Monroe County Post – Pittsford edition – **submitted for online use and August 9, 2018 print issue** "From the Supervisor" column
Submitted by Pittsford Town Supervisor Bill Smith

## Community Center Grand Reopening and Rededication is August 25

We're in the "home stretch" of our Community Center Restoration and Improvement project – just weeks away from opening our doors and sharing the beautifully renovated and expanded facility with you. It gives me great pleasure to invite Pittsford residents to our grand reopening and rededication for the Paul M. Spiegel Building Pittsford Community Center to be held on Saturday, August 25. The festivities begin with a ribbon cutting and rededication ceremony at 12:30pm, followed by a community open house with facility tours, program demonstrations, historical information, family activities and refreshments from 1:00 – 4:00pm. By now you will have received a postcard with all the details.

The project is on time and on budget. This success comes after years of planning and community engagement that began in 2014, a vote of support by the public in October of 2016, and further input and design development through August, 2017, when construction began. It has been a rigorous, inclusive and thorough process. I'm very grateful to the Town staff, board members and volunteers who guided this process, most especially former Pittsford Councilwoman Mary Gehl Doyle. From 2014 – 2017 she served as Town Board lead on this project, seeing it through from inception through all aspects of design and construction planning. We owe a special debt of thanks also to Deputy Town Supervisor Kate Munzinger, our Community Center Citizen Committee, our Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, including former chair Paul Wilson and current chair Rick Taylor, our Commissioner of Public Works Paul Schenkel, and our Recreation Director Jessie Hollenbeck.

Many thanks as well to the hard working staff teams from our Recreation, Building Maintenance, Parks, Sewer, Highway and other departments who have greatly contributed to the success of this project.

When we open the doors on August 25, our newly restored and expanded Community Center will feature:

- A spacious lobby and gathering area
- entire interior renovation, with fully remodeled multi-purpose rooms featuring outstanding audiovisual amenities
- bright and inviting child care and youth programming rooms
- a brand new home for our senior programs, featuring a large meeting room with state of the art kitchen, a lounge, and activity rooms
- completely renovated new gymnasium
- brand new playground
- a historic classroom, restored to original 1916 appearance
- new landscaping and improved parking and vehicle access, including a drop off loop at the new lobby area
- completely new and ADA-compliant restroom and shower facilities
- all new electric, plumbing, HVAC and fire protection equipment, an emergency back-up generator and a brand new large-capacity elevator

We look forward to sharing our restored and revitalized community center with you. I hope you can join us at 35 Lincoln Avenue on August 25 to celebrate the occasion. Should you have any comments about the community center or any other topic, as always you may reach me directly by phone at 248-6220 or by email at <a href="mailto:bsmith@townofpittsford.org">bsmith@townofpittsford.org</a>.