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Caleb Hopkins Chapter

Dear Valued Supporter,

The Caleb Hopkins Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), located in Pittsford, NY, is seeking support for an important historic preservation project. We have the opportunity to apply for a grant through the DAR's Historic Preservation Grants Program, which funds projects that preserve local history and honor our nation's heritage. To qualify for this grant opportunity, we are required to secure matching funds. We are currently seeking donations from the community to help make this possible.

Our chapter intends to undertake the restoration of the historic Pioneer Burying Ground in Pittsford, located prominently at the corner of South Main Street and Mendon Road. Established in the early 19th century, this cemetery is one of the community's oldest and most visible landmarks. It serves as the final resting place for many of Pittsford's earliest settlers, civic leaders, and veterans who helped shape the region's identity. Among those buried there is Colonel Caleb Hopkins—our chapter's namesake—a War of 1812 officer and the individual responsible for naming the town of Pittsford. The cemetery is also home to families whose contributions to the founding of Pittsford are reflected in the names of local roads, parks, and neighborhoods. Remarkably, many of the houses and farms established by these families still stand today.

This cemetery occupies a prominent location where it is seen daily by drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists. Its appearance leaves an impression on residents and visitors alike and serves as a visible reflection of how our community values its history and honors those who came before us—especially its veterans.

Since the last restoration initiative in 2011, the cemetery has significantly deteriorated. Many headstones are broken or have toppled over, some now hidden beneath overgrown bushes, while others have been displaced into the surrounding woods. The ironwork enclosing family plots is heavily rusted and damaged. Under the supervision of restoration experts, this project will include the cleaning, repair, and stabilization of damaged headstones; removal of overgrown brush; professional restoration of iron fencing; relocation of displaced headstones; and replacement of missing or broken veteran grave markers. While much of the work will be carried out by dedicated volunteers, its successful completion will still require substantial financial support.

We hope you will consider supporting this project. Your donation, large or small, will go directly toward preserving a tangible piece of Pittsford's past and ensuring it remains a respectful and informative space for generations to come. If you would like more information or would like to speak with us directly, please don't hesitate to reach out. All donations will be acknowledged on our Chapter's Facebook page, and donor names will be provided to any media outlets covering the project. Contributions can be made using the PayPal link found on the website [calebhopkinsproject.org](http://calebhopkinsproject.org) or by check payable to **Caleb Hopkins Chapter, NSDAR**. A member of our chapter would be happy to pick up your donation, or it may be mailed to:

Betsy Unterborn  
14 Guilford Way  
Pittsford, NY 14534

With great appreciation,  
Elizabeth Unterborn  
Treasurer  
Caleb Hopkins Chapter, NSDAR  
[Calebhopkinsproject.org](http://calebhopkinsproject.org)