

PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE WEEKLY PRODUCTION BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

October 14, 2020

"O hushed October morning mild, Thy leaves have ripened to the fall; Tomorrow's wind, if it be wild, Should waste them all" - Robert Frost



Pressing Sweet Apple Goodness for 90 Years

Fall has arrived, and especially during these and ever-changing times we're all going through, it's comforting to know that some beloved traditions remain. Leavitt's Cider Mill has been in continuous operation for 90 years, thanks to Laurie Houle.

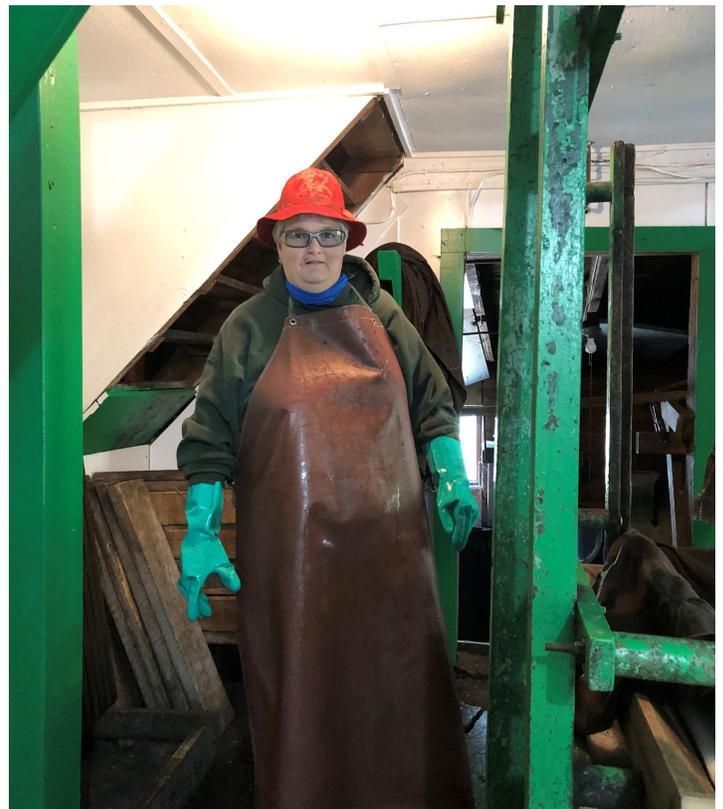
We had the chance to meet with Laurie and Jake Farmer recently to watch the apple cider pressing process in action. The cider press was built in the 1890's and was originally housed in Gilmanton Iron Works. The press operated in Gilmanton for close to 40 years, powered by water. In 1930, Ruben Leavitt, Sr. bought the press and moved it to Pittsfield. Several components of the press are original, including the main drive wheel which is made of wood.

Laurie was fascinated by the cider press as a young child and began working at the mill at the age of 7. She shared that "Old Ruben" built the current cider mill building to house the press from Gilmanton. When she first started to work there, she wasn't tall enough to reach the apples, so Old Ruben made her a wooden stool, which she still has. Once the mill opened in 1930, production took off. They sold cider to a large number of stores and markets across the region. Every Saturday morning, Laurie and Old Ruben would deliver fresh pressed apple cider to markets in Pittsfield, Barnstead, Northwood, Chichester and Epsom.

In the early years, they bottled the cider in glass with metal caps. Old Ruben's wife would wash and boil the glass bottles which were returned by customers, and they were reused.

Laurie Houle bought the mill in 1985 and has kept the operation going with loving care ever since, just the way Old Ruben did. She sources her apples from Meadow Ledge Farm in Loudon; and typically starts with Mack apples, then layers in other apple varieties as the season progresses. One "full press" uses over 20 bushels of apples and produces about 70 gallons of unpasteurized cider. The leftover pulp from the pressing process is called "pummey", which Laurie offers to local farmers for cattle feed. The mill operates today with the original motor and most of the press mechanical works are original, but they have converted to hydraulic electric power.

Continued on page 3



Laurie Houle in full regalia, ready for another press

Town Crier Andi Riel, 435-6346
pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com

Saturday, October 17, 2020 from 10-2pm Free Sugar Pumpkins will be available at the FB Argue Recreation Area to take home and carve. The PES PTO will be supplying carving kits for each family. Bring carved pumpkins back to the Rec Area (aka Town Beach) on Oct. 24 from 10-2pm. Parks & Rec committee members will light them several nights of the following week.

Tuesday October 20, from 9-11am Infant Toddler Diaper Pantry, through the First Congregational Church. We ask that you please call 435-7471 when you arrive in the parking lot. Clients will not be able to enter the Church at this time. Weather permitting, we will place your diapers and wipes in a bag with your name attached and place it on a table in the parking lot. If weather is not permitting, we will bring the product to you. Please use the parking lot off Chestnut Street.

Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 7pm The Greater Pittsfield Chamber of Commerce will hold a meeting via Zoom. If you are interested in attending the meeting, contact Andi Riel at pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com for more information.

Saturday, October 24, 2020, 2pm The "Throw-A-Treat" parade will be held. We are hoping to see lots of costumes along the route! The parade route will be starting at Clark St. to Oneida St., Left on Manchester St., Right on Tilton Hill Rd., Right on Wildwood Drive, Left on Tilton Hill Rd., Right at fork onto Catamount Rd, Left on Carroll St., Left on Main St., to Dowboro Rd. Right on Quail Ridge Rd., Left on Dowboro to S. Main St. continue down Main St., Right on Chestnut St., Right on Bridge St., Left on Depot St., Left on Barnstead Rd., Left on High St., Left on River Rd. Right on Page St., Left on Watson St., Right on Lyford Hill Rd., straight through lights onto Leavitt Rd, Left at fork to Loudon Rd., across Rt. 28 to Crescent St., Left on Concord Hill Rd., slight right to Main St., Left on Elm St., to Depot St., through intersection to Catamount Rd., Right to Clark St. Any groups or organizations that would like to join the parade please contact Minni Plante at 290-4068.

Sunday, October. 25, 2020 from 7-2pm at the FIELD OF TREATS at the PYBA Tilton Hill Fields, Drop off pumpkins for the Jack O'Lantern Jubilee – Calling all kids 18 and under (Pittsfield residents only please) Carve, paint or decorate a pumpkin (no flames please) for judging on during Field Of Treats. Write first and last name and phone# on the bottom of the pumpkin. Three CASH prizes will be awarded. Families & Local Businesses encouraged to sign up for a booth!

Parks & Recreation Committee is sponsoring a Virtual Halloween Costume contest. Post your child's costume picture on the Pittsfield NH Parks & Recreation Facebook page (with contact information) by Oct. 28. The 3 most creative costumes will win a prize - winners will be announced on the Parks & Rec FB page.

Saturday October 31, 2020 from 11-3pm PES PTO Pumpkin Scavenger Hunt – Calling all ghosts, goblins and spooky friends to join us in your car or take a walk in a Town Wide Pumpkin Scavenger Hunt contest. Grab your phone and look all over town for our creatively designed and specially placed pumpkins (31 in all). The first to post on PES PTO FB page – all 31 pumpkins WINS! (1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes)

Senior Health Clinics are being scheduled at the Pittsfield Community Center on the **4th Monday of each month, 9am-3pm** – VNA Senior Health Clinic, upstairs above the Senior Center. Please call 224-4093 ext 5815 to make an appointment.

The Pittsfield Food Pantry located at 55 Barnstead Road, near Joy Church, is available to anyone needing some help. Hours: Monday: 11am –2pm & 4pm-6pm; Thursday: 11am-2pm. If you would like more information, call 435-7300.

For the 6th year, **Catamount Womenaid** offers a fall 5K for all levels of runners or walkers. The 2020 Deerfield Veterinary Clinic Catamount 5k will be virtual and can be run any time/anywhere between Oct. 24 and Nov. 1. To register, go to catamountwomenaid.org All proceeds will help people in Pittsfield, Deerfield, Epsom, Northwood and Strafford who need emergency financial assistance.

Happy Birthday wishes to Zach Powers on Thursday.
Happy Anniversary wishes to Rick & Beth Chase on Friday. I hope you enjoy your special days!



The one and only, original cider press, built in Gilmanton circa 1890

Over the years, Laurie and Leavitt's Cider Mill have been featured in a number of media, including News Channel 5, The Concord Monitor, The Boston Globe and several others. It is believed that Leavitt's Cider Mill is one of the oldest mills in continuous use in New England.

The mill will continue to press cider and remain open until just before Thanksgiving. They're open on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; a gallon of cider is \$7.75 and a half gallon is \$5.00. The cider will keep for 7 days, if refrigerated. This cider is the real deal, it's 100% apples – no added water and no added sugar.

Make sure a trip to Leavitt's Cider Mill on South Main Street is on your list of things to do in the coming weeks. The cider is absolutely delicious and the mill store is a delightful and refreshing step back in time.

Laurie, thank you for your hard work and devotion to keeping this cherished tradition alive for all of us and for the next generation! *MP Christakos*

Recipe Round-Up – Soups, Stews & Chilis

Beautiful fall days are perfect weather for a hearty bowl of homemade deliciousness. We'd like to publish your favorites over the coming weeks. Please send your recipes to pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org Include your contact information in case we need to reach you. Thank you! We look forward to hearing from you.

Cook's Corner Country French Pork Roast with Prunes & Apples



Slow cooker – 4 to 5 hours cook time)

Here's a delightful autumn meal, using fresh ingredients that, for the most part, we can source right here locally in Pittsfield. If you have some Calvados (apple brandy) on hand, you may wish to add a Tbsp or three to the sauce before serving. This lovely pork roast is delightful with baked acorn squash on the side (drizzled with butter & maple syrup), and either steamed fresh green beans or carrots alongside. Bon appetit!

- 2 Tbsp flour
- 1 Tbsp herbes de Provence, or your own blend of spices
- Salt & Pepper
- 1 boneless pork loin roast (3 to 4 lbs)
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 medium onions, halved and thinly sliced
- 1 cup apple cider, preferably from Leavitt's Cider Mill, (or unsweetened apple juice)
- 1 cup beef stock
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 large tart apples, peeled, cored and chopped
- 1 cup pitted dried plums (prunes)

Mix flour, herbes de Provence, salt & pepper, rub all over pork loin. In a large skillet heat oil over medium-high heat, brown the pork on all sides. Place the roast in the slow cooker. Add onions, apple cider, beef stock and bay leaves.

Cook on low heat for 3 hours. Add apples and dried prunes. Cook, covered for another 1 and ½ hours longer or until apples and pork are tender. Discard bay leaves. Remove roast and vegetables to serving platter and let rest for 15 minutes before slicing. Serve the roast with the cooking sauce on the side.

MP Christakos

Against His Will

Part Fourteen of a Serial Tale

By Apen Monicoeur

She is in a dog kennel. Through the high lab window, she sees that it is very dark outside. She feels all around and tries to find a comfortable position in the 4x5 space; cold metal grids press against her flesh. Whatever she was drugged with is beginning to wear off. Her mind settles on the past 24 hours as she tries to find reason in all that has happened.

Her mind settles on the double-crossing Liz, the receptionist with a love of dyed hair, tattoos, body piercings, and stealing other people's boyfriends. Not to mention taking payments to nark and undermine police investigations. Poor Trace was being used by this horrible girl. She was leading him on, passing on information on the case, and even manipulating Trace to look in alternative directions, most likely being coy and seductive. Jeannette wanted to throw up.

And here she was stuck in a dog kennel. Nobody knew where she was. Joseph, or someone, had taken all her personal items including her phone and ID.

She had no idea what Joseph had in store for her. It didn't surprise her to imagine that Joseph could make her disappear without a trace. She was simply an inconvenience. Her poking around was causing too much strife and she was an unnecessary pest.

Of course Joseph was laundering money! How could she be so blind? What kind of dog groomer with no real dogs, not even a trace of fur inside their place of business, drives a pristine BMW and dines at prestigious farm-to-table restaurants? His business was a front that he used to funnel money through to an off-shore account. For how long had he been stealing from his father's estate?

She had been so careless: too trusting. All that got her was a bleak future, locked in a small, uncomfortable space, and a cheating boyfriend who was caught up with a deceitful and distasteful girl. She felt nothing but disdain and hatred of this harlot. She should have just listened to her editor and stuck to fluff and filler articles for the newspaper.

Seriously, would she have found herself in this position if she had only drummed up a piece about 'the Best Snacks to Pack for Summer Camps?' Or 'What Works Better in Your Windows; Curtains or Venetian Blinds?'

Jeannette heard the front door keypad engage and the door swing open. Soft footsteps moved from the front of the building to the back where Jeannette lay crunched up inside her small kennel. A dark silhouette approached her cage and there was a fumbling at the lock that secured her door closed. After a few moments, the cage door swung open and the figure retreated without so much as the squeak of shoe soles on clean tile.

Jeannette stretched out her legs and unwound herself from her cramped position, easing out of the kennel. Her bare feet hit the cool floor.

"Thanks!" she says to the mysterious person.

"Go," they whisper, and then they're gone out of the front door into the blackness of night.

She stands there for a full minute wondering what she should do. Joseph had her car removed from the property. She had no shoes. No phone. No ID or money.

Jeannette heads out the door and starts walking down the road. Each time she hears a car approach, she leaves the tarmac and hides in the brush alongside the shoulder. Brushes and brambles catch at her clothes and hair. Pebbles hurt the undersides of her feet. At this juncture she doesn't know who she can trust, and all she wants to do is get back home.

She found a thick patch of ferns on the woodland edge and curled up to sleep.

In the morning she stuck to the woods and made her way south, paralleling the highway. Fortunately the day broke with clear skies and sunshine, and it was close to noon when she walked to the rest stop at the bottom of Route 89. There she addressed an attendant and explained she was in an emergency situation. They allowed her into their back office and shut the door for privacy.

She dialed the cell phone number by heart and waited for it to ring through.

"Hello?"

"Trace," she gasped out. "Please don't hang up on me. I know you're still under cover, but I really need you."

"Jeannette?"

"I'm in big trouble." she sobbed.

To the Citizens of Pittsfield:

In reply to Bill Miskoe's letter about Donald Trump's \$750 tax liability, I just wanted to point out that president Trump does in fact [donate his presidential salary](#) (as seen on the preceding link to [politifact.com](#)). He primarily donates it to federal agencies, including the National Park Service and the Department of Health and Human Services. He has designated funding to DHHS to deal with the opioid crisis and COVID-19. *Matthew Covey, Pittsfield, NH*

Citizens of Pittsfield:

I support Hugh Curley for State Representative in Merrimack 21, Epsom and Pittsfield. Hugh is a bright and hardworking man whose life has revolved around service to others, starting when he served as a Capuchin Franciscan Friar for six years after college.

After leaving religious life, he volunteered for multiple town boards in Durham, Connecticut. He helped grow a vibrant small business community and served on the Boards of Finance, Economic Development, and Selectmen. He chaired the community Decommissioning Advisory Committee for the Yankee Power Plant for nine years. Hugh worked with the Small Business Administration, helping business owners and lenders access federal loan programs and realize government contracting opportunities during national disasters.

Since coming to Epsom in 2010, Hugh has been a contributing member of town boards: Cable Contract Review Committee; Cemetery Committee; and a Town Selectman for six years. He has been a liaison to the Fire, Police, and Highway Departments. Recently, you may have seen him at the BCEP (Transfer Station) where he is the Selectman's Representative and where he has donated 12-16 hours per week for the past four months and is currently volunteer Interim Administrator due to personnel issues at the Station.

Hugh has decided to share his considerable expertise by running for State Representative. We have some difficult times coming up in the wake of the Covid-19 Pandemic and New Hampshire needs Hugh Curley's experience. Hugh Curley deserves your vote November Third. *Miriam Cahill-Yeaton, Epsom, NH*

Support Hugh Curley

I will be voting for Hugh Curley for State Representative in Merrimack District 21 Epsom and Pittsfield. I have been married to him for 35 years so I may be opinionated on this issue.

I see his strong points as his desire to help people and to solve problems. He has volunteered on numerous appointed and elected commissions and committees for as long as I have known him. His career at the Chamber of Commerce in CT and at the Small Business Administration in CT and NH affords him an insight into the needs of businesses and of the people who run them. If presented with an issue/problem/concern, the first thing he does is ask questions to determine what the problem really is and how best to approach a resolution as well as considering unintended consequences.

He has been tireless as a Selectman in Epsom with a goal towards doing what is right for the town and taking care to spend judiciously while keeping an eye on future needs and saving for long-term projects and expenses. *Patricia Curley, Epsom, NH*

To the voters of District 21,

For the past two years I have represented Pittsfield and Epsom in the General Court. It has been an honor to serve, and I am running for re-election. I am running to continue the work begun in the last session, and to build on the experience I've gained as a member of the House Education Committee. Our work to restore stability grants to school districts at 2016 levels was significant, but now we must institute a new, sustainable funding system that is fair and fiscally sound across 104 separate school districts. We must also craft a budget that will lift our state out of the economic situation forced upon us by the Covid-19 pandemic. The experiences I've gained as a sub-committee chair, a sponsor and a co-sponsor of bills has prepared me to deal with the challenges immediately ahead. The representatives you have in House Districts 21 and 29, as well as Senate District 17, work as a team standing firm on property taxes, constitutional issues, and business development for the Suncook Valley. I want to continue this work, so I ask for the privilege of your vote, and I commit to you my very best effort in these challenging times.

Rep. J. C. Allard, Merrimack District 21

Editorial Guidelines

The Pittsfield Post promotes:

Pittsfield town and school activities, and events in Pittsfield involving Pittsfield residents or sponsored by Pittsfield organizations. Information directly impacting Pittsfield residents, businesses located in Pittsfield and/or that are owned by a Pittsfield resident.

Letters to the editor (limit 250 words)

Must be signed by the author with contact information included (authorship will be verified); letters should be civil and respectful of all people. No letter is guaranteed publication.

Articles (limit 250 words)

Articles seek to inform citizens of events, happenings, and opportunities in Pittsfield or affecting Pittsfield. They should be factual, specific, and clear. Priority is given to events that will happen, with lesser emphasis on events that have happened in the past.

Letters and Articles are the opinions of the author, not volunteers of the Pittsfield Post.

Victory Workers 4H Club News

On Sunday, October 4, Victory Workers 4-H Club held its first meeting of the school year. Instead of what we normally do, we held a drive-thru with various tables. We elected our upcoming officers, signed up for baskets and sewing, and signed up to plant flowers and fall decorations at the dump. We also signed up to make Thanksgiving pies for our annual pie sale at Mike's Meat Shop. We held a food drive, collected used markers and ink cartridges, and had a table set up for receiving carved pumpkins, which we will donate to Merrimack County Nursing Home. Even though things look different, each activity was met with enthusiasm from all members. If you are interested in learning more about 4-H, please visit our Facebook page or call 496-3928. *Jeremiah Chapman*, Reporter, Victory Workers 4-H Club

Double Word Puzzle #10 by Diana Westgate

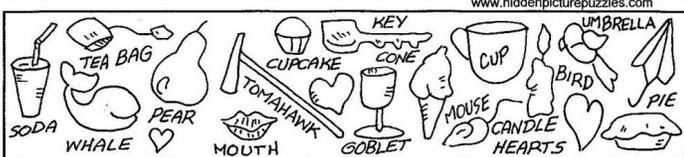
Find the word that satisfies both definitions.

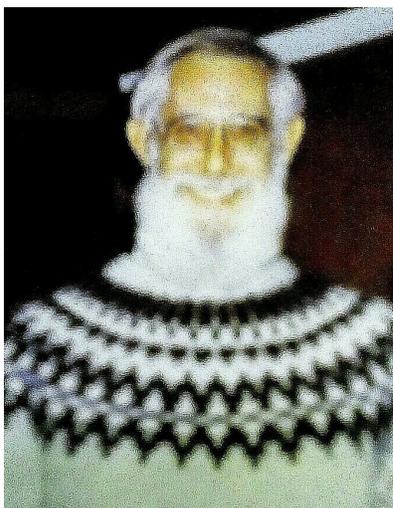
1. Remove tooth _____ Influence
2. Baseball term _____ Hit
3. Bad hit _____ Rotten
4. Spastic movement _____
Stupid person
5. Limit _____ Head covering
6. Eating utensil _____ Road divide
7. Eating utensil _____ Make out
8. Pliable metal strand _____
Send a telegram
9. Low fat _____ Incline
10. Strong metal _____ Smooth
out wrinkles

The answers are on p. 8

Ready to Read Family Activity of the Week

Play "I Spy" with rhyming words. *I spy with my little eye something that rhymes with fall. What is it? Yes! A ball!*





Anton D. Wadleigh

Anton D. Wadleigh, 81 of Pittsfield, passed away on Wednesday, September 23, 2020 following a period of declining health.

Born on April 30, 1939 in Washington, DC; he was the son of the late Arthur and Marion (Delany) Wadleigh. Anton was raised and educated in Plymouth, NH. He spent childhood days exploring the woods and rivers of central NH. He was very fond of his Plymouth classmates. There he met his future wife, Joan T. (Tracy) Wadleigh, whom he admired and was the love of his life. He was a proud father and husband who raised his family in Massachusetts and Connecticut. He always encouraged his family to earn college degrees. At 50 yrs old he completed his Bachelor's degree, while his wife and 2 of 3 children were finishing their degrees.

Anton was a software engineer in his first work life. His most rewarding work was completed in the Kwajalein Islands. In retirement, he moved to Pittsfield and enjoyed work for several years as the Dairy Manager for Danis Market in Pittsfield. He truly enjoyed the people he met and came to know in town. He continued to enjoy class reunions and being outside watching birds, deer and other wildlife, and mowing his lawn, through the rest of his life.

Anton was predeceased by his wife as well as a daughter, Rebecca Wadleigh, and siblings, Alicia Dargon, Anne Ingemundson and Alan Wadleigh are also predeceased.

He is survived by his children, Mark Wadleigh and his wife Annette of Bernardston, MA and Kathryn Wadleigh of Greenfield, MA. His two granddaughters, Juliett and Robbianne, two great granddaughters,

Maia and Sara, as well as four nephews, Hans Ingemundsen, Knut Ingemundson, George Dargon and Arthur Wadleigh.

Anton requested no formal services, though a Celebration of Life will be held October 17, 2020 from 2-4pm at his home. The Still Oaks Funeral & Memorial Home in Epsom is assisting the family with arrangements. To share a memory or offer a condolence please visit www.stilloaks.com or send to Kate Wadleigh, 106 School Street, Greenfield, MA 01301.

For a skinny man, he had a tremendous sweet tooth, and always welcomed hot coffee, warm chocolate chip cookies, apple pie, snickers.... Enjoy some in his memory.



Woodland Management Walk

Graylag Nature Preserve, Saturday, October 24, 2020 at 9:30 am, 320 Clough Road, Pittsfield

Join us with Forester Bryan Comeau to learn about forest management plans and their implementation at Graylag Nature Preserve. This will be a socially distanced but hands on outdoor workshop where landowners and others can learn what goes into a forest management plan and how it is implemented. Our property had a recent timber harvest and Bryan will teach us how to harvest and manage land responsibly and sustainably while protecting sensitive wetlands and habitats.

Space will be limited to make the workshop safe for all so registration is required. Call (603) 435-5555 or email anne@graylagcabins.com

Answers to Double Word Puzzle #10

1. Remove (tooth) – **pull** – Influence
2. Baseball term – **strike** – Hit
3. Bad hit – **foul** – Rotten
4. Spastic movement – **jerk** – Stupid person (sl.)
5. Limit – **cap** – Head covering
6. Eating utensil – **fork** – Road divide
7. Eating utensil – **spoon** – Make out
8. Pliable metal strand – **wire** – Send a telegram
9. Low fat – **lean** – Incline
10. Strong metal – **iron** – Smooth out wrinkles

Pittsfield Post Loves News!

Hey there, are you reading the **Pittsfield Post** from 'afar'? Why not write in and tell us your story, why you have a Pittsfield connection and what you like about the Post? Do you have an interesting story to tell and share with your friends and neighbors? Are you a member of a community group that has news to share? Email us your news, limiting letters to 250 words, by noon on Friday. Full editorial guidelines are at www.pittsfieldpost.org

Email: pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org



*Come and join us as we
celebrate our faith in God,
our freedom, and a loving
fellowship with each other.*

Sunday worship at 10 a.m.

**First Congregational
Church of Pittsfield**

24 Main Street
Phone 435-7471

Classified

Community Center Function Hall Available

The Pittsfield Community Center has plenty of parking, handicapped access, applianced kitchen, and bathroom facilities. Low Rates Available. For more information or a tour of the facility, please call the Pittsfield Community Center at 435-6729.

Please Support the *Pittsfield Post*

Pittsfield Center Development Corporation (PCDC), owner of the Community Center, is the fiscal agent for the *Pittsfield Post*. PCDC is a non-profit organization whose mission is to engage in activities that benefit Pittsfield. Checks should be made out to:
Pittsfield Center Development Corporation, memo: Newspaper
P.O. Box 253, Pittsfield, NH 03263
Donations are tax-deductible. Donations above \$50.00 can be acknowledged as sponsor of the week.

Name: _____ Phone _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

I would like to have sponsorship acknowledgement: Yes ___ No ___

Text for Sponsorship: _____

MIRIAM CAHILL-YEATON

STATE REP 29 • ALLENSTOWN/EPSOM/PITTSFIELD

Education: BS Nursing; MS Trauma Critical Care;
NP Certificate

Veteran: Air Force Officer 20+ yrs

Community: Library Volunteer;
Legionnaire; Covid Volunteer

Priorities:

Healthcare • Prochoice • Equality • Education funding
Living minimum wage

nmyeaton.mims@yahoo.com • 731-1810

Fiscal agent: NDYeaton

Advertising in the Post

Costs begin at \$5.00 for a brief classified ad. Guidelines and order forms are located at www.pittsfieldpost.org

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