PITTSFIELD POST

"There's no such thing as a vote that doesn't matter." - Barack Obama

FEBRUARY 23, 2022

2022 CANDIDATE LIST

SELECTMAN (2) 3 YEAR TERM * Carl Edward Anderson * Carole A. Richardson **TOWN MODERATOR (1) 2 YEAR TERM** * Carole Dodge SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST (1) 6 YEAR TERM * Heidi Knight * Ammy Lin Ramsey * Clayton Wood **TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS (1) 3 YEAR TERM** * Cara M. Marston LIBRARY TRUSTEE (1) 3 YEAR TERM * AnneMarie Chapman **CEMETERY TRUSTEE (1) 3 YEAR TERM** * Pat Heffernan PLANNING BOARD (1) 3 YEAR TERM * Matthew D. St. George **ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT (1) 3 YEAR TERM** * Lawrence J. Konopka SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER (2) 3 YEAR TERM * Sandra J. Adams * Molly Sarah Goggin SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER (1) 1 YEAR TERM * Adam J. Cote * Jody Cunningham * Sarah Lynne Marston Duval * Diane Rider SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK (1) 3 YEAR TERM * Erica Anne Anthony



Frederick Douglass in Pittsfield

February is Black History Month and Pittsfield played a role in the life of one of the most famous figures of the 19th Century. Frederick Douglass, the African American abolitionist, respected orator, civil rights leader, newspaper publisher and author, visited Pittsfield in 1842. He was 25 years old at the time and was already making headlines as a powerful speaker for freedom. The Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society invited Douglass on a lecture tour; he was en route to Portsmouth when he stopped in Pittsfield. He delivered 3 lectures at the Old Meeting House on Main Street (the current Community Center) on the day he was here. Although he was denied entry into one of the town's hotels, Moses Norris invited Douglass into his home for the night. Norris had been a state representative and had been elected to the U.S. Congress the year he met Douglass; Norris was also a well-known anti-abolitionist and was later elected to the U.S. Senate. Douglass wrote in his autobiography about his experience in Pittsfield and with the Norris family. One of Frederick Douglass's most famous quotes is, "Once you learn to read, you will be free forever." Stop by the Community Center and see the historical marker which commemorates this event. MP Christakos



Letters from the Candidates

The Greater Pittsfield Chamber of Commerce has decided not to host our annual Candidates Night this year. We have however continued our tradition of requesting letters from all of our declared candidates. The letters that we have received are being printed in the Pittsfield Post so you may familiarize yourself with the folks who will be running on your 2022 Town and School Ballots. *Chamber of Commerce* (Letters begin on page three.)

Town Crier Andrea Riel 603-435-6346 pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com

Saturday, February 26, 1-3 Candy Bar Bingo sponsored by Pittsfield Parks and Recreation. Pittsfield Community Center.

Tuesday, March 1, 9-11am: First Congregational Church Infant Toddler Diaper Pantry. Please use the parking lot entry off of Chestnut Street. The pantry will be accepting donations of diapers and wipes, including open packages. Please call 435-7471 if you have any questions.

Pittsfield Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session on Saturday, February 26 from 9-9:30am at the Town Hall to register new voters and make corrections for Town & School Election Day, March 8, 2022. This is the last day corrections or additions can be made until Election Day.

The First Congregational Church, 24 Main Street will host Soup's On! On Monday, February 28 from 5:30-6:30pm at the Church. Your choice of hot and hearty soups, bread and beverage will be served. Cost by donation.

Absentee ballot applications are available at the Town Clerk's office or may be printed from the town website <u>www.pittsfieldnh.gov</u> The ballots will be mailed to you as soon as they are available. **Please Note** absentee ballots must be either handed to the town clerk or deputy town clerk, or mailed by U.S. mail. Any ballots left in the drop box will not be counted.

Teen Surprise Book Bags are here at the Josiah Carpenter Library to help you get the most of school vacation! Get cozy with a good book, snack, and cocoa today! We have books from all genres and ages 10 and up. Come on in and check one out today

The town of **Pittsfield's Winter Parking Ban** on town roads is effective Now through April 15th. This ban prohibits parking in or on the town's roads or right of way between the hours of 10pm and 7am. The purpose of this parking ban is to allow the winter or inclement weather maintenance crews unobstructed routes for snow removal and ice control, to maintain effectiveness of their routes.

The **Pittsfield Historical Society's** 2022 calendars are still available. The theme of the 2022 calendar honors the men and women of Pittsfield who have served in the Armed Forces. It contains 26 wonderful photographs of servicemen, servicewomen, and various memorials located throughout Pittsfield, and provides a brief history of our loyal soldiers who fought for their country.Calendars are available for sale at the Town Hall, Josiah Carpenter Library, and at the Historical Society's new museum on Oak Street on most Tuesday mornings (9-noon). You may also call or text Fuzz Freese at 603-848-4488, to arrange a purchase. The cost is \$15, payable by check or cash.

The **Pittsfield Youth Workshop** has Drop In hours from 3-6pm Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri and from 1-6pm on Wed. this week. Lots of fun activities happening Please contact Laurie Sweeney or Zach Powers at info@pittsfieldyouthworkshop.org or 435-8272 for more information.

There are some changes happening at **Pittsfield Area Senior Center!!** (located at 55 Barnstead Rd.) Starting in March there are going to be new hours. Hours of Operation: Monday, Wednesday thru Friday 8:00am– 1:00 pm and Tuesday 9am-1pm.

Happy Birthday wishes to my nephew, Lucas Fries last Sunday. I hope you enjoy your special day!

To my constituents in Pittsfield,

This week, my committee heard its last three bills. HB 1135 required a performance audit of the education freedom account program. We only had the sponsor and some technical testimony. It seemed like a good idea but rather too soon to actually do any good: the program rules are not yet finalized, there are a number of statutory conflicts that need to be settled, and at least 16 bills this year seeking to change the program! HB 1510, a study committee on state hiring processes, is something the division of personnel has been working on for a while. Not sure a study committee is needed...

HB 1395, on administrative rulemaking, wants to require legislative approval before rules can go into effect. There was surprisingly little testimony, but it's a complex bill so it went to subcommittee.

We voted to kill HB 1287, sleep awareness month, and HB 1443, Covid victims commemoration, 15-0 and 14-1. The committee is holding fast against special days! We voted unanimously to recommend HB 1446, converting the boards of recreational therapists and respiratory care practitioners to advisory boards. In this case, the professionals were in support of the change, so no soul-searching was necessary.

The whole House will be in session for two days this week to debate and vote on all the bills that go to a second committee. I'll report on that next week, as we won't have any committee work.

Anyone interested can email me for my weekly newsletter, with all the details! *Representative Carol McGuire*, <u>mcguire4house@gmail.com</u> 782-4918

Save The Date – March 5, 2022 – Spaghetti Supper

The Pittsfield Fire Association and Support Group will host dinner on Saturday, March 5, from 5pm to 7:30pm at the Pittsfield Fire Department. Everyone is welcome! Donations will be accepted and greatly appreciated and will be used by the Support Group to purchase critical supplies for our Fire Department. Pack up the kiddos and join the fun. There will be spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drinks – all you can eat. There will also be a silent auction with nice surprises. Lookng forward to seeing you!

Grow, Learn, Read Daily Activity

Josiah Carpenter Library

23 COUNTING

Play store. Set up a little store with items in your house and take turns being the shopper and the checkout clerk.

JOSIAH CARPENTER LIBRARY Join • Connect • Learn

Josiah Carpenter Library Welcomes a New Director

The Library Trustees are pleased to announce that Melissa Babcock has been hired as the library's new director. Melissa is a lifelong resident of Pittsfield, and has been working at the library since January 2020. A graduate of Keene State College, Melissa previously served as Director of the Deerfield Cooperative Preschool and is very active in community affairs throughout central NH. The library is fortunate to have Melissa's leadership skills at work for the library and our community.

Thank you Leslie Vogt! We thank her for her years of leadership and service. Leslie continues to enjoy working for the library. Her reduced hours and responsibilities provide more flexibility for fun and relaxation.

Josiah Carpenter Library Trustees

Express your Opinion!

Do you have opinions you would like to share?

Submission Guidelines

- Identify yourself and provide contact information.
- 300 words or less; exceptional information may exceed the word limit at the discretion of the Post Content Team.
- Topics may include events, issues, and opportunities about or affecting Pittsfield.
- Please be civil, factual, specific, and clear. No submission is guaranteed publication.

Deadline is noon on Friday via <u>pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org</u>

The Post Volunteers

Library Trustee

My name is AnneMarie Chapman and I am running for re-election for the position of Library Trustee. I have lived on Mountain Road for the past twenty years with my family. I like the direction the library is going in our efforts to collaborate with the community for the betterment of our town. One of the ways we tried to do this publicly was last year's "Pittsfield Celebrates" that brought together our town's groups and organizations in an effort to educate the community as to what each group was about.

I also believe that a variety of ideas can and should be expressed and respected and this is especially important in our library. As a community and as a world, we will never agree with every idea and thought that we come across, but that act of disagreeing should never be grounds for censorship. I would appreciate your vote for library trustee. May God bless us all. AnneMarie Chapman

Hi Pittsfield voters!

My name is Molly Goggin and it has been my pleasure to serve on the Pittsfield School Board since I was appointed to a vacant seat in May 2021. I am asking for your vote for a 3-year term so that I may continue my service to our town and schools.

I have lived in Pittsfield for the past 16 years. My husband and I love this little town and have 3 children in the Pittsfield School District (ages 6, 8 and 12). I have been a public school teacher for the past 19 years and I hold 3 degrees in education (English secondary education, reading and writing specialist k-12 and educational leadership). Between my ties to this town, my connection to our schools and my own experience in education, I'm confident that my continued service on the board will prove beneficial to the school district and the town.

As a board member, I have enjoyed working closely with my fellow board members, the school district and the community at large. I care about informing our community about the happenings with our schools, so I write a bi-weekly update for the school board in *The Pittsfield Post*. In addition to my service on the board, I also served on the negotiating committee and helped to reach a collective bargaining agreement with the teacher's union. I am organized, articulate, and a strong communicator and collaborator.

I approach my service on the board with the lens of a proud community member, involved parent, and experienced educator. Even though I am a strong advocate for our schools, I have shown, through my time on the board, that I am most interested in pursuing the best outcomes for our students while balancing the needs of our community. Sincerely, *Molly Goggin*, 121 Dowboro Road, Pittsfield, NH <u>mollymoultonbrooks@gmail.com</u> <u>mgoggin@pittsfieldschoolsnh.org</u>

Diane Rider for School Board

While I have served on the school board, I have focused on two areas, in addition to regular board responsibilities:

1. Curriculum:

Inviting parents to join teaching staff as both groups seek to provide challenging, content-rich reading materials and rigorous math skills practice for students to be thoroughly prepared for each step in their academic journey.

2. Behavior Management:

Offering support and respect to teachers, and personal responsibility with appropriate consequences to students, to create an atmosphere for academic success for all. I am interested in your opinion at rider.diane@protonmail.com

Over 20 years ago the residents of Pittsfield warmly welcomed me and my family into their town. Pittsfield has become our town. Our children have all worked for Pittsfield businesses. My husband operates his plumbing business here. I now have time to invest in the civic life of Pittsfield and it's only natural that I would choose the area of teaching and learning. Learning and seeing others positioned to learn is my passion! My experience:

- teaching at private school in NH
- foster parenting up to seven additional children of multiple ethnicities in my home
- mentoring in a local program for at-risk teens
- successfully homeschooling our three children into college and careers
- · participating in the largest home school co-op in NH
- teaching in a Classical Conversations home school co-op
- working as a para-educator at PES
- working as a librarian at two local libraries

Positive observations:

- new superintendent willing to address these two issues of concern
- curriculum by grade level posted on the district website
- high school summer reading lists coming
- promised purchase of a reading program for PES
- high school teacher reading source documents for American history
- high school media specialist who taught VLACS classes
- successful CRTC program Diane Rider

To the Voters of Pittsfield,

I am announcing my candidacy and seeking your vote for one of the 3-year terms for School Board on the March 8, 2022 ballot. I was drawn to education at an early age, and I realized that dream upon earning my Master's degree in Education and settling in Pittsfield after interviewing and signing my first teaching contract as Pittsfield School District's first Reading Specialist. I was hired to establish a reading/language arts curriculum and work with students in the classroom, with small groups, and one-on-one instruction. I continue to have a genuine interest in education in our community. Today, however, rather than coming in with a single-issue focus, to set up a successful reading program, it is important that we focus on what is best for the academic success for ALL students in all subject areas across the board in our school district.

In addition to adopting a fiscally sound budget, the main function of the school board is to ensure that the school district is responsive to the values, beliefs, and priorities of the community while managing the school in accordance with state and federal laws. I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve on the Board for the past few months, and I believe that the skills attained in my work experience in personnel, budgeting, evaluating performance, training, and report writing provide a solid background for the skills needed as part of a collaborative team working with other board members.

I encourage you to cast your vote for someone who is interested in what is best for our students and their educational achievement. It is OUR students, OUR community, that I wish to represent as a member of the Pittsfield School Board.

I would appreciate your vote on March 8, 2022. Thank you. *Sandra Adams*, P.O. Box 1, Pittsfield, NH 03263, (603) 435-8125

To the Citizens of Pittsfield,

My name is Sarah Marston Duval and I am seeking election to the Pittsfield School Board for a one-year term. I was born and raised in Pittsfield and graduated from PHS in 1997. From there, I attended the University of New Hampshire and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Communication in 2001. Professionally, I work in Administration at Concord Eye Center, where I have worked for 16 years and I am very involved in the American Society of Ophthalmic Administrators (ASOA), holding an elite credential called the Certified Ophthalmic Executive (COE) and I sit on the National Board for the Certification of Ophthalmic Executives, recently having been voted Vice President. I also hold a clinical certification, the Certified Ophthalmic Assistant (COA). I am very involved in various committees within ASOA and I am a contributing author to the industry magazine, Administrative Eyecare.

My son, John, is a seventh grader at PMHS, where he plays on the Middle School basketball and baseball teams. We live on the family farm on Webster Mills Rd. Growing up on the farm and around the school bus company instilled a strong work ethic in me as well as a love of family and community, which I will bring with me to the Board, should I be elected to serve.

I seek a seat on the Pittsfield School Board because I see the challenges that our school district faces, as well as its downfalls, and I want to be a part of the solution to help move us forward. I feel strongly that the curriculum needs to be improved from the bottom up, and that we need to focus on getting our Elementary students on grade level. That will, in turn, help to better position our high school students to ensure that they are well prepared for their future. I do not think that fault should lie solely on the high school and, given what I know currently, I am not in favor of closing Pittsfield High School. A school is the heartbeat of its community, and I believe that we can do the hard work to turn our high school around, and I ask for your vote on Tuesday,

Business Cards • Forms • Business Checks • Brochures Color Copies • Stationery • Graphic Design • Magnets Programs • Raffle Tickets • Rubber Stamps Wedding Invitations and Accessories • Bookmarks Full Color: Cards • Brochures • Flyers • Labels • Postcards Customized Promotional Items • Banners • Yard Signs



March 8, so that I may play a part in that process for the future of our town and our students. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, *Sarah Marston Duval*, 372 Webster Mills Road, Pittsfield, NH 03263 <u>pittsfield@gmail.com</u>

Want to see the pictures in color? Subscribe to receive the *Post* by Emai Go to: <u>www.PittsfieldPost.org</u> Or scan the QR code



Hello Pittsfield,

My name is Adam J. Cote and I have been a resident of Pittsfield for over six years. With four children of my own and three of them in the Pittsfield schools already, I have experienced and witnessed both positive and negative aspects of the town's school system. I do not have prior school board experience, but my work experience gives me a unique perspective that I feel would benefit the schools as I was a successful and respected mortgage broker for over ten years in the NH/MA area and have recently transitioned into the role of full-time Senior Pastor at Merrimack Valley Church in Epsom NH. Ethics, integrity, hard work, discipline, accountability, and being a straight-shooter are qualities that I value both on a personal and professional level and would display if on the Pittsfield School Board as well. One of the reasons why my wife and I were attracted to Pittsfield was due to its local school system and its small-town feel, but I also know that the school system is just a piece of the whole town. We must, as a town, make and keep plans that take care of the adult and elderly residents just as much as we do the children. If on the school board, my focus will not be solely on the school system at the expense of the town but will make sure my position and perspective is for the benefit of the whole Pittsfield township. Thank you for your consideration.

Adam J. Cote, 30 Manchester Street, Pittsfield, NH 03263, 603-361-8305

To the Pittsfield Community:

I would like to introduce myself as a candidate for the office of Pittsfield School District Clerk. My name is Erica Anthony and I am running for re-election. I am currently the Town Clerk/Tax Collector for the Town. I graduated from Pittsfield High School and continued my education at Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts, where I earned a Bachelor's Degree with a combined major in political science, economics and history. My current community involvement includes serving on the Blueberry Express Daycare Board of Directors and the Pittsfield Middle High School "Good to Great" team. I am a past Treasurer for the PMHS Booster Club, past Treasurer and President of the PES PTO, and past Treasurer for the First Congregational Church of Pittsfield.

I believe the experience I have gained as your current School District Clerk, your Town Clerk/Tax Collector and twenty plus years of experience in customer service will serve me well to continue in this role.

I appreciate this opportunity to introduce myself and express my interest in continuing to serve in this position. *Erica Anthony*

Hello Again Pittsfield Voters:

You may know me from working and volunteering here in Pittsfield. During the time I was employed as the Deputy Town Clerk Tax Collector I had the privilege of learning many different aspects of the election process. A little over a year ago I was appointed as a Supervisor of the Checklist and last year I ran for the position and was elected. This year I am running again because the term that I filled is now up for re-election. I have always enjoyed being a part of Election Day here in Pittsfield because of all of you!!! Seeing people come in and exercise their right to vote in sunshine filled days and on the days that we received 2 feet of snow.

I am asking for your vote again for the Supervisor of the Checklist position. I have many years of experience and have really enjoyed my time and would like to continue serving as a Supervisor of the Checklist. With my current employment for the City of Somersworth as their City Deputy Clerk part of my responsibilities includes preparing for Election Day. Which includes receiving and entering new voter registrations, preparing and

printing Checklist, and organizing and training of our election officials for Election Day.

I thank you for your time and consideration and hope to continue to serve you as a Supervisor of the Checklist. Ammy Ramsey

Supervisor of the Checklist

My name is Heidi Knight and I'm currently running for the Supervisor of the Checklist position and hope that you consider voting for me!

About myself: I have lived most of my life in Pittsfield. My mother and uncle grew up here as well. I've played on the basketball team from grade 6 thru 12. I worked at the school as a paraeducator for a few years, a job that I felt really made a difference and enjoyed! I have lived at 56 Tilton Hill Road for many years and am proud to be a Pittsfield native! I believe in my town and am eager to see everyone come election day! Sincerely, *Heidi Knight*

Select Board

My name is Carole Richardson and I am requesting your vote to be re-elected to the Select Board. I live at 595 Tilton Hill Road and have been a Pittsfield resident my entire life. I can be reached at 603-435-8351 and look forward to any and all inquiries regarding town government. I am a Pittsfield High School graduate and have a business degree from Franklin Pierce College. I was employed for over 30 years in the Office of the Legislative Budget Assistant where I worked closely with members of the House and Senate Finance Committees. Following my years at the State House I was an Administrator for the Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Board of Hearing Care Providers and Board of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors. I feel these work experiences have made me a valuable member of the Board.

I decided to seek re-election because there is much more to be accomplished. One of my major concerns when I initially ran for the seat was the high tax rate, especially for our seniors on a fixed income and our young families. During my tenure on the Board, we have stabilized the tax rate and continued to improve the appearance of our downtown. One of my concerns was the deterioration of our sidewalks. We now have a ten-year plan, and portions of the sidewalks are being replaced each year. We need to live within our budget and also plan for the future. This Board has a wonderful working relationship with our dedicated department heads and employees who are our greatest asset.

I also believe volunteers are the lifeblood of a community and something that everyone should consider doing. I always say don't complain if you are not out there trying to help Pittsfield be a better place, and what a great way to meet wonderful people. To list a few of my volunteer duties: I served as Secretary for the Pittsfield School Board and then was encouraged to run for a seat which I did, and served 6 years on that Board. I have been a library trustee, a member of the Pittsfield High School Alumni Association, a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for abused and neglected children, a member of the Master Plan Committee and Beautification Committee. My latest volunteer project was raising funds for the replacement of the Floral Park Cemetery Fence.

Thank you in advance for your continued support. I know we have many new residents in Pittsfield. I look forward to meeting you and hearing your questions and concerns. Please consider voting for me as your representative on the Select Board. *Carole Richardson*

To The Voters of Pittsfield,

I am asking for your vote for re-election to the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA).

I'm originally from Northwood and moved to Epsom as a teenager. As a young man I built my first house in Loudon in 1984. My wife Norma Leduc Konopka is a Pittsfield native, so when we decided to construct our forever home, we found a nice piece of property on Shaw Road and built our ranch. We love this town and with me having resided within a 10-mile radius of Pittsfield my entire life, living here is "being home" for both of us. Since building here in 2000, I've been part of the community by serving on the planning board, select board, zoning board and just about every committee in town. The training classes I have taken for the planning board, select board and zoning board have been very rewarding and educational experiences.

I have my own business that I started in 1984 (Konopka Floor Sanding) and have been very successful. I've been a woodworker my entire career, and take great pride in bringing the beauty in an old worn floor back to life. Floor care is more than a job to me- it is a passion.

The ZBA should be known as a fair arbiter on questions of variances and special exceptions and as a decision maker to move things along in a way that promotes a healthy business climate while protecting the rights of all property owners. I promise to treat everyone with respect, dignity, and fairness and to be aware of the value of time to all affected (both applicants and abutters) by a hearing. I'm a "down to earth" guy and will treat everyone that way.

Larry Konopka, 160 Shaw Road, Pittsfield 603-848-8299

Select Board

I'm running for a third term on the Board of Selectmen. Before I first ran in 2016, I had little experience in politics, local or otherwise. I always seemed to be too busy making a living. However, this is my hometown, (my parents were renting an apartment on Chestnut St. when I was born in 1952) and I felt compelled to try to change what I felt needed changing. There's a lot to appreciate about our town, and affordably preserving and building upon those things has been my priority while serving these past six years as selectman.

Change would have been impossible if it wasn't for the other members of our Board, all of whom continue to serve the town. The time involved is far more than I had anticipated but we all do our part to share the load evenly. We don't always agree, but we are respectful of each other's positions and when the meetings are over, majority rules and we part friends, always with what is in the best interest of the town - first, last and always.

It's helpful that we all know Pittsfield as well as we do. We appreciate that we have a village center and we have made some real progress in revitalizing the downtown and Main St. areas. Our successes have not blinded us into thinking we can't continue to make progress on many fronts. I'm proud to be a part of a Board of Selectmen that is unafraid to tackle the hard questions. A noticeable increase in cooperation among all the town's boards and committees is allowing us to accomplish good things. Serving as a selectman is now a pleasant experience, which I'd like to continue and to be part of this ongoing success.

Carl Anderson, 108 Berry Pond Rd. Email Canderson@pittsfieldnh.gov.

School District Ballot Description Part One

The Pittsfield School Board has put forward a budget of \$10,165,083, this is a reduction of \$247,981 over the current budget. The Default Budget is greater than the proposed budget at \$10,246,271, so if the budget fails it will cost the taxpayers of Pittsfield more than the proposed budget. The Budget Committee has voted to recommend the budget by a vote of eight yes votes and one no vote.

There are 3 major reasons for the decrease in the budget

- The District replaced more than 20 positions for staff who left at a lower cost than the staff budgeted. None of the positions removed from the budget last year were added to the current staff.
- A reduction in health and dental insurance rates
- · Removing the one time expenditures approved by the voters in September

The budget does add the following:

- A replacement program for technology and furniture
- A Family and Consumer Science teacher required to meet minimum standards of the State
- Installing tile at PES and removal of old carpet
- Some repairs at both PES and PMHS
- 3% anticipated increase in utilities

The School Board has also come to an agreement for a new contract with the Education Association of Pittsfield. This Budget Committee has recommended this contract with a vote of 7 yes votes one no vote and one abstention. The cost of the contract in the first year is \$121,119. The District lost about 20% of the teaching staff to other Districts last year. The main reason was the low pay scale the District offered. This new contract makes us more competitive with other area districts and will help us keep as well as attract quality staff.

The last warrant article that has a cost is to add \$3,000 to the Dumpster Replacement Capital Reserve Fund. The Budget Committee vote to recommend this with a vote of eight yes votes and one abstention. The District is using dumpsters borrowed from the Transfer Station, we need to purchase our own.

The total cost for these three warrant articles is \$123,862 less than the current budget. So if all these pass, the citizens of Pittsfield will see a decrease in the tax rate for the coming fiscal year.

If you have questions, please look at the District website for more information or reach out to Bryan Lane, Superintendent of Schools at 603-435-5526. *Superintendent Bryan Lane* (Part Two will be included in the Post on March 2.)



Cook's Corner

Sweet & Sour Chicken (Nuggets) with Cashews

Who doesn't have a bag of chicken nuggets in the freezer? If for some reason you don't have a bag of 'nuggies', go get one, because here's a fun idea to make a delicious meal. I came up with this idea years ago, when my daughters were young. This was an easy school-night dinner to pull together. I had forgotten about this one, until last week when one of my girls called and asked me for the recipe. I hope you and your family will enjoy this one too. Use whole grain brown rice, if possible (it's healthier than white rice); bake up a pan of frozen egg rolls or saute some pot stickers to serve alongside.

18 ounces frozen chicken nuggets

1/2 cup apricot jam

- 2 TBSP soy sauce
- 2 TBSP cider vinegar
- 2 tsp grated fresh ginger (or from a tube of ginger, in the produce section)
- 1 TBSP vegetable oil
- 4 stalks of celery, thinly sliced on a diagonal
- 1/2 pound of fresh snow peas
- 1 chili pepper, seeded & sliced (such as serrano or jalapeno)
- ¹/₂ cup cashews
- 2 scallions, thinly sliced
- Cooked rice, brown or white, for serving

Cook the rice according to package directions.

Meanwhile cook the chicken nuggets according to package directions, but if there's an option to pan fry them – do that – otherwise bake in the oven.

In a small bowl, make the sauce. Whisk together the apricot jam, soy sauce, vinegar and ginger. Set aside

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the celery and cook, stirring for 2 minutes. Add the snow peas and chili pepper and cook, stirring, until vegetables are just tender, about 1 to 2 minutes.

Add the cooked chicken, sauce and cashews and toss to coat. Serve over rice with the sliced scallions.

If you prefer things a little saucier, double the sauce ingredients (apricot jam, soy, vinegar and ginger). Enjoy! - *MP Christakos*

Classifieds

Pittsfield Community Center Function Rooms available for Rent Days, Nights, Weekends. Call 603-435-6729 for information

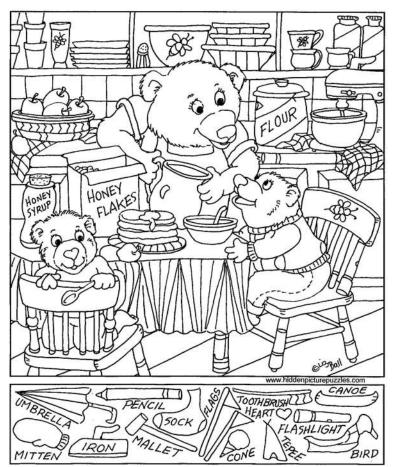
Help Wanted Senior Center Coordinator

The Pittsfield Senior Center is looking for a coordinator that will assist the Resource Manager with the day-to-day operations of the senior center. The hours are Monday through Friday, morning and early afternoons, 25 hours per week. Perfect hours to work around school children's schedules. If interested contact the center at 603-435-8482 or send an email to <u>cschiferle@capbm.org</u> You also may submit your resume at <u>https://www.capbm.org/careers</u>

Pittsfield Head Start

Is accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. If you have a child that will be 3 or 4 by September 30, 2022, and want to learn more about our **free** preschool program, please call Crystal at 603-225-3295 ext. 1127 or email Headstart@capbm.org.

Bears at Breakfast Hidden Pictures



MARCH 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mondays, 10am Library Story Hour 10am-6pm Josiah Carpenter Library 11am-2pm, 4-6pm Pittsfield Food Pantry 11am-7pm Town Hall
- Tuesdays, 12:30-6pm Josiah Carpenter Library 10am-4pm Pittsfield Clothes Closet 8am-4pm Town Hall
- Wednesdays, 12:30-6pm Josiah Carpenter Library 10-4pm Pittsfield Clothes Closet 1-4pm Town Hall
- Thursdays, 10am Library Story Hour 11am-2pm Pittsfield Food Pantry 10am-6pm Josiah Carpenter Library 8am-4pm Town Hall
- Fridays, 8am-4pm Town Hall 1:50-2:40 PMHS Food Pantry
- Saturdays, 10am-2pm Josiah Carpenter Library 10am-1pm Pittsfield Clothes Closet

1, Tuesday, 9-11am Diaper Pantry, First Congregational Church

2, Wednesday, 6:30pm Suncook Valley Rotary Club Meeting, Pittsfield Historical Society

7pm Suncook Valley Sno Riders Monthly Meeting, St. George Auto Body, High Street

3, Thursday, 6pm Zoning Board of Adjustment, Town Hall

4, Friday, 6:30pm Family Movie Night, Joy Church

5, Saturday, 5-7:30pm Pittsfield Fire Association and Support Group Spaghetti Supper, Fire Station

7, Monday, 7:30pm American Legion Peterson-Cram Post #75 meeting, Town Hall

8, Town of Pittsfield and School District Election Day, 7am-7pm, PMHS Gym

6:15pm Parks and Recreation meeting, Town Hall

9, Wednesday, 5pm Community Development Committee, Town Hall

10, Thursday, 7pm Planning Board meeting, Town Hall

12, Saturday, 8:30am Community Breakfast, Joy Church

14, Monday, 5:30pm Soup's On, First Congregational Church

6pm Pittsfield Elementary Parent Teacher Organization meeting, PES

15, Tuesday, 9-11am Diaper Pantry, First Congregational Church

16, Wednesday, 10:30am Library Trustees meeting, Josiah Carpenter Library

7pm Suncook Valley Rotary Club meeting, Pittsfield Historical Society

17, Thursday, 5:30pm School Board meeting, PMHS Media Center

7pm Godspell Jr., Scenic Theatre

- 18, Friday, 7pm Godspell Jr., Scenic Theatre
- 19, Saturday, 7pm Godspell Jr., Scenic Theatre

22, Tuesday, 6pm Selectboard meeting, Town Hall

23, Wednesday, 5pm Community Development Committee meeting, Town Hall

6-7:30pm NHHEAF Applying to College 101 for HS Juniors, PMHS Media Center

24, Thursday, 6pm Planning Board Work Session, Town Hall

7pm Conservation Commission meeting, Town Hall

25, Friday, 10am *Pittsfield Post* Volunteer Meeting, Community Center

Do you have a meeting or event you want to share? Email: pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org

The Post is Counting on You!

Dear Readers:The *Post* needs your help to keep printing this weekly publication. When you're thinking about supporting our community, please send us a donation! Checks should be made out to: **Pittsfield Center Development Corporation, memo:** *Pittsfield Post,* **P.O. Box 253, Pittsfield, NH 03263. Thank you**!