

# Pittsville School District News

*Expecting Excellence and Integrity from all, developing Innovative Students,  
strengthened through Partnerships with parents and the community.*



## SECOND QUARTER, 2012-13

### From the Desk of District Administrator Terry Reynolds . . .

We were all are very deeply troubled by the events which took place in December at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. Anything which shatters the peace and innocence of our children, no matter how many miles away it happens, affects us and our mission to help your children grow and develop into adults we can all be proud of.

The events in Newtown are stark reminders of the importance of our safety procedures and emergency preparedness training. I want to take this opportunity to remind all our families that we conduct regular drills, including those for a building lockdown, and that we are also in the process of looking at further increased security equipment at all our school buildings. Your cooperation with any future security precautions/changes is greatly appreciated.

We have ongoing discussions and trainings with the Pittsville Police Department to maintain updated procedures, and we have again re-examined all our security procedures to make sure that we are doing all that we can to keep our schools safe for everyone.

As parents, we are troubled by events like what occurred in Connecticut. However, times like this also provide us with the opportunity to be leaders as we help our children to understand, also reminding them that, as the adults in their lives, we do everything we can to keep them safe.

As our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to those in Newtown and their extended families throughout the country, please remember that we are here for you and your children. The safety of our students and staff is our highest priority, and we invite you to contact your principal or myself with any comments, questions, or concerns.

## WIS ACT 96 NOTIFICATION, 2012-13

The Pittsville School District would like to inform staff, students, parents, and the public of the District's Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) Management plan. The plan was initially developed in 2012 and is reviewed as necessary. The plan was developed as deemed appropriate for the district. This annual publication is part of the Pittsville School District's communication plan within the IEQ Management plan. Questions and concerns should be directed to the IEQ Coordinator at 715-884-6694. The District Office is located at 5459 Elementary Avenue, Pittsville, WI 54466. Copies of the plan are available at the District Office for a fee.

## OPEN ENROLLMENT IN WI PUBLIC SCHOOLS



The open enrollment application period for the 2013-14 school year is from February 4-April 30, 2013.

The application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2013. *Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.*

Parents may apply in one of two ways:

- On-line (recommended) at [http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms\\_pstoc](http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_pstoc).
- Although on-line application is recommended, paper applications may be obtained from the Department of Public Instruction and must be delivered (hand-delivery is recommended) to the nonresident school district.

## What's Inside

### Page 2

21st Century Learning  
New Staff Members

### Page 3

PHS News

### Page 4

Counselor's Corner

### Page 5

Elementary News

### Page 7

Food Service News

### Page 8

PTO Corner

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning

Schools teach reading, writing, math, science, social studies, physical education, and a variety of fine arts and vocational skills.

But, have you heard of 21st Century Skills? The phrase "21st Century Skills" is used to refer to a set of skills that today's employers tell schools we should be developing in young people. What are these skills and what do they have to do with students in our schools?

To help this idea of 21st Century Skills come to life, take a moment to think of a recent positive experience you have had with an employee at a store, bank, restaurant, garage, or school when you needed help or were having a problem. What qualities did you appreciate about the employee who served you?

Was the employee:

- Interested in you as a person?
- Focused on meeting your needs quickly and efficiently?
- Concerned about doing a high quality job?

Did the person:

- Persevere no matter what obstacles might occur?
- Use technology as a practical workplace tool?
- Ask for the help of other employees or supervisors if needed?
- Consider unusual solutions to your problem?

If you answered yes to most or all of the questions about the employee's qualities, the person likely has well developed 21st Century Skills. 21st Century Skills fall into three main categories. (Trilling & Fadel, 2009):

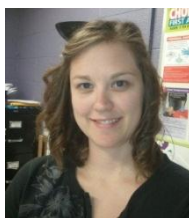
**1. Learning and innovation skills** - This area includes critical thinking and problem-solving, often done in a group setting where members of the team work well together and have strong communication skills. Members of teams encourage one another to be creative and innovative in their solutions to problems.

**2. Digital literacy skills** - Digital literacy includes being able to use various forms of technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate, and communicate information.

**3. Career and life skills** - The qualities that are emphasized in this area include helping youth to be flexible and adaptable thinkers, show personal initiative, interact well with people of all ages and cultural backgrounds, take personal responsibility in doing quality work, and provide leadership in their area of expertise.

In today's classrooms, you will often see students doing their learning both individually and in small groups. Technology tools like netbooks, digital cameras, and iPads are used with teacher guidance to look for information and share ideas. Teachers design lessons that engage students in solving real world issues. Does this mean that the 3 R's are lost? Not at all! Reading, writing, and arithmetic are more important than ever to ensure that we have educated workers and citizens for the future. The 21st Century Skills provide students with ways to learn about their world that are meaningful, exciting, and build deeper understanding. It is our goal here in the Pittsville School District to make sure all students leave Pittsville with the skills they need to fulfill all their personal life aspirations.

## MEET THE NEW STAFF MEMBERS...



I am **Julie Schooley**, the new Health Coordinator and Special Education Secretary for the school district.

I previously worked at the Marshfield Clinic for 7 years most recently as a Medical Assistant -Appointment Coordinator float in the Oncology /Hematology Dept.

I recently received my certificate of medical assistant from St. Augustine School of Medical Assistants. I am very excited to be working here at the school and am enjoying learning all about the school and the great people here. I look forward to learning more about the students and what I can do to help them.

I live in Pittsville with my husband and two children. We love living in this community and wouldn't want to be anywhere else. I enjoy taking photos and scrap booking, and of course spending time with my family.



My name is **Steven Losiewicz**, and I am happy to be the new Band Director here in Pittsville. The school year is flying by and the students sound great and are a ton of fun to work with. All of the bands performed at the Christmas concert and had a wonderful turn out. A special thank you to the alumni for coming back to sing with the High School choir, it made the students experience more exciting.

Also, the Pep Band has been performing at the Basketball and wrestling matches so far this season, come out and support your Pittsville musicians and athletes.

I grew up in the town of Romeo, Michigan, which is about forty five minutes North of Detroit. I attended Northern Michigan University and earned a bachelor degree in Music Performance (emphasis in Percussion), and then came back to get my certification in Music Education. After I earned my certification, I was hired as the Director of Performing Arts in Covert, MI where I spent my first year of teaching music. I taught fourth grade general music all the way through High School band.

Besides teaching music in Pittsville, I performed with the Marshfield Orchestra and Symphonic Band at their Christmas concert playing percussion. I also enjoy skiing (cross country and downhill), playing disc golf, golf, going to baseball games, attending live concerts, traveling, and camping. The past few summers, I worked at a private golf course cutting grass and landscaping, it's the best way to work on my farmer tan. I hope to see you all at the next music performance and look forward to making music with Pittsville students this school year.



# PHS News



Now that we are half-way through the school year, it seems both the students and staff have settled into a rhythm in terms of the flow of the school day. The block schedule is no longer "new", and there is a very positive climate here at PHS. There is plenty of activity, even as the cold sets in and the sunlight seems to hang around for such a short period each day. To help defeat the "winter doldrums", a staff committee for school climate has organized several "warm-up" days, in which we serve hot chocolate and cappuccino before school or during PPT time. We even had a group of male faculty do a little caroling just before Christmas break!

From an academic standpoint, we are making some noticeable strides forward. Based on the data from our solutions teams, we have nearly 50% of our students earning all A's and B's by the end of the term. This is very encouraging, and a testament to the hard work our students and staff have put in. We will continue to set our goals higher, and hope to continue to become better at learning and teaching each day.

As final exams and MAP testing approaches, it is especially important to keep up with homework and preparing for unit tests, and getting plenty of healthy food, exercise, and rest. We are also in the middle of scheduling for next year, so please sit down with your children and go over the four year plans and post high-school plans they have been working on with their advisor and Mrs. Backaus. Using a form signed and approved by their parent and advisor, students will pre-register in late January. We will then develop our master schedule for next year, based on the classes chosen during this process.

I want to relate how inspired I was at the Winter Music Concert in December. Our instrumental group is steadily improving. They did a wonderful job at the concert (and when they "morph" into the pep band, they fire-up the entire gym!). The sound of the choir was beautiful, and filled all of us who were present with a warm Christmas feeling. The piece that the swing choir did was awesome in the beauty of both the sound and the fun the students had acting out the construction of a fruitcake....

Our winter sports are in full swing, with basketball for both boys and girls almost half-way through their seasons. The wrestling team is competing in duals and tournaments, with boys finally nearly settled into the weights that they will carry into the post season. We also have had very hard work from our wrestling cheer team, who offer an endless supply of energy to our meets. And, believe it or not, our dance team has mastered eleven different routines! The time and effort all of these athletes commit as they represent PHS is truly awesome.

PHS is a busy place in the middle of winter. Students are working hard to become the best they can be, and getting ready for their futures. If you get a chance, take a look at the schedules on the website, and come out and enjoy the winter activities as student display their Panther Pride!

Mr. Weddig, High School Principal

## Ski/Snowboard Trip

The ski/snowboard club sponsored a trip to Bruce Mound over Christmas break. There were 71 people who enjoyed the lovely day on the hill either skiing, snowboarding, or tubing. We taught four people to ski and four people to snowboard. This is a yearly trip and we will be planning it again next year over Christmas break. Thanks to everyone who made this trip a success.





## Counselor's Corner: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter, *Julia Backaus, 7-12 School Counselor*

As we come to a close on the end of first semester, please keep the following points of information in mind to plan ahead for a successful spring.

### Seniors:

Please continue to work on **scholarships** and stay tuned for the local scholarships which will be posted by the end of January. Most local scholarships are due Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, but some are due sooner. For more information, check out the Scholarship Tab under High School Counseling on the PHS Home page. Also, please remember to complete your **FAFSA** before the priority date for your college; your 2012 taxes should be completed before you apply for the most accurate information. Applications are available online at: <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/> (There is also a link off the HS Counseling website.)

### Juniors:

If you are planning to **register for the ACT** this spring, please make sure you register online before the registration date ends to avoid paying a late fee. Students can register online at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) (There is also a link off the HS Counseling website under the "Testing" tab.) Spring test dates include:

- Test Date: February 9, 2013—Registration Deadline *PAST*: January 11, 2013
- Test Date: April 13, 2013—Registration Deadline: March 8, 2013
- Test Date: June 8, 2013—Registration Deadline: May 3, 2013

Students who plan to attend Mid State Technical College after graduating should consider taking the **Accuplacer** this spring as well. The Accuplacer can be taken at PHS and does not require an official registration. Students should see the school counselor to sign up. Finally, if you were unable to schedule a **junior meeting** prior to winter break, please contact Mrs. Backaus to schedule one soon. Important topics will be discussed including the possibility of **job shadowing**

### Sophomores and Freshmen:

As we head into the **registration for next year**, please make sure you are taking time to plan out your courses based on what is best for your future. During 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> term, freshmen and sophomore **individual planning conferences** will be held to discuss current high school goals and future plans. During these meetings, students are also encouraged to look for ways to **volunteer** in their free time and over the summer to begin building a strong scholarship résumé. Students are reminded to continue their career and post-secondary exploration and planning by using their **WISCareers** account.

**Please feel free to contact Julia Backaus, 7-12 Counselor, if you have questions about any of the information provided at 715-884-5223 or [backajul@pittsville.k12.wi.us](mailto:backajul@pittsville.k12.wi.us)**

## Music Department News...

Congratulations to all of the choirs on a successful holiday concert series! The students were hard at work for several months to prepare. The Junior High Concert was standing room only! A highlight of the High School Concert was truly the "Hallelujah Chorus." Many alumni from all decades were present to help continue the tradition of singing the piece at the holiday concert. Thank you to all alumni who attended – we hope to see you again next year!

A special presentation was made to Mrs. Margaret Gronski, who was honored for her 37 years of service in education to the Pittsville Schools. She is truly an inspiration, and we are forever grateful for everything she does for the Pittsville Music Department.

Congratulations to the Nathan Amundson, Miranda Coulthard, Jamie Dietz, Walter Harris, and Angela Rahm. These students were selected to the 2013 Luther College Dorian Festival Choir. They will travel to Luther College on January 13<sup>th</sup> for a two day workshop that will culminate in a concert featuring over 1200 high school juniors and seniors from the Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa area.

Tri-M Music Honor Society has been selected! The following students were named to the Junior Chapter: Laney Garrels, Cody Havlick, Amanda Ortner, Jenna Rasmussen, Jessie Rasmussen, Harlie Utegaard, Hunter Wilke, Isis Ignatowski, Henry Myers, Heather Schubert, Kacey Soetebier, Mechayla Zeinert, Deanna Borgman, Ruby Dietz, Jessica Fuller, Trevor Gardner, Jacob Neve, and Sierra Steder. The following students were named to the Senior Chapter: Marti Dietz, Katie Hardinger, Kayla Larson, Alissa Korslin, Colton Ortner, Cedric Neve, Tiffany Snook, Cheryl Soetebier, Lindsey Winterhack, Brooke Zdun, Jack Zdun, William Darr, Aileen Ida, Kaley Kumm, Hannah Downs, Austin John, Sophia Schwanebeck, Nathan Amundson, Megan Christiansen, Jamie Dietz, Hope Moos, Marissa Ortner, Megan Piotrowski, Angela Rahm, Ashley Steele, and Olie Voight. Congratulations to these students on their musical and academic achievements! There will be a formal induction ceremony later this spring. Special thanks goes to Baum's Mercantile for sponsoring our local chapters!

The high school spring concert will feature two special pieces: An all-female piece featuring singers from grades 6-12, and an all-male piece featuring singers from grades 7-12 plus some "special" guest singers. You won't want to miss these two collaboration pieces!

**MUSIC PARENTS:** Look for more information on District Solo and Ensemble to be coming soon! Pittsville schools are hosting this year on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. We will be looking for a number of parents to volunteer to help with concessions and other logistics. Look for a parent letter to be sent home within the month!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 19 -District Solo and Ensemble at PHS from 8:00-4:00  
 Apr 11-Large Group Choir Festival at Granton High School  
 Apr 28-High School Spring Concert at 7:00 p.m.  
 May 4-State Solo and Ensemble  
 May 14-Junior High Concert at 6:00 p.m.  
 May 25-Commencement



# Elementary News



- \* The Primary Winter Concert was a big success--thank you to all teachers and students for all of their rehearsals and preparations
- \* Thank you to all students and staff involved in the school play, 'Alice in Wonderland' --bravo for a job well done
- \* December 12<sup>th</sup> (12/12/12) was a big success for all students. Many special experiences included: making fleece blankets for children in need, contributing to the food pantry and families in need, writing thank you notes to bus drivers, police officers, firefighters, Mr. Wolff, and cleaning the cafeteria!
- \* The elementary school will be doing MAPs testing January 14-February 15 for grades 1-8.

*Mrs. Fischer, Elementary Principal*



## Primary Winter Concert



### PITTSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### 4-Year-Old Kindergarten Registration

**Is your child turning 4 on or before Sept 1<sup>st</sup>?**

Please stop by the Elementary School Office during the week of February 11 through 15 from 8:30 am-3:00 pm. You will need to bring along your child's birth certificate when you register them. If you have any questions, please contact Karen in the Elementary School Office at 715-884-2517.

### HAVE YOU MOVED?

It is extremely important that you provide the elementary office with any changes to your address, telephone number, or e-mail address. Also, be sure that you update this information in SchoolMessenger alert system as well. If you have any changes to your emergency contacts, please let us know that also. Having this information up-to-date saves us precious minutes in the event of illness or emergency.

### PLEASE VOLUNTEER

Parent support is vital to the overall effectiveness of our school programs. The use of school volunteers can help strengthen existing programs or introduce new programs. All parents and community members are encouraged to become volunteers. The only requirement is to complete a Volunteer Form and have an interest in the education of children. Please contact Mrs. Fischer if you would like to volunteer.



## 12-12-12 Things That Happened in Third Grade...

- We made fleece blankets for children in need.
- Collected at least 12 items per classroom for the Food Pantry.
- Read silently 12 minutes.
- Turn off the light for 12 minutes to conserve energy.
- Wrote Thank You cards to our bus drivers and Mr. Wolff.
- Rack'ed 12 different classes with a small treat.
- Made book marks for the Library.
- Spent 12 minutes doing some physical exercise.
- Had 4 different people cleaning our 3 third grade lunchroom tables.
- Made a Green and Gold paper chain to decorate the lunchroom table
- Rack'ed some fellow staff members
- Worked/helped each other with some special Christmas projects.

In our **4TH GRADE CLASSES**, each student brought either 12 cents or a canned good for each of the 12 days. This will all then be donated to the local food pantry.



# Random Acts of Kindness



## Kindergarten

The Kindergarten children performed Random Acts of Kindness for 12 days leading up to 12-12-12. The students are pictured with many birthday bags they contributed to for St. Vincent De Paul's Outreach program. The bags contained a cake mix, candles, frosting, and a birthday gift for children. The children learned the importance of giving to and helping others. The students are in the kindergarten classes taught by Mr. Sanken, Mrs. Niehaus, and Mrs. Heinzen.



## 5th Grade Bake and Cocoa Sale

On Friday, Dec. 7, as part of their 12-12-12 Random Acts of Kindness, the 5th grade classes held a bake sale and cocoa sale.

Students and staff were able to buy baked goodies after they had finished their lunches. Thanks to the generous support received the 5th grade classes earned \$200+ to donate to PANS (Pittsville Area Neighbors Shelf) food pantry.



The 5th graders would also like to thank their parents who donated baked goodies or money for the bake sale. Without your help it would not have been the success that it was.

## Looping Classroom Visits Delaney Home

The students in the looping classroom visited the Delaney Home for the culmination of their 12/12/12 activities. The students made treat bags and created Christmas cards to give to the residents. Along with the homemade goodies, the students sang Christmas songs and read poems to the residents. The grandmas and grandpas were thrilled to have the students visit and share their energy. Thank you to the Delaney home for welcoming us into their home.







### 4-Year-Old Kindergarten and Early Childhood News....

The 4K/EC classes collected donations for the South Wood County Humane Society in place of a class gift exchange this year. We took our donations to the shelter, spent some time playing with the cats, and had lunch at McDonald's.

### First Graders Visit School Forest

Students in Mrs. Hautala's and Mrs. Kuehn's classroom enjoyed a misty October day as they ventured into the school forest. Accompanying them were high school students from Mr. Steward's ecology class. Having studied about the forest and pond ecosystems in science class, this field trip allowed the first graders to experience and see first-hand the intricate connections of nature in a forest setting.



The high school students led various stations that engaged the first graders in hands-on activities. They examined leaves, animal habitats, plant life on the forest floor, and insects and other organisms of the pond. Students were able to get impressions from real animal prints they found in wet areas of the forest.

After enjoying a sack lunch the rainy weather put a halt to our outing and we returned to the high school ecology classroom where the high school students shared more educational information with the first graders.

It was such an educational and meaningful day, that Mrs. Kuehn and Mrs. Hautala would like to thank Mr. Steward and his students for their collaborative efforts in this hands-on experience.

## LOW LUNCH BALANCES FOOD SERVICE NEWS

Accounts below \$25.00 will be notified weekly through the Pittsville School District's SchoolMessenger alert system. The notice explains that your family food service funds are running low and money should be added as soon as possible.

If a family account gets below zero, a notice will be sent out stating if the amount due is not paid in three working days, your children will no longer be able to participate in the breakfast and/or lunch program. If no money is received, a note will go home explaining the account is closed and Pittsville Schools will no longer be providing breakfast, lunch, or milk. It is then the parent's responsibility to provide their child with a lunch from home. Once money is added, your children may again participate in the school's food service programs.

Here are a few tips to insure your family food service account is up-to-date and in good standing.

- Check with your answering machines and email to see if your family received an alert message concerning a low lunch balance.
- If you received a notice, please send payment as soon as possible.
- When sending in a payment, please include your family name and amount sent.

View your family account online through Skyward Family Access at [www.pittsville.k12.wi.us](http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us). If you have any questions, please contact Joe Dostal at 715-884-2517.

### 2012-2013 MEAL PRICES

4K- Grade 3 Lunch	\$2.00
Grade 4-8 Lunch	\$2.50
Grade 9-12 Lunch	\$3.00
Adult Lunch	\$3.75
Reduced Lunch	\$ .40
Milk	\$ .25
4K-Grade 12 Breakfast	\$ .60
Adult Breakfast	\$1.20

Breakfast & Lunch menus are available on the district webpage at [www.pittsville.k12.wi.us](http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us)

### ONLINE PAYMENTS

Parents can make online payments from home or work by using their VISA or MasterCard credit or debit card. Payments are made through the student's Skyward Family Access account. To make online payments, Visit our district website at [www.pittsville.k12.wi.us](http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us)

- Click on **For Students/Parents** tab
- Click on **Family and Student Access**
- Log in to **Skyward Family Access** (you will need your Login and Password)
- Use your **MasterCard** or **VISA** (Debit or Credit Card)

Payments made through Skyward Family Access will immediately be posted to the student's food service account. Parents will be charged \$2.50 for the convenience of making an online payment.

## PTO Corner . . .

Happy New Year from PTO! Thank you for a great fall semester and we look forward to working with you again this spring to provide some great opportunities for our students.



We will be collecting Campbell's soup labels, Box Tops for Education, Coke points and milk caps January 28-February 1. These items may be turned in at any time in the elementary school lobby but a special collection with classroom rewards will be held during that week-more information to follow. In the 2011-12 school year we were able to purchase bulletin boards, playground balls, glue sticks, colored pencils, erasers, dry erase markers, sidewalk chalk, paint, educational games and educational DVDs with our Labels for Education and Coke points. We earned \$2164 from Box Tops for Education and \$1000.00 from our Milk Caps collection. Thank you for your help with these collections-they make a huge difference in our schools. A big thank you to our volunteers who help cut and count these items as well. We truly appreciate it!

We earned just over \$5000 in profit through our Little Caesars fund raiser this year. Thank you to everyone who participated. These funds are used for classroom field trips, playground equipment and other educational needs within the school.

The Scholastic book fair that was held during fall parent teacher conferences was also a huge success. In addition to families getting great deals on books, we earned a total of \$2182.80 in Scholastic dollars, dollars that can be spent at Scholastic to purchase new books for our school, and a BOGO book fair in the spring. Please remember Scholastic now requires us to hold our BOGO book fair no earlier than April-more information to follow.



### NEW!!

***We will be collecting UPC symbols from Village Hearth Bread and Country Hearth Bread through the Loaves4Learning program. If you use these products please cut out the UPC and send it into school. Each UPC is worth 5¢ and can be used for books, computers, sports, music and other items to benefit our school.***

### Mark Your Calendars:

- Campbell's soup Labels, Box Tops For Education, Coke Points, and Milk Caps Collection - January 28-February 1
- Spring Picture Dates - April 10 and 11.

**2012-2013 Participating Products for Labels for Education and Box Tops for Education can be found on the District Webpage.**

### SchoolMessenger Parent Notification System

The Pittsville School District will no longer be using Instant Alert for our instant messaging service. We instead will be using our Skyward system's SchoolMessenger. This service will allow you to update all your information in just one account. For this system to work, all you need to do is make sure all contact information in Skyward's Family and Student Access is updated. The district is also excited to announce that with this new service we will be able to deliver important information to you via SMS text messaging. This service is not intended to replace our existing means of communication- rather it will enhance them. The service is provided by SchoolMessenger. Information can be found at [www.SchoolMessenger.com](http://www.SchoolMessenger.com) or on the Pittsville School District Web Site. The district will only use the service to provide information that is timely and relevant.

In order to participate in the new feature of this service you must indicate your willingness to receive text messages to your phone. The process is simple and only takes a few seconds to complete. Simply text any one of the following words to the number **68453**: subscribe, optin, yes. You'll know you were successful if you receive the following reply message: "You are registered to receive aprox 3 msgs/mo. Txt STOP to quit, HELP for help." You'll want to repeat the opt-in process for any wireless numbers that you wish to include. In addition to performing the opt-in process above you'll want to insure that the district has your wireless number(s) in our student information database. If you haven't already provided your cell information to your school please remember to do so in your Skyward Family Access account.

Please note, although the district does not charge you for this service, it does not pay for text message charges that may be incurred by you for sending or receiving text messages. Check with your wireless carrier for possible charges. If you have any questions please feel free to contact your child's school.



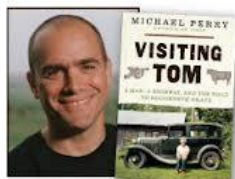
**Michael Perry – Author / Singer  
Saturday, February 9, 2013**

From rural Wisconsin, Michael Perry is a humorist, singer, songwriter, and amateur pig farmer. Raised on a small dairy farm, Perry equates his writing career to cleaning calf pens - just keep shoveling and eventually you've got a pile so big, someone will notice. His bestselling memoirs include: Population 485: Meeting Your Neighbors One Siren at a Time; Coop: A Year of Poultry, Pigs, and Parenting and Truck: A Love Story. Visit him at [www.sneezingcow.com](http://www.sneezingcow.com)

Sponsored in part by: Pittsville Therapy Services Inc., Alliant Energy, Arnold and Linda Schwanebeck, Pittsville Family Dental, Wisconsin farm Business, Health Centered Dentistry - Dr John and Judy Laughlin, Heuer Brothers Construction

Show Time: 7:30 PM

Tickets: Adults \$10, Seniors \$8, Students \$5





## Agriculture Education and Pittsville FFA News and Notes...

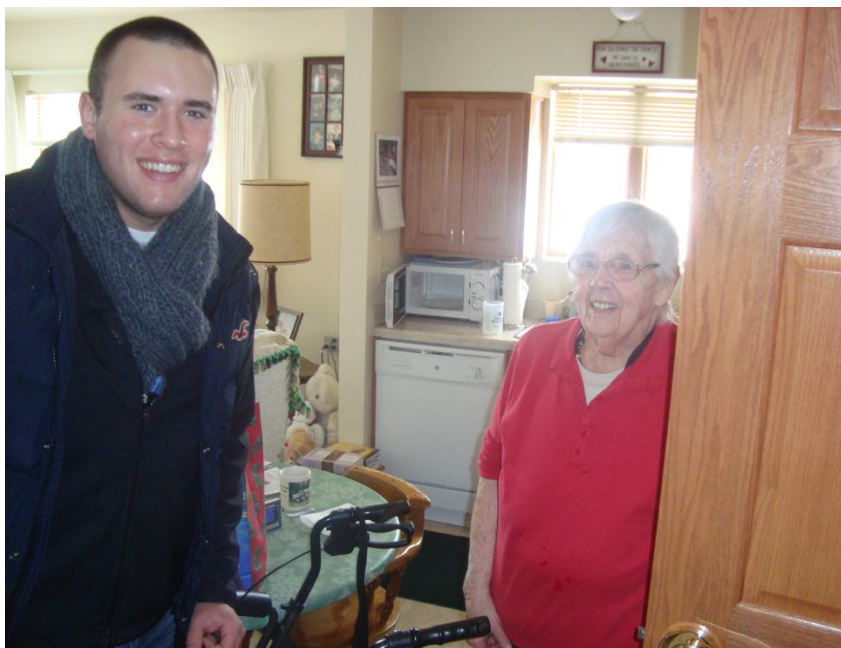
The Pittsville Agriculture Education and FFA have once again had a busy few months. A reminder to people who bought labor from the FFA this past October: please contact those members to complete their work hours. It is always easier to complete the hour during the school year. On February 12, 2013 the Pittsville FFA will be competing in Stevens Point at the District Speaking Contest from 3:30-7:00 PM. Students from ten area schools will be competing to go onto the Sectional Contest held in March. The speaking contests include Quiz Bowl, Extemporaneous Speaking, Prepared, Creed, Interview, Parliamentary Procedure and Discussion Meet.



The Agriculture Education Department has been taking students and exploring the agriculture of Pittsville. The Agribusiness Class toured Nelson-Jameson, during their tour they interviewed Jerry Lippert, Lisa Schulz, and Devon Jones about what their jobs entailed during the day. The Large Animal Science Class recently visited Ronnie Cournoyer's Farm, Ronnie generously showed the students how to cut and wrap a whitetail deer. The students then learned to make jerky in the agriculture education room.

Nancy and Ray Stauner spoke to our class about their Elk Farm south of Pittsville. This is the fifth year we have visited. The class learned the trials and tribulations of raising elk. Some interesting points were: Nancy is an artist and Ray is a taxidermist, the elk are really hard on the fence with their antlers, and antlers fall off while horns do not. Other notables: this year they will remove the antlers to protect their animals from getting hurt, elk meat is a very healthy meat with low cholesterol, and elk go into rut from October through mid-November (during that time Ray and Nancy will not go into the pen because the aggressiveness of the bull). Jerry Meyer and Tim Eekhoff (MM Hog Farm) shared information about their hog operation. The students were able to learn by doing artificial insemination, cutting needle teeth, and giving shots. Brad Kremer (dairy) explained how his automated milking operation worked. Mr. Kremer explained advantages and disadvantages of have an automotive milking parlor. Dairy owner Matt Lippert showed and explained how his large herd operation worked each day beginning with the milking parlor and ending with a free stall barn.

FFA members Megan Christiansen, Emily Kissner, Connor Coyle, Cierra Coyle, Sam Solatycki, and FFA Alumni member Marv Kohlbeck dropped off FFA fruit to our senior citizens to wish them a happy holiday season.



### IMPORTANT DATES & NOTES

The agriculture department will still recycle your pots and planters.

February 12: FFA District Speaking Contest in Stevens Point

February 18-21: National FFA Week Theme: "Making a Difference"

March 4-8: FFA/Vocational Ed Week

March 14: Pittsville FFA Banquet 7:00-9PM. All current, retired farmers, and Ag related people, please come as our guest to help us celebrate the successes of the year.



## High School Survival Biology Class

Over the past few weeks, Mr. Steward's Survival Biology class students worked on the skills necessary to survive different situations in the outdoors. As part of their course of study, learning to identify wild edible Wisconsin plants, constructing emergency shelters, fire starting with natural primitive materials, and building a Figure 4 Deadfall trap all challenged the students to "Survive" in the outdoors. Before starting these projects, the students learned how to utilize the tools on hand and improvise in order to overcome challenges in the outdoors.

All of the projects required the students to construct working models to illustrate their knowledge of outdoor skills. The trial and error and learning curve for the students as they worked on the projects was very evident in their completion of each project. For example; on one project each student started with three sticks less than 14 inches long and converted them into a working trap that could be used to harvest animals in the wild. Once completed, the students demonstrated their traps for all of the other students to observe and to share their knowledge and lessons learned. These hands-on type projects provide the students with problem solving skills necessary to survive in the outdoors and better prepare them for everyday life skills.

Throughout the class, students enjoy learning about and interacting in the outdoors when practicing survival techniques. The skills and knowledge learned are lifelong critical thinking skills that will afford them the ability to survive an array of emergency situations. The Survival Biology class is offered to Juniors and Senior students attending Pittsville High School.

## 8th Grade Entrepreneurship Class a Success

*Written By: Hannah Grubofski, Skye Klein, and Hannah Huber*

During the Eighth Grade Second Quarter EXPO classes, the grade chose to run a business. There were about eight groups that each came up with their own product idea and prototype; then the class voted on which one they were going to make. We chose to make cutting boards. There is an American Flag and a handled cutting board for customers to purchase. There are four overseeing positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, and the Treasurer who were selected for their position based on interviews conducted by Mrs. Backaus.

Besides the four overseeing positions, there is the manufacturing group, the packaging group, marketing and accounting group. The manufacturing group makes the product, while the packaging group packages the final product for delivery. The accounting and marketing group worked on advertising, handling of the money, and all the documents for our business.

As a class, on December 19th we had sold 56 handled cutting boards and 45 American flag cutting boards. We sold the handled cutting boards for \$8 and the American Flag cutting board for \$12. The cutting boards are made out of red oak, white oak, walnut, cherry, ash, and maple wood. We have gotten compliments on our work from a number of buyers and non-buyers.

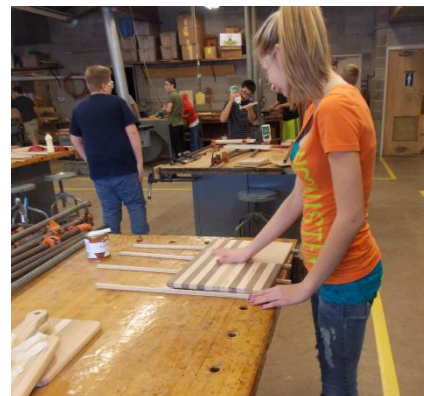
We believe, as a class, that we have done a good job making this product. The manufacturing group has far exceeded expectations of our classmates, teachers, and other people at making the cutting boards. We believe that this was a good experience for us to try, it really taught us a lot about how a business is run for real and gave us a taste of how it will be when we're out of school and have our own real jobs. The 8th grade Entrepreneurship class is taught by Mr. Stephen Hadfield and Mrs. Jennifer Jackson.



*Dayton Kissner, Nick Sherwood, & Jacob Schulz examine an exhibit at the High Ground*

## PHS History Classes Visit the High Ground

The US history classes of Mr. Downs and Mr. Piotrowski visited The High Ground Veterans Memorial Park on Tuesday, Dec 11, 2012. The classes were there to see an exhibit titled *Fighting for Democracy* on loan to The High Ground (THG) for the month of December from the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, CA. The exhibit detailed the lives of seven US citizens of minority status (e.g. Mexican, African American, Jewish, Japanese) who served in the armed forces during World War II. The personal experiences of these men and women before, during and after the war, was presented in pictorial exhibits, documents and video. The main focus of the exhibit was to show how all these individuals suffered racial discrimination throughout their lives and in the military yet honorably served this country in time of war in whatever capacity they could. The exhibit was very informational and students learned a little about the war in general and a great deal about the social conditions and attitudes in the US during the 1940's. The students also did some research in the impressive resource library and viewed a slide show given by Volunteer General Manager Kirk Rodman on the history of THG. Mr. Rodman emphasized that The High Ground is "a veteran's memorial, **not** a war memorial". It is dedicated to the men and women who have served this country in the military. You can find more information about THG at their website [thehighground.org](http://thehighground.org) and about the *Democracy in Action* exhibit at [ncdemocracy.org](http://ncdemocracy.org).







*The Three Weird Sisters: Seniors Megan Piotrowski, Angela Rahm, and Lindzy Meltesen*

### PHS Competes in One Act Play “MMMBeth” at PACT in Wisconsin Rapids

The Pittsville Drama Club/PHS Forensics coached by Sarah Freedlund traveled to Lincoln High School, with parent drivers Marlis Downs and Melissa Delaney, to compete in a Wisconsin High School Forensics Association (WHSFA) competition designed solely for One Act Plays on October 20, 2012. “MMMBeth” written by Allison Williams, describes what happens when the three weird sisters from Macbeth tell the Shakespearean tragedy from their POV. This humorous take on the ‘Scottish Play’ has the witches predicting the future with a Magic 8 ball while ‘Queen’ Duncan plans to start a donut franchise. The play was cast with all females making for some interesting plot twists. The following students performed at the Performing Arts Center: Katie Delaney, Shianne Rasmussen, Hailey Metcalfe, Harley Metcalfe, Ashley Steele, Angela Rahm, Megan Piotrowski, Jamie Arnold, Lindzy Meltesen, and Hannah Downs.

Although the actors did a fine job, we were not prepared to compete at the level of the three larger schools in attendance: Lincoln High School, Mosinee High School, and Waupaca High School. While we brought three totes with costumes, make-up, and plastic long-swords; one of the schools had an equipment truck loaded with multi-layered platforms and four kitchen sets. Believe me, we were thankful we did not see anyone else perform before we did! Needless to say, we did not advance although one of the Festival Evaluators, David Farmborough, gave us some great suggestions. Farmborough, a native of London, England, has a degree in English Literature with a specialism in Shakespeare. He complimented the student actors for doing a fine job for their first attempt in this highly competitive category. He admired the enthusiasm our actors brought to this parody of “Macbeth”. We are not certain if we will compete in this category in the future, but everyone involved agreed it was a great learning experience.

### COMMUNITY WALKERS

Pittsville Elementary School will be open for walking every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Please use Entrance B.

#### SPORTS SCHEDULES

Please check [www.pittsville.k12.wi.us](http://www.pittsville.k12.wi.us) and click on *Athletics* for the most current and accurate information.



*Cast of “MMMBeth” - Shianne Rasmussen, Angela Rahm, Megan Piotrowski, Hannah Downs, Katie Delaney, Harley Metcalfe, Hailey Metcalfe, and Lindzy Meltesen. Missing cast members: Jamie Arnold and Ashley Steele*

**SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS...** is a free web-based application that gives parents and guardians online access to their child’s grades, assignments, attendance, schedule, emergency information, and more! This access is made possible through our student information system, Skyward Family Access. Please contact your school’s office for Family Access login names and passwords.

### Cancellations, Delays, Early Dismissal

If weather conditions are such that you think the school schedule may be interrupted, please listen to one of the radio stations listed below. Notification of cancellations, delays, or early dismissals due to inclement weather will also be made through the Pittsville School District’s SchoolMessenger alert system. Parents should have an emergency plan for dealing with these situations for the safety and health of their children. Do not drop children off at school on mornings when school is to be delayed, as there is not supervision available on those days.

WIFC	95.5 FM	WOFM	94.7 FM	WSAW	TV-7
WOSQ	92.3 FM	WGLX	103.3 FM	WAOW	TV-9

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE  
5459 ELEMENTARY AVENUE, SUITE 2  
PITTSVILLE, WI 54466

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
U.M.S.

# Pittsville School District *News* SECOND QUARTER, 2012-13

## **Chili/Pizza Feed - Feb 8<sup>th</sup>**

*Pittsville Elementary School parents will be having a Chili/Pizza Feed in the varsity gym lobby before the girls' basketball game starting at 5:00 pm until it's gone!*

*Proceeds help support the summer school play performance through Prairie Fire Children's Theatre.*

## **Pom Kids Clinic**

Practice will be held on Feb 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> with their performance on Feb 8<sup>th</sup> during the girls' basketball game.

*Signup forms coming  
SOON!*

## **Administrative Contacts**

*Mr. Reynolds, District Administrator - 715-884-6694*

*Mr. Weddig, Senior High Principal - 715-884-6412*

*Mrs. Fischer, Elementary Principal - 715-884-2517*

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Julie Strenn	President
MaryAnn Lippert	Vice President
Connie Potter	Clerk
Jane Wesely	Treasurer
Lisa Schulz	Member-At-Large