

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE WEEKLY PRODUCTION BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

"Gravity cannot be held responsible for people falling in love."

- Albert Einstein

FEBRUARY 16, 2022

The Pride of a Woodworker

Why bother writing about a list of objects crafted by students in 1921? Because the Pittsfield Schools weren't doing particularly well in most areas of concern. That's why I'm going to talk about a dedicated teacher who was willing to inspire so many others!

Howell Potter was the manual arts teacher for 98 students in the grammar and high schools. He taught both blacksmithing and woodworking, but we'll focus on the latter.

The following projects were made in the woodworking department: 4 library tables, 1 cabinet table for public library, 5 smoking cabinets, 1 umbrella stand, 3 hall trees, 1 taboret, 4 match holders, 3 checker boards, 3 oak sewing cabinets, 2 box traps, 2 card index cabinets, 1 rabbit trap, 5 bread boards, 14 cake and meat boards, 6 letter holders, 25 pin trays, 9 knife boxes, 2 milking stools, 22 coat hangers, 1 weather vane, 26 hammer handles, 7 clothes hangers, 2 dibbles, 15 broom handles, 2 foot rests, and 6 medicine cabinets.

Students were also instrumental in making many repairs to chairs, desks, and other fixtures for the grade and high schools.

Potter commented in the January 31, 1922 annual report, "You will see work that is modern in conception, educating in psychological sequence, economic in proportion to its intrinsic and commercial value, and practical in its applications to daily life."

My father-in-law, Clifton S. Cram, was a student that year. It's highly probable he crafted his oak library table as his project.

For a short time, Clifton taught manual arts in PA. He soon returned to Pittsfield for other pursuits, but utilized his skills for years at home and at the family cottage.

The biggest worry was the rickety old ladders that he used on structural projects. So for me, "He was shaky on a ladder, but masterful with a piece of wood."

Perhaps Potter instilled a sense of pride for a job well-done. I'd certainly like to think so, anyway. *Jean Cram*



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

Wednesday, February 16 - Suncook Valley Rotary Club has moved their meeting time from 7 to 6:30 pm. Meetings are held every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Pittsfield Historical Society, and they are pleased to announce that hybrid participation is now available.

Tuesday, February 22, 2022: Notice is hereby given in accordance with NH RSA 31:95-e that the Board of Selectmen will conduct a hearing to receive public comment concerning the acceptance of a Nitrox Pump for the Fire Department from the Pittsfield Firefighters' Association, as the value is in excess of \$5,000. The public hearing will be held at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, at the Town Office, 85 Main Street, Pittsfield, NH 03263.

Absentee ballot applications are available at the Town Clerk's office, or may be printed from the town website pittsfieldnh.gov 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.

The First Congregational Church Dorcas Guild bids Congratulations to the winners of the Quilt Raffle held February 6. The winner of the "Sweet Dreams" quilt was Sonia Noyes. Second prize winner of the handmade woven basket was Janet Hart. Third prize winner of the quilted table runner was Reverend Steven Small. The Dorcas Guild thanks everyone for their participation!

Enjoy the Pittsfield StoryWalk, Now that the sun is gaining strength, check out the book *Snowmen All Year* by Caralyn Buehner. Stroll through the downtown, reading the story in 16 locations. Maps may be picked up in the mailbox attached to the bulletin board on Main Street at Dustin's Park. When you're done, visit the library to celebrate your accomplishment!

Pittsfield Senior Center News Book Club Friday, Feb 25, at 10am - Let's get together to read and talk about books. The first meeting will be just a discussion about what books the group would like to read and discuss throughout the year. The club plans to meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

Calling all Walkers! Do you want a safe, flat, and temperature-controlled place to walk? Come to the Pittsfield Senior Center. The center is now located on Barnstead Road, sharing large warehouse space with

Joy Church; 8 laps inside is about 1 mile! The Center hours are Monday thru Friday, 8am -2pm, walking every day **except** Monday and Thursday from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Come on in and exercise safely.

Volunteers Are Always Welcome and Needed at the Senior Center!! The work is easy and gratifying, and only takes one to two hours a week.

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 rights 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.

PHS Alumni Association is looking for NEW members If you are a PHS alumni and are interested in joining the leadership committee of the Alumni Association (only 4 meetings per year), please email us at PHSAlumni@pittsfieldnhschools.org We would love to have you join us.

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. 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.

Happy Birthday wishes to Sherry Belcastro Simoneau and Sophia Cormier last Monday, and to Patty Houle on Friday. I hope you all enjoy your special day.

Calling All Bingo Players



Parks and Recreation's Winterfest Candy Bar Bingo will be held on Saturday, February 26, from 1-3 in the Function Room at the Pittsfield Community Center. (Broadway Street entrance) Everyone is welcome to come play Bingo and win candy bars. Come join the fun!

When the students become the teachers!

Miss Bickford's PES scientists have been studying the human body. To demonstrate their learning, students created lapbooks. A lapbook is a fun, interactive way to display information. The 5th graders ventured out of their classroom to share their knowledge with Mrs. Medeiros' kindergarten class and Miss Simpson's first grade class. The younger students were active listeners while the older students gained practice in communicating their learning for their young audience. It was a heartwarming experience! *Miss Bickford*



Kid's Theater Workshop Presents **GODSPELL, JR.**

The Pittsfield Players' Kids' Theater Workshop will present *Godspell, Jr.* at the Scenic Theatre, 6 Depot St., Pittsfield, NH on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 17, 18, and 19, at 7pm each evening. Tickets, which are \$12 for adults and \$8 for kids under 12, are on sale now, and may be purchased through the players' website pittsfieldplayers.org or reserved by calling 603-435-8852.

The original *Godspell* was the first major musical theater offering from three-time Grammy and Academy Award winner Stephen Schwartz, and it took the world by storm.

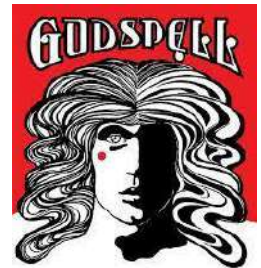
It tells the story of Jesus and his disciples as they make different parables come to life. *Godspell, Jr.* is a shortened adaptation for kids from the original Broadway show. The show has a variety of songs in different styles from pop to rap to vaudeville that are used to tell the story of Jesus' life and his messages of kindness, tolerance, and love.

Abraham Marcotte will be playing the role of Jesus in this presentation, and Biagio Donini will play the role of Judas. The ensemble cast includes Grey Dunlap, Natalie Cowser, Alinda Jacques, Cecily Schultz, Wyatt Rhymer, Alyssa Weaver, Benjamin Tedcastle, Carly Griffin, Rose Kadish, Kaylyn John-Zensky, Molly Vignola, and Annelissa Marcotte. Christopher Tedcastle will be handling lights and Victoria Cowser will be handling sound.

The show is directed by Maye Hart and Dee Dee Douglas, who is also choreographing the show. Meg Rhymer is assistant director, and Jim Hart is set coordinator and lighting designer. Cathy Williams is handling costumes.

The Kids' Theater Workshop is a program for ages 8 to 18, designed to introduce kids to all aspects of theater production, from acting and singing and dancing to set construction and decoration, to lighting, sound and costuming. For over 25 years, the program has successfully introduced many youngsters to the discipline of theater arts.

Don't miss this fabulous show by our very talented young cast! *Maye Hart*





Cook's Corner

Chicken Parmesan Meatballs

Here's a favorite from our kitchen that I hope you will also enjoy. The list of ingredients looks a little long-ish, but I promise, these meatballs are super easy to make. We typically serve these over cooked farfalle pasta (bow tie shape) or penne. Throw a nice salad alongside and crusty rolls to soak up the yummy sauce. These also freeze well. If you plan to freeze them, omit the shredded Mozzarella when baking. Save the Mozzarella and the Panko crumb topping for when you reheat. Mangia, my friends!

- 5 TBSP olive oil, divided
- 5 cloves garlic, sliced thin
- 1 (28 oz) can crushed tomatoes
- 1 (15 oz) can tomato sauce
- 2 & ¼ tsp dried oregano, divided
- 1 & ½ tsp salt, divided
- ¼ tsp red pepper flakes
- 25 Ritz crackers, crushed (about 1 cup when crushed)
- 2 & ½ cups grated Parmesan cheese, divided
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 2 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp black pepper
- 2 lbs ground chicken
- 2 cups shredded Mozzarella cheese
- 1 cup Panko breadcrumbs
- ¼ cup torn or roughly chopped fresh basil

Heat 3 Tbsp olive oil in a large skillet over medium high heat. Add sliced garlic and cook until lightly browned, about 1 minute. Stir in crushed tomatoes, tomato sauce, ¼ tsp oregano, ¼ tsp salt and the red pepper flakes. Bring to a simmer, reduce heat to medium low and cook until slightly thickened, about 10 to 15 minutes. Stir from time to time. Remove from heat, cover and keep warm.

Heat oven to 350. Adjust rack to the middle position.

In a large bowl, combine cracker crumbs, 2 cups of Parmesan cheese, beaten egg, garlic powder, black pepper, remaining 2 tsp oregano and 1 tsp salt. Add the ground chicken and mix with your hands until well combined. Divide the mixture into 20 portions (about ¼ cup per meatball) and transfer to a lightly greased 9 x 13 baking dish.

Pour the sauce over the meatballs, then sprinkle the Mozzarella on top. Bake until meatballs register 160 degrees and the cheese is melted and beginning to brown, about 40 to 45 minutes. Let cool for 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, combine Panko, remaining 2 Tbsp of oil and remaining salt in a bowl. Microwave until the Panko is golden brown, 1 to 3 minutes, stirring every 30 seconds. (Or you could toast the Panko mixture in a small skillet).

Sprinkle the meatballs with the Panko mixture add remaining ½ cup Parmesan cheese and top with the fresh chopped basil.

Supervisors of the Checklist Session

Saturday, February 26, 9-9:30am

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

Calling all Maple Syrup Recipes



Do you have treasured Maple Syrup Recipes to share? The Post is running a maple syrup series in March to celebrate the sugaring season! If you have recipes with maple syrup as a key ingredient, please send them to us with your contact information .

pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org

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 who 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 cschiferle@capbm.org You also may submit your resume at <https://www.capbm.org/careers>

School Board Update

The School Board meeting on February 3rd had a full agenda. In addition to his report and data surrounding discipline, PES Principal Mike Wiley told the board about the PTO sponsored literacy night that is coming up Wednesday, February 23, from 5:30-7:30 at PES. PMHS Principal Derek Hamilton shared highlights from student work during the Winter Showcase surrounding Learning Studios from the first semester.

Superintendent Bryan Lane updated the board on Covid related protocols and his proposal for a new teacher evaluation system. Additionally, he shared the information from Team Design Herriman about a feasibility study to determine costs for retrofitting PMHS if PES were to be moved into the building. The board voted to move forward with this study to ensure that the community had all of the information regarding costs if there were to be a tuitioning agreement for high school students in the future.

There was extensive discussion surrounding a proposal for a community member curriculum review committee. Mrs. Diane Rider will revise her proposal for the next board meeting.

On Thursday, February 10, the Board presented the School District warrant articles at a well-attended Deliberative Session. There were no changes made at the Deliberative Session; however, the board will review the language surrounding tax impact (which was brought forward by a concerned citizen) to ensure that information is as transparent and accurate as possible on the warrant.

As always, we encourage people to attend our next meeting, Thursday, February 17th at 5:30pm at PMHS. Molly Goggin mollymoultonbrooks@gmail.com
603-387-1396

Grow, Learn, Read Daily Activity Josiah Carpenter Library

THE MORE WE GET TOGETHER

The more we get together

Together, together

The more we get together

The happier we'll be

'Cause your friends are my friends

And my friends are your friends

The more we get together

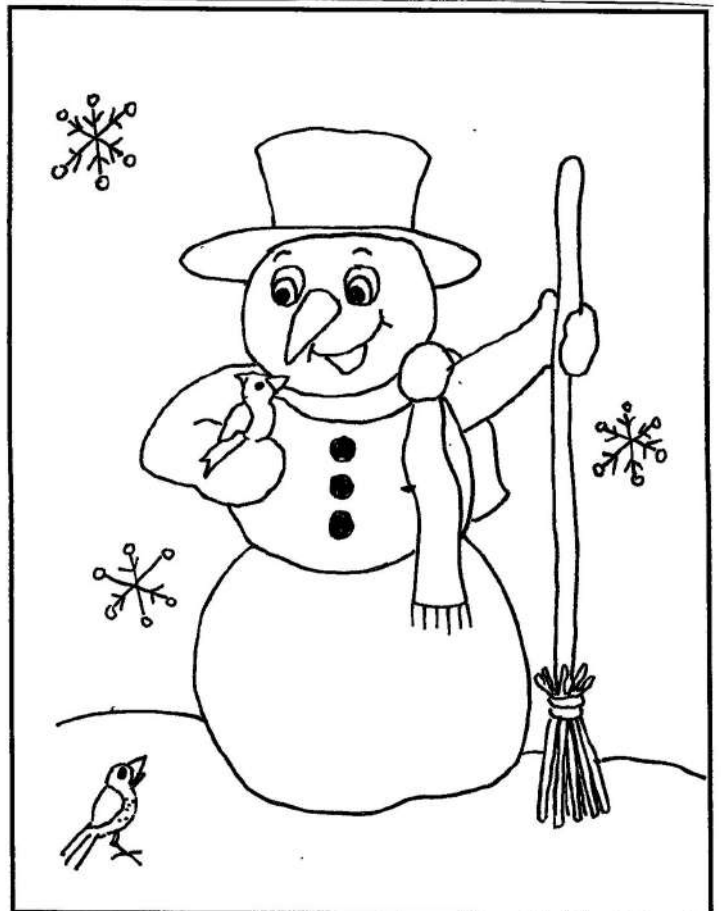
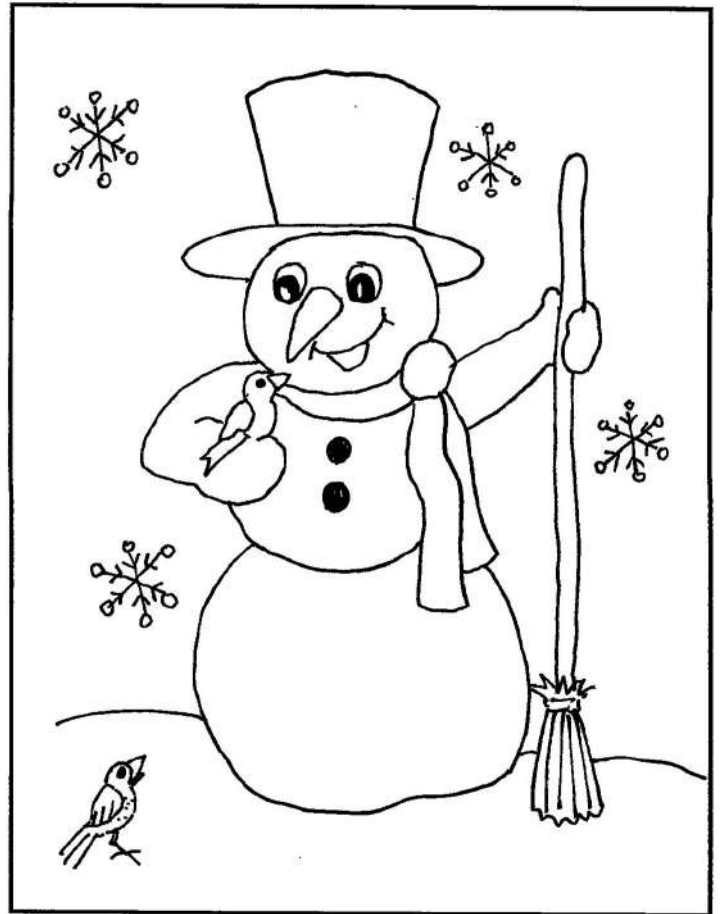
The happier we'll be

16 SINGING

Sing or Say "The More We Get Together."

(Words are on the back. ➔)

Snowman Find the Difference



Selectboard Review February 8, 2022

The "deliberative session" of Town Meeting was held last Saturday to just a small (count them on your fingers) group of taxpayers, with just two questions asked regarding the Warrant Articles- and no amendments to any Article. The budget process started last summer with members of the Capital Improvement Plan meeting multiple times over the course of months, interviewing department heads, reviewing upcoming town needs for the next 10 years, and coming up with a plan to put away money for these needs to minimize radical tax impact in any given year. That recommendation went to the Board of Selectmen who then spent weeks laboring over the proposed budget, again interviewing department heads, balancing the needs with what taxpayers could be asked to pay. The Selectboard's budget then went to the Budget Committee which spent more grueling weeks scrutinizing every penny that will ultimately be asked for in the warrant. Under the old town meeting process, these items were discussed, information shared and then voted on right then. Maybe 150 people would show up and make the decisions for the entire town. Under SB2, the voting takes place at the ballot box by a more substantial number of voters. That would be ok, except that almost none of those voters have actually heard any reasons for or against the articles, and most have no first-hand knowledge of any of it. Months and months of intense financial scrutiny trying to balance wants and needs with sound judgment can be undone at the ballot box. When you vote, hopefully you'll keep in mind that the CIP, the Selectboard, and the Budget Committee are all taxpayers themselves and have all done their level best to keep Pittsfield an affordable place to live while still keeping the town operating properly. *Carl Anderson*

To my constituents in Pittsfield,

This week, the House continued with committee work. My committee voted out eighteen bills, including two we heard this week: we rejected HB 1321, repealing all the changes we had made to the governor's emergency powers in the last year, including the sponsor's HB 1037; and HB 1545, requiring a film database, since the sponsor found Travel & Tourism already uses one!

HB 1535, which granted a cost of living increase to people retired at least 5 years, was amended and recommended to pass. The amendment left the current year increase, but deleted the retirement system's mandate to give future increases based on Social Security's increases. That was estimated to have about a \$2 billion dollar cost increase, and the vast majority of that would be paid through our local property taxes. It also required that the initial increase be funded from this year's surplus, so there would be no property tax impact at all.

We sent several bills to interim study, seeing merit in the idea but not agreeing on the details: my HB 1191, allowing homeowners to work on duplexes as well as single family homes; HB 1429, licensing massage establishments; HB 1444, registering medical spas; and HB 1566, on the prescription drug affordability board. These bills would have gone to a second committee, so we'd run out of time to work on them now.

Anyone interested can email me for my weekly newsletter, with all the details!

Representative Carol McGuire,
mcguire4house@gmail.com 782-4918

Find the Difference Answers

- 1 Top hat
- 2 Eye brows
- 3 Eyes
- 4 Buttons
- 5 Broom
- 6 Bird in hand
- 7 Scarf
- 8 # of snowflakes
- 9 Bottom left snowflakes
- 10 Wing on bird on ground

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

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