

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE NEWSLETTER BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

"Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing but of reflection." - *Winston Churchill* **December 6, 2023**

PITTSFIELD POST CELEBRATES 4 YEARS OF SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Christmas Concert

The Chancel Choir and the JuBellation Handbell Choir of the First Congregational Church, 24 Main Street, are pleased to present a free Christmas concert entitled, "Joyful Christmas," Friday, Dec. 15, at 7 pm. This special one-hour concert will feature many of your favorite Christmas songs and some new ones. Wear your favorite Christmas attire! Light refreshments will be served. Be sure to include this joyous evening of music in your holiday plans and invite your friends. Parking and wheelchair accessible entrances are located at the rear of the church. Call the church office for more information: 603-435-7471.

"A Very Pittsfield Players Christmas Show"

The Pittsfield Players hosts "A Very Pittsfield Players Christmas Show" Dec. 9, at 2 and 7pm, and Dec. 10 at 2 pm. It's time to get into the Christmas Spirit at the Scenic Theater. This year's Holiday Production features a fully staged production of "The Little Match Girl" in the first act, and a Christmas-themed second act production. Immerse yourself in a spectacular Christmas event that will leave you laughing, singing, and feeling merry all around. Tickets may be purchased at www.pittsfieldplayers.org

Pittsfield Youth Workshop

Every year the youth at Pittsfield Youth Workshop decorate bags for the local Meals on Wheels program, and we're currently looking for donations to put a smile on each of the recipients of these bags. We are looking for practical and fun items to stuff these bags, including but not limited to: Crossword puzzles and brain teasers, Travel sized toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant), Tissues, Prepackaged snacks and candies. If you have any questions, please reach out to us via email at info@pittsfieldyouthworkshop.org. We will be collecting donations until Friday, Dec. 8.



Want to see the pictures in color?

Subscribe to receive the *Post* by Email by scanning the QR code. Or go to:



www.pittsfieldnhcommunitycenter.org

Town Crier

To have an event included in this column, email Andi Riel at pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com or call 603-435-6346.

The 4-H Young Entrepreneurs Dowboro Farms now has Christmas trees, wreaths and kissing balls for sale! Stop in at 615 Dowboro Road in Pittsfield. Our hours are Thurs, Fri & Sat 9:30am-6pm and Sun 10:30am-4pm.

Wednesday December 6, The Suncook Valley Sno-Riders club will meet at 7 pm at the Pittsfield Fire Station.

Wednesday December 6, The Suncook Valley Rotary Club will meet at 6:30 pm at the Historical Society, Oak Street.

Thursday December 7, BCEP Solid Waste District Towns of Barnstead, Chichester, Epsom and Pittsfield - **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**, at 5:30pm, for the purpose of receiving comments on the 2024 proposed budget of the BCEP Solid Waste District at the BCEP Facility, 115 Laconia Road, Pittsfield, NH 03263. The Public is encouraged to attend and participate. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be rescheduled to Friday, Dec. 8.

Saturday December 9, Free Community Breakfast will be held at Joy Church, 55 Barnstead Rd from 8:30-9:30 am. Everyone is welcome!

Saturday December 9, Joy Church, 55 Barnstead Rd, will host "Walk Through Bethlehem" from 4-6pm. Please join us for the walk outside and then hot chocolate and cookies will be available inside.

Saturday December 9, A Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Cully Troughton will be held Sat., Dec. 9, from 5:30-7:30 pm at PMHS Cafe to help Cully with expenses while he undergoes treatment and is out of work. Menu will be: Spaghetti with Homemade Sauce, salad, rolls, drink, and cookies. We will also have many great raffle items. \$10 - cash only please.

Saturday December 9, Holiday Open House at Journey's End Maple Farm, 295 Loudon Rd, Pittsfield, from 10am-4 pm. Lots of maple products and additional vendors on site with gift ideas and baked goods.

Ongoing and Judging Wednesday Dec. 13. The Greater Pittsfield Chamber of Commerce is

sponsoring a House Decorating Contest in the spirit of the season. All Pittsfield residents and businesses are encouraged to pull out those holiday lights and decorations and participate. NO entry fee and there is a \$100 prize. For information and to register, please call or text Kathy at 603-833-1434. Judging will be held at 7 pm (weather permitting). Let's "**LIGHT UP PITTSFIELD**" and get in the Holiday Spirit!

Sunday December 10, The Pittsfield Historical Society from 1-4 pm. Please stop in and browse all the wonderful artifacts from Pittsfield's history.

The town of **Pittsfield's Winter Parking Ban** on town roads is effective Nov. 15 through Apr. 15. This ban prohibits parking in or on the town's roads or right of way between the hours of 10pm and 7am.

NEW Hours at the Senior Center! Monday & Thursdays – 8am-2 pm and Wednesdays 7:30am –1pm. Activities include: Senior Community Lunch – M & TH at 12pm; Bingo M & TH – 10-11:45 am; Cribbage & Games – W-10am-12pm; Walking at the Center- M, W, TH- 8am-1pm; Sweatin to the Oldies- M & W at 9am and Chair Yoga- TH at 9am. For more information call Anne at 603-435-8482.

Monday December 11 at the Senior Center will have lunch and a show. Lunch is at 12pm and then the Dump Run Gang from Gilmanton will perform.

Wednesday December 13, The PES PTO is having a Raffle Basket Fundraiser to raise money to support activities and events at PES. Tickets are available until Wed, Dec. 13 – \$1 each or 6 for \$5 – contact any PES PTO member to purchase tickets (or visit their page on Facebook) The drawing will be held on Tues, Dec. 19, at the Winter Concert. The raffle baskets themes are: Movie Night, Snacktastic, Camping Cozy by the Fire, BBQ, State Parks, Baking, Staycation, Scholastic, Marston Farm Maple, Cozy Night In, Feeling Blue, Star Wars.

Saturday December 16, Cookie Walk The Barnstead Parade Congregational Church is holding their Cookie Walk from 9am-12pm. For more information, contact J. Terry at 603-269-5441.

Sunday December 17, Holiday Artisan Fair will be from 12-4 pm at Over the Moon Farmstead- Drinks, Food & Gifts .

Happy Birthday wishes to Stacey Wittenberg & Cassie Smith on Tues, Dec. 5; to Heather Tuttle on Wed, Dec. 6; to Jeff Miller & Heather Davis on Fri, Dec. 8 and to Brittney Ginivan on Sun, Dec. 10.



What's up at PYW?

We are excited for the holiday season at PYW. Youth had a great time at our annual PYW Thanksgiving celebration. Many thanks to our volunteers for coming in to help. *Ashley Perron*

4-H Food Drive

Keagan and Taylor Huse of Victory Workers 4-H Club organized the annual club food drive. 4-H families collected a total of 205 lbs. of food for the local pantry. *Addison Babcock*



THE PITTSFIELD YOUTH WORKSHOP

Important Dates to Remember

**Friday, December 8th:
Wreath Decorating!**
Pre-registration is required, sign up at PYW!

**Wednesday, December 13th:
Service Learning Day!**
Fill Meals on Wheels Holiday bags and earn community service hours!

Thursday, December 21st:
Join us for a Yankee swap and holiday celebration!

**Friday, December 22nd-
Monday, January 1st:**
PYW is closed!


 **COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM**
BELKNAP-MERRIMACK COUNTIES, INC.
EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES SINCE 1965

**FREE Preschool
for ages 3-5 years old!**

Pittsfield Head Start is located next to the middle school and serves surrounding towns.

Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.
Two meals provided daily at no cost to families.
Enrolling now for the 2023-2024 school year.

Scan below, visit www.capbm.org, or call 603-225-3295 ext. 1127 for more information

PITTSFIELD INSURANCE AGENCY

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LIKE THEY ARE OUR ONLY
CUSTOMER**

**CALL FOR YOUR NO OBLIGATION
QUOTE**

Select Board Review November 28, 2023

Two public hearings were held, the first to consider acceptance of unanticipated revenue over \$10,000. This was to accept a relatively small contribution from the State toward the highway fund. We gladly accepted what we could get, without comment from the public. The second was the final hearing to consider implementing Community Power for the town. One resident spoke in favor, none opposed. We voted to place the question on the Town Warrant for a vote in March.

Numerous voter approved housekeeping funds transfers were made.

Highway Dept. employee Scott Jackson's annual review was approved with a merit increase in pay.

Fire Chief Pszonowsky signed a new three-year contract. Pete wears many other town hats including EMS and Health Officer, assists the building inspector and highway dept., and follows our requests efficiently and without complaint. He and Dep. Chief Freese are constantly looking to save taxpayer's costs wherever possible, and we're lucky to have them.

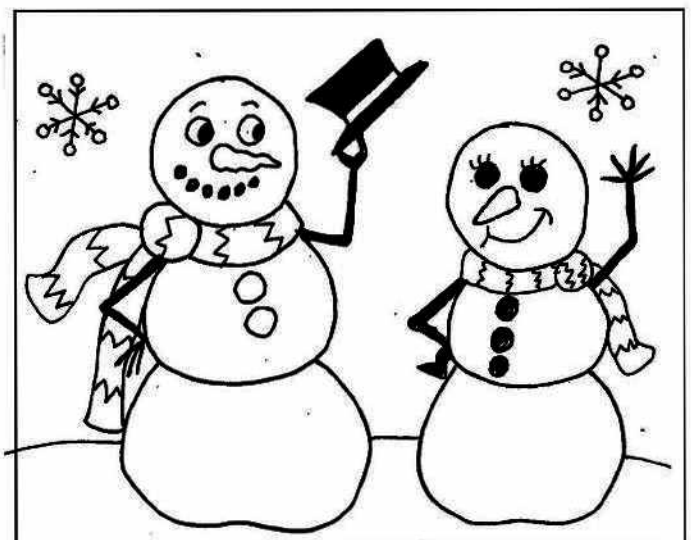
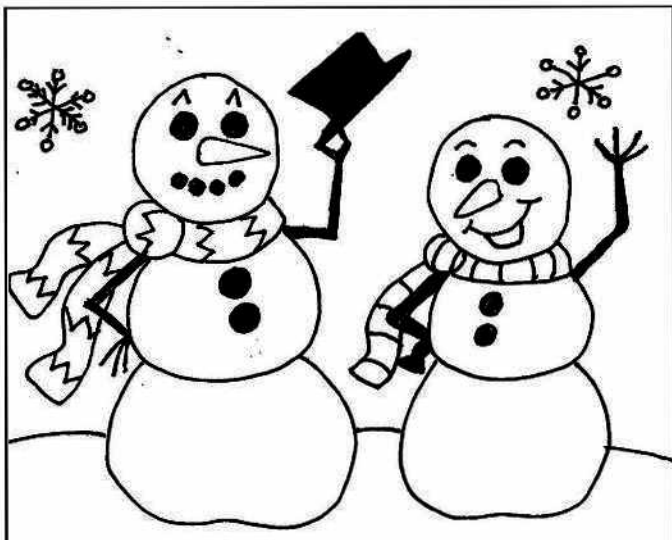
The following letter has been sent to lifelong residents Marl and Andi Riel, which the Board would like to share with the public;

Dear Mark and Andi,

The Pittsfield select board received your resignation from the Old Home Day Committee on Nov. 14th. After some discussion, tempting as it would have been to tell you we refused to accept it, we had but little choice to vote in the affirmative, as obviously it is essentially out of our hands. We want to express our most sincere thanks for your 20 years of tireless dedication to making sure Pittsfield's Old Home Day was always a success, always exceeded expectations, and always was a celebration geared specifically to the residents of this (your) town. From planning all year, to execution of the actual event, to clean up after the crowds have long since departed, Mark and Andi Riel have always been at the forefront of every aspect of Old Home Day. It truly won't be Pittsfield Old Home Day without you two and again, the entire select board want to express our most sincere thanks for an exceptional job, well done, over and over as the years have ticked by. You've left some big shoes to fill! Thanks again, *The Pittsfield Board of Selectmen*

We have just one Dec. meeting scheduled on the 12th after a couple months of weekly meetings working on the budget. That assumes we won't have any crisis that requires us to schedule another meeting, but that's always on the table. *Carl Anderson*

FIND THE DIFFERENCES



FIND THE 14 DIFFERENCES Answers on page six.

Cook's Corner Coq au Champagne

Here's an elegant and easy dish you might want to try. Coq au Champagne (French for Chicken with Champagne) is a lighter riff on the classic typically made with red wine. I normally use Prosecco, such as La Marca, which is reasonably priced; but any sparkling wine will do. Also, instead of bone-in chicken breast, I typically do bone-in chicken thigh and a few drumsticks. Serve with boiled or mashed potatoes, or egg noodles. Add a nice green salad alongside and heat up some French baguette to soak up the luscious sauce. Bon appetit!!
MP Christakos

2 TBSP olive oil
4 bone-in chicken breasts, or 6 to 8 small chicken thighs, and/or chicken drumsticks – **skin on**
2 stalks celery, finely chopped
2 large shallots, thinly sliced
½ lb pearl onions, peeled (or ½ bag of frozen pearl onions, thawed)
2 carrots, roughly chopped
1 lb mushrooms, halved if large
2 sprigs fresh thyme
12 oz Champagne or any sparkling wine
½ to ¾ cup chicken stock
2 sprigs fresh tarragon, chop the leaves (or 1 tsp dried tarragon)
3 TBSP crème fraiche (or heavy cream)
Lemon wedges for serving

Heat 1 TBSP oil in a lidded skillet or Dutch oven. Fry chicken skin-side down. Season the top of chicken with salt & pepper and cook until the skin side is crisp & golden. Turn over, season skin side with salt & pepper and cook for another 5 minutes. Remove chicken from pan to a platter and keep warm.

Add remaining 1 TBSP oil to the pan along with celery, shallots, pearl onions and carrots. Cook on low for 8 to 10 minutes until vegetables are softened. Turn up the heat a little, add the mushrooms and thyme and cook for another 5 to 10 minutes.

Pour champagne or wine in and allow alcohol to cook off a little. Then add the chicken broth, start with ½ cup. Bring to a boil, nestle the chicken back into the pan and cook, covered, for 10 minutes. Remove the lid and cook for an additional 10 minutes, adding more broth if the sauce gets too thick. Remove from heat. Stir in tarragon leaves and cream.

PITTSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2024 CALENDAR

A HOLIDAY GIFT FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST!

Give the gift of living – a snapshot of life in Pittsfield from more than 100 years ago - when you purchase the Pittsfield Historical Society's 2024 calendar. Next year's offering is themed, "Hotels, Boarding Houses, Resorts, Retreats, and Summer Camps." Each month features photographs of numerous hotels and resorts that dotted the town and countryside, when Pittsfield was a haven for travelers looking to enjoy the scenic beauty and peacefulness of a small town on the Suncook River.

The first hotel built was the Washington House, which would experience a glorified, yet tumultuous, 100-year-plus history. There was a chain of summer resorts at a site on Fairview Road, the first being the Berry Resort in 1870, followed by the Grandview Hotel, the Wentworth Hotel and Maplehurst. Several boarding houses were erected for the flow of mill workers who came to town for jobs in the many mills that were built and thriving. And there were at least two summer camps, on Lily Pond and White's Pond.

A delightful gift for anyone on your Christmas list, for a bit of history and a walk down memory lane. **Only \$15** - available at the Pittsfield Historical Society Museum, the Pittsfield Town Hall and Josiah Carpenter Library, or by contacting Fuzz Freeze with call or text to 603-848-4488. -*Martha Moley*



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Josiah Carpenter Library Donation Needs

We are reinstating The Friends of the Library charitable nonprofit group in order to better serve the library community with fundraising and events. This is a group of dedicated members from the community who volunteer to come together and share thoughts and ideas, and most importantly their time, that can best support the library's programs and provided equipment. We will be meeting on the third Tuesday of every other month starting in January and would love to have anyone with some free time and creative ideas to come and join us.

Thank you to everyone who had brought in donations from our last post. They have gone to good use. Josiah Carpenter Library is in need of the following items throughout the year and would greatly appreciate any and all donations from patrons and town residents.

- toilet paper
- unscented baby wipes
- plastic spoons and forks
- quart and gallon size zipper storage bags
- printer paper
- post it notes
- scotch tape refills

- glue sticks and glue dots
- chunky toddler paint brushes
- disposable tablecloths
- craft pom poms
- fine tip & broad tip markers
- jumbo craft sticks
- sticky backed googly eyes
- white card stock
- goldfish crackers
- apple juice jugs
- microwave popcorn
- any individual serving size snacks

And they are currently looking for donations for their Hot Cocoa bar:

- Hot cocoa packets
- Candy canes
- Marshmallows
- Plastic spoons
- Take away cups or Styrofoam cups.

All of these items go to benefit the staff and visitors who participate in various adult and children's programming provided by the library. Donations from you would allow for the annual budget to provide more for patrons throughout the year. Many thanks in advance, Friends of the Library President, Brittney Baker

ANSWERS:

Top Hat
 Eyebrows on snowman
 Eyelashes on snowwoman
 Scarf position on snowman
 Eyebrows missing on snowwoman
 Scarf on snowwoman
 Cheek on snowwoman
 Mouth on snowwoman
 Mouth on snowman
 Carrot nose on snowman
 Snowflake
 Snowflake
 Buttons on snowman
 Buttons on snowwoman



Cindy's
 HAIR AFFAIR

603-435-6711
 1 Depot Street
 Pittsfield, NH 03263
 cell: 603-856-3101
 cindyshairaffair2020@gmail.com



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