



Village of Pittsford Newsletter

Winter 2014

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IT'S ALWAYS BEAUTIFUL AND WELCOMING – EVEN WHEN IT'S COLD.

Mayor Corby Named “Mayor of the Month”

Joining a list of prestigious winners that includes the mayors of Marseille, France; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Santiago, Chile, Pittsford Village Mayor Robert Corby was named Mayor of the Month by The City Mayors Foundation, a non-profit, international think tank dedicated to urban affairs.

The Foundation found that largely through Corby’s work over more than two decades, Pittsford is “a national model of how the proper use of quality design can be an anecdote to prevailing market forces.”

Below are excerpts from the article and interview, which can be found by clicking [here](#).

“It’s not often that small communities in the United States become models of planning and design for much bigger communities, but the Village of Pittsford, New York (population 1,335) and Village Mayor

Robert Corby have gained considerable attention for demonstrating how economic viability is tied to the design of the physical environment. Pittsford and Mayor Corby have earned awards for excellence in urban design, leadership in planning, historic preservation and rehabilitation, and downtown revitalization from such organizations as the National League of Cities and the American Institute of

Architects. In an interview with City Mayors, Mayor Corby explains his vision of a livable community.

City Mayors: What is your vision of a livable community?

Mayor Corby: ...[O]ne that emphasizes the design of physical space.... [W]e must ensure that our buildings and public spaces not only function but that they are pleasant for us to use and spend time in. For decades, American society looked only at function and only from the perspective



Village Mayor Bob Corby

behind a steering wheel. It does matter how things look. When a place is beautiful and cared for, people naturally care about the place. Good design fosters pride. A livable community is one that people feel ownership for and our willing to work towards its improvement...(continued on next page)

CM: ...It sounds like architectural design, urban planning, and long-term thinking are central to your administration of Pittsford.

Mayor: ...[A]n intentional and strategic emphasis on quality architectural design and urban planning have been critical to both preserving and enhancing the physical character, livability, and commercial viability of our community for the past two decades.

CM: Is Pittsford unique, or can your village's success be replicated?

Mayor: I believe we are demonstrating that villages are the appropriate scale and model for the restoration of urban neighborhoods and the redesign of newer suburbs so that both offer a better quality of life. Villages are one of the few places in America where many of the positive qualities found in traditional communities remain intact...

From Village Hall:



No Parking Reminder

Each day from Nov. 1 through April 15, between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., there's no street parking in the Village.



Please tell your Village friends and neighbors about this newsletter and ask them to send us their email address so they can receive it. Contact PittsfordVillage@frontiernet.net.

Take a look at the Frequently Asked Questions on this page of our [Pittsford](#) Village web site

Community

Nourishment

The Pittsford Food Cupboard provides food and supplies for 350 to 400 families every month; more than 3,700 families benefited in 2013.

"We've seen about a 45% increase in the past five years," says the Cupboard's client services coordinator and Village resident Jan Reynolds. "About 10% to 12% live in Pittsford."



FEED THE HUNGRY

The PFC, located in the old Pickle Factory at 1 Grove Street, Suite 103A, in Pittsford, is open to qualifying residents of Pittsford, Brighton, East Rochester and two zip codes in the city of Rochester.

Reynolds says that a lot of community groups and individuals have adopted PFC and bring in food once a month, "or people come each week. That keeps us going. With 400 families a week, you can imagine we need 550 boxes of cereal. A shelf can be full and 45 people come in and the food is gone."

About 120 volunteers help out. "They're the lifeblood of this community," Reynolds says. Volunteers must be 18, but younger children often do food drives in the "Dare to Care" effort and there's an Adopt a Shelf program. There are some coin collection jars around the Village for spare change that gets donated to the PFC and gift cards are accepted. The Facebook page has a list of needs.

All canned foods—and fresh meat and produce—are accepted. But, says, Reynolds there is always a need for fruit juices, jams and jellies, paper and cleaning products, soap, shampoo, feminine hygiene products, baking items, brownie mixes—"things you can't buy with food stamps."

The PFC is open Tuesdays and Fridays, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, and every 1st and 3rd Saturday, 9:30 am to 11:30 am. There is a bin outside for donations.

Upcoming meetings:

Village Board:

Click [here](#) for 2013 meeting minutes

Tuesday March 11, 7 PM

APRB:

Click [here](#) for 2013 meeting minutes

Monday, April 7, 2014 – Application deadline, 3/24/14

Monday, May 5, 2014 – Application deadline, 4/21/14

Planning & Zoning:

Click [here](#) for 2013 meeting minutes

Planning Board Meeting: Monday, March 24, 2014

Next meeting:

Monday April 28, 2014 – Application deadline, 4/9/14



Save The Date:

Pittsford Village Home Tour

Saturday, May 10, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Details [here](#).

The 12th annual tour sponsored by the Junior League of Rochester will raise funds for its GIRLSrock! program, which offers innovative workshops to help girls learn self-esteem, nutrition, leadership and mentoring skills.



Pittsford Village Farmers Market

Opening in June

A community project facilitated by [Friends of Pittsford Village](#), a non-profit civic organization, the market will bring “quality fresh produce and locally made goods back into the heart of the Village,” according to a recent release.



Sponsorships and volunteer opportunities are available by contacting PittsfordVillageFarmersMarket@gmail.com.

From the Building Inspector

YEAR-END REPORT

The end of 2013 coincided with my one-year anniversary as the Village’s building inspector and code enforcement officer. Two of my primary goals were to review the processes that were in place for residents and merchants to interact with the Village Boards as they performed work on their properties and to make myself known to people as they worked with the Village.



In some cases we amended the processes and, where necessary, added new ones or deleted those that didn’t add value. By implementing more “face time” with applicants, many felt more at ease with whatever process they were pursuing.

Work On The Rise

The Village issued 77 building permits for additions, remodeling and other property actions in 2013. This number is a significant increase from past years and might be an indication that the economy is becoming more favorable for our residents. We also issued 53 certificates for occupancy and completeness. So far, 2014 shows that the uptick in work in the Village continues.

Codes Updated

I've updated codes and edited out obsolete actions. The Village engineer and I are upgrading the Village's "Design and Construction Specifications," which have not been addressed since the 1970s. While we don't see a lot of new commercial work in the Village, there are many commercial properties using our standards as they undergo improvements. I also have cultivated a positive relationship with several groups within CSX as we deal with railroad issues within the Village.

Future Connections

As we move forward into 2014, I encourage all Village residents, merchants and property owners to contact me whenever they have an issue or might be attempting a project on their property. By having a dialogue upfront, we can collaborate on your project and bring it to a successful completion. --John P. Limbeck, Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Official, jlimbeck@villageofpittsford.com

Spotlight on New Business: Village Learning Studio

Former teacher and learning specialist Kendra Evans has worked with children with dyslexia and ADHD for many years. She became interested in social learning and non-verbal learning disabilities and saw a need for a program to help young students in the areas of social cognition and executive functioning.



Kendra Evans

Evans, who, with her husband Andrew and their three children, relocated to the Village of Pittsford from Boston last year, recently opened [Village Learning Studio](#) at 6 South Main Street, downstairs from Yotality.

"It's a great community for kids who need to work on social skills and sustained relationships in a fun, non-threatening environment," says Evans. "It's not clinical."

Evans gives toddlers through teens a reason to gather, whether for a social event—pizza party for instance—or classes based on the concept of "learn to play/play to learn," she says. There are "Saturday Clubs" for Minecraft (1 pm), Pokemon (2pm), and Lego (3pm); play group and after school options; and summer sessions.

Other educators on staff include social educators, school psychologists (one of whom also teaches yoga); a science and technology teacher, reading specialist, speech pathologist, and even one who is a sensei.

If you'd like to see a new or an existing Village business highlighted, contact Stacey Freed at Stacey.Freed@gmail.com



Questions?

Contact Mayor Corby by phone at 750-0739 or email at PittsfordVillage@frontiernet.net