

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE WEEKLY PRODUCTION BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

"Summer means happy times and good sunshine." *Brian Wilson*

JULY 27, 2022

Spotlight on The Pittsfield Youth Workshop

The Pittsfield Youth Workshop (PYW) was founded in 1986 by a group of parents who saw the need for a safe and constructive place for young people. In 1987, this group incorporated the PYW as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, initially meeting in various locations around town. It took close to 12 years before the program began to flourish and they were able to rent dedicated space.

More than 35 years later, the PYW is a cherished, highly successful and well established institution. The center is open year round, providing after-school activities for children grades 6 through 12. In summer they operate daily from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. PYW is unique within the State in that it's free (donations are welcome). There are only 4 other 'no-fee' based youth centers in New Hampshire, all of the others are operated either by local towns or law enforcement agencies. PYW does not receive any funding from the Town of Pittsfield, or taxpayers.

Zach Powers, Executive Director of the PYW, joined the organization in 2004. He completed his Bachelors and Masters degrees at UNH, specializing in education and specifically 'experiential and environmental' learning. Zach has always been more interested in education that occurs outside of the traditional classroom setting. Although he had no experience in the non-profit realm, he says, "I fell in love with the town of Pittsfield, and the kids are amazing." PYW staff also include Laurie Sweeney, full-time Program Director, who worked in the Northwood school district for 16 years; and Hannah Morin, part-time Program Assistant, who is a graduate student, pursuing a Masters degree.



In 2007 PYW moved into the former Pittsfield Academy building on Park Street (Masonic Hall / Corinthian Lodge), where they have created a warm and inviting space for young people to meet, learn new skills, participate in a range of arts and crafts and cook. PYW is a 'drop in' center, meaning kids can come and go. The number of youth who join varies but the center averages about 15 kids per day. One of their leadership development activities is the PYW "store", where the kids run a small shop and they are exposed to a variety of small business skills, including planning and ordering inventory, setting prices, deciding what products to 'sell', etc.

Other activities include filling orders of special holiday themed gifts for the local Meals on Wheels program and working on a mural with the Library for Old Home Day. In the summer months on Tuesdays and Thursdays there are field trips which take the kids around the region for fun adventures such as canoeing at Drake Field, laser tag, disc golf, indoor rock climbing. Over the years PYW has gone on trips to The Flume, the Seacoast Science Center and the Squam Lake Science Center. But Zach shared, "sometimes the kids just want to hang out at the center, play board games, use the bank of computers, read and just spend time with their friends, and that's fine too."

After 35 years, there are now former participants who graduated from the program bringing their children to PYW. One of the most common things that Zach and team hear is that PYW is a safe, secure and

See PYW on page 3



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

The **Pittsfield Old Home Day Committee** would like to thank everyone that helped to make Old Home Day a success!

Congratulations to Maryellen (Minni) Plante on being selected as the 2022 Pittsfield Citizen of the Year. Thank you to Minni for all the wonderful things you have done for our Community!

Parks and Rec has put together a survey of offerings for town pool activities - deadline July 31! Please visit the Town Website for the link to take the survey.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MRP5C97>

The Josiah Carpenter Library Story Hour is held each Thursday at 10am at the F.B. Argue Recreation Area (aka Town Beach). Plan to stop in and join in.

Tuesday, August 2, 9-11am: First Congregational Church Infant Toddler Diaper Pantry. Please use the parking lot entry off of Chestnut Street. The pantry will accept donations of diapers and wipes. For information call 435-7471.

Panther Park Disc Golf Course. The course is made up of 9 holes spread around the campus of the Pittsfield Elementary and Middle High Schools and is available for free use by the public, with the exception of during school hours. Disc golf is an up-and-coming lifetime sport that has grown tremendously popular during the pandemic that combines the enjoyment of hiking through nature while throwing frisbee-like discs into targets.

Pittsfield Youth Baseball Association (PYBA) Bingo is held each Saturday at 48 Airport Rd, Concord. Come support PYBA and maybe win some prizes. Volunteers are needed too. For more information, please email pittsfieldyouthbaseball@gmail.com

Coach LaRoche, PMHS Girls Basketball Program announced that on Wednesdays and Fridays there is an open gym from 6-8pm for all girls grades 6-12. This is a great opportunity for any student considering basketball to come give it a try. Girls can be experienced, or come to the gym having never picked up a basketball in their life.

Happy Birthday wishes to my wonderful mother-in-law, Corine Miller and Kelsea Davis on Tuesday and to Erich Engelmann on Saturday. I hope you all enjoy your special day!

Happy Anniversary wishes to Ray & Judy Webber on Wednesday!

Thank You

I would like to thank the Pittsfield Citizen of the Year Committee for choosing me as the 2022 Citizen of the Year. It is in deed an honor to be chosen and to become a member of this awesome group of Pittsfield citizens. I would also like to thank the many people who have reached out to me with kind congratulations. It has been a privilege to be able to serve this town in a variety of ways and I will continue to try to help make Pittsfield an amazing place to live. Thank you to all the other people who have made it easy to do the volunteer work that I have been a part of. Again I am honored to be your 2022 Citizen of the Year. *Maryellen (Minni) Plante*



Start of the 2017 Frank H. Donovan 5K

Want to see the pictures in color?
Subscribe to receive the *Post* by Email
Go to: www.PittsfieldPost.org
Or scan the QR code



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

GRANITE IMAGE

940 Suncook Valley Hwy • PO Box 683

Epsom, NH 03234 • 603-736-6056

print@granite-image.com • www.granite-image.com



Frank H. Donovan 5K

Join us on Drake Field for the return of the IN PERSON Frank H. Donovan 5K! Whether you are an experienced runner or this is your first 5K, we hope you will come to enjoy a morning run or walk through historic

downtown Pittsfield. Frank was a dedicated Pittsfield Rotarian who loved helping to organize this race, and we know that he will be looking down and smiling as he cheers for everyone to make their way up Fairview hill. This is a family friendly race, and participants enjoy seeing multiple generations walking or running together. There will be awards for each age category and \$100 cash prizes for each male and female winner.

The race was canceled in 2020 due to Covid, and last year we were able to restart the race with a virtual option and the support of a nice group of people who did complete the course in person on what would have been the race morning. Overall, 43 people registered for the virtual race in 2021, and with this funding, we were excited to give out a 2022 scholarship to a deserving PMHS student, Matthew Swenson.

To register for the race, please visit raceroster.com. Registrations are also welcome at the gazebo on Drake Field on the morning of the race for \$25, cash only. More information is available on the Balloon Rally website: <http://suncookvalleyrotary.org>

Please contact Keith and Libby Kun, Race Directors, at frank5krun@gmail.com with any questions.

PYW consistent place for kids to learn, grow and thrive; a place that becomes a 'second home', that creates memories of positive learning experiences.

The organization relies exclusively on donations and grants. In May 2022, under Zach's guidance, they participated in the New Hampshire Gives online charity event. The Foss Family Foundation offered to use their annual donation to match up to \$40,000 during the fund-raising event and PYW ultimately raised \$37,000. Zach shared that one donation of \$10,000 was made anonymously, and the individual who made the contribution indicated they had read about the fund-raising event here in *The Pittsfield*

Balloon Rally Updates

The Suncook Valley Rotary Club presents the 40th Annual Hot Air Balloon Rally on Friday- Sunday, August 5-7. Visit the town website pittsfieldnh.gov or the Suncook Valley Rotary Club FB page for schedule. For information or if you have questions, please contact Fallon Reed at suncookvalleyrotary@gmail.com

Victory Workers 4H Club's Cow Chip Bingo tickets are available NOW!! All proceeds assist the club with educational programs, life skill projects, scholarships and other activities that help the kids "Make the Best Better" For tickets, please contact Pam Clattenburg at 435-0772 or Melissa Babcock at 496-3928.

The boat ramp at Pittsfield's Drake Field will be closed for the duration of the Balloon Rally. The boat ramp closure is for public safety reasons in cooperation with NH Fish & Game.

The Pittsfield Fire Association is doing a raffle. There is one prize. Your choice of a cord of wood, a ton of wood pellets OR \$300 cash. One drawing \$1.00 a ticket or six for \$5.00. Drawing is August 7 - Sunday morning. There will be a booth Friday nite and all day Saturday at the balloon rally or ask your local firemen for tickets.

The new PES PTO fundraiser is Paints for Students!!! Do you like hot air balloons and have dreamed of designing your own balloon? Now is your chance!! We are selling hot air balloon plywood cutouts for you to design and paint. There will be a limited amount for this year to test participation. There will be cash prizes for two categories: "Over 18" and "Under 18". Contact the PES PTO Facebook messenger for more information.

Post.

The organization plans to use their recent donation windfall for operating expenses, maintenance and insurance. However a significant portion of the recently received funds will be earmarked for the kids to decide how they would like to invest in the Pittsfield Youth Workshop.

Check out the PYW website for additional details on their hours as well as the calendar of activities and events they have planned. Thank you Zach, Laurie, Hannah and all the PYW kids and families for keeping this very special center going for our young folks – the future of our town! *MP Christakos*

AUGUST 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mondays,

- 10am-6pm** Josiah Carpenter Library
- 11am-2pm, 4-6pm** Pittsfield Food Pantry
- 11am-7pm** Town Hall

Tuesdays,

- 12:30-6pm** Josiah Carpenter Library
- 10am-4pm** Pittsfield Clothes Closet
- 8am-4pm** Town Hall

Wednesdays,

- 12:30-6pm** Josiah Carpenter Library
- 10-4pm** Pittsfield Clothes Closet
- 1-4pm** Town Hall

Thursdays,

- 10am** Story Hour at the Town Beach
- 11am-2pm** Pittsfield Food Pantry
- 10am-6pm** Josiah Carpenter Library
- 8am-4pm** Town Hall

Fridays,

- 8am-4pm** Town Hall
- 1:50-2:40** PMHS Food Pantry

Saturdays,

- 10am-2pm** Josiah Carpenter Library
- 10am-1pm** Pittsfield Clothes Closet

1, Monday 7:30pm American Legion Peterson Cram Post 75 Meeting, Town Hall

1, Monday - 4 Thursday Kindergarten Camp, PES

2, Tuesday, 9-11am Diaper Pantry, First Congregational Church
PMHS Summer Academies Begin

3, Wednesday, 11am Express Yourself! Workshop, Senior Center
6:30pm Suncook Valley Rotary Club Meeting, Pittsfield Historical Society

4, Thursday, 5:30pm School Board meeting PMHS Media Center
6pm Zoning Board of Adjustment, Town Hall

5, Friday - 7 Saturday 40th Annual Suncook Valley Rotary Balloon Rally, Drake Field

8, Monday 6:30pm Josiah Carpenter Library Mead

and Read Book Club, Over the Moon Farmstead

9, Tuesday, 6pm Selectboard meeting, Town Hall
6:15pm Parks and Recreation meeting, Recreation Area, Clark Street

10, Wednesday, 11am, Recipe Round Up gathering, Senior Center

5pm Community Development Committee, Town Hall

11, Thursday, Planning Board Meeting, Town Hall

13, Saturday 8:30-9:30am Community Breakfast, Joy Church

2pm Joy Church Block Party, Drake Field

16, Tuesday, 9-11am Diaper Pantry, First Congregational Church

17, Wednesday, 10:30am Library Trustees meeting, Josiah Carpenter Library

6:30pm Suncook Valley Rotary Club meeting, Pittsfield Historical Society

18, Thursday, 11am Servicelink Presentation, Senior Center

5:30pm School Board meeting, PMHS Media Center

22, Monday, 9am-3pm VNA Senior Health Clinic, Community Center, call 224-4-93 ext 5815 for an appointment

23, Tuesday, 6pm Selectboard meeting, Town Hall

6pm Lions Club Meeting, Congregational Church

24, Wednesday, 5pm Community Development Committee meeting, Town Hall

25, Thursday, 4:30:pm 6th Grade Orientation, PMHS
5:30pm PES and PMHS Open House

6pm Planning Board Work Session, Town Hall

7pm Conservation Commission, Town Hall

26, Friday, 10am Pittsfield Post Volunteer Meeting, Recreation Area on Clark Street

29, Monday First Day of School, Pittsfield School District

*Do you have a meeting or event you want to share?
Email: pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org*

The Post is Counting on You!

Dear Readers:The *Post* needs your help to keep printing this weekly publication. When you're thinking about supporting our community, please send us a donation! Checks should be made out to: **Pittsfield Center Development Corporation, memo: Pittsfield Post, P.O. Box 253, Pittsfield, NH 03263. Thank you!**

Cook's Corner
Portobello Burgers and
Blue Cheese Cole Slaw

There's nothing quite like a juicy burger, cooked on the grill, on a warm summer evening. I agree, but here's a healthier option that's quick and easy to make. You'll be surprised at how 'meaty' these mushroom caps taste. Serve them just as you would your regular beef burger. We like to put these on toasted brioche rolls with cheese, lettuce, tomato and onion. We also often serve these 'open face' on toasted English Muffins (the jumbo size), with a schmear of Dijon mustard and mayo and topped with sauteed onions and Swiss cheese.

Be sure to make either roasted potatoes or oven fries and to round out this meal, make a batch of this delicious Blue Cheese Cole Slaw. Bon appetit! *MP Christakos*

Portobello Mushroom Burgers

2 to 4 portobello mushrooms, the large ones, stems discarded and scrape out some of the gills if desired



Beth 603-856-3101 **Chelsie** 603-892-4057
 603-435-6711
 1 Depot Street • Pittsfield, NH 03263
 cindyshairaffair2020@gmail.com

Classifieds
Pittsfield Community Center
Function Rooms available for Rent
 Days, Nights, Weekends. Call 603 435-6729 for information

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

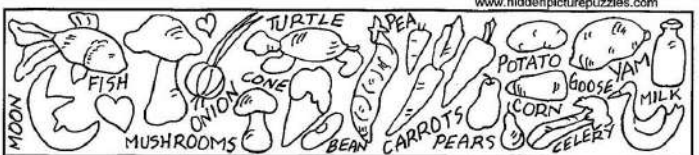
Olive oil
 Salt & pepper
 Heat oven to 425.
 Brush both sides of the mushrooms with a little olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Place mushroom caps, stem side down, on a rimmed baking sheet covered with foil. Roast the mushrooms in the oven for 10 minutes, until tender.

Blue Cheese Cole Slaw

1 (16 oz) bag of shredded cole slaw mix (save the sauce packet for another use)
 1 cup mayonnaise
 ½ to ¾ cup crumbled blue cheese
 2 TBSP lemon juice
 1 tsp black pepper
 1 tsp sugar
 Place cole slaw mix in a large bowl and toss to separate. In a medium bowl, mix together the remaining ingredients. Pour the dressing over the slaw and toss well to combine. Let it rest for 5 minutes, then toss one more time. Refrigerate for 2 hours before serving.

Grow, Learn, Read Daily Activity
 Josiah Carpenter Library

27 TALKING
 Talk about things you do in the morning, things you do in the afternoon, and things you do at night.





Up Up & Away

COMING TO PITTSFIELD

AS WE EXPLORE

**Benjamin Franklin
Public Charter School
Grades 6-12**

PITTSFIELD BALLOON RALLY
AUGUST 5 & 6

FROM 3 - 8 PM EACH DAY
PLEASE VISIT OUR TABLE!
YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT
TO US
THANK YOU

