

# Where You Belong

Financially

Fall 2016

News & Information for Pittsford Federal Credit Union Members

## Coming Soon to a Screen Near You

**P**ittsford Federal Credit Union is proud to announce we will be launching a newly redesigned website in the near future, right where you always find us at [PittsfordFCU.org](http://PittsfordFCU.org). The focus of the redesign is to improve our members' overall experience with a website that is simple to use, more responsive, and allows for easier navigation to popular pages.

Our new site is responsive, which means it automatically scales to the correct size on any device you're using – from a large desktop computer to your mobile phone. Depending on the screen size of your device, things will look a bit different – but the content will remain the same.

The site will have added functionality and new benefits, such as:

- Bright, clean, contemporary design with enlarged font sizes for improved readability



- Responsive design with mobile technology in mind that makes navigating and accessing important account information easier regardless of your device type
- Faster navigation with commonly used features highlighted in the main menu and throughout the site
- Quick view of current rates for all of our products

- Improved search capabilities to help you get where you need to be – fast!
  - Most commonly requested information visible on every page at all times, including links to secure online banking, an ATM finder, branch locations, and contact information
  - New member testimonial videos where you can hear what other members have to say about your credit union
  - Enhanced footer that provides a lot of useful information to help you get what you need quickly
- The same secure online banking you are accustomed to

We encourage you to explore the new site and share with us any comments, questions, or concerns using the feedback form in the lower right-hand corner of the site. We strive to provide great service to members and hope our new website will help create a wonderful member experience!

### Breaking Ground: Renovation Update



Renovation of our Pittsford branch started August 1 with the demolition of the lower level. Work will be done in several stages to disrupt business as little as possible. In the mean time, the Mortgage Department has temporarily relocated to the main level. As you can see in these photos, walls have been torn out, flooring removed, and ceilings taken down to create a blank canvas for the new space. For up-to-date renovation news, visit [PittsfordFCU.org/Construction](http://PittsfordFCU.org/Construction).



## Pittsford FCU Supports PCSD with Corporate Challenge

For those of you who may not know, Pittsford Federal Credit Union originated from a small group of Pittsford Central School District (PCSD) teachers in 1968. Without the district, we would not exist. We are thrilled when opportunities arise to support our roots. The Chase Corporate Challenge is one event we look forward to contributing to every year. This year, we covered the registration fees for 34 participating teachers. We also provided a tent, snacks, decorations, and dinner for pre- and post-race fun! We appreciate PCSD and everything they do to help our community.



## Take Advantage of Your Home Equity

If you purchased your home, you know how much time and effort went into making sure it was the perfect home for you. You probably also know that the biggest purchase of your life is one of your largest investments. Interest rates continue to remain low. Why not capitalize on this investment and use your home's equity to get other things you need and want in life?

We have several products to assist you: A fixed-rate Home Equity Loan may work best for consolidating debt. A variable-rate Home Equity Line of Credit gives you the ability to borrow the funds as you need them for current or future expenses. A fixed-rate Home Improvement Loan may work well for you if you don't have enough equity to do needed home improvements/repairs. To learn more, contact our Member Service Center at 624-7474 or visit [PittsfordFCU.org/Equity](http://PittsfordFCU.org/Equity). Applying online is a breeze at [PittsfordFCU.org/Apply](http://PittsfordFCU.org/Apply).

# Budgeting for Holidays

As you may have noticed, stores have already begun the marathon to the holiday season. Holiday decorations adorn store windows and it's not even Halloween! Although it may seem crazy that stores are already pushing the holidays, it is not so crazy to be thinking about your holiday budget. By starting now, you can beat the shopping frenzy that begins closer to the season. Here are a few ways to make sure you don't break the bank on holiday spending:

- **Create a spending limit.** You are not alone when it comes to worrying about the extra expense the holidays bring. Talk to your family and friends with whom you exchange gifts and set a spending limit. By doing so, you won't have to constantly worry about spending too much or too little on a present.
- **Save a little extra each week.** Holiday shopping can add a lot of financial strain. If you start saving

some of your disposable income each week, you will have a nice nest egg you will be comfortable spending later.

- **Begin shopping today.** If you have some free time, buying clothes at the end of a season is a great way to find a deal. Stores discount the "older" apparel significantly, to make room for the new inventory.
- **Coupons, coupons, coupons!** Coupons are a wonderful way to save money on all sorts of products. Sometimes, you can even use your coupons on items that already have reduced prices, creating a double discount! You can find coupons in the newspaper, by signing up for the promotions from your frequented stores, or even online.

These easy fixes can lift a lot of weight off your shoulders during the holiday season.

## Never Too Early to Start Saving

Raising children is no easy task. You can only hope that when they leave the nest, you will have already instilled in them the life skills they need to succeed. One way to relieve some stress is to make sure your children are prepared for financial success from the start.

First, create a college savings plan for each of your children. If you have the ability, try to save as early as possible. The expense of college has risen tremendously over the years. By beginning to save for college early in your children's lives, they will be in a much better place financially when the college bills come due. Another perk of starting college savings early is the money will have more time to grow.

Second, teach your children the fundamentals of money management when they are little, and continue to impart those values as they grow. Children have the ability to retain a lot of information at a young age. If you start educating them about finances early, it will remain a key part of their lives from the moment they receive their first dollar. Being financially literate can ease their stress levels once they start to make large purchases as adults.



Topics to teach your children should include:

- How to save
- How to budget
- Understanding needs versus wants
- What interest is
- What loans are
- What the differences are between credit and debit cards
- How to write a check

Finally, let Pittsford FCU help you start a strong financial foundation for your children with our youth accounts. Our In The Money accounts cover youth from birth to age 21. We offer online courses that can both educate your children as well as earn them some money upon completion. Contact a Member Service Representative today or visit [PittsfordFCU.org/youth](http://PittsfordFCU.org/youth) to learn more.