Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2020

History of the Suncook Valley Sun
Art Morse

How many of us miss the Suncook Valley Sun? I bet all 8,000 of the people in our surrounding towns who had the chance to receive the Sun felt a void in their life the day it stopped running in 2019.

This weekly wealth of knowledge printed and delivered to your door connected you with your town and the surrounding communities. You could find a plumber, know whose birthday it was, and find out the theme of Old Home Day all in one glance. You could hold it in your hand and keep it on your counter for reference without ever having to "log in." It was our local news source.

Having this small local newspaper for Pittsfield, Barnstead, Chichester, Northwood, and Epsom is now sadly a thing of our past. The historical Society will be hosting Art Morse of Pittsfield who will inform us on the way this paper was started and the role that it played in these towns.

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Mission Statement

“Pittsfield Historical Society’s mission is to educate the public about the significance of Pittsfield’s past and its relevance and relationship to the lives of the citizens of Pittsfield today. In support of this mission, the Society collects, preserves and interprets materials pertaining to Pittsfield’s history.”

Membership

If you interested in Pittsfield’s rich and varied history, please become a member of the Historical Society. The Society depends on membership dues to provide various educational programs, to maintain Lyman Park and Pittsfield’s Historic Trail, and to provide the financial framework to sustain the continuing work of preserving Pittsfield’s artifacts and history. There are 7 tiers of membership dues to accommodate different levels of support.

Please complete the attached membership card and return to Pittsfield Historical Society, Treasurer, P. O. Box 173, Pittsfield, NH 03263

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Meeting Location:
The Society Museum
13 Elm Street
7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 13, 2020

Josiah Carpenter Library
Celebrating 125 years!

The Josiah Carpenter Library is 125 years old! Come learn about its origins and the people who made our library a significant part of the Pittsfield community.

Leslie Vogt, library director, and Harry Vogt will be presenting an historical overview of the library, its founding citizens and their views for a local library. Did you realize this public library was a consolidation of seven different private libraries?

We will also learn about Josiah Carpenter and his wife, Georgiana Drake Carpenter, and his ties to Pittsfield.

Additionally, Frank Jenkins, the first librarian, will be inducted into the Historical Society's Hall of Fame.

Meeting Location:
The Society Museum
13 Elm Street
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Tour Sanborn Mills Farm
A Traditional New Hampshire Farm

Sanborn Mills Farm is a traditional New Hampshire farm and nonprofit organization dedicated to sustaining and preserving folklife and agricultural knowledge.

Please join the Pittsfield Historical Society for a guided tour of the farm.

The farm has over 390 acres of agricultural field and managed forests with buildings dating back to the mid-1800s. There are two water-powered mills—a saw mill and a grist mill—and a historic blacksmith shop! Other restored buildings include a large farmhouse, a cape, several timber-framed barns and outbuildings.

Directions: Take Loudon Road from Rt. 28 towards Loudon. About a mile past the Loudon town line, take a hard right onto Sanborn Road. (Some GPS units will lead you in the wrong direction—please be careful.)

Meet us at the farm:
7097 Sanborn Road, Loudon, NH
Tour starts at 6:30 p.m. (Please note the earlier time.)

Program sponsored by Richard and Martha Moloy

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2020

Bruce Graham
Traditional Shoemaker

Bruce Graham is one of a rare few who makes historically accurate 18th-century footwear, and he does it the old-fashioned way of a cordwainer, in a shop next to his home with the help of his wife. A talented craftsman, he also offers timber framing, historic bookbinding, creating stringed instruments, and granite cutting.

Because of his specialty craft of shoemaking, he and his wife, Penny, travel the circuit of re-enactments to provide the historic footwear for the re-enactors’ costumes.

Pittsfield has a long history of shoemaking and Bruce will help to make it come alive.

Meeting Location:
The Society Museum
13 Elm Street
7:00 p.m.