

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE NEWSLETTER BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

"August rain: the best of the summer gone, and the new fall not yet born." — - **August 19, 2026**
Anonymous

Some Thoughts from Behind the Gavel

Looking back over our collective shoulders just a bit, everyone in Pittsfield can be justifiably pleased and proud of the 2026 Balloon Rally and Festival brought to us for more than 40 years by the Suncook Valley Rotary Club and a host of supporters. This year's event was a great success and swept a lot of enjoyment into our small town. Everyone, whether professionals or volunteers, did a fantastic job orchestrating all the moving parts.

However, amid the success are clear signs that additional planning, organizing and resourcing are needed before another event of this magnitude. We were extremely fortunate, given the crowds and the traffic, that we were spared any sort of catastrophe. A fire, medical emergency, or automobile accident could've turned disastrous with the snarl of traffic throughout the downtown area and the routes leading in and out. Reminder: Floral Park Cemetery is not a parking facility. The good news is that folks are already thinking about improvements for next year. Solutions will be found, and we can all look forward to an even greater event then.

This week's Selectboard meeting saw us rolling out a new method of dealing with routine, non-controversial items via a "Consent Calendar." This allows items to be grouped together and voted by a single vote. In this case, nine items passed at once by a 5:0 voice vote. Of course, any Board member may withdraw "consent" from an item for further discussion or debate if they wish. That item would be then voted separately.

Following the regular business, the Board met in a non-public session to discuss hiring a candidate to fill one of the two vacant positions in the Public Works Department. A conditional offer was extended.

On Wednesday evening the Board and all the department heads met in joint session with the Selectboard and department heads from Barnstead. This was a follow-up meeting to one in June, when we began seeking cost and other efficiencies where advantages may be gained by combining the efforts of our two towns. Two such ideas are in bringing our two Economic Development Committees together and exploring bulk purchases for supplies, such as sand and salt for the roadways, or perhaps fuel for municipal vehicles. Definitely more to follow on this subject.

.J.C. Allard, Pittsfield Selectboard

Change of Date

The Pittsfield Historical Society will be open on Old Home Day, Saturday, Sept. 12. Therefore, it will be closed on Sunday, Sept. 13. It will again be open on the second Sunday of the month: Oct. 11, Nov. 8, and Dec. 13 between 1 and 4 pm.

State Primary Candidates

Any local political candidate participating in the primary election is welcome to submit a letter to the Pittsfield Post to be published in the September 2nd edition. The deadline is Friday, Aug. 28, at 9 am. Local political positions include State Senator, State Representative, Sheriff, County Attorney, and County Treasurer.

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

Pittsfield Town Crier

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

Mon-Fri, Aug. 17-21-PMHS Fall Athletic Season 2026- Boys Soccer - Grades 9-12, Coach Logan LaRoche- Aug 17 - 21 : Mandatory Regular Season Try-Outs - 4-5:30 pm at Drake Field. Girls Soccer - Grades 9-12, Coach Jen Tyrell- Aug 17-21 : Mandatory Regular Season Try-Outs - 3:30-5pm at Drake Field. Middle School Co-Ed Soccer - Grades 6-8, Coach Joel Chagnon- Sept 1-4 : Mandatory Regular Season Try-Outs - 3:30-5pm at Drake Field.

Wed, Aug. 19, 6:30pm – The Suncook Valley Rotary Club will meet at the Pittsfield Historical Society, 4 Oak St.

Wed, Aug. 19, 6-7pm– PYAA Soccer Season is starting. Meet the Coaches Night at the Tilton Hill ball field. Free Cleats: Soccer cleats will be available if your player needs a pair. Practices start: the week of Aug. 31 (days and times set by your coach).

Become a 2026 PYAA/PYBA Soccer Sponsor and help our young athletes have another unforgettable season. From team jerseys to field banners to the concession stand, there's a sponsorship level for every business. Starting at just \$100, your support helps provide equipment, field maintenance, uniforms, and unforgettable memories. Help us make every goal count, on and off the field. For more information, please email pyaa.pybafundraising@gmail.com

Fri, Aug. 21 – Come enjoy a free day at the Town Pool (F.B. Argue Recreation Area on Clark St.) for all school age children. This free admission and hot dog lunch is sponsored by the First Congregational Church.

Sat. & Sun, Aug. 22-23, 8am - PYAA/PYBA (Pittsfield Youth Athletic Association). We will be cleaning up the trees and brush at the Tilton Hill ball field. Any help would be appreciated – come for the day or for a few hours. Every bit helps us get the field looking its best.

Mon, Aug. 24, 5pm – the PHS Alumni Association Old Home Day Float Committee will be meeting at Joe Darrah Enterprises, 84 Barnstead Rd., to start working on our float. If you are interested in helping, please contact Andi Riel at 603-451-8762.

Tues, Aug. 25 – The F.B. Argue Recreation Area (aka Town Pool) will close for the season at 4pm. There's still time to enjoy the wonderful facility. Also, the area can be rented for private events. Please call 603-545-2402 or 603-435-7457 during hours of operation.

Tues, Sept. 1, 9-11am – First Congregational Church of Pittsfield Infant Toddler Diaper Pantry will be open for families to receive supplemental diapers once every month. Each family receives diapers/product per child in need and one package of wipes per family. We generally have NB through size 6 diapers along with pull-ups and overnights. We use the parking lot off Chestnut Street. Financial donations, donations of diapers (including open packages) and donations of wipes are always welcomed. Please call 603-435-7471 with any questions, including donation questions.

Wed, Sept. 2, 6:30pm – The Suncook Valley Rotary Club will meet at the Pittsfield Historical Society, 4 Oak St.

Tues, Sept. 8 - The State Primary Election will be held from 7am to 7pm at the Pittsfield Middle High School gymnasium, located at 23 Oneida St. Absentee ballot applications are available online at www.pittsfieldnh.gov or at the Town Clerk's office.

Pittsfield Old Home Day & Homecoming is Sept. 12 this year. The theme is "Roots & Wings - A Tribute to our History and our Future". We are currently accepting registrations for the vendor/craft fair and the parade. Links for the forms can be found on the town website. <https://www.pittsfieldnh.gov/old-home-day-committee> Reach out to Melissa 603-496-3928 or Adam 603-219-7284 if you have any questions.

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 learn more about this wonderful foundation or more importantly to donate. 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 St., will be closed for staff vacations the week of Aug. 24 and back to our school year schedule on Mon., Aug. 31. Give us a call (603) 435-8272 or text (603) 234-9788 if you have any questions or just swing by and say hello. 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.

Senior Center (55 Barnstead Rd., located in Joy Church) Community lunch: Mon. & Thurs., 11:45am; Tai Chi: Mon./Thurs. 8am & Wed. 12pm; Bingo: Mon., Wed., and Thurs. 10-11:45am; Walking at Center: Mon., Wed. & Thurs. 8am-1pm. For more information or if you have questions, call Anne at 603-435-8482 or email: aalbers-reilly@capbm.org

Join us every Saturday for BINGO hosted by Pittsfield Youth Baseball/Softball Association Bingo. Doors open at 3:30pm and bingo starts at 6pm at Circle 9 Ranch in Epsom.

End 68 Hours of Hunger - If you would like to donate, please visit: www.end68hoursofhunger.org or our Give Butter donation platform: <https://givebutter.com/end68hoursofhunger> and make note Alton/Barn/Pitts or our local donation platform: <https://www.nhgives.org/story/60dk6f>.

If you know of any families in Alton/Barnstead/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/>.

If you would like to volunteer or donate, please contact Lori Mahar, volunteer admin for End 68 Hours of Hunger Alton/Barnstead/Pittsfield. Cell: 603-490-5254 or email: barnsteadnh@end68hoursofhunger.org.

Dowboro Farm (home of many Victory Workers 4-H club items), 615 Dowboro Rd., is open. Hours are: Wed – Sat from 9:30am–6:30pm and Sun from 10am-4pm.

The Community Cookbooks – filled with recipes from local family and friends of the Victory Workers 4-H Club, South Pittsfield Community Club and Josiah Carpenter Library are now available for purchase. The cost is \$15, cash or check (payable to Victory Workers 4-H). Pick up your copy at Dowboro Farm Store, Josiah Carpenter

Library, South Pittsfield community suppers, Clark's Grain Store or any Victory Worker 4-H family.

The Pittsfield High School Alumni Association is participating in the Old Home Day/Homecoming parade and we are looking for 1st–3rd grade students who would like to dress up as what they would like to be when they grow up and be in the parade with us! We can help with costumes if needed. Please let us know if you are interested by Fri, Aug. 21, by contacting Andi Riel at pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com or 603-451-8762 or Tobi Chassie at tchassie@gmail.com or 603-832-4240. We're also looking for any PHS alumni to walk with or ride on the float.

Josiah Carpenter Library Celebrates 125 Years - Celebrate with us! We are proud to have been a pillar of the Pittsfield Community for the past 125 years but couldn't have done it without you. Join us for one or more of our upcoming events and help us fill our time capsule. Aug. 10-21: Self-guided tours of the library with labeled historical data during regular business hours. Sunday, Aug. 23, 1-3pm - Reception - Tour the library and learn about the history and present-day programs and offerings. Refreshments provided. Help fill the time capsule - bring something specific to Pittsfield.

Marston Farm Corn Maze, 372 Webster Mills Rd., will open on Sat, Sept. 5. Sat & Sun through Sept and Oct. at 10am. Visit marstonfarmnh.com for more information.

Happy Birthday wishes to Aunt Mary Briggs and Ed Vien on Fri, Aug. 21; to Harry Vogt on Tues, Sept. 1; and to Ted Mitchell on Wed, Sept. 2.

Happy Anniversary wishes to Stacy & Rick Davis on Sun., Aug. 23, and to Rick & Jen Walter on Tues, Aug. 25.

A very special Happy Anniversary wish to my wonderful husband, Mark Riel, on Wed, Aug. 19.





Pittsfield MomCo
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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

We have a place for you this Sunday 10 AM

24 Main Street, Pittsfield, NH 03263 ~ Phone 603.435.7471

Office hours Tue 10-2, Wed 8-12, Thurs 1-5, and by appt.

2026-27 Theme Good Company

Some Topics: Be Interruptible, Crucial Conversations, Decoding Desire, Stay True, Motherhood is leadership, True Self Care, *and much more*

**A new community for moms
Starting September 2026
First & Third Tuesdays
10-12p.**

All moms welcome

There's a group for kids as well



Painting Landscapes with Textures

Create a unique landscape by "painting" with textures!

Hosted by Artist Alexis Stefano

Students will start with exploratory exercises in mark making and expressive color. The class will look at examples of selective color and composition before using a stress-free method to sketch their own unique landscape from a photograph. By the end of class, students will have a finished, or mostly finished, 8x8 inch piece.

Students may bring a printed photo of a landscape they would like to work on, or use a provided one. All other materials are provided. Students will primarily use the provided watercolors and colored pencils, but are welcome to bring any supplemental materials that will work on a paper surface.



GRAYLAG

Registration is free, but donations are welcome! Spaces are limited.

Register at graylag.org/programs

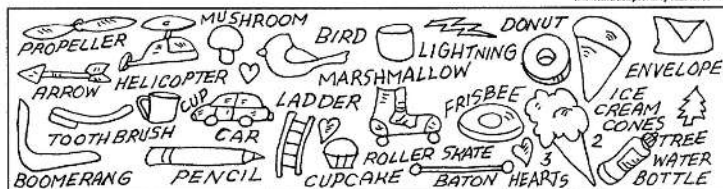
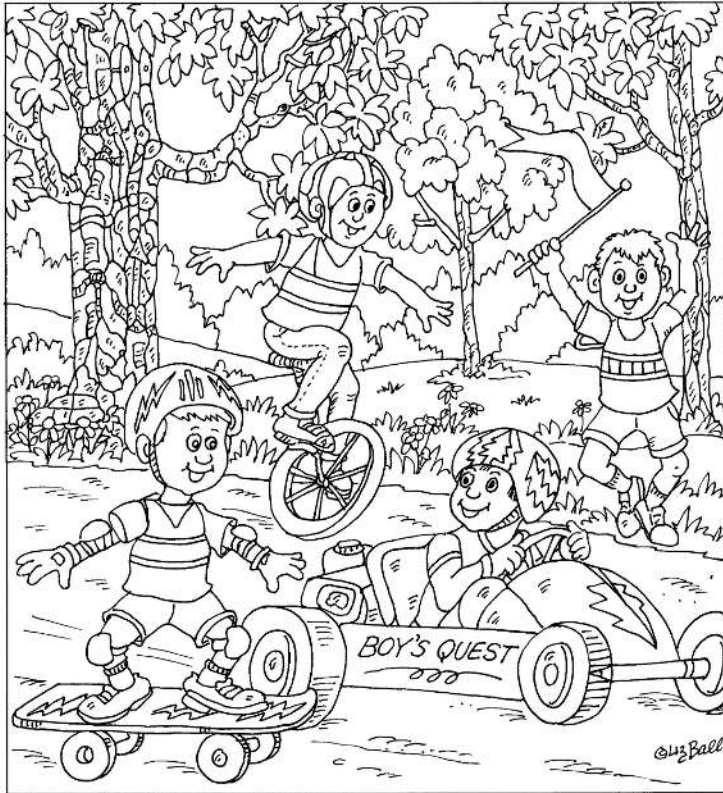
When: Sunday, Aug. 30

Time: 11am-2pm

Where: Graylag Nature Preserve, 320 Clough Rd., Pittsfield, NH 03263

To Register <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/painting-landscapes-with-textures>

For more information, (603) 435-5555 or email programs@graylagcabins.com.



Paid for by Dan Schroth

Save the Date!!

History through Post Cards

Jonas Glidden, while teaching at Pittsfield, used picture postcards from numerous locations to pique interest in his students. Now he has taken his collection to pique our interest in various times in the United States's history. A relevant topic as we celebrate our 250th Anniversary.

Please join us at the Pittsfield Historical Society Museum where Jonas will lead us on an historical adventure illustrating the story of America with postcards.

Wednesday, Sept. 9

6:30pm

4 Oak St.

Toiletry Drive



Join us as we gather **TOILETRY ITEMS**
for The Pittsfield Youth Workshop!

DROP OFF LOCATION:



Until
9/30/26

ITEMS NEEDED:

Shampoo	Hand Soap
Conditioner	Chapstick
Deodorant	Feminine Hygiene Products
Face Wash	Toilet Paper
Body Wash	Hand Sanitizer
Toothbrushes	Lotion
Toothpaste	Hair Ties

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Cooks Corner -- Triple Berry Crisp

Here's a delightfully delicious dessert that makes the most of summer's beautiful berries. We love to serve this warm, with a big scoop of good quality vanilla ice cream; however, this tasty crisp has also been known to be eaten for breakfast at our house. Enjoy! *MP Christakos*

For the Crumble

¾ cup all purpose flour
 ½ cup old fashioned rolled oats
 ½ cup packed light brown sugar
 ¼ cup granulated sugar
 ¼ tsp ground cinnamon
 ¼ tsp salt
 ½ cup unsalted butter, cold and diced into small pieces

For the Filling

12 oz fresh raspberries (about 2 & ½ cups)
 11 oz fresh blueberries (about 2 heaping cups)
 6 oz fresh blackberries (about 1 heaping cup)
 1/3 cup granulated sugar
 1 & ½ TBSP cornstarch

Heat oven to 375. Butter a 9x9 inch or 11x7 inch baking dish.

For the crumble, in a mixing bowl, whisk together flour, oats, brown sugar, granulated sugar, cinnamon and salt. Add the butter and cut into the mixture using a pastry cutter or fork (or rub with your fingertips), until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Transfer to refrigerator.

For the filling, rinse the berries and let drain (but don't dry). Transfer to prepared baking dish. In a small bowl, whisk together sugar and cornstarch. Pour cornstarch mixture evenly over the berries and toss well to evenly coat.

Remove crumble from the fridge and sprinkle evenly over the berries.

Bake in the oven until filling is bubbling and topping is golden brown and crisp, about 30 to 35 minutes.

Frank H. Donovan 5K

Congratulations to all of the participants in this year's Pittsfield Balloon Rally Frank H. Donovan 5K! 101 runners braved the humidity and made it up and over Fairview Hill to finish the race. 21 Pittsfield residents completed the race, with congratulations to Keith Donovan, the first runner from Pittsfield to cross the finish line earning 2nd place in his division. Other Pittsfield residents who earned awards in their age categories included: Scott Sullivan, Joanna Gallagher, Kate Alexander, Kira Wood, Addison Clark, Addison Babcock, and Rose Koladish. With the proceeds from the race, another generous scholarship will be awarded to a Pittsfield senior next spring. Thank you to all of the volunteers and participants who made this race possible, and to the Suncook Valley Rotary and Northeast Delta Dental for their support. Mark your calendars for Aug. 8, 2027, to take part in this great Balloon Rally tradition!



Keith Donovan at the finish line



Cyril and I were members of the 2026 Election Law Committee and after searching the New Hampshire General Court's committee listings, 18 bills were signed into law by Governor Kelly Ayotte. A few particularly significant ones are noted:

HB1062 - Voter citizenship audits: Authorizes the Secretary of State to conduct random audits concerning the citizenship qualification of registered voters.

HB1031 - Campaign funds for security: Allows candidates and state officials to use up to \$3,000 of campaign funds for security measures.

HB1187- Special-election filing period: Changes the amount of time candidates have to file for a state representative special election and makes the process more accessible at the local level.

HB1234 - Incompatible school-district offices: It establishes that a person cannot simultaneously hold: School Board Member and District Moderator: School Board Member and District Treasurer: School Board Member and District Auditor, School Board Member and elected School Budget Committee member. It also maintains the prohibition on a salaried employee of a school district or SAU serving as a school board member within that SAU.

HB1300 - Local school tax-cap question: This is the election-related bill that puts a school-district local tax-cap question before voters in the 2026 and 2028 state general elections, while also imposing limits on school-district central-office administrative (SAU) expenses.

HB1381- Party filing period: Under the normal filing system, candidates have a relatively short filing period in June. If nobody files for a particular party nomination, the party can designate someone to fill that vacancy. The filling period was extended by 10 days.

HB1541 - Ballot security: Requires the Secretary of State to provide voting precincts with secure containers for storing ballots.

SB223 - Voter ID: Removes student ID cards issued by colleges and universities from the list of acceptable photo identification for obtaining a ballot.

SB438 - Centralized voter database: Requires the Secretary of State to work with city and town clerks to provide direct or indirect access, at the polling location, to the statewide centralized voter registration database during the operating hours of every state, local, and federal election.

SB534 - Campaign finance compliance: Designed to prevent prohibited foreign-national money from entering New Hampshire political campaigns and to strengthen compliance requirements for political committees.

SB660 - Voting-only photo ID: A voter-identification bill that makes it easier for a New Hampshire voter who does not have a driver's license to obtain a photo ID specifically for voting.

If you have any questions, please email: info@claytoncyril4house.com

Your State Representatives, Cyril Aures and Clayton Wood.

Tucci Fire Wood
14", 16" & 18" WOOD

- Pine (Campfire)
- Dry Hardwood
- Kiln Fire Wood

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September



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9-11am 1st Congregational Church Diaper Pantry;	2 6:30pm Suncook Valley Rotary mtg.	3 6pm ZBA meeting	4	5
6	7 Town Hall Closed 6:30pm American Legion Peterson-Cram Post 75 mtg.	8 State Primary Election 7 am -7pm BCEP Closed	9 Library Trustee 9:30 am Community Development Mtg. 4 pm Mead &Read Book Club 6:30 Park & Rec 7pm	10 Planning Board All Day	11 5:30-6:30pm 1st Congrega- tional Church Community supper	12 Old Home Day 9am to Fireworks Pittsfield Historical Society Open 9am-1pm
13	14 PES/PTO 5:30 pm	15 Selectboard mtg 6 pm	16 Friends of the Library meeting 6:30 Suncook Valley Rotary 6:30pm Selectboard mtg with Barnstead 5:30 pm	17	18	19
20	21	22 Selectboard mtg 6 pm	23 Community Development Mtg. 4 pm	24 BCEP Com Mtg 6pm Conservation Commission 7pm	25	26
27	28	29	30 4 pm PES/PTO mtg 5:30 pm	Senior Center Hours Monday & Thursday 8am - 2pm Wednesday 8am - 1pm Food Pantry Mon. 11am-2pm 4-6pm Thurs. 11am-2pm (603) 435-7300		