

# PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE NEWSLETTER BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

"You are never too old to set a new goal or to dream a new dream." *C.S. Lewis* **January 17, 2024**



## Pittsfield Middle High School



***Testimony Submitted by Students from Pittsfield Middle High School's Fair Funding Learning Studio***

January 10, 2024, House Education Committee

To The House Education Committee,

On behalf of students from the Pittsfield School District, and students whose education is handcuffed across the state, we are urging your support of the proposed bills that would increase funding and support for schools in our state.

In Pittsfield, a small, property poor town just a half hour or so from our capital; students have lived through the inadequate funding formula everyday. We have had our school budgets slashed some years, resulting in losing valuable courses that provoke thought and prepare us for the real world. We don't have the money in our school budget for foreign language teachers, which most colleges and universities require two years of just to submit an admissions application. We don't have a music teacher, as our district cannot compete with larger school districts who can offer candidates much higher pay. We need more support staff, to assist our special education students who require support to help ensure their academic and personal growth. We have so many needs, yet so little money to meet those needs. Our taxpayers have to draw a line somewhere, and cost of living has already increased so much over the years, forcing the hand of residents of Pittsfield to vote down important measures for our school.

For too long, the state has not fulfilled its promises made in the initial Claremont lawsuit before we were even born. It is time to make right on the promises made to our future generations for an adequate education. Our education should not be defined by the zip code in which we live. As students, we are held to basic expectations such as completing assignments on time, yet the promises once made by our Supreme Court have missed its deadline by over twenty years. We now have the opportunity to correct this mistake, and provide a more adequate and equitable education to all of our students across this state. Please support bills that will help our schools and our future generations.

Signed, *Students of the Pittsfield Middle High School Fair Funding Learning Studio*

\*\* To read the back story see *State Education Funding* on page four.

NH Presidential Primary Election  
Voting 7am - 7pm, Tuesday, Jan. 23  
Pittsfield Middle High School Gymnasium

**To the voters**, as a reminder, not all the names of presidential candidates are listed on the NH Presidential Primary ballot, which means that you may have to write in the person who you want to vote for. *Lois Giegerich*

**Hey Pittsfield Post** Could you please print this quote I just came up with: "I only vote for people who follow our constitution." *Dan the Stoneman*

## Town Crier

To have an event included in this column, call **Andi Riel** at 603-435-6346 or email [pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com](mailto:pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com)

**Wednesday, Jan. 17, 6pm, the Josiah Carpenter Library Board of Trustees** will meet at the library and is open to the public. Please feel free to join us.

**Monday, Jan. 22, 5pm, The PHS Alumni Association** will meet at the High School Media Center. New members are always welcome. Please join us!

**Monday, Jan. 22, 5:30-6:30pm Soups On! Join us at the First Congregational Church.** Enjoy a meal with and meet some new friends! Cost is a donation.

**Tuesday, Jan. 23, 7am to 7pm, Supervisors of the Checklist** will be in session at the Pittsfield Middle High School Gym to register new voters and make any necessary corrections prior to the Town and School District Elections. Please note: Change of party affiliation will not be accepted at this session.

**PYW is open for regular drop-in** hours, 3-6pm on Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri and 1-6pm on Wed. Dungeons & Dragons - Join us during drop-in - sign up to be guaranteed a spot - dates are Tues, Jan. 16, Thurs, Jan. 18, Fri, Jan. 26 and Fri, Feb. 9. Please contact Ashley or Zach at 603-435-8272 or email at [info@pittsfielddropin.org](mailto:info@pittsfielddropin.org) for more info for all the great things happening in the New Year.

**New Hours at the Senior Center** Monday & Thursdays – 8am-2pm and Wednesdays 7:30am – 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- M & W at 9am and Chair Yoga- TH at 9am. For more information or if you have questions, call Anne at 603-435-8482.

**Breakfast Bingo** What a combination! Starting on Jan. 3 every other Wednesday the center will be serving breakfast at 9:30am then bingo will follow from 10-11:45am. For January our "Breakfast Bingo" dates will be the 3rd, 17th, and 31st. Cribbage players are still welcome. We have plenty of room for both groups to be going on at the same time.

**At the Senior Center** on Friday, Jan. 19, 10am: "National Popcorn Day." Let's celebrate National

Popcorn Day by having some popcorn and heat up some hot chocolate, put on a movie, and play some cards or board games. Hope to see you there.

**The Pittsfield Historical Society 2024 Calendar** is now available for purchase at the Town Hall, Library and the Museum and the cost is \$15. The theme for the 2024 calendar is "Hotels, Boarding Houses, Resorts, Retreats and Summer Camps."

**Join us every Sunday 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 noon and bingo starts at 2:30pm at 48 Airport Road in Concord.

**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 well-being 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@globefiresuits.com](mailto:GlobeCommunityFund@globefiresuits.com)

**The town of Pittsfield's Winter Parking Ban** on town roads is effective Nov. 15 through Apr. 15. This ban prohibits parking in or on the town's roads or right of way between the hours of 10pm and 7am. The purpose of this parking ban is to allow the winter or inclement weather maintenance crews unobstructed routes for snow removal and ice control, to maintain effectiveness of their routes.

**The Suncook Sno-Riders Club** members are selling tickets for their annual Winter Raffle. 1st Prize: \$500, 2nd Prize: \$300, 3rd Prize: \$200 and 10 \$100 Prizes. Only 200 tickets will be sold. Tickets are \$20 each. The drawing will be at our club meeting on Mar. 6, you do not need to be present to win. Please see a club member for tickets.

**Happy Birthday** to Lyn Ward Sun, Jan. 14; Nate Davis and my brother-in-law, Peter Karwocki Tues, Jan. 16 and Bob Wharem on Fri, Jan. 19. Enjoy your day! A very special Happy Birthday wish to my fabulous husband, Mark Riel, Jan. 19 - Cheers to many more!

## Town of Pittsfield Dog License

Dogs must be licensed by May 1 each year under State Law RSA 466:1

**\*PLEASE NOTE: Dog license fees have increased by \$1.00 per RSA 466:39**

Fees : \$10.00 for unaltered dogs

\$7.50 for neutered/spayed dogs

\$3.00 for 1st dog with an owner over 65

\$21.00 for group license of five or more dogs

There are three ways to license your dog(s).

**For all cases we need record of the current rabies vaccination**

1. Come into the town hall and see the town clerk
2. Online through the town website:  
[www.pittsfieldnh.gov](http://www.pittsfieldnh.gov)
3. By U.S. mail In the event your dog has passed away or you no longer own your dog, please notify the town clerk by phone: 603-435-6773 ext 1 or by email: [eanthony@pittsfieldnh.gov](mailto:eanthony@pittsfieldnh.gov). If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.



## Cook's Corner Caesar Chicken



This recipe is a keeper! It's quick and easy and super tasty. I like to serve this chicken over cooked farfalle pasta (bow tie shape). Crush more Caesar croutons if you prefer a little more crunch. To plate the meal, I lay down some cooked pasta, drop a few spoonfuls of the sauce over the pasta, then slice the chicken into strips, diagonally, and layer on top of the pasta, add a few more spoons of sauce, sprinkle with fresh chopped parsley and you're good to go. Heat some garlic bread and cut a nice salad. I guarantee this will become a regular on your dinner menu rotation. Bon appetit! *MP Christakos*

Cooking spray

1 cup Caesar salad croutons, crushed (ending up with 1 cup)

1 cup grated Parmesan cheese

4 TBSP butter, melted

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts

Garlic powder

Fresh ground black pepper

Salt

1 & ½ to 2 cups creamy Caesar salad dressing

2/3 cup sour cream

2 TBSP flour

Chopped fresh parsley for garnish

Heat oven to 375. Coat a 2-quart baking dish with cooking spray.

Combine crushed croutons, Parmesan cheese and butter; toss well to mix. Set aside.

Season chicken with garlic powder, salt & pepper and place in prepared baking dish.

Stir together salad dressing, sour cream and flour in a small bowl. Spoon the mixture over the chicken and turn to coat. Top the chicken with the crouton mixture. Bake in the oven until browned and chicken is cooked through (reaching 165 in the center), for approximately 45 to 50 minutes.

Garnish with fresh parsley before serving.

Business Cards • Forms • Business Checks • Brochures  
Color Copies • Stationery • Graphic Design • Magnets  
Programs • Raffle Tickets • Rubber Stamps  
Wedding Invitations and Accessories • Bookmarks

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

### GRANITE IMAGE

940 Suncook Valley Hwy • PO Box 683  
Epsom, NH 03234 • 603-736-6056

[print@granite-image.com](mailto:print@granite-image.com) • [www.granite-image.com](http://www.granite-image.com)

Want to see the pictures in color?  
Subscribe to receive the Post by Email  
Go to: [www.PittsfieldPost.org](http://www.PittsfieldPost.org)  
Or scan the QR code



**BINGO SUNDAYS 2:30PM**  
To Benefit **IBEW Local 490**  
**KIDS PYBA FIRST**  
48 Airport Road  
**Pittsfield Concord**  
Youth Baseball Association  
**DOORS OPEN AT 12:00PM**  
[www.facebook.com/pybabingo](http://www.facebook.com/pybabingo)

## Public Hearing Shows Overwhelming Support for Increasing State Education Funding

January 10 – Every member of the public who testified in front of the House Education Committee today spoke to the need for increased State funding for education.

“This overwhelming support for increased state funding for education sends a very strong signal that this problem has persisted for too long without a solution,” said Zack Sheehan, NHSFFP Executive Director. “With a subcommittee preparing to work on this issue starting tomorrow, they can take a clear message away from today that they need to seriously consider how we fund education and work toward increasing State funding to create new opportunities for students and lower local property taxes.”

The committee heard from superintendents, principals, school board members, and other concerned citizens on HB 1583, HB 1656, HB 1586, and HB 1686, all centered on the difficulties faced by school districts that struggle to raise sufficient funds to support their schools. Alongside that was a consistent call for increasing State funding for education and reforming the upside-down tax system we use to raise those funds.

In addition to the in-person testimony, the NH School Funding Fairness Project helped deliver testimony from 127 individuals, and a group of students from Pittsfield Middle High School, who were unable to attend the hearing in person, but still wanted to call on the committee to work on these bills and increase State funding for education. “I’m looking forward to the subcommittee giving these bills close, focused attention, and helping however myself and the Project can over the next couple of weeks to help move the State in the right direction on increasing state funding,” Sheehan said. “The need for change was made clear today, and coupled with the recent decisions in the ConVal and Rand lawsuits, it is obvious that the time is now for the legislature to get to work.” *NH School Funding Fairness Project*



### Select Board Review January 9, 2024

Lots of catching up to do! A public hearing was held regarding unanticipated funds in excess of \$10,000. No comments, and the State bridge aid of \$26,573.16 was accepted.

The library trustees came in looking for direction regarding the basement floor which is cracked and still leaks a little. We approved having it sealed with epoxy. The elevator which provides handicap access to the main floor from the basement has only worked 24 hr. in the past year. The elevator company is out of business and parts seem impossible to find or fabricate. We are trying to find an affordable alternative, as a new elevator approaches \$50,000.

Bill Miskoe was appointed to the Community Development Committee.

We reviewed the deed to 36 Main St. so it could be signed and sent on to closing. Our concerns were addressed in the deed and should protect that parcel from becoming unsightly.

The Town Warrant was reviewed; the articles look ready for the printer but still some additional details that we include in the Town Report to be determined.

Nearly \$30,000 was collected from registrations (sidewalk improvement fee) in 2023, which was transferred to the sidewalk

fund. It's important to keep the downtown 'walkable' and our sidewalks were in bad shape before this program began. Getting around town on foot is getting a lot easier.

Fire Chief Pete Pszonowsky let us know he had the honor of presenting 23-year employee AEMT Kris Ahearn and 20-year employee Captain Gerard with plaques commemorating those milestones. We are fortunate to be able to retain some of the best for many years. Carl Anderson

**Notable Quotes from Testimony on HB 1583 to Increase Education Funding**

Some notable quotes from testimony on HB 1583, relative to the per pupil cost of an opportunity for an adequate education.

Sean Parr, member of the Manchester School Board and chair of its Education Legislation Committee: "We are grateful for the boost in funding granted during the last budget cycle, it will do wonders for our students, but it doesn't get the State to where it needs to be to have a fully funded system."

Michael Galli, Principal of the Warren Village School, "I can tell you how many students my teachers are feeding out of their own pockets. I can tell you how many pairs of shoes my teachers have bought their students so far this year, and how many coats we issue every recess."

Michael Tierney, lead counsel for the school district plaintiffs in the ConVal lawsuit: "The State did not have a defense that the \$4,100 is actually the true cost of providing an adequate education; the State only attacked the plaintiffs' arguments, arguments which the court found to be fully credible.

Carisa Corrow, former educator from Penacook: "I've personally never liked that we use the word adequate to describe education. It's too subjective, uninspired, and because we've failed to define it in a way that accounts for our changing economy and technological advancements, it's been quite easy for leaders to lowball the actual cost and contribution. I'd actually like us to consider funding a "quality education" where each child, regardless of zip code and the socioeconomic status of their parents and community, has the same access to dynamic and rigorous learning experiences as their peers the next town over."

**PITTSFIELD INSURANCE AGENCY**  
**Home - Auto - Business**  
**3 LEAVITT RD**  
**PITTSFIELD NH 03263**  
**603-435-7262**

[PITTSFIELDINSURANCE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PITTSFIELDINSURANCE@GMAIL.COM)  
[PITTSFIELDINSURANCEAGENCY.COM](http://PITTSFIELDINSURANCEAGENCY.COM)

**WE TREAT EVERY CUSTOMER LIKE THEY ARE OUR ONLY CUSTOMER**

**CALL FOR YOUR NO OBLIGATION QUOTE**

 **Post-It in the Post**  
 Community groups, businesses, and individuals, please send us your news, opinions, and creative work!  
 Deadline is noon on Friday.  
 Email: [pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org](mailto:pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org)  
 Info: [www.PittsfieldNHCommunityCenter.org](http://www.PittsfieldNHCommunityCenter.org)

**PITTSFIELD TOWN FILING NOTICE**

Declarations of Candidacy for elected Town Office positions will begin on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 and expire on Friday, February 2, 2024 at 5:00PM. You may file at the office of the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, 85 Main Street during regular business hours. The office will remain open until 5:00PM on February 2nd. The declaration forms will also be available to download from the Town website: [www.pittsfieldnh.gov](http://www.pittsfieldnh.gov).

Selectman	2 (3) year term
Town Moderator	1 (2) year term
Supervisor of the Checklist	1 (6) year term
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	1 (3) year term
Trustee of Trust Funds	1 (3) year term
Library Trustee	1 (3) year term
Cemetery Trustee	1 (3) year term
Planning Board	2 (3) year term
Zoning Board of Adjustment	2 (3) year term

Erica Anthony, Town Clerk

## It's Time for Candidates to Sign Up for Pittsfield's Elected Positions

The pressing question in Pittsfield is: who's going to run for our fair town's open elected positions? In hopes of encouraging people to become candidates the *Post* volunteers have asked some former and current officials to share how serving as an elected official has enriched their lives. We hope to have additional quotes to share in two weeks. If you have inspiration to share, email [pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org](mailto:pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org)

"One of the richest blessings of being a Selectman was meeting new people. It's difficult to carry out the Lord's command to 'love your neighbor(s)' if you don't know them. Volunteering on a local board or committee is a great way to build community bridges." *Linda Small*

"As a lifetime volunteer, I have made many new friends and found that our community has many individuals with so much to offer. I have found you can learn a lot about a person by listening to their life experiences, some humorous and some tragic. I do not have funny quotes I wish to share during my time serving on any board or committee. Although I do think of them when I have a tough decision to make or wonder if I am making the right decision. I do have some advice for people who may be interested in serving our town. Always be humble and kind. Do not come with an agenda. Personal agendas usually don't have a positive outcome. Listen more and talk less. Every person in this community has something to offer. Don't wait for someone to ask you to join. Ask how you can help. We can all take time out of our busy schedules to serve in some capacity, and when you do, I can guarantee you will feel much better about yourself and our wonderful town. *Carole Richardson*

If your interested in the school board: "Set your sights for the top! No elected position in town has a more special connection and responsibility to the taxpayers, parents and students! Plenty of opportunity to make a difference!" *Clayton Wood, Former School Board Chair*

### PITTSFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT FILING NOTICE

Declarations of Candidacy for elected School District positions will begin on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 and expire on Friday, February 2, 2024 at 5:00pm. You may file at the office of the School District Clerk at the Town Hall, 85 Main Street during regular business hours. The office will remain open until 5PM on February 2nd. The declaration form will also be available to download from the Town and School District websites – [www.pittsfieldnh.gov](http://www.pittsfieldnh.gov) and <https://www.sau51.org/>

School Board Member	2 (3) year term
School District Moderator	1 (3) year term

Erica Anthony, School District Clerk



**Cindy's**  
HAIR AFFAIR

603-435-6711  
1 Depot Street  
Pittsfield, NH 03263  
cell: 603-856-3101  
[cindyshairaffair2020@gmail.com](mailto:cindyshairaffair2020@gmail.com)





**MATRAS SMALL ENGINE REPAIR**

TUNE-UPS, REBUILDS, REPAIRS  
MOWERS, SNOWBLOWERS, GENERATORS,  
TILLERS, SAWS, ETC

ASA MATRAS

821 CATAMOUNT RD PITTSFIELD NH 03263  
HOME 603-435-8214 CELL 603-312-6909

**PICKUP / DELIVERY AVAILABLE**



This year's session started with two 8-hour days, Jan 3 and 4, each day addressing retained bills from 2023

resubmitted by the committees. These bills received an amendment or two to address the problems that led to the bills being withdrawn. The first part of the process was 146 bills, all decided by a single consent vote. These bills were unanimously approved, moved to consent by the committees, and were non-controversial with the amendment. Only five bills were withdrawn and brought to the floor vote. Voting the remaining bills (65) took most of the 16 hours. Voting was close, with the Republicans having a slight advantage.

Bills of interest: **HB 185, passed** by roll call (202-172), requires the courts to support equal parenting time between a child and parent unless it is detrimental to the child.

**SB 249 passed** (361-7) to establish magistrates to assist with the hearing of bail and warrants with changes in standards governing the release of individuals.

**HB 354 passed** (190-177) clears up language to consistently add chartered public schools eligible for state school building aid.

**HB 628 was stopped** (186-178). This bill would have required non-public schools and education services to perform background checks on all employees and volunteers.

**HB 115 passed** (281-82) to move the state primary election to the third Tuesday in August.

**Both HB 345** (207-170) and **HB 350** (248-128) **stopped** ranked-choice voting as a choice in state primaries or as a law for federal and state offices, respectively.

**HB 447 passed** (351-48), providing grants to be given to cities and towns to purchase election equipment.

**HB 463 passed** (195-172) authorizing the secretary of state to develop an election portal for online voter registration.

**HB 601 was stopped** by one vote (184-183). This bill would force participation in the Medicaid direct program when on the school meals program.

**HB 620** (188-185) **stopped** a pre-kindergarten pilot program for early learning. These programs have already been proven ineffective years ago in other states.

**SB 263 was voted down** (191-183). This bill was an attempt to repeal the November 1, 2028, review of the NH Granite Advantage health care program and permanently extend the program.

**HB 264** (191-185) **stopped** a procedure for an individual to obtain a birth certificate to show sex designation other than that which was assigned at birth.

**HB 619 passed** (199-175) prohibiting gender transition procedures for minors.

**HB 396 passed** (192-184) permits the classification of individuals based on biological sex in lavatory facilities and locker rooms, sporting competitions, and detention facilities.

**HB 229** (187-182) requires the official declaration of war to activate the NH National Guard.

**HB 375** (185-179) and **HB 570** (187-180) **stopped** nonresident aliens living in NH on a temporary basis to obtain a driver's license or a Real ID driver's license, respectively.

The NH legislators have requested 1298 bills for 2024. It has been noted that this is a record for the second year, as it is usually much less than the first year. Cyril and I believe the close balance of power makes anything possible; both parties will try to take advantage of the situation. We will continue to keep you informed throughout the year. Please contact us if you have any questions. Sincerely, Your House Representatives  
*Clayton Wood and Cyril Aures*

# READY FOR SUMMER? WE ARE!

## HELP US PLAN PITTSFIELD'S 2024 OLD HOME DAY

**WE WILL BE...**

- LOOKING AT DATES
- CHOOSING A THEME
- DISCUSSING ACTIVITIES
- FINDING ENTERTAINMENT

**MONDAY, JANUARY 29TH**  
**AT 6PM POTLUCK DINNER (OPTIONAL)**  
**JOSIAH CARPENTER LIBRARY**  
**41 MAIN STREET, PITTSFIELD**



## FREE Preschool for ages 3-5 years old!

Pittsfield Head Start is located next to the middle school and serves surrounding towns.

Hours are Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Two meals provided daily at no cost to families.

Enrolling now for the 2023-2024 school year.

Scan below, visit [www.capbm.org](http://www.capbm.org), or call 603-225-3295 ext. 1127 for more information



CAN  
YOU  
FIND  
THE  
HIDDEN  
OBJECTS?



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



## Town of Pittsfield News

Do you want the latest news about Pittsfield? The folks at the town hall email all sorts of useful information. Announcements about community events, town-wide alerts, and all kinds of info to keep Pittsfield running smoothly. To subscribe to *Pittsfield News* email go to the Town of Pittsfield website [www.pittsfieldnh.gov](http://www.pittsfieldnh.gov) The subscribe button is at the bottom of the homepage.