

RIT's "Big Shot" Coming to Schoen Place in May 2008

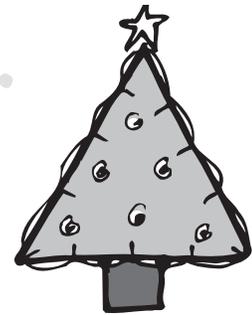
Get your flashlights ready! The Rochester Institute of Technology's twenty-fourth annual night-time photo shoot will be held on Schoen Place next Spring on May 8. This annual event has attracted hundreds of participants to local and international locations.

Focus of the 2008 panorama will be the "Sam Patch" afloat on the Erie Canal waters, with the historic silos and Pittsford Flour Mill as a backdrop. The scene will be illuminated by thousands of flashlights carried by bystanders, all dressed in dark clothing.

"Big Shot" coordinator, Professor Michael Peres, selected Pittsford to host the event. "Last year we did the shoot in Dubrovnik, Croatia (where RIT has an educational affiliation). This year we wanted to be close to home, since this production is primarily designed as a project for our photography students."

Peres says the Pittsford site is perfect. The project, he points out, has never before had a water focus; the "Sam Patch" is a perfect vessel to represent the old Erie Canal days, as are the buildings along Schoen Place.

As for Pittsford Village, we're proud to host this special international photo event! *Watch for more on the "Big Shot" next spring.*



TUESDAY 12/4, 5-9 PM

Come Celebrate "Candlelight Night" 2007!

A Pittsford holiday favorite is just around the corner! Join families and friends, and Mayor Bob Corby and Town Supervisor Bill Carpenter as they gather on Tuesday evening, Dec. 4, in "Downtown Pittsford" and along Schoen Place to welcome in the holiday season.

All the old favorites will be on hand: festive wreaths and greenery, thousands of sparkling lights, the sound of music, carols, and horse-drawn carriage rides — and, of course, Santa! Village merchants will have all their best wares on display for this special event — a favorite occasion for area families to stock up on holiday gifts.

Details on backcover...



Bob Corby

Bob Corby
Mayor, Village of Pittsford

Village Comprehensive Plan

It has been nearly six years since the Village completed and adopted its award-winning comprehensive plan in 2002. Over the last several years, many of the plan's key recommendations have been accomplished. Home values within the village have continued to increase at a higher rate than the surrounding area, and the village's retail areas have maintained a low vacancy rate. We have a new library, high school, new public parking areas, traffic-calming street striping, zoning changes, streetscape improvements, and waterfront enhancements. We continue to see a great deal of investment directed toward the improvement of village homes. Increasingly, the Village of Pittsford is recognized as a successful example of creative planning and thoughtful preservation.

Standard thinking, design, planning, and policy are detrimental to the health of villages and village life. Preserving the qualities we cherish about our village and restoring some of the damage done by past mistakes requires creativity and non-conventional solutions. In other words, protecting the village requires doing things differently than what happens in most places.

To ensure that we continue to do things right and establish priorities that reflect the wishes of residents, we are convening a committee to update our comprehensive plan.

New York State recommends updating comprehensive plans approximately every five years. Because of the dynamic changes occurring in and around the village, the Trustees believe that keeping our Comprehensive Plan current is an important priority. Some of the issues that require study include:

- A Jefferson Road corridor study to improve the aesthetics, enhance pedestrian amenities, and reduce traffic speeds.
- Encourage build-out of vacant lots in the village center.
- Enhance parking capacity.
- Study long-term uses for the currently unused portion of the Village DPW property.
- Improve the streetscape of Grove Street.

- Refine the market niche for the village's retail business district.
- Encourage restoration and appropriate adaptive reuse of underutilized buildings.
- Study the long-term planning issues associated with the Lincoln Avenue School (Spiegel Center) property to ensure the historic building is preserved and that any new use is compatible with the character of the neighborhood.
- Identify other ways to improve residents' quality of life.

2007 Village Accomplishments

This year has been a busy one for the Village. We want to share a few of the highlights so you are aware of both the services the village provides and the improvements being made to improve the infrastructure, facilities, and appearance of the village.

- 54 new street trees were planted this spring. Material costs were funded by an Urban Forestry Grant. Six dying or ill trees were removed and existing trees throughout the village were pruned. The Village crew watered trees through the drought conditions we experienced over the summer.
- 1200 ft of sidewalk on three streets was replaced. The Town of Pittsford DPW assisted the Village in completing this work.
- The Village Department of Public Works garage was painted. The western Schoen Place pavilion was stained.
- 148 flower baskets were hanged this season and new cast iron urns were installed at the Four Corners.
- 60 manholes were repaired. New catch basins were installed at the Locust/South Main intersection to address drainage problems.
- A new 1-ton dump truck with plow and a new loader were purchased for the Village Department of Public Works.
- Two years of talks with the New York State Department of Transportation resulted in the restriping and narrowing of traffic lanes on Monroe Avenue, State Street, and North Main Street. The slip lane at the Washington/North Main intersection was removed and the median widened to slow down traffic and improve safety. NYSDOT also improved drainage on Washington Road and installed granite curbing along the entire village section of the street.



VILLAGE CONTINUES TO FOCUS ON *Our Architectural Heritage*

Grant will Fund Historic District Handbook

The Village has been awarded a Certified Local Government grant for \$3,095 to compile and publish a Historic District Handbook & Architectural Design Guidelines. This document will benefit residents and property owners by educating the public about the significance of historic preservation and how to select appropriate materials for renovation projects.

The publication will include an overview of Village architecture and its historical context. It will identify basic design elements of structures, using photographs and sketches to illustrate specific examples.

Completion of this project is scheduled for October 2008. The Handbook and Design Guidelines will be available in print and electronic format and will be posted on the Village website.



2007 Village Accomplishments continued

- More than 20 crosswalks have been repainted in a “keyboard” style to improve their visibility and improve pedestrian safety.
- Elm Street was resurfaced and streets throughout the village were repaired.
- A school crossing light has been installed on West Jefferson Road across from Sutherland High School.
- A new fire protection system was installed at Village Hall.
- Five village streets were resurfaced.
- The Village was awarded a \$90k grant for the purchase of DPW trucks.

Historic Pittsford Volunteers are Updating Historic District Records

More than thirty years ago, a team of Historic Pittsford volunteers took on the monumental task of documenting, through text and photographs, all the structures—residential and commercial—in Pittsford Village. As a result of their hard work, we are now one of a relatively few communities recognized nationally as an Historic District.

But time brings change—and existing records on Village buildings may no longer be accurate. A \$13,000 Certified Local Government Grant from the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation is enabling those records to be updated.

Historic Pittsford generously has offered to undertake the survey work in partnership with the Village. Teams of volunteers, working in pairs, have begun going door-to-door in the South Street area, noting changes that have occurred over the past thirty years, interviewing residents whenever possible, and updating the photographic record.

“Historic Pittsford has been deeply involved for almost half a century in working to preserve the architectural fabric that makes Pittsford Village special,” says Joseph Maxey, the organization’s president. “Updating the survey is a big job, but we know how important it is and we are happy to partner with the Village in this effort.”

Updating the survey is expected to take at least a year, after which the records will be available both at the Village Office and Historic Pittsford’s office in “The Little House” next to the Fire Station on Monroe Avenue.

Historic Pittsford Honors APRB

At the annual meeting of Historic Pittsford this summer, the Village’s Architectural Preservation Review Board was given a special Preservation Achievement Award.

The plaque, which now hangs in the Village Office, reads: “For leadership of public efforts which have resulted in the advancement of historic and cultural preservation...For creation and approval of public policy which advances the interests of historic preservation...And for implementation of educational activities which promote and support historic preservation in the Village of Pittsford.”

In accepting the award on behalf of Board Chairman Paul Zachman, Ken Willard thanked Historic Pittsford and expressed the APRB’s gratitude for the recognition.

'FLOWER POWER': *a Key to Village Ambiance*



This past year, between late May and mid October, village streets were lined with overflowing flower baskets maintained by our Department of Public Works. Flowers spilled from planters on the sidewalks, and new cast-iron urns overflowed with colorful blossoms.

Although most of the Village Board's time is spent tackling infrastructure maintenance, staffing issues, and taxes, we know that beautifying public spaces attracts people to the village, helps businesses, and improves residents' quality of life. Cumulatively, small improvements, such as a new tree, spring bulbs, a bench, or a dock, can transform the whole feel of a town.

Continuing to "spruce up" the Village is high on our agenda. Other improvements completed this year include painting the DPW garage along the canal; restoring the finish on the Four Corners Clock (donated by Bud and Peggy Frame); and planting fifty new street trees. This December, the hardworking crew has transformed the Village into a winter wonderland, with holiday greens and a myriad of sparkling bright lights.

Next Spring, daffodils planted by the Pittsford Garden Club will bloom along the canal trail, and the reconfigured North Main Street/Washington Road intersection will boast new landscaping, thanks in part to a gift from the Allyn's Creek Garden Club.

Trustee Paula Sherwood oversees the floral enhancements and seasonal decorations. She has worked closely over the years with the Village DPW on a myriad of beautification projects.



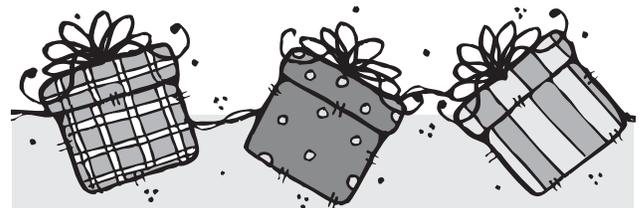
Trustees Revise Trash Collection Practices

The Village Board of Trustees recently concluded a study of Village trash collection. Feedback from a Village-wide survey suggests the need to implement a permitting process for residential haulers that will give the Village better control over collection by defining periods for pickup—both hours of operation and days of the week.

The Trustees have expanded regulation of commercial collection to address complaints about noise, trash-spilling dumpsters, and the unsightliness of some trash storage areas. Under continued discussion are permitted hours of pickup, the potential for screening commercial containers, and the need for better maintenance of containers. The Trustees plan to finalize code changes in the fourth quarter of the Village business year.

Our After-Hours Village Office Mailbox

After hours mail delivery is easy for those who have bill payments or messages to drop off at the Village Office. The mail slot is located near the side door of the Wiltsie Building on the handicap ramp.



Looking for a *Special* Holiday Gift?

Don't forget our memorial bricks, benches, and bike racks! What better present could you give than one that lasts for years and years?

Current prices for these long-lasting memories are:

a brick - \$100

a bench - \$1000

a bike rack - \$200

For more information or to place your order, please call the Village Office at 586-4332.



Note to Property Owners from the Building Inspector:

By Skip Bailey

The following is a reminder of important Village Code requirements:

- Exterior changes to your home that can be viewed from a public street or waterway require a certificate of approval from the Architectural and Preservation Review Board.
- Typical projects that require approval include replacement of siding, windows, doors, porches, railings, steps, fences, signs, and most new construction. The Board meets on the first Monday of the month. Applications and meeting schedules are available at the Village Office or on our website. Please call before starting your project. The Building Inspector will make a determination as to what part of your project requires APRB approval.
- The Village Code and the Property Maintenance Code of New York State contain provisions regulating junk cars, refuse and debris, tall grass, and building maintenance such as painting. You can report any violations to the Village Office by calling 586-4332 or send an email to buildinginspector@villageofpittsford.org.
- The Village Code prohibits parking of motor vehicles in front yards, unless they are parked in a legally permitted driveway. The Code also contains regulations for the parking and storage of recreational vehicles. Check with the Village Office if you plan to store a recreational vehicle on your property.
- Most construction projects require building permits. Contact the Village Office for specific rules for your proposed projects. I will be glad to provide any information that is needed and help you with the approval process.
- New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law prohibits plowing snow across a public street. Please advise your snowplowing contractor that the Village will issue tickets for pushing or piling snow onto the sidewalk or street.
- Heating season is here. Have your chimney cleaned, change your smoke detector batteries, and install a carbon monoxide detector.



Trustee Tim Galli, Trustee Mary Beth Cleary, Trustee Paula Sherwood, Ted Weniger, PZBA Board member Lili Landpbear, Mayor Robert Corby, PZBA Board member Sally Chamberlin and Trustee Steve Maddox

Village Honors Ted Weniger

Charles “Ted” Weniger and his wife Judy have moved from their landmark house on Monroe Avenue to Perinton, but the good services Ted has given the Village did not go unnoticed. For 20 years, Ted has served as an active volunteer in several areas. In 1988, he was appointed to the Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals, where he helped develop and write the board’s guidelines and application forms.

In appreciation of Ted’s services, Mayor Bob Corby issued a proclamation on September 25 honoring him for his work on several committees, for his commitment to the principles of municipal volunteerism, and for “his skills of good reason and knowledge.”



Anne Hartsig, Village Clerk receiving her Registered Municipal Clerk certification from Lisa Copeland, President of NYS Association of Village and City Clerks. Anne attended a NYCOM conference in Saratoga Springs this Fall.



John Cufari
DPW Superintendent



Fall Ends a Busy Season of Roadwork in the Village

This has been a really busy year for village streets. The New York State Department of Transportation has completed milling and paving projects on Monroe Avenue, State Street, South Main Street, and North Main Street. The project included new striping to reduce traffic lane widths, highlight pedestrian crosswalks, and facilitate traffic calming. In a separate project, the village section of Washington Road has been rebuilt with new granite curbs. To improve safety and reduce traffic speeds, the median beneath the railroad bridge was widened and the Washington Road “sweep” lane has been eliminated.

The Monroe County Water Authority has completed its water main relining project. Sidewalk reconstruction projects on South Street and East Jefferson road are now also complete.

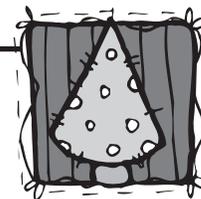
The Village DPW urges residents to follow the Village’s brush and leaf pick-up guidelines. Remember: container weight must not exceed 50 pounds.

NEW after-hours phone number for DPW: 340-1433.

Here Comes the Snow!

To facilitate snow removal, DPW crews ask residents to remember:

- Limited brush pickup will occur from Nov. 1-Mar. 31, since most equipment will be reconfigured for snow and ice removal. Branches should not exceed 6’ in length.
- Overnight parking is prohibited on village streets between Nov. 1 and Apr. 15. The Village Code restricts parking between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. for snowplowing purposes. Tickets will be given to vehicles parked during those hours.
- Residents should be mindful to maintain the hedges along the sidewalk as pathways need to be clear for pedestrian safety and for the sidewalk plow.
- Please keep all shoveled/plowed snow on your property. Please notify your contractor that leaving snow on the sidewalk or plowing it across the street is illegal per New York State law. Warnings will be issued to those individuals not complying with this directive.
- To facilitate the work of village plows, refuse and recycle containers should not be placed in the street or on the public sidewalk. This is especially important during storm conditions.
- Don’t tailgate snowplows! They often stop and back up to change direction.
- Slow down! Take your time when driving in winter conditions.



New Crossing Light Improves Safety at Sutherland HS

Students at Sutherland High School now have a flashing-yellow pedestrian crossing light to make their trip to school safer. The light, installed to warn eastbound travelers, has improved one of the most challenging areas of the Village— West Jefferson Road between Sunset Drive and Heatherhurst Drive.

The PSHS students can thank Green Hill resident Carol Dugan for her energetic effort to improve safety at the intersection. Carol coordinated a petition-signing by neighbors and made multiple contacts with Village, school district, and NYSDOT personnel. (Because NYSDOT owns and controls Jefferson Road, its permission was required before the light could be installed.) Mary Alice Price of the Pittsford School District should be recognized for identifying this safety issue as a district priority; the school district bought and installed the sign.

Need for Other Improvements Identified

Residents and Village Officials have identified several traffic-calming improvements for the Sutherland/Jefferson intersection. These include curbing, a demand-driven crossing light, and more prominent crosswalks.

Improving this intersection is a high priority of a larger “Jefferson Road Corridor” improvement plan that would change the appearance and function of East and West Jefferson Road to that of a typical village road, rather than a highway. Trustee Steve Maddox says “Stay tuned for details and opportunities for involvement in this multi-year effort.”



Dave Jewett with his dog Tommy.

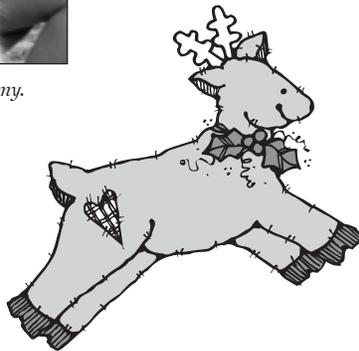
Village Benefit Supports Lumberjack Dave Jewett

Lincoln Avenue's Dave Jewett is a world-class lumberjack. Examples of Dave's sculptural woodworking skills are in evidence throughout the village, as is his annual display of wreaths and "stick deer" on the grounds of the Pittsford Dairy during December.

When it was determined early in the year that Dave would need a kidney transplant, friends and villagers responded with a fundraiser that drew a crowd of people to the parking lot behind "Thirsty's" on the afternoon of Sunday, Sept. 16.

"Bands, beer, and burgers" was the afternoon's theme, as well as a "walkathon" and kids' games. The fundraiser was a lively conclusion to the "Celebrate Pittsford" weekend.

Dave's friend, Stacey Freed, one of the event's organizers, reports that our champion is recuperating nicely after surgery in New York City.



Welcome Our Newest Businesses!

- Country Ewe, 15 South Main Street
- Fowler's Chocolates, 4 North Main Street
- Hungry's, 10 State Street
- Lazy Acres Alpaca, 4 North Main St. (upstairs)
- Peruvian Style, 5 Monroe Avenue
- Simply Décor, 32 South Main Street
- Tru Jewelry, 37 South Main Street

*No need to go to a mall!
Support our local merchants!*

A look back at a wonderful summer . . .

Trustee Steve Maddox, Mayor Bob Corby, Trustee Paula Sherwood, and Deputy Mayor Tim Galli at the June 22 RPO concert on the canal.



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

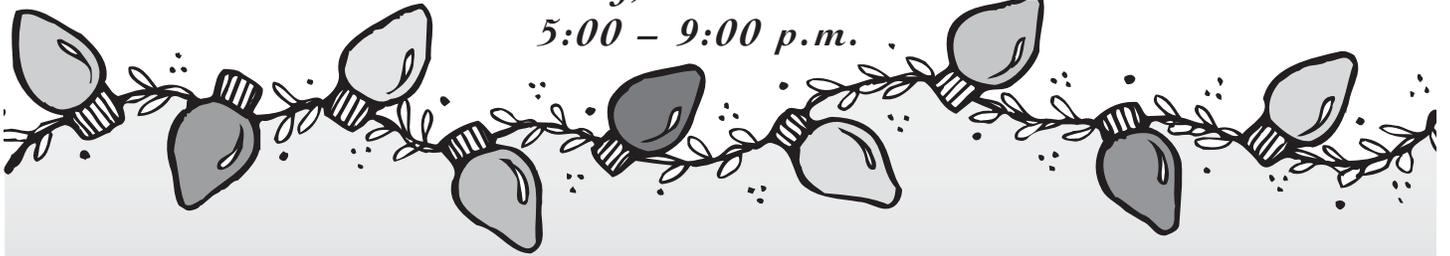
from Mayor Bob Corby and Trustees

Paula Sherwood, Steve Maddox, Tim Galli, and Mary Beth Cleary.

The 2007 Christmas decorations in the village create a festive glow reminiscent of days long ago. Thank you to the Village DPW crew and Bristol's Garden Center for making the seasonal displays extra special.

Candlelight Night

Tuesday, December 4th
5:00 – 9:00 p.m.



THIS YEAR'S SCHEDULE INCLUDES THREE TREE-LIGHTINGS:

- 5:30 p.m. at the "Sam Patch" pavilion on Schoen Place
- 6:15 p.m. at the Phoenix Building at the Four Corners
- 7:00 p.m. at the State St. entrance to Northfield Commons

So what if it's a cold night! A hot chocolate booth on Main Street in front of the Phoenix Building will be staffed by members of the Chamber of Commerce, and a bonfire in front of the Bearly Country shop on Schoen Place will warm both you and Santa.

Once again, this year's event is sponsored by the Pittsford Chamber of Commerce, the Village of Pittsford, the Town of Pittsford, the Pittsford Village Business Association, and Pittsford Rotary.

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Mary Marowski, *Village Treasurer*
Edward ("Skip") Bailey, *Building Inspector*
Linda Habeeb, *PZ/APRB Secretary*
www.villageofpittsford.org

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Steve Green, *Crew*
Rob Harter, *Crew*

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