetruck** decorated for the holidays!

**Music** – church choirs and carolers!

**Horse-drawn carriage rides** through the village and along the canal!

**Santa** and Mrs. Santa!

*Join Pittsford Village merchants in their Open House welcome to the holidays!*

**Pittsford Village Office Staff (586-4332)**

Anne Hartsig, *Village Clerk*  
Mary Marowski, *Village Treasurer*  
Edward ("Skip") Bailey, *Building Inspector*  
Linda Habeeb, *PZ/APRB Secretary*  
[www.villageofpittsford.org](http://www.villageofpittsford.org)

**Village Trustees**

Robert C. Corby, *Mayor*  
Steven D. Maddox, *Deputy Mayor*  
Glenn O. Brown, *Trustee*  
Tom Farlow, *Trustee*  
Paula Sherwood, *Trustee*

**DPW Superintendent and Crew**

Scott Spencer, *Superintendent of Public Works* 586-9320 (garage)  
Andrew Caschetta, *Crew*  
Peter Calabrese, *Crew*  
Steve Green, *Crew*  
Rob Harter, *Crew*



21 North Main Street  
Pittsford, NY 14534