

## The Pittsford Business Community Group

The PBCG was independently organized in 2005, and is a committee of the Pittsford Conservation Corporation. Some of the goals of the organization are to:

- 1.) Support & promote Pittsford & Florence businesses.
- 2.) Encourage new business development in our area.
- 3.) Advocate awareness of local charities, and other non-profit organizations in our area.
- 4.) Bring residents and businesses together, to enhance the local economy while building community cohesiveness & pride.

The PBCG is open to all business persons: micro to large, merchants, farmers, artists, instructors, retirees etc. Participant Directory Listing is free. However, we are asking a small annual donation of \$10 to go towards our growing websites, and printing costs. Member benefits include: enhanced website marketing capabilities, advanced public relations, and member to member discounts.

The PBCG holds quarterly meetings, hosts at least 1 seminar, & several mixers each year. Meetings will either be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday morning 8:30 a.m. w/ breakfast, or on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday early evening w/ supper. Please check the website for weekly calendar updates at [www.pittsfordbusinesscommunity.com](http://www.pittsfordbusinesscommunity.com). Also check your email notices and public fliers. You may contact Kelley Lyon at (802) 483-2218, or [vtmusictherapy@comcast.net](mailto:vtmusictherapy@comcast.net).

The PBCG welcomed one new member to our group in 2012- Petra O'Neil, of Petra's Garden Spa & Yoga. Petra is a licensed Massage Therapist & Kripula Yoga instructor, she lives on Parker Hill in Pittsford.

On Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>, at the new year's Annual Meeting, the PCBG voted in favor of coordinating and sponsoring the Incorporation of The Pittsford Farmer's Market. Our 1st proposal was announced at Town Meeting, on March 5<sup>th</sup>. A series of four public interest and Planning Meetings were held on: April 30<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, May 17<sup>th</sup>, and June 8<sup>th</sup>. As well as, many individual meetings with: Town, State, and Federal Officials, public and private property owners, insurance agents, the Police Dept., Highway Dept., current Market Managers from neighboring Towns & Counties, and finally current & potential Market Vendors from all over the Vermont, (and some neighboring States). After much property site negotiation, the PFM decided to accept the offer from Mike & Mary Blanchard to use their open-air property ( lot address 4122 US Rte. 7 ), free of charge for the summer & fall! Likewise, Winning Image Graphix donated 4 "Farmer's Market Ahead" road signs and the use of a "Letter-Board" for the entire season. The Historical Society also donated temporary use of their Letter-Board in Nov. & Dec.

The Pittsford Farmer's Market Inc. opened on Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, from 3-6:30- and on Saturdays 9:00-2p.m. The original Executive Board included: Kelley Lyon- President/ Market Manager, Sally Eugair- Treasurer/ Co-Market Manager, and Kim Keith- Secretary. Market Membership started at 6, grew to 12 by the Grand Opening on June 30<sup>th</sup>, then to 22 vendors by September. A Market meeting on July 26<sup>th</sup>

caused a change in the schedule- after 8/15 the Market would no longer be open on Wednesdays, and Saturdays would be open from 9:30-2:30 through the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of October. On Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> an official Executive Board & Membership Meeting was held, in part, to elect new officers. The new Executive Committee currently stands as: Beth Richards- President/ Market Manager, Sally Eugair- Treasurer/ Co-Market Manager, Kelly Connaughton- Secretary, Kelley Lyon- Immediate Past President and Affiliate Relations Manager.

After a 6 week break,( and three more Executive meetings), the PFM went indoors to the Lothrop Elementary School Gym, for four weeks of Holiday Markets & Crafts- Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>, Dec 1, 8, and 15th. The **PFM now has over 40 members.** The PFM's fiscal year continues till June 1<sup>st</sup>. An Executive Board meeting will be held in early January 2013. Having the State's approval for "**The Farm to Family Program**", starting in June 2013, the PFM looks forward to a promising 2<sup>nd</sup> year! Many thanks to all of the business persons who participated in this year's Market, and to the community for their hospitality and patronage.

The Pittsford Business Community Group will continue to work with the PFM in 2013, and encourages everybody to do likewise. Other projects the PBCG participated in this year included: clean up on Green-Up Day, Grow an Extra Row for the Food Shelf, sponsoring a booth at the Bowen Walker Harvest Fair on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, and the Hanging of the Wreathes on the Covered Bridges- with a big Thank You to the Highway Dept. crew for all their help. **This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Town-Wide Decorating Contest & Holiday Business Raffle** co-sponsored by the PBCG & the Recreation Dept., beginning Thanksgiving week. On Friday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> we sponsored **the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Shopping After- Hours Event** 4-8p.m. ; 22 Businesses and/or Venues , as well as, ten of the area's finest artisans and bakers from the Congregational Church's " Holly Holiday" open-house participated in this community effort!

The Business Raffle ended on Monday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Eighteen prizes were donated, from community business persons, for the PBCG's Raffle- all winners were contacted privately. The Decorating Contest continued through Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the winners were announced at the Congregational Church's Outreach Caroling on 12/23, 2-4p.m. These winners will also be listed on the website. A prize of a Family Pass to the Recreation Area- Rec. Dept., a framed "Pittsford's Got You Covered" sign- Tom's Treasures & Winning Image Graphix, and four monetary prizes were donated by the PBCG. For complete raffle & contest details and lists of participating businesses/ venues- please see the website at [www.pittsfordbusinesscommunity.com](http://www.pittsfordbusinesscommunity.com).

The PBCG would like to thank everyone who contributed their time and talents, to the group in 2012.

Our Annual Meeting will be either Monday, early evening- either January 21<sup>st</sup>, or the 28<sup>th</sup>, place TBA. Future projects to be discussed: Seminar on Safety at Our Businesses & in the Community, Spring Mixer- possibly at the Vermont State Police Academy, & promoting Maple Sugar Season- local open-house Tours. Come see what we're about, and how you can make a difference in your community!

Respectfully Submitted, Kelley Lyon-Chairperson

