

Town Manager's Report: Town Council Meeting of 05/03/2016:

1. The FYI Folder: FYI Folder which contains items that come in between the Town Council Meetings has the following this evening: See List

2. Upcoming Events:

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Sat., April 30 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at the Police Station at the Pittsfield Municipal Building (the event was held with lots of unwanted prescription medication being dropped off)

Pittsfield Greater Area Kiwanis Club Bike Rodeo on Saturday, May 7 from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at the Pittsfield Rite Aid, Somerset Avenue (in conjunction with the Pittsfield Rite Aid Customer Service Day from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm)

Pittsfield Garden Club Annual Plant Sale on Saturday., May 14, 2016 at 8:30 am in the Cianbro Parking Lot

Regional Job Fair on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 from 3:30 - 6:30 pm at the Warsaw Middle School Gym and Cafeteria

HealthySV High on Life 5K Run/1K Walk on Saturday, May 21, 2016 starting at 10:00 am with registration open at 8:30 am at Maine Central Institute

Police Hooked on Fishing on Saturday, May 28, 2016 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm at the Manson Park Lower Parking Lot and the Seabasticook River

44th Annual Central Maine Egg Festival on Monday, July 11 - Saturday, July 16, 2016 at Manson Park, Hathorn Park, and many other locations!

The next Egg Festival Committee Meeting is on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 6:30 pm for those who can attend. The group does need some volunteer assistance with all of the upcoming planning work.

2016 Maine Central Institute Reunion on Friday, August 5 – Sunday, August 7, 2016 at the campus

3. 2015-2016 Somerset County Broadband Survey - Very Important: The surveys were being distributed through the mail to every household. Completing this two page survey will help the Town be able to apply for funding to assist in obtaining enhanced broadband for areas of the community, especially the rural section. Please utilize this link for the on-line survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KVCOGbrodbandsurvey> The Town also has paper copies of the survey which you can pick up and/or drop off at the Town Office. The results need to be tallied so please get your survey in today. The first Eastern Somerset County Broadband Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, May 6, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the Town Council Chambers at the Pittsfield Municipal Building.

4. Library Event to be held at the Theatre:

“The Zany, Majestic Bard: Celebrating the Inventive Language of Shakespeare” will be presented Thursday, May 5 at 1:00 at the Pittsfield Community Theatre

This lively, fun, and educational one-hour performance-lecture will delight and surprise audiences of all ages. The program includes history, a brief guide on how to read and understand the text, the opportunity to hear some Shakespeare, and plenty of good jokes.

When it comes to Shakespeare, some people get downright gloomy. They rant on about how well-read you need to be to understand him. But use restraint in your yelping. You may not know that Shakespeare wrote for everyone from the well-bred to the uneducated; from the successful manager to the most foul mouthed kitchen wench. In other words, Shakespeare's for you!

Shakespeare's wit, humor, and linguistic style will bedazzle you with a fun and informative celebration of the language of his plays including "Hamlet," "Romeo and Juliet," "King Lear," "As You Like It," "Twelfth Night" and more. To your amazement you'll find that Shakespeare is as relevant today as he was 400 years ago. Whether you are part of a workaday world, in retirement, or the most untutored schoolboy, you will find out that Shakespeare is indeed priceless and accessible for all. Accept our invitation to join in the fun; apply now to host this zany, majestic program!

The program is created and performed by David Greenham, the creator of several popular Maine Humanities Council programs, including the award-winning "Taxing Maine" and most recently, "Maine At Work." He is an adjunct professor of drama at the University of Maine at Augusta, and spent 14 years as the producing artistic director of The Theater at Monmouth, the Shakespearean Theater of Maine. This program is sponsored by the Pittsfield Public Library and Maine Central Institute through a grant from Maine Humanities Council and Maine State Library.

5. Town Farm Trails Kiosk Unveiling: Come join the Warsaw Middle School Students as they unveil the Town Farm Trails Kiosk on Wednesday, May 4, 2016 from 5:00 – 5:30 pm on the Town Farm Property down by the Driftbusters Snowmobile Club.. The 8th Grade students have done a great job with the kiosk. After the unveiling, there will be a short hike through the woods.

6. Project Canopy – Pittsfield Community Project: Gateway to Downtown:

The Town has been fortunate to receive grant funding through the Maine Forestry Service to purchase up to 20 shade trees along Somerset Avenue for planting this Spring. The Town's Comprehensive Plan identifies Somerset Avenue as one of the gateways to the community. As the shade trees along Somerset Avenue were planted many years ago, a number have been removed due to deterioration. Planting new shade trees along Somerset Avenue would be advantageous for many reasons.

Letters were sent to property owners along Somerset Avenue to see if they would be interested in the planting of a tree in the right-of-way of Somerset Avenue along their property. The Town will be working with a MDOT Licensed Landscape Architect to determine the appropriate locations for trees along Somerset Avenue. The trees will need enough room to grow; enough sunlight for growth; and to be located away from infrastructure such as poles, water and sewer lines and power lines. This means that some locations along Somerset Avenue will not be appropriate for a tree to be planted. The Town has ordered Flowering Crab, Ginkgo, Hawthorn and Red Maples.

The Town has been fortunate to have had some extensive capital improvements over the last decade, funded in large part through extensive grant and foundation awards. Several businesses in Town have overwhelmingly supported a number of projects by providing personnel, equipment and/or supplies as match for some of the grants, for which the Town is extremely grateful. We are pleased to now be able to turn our attention to the beautification of Somerset Avenue.

The trees have been ordered and we have contacted the property owners who signed up for a tree planting in the State right-of-way in front of their property. The tree plantings will take place on Monday, 05/23/2016 and likely continue on Tuesday, 05/24/2016. Some classes at Vickery and Warsaw Schools will be taking walks down Somerset Avenue to check out the tree plantings and see how to plant a tree.

