

# PITTSFIELD POST

A FREE WEEKLY PRODUCTION BY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

January 13, 2021

"No matter how much falls on us, we keep plowing ahead. That's the only way to keep the roads clear." *Greg Kincaid*

## Public Budget Hearing

The Budget Committee needs to hear what you have to say about solutions to a potentially exceptionally large tax rate increase next year. It is extremely challenging this year due to major factors outside of local government control, such as:

- \$1,022,933 (yes, over 1 Million Dollars) **reduction** from last year in State funded adequacy grant school funding that we must raise locally instead.
- \$162,941 increase in Health Insurance Costs
- \$228,607 increase in Retirement Costs

Both the Town and School Boards have developed exceptionally conservative budgets for this coming year, yet we are still left with a potential tax rate increase of over \$4 per thousand in valuation.

The Budget Committee is considering a range of options, such as recommending use of reserve funds where allowable or reducing funding for maintenance. However, we find few options that have a meaningful impact to compensate for our school revenue shortfall.

Please join us for a socially distanced public budget hearing on **Thursday, January 14th, 2021** in the PMHS gymnasium at 7:00 pm. Thank you, *The Pittsfield Budget Committee*

## Pittsfield School District to Hold the Wire on Budget

The budget season began in September with the School Board direction to "hold the wire" on the 2021 2022 school district budget. The Administrators came forward with a budget increase of only \$132,041 or 1.2%. "I want to thank the Administrators for creating a responsible budget," says Interim Superintendent Dr. John Graziano.

To get there, the Administrators cut 191,681 from their original requests. Many of the school districts' costs are beyond their control. For example, The district is estimating a 12.6% increase in health insurance, an 18% increase in teacher retirement, and a 26% increase in employee retirement. The 2021 2022 budget of \$11,016,306 contains NO new positions or programs. Even with this meager increase the estimated impact to the tax rate is \$4.71. The impact can be defined by 3 words - less state funding. Pittsfield anticipates about \$1,000,000 less in state aid. The default budget of \$10,918,578 is only \$97,728 less than the proposed budget." These are very challenging financial times" says Graziano.

The Budget Committee Public Hearing will be held on Thursday January 14th at 7:00pm. *The Pittsfield School District*

## 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 for the proposed Pittsfield Town and School budgets on **Thursday, January 14, 2021**, at 7:00pm in the **Pittsfield Middle High School gymnasium**, 23 Oneida Street, Pittsfield NH, 03263. A snow date for this meeting will be Friday, January 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Pittsfield Middle High School gymnasium, 23 Oneida Street, Pittsfield NH, 03263.

This location provides adequate room for the public to attend while following social distancing and mask wearing guidelines. However, due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order # 12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, public access will be available via the GoToMeeting online platform.

The public is asked to submit comments via email to [BudgetCommittee@PittsfieldNH.gov](mailto:BudgetCommittee@PittsfieldNH.gov) Comments must be received by Jan 14 at 12:00pm.

The public can access the meeting and listen live by telephoning (872)240-3212 and then adding the access code 154396021 when prompted. There is no PIN for this meeting.

Documents being referenced in this meeting will be made available on the Town web site at <https://www.pittsfieldnh.gov/budget-committee>

**Town Crier** Andi Riel, 435-6346  
[pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com](mailto:pittsfieldtowncrier@hotmail.com)

**Thursday, January 14, (snow date January 15th) from 7-9:00pm** at the PMHS Gym (to maintain proper social distancing), the **Budget Committee Public Hearing** is scheduled. Not only is this a wonderful opportunity to review and hear about the proposed budgets from the town and school, it is also an opportunity for you, the tax payers, to provide input to the committee, that they will then take into consideration during their voting session.

**Monday, January 18, PMHS Basketball** - Tryouts for Middle Schools Girls and for Boys (Grades 6-8) will be held, time to be determined. For more info contact: Varsity Girls Coach- Ryan McKenna, [Rmckenna@mybes.org](mailto:Rmckenna@mybes.org) OR Varsity Boys Coach- Jay Darrah [jaydarrah@pittsfieldnhschools.org](mailto:jaydarrah@pittsfieldnhschools.org)

**The First Congregational Church of Pittsfield's Infant Toddler Diaper Pantry** has seen an increase in demand. If possible we need your help as we assist our many young struggling families. We currently need size 3,4,5,6 diapers, along with Wipes, Pull-Ups and Overnights. Do you have any diapers that your child no longer needs, we could use them! If you are able to purchase a package or two, we so thank you. To arrange for drop off. please give the church a call at 435-7471. If you are able to help financially, please make any checks out to: FCC-Pittsfield and please note in the memo that it is for Diaper Pantry. Checks can be mailed to : First Congregational Church- Diaper Pantry 24 Main St, Pittsfield, NH 03263.

**The Pittsfield Historical Society** continues to raise funds for the new Museum and Headquarters. A commemorative garden on the Museum grounds is being worked on. A "BUY-A-BRICK" project affords an opportunity for people to buy a brick to honor yourself, loved ones past or present or whomever you wish to remember. The bricks will be sold for \$100 each and may

be engraved with 3 lines of 18 characters each for a 4"x8" brick. Please visit [www.pittsfieldhistory.com](http://www.pittsfieldhistory.com) for a donation form and instructions. For more information, please call 798-3984.

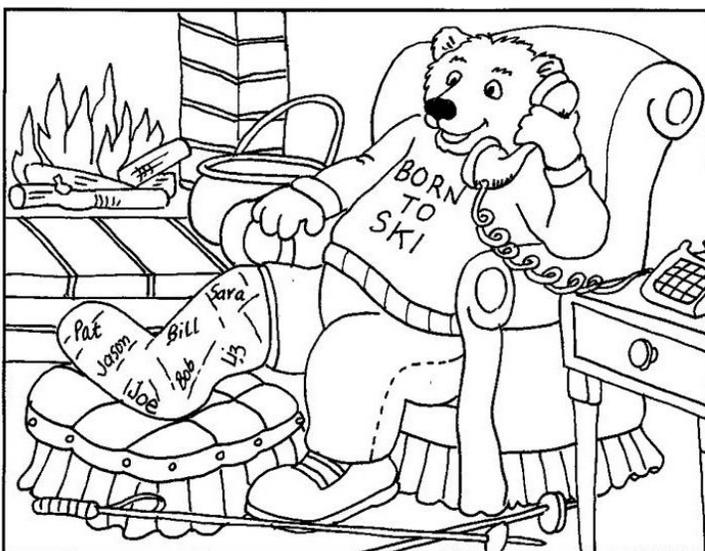
**The Pittsfield Youth Workshop (PYW)** has had a nice holiday break but we are really looking forward to seeing everyone (virtually)! We want to check in with you and hear how your holiday went! Packages for the next two weeks activities are ready for pick-up. Give us a call (435-8272) or email us at [info@pittsfieldyouthworkshop.net](mailto:info@pittsfieldyouthworkshop.net) to schedule a time that you can pick-up the items. The PYW pantry is also open, just contact us to set up a time to stop by!

**Senior Center- Community Lunch and Meals to Go: Curbside Pickup on Monday's & Thursday's** - We are offering our meals to go on Mondays and Thursdays. If you have participated in centers community dining and you are over 60 then this service is available for you. It is a curbside pick up. Please call the center if interested and we will meet you outside with your meal. Just call 435-8482 and ask about what meals are available. We will bring the meal out to your car.

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)

**Happy Birthday** wishes to Joe McHugh yesterday; Lyn Ward on Thursday; Nate Davis and my brother-in-law, Peter Karwocki on Saturday. I hope you all enjoy your special day!

**Born to Ski Find Ten Differences** by Liz Ball [www.hiddenpuzzlepictures.com](http://www.hiddenpuzzlepictures.com)





## Cook's Corner

### Boeuf Bourguignon (Beef Burgundy)

Looking for some hearty goodness to warm your soul during these cold days? Here's one I hope you will enjoy. This recipe is a bit of a commitment, there's some prep work and it roasts in the oven for 3 to 4 hours, but the luscious aroma that will fill your kitchen as this dish cooks, is a big part of the experience. Serve this with either mashed potatoes, or 'smashed' red potatoes, or cooked egg noodles or just plain in a nice big bowl. Toasted, crusty bread, maybe a few slices of extra sharp cheese and a simple salad will round out this feast. I hope you will enjoy this traditional, classic French meal.

¼ cup olive oil

3 and ½ to 4 lbs lean stewing beef, cut into 1 & ½ cubes

¼ cup sweet vermouth or sherry

¼ cup butter

1 slice lean ham, cut ¼ to ½ inch thick and diced into cubes

24 small white pearl onions, peeled (or 1 bag frozen pearl onions thawed and dried)

1 lb mushrooms, stems removed (keep them whole)

3 cloves garlic, minced

2 Tbsp tomato paste

¼ cup soy sauce

6 Tbsp flour

2 & ½ cups beef broth

2 & ½ cups red burgundy wine

Salt & pepper

2 bay leaves

½ tsp thyme

Heat oven to 275F. In a skillet, brown the beef in batches if necessary. Transfer beef to a large, oven-proof casserole or Dutch oven. Sprinkle beef with the vermouth or sherry. Melt butter in the skillet, add ham, onions, mushrooms and garlic, saute for a few minutes then transfer to the beef in the casserole.

For the sauce, add tomato paste, soy sauce & flour to the skillet, stir constantly then slowly add beef broth, cook over low until mixture is smooth. Add ½ cup of the wine (reserve the rest). When sauce comes to a boil, add salt & pepper to taste. Pour sauce over the beef, add bay leaves and thyme. Cover and roast in the oven until the beef is very tender, about 3 to 4 hours. Check from time to time and add the rest of the wine. Bon appetit! - MP Christakos

## A New Year for the Post

Are you looking for a new activity for the new year? Volunteer for the *Post*! The *Post* volunteers enjoy bringing Pittsfield weekly news about our village, and we would be glad to share the fun. No matter what your age, talents, or interests may be, we're sure you can contribute. Do you enjoy examining sentence structure? You could proofread the rough draft. Photography your passion? Send us some of your best shots. Have you heard an interesting community update; let us know. Are you an artist or writer; you can share your creations. If you enjoy website design, social media, or digital design - we've got that, too. Want to support communication? Help send out the email edition. Do you enjoy driving and visiting local businesses? Help deliver the paper edition. Individually the production tasks are short and easy, by working together we have fun creating the *Post* each week. Send an email to [pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org](mailto:pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org) to volunteer.

The *Post* volunteers meet once a month to coordinate our activities. If you would like to learn more, our next meeting is 10am on Friday, January 22, in the Bicentennial Room at the Community Center. People will wear masks, and windows will be cracked open. If you would like to join over the telephone call 603-491-9265.

### Double Word Puzzle #19 by Diana Westgate

Find the word that satisfies both definitions.

1. Penalty \_\_\_\_\_ Okay
2. Solid \_\_\_\_\_ Law group
3. In condition \_\_\_\_\_ Right size
4. Hail (a taxi) \_\_\_\_\_ Banner
5. Snow quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Nutty (sl.)
6. Fire part \_\_\_\_\_ Love object
7. No contour \_\_\_\_\_ Tire problem
8. Air travel \_\_\_\_\_ Insect
9. Sheep pen \_\_\_\_\_ Laundry task
10. Ripe \_\_\_\_\_ Impudent

The answers are on page four.

#### The Post is Counting on You!

##### Dear Readers:

The *Post* needs your help to keep printing this weekly publication. When you're thinking about supporting our community, please send us a donation! **Thank you**, The *Post* Volunteers

**PITTSFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT  
FILING NOTICE**

Declarations of Candidacy for School District positions will begin on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 and expire on Friday, January 29, 2021 at 5pm. 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 January 29th. The declaration form will also be available to download from the Town and School District websites.

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

Erica Anthony, School District Clerk

**PITTSFIELD TOWN FILING NOTICE**

Declarations of Candidacy for Town Office positions will begin on Wednesday, January 20, 2021 and expire on Friday, January 29, 2021 at 5pm. 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 5pm on January 29th. The declaration forms will also be available to download from the Town website.

Selectman 2 (3) year term  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector 1 (3) year term  
Supervisor of the Checklist 1 (1) 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

**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 may be acknowledged as sponsor of the week.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to have sponsorship acknowledgement: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Text for Sponsorship: \_\_\_\_\_

**Answers to Double Word Puzzle #19**

1. Penalty – **fine** – Okay
2. Solid – **firm** – Law group
3. In condition – **fit** – Right size
4. Hail (a taxi) – **flag** – Banner
5. Snow quantity – **flake** – Nutty (sl.)
6. Fire part – **flame** – Love object
7. No contour – **flat** – Tire problem
8. Air travel – **fly** – Insect
9. Sheep pen – **fold** – Laundry task
10. Ripe – **fresh** – Impudent

**Find the Difference Answers**

Nose, Waistband, No Handle, Seam Line, Shoe, Cuff, Knob, Button on Stool, Joe, Eyebrows

**Classified**

**2004 Ford F-150**

2004 Ford F-150 Ext. Cab Pick-up for Sale \$1500.00 or B/O, Call 603-545-8990

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Or scan the QR code



**New Year Greetings**

What do you wish for in Pittsfield this year? Send your message to the *Post*!

Next week we plan to begin to publish greetings, so send in a shout out.

We're really looking forward to hearing from you, The *Post* Volunteers  
[pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org](http://pittsfieldnews@pnhcc.org)

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