PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE NEWSLETTER BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

BALLOT BOX. The altar of democracy. *~H. L. Mencken*

November 11, 2026

Notes from the Selectboard

Due to New Hampshire election law that requires members of selectboards and town or city councils to be present in polling places on Election Day, these notes originate with our meeting of October 26th rather than November 3rd. Immediately after opening the meeting the Board held a public hearing concerning a donation to the town of 150 stackable safety cones valued at $5,000 for the Emergency Management Department. These cones refresh the supply kept on hand for use whenever it becomes necessary to control the flow of pedestrian or vehicular traffic. The hearing concluded quickly without dissent, and on closing the hearing a vote by the board of 3 to 0 accepted the generous gift of the cones.

Following the hearing, the Old Home Day Committee presented an informative recap of the 2026 event. Using lessons learned from this year's festivities the Committee has begun planning for Old Home Day 2027.

There were nine items of routine business on the Consent Calendar, mostly involving meeting minutes and funds transfers to keep town business moving forward. Of note was consideration and approval of a repurchase deed for the tax-deeded parcel identified on the tax map as R29 lot 8. The approval for this open lot leaves just one tax-deeded property unresolved for 2026. Seven of the eight properties deeded by the town this year for non-payment of taxes have now returned to the tax rolls.

Under new business, the Board considered and accepted a $5,500 Emergency Performance Grant, then discussed proposals for future assessing services, as well as printer/copier services.

The meeting concluded with the signing of a Board request to the NH Attorney General's office for an investigation of this Board's operations. One of our members has alleged malfeasance by this Board and we collectively hoped that a state investigation would reveal whether there is an issue. The AG's office quickly declined our request and stated that the town needs to hire its own investigators to pursue such an inquiry. We will take up the question again at our next meeting.

J.C. Allard, *Pittsfield Selectboard*

'Tis the season!

The community Christmas banners are now on display. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to Joe Darrah Enterprises for installing them, and to Sanel Auto Parts for continually providing the zip ties. We appreciate your community support!





Pittsfield Town Crier

Would you like an event listed? Contact Andi Riel at pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com or 603-435-6346

Wed, Nov. 11 – ***Happy Veteran's Day*** To ALL Veterans – thank you for your service and sacrifice.

Wed, Nov. 11, 6:30pm – The Josiah Carpenter Library **Mead and Read Book Club** will meet at the Over The Moon Farmstead, Upper City Rd.

Fri, Nov. 13, 5:30pm – A **Community Supper** will be held at the First Congregational Church, 24 Main St. Cost is a donation. All are welcome to attend. Join us for a great meal and a chance to meet some new friends.

Sat, Nov. 14, 8:30am – **FREE Community Breakfast** at Joy Church, 55 Barnstead Rd. All are welcome to attend.

Sun, Nov. 15, 11am-1pm -- Step into the wild at the **Graylag Nature Preserve** for a hands-on Shelter Building workshop, led by Aaron Gibeau. Open to all experience levels, participants will learn the basics of how to build a shelter in the wilderness, right here at Graylag. Aaron will cover how to make a lean-to (with a heat reflection wall for cold weather) as well as A-frame shelters out of simple materials like dead branches, leaves, tarps, and rope. Bring a lunch to enjoy afterwards, and a pocket knife. It's the perfect day for learning new skills, connecting with others, and enjoying the beauty of the outdoors. Who: Anyone 16+ (or 12+ with an adult), no experience necessary, Where: Graylag Nature Preserve, 320 Clough Road, Pittsfield, NH. We will meet at Midway Cabin.

Sun, Nov. 15, 4pm – **PYAA/PYBA** monthly meeting will be held at the Pittsfield Community Center, lower level. All are invited to attend.

Wed, Nov. 18, 6:30pm – The **Suncook Valley Rotary Club** will meet at the Pittsfield Historical Society, Oak St.

Wed, Nov. 18, 6pm -- The **Friends of the Josiah Carpenter Library** will meet at the Library.

Sat, Nov. 21, 8am-3pm – **OHRV Safety Snowmobile Course** at the Pittsfield Community Center, 74 Main St. Children 11 years and older are invited (parents are encouraged to attend). Lunch will be provided. You must pre-register: Joe Hough at 603-608-6977.

Sat, Nov. 21, 5-7pm – **Ham & Bean Supper** sponsored by the Suncook Valley Sno-Riders at the Pittsfield Community Center, 74 Main St. Menu: ham, a variety of beans, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, rolls, drink, and lots of desserts. Cost: Adults-$10, Children ages 6-12- $5, Children under 5-Free. We will be giving away 3 turkeys and other prizes. Please contact Mary at 603-520-3693 with any questions or for more information.

Sat, Nov. 21, 9am-2pm – **CRAFTY CHRISTMAS FAIR** Do not miss this charming annual Christmas fair! The Dorcas Guild of the First Congregational Church, 24 Main Street, will hold its 2026 Christmas Fair, Bake Sale and Silent Auction, plus knits, crafts, ornaments, baked goods, the "Unique Boutique," and more! Silent Auction ends when the fair ends at 2 p.m.; successful bidders will be notified then. Handicapped parking and access available in rear lot on Chestnut St., or enter through courtyard door on Main St. Questions - please call the church office at 603 435-7471.

Fri, Dec. 4, **7pm** - The Chancel Choir and the JuBellation Handbell Choir of the First Congregational Church, 24 Main Street, are pleased to present a free Christmas concert entitled, **"Ring and Rejoice!"** Bring the family, join the sing-along, and enjoy this one-hour concert that will include a variety of lovely Christmas music. Light refreshments will be served following the performance. Parking and wheelchair accessible entrance are located at the rear of the church, off Chestnut Street. Overflow parking is available at the Historical Society (4 Oak Street) in unreserved spots. Call the church office for more information: 603 435-7471.

Sat, Dec. 5 – *SAVE THE DATE* for the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration.

The Greater Pittsfield Chamber of Commerce and Pittsfield Youth Workshop are sponsoring a **DECORATED WREATH CONTEST** at the Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration on Sat, Dec.5. Bring a decorated wreath to be displayed and the public will select the winners. YOUTH DIVISION (ages 18 and younger) and ADULT DIVISION. Winners will be announced after the Tree Lighting- $50 CASH PRIZE (for Adults) and a Special Prize for Youth donated by PYW. ***Wreath drop off Sat, Dec. 5 by 3:45pm at PYW*** (Pittsfield Youth Workshop.) Get in the Holiday Spirit and show off your creativity. Contact Andi Riel for questions or more information: 603-451-8762 or pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com

The Gabriel Douglas Anthony 21 Foundation was established by Gabe's family after his death to provide roadside safety equipment to all high school-aged drivers. Please visit the website https://gda21foundation.org to donate or learn more about this wonderful foundation. You may also contact the foundation at GDA21 Foundation, 98 Main St., Pittsfield, NH 03263; 603-470-6927 or email gda21foundation@gmail.com

The **Pittsfield Youth Workshop** (PYW), 18 Park Street is open for **Drop-In Hours** - Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri from 3-6pm and Wed 1-6pm. Stop in and check out the schedule! The food pantry at PYW continues to be stocked with snacks, beverages, mealtime essentials, and basic toiletries/self care products for PYW youth - open during Drop-In hours. For more information contact Zach Powers or Ashley Perron at (603) 435-8272 or text at 603-234-9788.

As we celebrate **PYW's 40th birthday,** we want to hear from the people who have been part of PYW's story over the years! Via this Google Form, please answer as many—or as few of the prompts—as you'd like. Whether you were an attendee, parent, volunteer, staff member, or community member...we would love to hear what PYW has meant to you. Access the Google Form here:
https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSfYs8H5iZh.../viewform...
*** Please complete this survey – we want to know your thoughts about PYW ***

Are you looking for a unique way to give back to the community? We would love to chat with you! Please email Ashley if you are interested in learning more about the **PYW Public Relations Committee!** Ashley@pittsfieldyouthworkshop.org

Senior Center at 55 Barnstead Rd. (located in Joy Church) - Community Lunch: Monday & Thursday 11:45am; Tai Chi: Monday & Thursday 8am & Wednesday 12pm; Bingo: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10-11:45am; Walking at the Center: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8am-1pm; On occasion: Women's Group, Art Class, Crafts, Backgammon, Cribbage. For more information or if you have questions, call Anne at 603-435-8482 or email: aalbers-reilly@capbm.org Also, we are hosting a Thanksgiving Meal - Thursday, November 19 at 11:45am. Please join us for a festive Thanksgiving meal! *Advanced sign-up is required* for this special event.

Stay Connected with Pittsfield Town Government - There are more ways than ever to stay connected with what's happening in Pittsfield! Residents can watch Selectboard and Budget Committee meetings live when available, or catch up on the recorded videos afterward, through the town's YouTube channel at youtube.com/@Pittsfield_NH You can also find the meetings right from the town website, pittsfieldnh.gov by clicking the Online Meetings icon. If you have any questions or run into any issues accessing meetings or signing up for notifications, please contact the town at admin@pittsfieldnh.gov

Happy birthday wishes to Donna Keeley on Sat, Nov. 14, to Liz Aliberti on Sun, Nov. 15, Edie St. George on Mon, Nov. 16, and to my Fabulous Father-in-law, Leon Miller on Wed, Nov. 18.



Dear *Pittsfield Post* volunteers and editorial team,

I came across your community newsletter and was struck by the work of the volunteers who keep it appearing every other Wednesday. Please consider the following original guest reflection for your readers. I write from Fort Collins, Colorado, and do not claim to live in Pittsfield or to have attended any town events. I offer this piece exclusively to the *Pittsfield Post,* without a request for payment.

THE PEOPLE WHO KEEP THE TOWN ON THE SAME PAGE

By Douglas Vandergraph

There is something extraordinary about an ordinary town newsletter.

The *Pittsfield Post* is created by neighbors and made available around town, from the post office and library to the senior center and local businesses. It does not need a national headline to justify its existence. Its purpose is closer to home: making sure people know what is happening in the place where they live.

That may sound modest. It is not.

A person can spend an entire day receiving more information than anyone could possibly use and still know very little about the neighbors down the road. We hear about events hundreds of miles away while missing the gathering across town. We can recognize people on a screen whose lives we will never touch, yet not know the name of someone who would gladly lend us a hand.

Small-town communication helps close that distance. It gives space to the school program, the community effort, the public notice, and the volunteer whose contribution might otherwise pass without a mention. It also asks neighbors to do something the modern world often makes difficult: pay attention to one another.

My Christian faith has taught me that love of neighbor is not only a grand ideal. It is a practice of noticing. In Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan, the difference between the people who passed by and the person who stopped was not who had the most information. It was who understood that the life directly in front of him deserved a response.

The same principle applies to the ways we communicate. A notice about a needed volunteer, a local activity, or a new resource is not automatically an act of kindness. But it can make kindness possible. Someone reads it, recognizes an opportunity, and shows up.

There is another lesson in the *Post's* volunteer model. The people who prepare, edit, distribute, and share these pages are doing something that cannot be measured only in circulation numbers. They are helping a town maintain a common conversation.

Not everyone will agree about what matters most in a community. They should still have ways to learn about one another. A town is stronger when its residents can see beyond their own routines and discover what their neighbors are carrying, creating, celebrating, or trying to solve.

So when a newsletter arrives without fanfare, it deserves more than a passing glance. Behind those pages are people who decided their neighbors were worth the effort.

And that is news worth keeping.

Douglas Vandergraph
Fort Collins, Colorado
Christian writer and commentator

Do you enjoy reading the *Pittsfield Post*?

Please show us your support with a donation, or by sponsoring a publication.
We look forward to hearing from you!
www.PittsfieldPost.org







Join us for worship Sundays at 10!

Children's Sunday School starting in January

Christmas Concert

RING and REJOICE

Friday, December 4, 7p

Wear your festive clothing!
Refreshments served.

First Congregational Church
24 Main Street, Pittsfield, NH
603.435.7471



PITTSFIELD POST www.PittsfieldPost.org

The *Pittsfield Post* is a non-profit, free newsletter that serves Pittsfield citizens, businesses, town government, town schools and charitable organizations. The Post publishes relevant news, information, and special interest stories that impact residents, keeping the community informed and engaged.

The *Pittsfield Post* is published bi-weekly, in both print and digital formats, through the efforts of a volunteer team of residents.

Please support your community newsletter!

Checks made out to the non-profit: Pittsfield Center Development Corporation, memo: Pittsfield Post. P.O. Box 253, Pittsfield, NH 03263. or Via our website

www.PittsfieldPost.org

Send us your news!

Individuals, community groups and businesses, email us your news, opinions and creative work. Details are on our website. Deadline 9am on Friday.

News@Pittsfieldpost.org

Thank you for your votes and your trust.

Running as a first-time Independent candidate in this election has been quite an adventure, and I am honored and humbled that you have given me the opportunity to represent Pittsfield and Chichester in the NH House.

While the election marked a clear political shift from red to blue, both nationally and in New Hampshire, I am keenly aware that our towns remain rooted in conservative values.

As a centrist and the only Independent in the entire 400-member House, my commitment to you is straightforward. I will work constructively with the Democratic majority and the Republican minority to advance practical legislation to address our most pressing problems. I believe that the best governance and legislation happens in the middle, away from the extremes, through open dialogue, a willingness to listen and learn, and the search for common interests rather than rigid ideological positions. I will not hesitate to support sound policy, and I will not shy away from taking unpopular positions if I believe they are in the best interest of our communities.

Thank you for your trust. Whether you voted for me or for another candidate, I am open to your concerns, questions and suggestions, and I look forward to working alongside you, and on your behalf, in the coming years.

Becky Berk

Victory Workers 4-H Club

Annual

Thanksgiving Pie Sale

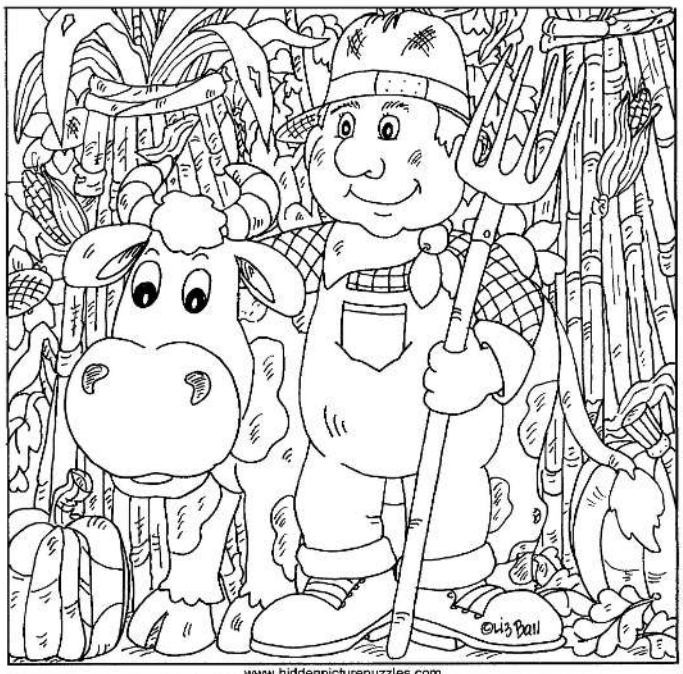


Wednesday 11/25/2026

Dowboro Farm Store

615 Dowboro Road, Pittsfield

9am – Sold Out or 6pm





Christmas Concert

The Chancel Choir and the JuBellation Handbell Choir of the First Congregational Church, 24 Main Street, are pleased to present a free Christmas concert entitled, *"Ring and Rejoice,"* Friday, December 4, 7 p.m. This special one-hour concert will include a variety of lovely Christmas music that you and the family are sure to join i and enjoy . Some light refreshments will be served. Mark your calendar for this delightful evening of music, invite your friends, and feel free to wear your favorite Christmas clothing! Parking and wheelchair accessible entrance are located at the rear of the church at Chestnut Street. Overflow parking is available at the Historical Society (4 Oak Street) in unreserved spots. Call the church office for more information: 603 435-7471.



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Cooks Corner -- *Curried Acorn Squash and Apple Soup and "Baklava" Tarts*

Here are two recipes you might enjoy for your Thanksgiving feast. The soup is a delightful first course or appetizer; however, it's really delicious with a leftover turkey sandwich! The Walnut-Apricot Tarts are a fun, easy riff on Greek baklava and make a nice addition to your holiday dessert table. They also keep well in the fridge. Please accept my very best wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. Bon appetit! *MP Christakos*

Curried Acorn Squash and Apple Soup

2 medium acorn squash (about 3 lbs), halved

¼ cup butter

4 cups & ¾ cup chicken broth, divided

4 Granny Smith apples, peeled and coarsely chopped

2 baking potatoes, peeled and coarsely chopped

1½ TBSP curry powder

¾ tsp cayenne pepper

½ tsp cinnamon

1 tsp salt

2 cups whipping cream

2 TBSP honey



Place squash halves, cut side down, on a foil-lined rimmed baking sheet.

Bake at 350 for 45 minutes or until tender. Scoop out the pulp, discarding the shells; set pulp aside.

Melt butter in a Dutch oven over medium heat; add 4 cups of chicken broth, apples, and the next 5 ingredients (through salt). Cook, stirring often, 25 to 30 minutes or until apples and potatoes are tender. Remove from heat and let cool slightly (about 5 to 10 minutes).

Process squash pulp, apple mixture and remaining ¾ cup chicken broth in a blender until smooth.

Return the pureed soup to the pot. Stir in whipping cream and honey and simmer, stirring occasionally, 15 to 20 minutes or until thoroughly heated.

Walnut – Apricot "Baklava" Tarts

1 cup chopped, toasted walnuts

6 TBSP chopped dried apricots

4 tsp finely chopped crystallized ginger

¼ cup honey

¼ tsp ground nutmeg

30 baked miniature phyllo dough shells (two 1.9 oz packages)

Bake the mini phyllo dough shells according to the package directions.

In a bowl combine walnuts, dried apricots, crystallized ginger. Drizzle with the honey and sprinkle with the nutmeg and toss well to coat.

Spoon the walnut mixture evenly into the baked shells.

Store in an airtight container, in a single layer, covered, in the fridge.

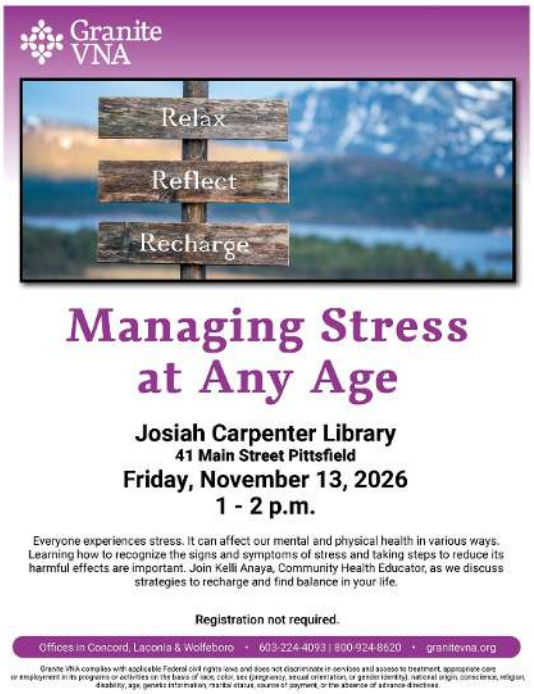
Granite VNA to Host Free "Managing Stress at Any Age" Workshop at Josiah Carpenter Library

For more than 125 years, Granite VNA has made a difference in the lives of people in our community, both as a not-for-profit home health care and hospice provider and trusted resource for ensuring community wellness, and as an employer. From our highly skilled clinical teams to those who provide leadership and administrative support in our offices, our entire team is deeply committed to meeting the health needs of our patients, clients and their families in the 72 New Hampshire communities we serve. Granite VNA offers a wide range of personalized services and programs including home care, hospice, pediatric and maternal child health services, and wellness programming.

As a not-for-profit, community-based organization, Granite VNA is deeply committed to giving back to the communities they serve through a robust offering of wellness programs, immunization clinics, grief and caregiver support groups and more.

Managing daily stress can be a challenge at any stage of life, but learning effective coping tools can make a significant difference. On Friday, November 13th, Granite VNA will host a free community workshop titled "Managing Stress at Any Age" at the Josiah Carpenter Library in Pittsfield.

Running from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM, this interactive session is designed to help attendees understand the impact of stress on physical and mental well-being while offering practical techniques for everyday stress management.



Event Details:

Date & Time: Friday, November 13th | 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Location: Josiah Carpenter Library, 41 Main Street, Pittsfield, NH

Cost: Free and open to the public

Accessibility Notice:

A handicapped accessible entrance is located on the left side of the building. Attendees needing assistance are asked to ring the bell at the entrance upon arrival.

Whether you are looking to manage personal stressors or support a loved one, all community members are welcome to attend this informative session.

Crafty Christmas Fair



Do not miss this charming annual Christmas fair! The Dorcas Guild of the First Congregational Church, 24 Main Street, will hold its 2026 Christmas Fair, Bake Sale and Silent Auction on Saturday, November 21, from 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. There are knits, crafts, ornaments, baked goods, the “Unique Boutique,” and more! The Silent Auction ends when the fair ends at 2 p.m.; successful bidders will be notified then. Both the rear and courtyard doors will be open. Parking is available at the rear entrance on Chestnut Street. Wheelchair accessibility is through the rear door, where there is handicapped parking. For more information, call the church office at 603 435-7471.

Happy Birthday!



Wow, my high school sweetheart is turning Sixty!



Suncook Valley Rotary donates Fridge and Freezer to End 68 Hours of Hunger!

Recently Our End 68 Hours of Hunger Pittsfield Team moved to a new location at 23 Oneida St. This location offers the opportunity to have a fridge and freezer to store frozen and fresh food to offer to our families. Our team reached out to the community and the Suncook Valley Rotary stepped up and purchased us the fridge and freezer! We are beyond grateful for this offering. We will now provide more options for fresh and frozen food including meats to our struggling families.

Please join us in thanking the Suncook Valley Rotary for supporting our program over the last several years. Every year they send us donations and provide support of our needs. They are truly a community partner in supporting business and organizations. For more information about the Suncook Rotary Club, please email suncookvalleyrotary@gmail.com



If you know of any families in Alton, Barnstead or Pittsfield needing food help, please have them email: barnsteadnh@end68hoursofhunger.org There are no income requirements, just sign up. Families can also apply for our services via this link: https://registration.end68hoursofhunger.org/

To volunteer or help in any way, feel free to contact Lori Mahar C: 603-490-5254. For more info about our organization, please visit our website: www.end68hoursofhunger.org