

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE NEWSLETTER BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

"In many ways, September feels like the busiest time of the year: the kids go back to school, work piles up after the summer's dog days, and Thanksgiving is suddenly upon us."

September 16, 2026

– Brené Brown (American academic and writer)

TOWN OF PITTSFIELD COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Tuesday, Sept.29 5-7pm

Hosted at Graylag Nature Preserve Facilitated by NH Humanities

Graylag Nature Preserve and the town of Pittsfield have been selected by NH Humanities as host for an upcoming Community Conversation – an opportunity for people to come together for a facilitated discussion about how we can shape a stronger, more connected community.

In collaboration with the Community Development Finance Authority, NH Humanities is sponsoring eight of these community conversations around NH this year, and Graylag/Pittsfield is one of them. NH Humanities will provide a facilitator for the conversation and a cartoonist to document the event.

In addition, we will receive grant funding to bring the ideas and themes from the conversation to life through a community-led project later this year. That future project might include, but is not limited to, shared reading experiences, community storytelling, welcoming initiatives for newcomers, or facilitated discussions.

Pittsfield's project will be shaped by the conversation that we have in September. The goal is to strengthen local connections, foster civic participation, and create meaningful opportunities for engagement.

Cartoonist, musician, and educator Marek Bennett will live-draw at all New Hampshire locations as neighbors and strangers gather for wide-ranging conversations about the big ideas that shape our lives. You can see the results of last year's Community Conversation events compiled in Bennett's book, NH Sketchbook:

<https://marekbennett.com/2026/03/26/nh-sketchbook/>

We know that a Tuesday evening can be a challenging time for folks to come to yet another meeting. To help make it easier and hopefully enable more people to participate, we plan to provide childcare (pizza and a movie in one of our cabins) as well as refreshments (possibly pizza and/or other food) for the meeting participants.

For more information and to RSVP, email info@graylagcabins.com Call Graylag at (603) 435-5555, or go to <https://graylag.org/programs/community-conversation>

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

Congratulations to Stan Bailey, 2026 Pittsfield Citizen of the Year!! Thank you Stan for all you have done and continue to do to make our Pittsfield Community a better place to live.

Wed, Sept 16, 6:30pm- The Suncook Valley Rotary Club will meet at the Pittsfield Historical Society.

Wed, Sept. 16, 6pm – Friends of Josiah Carpenter Library will meet at the Library. All are welcome to attend.

Sat, Sept. 19, 9am-1:30pm - Pumpkin 'n Pine Fair, a charming country church fair. There will be food, fellowship and treasures at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead. Bring friends and join with others for a delicious lunch in the café. This annual fair has many favorite features including a silent auction, antiques & collectibles, home goods, bakery, handmade gifts, holiday items and a new addition this year, tools! A unique offering is the beautiful bags and purses made from tie-dyed fabric from Ghana. The silent auction has choice items to bid on including certificates to local services and restaurants. Come see for yourself all the fair offers, have a delicious lunch and go home with a treasure. The Pumpkin & Pine Fair is located at 504 North Barnstead Road, Barnstead. Just follow the signs!

Thurs, Sept. 24, 7pm – The Pittsfield Conservation Commission will meet at the Town Hall.

Sat, Sept. 26 – South Pittsfield Community Club Turkey Supper -all you can eat. 444 Dowboro Rd. Seatings are 4:30pm, 5:15pm and 6pm. Tickets are on sale at 4pm. Cash only please. Cost is Adults- \$15; Children ages 6-12- \$10; Children under 6 are free. Menu is turkey, stuffing, squash, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, rolls, drinks and homemade pies. Take-out is available.

Tues/Wed, Oct. 6 & 7, 6pm – The Pittsfield Players are holding public auditions for “The Holiday Movie Christmas Channel Wonderthon!” at the Scenic Theatre, 6 Depot St., We are looking for 16-20 people, ages 18+ to fill a variety of roles in this two-act comedy.

Sat, Oct. 17 – Save the Date for Harvest Fest sponsored by the Pittsfield Parks & Recreation

Committee and to be held at the F.B Argue Recreation Area (aka Town Pool) on Clark St. More info to come.

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.. 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.

Senior Center (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 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

Join us every Saturday for Bingo hosted by Pittsfield Youth Baseball/Softball Association Bingo. They have a great menu of food items along with their games and it all benefits the children of Pittsfield for their baseball/softball program. Doors open at 3:30pm and bingo starts at 6 pm 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 - 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.

The Pittsfield Food Pantry needs volunteers. Hours would be Monday and Thursday from 10:45am-1:45pm. Stop in to inquire. Pantry hours are Monday: 11am-2pm & 4-5pm Thursday: 11am-2pm Phone: (603) 435-7300, Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3, Pittsfield NH 03263.

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.

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

Become a **2026 PYAA/PYBA Soccer Sponsor**, help our young athletes have another unforgettable season! From team jerseys to field banners and concession stand...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 Info. email pyaa.pybafundraising@gmail.com

The Friendly Diner, 44 Main St., is collecting toiletry items for the Pittsfield Youth Workshop until Sept. 30. Items needed include: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, face wash, body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand soap, Chapstick, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, lotion and hair ties.

Marston Farms Second Corn Maze is back! Open Saturdays 10am–7pm and Sundays 10am–5pm. Snacks, ice cream, drinks available at the booth. Tickets can be purchased online: MarstonFarm.simpletix.com. *Tickets can be

purchased at the farm but please note there will be a \$2 up-charge for at-event purchases. We do this so people pre-purchase tickets online so we can try give our food vendors a heads up on the amount of tickets sold. Please visit our website for all the information and FAQ.

<https://www.marstonfarmnh.com/> Address: 384 Webster Mills Road, Pittsfield NH 03263

Happy Birthday wishes to Tara Cabral and Paula Martel on Wed, Sept. 16; to Steve Chagnon and Diane Miller on Fri, Sept. 18; to Louie Houle and Dana Tuttle on Sat, Sept. 19; to my brother-in-law, Tim Riel on Sun, Sept. 20; to my niece, Tracey Riel on Tues, Sept. 22; to Mary-Ellen Tuttle on Sun, Sept. 27; and to Melissa Babcock on Mon, Sept. 28

Happy Anniversary wishes to my sister and brother-in-law, Robin and Fred Blais on Thurs, Sept. 17; to Stephanie and Norman Tuttle on Wed, Sept. 23 and to Stan and Sheila Bailey on Tues, Sept. 28



John and Calsey Forst are thrilled to announce the arrival of their baby boy, Page Forst, born September 9, 2026. Page is lovingly welcomed by his proud siblings, Kit, Van, and Acre."

News from the The Old Farmer's Almanac

September 22 marks the start of fall! This year's Autumnal Equinox occurs at 8:05 P.M. EDT. On this date, there are approximately equal hours of daylight and darkness.



Post-It in the Post
Community groups, businesses,
and individuals, please send us your
news, opinions, and creative work!
Deadline is 9 a.m. Friday.
Email: News@PittsfieldPost.org
Info: www.PittsfieldPost.org

Becky Berk

FOR
STATE REPRESENTATIVE



Merrimack County 13
Pittsfield and Chichester

Running as an Independent
Working for you, not for a party



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Becky Berk For the House

INDEPENDENT
LEADERSHIP

*Working for you,
not for a party.*



*Learn
more*

My Beliefs and Priorities

- Reject the broken two-party system.
- Reduce the property tax burden on our communities.
- Fund public education fairly.
- Reinstate taxes on passive wealth and large out-of-state corporations.
- Cut red tape to expand affordable housing for working families.
- Prioritize the needs of children and families.
- Safeguard responsible gun ownership.
- Protect NH from an earned income or general sales tax.

[www.IndependentsForMerrimack13.com](http://www IndependentsForMerrimack13.com)

Paid for by Becky Berk for the House

Fiscal Agent: Becky Berk, PO Box 125, Pittsfield NH 03263

Come to the Fair: Pumpkin 'n Pine

Save Saturday, Sept. 19, for a charming country church fair. There will be food, fellowship and treasures at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead. Bring friends and join with others for a delicious lunch in the café.

This annual fair has many favorite features including a silent auction, antiques & collectibles, home goods, bakery, handmade gifts, holiday items and a new addition this year, tools! A unique offering is the beautiful bags and purses made from tie-dyed fabric from Ghana. The silent auction has choice items to bid on including certificates to local services and restaurants. Come see for yourself all the fair offers, have a delicious lunch and go home with a treasure.



The Pumpkin & Pine Fair will be held between 9am and 1:30pm at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead, located at 504 North Barnstead Road in Barnstead. Just follow the signs!

Our Lady of Lourdes Church & St. Joseph's Women's Club are having their Annual Christmas Bazaar.

Where: Parish Hall, 844 1st New Hampshire Turnpike, Northwood

When: Friday, Nov. 6, 4-7pm

Saturday, Nov. 7, 9am- 2pm

Come join us for our Christmas Bazaar. We have a wonderful baked goods table with our famous cookie walk. We have homemade crafts of all kinds and knitted goods and great raffle prizes. Come have a casual dinner Friday or lunch on Saturday- meatball subs, sandwiches and extraordinary chili and chowder and apple crisp for dessert.



**THE PITTSFIELD
YOUTH WORKSHOP**
Celebrating 40 Years!

18 Park Street - PO Box 206 Pittsfield, NH 03263
603-435-8272 (office) 603-234-9788 (text)



School Year Drop-in Hours:
serving grades 6-12

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri:
3:00pm-6:00pm

Wed:
1:00pm-6:00 pm

Follow us on social media!



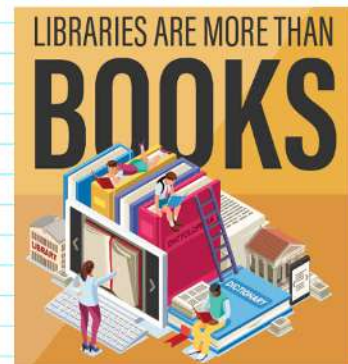
September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month

*Sign up
for Free!*

*Borrow
the Telescope*

*The library
has tennis
Racquets
and Disc
Golf!*

*Check out the
programs at
the Library!*



The mission of the Josiah Carpenter Library is to provide open access for all to pursue and stimulate knowledge, entertainment, and lifelong learning by providing resources in an inclusive community gathering space

Hours:
Mondays and Thursdays 10-6
Tuesdays and Wednesdays 12:30-6
Saturdays 10-2





Cooks Corner -- Apple Snacking Cake

Some of the leaves on the trees are just starting to change colors and that means apple season is here! I thought it would be fun to do a mini series of recipes featuring our favorite Fall fruit – the humble but mighty apple. We kick off the series with this recipe for a super easy, super tasty apple snacking cake. I like to serve this cake warm with a scoop of good quality vanilla ice cream; but it's also delicious for breakfast with a schmear of apple butter or your preferred jam. Stay tuned for more apple recipes and if you have recipes you would like to share, please send them to us at news@pittsfieldpost.org Enjoy! *MP Christakos*

1 cup flour
1 tsp baking powder
 $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp apple pie spice
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp salt
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup packed brown sugar
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup maple syrup

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter, melted
1 egg
2 tsp vanilla extract
1 & $\frac{1}{2}$ cups peeled & chopped cooking apples
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sliced almonds

Heat oven to 350. Grease an 8x8 baking dish with cooking spray.

In a bowl, stir together first 4 ingredients (through salt).

In another bowl, combine brown sugar, maple syrup and melted butter. Stir in egg and vanilla extract. Stir in flour mixture just until combined. Fold in the apples. Spread the batter into the prepared baking dish. Sprinkle the top with almonds.

Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted the center comes out clean. Cool in the pan on a wire rack.



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- Kiln Fire Wood

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Center Barnstead, NH

All are invited. Your ticket is an RSVP and a commitment to civility.

Voters in Pittsfield and Chichester are invited to join Becky Berk and Paul Twomey at our campaign launch party on Sept. 23 from 5-6:30pm at Over the Moon Restaurant and Barn in Pittsfield. The only requirements are an RSVP and a commitment to civility. We are running as Independents, not partisans, so we needed to collect hundreds of signatures before being approved by the NH Secretary of State for the Nov. 3 ballot. Curious about us as candidates for State Rep? Want to know how our approaches might differ from those of the incumbents, Clayton Wood and Cyril Aures? You will hear briefly from each of us, but mostly we want to listen to you, to your hopes, fears, concerns, questions. As Independents, we feel strongly about representing our communities, not a political party. For more information about us and to RSVP (required), visit www.beckyberk.com.

Notes from the Selectboard

The Selectboard did not meet this week due to the primary election on Tuesday. Instead, all the board members participated in the balloting process at the Middle-High School, as is required of us. Some 686 Pittsfield residents turned out to cast their vote to determine which democrats or republicans will run for seats in county, state, and national offices to be ultimately decided on the first Tuesday in November.

Aided by new equipment provided by the state, Town Clerk Erica Anthony and Town Moderator Jackson Marston and their team of ballot clerks and the Supervisors of the Checklist did a superb job of orchestrating the day. Anyone who observed the procedures, as I did, cannot help but be impressed by the speed, efficiency, and effectiveness of the process. Every citizen of this town owes a debt of gratitude to that handful of volunteers who keep the system open, honest, and humming along. Whether your preferred candidate moves on to the general election or lives to try again next time, you can be pleased, proud, and confident in how elections are run in Pittsfield.

The Selectboard will resume its regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 15, to make up for the loss of the meeting this week. Along with all the regular business, we will no doubt be discussing ways to hire a permanent replacement in the position of Code Enforcement Officer.

Selectman Paul Colby is ably "holding the fort" in the short term, but we need to fill the vacancy and get Paul back to just his elected duties.

J.C. Allard, Pittsfield Selectboard



Recently, members of the Victory Workers 4-H Club exhibited over 210 items in the Ruth Kimball Exhibit Hall at the Hopkinton State Fair. Sept. 3-7.

New Hampshire Now the #1 state in America!

Why? We are the:

- ☆ #1 state for economic freedom in North America, ranking first for the 24th time.
- ☆ #1 safest state in America
- ☆ #1 state to find a job
- ☆ Named the #1 state to raise a family. Also ranking among the nation's leaders in ☆ overall quality of life and child well-being.

New Hampshire Didn't Become #1 by Accident. It happened because generations of Granite Staters were willing to: volunteer ☆ show up ☆ speak out ☆ work hard to protect the freedoms that make New Hampshire special. It only works when ordinary citizens are willing to step forward, serve their neighbors, and do the work.

For the past four years, your state representatives have done exactly that. We didn't go to Concord to become career politicians. We went to preserve what made NH #1 in the country. And we have a record to prove it..... standing up for parents:

☆ Voted for the Parental Bill of Rights, giving parents greater visibility in their children's education and requiring schools to respond to parental inquiries.

We stood up for ☆ educational freedom. ☆ public-school open enrollment, giving parents more choices about where their children attend school. These points are now before the Courts as the Claremont decision is probably going to be overturned.

We stood up for you ☆ the taxpayers ☆ local control ☆ Property tax-cap legislation, including HB 1300, giving voters the opportunity to have a say in limiting increases in local property taxes.

☆ Individual liberty ☆ Second Amendment rights Opposing ☆ efforts to impose additional Red-Flag restrictions on law-abiding gun owners. ☆ several attempts to Add broad-based income and sales taxes.

New Hampshire's success didn't come from politicians promising to make us like every other state. It came from Granite Staters protecting what works. Let's get it right! Vote Cyril Aures & Clayton Wood.

Proven Record. Look us up!
Citizenscount.org/Candidate

Paid for by ClaytonCyril4House.com



Monotype Printmaking Demonstration and Workshop Hosted by Artist-in-Residence Jessica Fligg

In this engaging workshop, participants will create unique, one-of-a-kind monotype prints using oil paint on Plexiglass. You will learn the fundamentals of this medium and discover how to print without a printing press by using common household items.

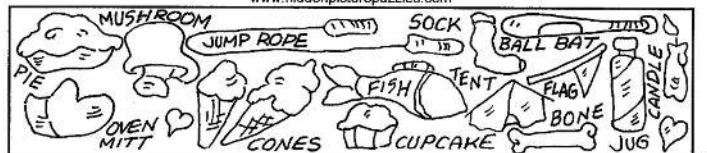
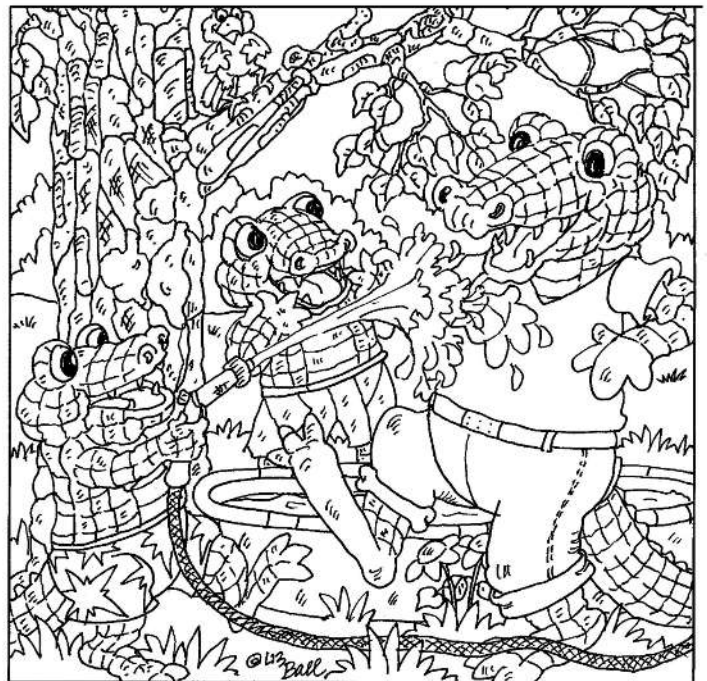
The session will begin with a live demonstration of these techniques. There will be photo references available but participants are encouraged to bring images for inspiration.

Please note that we will be working with oil paint and odorless mineral spirits, so participants are encouraged to bring an apron and rubber gloves.

Cost: Free (Donations are welcome)

When: Sunday, Sept. 27. from 10am to 1pm

Where: Graylag Nature Preserve, 320 Clough Road, Pittsfield. Register at graylag.org/programs





SB 574, Chapter 268, creates a temporary New Hampshire Commission to Study the Efficiency and Structure of School Administrative Units (SAUs).

After being passed 197-151 (We voted for it!) in the House and 13-9 in the Senate, the law was signed by Governor Kelly Ayotte on July 2, 2026. The commission is housed within the New Hampshire Department of Education and consists of 10 members: two state senators, three state representatives, the Education Commissioner or designee, a superintendent, a local school-board member, a school-business administrator, and a member appointed by the School District Governance Association of New Hampshire.

The commission has a broad statewide assignment. It must examine demographic and enrollment changes, identify every SAU and its cost per pupil, and examine how SAUs could allocate resources differently to help reduce property taxes. It must also investigate how other states have consolidated or restructured their school systems, examine obstacles to consolidation and potential school closures, and solicit testimony from individuals and organizations with relevant expertise.

Importantly, SB 574 does not itself consolidate any school districts or SAUs. Instead, it establishes the study process. However, the commission must submit not only findings but also recommendations for proposed legislation to the legislative leadership and Governor. The commission itself terminates November 1, 2026.

For school districts and SAUs, the practical significance is that administrative structure and cost efficiency are now the subject of a formal statewide review. Districts should expect questions about enrollment trends, administrative costs, cost per pupil, shared services, consolidation opportunities, and the relationship between administrative spending and property taxes.

The commission's work could eventually lead to legislation encouraging or requiring SAU consolidation, shared administrative services, restructuring, or other changes. Those changes would require future legislative action; Chapter 268 does not impose them directly.

Bottom line: SB 574 creates a statewide fact-finding process that could become the foundation for future changes to how New Hampshire organizes and finances school administration. The November 1, 2026, report is therefore the key milestone to watch. Cyril and I will be following the testimony and study over the two-month period and reporting on the progress. Both of us plan to follow the Commission's recommendation to law!

Your State Representatives, Cyril Aures and Clayton Wood

The Holiday Movie Christmas Channel Wonderthon!

The Pittsfield Players are holding public auditions for "The Holiday Movie Christmas Channel Wonderthon!" at the Scenic Theatre, 6 Depot St., We are looking for 16-20 people, age 18+ to fill a variety of roles in this two act comedy.

Auditions: Tues/Wed, Oct. 6 & 7, 6pm



Howard Pearl's
5th Annual
Oktoberfest

Pearl & Son's Farm
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Loudon, NH

October 3rd, 2026
1pm-9pm

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ANIMALS
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Gov. Kelly Ayotte

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