"Perhaps Christmas doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more."  Dr. Seuss

Hello from the PMHS National Honor Society

We are running a food drive to supplement the supply of food, beverages, and toiletries in our school’s food pantry, from now until December 21st. It is important to the National Honor Society that PHMS students are provided for over the holiday break. If you would like to support our school community and the National Honor Society, donations are greatly needed. Please bring them to boxes located at the following locations in town:

- PMHS Front Office
- Pittsfield Youth Workshop
- Josiah Carpenter Library
- Main Street Variety
- Bell Brothers
- Diomedes Restaurant

All donations are appreciated! Thank you for your generosity! Sincerely, the PMHS National Honor Society.

Pittsfield Chamber says Thank YOU!

The Greater Pittsfield Chamber of Commerce would like to THANK ALL the organizations, volunteers and community members that worked to make the annual Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration a great success.

THANK YOU.....PES PTO for hosting Breakfast with Santa and the Vendor/Craft Fair. Suncook Valley Rotary Club (Fawn Byers) and PMHS Boys & Girls Basketball teams (Jay Darrah) for sponsoring the Children's Store for the holiday break. **Pittsfield Players for Christmas Caroling. **Stoneboat Farm for Horse & wagon rides, **Cookie donations from the Victory Workers 4-H Club, Circle of Home & Family members, Pittsfield Main Street Variety and Paul Rogers, **Parks & Recreation Committee for donation of cocoa, **Roberta Maxfield & Robin O’Malley: Cocoa making & serving, **Pittsfield Police Association (Jay & Heidi Darrah) – Popcorn, **Bob Giegerich for being an amazing Santa, **Clayton Wood – Pictures with Santa, **Pittsfield Youth Workshop for inside space for Santa, Hot food and Gingerbread House display & raffle, **Josiah Carpenter Library Staff, Holiday Storytime, **Volunteers that made all the Hot food – Ed & Laurie Vien, Dawn Facella, Kathy Kelley, Leslie Vogt, Ashley Perron, Zach Powers, & Jen Walter, **Liz Dimmick – for serving the hot food all night, **Granite Image for Poster design and printing, **Pittsfield Fire Department, Pittsfield Police Department, **Corinthian Lodge Masons – Donation of Christmas Tree for raffle.

A Special Thank you to Louie Houle and Bob Bradley for decorating the TWO Christmas Trees and Hanging the Wreaths, and Fuzz Freese and Trent for decorating the gazebo AND Mark Riel for all the behind the scenes help with all the logistics I could not do it without you!! Andi Riel
**Town Crier**
To have an event included in this column, call Andi Riel at 603-435-6346 or email pittfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com

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

The town of Pittsfield’s Winter Parking Ban on town roads is effective November 15th 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.

**NEW Hours** at the Senior Center! Monday & Thursdays – 8-2pm and Wednesdays 7:30am –1:00pm. Activities include: Senior Community Lunch – M & TH at 12pm; Bingo M & TH – 10-11:45am; Cribbage & Games – W-10-12pm; 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 or if you have questions, call Anne at 603-435-8482.

**Thursday, December 21, 9:30am** Christmas Party at the Senior Center. Please join us and spend some special time together. Schedule: 9:00-9:30am Chair Yoga, 9:30-10:00am Snacks & Chit Chat, 10:00-11:00am Bingo, 11:00am-12:00pm Yankee swap. No more than a $10 gift. The Center will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday.

**The Pittsfield Historical Society 2024 Calendar** is now available for purchase at the Town Hall, Library and the Museum and the cost is $15. The theme for the 2024 calendar is “Hotels, Boarding Houses, Resorts, Retreats and Summer Camps.

**Join us every Sunday for BINGO** hosted by Pittsfield Youth Baseball/Softball Association. They have a great menu of food items along with their games and it all benefits the children of Pittsfield for their baseball/softball program. Doors open at noon and bingo starts at 2:30pm at 48 Airport Road in Concord.

**Sunday Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, 9:30am** at the Joy Church, 55 Barnstead Rd. will hold their service with a Children’s Christmas Pageant. Join your friends and neighbors and bring the whole family to a wonderful traditional candlelight service

**Sunday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, 7 pm,** at the First Congregational Church, 24 Main Street, Pittsfield. The service includes beautiful music by the Chancel Choir and the JuBellation Handbell Choir, scripture lessons, the story of the first Christmas, the sanctuary shimmering in candlelight and the singing of “Silent Night.” Include this lovely evening service in your holiday plans. Parking and wheelchair access are available at the rear of the church at Chestnut Street. For more information, call the church office at 603 435-7471.

**Happy Birthday** wishes to Bob Giegerich on Monday Dec. 18, Aunt Carolyn Davis on Tuesday, Dec. 19; to Rich Hillsgrove on Wednesday, Dec. 20 and to my nephew, Tim Riel on Saturday, Dec. 23. I Hope you all enjoy your special day. **Happy Anniversary** wishes to Fred & Liz Hast on Monday, Dec. 18.
What activities are you engaged in? I am engaged in my job. I know that is such a silly thing to say. However, my job is preparing me for what I want to be in the future, so it's not even like a job is going somewhere I have the most fun.

What are some extracurricular activities that you are involved in? Some extracurricularly, I am involved in soccer and softball. Then for school clubs and organizations, I am not part of any that you have listed simply because the times that they meet is either during content block which is during the time I am at CRTC (Concord Regional Technical Center), or it is something you need to be asked to join, in which I have never been asked to join any of those. However, I feel I do play a good role, last year I may have not been a president or vice president, but I played a big role on prom committee and I was the main fundraiser, and this year I may not be president or vice president but I am helping plan senior trip, and I am filling out all the papers for fundraising.

What motivates you? Well it depends on the thing. I have different reasons, for school I am motivated because one I want to graduate but also I want to be successful with my dreams. I am motivated in taking a lead role in fundraising and helping plan senior trip because I don't want to disappoint the people in my grade. I want them all to enjoy the last year we all have together. Then lastly sports, sports is a difficult one because I love playing so much however I don't have many friends so it makes a kind of lonely however I love all of the memories I get from them and the special bonds you get with the sports, so I guess the feeling you get when you succeed in the sport is what motivates me.

What is your favorite class? It's really tough to choose my favorite class, simply because all of them are silly in their own way. But if I had to choose a class it would probably be English. Mrs. Carson has her class setup so it is welcoming, fun and calm, which makes me want to be there all day.

What school events are you looking forward to? I am looking forward to all of the school events. Competition is so much fun especially when you are the one who wins. During these events you can see your class come together and actually enjoy the times. These events make for wonderful memories and so many laughs. Also prom I am so ready to be going down. I also hope more people do that this year because I was one of the only ones last year. Then I am also really to see all of the hard work I've put in for senior trip come together (I know that is not right to say but so far I've pushed the hardest in our little planning groups to get stuff done).
Cook's Corner
Chocolate Bundt Cake

Were you looking for that one special dessert to serve for Christmas, something different? Here's your solution. This cake is divine, truly divine. You can use a regular Bundt pan, but if you have a decorative, fluted one, it will make a lovely presentation piece. One of my favorite ways to serve this decadent dessert is with a scoop of three or good quality vanilla ice cream, or whipped cream and a few generous spoonfuls of macerated fresh raspberries (berries tossed in a little bit of sugar). If there’s any leftover, you might consider putting a slice out for Santa. I hear he loves his chocolate cake! Don’t forget to put out carrots and celery sticks for Santa’s reindeer. I still believe....

Please accept my warmest and very best wishes to you and yours for a lovely holiday. Merry, Merry and Ho! Ho! Ho! Mp Christakos

Unsweetened cocoa powder
2 cups all purpose flour
1 tsp baking soda
½ tsp salt
4 oz unsweetened chocolate, chopped (about 2/3 cup)
¾ cup butter (1 & ½ sticks), softened
1 cup granulated sugar
¾ cup packed brown sugar
3 eggs, room temperature
1 & ½ tsp vanilla extract
1 & ¼ cup water

Heat oven to 325. Generously grease a 10 inch fluted tube pan (Bundt pan). Add cocoa powder. Shake and tilt pan to generously coat bottom, sides and tube; shake out any excess.

Stir together flour, baking soda, and salt in a medium bowl. In a small bowl, microwave unsweetened chocolate in 30-second intervals, 1 to 2 minutes or until melted, stirring until smooth. Cool slightly.

Place butter in a large bowl. Beat on medium to high 30 seconds. Add granulated sugar and brown sugar. Beat until combined. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add melted chocolate and vanilla; beat until well combined. Alternately add flour mixture and water to the chocolate mixture, beat on low after each addition just until combined. Pour into prepared pan, spreading evenly.

Bake 55 to 60 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool in the pan on a wire rack 15 minutes. Remove cake from the pan; cool completely on a wire rack. Sift the powdered sugar over the top of the cake.

One of my favorite ways to serve this decadent cake is with a scoop of good quality vanilla ice cream and a few spoonfuls of macerated raspberries (berries tossed in a little a sugar). Yum-O!