

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE WEEKLY PRODUCTION BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Sponsored by Senator John Regan our NH State Senator

July 22, 2020

"It's better to be known by six people for something you're proud of than by 60 million for something you're not"- *Albert Brooks*

Pittsfield Fire Department – Always There When You Need Them

We recently had the opportunity to sit down with Chief Pszonowsky, Captain Girard and Eric Nilsson from our terrific Pittsfield Fire Department. And one thing we learned, there's no such thing as a "typical" day at the firehouse.

Under Chief Pszonowsky's leadership in the last five years, the department now has seven full-time employees, 25 'Paid on Call' responders including administrative staff bringing the department to about 35 responders. They average 900 service calls annually with 70% of those being medical and 30% fire related. They are at-the-ready 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in all weather conditions.

Captain Girard shared, "We are an all hazard department. We cover everything from critical medical emergencies to structure, brush and forest fires, hazardous materials situations, along with the occasional cat stuck in a tree and of course our favorite – parade escorts!" Who can forget their support for our 2020 graduating class parade, and the day they escorted masked superheroes through town.

The department recently acquired a new ambulance which allowed them to retire an older vehicle. They maintain 2 ambulances, 3 fire trucks, 1 forestry truck and 1 small boat. The Chief shares that they work closely with Pittsfield Police and very collaboratively with the fire departments in Northwood, Barnstead, Chichester and Epsom, in fact they often co-train with these other departments.

Pittsfield Fire is always looking to hire new responders, with or without prior experience. They provide in-house training in conjunction with NH Fire Standards & Training and the NH of Emergency Medical Services, which confer final certifications. Each program takes about six months to complete.

As for the Covid pandemic, the department is



From left, Eric Nilsson, Captain Girard and Chief Pszonowsky

well prepared for service calls with personal protective gear and the 911 system screens for potential Covid exposure when calls come in. Chief Pszonowsky recommends that Pittsfield residents follow CDC guidelines regarding wearing masks inside public spaces, maintain physical distance and regular hand-washing.

The department enjoys a very positive relationship with the community. As Eric Nilsson said, "We treat everyone in Pittsfield like family and the town has always been very enthusiastic." Chief Pszonowsky echoed this stating, "Customer service is our absolute highest priority. I want to thank the people of Pittsfield for your ongoing support and bring the kids over to see our trucks!"

Thank you, Pittsfield Fire Department, for your exceptional, compassionate and devoted service to our community. Your contributions to our well-being and the success of our town are greatly appreciated.

MP Christakos

Town Crier Andi Riel @ 435-6346
pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com

The First Congregational Church, 24 Main St., will host Ross Nickerson, a Christian musician, who will be providing a concert Thursday, July 23, 6:30-7:30 p.m. A banjo master and founder of GRACE JAM, Ross is also a recording artist, instructor and music book author. He has performed and taught banjo throughout the world and is now pursuing a more significant musical passion: sharing faith through music. A love offering will be collected. Please follow all social distancing guidelines and wear a mask. Enter through the front doors, although you may park in the church's parking lot. Those with disabilities may use the parking lot door. For more information, call the church office: 435-7471.

The Josiah Carpenter Library/Pittsfield Senior Center Book Club will gather on Tues, July 28 at 10am at the Town Beach area to talk about the books members are currently reading. Everyone is welcome to join us for some good conversations that will expand your reading horizons. Please call 435-8406 or email lvogt@pittsfieldnh.gov for information. The rain date is August 7.

The Pittsfield Historical Society continues to raise funds for the new Museum and Headquarters. A commemorative garden on the Museum grounds is planned, with a "BUY-A-BRICK" component, allowing people to honor whomever they wish. The bricks are \$100 each and may be engraved with 3 lines of 18 characters. Please visit www.pittsfieldhistory.com for a donation form and instructions. For more information, please call Larry at 798-3984 or email larryberkson@comcast.net.

The Pittsfield Fire Station - Parents...if you are looking for something fun for your kids, stop by the Fire Station and pick up a fire prevention goodie bag. *Unfortunately at this time we are unable to do station tours for the kids, but hopefully those can resume in the near future.

The Pittsfield Food Pantry, located at 55 Barnstead Road, will be open on Monday 11-2pm and 4-6pm and on Thursday 11-2pm.

The PYW Pantry hours have changed a bit – the Pantry will be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-5pm for PYW youth and their families. As always, if you have any special requests please feel free to

reach out to Zach or Paula at 435-8272 or info@pittsfieldyouthworkshop.org.

What's Up At PYW? On July 7th we began outdoor activities, running Tuesday and Thursday at 1pm and we continue our Virtual Programs on Wednesdays. As the summer progresses, we will take a look at our options and make adjustments as needed. Go to pittsfieldyouthworkshop.org to REGISTER for summer programs and activities! PYW staff will confirm your registration with a follow up phone call several days before the program. We are only able to offer a limited number of spaces per activity and will place additional youth on waiting lists in case of cancellations. A new schedule of activities is e-mailed out every two weeks!

Happy Birthday wishes to Margaret Towle last Monday. I hope you had a fabulous day!

To the Citizens of Pittsfield,

After fifty years of commitment to public education, I will be retiring from my role as Pittsfield's superintendent of schools effective July 31.

The Pittsfield School Board is planning to hire a one-year interim superintendent to serve for the 2020-2021 school year; the Board intends to conduct a search for a permanent superintendent in the fall, the typical season for district leaders.

In this moment, I extend my most sincere thanks to the many, many Pittsfield citizens who have supported our students and schools over my twenty-one years of service in Pittsfield; though I'd like to thank each of you personally, there are simply far too many of you who have made important contributions for this to be possible.

I do wish to acknowledge the School Boards, teachers, and support staff, both past and present, for your committed and excellent work to support the development and success of Pittsfield's children and youth; your involvement and positivity in the face of great challenges has been nothing short of inspirational.

Finally, please know that I will be continuing my efforts in the initiative for fair funding for New Hampshire's schools; a strong nation needs strong public schools.

Sincerely, John Freeman

Against His Will

Part Two of a Serial Tale

By Apen Monicoeur

Jeannette's appointment with Mrs. Clough ended with the old woman thanking her for her time and interest. She let Jeannette out and shut the door with a diminutive click of the catch. Jeannette sat in her car and phoned Detective Trace Hunter at the police department, but his calls were being forwarded to the front desk. This usually meant that he was too busy to answer, or he was out on a case.

"Concord Police Department, Liz speaking, how may I help you?"

"Hi Liz, this is Jeannette Basset. Is Trace there?"

"Who?"

Jeannette rolled her eyes. The new receptionist, fresh out of two-year vocational training, seemed to target Jeannette personally. She gathered that the young woman was jealous of her relationship with the handsome police detective and had a secret crush on him. It appeared that she went out of her way just to be difficult.

"Liz, it's Jeannette. I'm trying to reach Trace."

"He's gone." she snapped back at her.

"I know that," replied Jeannette. She tried not to sigh and give the receptionist any reason to think she was getting a reaction from her.

"Would you take a message for me?" she asked.

"Yeah...wait a minute. I need a pen,"

There was silence as Jeannette was put on hold. One minute lapsed, followed by another. She envisioned Liz sitting there twirling her purple-dyed hair with her ever-present lollipop sticking out of her mouth, purposely ignoring the flashing "on-hold" button.

Jeannette counted to ten and then backwards. Her wait was interrupted by an incoming call. It was Trace. "Hey!" Jeannette answered the phone. "I was just trying to call you, but it seems Liz was a little preoccupied."

"When isn't she?"

"So, I just concluded my interview with Mrs. Clough. The good news is Mr. Parson's family is all up here for the revised will which, as you know, has gone missing.

I'm pretty excited that we have all these folks at my disposal to interview."

"Jeannette," Trace said.

"And the thing is," continued Jeannette, "the lawyer never received the updated will before Mr. Parson passed away. So any record of its whereabouts is arbitrary. I'm sure this article will lead to more interesting content now, seeing as there are millions up for grabs and a missing will."

"Jeannette," Trace said again. "I have a cease and desist order."

"A what?"

"Your article..."

"But...why, Trace? I think this is a great story and it has wide appeal, like, who isn't enthralled by a man that dies a millionaire with a missing will?"

"Listen, Beanie..." Trace called her by her nickname and she felt a sudden sinking in her heart.

"The judge granted me a cease and desist because the toxicology test has come back on Mr. Parson. He was murdered. This is now a police matter."

Jeannette was silent. All her work up to this point was futile. Chasing leads for a good story was difficult in-and-of itself, but having a news bit nixed after investing in its propagation was even more difficult.

"I'm sorry, Beanie. I really am."

"It's okay," Jeannette sighed.

"See you at home?"

"Sure," Jeannette said. "Catch you later, T."

She disconnected her call and sat in her car in a moment of silence. *'Well, girl,' she thought to herself, pick yourself up. This is just a minor set-back.'*

Her phone rang.

"Yeah, hi." It was Liz. "I've got a pen, so now what?"

Jeannette hung up on her.

Josiah Carpenter Library

Ready to Read Family Activity of the Week

Singing: Make a shaker by putting dried pasta or beans in an empty container. Shake it while you march and sing.

This Country Life By Lorrie Lee O'Neill

I don't know about you, but being in Covid Jail can sometimes be trying. I mean, we've all been thrown in with each other to cope while vying for personal mental space. Finding interesting and exciting things to do will often make us abandon our usual routines and seek out the unfamiliar.

Watching a lot of videos on Youtube and Facebook also exposed me to marketing windfalls. I fell victim to these magnetic eyelashes. Yes, guys, this is a thing. I was also shocked to learn about this through a Facebook sales pitch and figured, why not? *What could possibly go wrong?*

Makeup is not one of my fortes. Generally my color pallet is sweat, cat fur, barn dust, goat spit, and freckles. However, lockdown will do strange things to a person's mind. I ordered my first reusable kit of magnetic eyelashes online. When they arrived, I was bold enough to venture out to the Family Dollar to buy an inexpensive and non-essential array of blushes, eye shadows, lipsticks, eyeliners, etc., that didn't stray too far from my comfort level of dirt and drab. I chose a lot of earth tones because it helped me blend in with the scenery, and this would also be useful when the Zombie Apocalypse happens. Which will happen in August, by my calculations.

The day arrived when I broke open all my fresh new colors, unsealed the eyeliners, played a brush across the blush...but my main focus was on those yet untested magnetic eyelash extensions.

"You can do this, girl," I told myself.

To gain confidence and inspiration, I locked myself into the bathroom and put on a Youtube Make-up tutorial. I learned about the no-pores face paint base. There was an angle by which to apply blush correctly by dividing your face into quadrants. Who knew it was all so geometric? I heard terms like 'dabbing, upsweep, highlighting, blending, and contouring.' What an adventure! All this new newness!

When the tutorial ended, I inspected my handiwork in the mirror. It wasn't too bad. It just wasn't me, and it felt odd to be talking to my reflection expecting it to respond in another person's voice, to gesture or move independently from me; you know, prompting me to call an exorcist.

Then came the magnetic eyelash extensions...the last addition, the *morceau de résistance*.

So how these things work is that the eyeliner that you apply contains particles of metal. The back of the eyelashes themselves have tiny magnets. When the eyeliner is applied on the upper lid and dries, the magnetized eyelashes bond with it to stay in place.

That's the theory, at least.

According to the tutorials I had watched, the best means of eyeliner application on the top lid is to pull the eye from the corner so that the lid stretches flat. At my age, that's a lot of pulling. I should have just stapled my eyelids to my ears to obtain that flat, paintable surface.

I drew my first line. Perfection! It was not too thin, not too thick, and it was contiguous. Amazing! I leaned in closer for inspection when two very terrible things happened. One: my upper lid drooped again before the liner was dry, leaving a heavy black line across my lower brow, and two: I forgot I was holding the still-wet applicator in my hand. When I leaned in, the application left a huge smear of black across my upper cheek.

This is when I learned that the Stealth Bomber uses the exact same type of paint on its exterior for durability in exposure to extremes.

I wet a piece of toilet paper and proceeded to dab at the black. It smeared across my cheek. I used a bit of acetone, and this just made the eyeliner soupy and mixed with the other melting, dissolving colors on my cheek. The eyeliner wouldn't come off! The more I rubbed, the further it spread, arching into my temple area, under my eye socket, across the bridge of my nose and, somehow, an eyelash became displaced from the packaging and stuck to my shirt cuff.

Had I known that Kryptonite was the metal used, I never would have gone down this fake eyelash path, and maybe just have stuck with a cheap mascara.

I'm now a bit panicked as my face looks like I was on the losing end of a bar brawl. The oranges and reds, mixed with the browns and black...and that wayward eyelash bit catches on the sink edge, flips up on a wisp of air from the open window, lands on my cheek where there's a patch of smudged black eyeliner, and sticks. It really sticks.

Then, a knock at the door.

As if things aren't bad enough already. I slip downstairs, running my fingers over my face, attempting to appear perfectly normal. The eyelash

migrates under my left nostril, like a half-shaven moustache, and hangs there half-attached.

When I open the door, the Amazon Prime delivery driver steps back two paces as his eyes register the shock of my freshly created Picasso face. "Your package, ma'am," he states, and hurries back to his idling truck. He glances several times over his shoulder to be sure I'm not creeping after him and hissing in strange tongues.

After he departs, I relax against the door jamb and give the package a little shake. Oh, good! My wood burning kit has arrived! *What could possibly go wrong?*

String of Words Puzzle #2

Fill it in the blanks so that the second word in each line becomes the first word in the next line.

Clue: The number of spaces shown correspond to the number of letters in that word. The last word is the same as the first word.

Moon _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ Cream

Cream (and) _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ (and) Spice

Spice _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ Pan

Pan _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ (with) Care

Care _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ Store

Store _ _ _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ New

New _ _ _ _ _

Answers are on p.6

Pandemic Riddle

If we only have two feet, how can we keep six feet apart? I can understand the need for keeping six feet of personal distancing, but why call 'social' when it's just the opposite? **Bill Miskoe**

Cook's Corner

Baked Cod with Summer Squash



Here's a super easy and healthy dinner that combines lean protein rich fish and fresh summer vegetables, all in one dish. It doesn't get much easier than this. Feel free to add your favorite herbs, basil or dill would also work well here. And you can substitute the cod for salmon, haddock or tilapia.

3 cups thinly sliced into rounds mixed summer squash (yellow, zucchini)

1 Tbsp fresh thyme leaves

1 Tbsp capers, drained and rinsed

3 Tbsp olive oil

Coarse salt & fresh ground black pepper

4 Cod fillets, skins removed

4 Roma or plum tomatoes, thinly sliced into rounds

Heat oven to 400. Place sliced squashes into a 9 x 13 glass baking dish. Drizzle with 2 Tbsp olive oil and season with salt & pepper. Toss to combine. Season fish with salt & pepper; arrange the fish on top of the squash. Top the fish with the tomato slices. Drizzle the fish and tomatoes with remaining 1 Tbsp of olive oil and the thyme leaves.

Cover with parchment paper lined tin foil. Bake for 15 minutes. Remove the foil and continue to bake for another 10 minutes or until fish is opaque.

Serve with rice pilaf or linguine dressed simply with olive oil and Parmesan. Be sure to put out some lemon slices and a fresh salad of tender greens, red onion, fresh basil leaves and homemade vinaigrette. Some toasted bread would be lovely with this dish to soak up the veggies and the sauce. Bon Appetit!

The Pittsfield Post Loves News!

Do you have an interesting story to tell and share with your friends and neighbors? Are you a member of a community group that has news to share? Send us your news by noon on Friday.

Email: pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org

Please Support the *Pittsfield Post*

Pittsfield Center Development Corporation (PCDC), owner of the Community Center, is the fiscal agent for the *Pittsfield Post*. PCDC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to engage in activities that benefit Pittsfield. Checks should be made out to:

Pittsfield Center Development Corporation, memo: Newspaper
P.O. Box 253, Pittsfield, NH 03263

Donations are tax-deductible. Donations above \$50.00 can be acknowledged as sponsor of the week.

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

I would like to have sponsorship acknowledgement: Yes ___ No ___

Text for Sponsorship: _____

Advertising in the Post

Costs begin at \$3.00 for a brief classified ad.

Guidelines and order forms are located at

www.pittsfieldpost.org

Answers to String of Words Puzzle #2

Moon Light
 Light Cream
 Cream and Sugar
 Sugar and Spice
 Spice Cake
 Cake Pan
 Pan Handle
 Handle with Care
 Care Package
 Package Store
 Store Brand
 Brand New
 New Moon

Come Join the Fun at the Town Beach

FB Argue Recreation Area, Aka Town Beach, is open and everyone is enjoying their fun in the sun. Now, masks only need to be worn when social distancing is not possible. Family groups can choose whether their children can play together. We started activities again, Bingo, Sandcastles and Duck Hunt, also, snacks will be available beginning July 20th. We expect people to be responsible for removing their own trash from the area. We would love to see more people using the area, so come on down and give the best swimming hole in the world a try.



MATRAS SMALL ENGINE REPAIR

TUNE-UPS, REBUILDS, REPAIRS
 MOWERS, SNOWBLOWERS, GENERATORS,
 TILLERS, SAWS, ETC

ASA MATRAS
 821 CATAMOUNT RD PITTSFIELD NH 03263
 HOME 603-435-8214 CELL 603-312-6909

PICKUP / DELIVERY AVAILABLE

GRANITE IMAGE
Serving your printing, copying and faxing service needs since 1975

940 Suncook Valley Hwy • Unit 17
 (PO Box 683) Epsom, NH 03234
 603.736.6056 • fax 603.736.6089
 print@granite-image.com

www.granite-image.com

Want to see the pictures in color?

Subscribe to receive the newspaper by Email

Go to: www.PittsfieldPost.org

Or scan the QR code.

