

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE NEWSLETTER BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

Embrace the New Year with an open heart and a fierce spirit.

January 8, 2025

Crotched Mountain Foundation for Kids

Crotched Mountain Foundation for Kids collaborates with communities and schools to implement community-based initiatives that improve outcomes for NH children with complex disabilities. CMF has been helping children with disabilities since 1953. CMF invests in New Hampshire's disadvantaged communities, helping build the capacity and fill in the gaps. In the last several years CMF has invested \$3 million dollars in special education.

Because Pittsfield is a school district with a higher percentage of special education students, we have been invited to apply for the 2025-2028 partnership application which will get underway in February. I have begun working with Melissa White, Executive Director of CMF, to begin the process. If accepted into the partnership the district will receive financial help for programming, specialized training, and resources. The district is also eligible for a quick impact award of \$5,000 - \$7,000 which allows the special education department to receive items not budgeted for right away. I have applied for the quick impact award and the application is currently being considered by CMF. *Charlene Vary*, Director of Student Support Services

Sign Up to Run for School District Treasurer

I have been honored to serve as Pittsfield's School District Treasurer. Harry and I are in the process of moving to Concord, so following the March election it will be necessary for me to resign. The duties of treasurer are both interesting and fulfilling, and tasks can be adjusted to fit your personal schedule.

If you're interested in the operation of the school district, and are comfortable with spreadsheets and bank statements, then I encourage you to run for school district treasurer. It will be a one-year position, with a full three-year term on the ballot in March 2026. I will gladly answer any questions about serving as treasurer (leslievogt@gmail.com). Sincerely, *Leslie Vogt*

Public Hearing Meeting Notice

Town of Pittsfield
Budget Committee
Town Hall, 85 Main Street
Pittsfield, New Hampshire 03263

The Pittsfield Budget Committee will hold a public hearing on the 2025 municipal & school budgets on Wednesday, January 15, at 7pm in the Lecture Hall of the Pittsfield Middle High School, 23 Oneida Street, Pittsfield NH, 03263.

The snow date for this meeting will be Thursday, January 16 – same start time and location.

Pittsfield Town Crier

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

Globe Community Fund - If you are a 501(c)(3), have you heard about the Globe Community Fund? Established by the former fourth-generation family owners of Globe Manufacturing Company in Pittsfield, the donor-advised fund is administered by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. The fund's purpose is to enhance community wellbeing with a focus on the towns of Pittsfield, Barnstead, Epsom, Northwood, Gilmanton, and Chichester. For more information and an application, email the fund at globecommunityfund@msasafety.com

Wed., Jan. 8, 7pm - The Suncook Valley Sno-Riders will hold their monthly meeting at the Pittsfield Fire Station.

Sat., Jan. 11, 8:30-9:30am - FREE Community Breakfast at Joy Church, 55 Barnstead Rd.

Sun., Jan. 12, 1-4pm - The Pittsfield Historical Society is open. Feel free to stop in and check out all the great artifacts of Pittsfield's history.

Mon., Jan. 13, 9-10am - At the Senior Center, 55 Barnstead Rd. - Program by the VNA "At a Moment's Notice" - Be prepared for an emergency.

Mon., Jan. 13, 6:30pm - Josiah Carpenter Library Mead & Read Book Club at Over the Moon Farmstand. Please contact the Library (603-435-8406) for more information.

Tues., Jan. 14, 6:30pm - Pittsfield Historical Society will hold its Annual Meeting at the Society's headquarters on Main and Oak streets.

Wed., Jan. 15, 7pm - The Pittsfield Budget Committee will hold a public hearing on the 2025 municipal & school budgets in the Lecture Hall of the Pittsfield Middle High School, 23 Oneida Street, Pittsfield NH, 03263. The snow date for this meeting will be Thursday, Jan. 16 – same start time and location.

The Pittsfield Youth Workshop (PYW), 5 Park Street is open for Drop-In Hours on: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 3-6pm and Wednesday 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](tel:6034358272) or Text at [603-234-9788](tel:6032349788).

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](tel:6034706927) or email gda21foundation@gmail.com.

Senior Center Schedule- Monday & Thursdays – 8am-2pm and Wednesdays 8am-1pm. Activities include: Senior Community Lunch – M & TH at 12pm; Bingo M, W & TH – 10-11:45am; Cribbage & Games – W-9-11am; Walking at the Center- M, W, TH- 8am-1pm; Sweatin to the Oldies- Mon at 9am and Chair Yoga- TH at 9am. For more information or if you have questions, call Anne at [603-435-8482](tel:6034358482).

Wednesday, Jan. 8 & 22, 9:30-11:30am: Game Day is on - If you do not play Bingo or Cribbage, let's try something new. There will be bunch of games put out: cards, Scrabble, Monopoly, etc. You can also bring in a game you would like to share. Come have some fun.

The numbers for Bingo at the Senior Center keep growing. We would like to continue that growth, but Anne needs some help. She has been working very hard at keeping the center up and running. If you are interested in helping, please call Anne at 603-435-8482. We really could use some help with Bingo and to serve lunch. This is also a friendly reminder that Bingo does not support the center. Our community dining does. If you would like the senior center to remain in Pittsfield then please show some support and have lunch at the center. Look at the menu and give Anne a call if planning on attending one of the lunches.

Meals on Wheels is still looking for a driver. If you are interested in helping some of the most vulnerable people in the community with some compensation for it, then this may be the job for you; it is 15-20 hours per week. If interested, please apply at <https://recruiting.paylocity.com/Recruiting/>

[Jobs/Details/2756787](https://recruiting.paylocity.com/Recruiting/).

Pittsfield Youth Baseball - 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.

PES and End 68 Hours of Hunger are joining forces to create positive change. Are you eager to help our community bag and deliver groceries for families in need? This impactful program ensures groceries are available over the weekend. To sign your family up, go to <https://registration.end68hoursofhunger.org/> We're seeking community heroes to assist with weekly bagging and delivery every Thursday morning. To learn more, contact Mike Curtin or Kate Price at mcurtin@sau51.org or kprice@sau51.org

Josiah Carpenter Library is in need of the following items throughout the year and would greatly appreciate any and all donations from patrons and town residents. Postage stamps, clear contact paper, small reward stickers, party favors/prizes, glue sticks, construction paper, markers, pocket folders, cardstock, cotton balls, apple juice, goldfish crackers, fruit snacks, microwave popcorn. All of these items go to benefit the staff and visitors who participate in various adult and children's programming provided by the library. Donations from you would allow for the annual budget to provide more for patrons throughout the year.

The Pittsfield Conservation Commission wants to hear from you! Please complete this anonymous survey to help us understand your joys, concerns and hopes regarding Pittsfield's natural spaces: <https://forms.gle/zyyFqpiWGBShEehs6>

The Pittsfield Historical Society's 2025 calendar, titled From the Womb to the Tomb, is available. It features a snapshot of Pittsfield's professional community, primarily in the health and medical arenas, and the men and women who played a significant role in it. Pittsfield boasts a remarkable history of catering to the wellbeing of its residents and those of surrounding towns. The calendar has 25 images of people and places, some of whom you may recognize. It is available for \$15 at the Town Hall, at the Museum at 4 Oak St., at Josiah Carpenter Library, and by contacting Fuzz Freese at 1-603-848-4488.

Josiah Carpenter Library is collecting homemade mittens and hats (no scarves please) for Pittsfield Elementary School. They have plenty of yarn if you need some.

Happy Birthday wishes to Robin Davis on Mon, Jan. 6; to Chris Brewster Dunne on Wed, Jan. 8; to Tammy Colby on Thurs, Jan. 9; and Max Tuttle on Fri, Jan. 10. I hope you all enjoy your special day.

Come Support The Gabriel Douglas Anthony 21 Foundation at Diomedes's Restaurant

Sunday, Jan. 26, 3-7pm
346 Suncook Valley Rd (Rte. 28)
Chichester, NH 03258
603-435-4072 for reservations

Diomedes's Restaurant is graciously hosting a fundraiser for the DA 21 Foundation. Diomedes will donate a percentage of all proceeds that day to the GDA 21 Foundation. Come out and have a great Italian meal and support the GDA 21 Foundation at the same time.

The foundation is committed to distributing over 1500 LED Roadside Flares to seniors at 11 high schools. This fundraiser is being put on by Mr. Anthony's 12th Grade Advisory students

For more information about the Gabriel Douglas Anthony 21 Foundation go to:

www.gda21foundation.org or email us at gda21foundation@gmail.org

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www.pittsfieldnhcommunitycenter.org



Cook's Corner

Sesame Beef & Broccoli Stir Fry

If one of your goals for 2025 is to cut back on ordering carryout, here's a tasty and healthy stir fry that I

suspect you'll make on repeat this year. Once you have everything cut and chopped, this dish comes together quickly. It's terrific with steak, but I've also made this using sliced pork tenderloin. I like to serve it over rice with a few store-bought, oven-baked spring rolls. Happy New Year, enjoy! *MP Christakos*

- 2 TBSP soy sauce
- 2 TBSP cooking sherry
- 1 TBSP sugar
- 2 tsp rice vinegar
- ½ tsp red pepper flakes
- ½ tsp cornstarch
- 1 TBSP plus 1 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 lb boneless New York strip steak, thinly sliced
- 1 small red onion, sliced thin vertically
- 1 box Shitake mushrooms, sliced (optional)
- 2 red bell peppers, thinly sliced
- 1 cup fresh broccoli florets
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 TBSP toasted sesame seeds
- Cooked rice for serving
- Thin sliced scallions for serving (optional)

In a small bowl, combine soy sauce, sherry, sugar, vinegar, red pepper flakes and cornstarch (if you prefer more sauce, double the amounts for these ingredients).

In a large skillet, heat 1 TBSP of the vegetable oil and in two batches, cook the meat, about 2 to 3 minutes. Transfer to a plate and keep warm. Add 1 tsp more of the oil to the skillet and add the onion, cook for 2 to 3 minutes over medium heat. Add the garlic, cook for 1 minute. Add the bell peppers and cook for 1 minute. Add the Shitake mushrooms (if using), cook for 1 to 2 minutes. Add the broccoli florets and cook for another 2 minutes. Whisk the soy sauce mixture into the skillet, then add the steak back in. Cook for a minute or so until everything is heated through.

Serve with rice, topped with a few sprinkles of sesame seeds and the chopped scallions (if using).

Pittsfield Post Volunteer Opportunity: Biweekly Email Newsletter & Website Coordinator

Are you passionate about communications and looking to make a difference? The Pittsfield Post seeks a reliable, detail-oriented volunteer to manage and distribute our biweekly email newsletter and update our website.

The prepared newspaper document will be sent to you as part of the team for conversion to email format. Basic knowledge of email marketing platforms, such as MailChimp, or similar, and website content management, such as Wix, or similar, would be helpful.

The work can be done at home and requires about two hours every other week. Training will be provided. This is an excellent opportunity to gain experience and contribute to the local news of the Pittsfield Post, which has been in operation for over 5 years! If interested, please contact us at pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org We look forward to hearing from you.

Pittsfield Historical Society's Annual Meeting.

Pittsfield Historical Society will hold its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 14, at the Society's headquarters on Main and Oak streets. The meeting will start at 6:30pm.

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Panther Updates, Pittsfield Elementary School

Art Club: We are excited that the PES Art Club has returned after a four-year hiatus. The Art Club is an after-school program offered to our fourth and fifth-grade students. It provides support and enrichment for those students seeking a creative outlet in addition to their academic schedule. The Art Club began on December 5, and we have twenty very excited artists! Thus far, the art club students have learned how to make cinnamon clay dough to make cinnamon ornaments, which made the whole art room smell like Christmas! We also had a guest artist, Bill Mitchell, a former art teacher of PMHS and professional printmaker, come and show how to screen print art club t-shirts. In the upcoming weeks of the art club, students will explore pendulum painting, create and design plaster masks, and learn about famous artists and new art techniques. Thank you to Ms. Lisa Stevens for sharing her talent, knowledge and passion for the arts.

Drama Club: Our new reading program provided an exciting opportunity for fourth-grade students to perform plays as part of their reading curriculum. In December, Ms. Galley's class performed for other members of our school community, and their enthusiasm revealed a budding passion for theatre.

Inspired by this discovery, our fourth-grade teachers, Ms. Galley and Ms. Critchett, decided to go above and beyond for our students. With the support of our librarian, they located a full-length script of *Charlotte's Web* and initiated a drama club for fourth and fifth graders. 16 students have auditioned, and weekly rehearsals have just begun.

What makes this truly special is the dedication of Ms. Galley and Ms. Critchett, who are volunteering their time without compensation because they are deeply invested in creating opportunities for our students. Their commitment exemplifies how our staff is embracing HMH to go beyond the classroom and cultivate creativity, confidence, and a love of reading. We can't wait to see where this journey takes them—and we're already looking forward to the magic of their upcoming production!

Academic Assessment: Students in grades Kindergarten through five will complete both the ELA and Math portions of the NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) testing throughout January. This assessment is a key tool for measuring student growth, and we are excited to see the progress our students have made as learners this year. Our focus on promoting the importance of reading for at least twenty minutes a day throughout the Pittsfield community will continue to remain a priority.

NWEA testing is a critical component of how our district measures student growth. The data collected helps us track individual progress and identify areas where students may need additional support. Once testing is completed, grade-level teams will analyze the data to identify trends, gaps, and successes. This will enable us to make data-driven adjustments to our teaching practices, ensuring that students continue to make progress throughout the remainder of the school year.

We would like to thank our families for their ongoing partnership in supporting their children's learning. Once we have all our testing completed we will share the data with the Pittsfield community. *Kristen White and Kyle Hodsdon, Pittsfield Elementary School*



Answers

- 1 Eyes —line underneath
- 2 Eyelashes
- 3 Scarf
- 4 Feathers on head
- 5 Chest feathaers
- 6 Snowflake
- 7 Snowflake
- 8 Dots on tree limb
- 9 Feathers on wing
- 10 snowflake

LOCAL CONTROL = STATEWIDE NONSENSE

Opinion by Bill Miskoe

Taxes. Most of us don't want to pay them, but we have to if we expect to live in a civilized community. It makes sense to have public funding provide essentials such as roads, schools, and sewer pipes; plus services including fire, police, ambulance and town hall administration.

How we collect the money for these items has been a problem in NH for many years and it is getting worse. Particularly regarding education.

New Hampshire likes to claim that it doesn't have any broad-based taxes. No sales tax and no income tax. We don't have an income tax because the State constitution prohibits graduated taxes. A flat rate income tax is either regressive or too small to yield significant revenue.

But we do have sales taxes on the following, just to name a few – Beer, Wine, Liquor, Hotel Rooms, Restaurant Meals, Car Rentals, Real Estate Sales, Timber Cutting, Sand and Gravel, Telecommunications and Motor Fuels .

So the idea that NH doesn't tax sales is nonsense. We just do it in an inefficient way. The state tax collectors have to operate separate programs for each tax. As a result of this crazy approach to taxation, NH relies very heavily on local property taxes collected by the towns.

For years I have been told that this is what we need in NH because local taxing provides local control of spending. This is also nonsense.

Ask any town official and you will learn that the Select Board is limited by state law in terms of what

it can and cannot do, and what it must do, with the monies it is required to collect . The state legislature both requires and limits what the towns can do. This is not local control.

What we have is collection of public funds by the towns, to be spent in ways that are controlled by the state.

PITTSFIELD INSURANCE AGENCY

Home - Auto - Business

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