

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE NEWSLETTER BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

"Fear less, hope more; whine less, breathe more; talk less, say more; hate less, love more; and all good things are yours." – Proverb

April 15, 2026

Your Selectboard Continues to Seek Budget Solutions

On Tuesday the Selectboard again met outside the usual 2nd and 4th Tuesday cycle in a further attempt to find solutions to our budget challenges. Two important decisions were reached early in what turned out to be a long evening of intense discussions. For the moment, the Selectboard and the Parks and Recreation Commission are comfortable forging ahead toward the summer season at Clark's Pond that we've all come to expect. There will be a small increase in the price of private rental of the facility, but the Parks and Rec team is working hard to keep the season as normal as possible. Challenges remain in terms of hiring summer workers, invasions by waterfowl that lead to water quality issues, and unanticipated maintenance costs. However, the volunteers on the Parks and Rec Commission are focused on resolving issues as they appear, and ensuring that the summer season goes forward as normally as possible.

Likewise, the trustees and staff of the Carpenter Library have the same dedication to community as that shown by the Parks and Rec Commission. With some careful management, the library budget should remain in balance and library programs unaffected by the overall turmoil.

The board is also resolved to continue moving forward with a plan to bring on a part-time selectboard administrator to assist with the volume of work. A recent influx of funding from within the budget will make this action possible without additional tax dollars and provides us an opportunity to relieve some of the burden now borne by the town hall staff.

Unfortunately for the attentive folks in the audience Tuesday night, we had to spend the bulk of the evening in a "non-public" session with the department heads. Those discussions focused on personnel considerations and potentially sensitive negotiations with our unions that are impacted by the new budget realities. Personnel costs, such as overtime payments in each of the departments, are at the heart of any path we may take going forward.

The next selectboard meeting is on the regular schedule and with a full agenda, given that for two weeks we have not dealt with much routine business in favor of budget considerations.

J.C. Allard, Pittsfield Selectboard

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

The Pittsfield Players present "The Supporting Cast"
Show Dates - April 17, 18, 24, 25 at 7:30pm & April 19 at 2pm at the Scenic Theatre, 6 Depot St. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased by visiting our ticket link at www.pittsfieldplayers.org or call the Box Office at 603-435-8852.

Mon, April 20, 7pm – The Greater Pittsfield Chamber of Commerce will meet at the Pittsfield Community Center, lower level, Broadway Extension.

Mon-Thurs, April 20-23 – PES Scholastic Book Fair is happening at the PES Library! Hours subject to change but as of now: MONDAY AND TUESDAY 9am-3pm, WEDNESDAY 7am-1pm, THURSDAY 10am-5:30pm, FRIDAY NO SCHOOL/CLOSED. Below you will find the link for the 'share the fair account,' which is a way to donate money. It's how we always make sure every kid is able to get a book, no matter their financial ability.
<https://shop.scholastic.com/stf/fund?orgUCN=600123403>
<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/pittsfieldelementaryschool>

Thurs, April 23, 6:30pm – The Pittsfield Circle of Home & Family group will meet at the Pittsfield Community Center, Lower level. Thinking about joining the group - please contact Andi Riel at 603-451-8762 for more information.

Thurs, April 23, 7pm – The Pittsfield Conservation Commission will meet at the Town Hall.

Mon-Fri, April 27-May 1 - School Vacation! Have a safe and fun vacation!

Fri, May 1, 6:30pm – Ticket sales are live! Join us for the third annual **Suncook Valley Rotary MOM PROM!** Friday, May 1 at 6:30pm at Del-Lea Weddings & Events. Grab your puffed sleeves, electric blue eyeshadow and AquaNet, and dance the night away at our 1980s-themed prom!!
<https://www.jotform.com/build/260574594239164>

Help spread the news in the
Gem of the Suncook Valley

Please send a donation to the *Pittsfield Post*.

www.pittsfieldpost.org

Sat, May 2, 9am-1pm - Youth FISHING DERBY at the F.B. Argue Recreation Area (aka Town Pool), 35 Clark St. FREE Family Event - Girls and Boys ages 0-6, 7-11, 12-15 – Prizes for Biggest Fish, Smallest Fish and First Fish Caught. There will be 4-H Archery, Kiddie Corner Activities, Fire Dept. BBQ . There will be a 3-gun raffle sponsored by Art's Ammo & Firearms. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20, purchase by contacting pesnhpto@gmail.com or visit Art at Art's Ammo & Firearms at 211 Dowboro Rd. This event is sponsored by the Pittsfield Parks & Recreation Committee, PES PTO and Art's Ammo.

Sat, May 9, 9am – 3pm - The Pittsfield Fire Association will be hosting a **Craft Fair**, Sat, May 9, 9am - 3pm. Free to attend! It will be inside the Pittsfield Fire Department bays so, rain or shine! Vendors needed. \$40 fee for vendors. Vendors must register by April 24. Registration available in person, by phone 603-229-7213, or by email shracin14@yahoo.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> or mail GDA21 Foundation, 98 Main St., Pittsfield, NH 03263; 603-470-6927 or email gda21foundation@gmail.com

Senior Center Schedule (55 Barnstead Rd., Pittsfield NH 03263, located in Joy Church) –Schedule:
Community Lunch: Monday & Thursday 11:45am;
Sweatin' to the Oldies: Monday & Wednesday 8am;
Bingo: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10am -11:45am; Walking at Center: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8am - 1pm; Women's Group: Mondays 9-9:30am; Chair Yoga: Thursday 8am; Breakfast and Bingo: Wednesday 9am; Knitting/Crochet: Thursday 9-9:30am. ?'s -Anne at 603-435-8482 or Email: aalbers-reilly@capbm.org

The Pittsfield Youth Workshop (PYW), 18 Park Street is open for Drop-In Hours - Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday 3-6pm, Wed 1-6pm. The food pantry at PYW is stocked with snacks, beverages, mealtime basics, 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.

BINGO Every Saturday - hosted by Pittsfield Youth Baseball/Softball Association. All proceeds benefit the youth of Pittsfield for the baseball/softball program. Doors open at 3:30pm and Bingo starts at 6pm at Circle 9 Ranch in Epsom.

End 68 Hours of Hunger - Volunteer Drivers are needed. 'End 68 Hours of Hunger - Pittsfield' is looking for volunteers to deliver food to local youth on Thursdays from 9:30am -10:30am. Local delivery routes around Pittsfield. There is also a need for Food Packers (packing the food from shelves to the bags for delivery) on Thursdays from 9am -10am. For more information or to volunteer, please text or call Angela at 603-219-6343.

Pittsfield Town Clerk/Tax Collector change in public office hours effective October 15, 2025**

Wednesdays will be closed all day to the public to meet administrative obligations. Modified Town Clerk/Tax Collector Public Hours: Monday 11am - 7pm, Tuesday 8am - 4pm, Wednesday - closed to public all day in order to meet administrative obligations, Thursday 7am - 4pm, and Friday 8am - 4pm.

Pittsfield Head Start is accepting applications for ages 3-5! The program goes from 8:30am-12:30pm M-F. Breakfast and lunch provided free of charge. You can fill out an application online at www.capbm.org. If you have any questions you can call 603-435-6618.

The Pittsfield Food Pantry is in need of volunteers. Hours would be Monday and Thursday from 10:45am -1:45pm. Stop in to inquire. Pantry hours are Monday: 11-2pm & 4-5pm; Thursday: 11am-2pm Phone: (603) 435-7300, Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3, Pittsfield NH 03263. **NOTE: The Pittsfield Food Pantry is closed from 4/10 – 4/19 - reopening Monday 4/20.**

Suncook Valley Rotary Scholarship - Do YOU know a graduating senior who is college bound next year? Applicant must be a graduating senior from the town of Pittsfield, Barnstead, Loudon, Epsom, or Chichester, who has been accepted to an accredited institution of higher education or an accredited vocational training program. Applications due by May 1 and should be submitted through their school [or emailed to us if the student is home schooled]: suncookvalleyrotary@gmail.com

F. B. Argue Recreation Area-Summer Jobs! Hiring now for: Director, Beach Attendants, Gatekeepers. Applications are available at the town hall, or by visiting the Town of Pittsfield website [employment application 2021 fillable.pdf](#) For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Niki at 603-545-2402.

Happy Birthday wishes to Rick Chase on Wed, April 15; to Aunt Holly Bickford and Penny Hatch on Fri, April 17; to Linda Rafeal on Sun, April 19; to Sean Foster on Mon, April 20; to Tracy Demers on Sat, April 25; to my fabulous nephew Nathan Fries on Sun, April 26; to Greg Martin on Mon, April 27, and to Aunt Rose Kimball on Wed, April 29.

A VERY special Happy 60th Birthday wish to one of my best friends, Jeannette Engelmann on Fri, April 24!



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

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

(603) 906-2444
Center Barnstead, NH

Business Cards • Forms • Business Checks • Brochures
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Programs • Raffle Tickets • Rubber Stamps
Wedding Invitations and Accessories • Bookmarks

Full Color: Cards • Brochures • Flyers • Labels • Postcards
Customized Promotional Items • Banners • Yard Signs

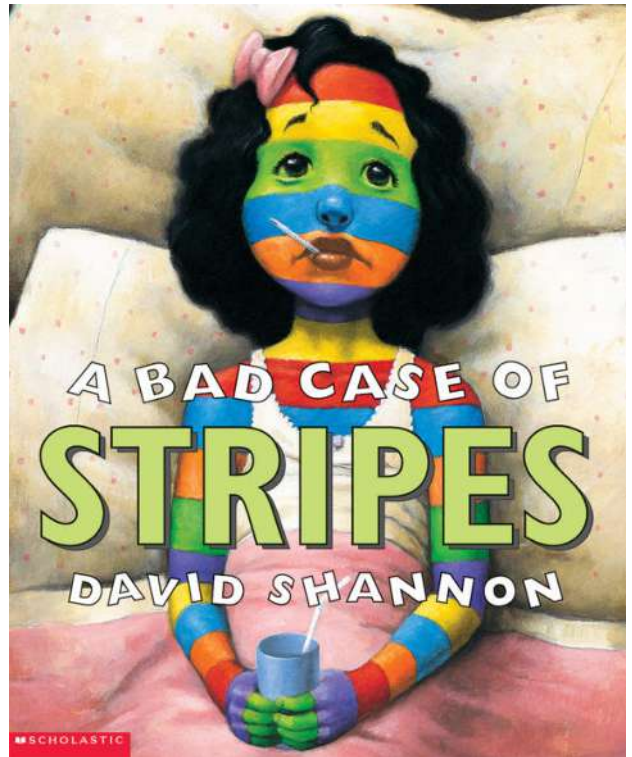
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A Bad Case of STRIPES

The Josiah Carpenter Library's newest StoryWalk® features this story by David Shannon, which is now available for your viewing pleasure. Follow this story around town as you find out what happens to Camilla as she refuses to eat her favorite food in fear of being laughed at by her classmates. Enjoy the colorful illustrations as Camilla's body transforms into rainbow stripes, checkerboard patterns, stars, and even sprouts roots, feathers, and fur. Her mutations become more bizarre as specialists attempt numerous cures.

Book pages have been mounted in windows throughout the downtown area. Tie up your walking shoes, grab your water bottle and enjoy a stroll through our beautiful little town. Families can pick up a map from the mailbox that is attached to the community bulletin board at Dustin Park. As you return to the library on Main Street to read the last page of the book, stop in to pick up your FREE GIFT!

For more books about favorite foods, making friends and being yourself, visit the library Mondays and Thursdays from 10-6, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 12:30-6, and Saturdays 10-2 to check out our selections.



To the Editor:

I live in Epsom. I can not join this committee even though I am a landowner in Pittsfield. I went to Pittsfield High School and graduated in 1961. It was a very good high school then. While I believe in PHS, the school has gotten to be too small and does not offer a full curriculum to the students of Pittsfield today. With the state legislature moving a bill to make Open High School Enrollment the law of the state, Pittsfield no doubt will lose students to other high schools, and the local high school will no longer be viable. This not a matter of budgets and property tax dollars but a necessity for the benefit of the students in Pittsfield: to go to another high school where they can get the full high school education that they deserve.

Thus the decision should be based on the needs of our young people, not a money issue. An education supported by online dependence is not what a young student needs; rather, more instruction by teachers in the classroom. It is not a criticism of Pittsfield's hard working teachers; they simply don't have the assets to do a full high school educational development for our young children.

Just my thoughts.

Arthur Laro, who truly supports an Open Enrollment Law for high school education in our state, where students and parents can choose a high school of their choice for the benefit of the student in a public high school, and not be forced to live with the inadequacy of the local high school. This is a better alternative than being forced to go to a charter school, a religious school, or a private school that would create a larger expense for the family, even with the controversial EFA accounts.



Cook's Corner Caprese Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms

Grilling season will be here soon and if you're like me, you're always looking for new and different sides for your grilled meats and fish. These Caprese Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms fit the bill. They're super tasty, look a little 'fancy' and are easy to get to the table. While I love to serve these alongside grilled chicken or swordfish, these mushrooms also make a delicious vegetarian meal – just add a nice big salad. Enjoy!

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3 TBSP olive oil, divided | 1 cup halved cherry tomatoes |
| 1 medium garlic clove, minced | ½ cup fresh mozzarella pearls, drained & pat dry |
| ½ tsp salt, divided | ½ cup thinly sliced fresh basil |
| ½ tsp pepper, divided | ½ cup very finely chopped red onion (optional) |
| 4 Portobello mushrooms, stems & gills removed | 2 tsp balsamic vinegar |

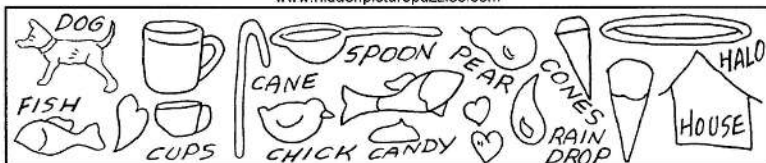
Heat oven to 400. Combine 2 TBSP oil, garlic, ¼ tsp each salt & pepper in a small bowl. Using a pastry brush, coat the mushrooms all over with the oil mixture. Place on a large, rimmed baking sheet lined with parchment paper, and bake in the oven for 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, stir tomatoes, mozzarella, basil and red onion (if using), ¼ tsp each salt & pepper, and 1 TBSP olive oil in a bowl.

Once mushrooms have softened, remove from oven and fill each mushroom with the tomato mixture. Bake until cheese is fully melted and tomatoes have wilted, about another 12 to 15 minutes. Drizzle each mushroom with ½ tsp balsamic vinegar.



www.hiddenpicturepuzzles.com



SAVE THE DATE!

YOUTH FISHING DERBY

MAY 2 • 9AM - 1PM

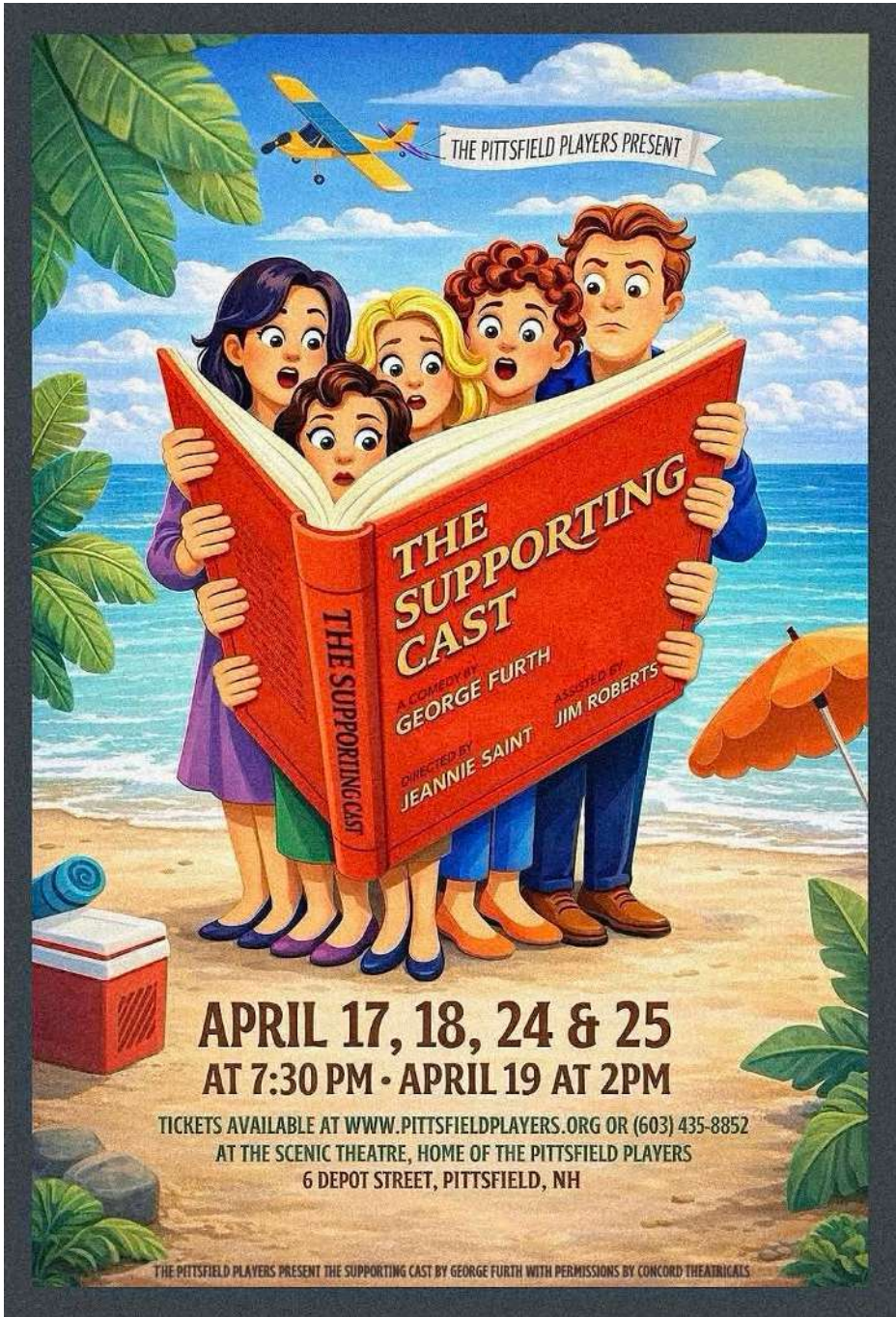
35 Clark St, Pittsfield NH • Local Town Pool

Ages 0-6, 7-11, 12-15 • Girls & Boys

- Prizes for Biggest Fish, Smallest Fish & First (Limit 3) Fish Caught
- Fire Dept. BBQ Available to Purchase
- 4-H Archery
- Kiddie Corner Activities
- Free Family Event
- Register at the Door

3 Gun Raffle to Support This Free Event!
\$10 Each or 3 for \$20
 Available now.
 Contact us at pesnhpto@gmail.com
 or visit Art at Arts ammo and
 Firearms located at 211 Dowboro
 Pittsfield NH.

Sponsored by Pittsfield Park & Recreation, Pittsfield PTO & Arts Ammo and Firearms.



To the Editor:

This is my response to "Pittsfield is Ripping Off Everybody" by James Theodore in the *Concord Monitor's* Letters on Monday, March 30.

James blames mismanagement of our town's financial situation. He is incorrect. The problem lies with the voters. They need more money to pay for our towns. To be able to do their jobs. You know fire, police, town hall, ambulance, schools, dams. The Federal government is not going to help. The State government is not going to help.

Not funding the budgets properly. Not saving for equipment we know we are going to need. No help.

Anyway, you had better rent that extra room out.

Dan Schroth
 Dan the Stoneman
 295 Clough Road
 Pittsfield, NH



 **April is National Poetry Month**
 Join us for Blackout Poetry

Blackout poetry is a form of found poetry where an artist takes an existing text—and crosses out the majority of the words. The remaining visible words create a new, distinct poem, often blending visual art with creative writing to transform the original meaning

Saturday, April 25 - 10 am

Spaces are limited.
 Call to register
 603-435-8406

A Message to *Pittsfield Post* Advertisers

The *Pittsfield Post* will publish a special issue again this year to celebrate the Pittsfield Middle High School 2026 graduates. As in the past, part of this special edition will be in color. It has become an important tradition for our students and a treasured keepsake for their families.

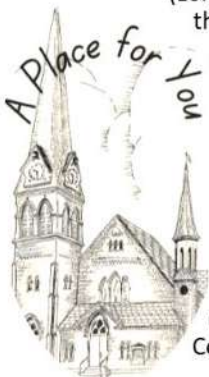
If you are interested in running a special ad in honor of our upcoming graduates, you may submit your 'graduation issue' ad to the *Pittsfield Post* at any time, but no later than 9am on Friday, May 1, 2026. The content of your message is up to you – words of encouragement, congratulations, or just good wishes for the future.

Your ad copy should be sent to the *Post* at news@pittsfieldpost.org or mailed to us at Post Office Box 253, Pittsfield, NH 03263. Please include your contact information. Our advertising rates are: \$100 full page, \$50 half page, \$25 quarter page, and \$15 business card size. All ads must be submitted in jpeg or png format, or in pdf format that is cropped to the edge of the ad copy. If you submit your ad prior to May 1st, your ad will be printed in the color portion of this special issue; if you submit your ad after May 1st, your ad will be printed in black and white. The *Pittsfield Post* has a circulation of approximately 800 readers. Additional information may be found on our website at www.pittsfieldpost.org

Thank you very much for helping us celebrate the PMHS Graduating Class of 2026!



Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Many of you may have repeated these words this past Easter. The question is do we understand the full weight of these words? As I reminded those who attended worship at First Congregational this Easter, we can easily lose the weightiness of these words. At the same time that we grow more familiar with the idea, we also grow more distant as the years, centuries, and even millennia pass for the original event. Indeed we may even come to dismiss the story as a mere myth. But to do this shows that we neither understand the event or the intent of myth. A myth is not intended to distract us from or replace reality. Myths are meant to contain the deep truths, deep longings, and deep understandings that everyday life fails to fulfill. The people of First Congregational know that I love C.S. Lewis (*Narnia*) and J.R.R. Tolkien (*Lord of The Rings*). Both of these gentleman speak of the biblical story in terms of true myth.



So while Easter Sunday (Resurrection day) has passed, the season of Easter continues for 50 days. Where do you find yourself in relation to the story? Do you accept and believe the reality that Jesus Christ is back from the dead to conquer the power of sin in your life? Have you found your place in the True Myth of the Gospel? Or has familiarity brought too much contempt for this glorious message? Remember Jesus declared in the Gospel of John "I have come that they may have life to the full." That is to say to have a life free from the bonds of death and sin. He came that we too might be raised to new life. Come join us on Sunday and find your place in the story.

+Dennis Russell

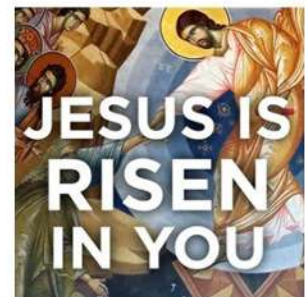
First Congregational Church

We have a place for you this Sunday

24 Main Street, Pittsfield, NH 03263 Phone 603.435.7471
Office hours Tue 10-2, Wed 8-12, Thurs 1-5, and by appointment

WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU THIS WEEK

- Sun. 10A—Worship (Nursery Available)
11A—Lite Lunch (not just coffee & cookies)
- Mon. 1:30P—Bible Study
- Tue. 8A—Men's Breakfast @ Friendly Diner
A group of guys just talking shop
- Wed 10a-2p Women's Craft Group
knitting, crocheting, sewing, etc. lessons avail.
- Thu. 6:30P—Chancel Choir rehearsal





Dispatch From Concord

There were two bills that the Governor vetoed and the House wanted to attempt to override:

HB451 establishes the fee to reclaim paint when purchased. The Governor vetoed this bill, and the House voted 186-169 but did not meet the 3/5 vote. Voted against. This seemed like a tax on paint that was levied even if you used up all the paint! HB349 was a controversial bill to allow optometrists to perform some laser procedures that the Governor thought would be too risky. The override attempt failed 145-206. Voted for.

The following House bills were amended by the Senate and needed to be concurred by the House to continue to the Governor:

HB59 increases the penalty of an assault of a firefighter, emergency medical care provider or law enforcement officer. The Senate added first responders. 199-155 Voted for.

HB1689 increase the term of some of the county officers in Belknap and Merrimack counties. Belknap was added by the Senate. Failed 65-287 Voted against.

The following Senate Amended Bills all passed on a voice vote:

HB109 originally passed with enhanced penalties for false reports to police and was extended to enhanced penalties for all false reports to law enforcement.

HB481 moves the State primary from the second Tuesday in September to the second Tuesday in June.

HB348 regulated eligibility for local assistance on residency proof. The Senate expanded it to a more comprehensive system of proof of residency with protections and a dispute process.

HB222 repeals the requirement of a memorandum of understanding between a charter public school and school district regarding how students with disabilities are received.

HB649 relegates the maintenance obligations of motor vehicle operators. The Senate added some maintenance duties, defective equipment enforcement and rental fleet registration.

HB1039 is relative to licensed practical nurse scope of practice. The Senate broadened the LPN scope.

The following Senate Bills were addressed on the House floor:

SB620 incentivizes cooperation when presented with breathalyzer testing when arrested for DWI. The House amended to keep the first-time offense refusal to 9 months' license suspension and repeat extended to 3 years. 259-94 Voted for.

SB649 increase fines for using a hand-held mobile device while driving and adds license suspensions for repeat offenses. 232-123 Voted for.

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

Your State Representatives, Cyril Aures and Clayton Wood

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



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