Critter Count: It’s A Wrap

Full confession: I have lost a full page of notes documenting the Pittsfield, NH 2020 Critter Count. The US Census Bureau would never lose data, but I have. What I do know is folks in Pittsfield take care of: honey bees, dogs (rescues, mutts, black labs, pom/papillon, pom/chihuahua, golden retrievers, and a cocker spaniel), cats (maine coon and calico are identified), cattle, goats, chickens, fish, horses, ponies, a unicorn and a monkey. I recall there are rabbits, birds, guinea pigs, and various reptiles - but I did lose that list.

While different from our critter count, the 2020 US Census is in full swing. Have you completed your census form at www.my2020census.gov or by calling 844-330-2020? It’s really important to participate because the census determines how federal funding is divided for things like schools and hospitals. And, if you don’t complete the online form for your address, then a person will be knocking on your door later in the spring. We’re in a tough environment for face to face conversations on our doorsteps; so, please take 10 minutes to fill out your census form. Leslie Vogt

Walking is good for the soul...

What to See, Hear, and Do Outdoors Right Now: A Treasure Hunt for Early Spring by Elise Tillinghast has lots of ideas for northern New England nature happenings that you can search for as you stroll along: northernwoodlands.org/outside_story/article/treasure-hunt-for-early-spring

★ How many times do you have to walk the path along the Suncook River at Drake Field to equal one mile? Have you seen the work of Mr. Beaver? Look for it!

★ Did you know Pittsfield has a Historic Trail in the downtown? It starts just up the street from the Clothes Closet. How fast or slow can you complete the trail?

★ Any idea how many people are buried in the Floral Park Cemetery? Is there a mathematical way to figure it out without counting each gravestone/marker?

★ How many steps to climb to the top of the Drake Field grandstand?

How’d you do? Send in your answers to the Post!

If the last few weeks have you feeling worn out, follow your inner cat and take a nap. Photo by Liz Dimmick

How you doing? Send in your answers to the Post!
Hello Pittsfield

Don’t know who did it but, thank you for the new flag on the island pole in the river by Drake Field.

Daniel Welch

Editors Comment:

Pittsfield Post Readers, the following letter, was read by the author, Dan Schroth, at the March 17 Pittsfield Select Board meeting. While the letter reflects various opinions, the ‘takeaway’ of the Post Editorial Volunteers is the question “What should we do?”

How about for us all to continue to be kind to each other, and take every opportunity to help our friends, neighbors and even strangers.

Now more than ever, our acts of kindness will truly help. Be Kind and Be Good to People!

Letter to the Editor

The reason they sent us to school was to be able to find the truth. We are now in a medical crisis, a financial crisis, and a constitutional crisis.

Remember our oath that we have all taken. I will solemnly swear that I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the State of New Hampshire and defend them against all enemies, foreign and domestic, so help me God. The constitution of the United States is under attack. We no longer have three equal branches of government. The republicans in the senate act as agents of the president. I shouldn’t come here though. The scientists suggest for all our sake that we social distance. However, I am here in my letter to require you to uphold your oath.

There are no longer checks and balances that the constitution requires. What should we do? You guys are the brains of the operation.

How about we have a moment of silence, instead of the Pledge of Allegiance. And anytime we hear the Star-Spangled Banner, we fall on our knees to show our concern. Or we fly our flag outside the Town Hall at half-staff. I am an American of German and Italian descent. I don’t have the luxury of remaining silent. Serf Dan

Josiah Carpenter Library

Ready to Read Family Activity of the Week

To the Editor:

Some in town are aware of changes coming to the Building Department; many are not. What is happening is the culmination of more than a year’s worth of work by the Select Board, the Town Administrator, the Town Attorney, and our partners in the AFT public employees union. Our intent is to expand and modernize the Building Department into a comprehensive Code Enforcement Department. The goal is to provide the residents of Pittsfield, and those seeking to locate here, a single point of contact, appropriate and credentialed for the 21st century. The new office will be able to handle applications and enforce the codes across the spectrum of state regulations and local ordinances, the exception being those health and safety codes and situations that are handled by the Fire Department. We look to have the new Department up and running by next week within whatever limitations the Covid-19 virus situation may impose upon us. With this change, Pittsfield can look forward to consistency, responsiveness, and openness. The results we seek are enhanced customer service and the clear message that Pittsfield is a great place to live, work and conduct business.

J. C. Allard Chair, Pittsfield Select Board

Great Inventions

Across
1. Originally used silver compounds.
3. Abbreviation for concrete.
5. Karl Benz first patented this in 1886.
9. First used by monks and scholars.
10. Every car used to have one.
11. Made many people stars.
13. Often sent via Morse code.
15. Made from charcoal, sulfur and saltpeter.

Down
1. A desktop is a version of this.
2. Early forms of this relied on cut ice.
4. Made the world wide web possible.
6. A magnifying glass is a simple version of this.
7. Developed to break wartime encryption.
8. Optical instruments.
Cook's Corner
Ricotta Lemon Muffins

We're all looking for ways to maximize what we have on hand, use our leftovers and creative ways to make recipe substitutions. Here's a great idea from Ellen Barbasso. She was looking for a fun way to use leftover Ricotta cheese and found this terrific idea for muffins by mickeydownunder at www.food.com.

These would be great for breakfast or for dessert (with a little plop of vanilla ice cream or whipped cream). Ellen, thanks for sharing this delicious idea!

INGREDIENTS
2 cups flour
1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 cup butter
1 cup sugar
1 Tbsp lemon zest
1 cup ricotta cheese
1 egg
1 Tbsp lemon juice
1/2 tsp almond extract
1/4 cup sliced almonds
1 tsp sugar, extra
(add 1 cup blueberries if desired)

DIRECTIONS
· Preheat oven to 375°F
· WHISK flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt in bowl.
· In a separate bowl, beat together 1 cup sugar, butter and lemon zest until light and fluffy. Beat into flour.
· Beat in ricotta.
· Beat in egg, lemon juice and almond extract.
· Divide batter into lined muffin tins.
· Sprinkle with slivered almonds and extra sugar over all muffins.
· Bake for 15 - 20 minutes until lightly golden brown.

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Pittsfield Center Development Corporation (PCDC), owner of the Community Center, is the fiscal agent for the Pittsfield Post. PCDC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to engage in activities that benefit Pittsfield. Checks should be made out to: Pittsfield Center Development Corporation. memo: Newspaper P.O. Box 253, Pittsfield, NH 03223
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