

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE WEEKLY PRODUCTION BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

"September tries its best to have us forget summer." - Bernard Williams

September 11, 2024

Liberty in America

Pittsfield resident Michaela St. George is a high school senior enrolled in the NH Virtual Learning Academy Charter School. *Liberty in America* was Michaela's first place entry in the District 5 American Legion of New Hampshire 2024 Oratorical Contest, and she earned fourth place in the statewide contest. Michaela performed *Liberty* at Pittsfield's Memorial Day ceremony and will be presenting it at the Eastern States Exposition (the Big E). In addition she will give her speech at the Victory Workers Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 19, at Dowboro Farm.

The year is 1776. At a desk in a Philadelphia boarding house, a 33-year-old man is drafting a document that would forever change history. Even though the Thirteen Colonies and Great Britain still had fresh wounds from the Battle of Bunker Hill, this man named Thomas Jefferson spent seventeen days writing the Declaration of Independence. What was the reason for all of this? Liberty. Liberty was one of the underlying principles that the colonists based the country on for centuries to come. America is a nation founded upon liberty. The intention of the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution was to break away from tyranny and guarantee that the country would not have to face that again.

With the passage of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776, this group of men now had a great responsibility. The Declaration, inspired by Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*, was a result of the Lee Resolution. Richard Henry Lee's purpose of this decision was "that these united colonies are and of right ought to be free and independent states." In addition, the idea of the natural rights of life, liberty and property originated from the 17th century English philosopher, John Locke. Later on, in a letter to Henry Lee in 1825, Thomas Jefferson said, "This was the object of the Declaration of Independence. Not to find out new principles, or new arguments, never before thought of, not merely to say things which had never been said before; but to place before mankind the common sense of the subject, in terms so plain and firm as to command their assent, and to justify ourselves in the independent stand we are compelled to take." The reason for the Constitution was to reconstruct and strengthen what they had done in the Articles of Confederation, but also to ensure the protection of basic human rights and civil liberties. This would provide security from tyrannical foreign countries as well as within an oppressive domestic government.

Launched in 2019, the New York Times Magazine initiated a movement known as the 1619 Project. This claims that America's history and country is established around enslavement. Slavery was and still is a substantial issue in many parts of the world, including America, however it is scarcely known that Thomas Jefferson attempted to end slavery in the Declaration of Independence. He was displeased by the fact that the proposal got edited out before it was reviewed by Congress. According to Professor Carl Becker, this passage that ended slavery was likely considered the best part by both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. The United States was the first nation in history to try to abolish slavery. Numerous states even put an end to this in their own state Constitutions. Furthermore, the United States is credited toward being the oldest democracy in the world, the first to allow the government to be in the hands of the people. In the American Crisis, Thomas Paine said, "We fight not to enslave, but to set a country free, and to make room upon earth for honest men to live in." Unfortunately, owning and selling slaves was a critical part of the southern states, but enslavement was not the goal when it came to the foundation of this country.



(con'td page 7)

Pittsfield Town Crier

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

Tuesday, September 10, 7am-7pm - NH State Primary Day. Voting will be held at Pittsfield Middle High School, 23 Oneida St.

Wednesday, September 11, 9:30am - Josiah Carpenter Library Trustees will meet at the Library.

Friday, September 13 - The PMHS Varsity Girls Soccer team is selling fall mums for a fundraiser. 9" pots are \$12 and all proceeds go to the team. Color choices are red, white, pink/lavender, orange and yellow. Orders are due by 9/13. Please contact any PMHS Soccer player or message the team on Facebook at PMHS Girls Soccer to place your order.

Saturday, September 14, 9am-2pm - Pumpkin 'n Pine Fair at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead located at 504 North Barnstead Rd, Barnstead. Save Saturday, Sept.14, for a charming, country church fair. There will be fun, food and treasures. Bring family and friends, jump start your holiday list with unique gifts and join with others at the cafe. This annual fair has many favorite features including a silent auction, antiques & collectibles, home goods, bakery, hand-made gifts, holiday items and jewelry. The table with bags and purses made from Ghanaian tie-dye fabric is one of a kind. The silent auction this year has dozens of choice items to bid on, including carved birds, a White Mountain get-away suite, beautiful art and music by NH craft persons and gift certificates for local services, events and restaurants. Come see all the fair offers, have a delicious lunch and go home with treasures.

Saturday, September 14, 8:30-9:30am - FREE Community Breakfast at Joy Church, 55 Barnstead Rd. ALL are welcome - please join us!

Monday, September 16, 5:30-7pm - Community Supper at the First Congregational Church. Please use the rear entrance to the Church from

Chestnut St. Cost is a donation. All are welcome - please join us.

Tuesday, September 17, 6:30pm - Friends of the Library meet at the Library.

Friday September 20, 6pm - Homecoming Parade.

Saturday, September 21, 10am - Drake Field - Homecoming Soccer Games. 10am - Boys Varsity vs. Mount Royal Academy and 12pm - Girls Varsity vs Mount Royal Academy and 2pm - Coed Middle School vs Farmington.

Saturday, September 21, 9am-1pm - Vintage Hill Autumn Craft Fair, 10 Berry Ave. Free Admission. Crafts, Live Music, Raffles and Geoffrey's Vending (hot dog stand).

Saturday, September 21, 9am - The Pittsfield Conservation Commission will host an open house at Rocky Ridge Town Forest on Saturday, Sept. 21. It will start at 9am and will be rain or shine. Join the PCC on a walk through the newly established trails. Cider and donuts will be provided. Meet at Rocky Ridge, located on Clough Road near Greer Lane.

Sunday, September 22, 10am - Graylag's 75th Anniversary Celebration! (this is the previous Bob Cousy Basketball Camp) located at 300 Clough Rd, Pittsfield. A coed basketball game is being planned - teams from Pittsfield and Coe-Brown. We're looking for players to join the **Pittsfield** teams for both **Middle School (Grades 6-8)** and **High School (Grades 9-10)**. There will be **two Middle School teams** and **two High School teams**, each coed with 3 players per team—boys and girls are all welcome! Unless we get more numbers, we'll keep it coed, but if interest grows, we'll have separate boys and girls divisions. If you're interested in playing on a Pittsfield team, please text Coach Stratton at **603-341-2691** to reserve your spot. This is a **free event**, so come out and be part of the action! Whether you're playing or cheering, hope to see you there. Let's make this celebration one to remember.

Josiah Carpenter Library StoryWalk "Harold and the Purple Crayon" by Crockett Johnson. This timeless classic was chosen to be our next StoryWalk because it came out in theatres recently. Consider walking around town to read this story about the curious and adventurous 4-year-old. Maps can be found in

the mailbox attached to the bulletin board on Main Street at Dustin Park. When you return to the library to read the last page of the story, come in and receive your free gift!

The Pittsfield Youth Workshop (PYW), 5 Park St., has resumed After School Hours: Drop-In Hours are: 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 or Text at 603-234-9788.

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.

Dowboro Farm, 615 Dowboro Rd., is open for the season - Thurs - Sat, 9:30am-6pm and Sun 10:30am-4pm.

Senior Center Schedule - Monday & Thursdays, 8am-2pm, and Wednesdays, 8am-1pm. Activities include: Senior Community Lunch - M & TH at 12pm; Bingo M & TH - 10-11:45am; Cribbage & Games - W-10am-12pm; 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:603-435-8482).

Pittsfield Senior Center Special Events Schedule

Thursday, Sept. 12, at 12pm, Birthday Celebration; Thursday, Sept. 19, at 9am: Every Step Matters - The Granite VNA is sponsoring this program. Thursday, Sept. 26, at 12pm: Music and Lunch - "Yesteryear is coming back!!!" Everyone had such a blast they have been asked to come back. Come have lunch and listen to the band.

Pittsfield Youth Baseball - Join us every Saturday for

BINGO hosted by [Pittsfield Youth Baseball/Softball Association Bingo](#). We have a great menu of food items along with games, and it all benefits the children of Pittsfield for their baseball/softball program. Doors open at 3:30pm and bingo starts at 6pm at Circle 9 Ranch in Epsom.

Pittsfield Town Budget Committee - There is opportunity for *you* on the Budget Committee. Please contact Town Moderator Jackson Marston or the town hall if interested or have any questions. The volunteer application can be found on the town website www.pittsfieldnh.gov

"End 68 Hours of Hunger" Barnstead/Pittsfield Seeking Eligible Families. We provide weekend meals for children in need. There are no income requirements. Please visit our website at <https://registration.end68hoursofhunger.org> or text our Program Coordinator Kristen at (774) 454-4524.

Come support the PMHS Soccer Teams at Drake Field - Boys Varsity vs Holy Family Academy, Wednesday, Sept. 11, 4pm - Boys Varsity vs Monadnock Regional High School, Friday, Sept. 13, 4pm- Girls Varsity vs. Epping High School, Monday, Sept. 16, 3pm- Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity at 5pm vs Sunapee High School, and Wednesday, Sept. 18, at 3pm- Girls Varsity, and Boys Varsity 5pm vs Concord Christian Academy.

Happy Birthday wishes to my sister, Lisa Grainger Fries on Wed, Sept. 11; to Owen Chase on Thurs, Sept. 12.

Happy Anniversary wishes to my niece, Crystal & Sean Foster on Tuesday, Sept. 10; to Robin & Joe Davis on Wednesday, Sept. 11 and to Diane & Dana Bishop on Saturday, Sept. 14.

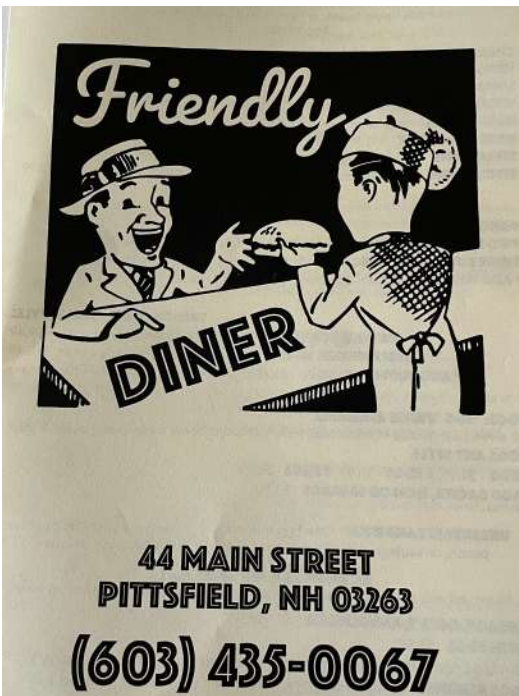
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CAN YOUR BUSINESS HELP OUR TEAM?

Pittsfield School District has an after-school Lego League Team for grades 5 through 8. The team is called the Pittsfield Coding Cats. The team enjoys using Legos to make robots and solve the mission challenges. They have greatly increased their coding and problem solving skills. They have become a well working team. FIRST Robotics requires each team to have a sponsor. We recently lost our corporate sponsor and we are looking for another. The sponsor chooses their type and level of involvement. The season has already begun and we will participate in our first tournament in early November. Last year we qualified and competed at the state level. Tournaments are usually held on Saturdays. We want to continue as a team. We hope to find a new sponsor quickly so we can compete this year. If you can help us please contact Mrs. Mahanes at kmahanes@sau51.org or at 603-435-8432.



A Warm Welcome to The Friendly Diner - Now Open!



Great news! We have a new eatery on Main Street, The Friendly Diner. Scott and Diane Partridge, the original owners of the former Main Street Grill, are back in business in Pittsfield. They sold the Main Street Grill in 2019 and sold another breakfast and lunch store, The English Muffin in Hampstead in 2018. After working in the institutional food industry and a stint with The Common Man organization, Scott decided it was time to open his own place.

Both Scott and Diane have extensive restaurant experience including as chef-owners, general managers, remodels and openings. In fact this is their fifth restaurant. They were drawn to starting again in Pittsfield for several reasons; proximity to their home in Deerfield; they recognized a need for a full service diner here, and they made a lot of friends in our town over the years.

The Diner will feature a wide range of breakfast options including omelets, pancakes, French toast, and eggs benedict. The lunch menu features burgers and numerous specialty sandwiches; and dinner selections include cottage pie, pulled pork and meatloaf among several other tasty choices. They also offer a good selection of homemade baked goods and desserts and will eventually have pizza on the menu. In addition to table service, they offer carryout as well as 'grab and go' hot and cold sandwiches and salads. They will also

offer beer and wine. The restaurant will be open Wednesday through Friday from 7am to 8pm, Saturday and Sunday from 7am to 2pm (breakfast and lunch only on Saturday and Sunday) and closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

With a fresh, newly painted store front in crisp white and sunny yellow, The Friendly Diner has already brightened the Main Street downtown area. Be sure to stop by soon. Scott and Diane, welcome back to Pittsfield and best wishes to you and your team for great success!

To the Editor:

I am an Independent candidate for the New Hampshire House representing Merrimack County District 13 (Pittsfield-Chichester). As such, I was not part of the Primary, but will be on the ballot in November.

I served in the House from 2018-2022 as a Republican. However, the entrenched, inflexible two-party system is failing us in profound ways, and I choose not to be beholden to either party's bosses who care more about party platforms than representing all their constituents.

Having voted in every election since 1972, leaving my party was not an easy decision. I treasure my service on the Public Works and Highways Committee, Fish & Game Committee, and the House Education Committee, and was a proud member of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus. However, today's environment leaves little room for bipartisanship or compromise. An almost tribal ideology has taken hold, sustained by outside money and influence.

I reject such us-versus-them thinking and seek only to serve the interests of our district's residents. I will work with anyone, from either party, for the good of New Hampshire.

I believe we must finally resolve the school funding issue. This is the first step in reducing the property tax burden. I believe we need to fix the state retirement system, and do whatever is needed to fill first-responder vacancies. I also believe we should encourage innovation in economic development and environmental sustainability. For the generations coming behind us we must fight against the high cost of housing, and for its increased availability. Above all we need to remember that, in all levels of governance, character counts.

J. C. Allard



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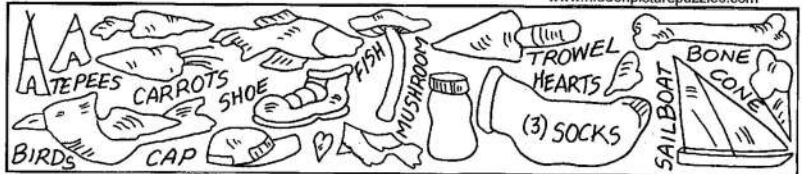
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(cont'd from page 1)

n 1829, James Madison gave a speech about the Virginia Constitutional Convention. Madison said, "The essence of Government is power; and power, lodged as it must be in human hands, will ever be liable to abuse." The Founding Fathers had experienced tyranny firsthand when the thirteen colonies were under British Rule. Through trial and error and countless debates, they eventually settled on writing the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The word constitution originates from the Latin word constitutus, which means to set something up firmly in place. Much like a statue, it isn't meant to be moved or changed easily. It should be the most fixed or immovable type of law. That being said, the Founders wanted something that would never be infringed upon. Benjamin Franklin once said, "In 200 years will people remember us as traitors or heroes? That is the question we must ask." Even long before that time, during the 1600 and 1700's, the early colonists came to North America from Europe searching for their own religious and political liberty as well as more economic opportunities. After the Revolution, they continued to come here, fleeing tyranny and embracing the new nation of liberty.

The First amendment in the Bill of Rights protects freedom of speech, the press, assembly, the right to petition the government, along with the freedom of religion, yet why is the country's motto "In God We Trust?" The primary reason for this was so that the United States would be known as a Christian nation, which would set them apart from religiously oppressive countries. It started out in 1814, when the poem "The Defense of Fort McHenry" was written inspired by the War of 1812 by Francis Scott Key. This would later be known as the Star Spangled Banner. The last stanza in the poem reflects on liberty, and states that the motto will be "In God We Trust." Even during more recent times, President Eisenhower signed into law that the motto will be printed on all paper money, in addition to coins. This was also the time when the two words "under God" were added to the Pledge of Allegiance.

Many of our civil liberties these days come without much thought, but it wasn't always that way. During the reign of the autocratic King George III, the colonists were deprived of basic liberties. Without the Founding Fathers and the selfless people who fought for the country, our nation might not be what it is today. But our freedom is not free, nearly one and a half million soldiers have died fighting for the freedom of our country. This is the land of the free because of the brave. Many people do not realize that soldiers, officers, politicians and judges all swear an oath, not to any individual or group, but to the US Constitution.

Since the early 17th century all the way up until now, our country was built around one theme. That one idea was the root of many of the wars and battles that our country fought for. America is a sovereign country that is established around the premise of liberty. So as a nation, for God and country, our job is to learn our country's history, know our rights, honor our veterans, protect our freedom, and uphold the US Constitution.

Select board review - I will no longer be submitting a review of the select board meetings to the Post. Minutes of meetings are available on the Town website in compliance with 'right to know' laws. Thanks to anyone who took the time to read my articles. Possibly someone else will take over the task. Sincerely, Carl Anderson

PITTSFIELD POST www.PittsfieldNHCommunityCenter.org		
<p>The <i>Pittsfield Post</i> is a non-profit, free newsletter that serves Pittsfield citizens, businesses, town government, town schools and charitable organizations. The newsletter publishes relevant and important news, information, and special interest stories that impact residents, keeping the community informed and providing a forum for dialogue.</p> <p>The <i>Pittsfield Post</i> is published bi-weekly, in both print and digital formats, through the efforts of a volunteer team of residents.</p>	<p>Please support your community newsletter. Checks should be made out to the non-profit: Pittsfield Center Development Corporation, memo: Pittsfield Post. P.O. Box 253, Pittsfield, NH 03263. Donations may also be made on our website.</p>	<p>Send us your news! Individuals, community groups and businesses, email us your news, opinions and creative work. Details about submissions are on our website. Deadline is 9am on Friday.</p> <p>Pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org</p>



Queso Supreme & Mini Pizza Cups

Although technically it's not Fall yet, it is officially football season! Time to refresh your game plan and line up of tasties for your next watch party. Here are two ideas that are sure to score with family and friends. Enjoy!

Queso Supreme

- 8 oz ground beef
- 8 oz bulk Italian sausage (hot or sweet, your call)
- ½ cup chopped red onion
- ½ cup chopped red bell pepper
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and minced
- 1 (10 oz) can Rotel diced tomatoes with green chilies
- 8 oz Velveeta cheese product, cubed
- 8 oz cream cheese, softened, cubed
- 8 oz shredded Pepper Jack or Monterey Jack cheese
- ¾ cup black beans, drained and rinsed
- ½ cup frozen corn, thawed
- ¾ cup avocado, diced
- ¼ cup sour cream
- 2 TBSP fresh chopped cilantro
- Tortilla chips for serving

Heat a large, high-sided skillet over medium high heat. Add beef, sausage, onion, bell pepper and jalapeno to the skillet. Cook, stirring to break up lumps, until meat is browned, about 8 minutes. Drain off the fat. Return the meat mixture to the skillet. Stir in Rotel, Velveeta, cream cheese, Pepper Jack cheese, beans and corn. Cover the skillet and let simmer for about 8 minutes. Uncover, continue cooking, stirring occasionally, until cheese is melted and bubbly, about 2 minutes.

To serve, top the queso with the avocado, sour cream and cilantro and bring out the chips!

Mini Pizza Cups – 3 Ways

1 (13.8 oz) can Pillsbury Classic Pizza Crust

½ to ¾ cup pizza sauce

1 cup shredded Mozzarella cheese

Mini pepperoni slices (optional)

Heat oven to 425. Unroll pizza crust and cut into 12 squares. Press the dough squares into the bottom of a 12 cup muffin tin, including up the sides.

Add 1 TBSP pizza sauce to each cup. Sprinkle with the cheese and top with pepperoni, if using. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes until golden brown.

Mini Bacon & Cheese Pizza Cups

Follow the same process as above, but instead of pizza sauce, drop 1 TBSP prepared pimento cheese into each cup, then sprinkle with cooked, chopped bacon.

Mini BBQ Chicken Pizza Cups

Follow the same process as above. In a bowl, combine ½ cup BBQ sauce with ¾ cup cooked, shredded chicken or use canned chicken (drained). Add the chicken mixture to each muffin cup and top evenly with shredded Cheddar cheese.