

# PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE WEEKLY PRODUCTION BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

"Springtime is the awakening. The March winds are the morning yawn."

Lewis Grizzard

MARCH 9, 2022

## Growing Up in Pittsfield *The Grocery Stores* By Margie Lank

My mother, Beverly Adams, worked at the First National Store right here in Pittsfield. If you never heard of the First National Stores, they were one of the big corporate grocery stores of the time. Mom had two children to support and was grateful for getting a job at the Store. The Store was where the Main Street Bar & Grill is now, without the part where the bar is. Tootie Dailey was the store manager and Mom was the assistant manager because she was the only other full-time employee. She also had to join the meat cutters' union because using the slicer for cold cuts qualified as cutting meat. So, during the time she worked there, she was making a good salary.

As you can imagine, it was a small store and there weren't any carts to fill up and push around the store. But that wasn't a problem. One reason is that quite a bit of the items were behind the counters on shelves that went from the floor and nearly up to the ceiling. You went in with a list and either gave it to whoever was waiting on you, or you just told them what you needed and they got it for you. I remember that there was a long stick with a set of 'pincers' on the very end that could reach up to the top shelf and grab the product. If memory serves me correctly, there was an island in the middle of the store where some products were displayed; shoppers would likely pick out items themselves. I think lots of people didn't shop for a week's worth of groceries at a time. They would go to the store when they needed something and it was easily carried home in paper bags.

Times changed and the First National pulled out of Pittsfield. Just down the street where Pittsfield's Main Street Variety is now, was the A&P, and when the First National left town, it moved into the larger store. Mom went to work for store Manager Mel Severance at the A&P. This store was more modern. There were more people working there taking care of the produce department, the meat department and the two, TWO checkouts!. There were teenage boys who stocked the shelves, and bagged the groceries when needed. Elaine Wilson Mahana worked there as a cashier; Larry Berkson was one of the stock boys.



The checkout stations included the coffee grinders where the cashier would grind the bag of whole coffee beans for you. I remember one busy Saturday when I felt sick and wanted my Mommy. I went up to the store and Mom let me stand near her at the checkout until it was time for her lunch break. After a while, I took it upon myself to give her a hand and grind the coffee beans for her. I'd seen her do it many times and it was not complicated. You dump whole beans into the grinder, put the empty bag under the shoot and push the button to start the grind. You can guess what happened next: I turned on the grinder before I had the empty bag ready to catch the ground coffee... on a busy Saturday morning.

Fridays were busy too, and Mom used to work late on Friday nights. My Nana and Puppy (I always called him Puppy which I think was my interpretation of Papa) took care of me. Mom would go to their house for supper (dinner was at noon, supper in the evening). When it was time for her to go back to work, I would walk with her up to Nobles (later Van Horn's Spa.) I could pick out a comic book, typically *Casper the Friendly Ghost*, early on. (Nana didn't want any *Donald Duck* in the house. When he got upset and we couldn't understand what he was saying, she was convinced that he was swearing!) As I got older, and more sophisticated, I'd pick *Archie and Friends*. I could also get a half pint of hand-packed ice cream, always coffee flavor. Mom would go back to work and I'd return to Nana's. I loved Friday nights!

*To be continued next week.....*

**Town Crier** Andrea Riel 603-435-6346  
[pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com](mailto:pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com)

**Pittsfield Food Pantry** has been selected by Hannaford in Northwood to receive a \$1.00 donation for every *Blooming for Good* bouquet with a red sticker sold during the month of March, 2022. Visit Hannaford and buy a lovely bouquet to support the food pantry!

**Tuesday, March 15, 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. packages. for information call 435-7471.

**Joy Church** is hosting their first annual Potluck and Game Night on Friday, March 11, from 6:30 -8:30pm. Come join us for a fun filled night.

**Joy Church** is hosting a FREE Community Breakfast on Saturday, March 12, at 8:30am. All are invited to come out and enjoy a free, hot breakfast with others from the community.

**Pittsfield Youth Baseball/Softball signups** will be held on Wednesday., March 9 from 6-8pm and Saturday, March 12, from 9-12pm at the Community Center. Mail-in registrations will be accepted through March 16. Sign-up fees are \$50 per player for all levels, with a maximum of \$125 per family. Limited Scholarships are available. Payments accepted are Cash, Check, or Money Order. Volunteers are needed – Coaches, Concession Help, and Field Clean up. Please contact [pittsfieldyouthbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:pittsfieldyouthbaseball@gmail.com)

**Senior Center Update** Due to illness and lack of personnel the center has reduced its hours. They are open for Bingo on Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30am to 12pm. The hours of walking are postponed until further notice. This is only temporary until a coordinator is hired. Then the Center will be reopened for its normal business hours. Please call the Center at 435-8482 if you have any questions.

**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](http://pittsfieldplayers.org) or reserved by calling 603-435-8852. 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 introduced youngsters to the theater arts.

**PHS Alumni Association Executive Committee** has decided to postpone the All-Class Reunion for one more year. We have concluded that it is too early in the evolution of the pandemic for us to expend financial and human resources for an event that ultimately may need to be canceled or will be compromised by some people's reluctance in being in a large crowd. We look forward to starting the planning process in the fall of 2022 for a wonderful, well-attended event in July of 2023. If you are interested in joining the All-Class Reunion Planning Committee, please contact Andi Riel at [pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com](mailto:pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com)

**Victory Workers 4-H Club is holding their annual plant sale** of 10" hanging basket & 24" window boxes.. Hanging baskets: \$25, and Flower boxes: \$30 This is a great fundraiser for our local Victory Workers 4-H Club! Delivery is the weekend of Mother's Day. Plants are locally grown in Loudon, at Pleasant View Gardens. Contact any 4-H member or leader, or Mark Riel at [amg1mar@metrocast.net](mailto:amg1mar@metrocast.net) or 435-6346 to place an order.

**Pittsfield Youth Workshop** would like to thank all the youth that came out over vacation to sled, play dodgeball, create glass paintings, and enjoy some popcorn on movie day! Don't forget High School Only Night, for 9th-12th graders, is this Friday from 6-8pm. Stop by PYW to grab a membership packet, meet our staff, and take a tour. Joining is free for 6-12th graders. Come make some memories with us!

**Kindergarten Registration is Wednesday, March 30.** PES is excited to start welcoming the next year's kindergarteners to PES! If your child will be 5 years old by September 30th and you are a resident of Pittsfield, please contact Pittsfield Elementary School to sign up for a 15-minute appointment for you and your child to visit. (435-8432) We have appointments from 1pm to 6pm. If you have any questions or concerns about the registration process, please contact Kathy LeMay at the number above or at [klemay@pittsfieldnhschools.org](mailto:klemay@pittsfieldnhschools.org)

**Happy Birthday** wishes to Tobi Chassie last Sunday, Gene Ladd and DRG last Monday, Kaileigh Davis & Stan Bailey on Wednesday, and Rick Davis on Friday. I hope you ALL enjoy your special day.

**Grow, Learn,  
Read Daily  
Activity**

Josiah Carpenter  
Library





## Cook's Corner

There are more ways to enjoy the goodness of maple syrup for breakfast beyond pouring it over your pancakes. In this second installment of our 'Maple Month' series, here are two healthy and delicious ideas we know you'll want to try. The first, Maple Pecan Granola was sent by Marty Brennan; she enjoys serving this homemade granola over homemade Greek yogurt. The next recipe for Maple Oatmeal Muffins is from Jean Cram. The rolled oats in both of these are super healthy and ensure your day will be off to a good start. Enjoy! *MP Christakos*

### Maple Pecan Granola

3 cups rolled oats  
2 cups pecans, chopped  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup shredded coconut  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup + 2 TBSP brown sugar  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup vegetable oil  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  tsp salt  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup + 2 TBSP maple syrup

In a large bowl, mix the dry ingredients: oats, pecans, coconut, and brown sugar.

In a small bowl, mix the wet ingredients: vegetable oil, salt, and maple syrup.

Combine the wet ingredients into the dry mix, stirring well to coat. Spread onto 2 ungreased baking sheets. Bake in the oven at 250 degrees for 75 minutes, stirring well every 15 minutes.

Remove the pans from the oven and cool completely. Store in a sealed container at room temperature.

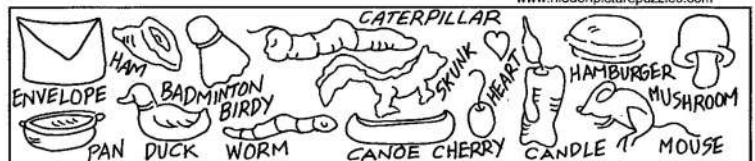
### Maple Oatmeal Muffins

1 egg  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup milk  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup maple syrup  
 $\frac{1}{3}$  cup vegetable oil  
1 &  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups flour  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  cup sugar  
3 tsp baking powder  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp salt  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  cup quick cook oatmeal

Heat oven to 400.

Mix all ingredients together and stir well to combine. Put the batter into muffin cups set inside a muffin pan. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes.

## Two Owls Hidden Pictures



## MATRAS MAPLE OPEN SUGARHOUSE

Every Saturday in March | 10 - 4

Maple Weekend: Saturday March 19th | 10-4

Sunday March 20th | 12:30-5

*Come see our family-run sugarhouse with traditional wood-fired evaporator*

821 Catamount Road, Pittsfield, NH

Maple syrup in plastic and glass containers, maple cream, candy, and sugar, and locally made products

Local ice cream topped with maple syrup and crunches  
@matrasmaple on Instagram/Facebook

Business Cards • Forms • Business Checks • Brochures  
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## GRANITE IMAGE

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**PUBLIC NOTICE FEBRUARY 25, 2022**  
**REQUEST FOR BIDS OUT OF SERVICE EQUIPMENT**

The Town of Pittsfield, New Hampshire invites those interested to submit sealed bids for equipment that is no longer in service.

1. 1991 Case 680L backhoe – \$10,000 bid minimum
2. 2002 Caterpillar 36" backhoe bucket – fits on 420/430 backhoe

Item #1 has a bid reserve minimum offer of \$10,000.

Items #1 & #2 are located at the Pittsfield Public Works Garage – 36 Clark Street

Please call 603 435-6151 or email [ngourley@pittsfieldnh.gov](mailto:ngourley@pittsfieldnh.gov) to set up a time for equipment inspection.

The Town of Pittsfield, nor any of its representatives, makes any representation as to the quality or integrity of the items for sale. The items for sale are being offered and sold "as is."

Bids must be submitted in writing, in a sealed envelope, addressed to the Town of Pittsfield, c/o Town Administrator, 85 Main Street, Pittsfield NH, 03263 with OUT OF SERVICE EQUIPMENT marked on the envelope.

A bid submission form is available at the town hall or on the town website – [www.pittsfieldnh.gov](http://www.pittsfieldnh.gov)

The sealed bids are due **no later than 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 18, 2022**. Bids received after the specified time may not be considered.

The bids will be opened by the Board of Selectmen at their first meeting following the due time and date for the bids.

The winning bidder must remove the item awarded to them no later than March 31, 2022.

The town reserves the right to accept or reject any bid which it believes to not be in the best interest of the town.

### **Be a Game-Changer**

The term 'game-changer' refers to an individual or company that significantly alters the way things are done as a whole.

Let's apply this method when we want to play our favorite card games. Some are strictly played by the rules while others already have alternate ways of playing.

Cribbage is one of those considered to be played strictly by the rules. It's not a problem unless you think it's too monotonous without any oomph!

So what do you do? Use the game-changer method. My husband and his coworkers had run into this situation and brain-stormed until my husband suggested an exciting solution.

As it turns out, my husband and I started playing cribbage again. One day he asked if I would play the alternate way. I reluctantly agreed...

All you do is play to lose! Each player tries not to score by throwing points to their opponent. Example: If you had a 6, 7, & 8 in your hand, you might throw the 6 & 8 into "your crib", but would throw the 7 & 8 into an "opponent's crib."

YOU WIN when the opponent pegs out.

It's crazy fun. Exasperating – Challenging - Totally unpredictable! Happy strategizing! *Jean Cram*

Note to Readers: Do you have an activity that you have changed, and you like your new system? Please share your *game-changer* with the *Post!*

### **Classifieds**

#### **Pittsfield Community Center Function Rooms available for Rent**

Days, Nights, Weekends.  
Call 603-435-6729 for  
information

#### **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](mailto:Headstart@capbm.org)

#### **Advertise in the Post!**

Classified rates start at \$3.00  
a week.