



November/December 2021

outlooknews

A bi-monthly publication of the Greater Keene & Peterborough Chamber

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*The Greater Keene & Peterborough Chamber
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Recipe FOR Success 2022 ANNUAL GALA

*please join us for a special hybrid event to celebrate the
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THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 2022

ZORN DINING HALL,

EVENT BEGINS AT 6:00 PM

KEENE STATE COLLEGE

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TICKETS ON SALE DECEMBER 1, 2021

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Member Spotlight



They say miracles rarely happen. Well, one occurred in Jaffrey on August 5 of this year. After more than twenty years of planning and fundraising, the brand new, re-imagined Park Theatre performing arts center opened on Main street in downtown Jaffrey. It was a milestone for the people behind the project, as well as for the town of Jaffrey.

On May 1, 1922, the original Park Theatre opened as a silent moving picture and vaudeville venue. The founder was an Italian immigrant, Romolo Vanni, who already had a fruit and grocery store in town. Mill towns, as Jaffrey was at the time, were a prime candidate for movie theaters. They had a built-in audience, and radio was only in its infancy. So, going to a Rudolph Valentino or Jean Harlow movie was the zenith of new entertainment options. The theater expanded in the 1940s and continued as a movie theater until 1976. From that point on, it was converted to a retail shop (bikes, artist supplies, etc). Fast forward to the year 2000, a group of concerned citizens believed that bringing back the theater could help revive the downtown Jaffrey district. In 2005, those citizens and Team Jaffrey (a nonprofit dedicated to improving the downtown area) formed a nonprofit to acquire the theatre, and the journey began. After many years of planning, it was decided that the best future course for the theatre was to have it completely rebuilt from the ground up.

Construction began on New Year's Eve 2019 and was completed in 2020. Covid delayed the opening for over a year, but in August of 2021, the ribbon was cut, and the new era of The Park Theatre began.



The complex is a state-of-the-art facility with two auditoriums. The William David Eppes Auditorium has 333 seats and is equipped with a 17 speaker surround sound system to present recent Hollywood films. Its proscenium stage will accommodate concerts, stage plays, comedians, dance, speakers, and more.

The Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio, Grammy® winner Luther “Junior Guitar” Johnson, and the acclaimed



blues-rock trio, The Chris Fitz Band, have already played on the stage. Later this fall, the Keene Chorale, Symphony NH, Electric Earth, and the Peterborough Folk Music Society will play there.

The second auditorium, The Michael B. King Auditorium, with 77 seats and is equipped for film, concerts, speakers, seminars, education, and education. Over the past two months, the Jaffrey Historical Society held their annual meeting, Ben Pratt performed death-defying magic, and the Monad Knock-Knock Stand-Up Comedy Series began their monthly schedule.

Additionally, there is a large lobby with a concession café and a patron lounge where visitors can listen to live music and enjoy drink before they go to a live show. The building has is outfitted with Consolidated Communication fiber optic broadband for internet and broadcasting (video or sound) and wifi capability for over 400 guests to simultaneously connect.

The auditoriums and other parts of the performing arts center will be available for rentals of private events and theatre productions.

BKA Architects from Boston designed the new performing arts center. TFMoran of Bedford, New Hampshire, completed the engineering. Integrity Entertainment of Schenectady, New York, designed the projection and sound systems for both auditoriums.

“It’s been a long road for the project. But built-from-the-ground-up, performing arts centers set in under 25,000 small population towns don’t happen anymore. But through the tenacity and passion of a group of people plus the thousands of supporters as well as businesses, government, and foundations, it happened, and it will be adding value to lives for decades to come,” said Steve Jackson, CEO and Managing Director of The Park Theatre.

*The Park Theatre, (603) 532-9300
19 Main Street, PO Box 278, Jaffrey, NH 03452
info@theparktheatre.org | www.theparktheatre.org*

GKPC **Business After Hours**

November Business After Hours

GFA Federal Credit Union / Cheshire Country Keene Division

346 Winchester St., Keene NH

Wednesday, November 17

5:30 – 7:00 PM



(Suggested Donation to GKPC \$5.00 at the Door)

Join us for Business After Hours at GFA Credit Union's new location on Winchester Street! There will be Thanksgiving themed appetizers from CC&D Kitchen, and drinks from Elm City Brewing.

The Theme is *"Thankful for our community and celebrating our new location"*

Kick off the season of giving - Bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the local food pantry to be entered in the raffle!

December After Hours

Mascoma Bank hosting at Keene Country Club

The Timberview Restaurant

755 West Hill Road, Keene, NH 03431

Wednesday, December 15

5:30 – 7:00 PM

(Suggested Donation to GKCC \$5.00 at the Door)

Come celebrate the holidays at the December Business After Hours, hosted by Mascoma Bank at The Timberview Restaurant at Keene Country Club.

Please note the change of venue, the bank's lobby is full of Christmas trees for Mascoma Bank's 4th annual Festival of Trees. Trees will be on display and available for bidding on-line November 30th – December 14th . This year's recipient is CASA, Monadnock Region.

- networking • door prizes
- great refreshments
- build business connections
- catch up with old friends
- hosted by a member business

To register for Business After Hours:

- visit <https://business.keenechamber.com/events/calendar>
- call 603-352-1303
- email info@keenechamber.com

Member News



NH Business Review recognized 17 business leaders in the State of New Hampshire at the 19th annual Business Excellence Awards on October 6, 2021 in Concord. Kathy Collinsworth, Monadnock Humane Society Executive Director, received an award in the non-profit category.

When Collinsworth arrived at MHS in 2016, MHS board member Val Starbuck recalls that there was a struggle within the organization financially and a lack of solid leadership. "Kathy tackled the deficit problem through diligent cultivation of donors, researching grants, negotiating lower expenses and collaborative budgeting. Within 5 years, she turned around a long-standing organizational deficit to show a net profit. She has improved employee morale and has implemented energy efficient measures such as biomass heat and solar panels for electricity, making MHS a sustainable green organization."

In her acceptance speech, Collinsworth spoke of how animals influence our lives positively — teaching us to heed instincts, listen, support, adapt, face fears, play, and work as a team. She said "Those who know me the best...my family and friends...will confirm that I have been passionate about animals and nature since my first steps. I believe in my heart that this passion and my life long observation of animals is what has influenced how I make choices...how I quite simply.... navigate my life." With her servant-leadership style, Collinsworth continues to make a difference in the Monadnock region, the state, and even in the world, making positive changes that reach far beyond her time.

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Monadnock Humane Society (MHS) has received generous donations and support from the community. Subaru of Keene, and other important donors – including Dale Moore and Debora Haskel – have made it possible for MHS to purchase a new van. The former van was not safe to drive and did not pass inspection. In August, it was determined that it needed to be replaced and MHS had less than a month to find and purchase a new vehicle. Emily Kerylow, MHS Shelter Operations Director, also added that, "With the appointment of our new Humane Agent, Beth Doyle, we anticipate an increase in need for this van. Beth will need a safe, reliable vehicle for animal cruelty/neglect investigations, and helping the community with animal care in general."



Collinsworth reached out to several donors for funding to purchase the vehicle. With Dale Moore and Debora Haskel's help, these combined gifts completely covered the cost of purchasing a new van. Collinsworth said, "We are so grateful to Fenton Family Dealerships, Dale and Debora, and other community support for making this possible. Having a safe vehicle for our staff to drive is so important, and serving the community is at the heart of our mission. This new van helps to make all of this possible!"

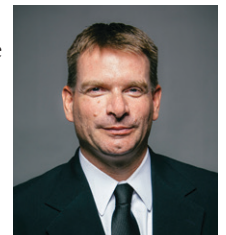
The Keene Family YMCA was recognized for their leadership in creating an inclusive work environment by the NH Council on Developmental Disabilities at the 2021 Employment Leadership Awards (virtual)

Presentation on Thursday, October 21st. The award is presented each year to New Hampshire employers who recognize the skills and contributions that people with disabilities bring to the workforce and who have adopted inclusive policies and hiring practices that allow people with disabilities to fairly compete for employment.



The Y is deeply honored to have received this award and remains committed to maintaining a diverse and inclusive workplace. As a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening community, the Y empowers everyone, no matter who they are or where they're from, by ensuring access to resources, relationships and opportunities for all to learn, grow and thrive.

Northeast Delta Dental announces the appointment of Ryan King as Director of Human Resources. Ryan brings several



years of experience as a strategic human resources leader, driving cultural transformation, engaging leaders and employees and improving operating efficiency. "Northeast Delta Dental is well respected throughout Northern New England for taking care of its employees – making the 'Best Companies to Work For' list more than a dozen times," explains Ryan. "I am excited to join a company committed to its employees and its community while still achieving business growth and excellence."

Before joining Northeast Delta Dental, Ryan served as Director of Human Resources for McLane Middleton Professional Association, Manchester NH.

Member News

Prior to that position, he held the title of Director of Human Resources for Pioneer Behavioral Health, Peabody, Mass. He holds Professional Human Resources Certification (PHR) and Society of Human Resources Certified HR Professional (SHRM-CP) certifications and received a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from the University of Connecticut. Ryan resides in Hudson, NH.

Northeast Delta Dental announces the recent appointment of Jessica Leandri as Director, Professional Relations. Jessica is a seasoned healthcare operations leader with a strong track record of working with diverse stakeholder groups on system quality improvement and program implementation. "I am thrilled to be part of an award-winning company, able to manage tremendous business growth with substantial philanthropic efforts," said Jessica. "I look forward to working with and growing their exceptional dental network."

Before joining Northeast Delta Dental, Jessica served as Waiver Executive Director, and Waiver Program Director consecutively, responsible for oversight of the waiver management program at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH. Prior to those titles, she held the position of Associate, Economic Development at the University of Connecticut, where she provided data and statistical analysis to support an economic impact assessment on public health access. She holds a Masters in Community Development from the University of New Hampshire and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Lesley University.

Beginning in early November, the Greater Monadnock Society for Human Resource Management (GMSHRM) will begin its annual membership drive and renewal. This award-winning local chapter of the national Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) has a rich tradition for being the local go-to group for all things HR. GMSHRM empowers members by providing

personal and professional development, invaluable networking opportunities, the exchange of diverse knowledge and experience, state and federal legal updates, and opportunities to attend conferences. Monthly educational meetings are currently held virtually. GMSHRM is a helpful means of support for HR professionals as well as small business owners who are navigating through COVID-19 as the changing landscape of compliance law evolves. Also continuing at the forefront are remote worker policies, employee engagement, and employee wellbeing. If you are a new member or a former member whose membership has lapsed/expired, join now through the end of the year, and your membership will continue through December 2022. Depending on when you join, you can receive up to three months FREE. This incentive expires on December 31, 2021. To join, visit www.monadnockshrm.org/join-us.

The Town of Swanzey is pleased to announce that Mr. Joseph Gonsalves has been hired to serve as the Town's new Police Chief. Mr. Gonsalves' first day of work is expected to be October 25, 2021 and the Town will be scheduling a meet and greet opportunity. Mr. Gonsalves lives in Taunton, MA and has had a distinguished 30 plus year law enforcement career. He served for 20 years with the Bristol, RI, Police Department; working through the ranks and retiring as a lieutenant and patrol commander. He then went on to work for the US Department of Veterans Affairs Police Department for 10 years, retiring as Chief of the Department. Mr. Gonsalves is also a veteran, who retired from the Army Reserves after 27 years of service.

GFA Federal Credit Union is pleased to announce the promotion of Amy Holgerson to Assistant Vice President/Residential Lending Officer.



Holgerson began her career at GFA in 2016 as a closing coordinator and was promoted to residential underwriter just a few months later. "In her five years with

GFA, Amy has excelled in her role as residential underwriter. Her talent and experience are exceptional, and I look forward to her leading the residential lending team." Said Tom McGregor, EVP/Chief Lending Officer.

In her new role Amy will work with the residential team in a fast, yet compliant manner to provide the best member experience possible; overseeing all aspects of the home buying process including processing, underwriting, closing and post-closing. Holgerson brings over 15 years of experience and holds a Bachelor of Business in Accounting from Fitchburg State University.



GFA Federal Credit Union is pleased to announce the promotion of Brian Rumanowski to Commercial Lender. Rumanowski joined

GFA Federal Credit Union in 2018 as a Commercial Credit Administrator, quickly moving to a Credit Analyst in early 2019, and the recently received a well-deserved promotion to Commercial Lender.

"Since joining the Credit Union, Brian has been instrumental in the growth within our commercial portfolio," said Joshua I. Brier, President and Chief Executive Officer, "I am excited for our business members to start working directly with Brian as they will undoubtedly benefit from his dedication and detailed work." The 2020 GFA COVID Business Support Team was led by Rumanowski, assisting hundreds of businesses to navigate

Member News

through the Small Business Association and other relief programs. Brian has an outstanding knowledge of cannabis lending, and has worked closely with Tina M. Sbrega, President of Lighthouse Biz Solutions, a Subsidiary of GFA Federal Credit Union, a pioneer in cannabis banking and lending. Rumanowski holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management with a concentration in finance and economics from Westfield State University, an American Bankers Association Commercial Lending certification, and a Credit Union National Association certification in BSA and Compliance.

Genesis Langdon Place of Keene is very pleased to welcome Michael Johnson back to our center in the role of Executive Director. Michael has over 26 years with Genesis Healthcare and his earliest days with the company were right here at Langdon! Congratulations to Michael from the team!



We would also like to announce our community has now implemented universal vaccination. The health and safety of our patients, residents, and staff guide every decision we make, even the difficult ones. On August 2, 2021, to protect those who are living and working in our facilities, we announced a universal COVID-19 vaccination requirement for our employees, care partners, and onsite vendors. The vast majority of our patients and residents had already been vaccinated. However, despite voluntary staff vaccination rates that were higher than the industry average, the rapidly growing

spread of the Delta variant caused us too much concern. As you well know, older adults and those with co-morbidities are at the greatest risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19 infection. Vaccination is one of the best tools available to us to create the safest environment for those in our care.

The regional accounting firm of Nathan Wechsler & Company, PA is pleased to announce that Brett McConn recently joined the board of directors of Safe Haven Ballet. He will serve as treasurer. Safe Haven Ballet's purpose is to serve the community "by providing free trauma sensitive ballet, movement, and art classes for survivors of sexual violence and trauma, as well as create uplifting and inspiring ballet based performances." To learn more, visit safehavenballet.org.



"I am incredibly excited about my new position on the Safe Haven board," said McConn. "I've known Lissa [Curtis, Director] since my time in college when we performed together in numerous productions. It is fantastic to be able to serve an organization in a way that so perfectly aligns my professional and personal interests."

McConn studied at the University of New Hampshire and has spent the entirety of his professional accounting career with Nathan Wechsler & Company, PA. McConn currently serves as a senior and specializes in working with clients in the nonprofit sector. He lives in Nottingham, New Hampshire, with his wife.

Nathan Wechsler & Company, PA is also pleased to announce that Renee Beauchemin recently joined the board of directors of Pope Memorial SPCA of Concord. The non-profit offers a number of services and programs, including microchip and rabies clinics, a pet food

pantry, a pet therapy program, and a reading tails program in which children read to therapy dogs. To learn more, visit popememorialsPCA.org.



Beauchemin studied at the Castleton University and joined the Nathan Wechsler & Company, PA team in 2021 and currently serves as a supervising senior. In addition to serving on the Pope Memorial SPCA board, Beauchemin is a member of the VSECU Supervisory Committee and a child sponsor and volunteer in Haiti for the Be Like Brit Foundation.

Monadnock United Way announced this month, \$85,500 in grant funding to qualifying programs and initiatives that are working to help individuals and families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in the Monadnock Region. The investments, designed to help provide gap funding for needs not covered by federal, state, and local aid, will fund childcare scholarships, housing related advocacy, early learning staff development, and a digital literacy needs assessment for seniors.

Nine organizations received funds ranging from \$2,500 - \$15,000 including Keene Housing Kids' Collaborative, The Mayhew Program, the Monadnock Alliance for Families, the Monadnock Social Service Collective, Rise for baby and family, The Winchester Learning Center, Monadnock Community Early Learning Center, New Hampshire Community Loan Fund, and New Hampshire Legal Assistance.

For more information about the COVID-19 Recovery Funding allocations, please go to our website: www.muw.org/covid-19-recovery.

Member News

The NH Military Leadership Team, Department of Military Affairs and Veterans Services (DMAVS) and NH Employment Security (NHES) are accepting 2021 applications from New Hampshire businesses desiring recognition as a NH Veteran-Friendly Business. Applications are available on the Dept of Military Affairs & Veterans Services website. In order to recognize and celebrate a broad spectrum of ways in which NH businesses honor, fortify, empower and impact Veterans in New Hampshire, the NH Veteran-Friendly Business Recognition Program offers four levels of recognition—Bronze-Honor, Silver-Fortify, Gold-Empower and Platinum-Impact. The program is designed to provide businesses with a roadmap to increase their support of Veterans and their families while moving up in levels of recognition. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Recognition is granted for a 2-year period, then businesses are encouraged to re-apply. <https://www.dmavs.nh.gov/veteran-friendly-businesses-0/apply>



The River Center, a Family and Community Resource Center, announced today that it has completed a major rebranding. This celebratory effort includes a fresh, new logo, a re-launch of their website and a remodel of its physical space.

“We put a lot of effort and consideration into this project, and we are very excited to share it with our community,” stated Margaret Nelson, Executive Director of The River Center. She continued, “While we may look different, we are still the same people who are devoted and committed to strengthening individuals and families in Peterborough, Jaffrey, and surrounding towns.”

The rebrand and website overhaul was prompted by the change and growth in programming seen by the organization over

the last eighteen months. The website showcases The River Center’s services and programs in support of individuals and families in the community. The FACT Book, The River Center’s guide to local resources, remains on the site in an updated format which allows users to search easily for the information they need. The initiative was made possible by funding through the Preschool Development Grant and completed in partnership with New Hampshire Children’s Trust. Visit rivercenternh.org to explore the new website.

Savings Bank of Walpole is pleased to announce the promotion of Amy Lehr to Senior Vice President, Commercial Credit and Administration. In her new role, Lehr will focus specifically on commercial credit analysis and loan administration. Lehr joined SBW in 2002 as a Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer, and was responsible for growing the Bank’s commercial loan portfolio, as well as managing the commercial credit and administrative teams. Lehr is a graduate of Becker College and is actively involved in the community, serving as a board member for several local nonprofit and civic organizations.

Cheshire Medical Center welcomes several new staff members.



Cheryl Pineo, APRN joins the Pulmonary Medicine department. Ms. Pineo brings with her nearly two decades’ worth of nursing experience, including 13 years in an emergency department. Most recently, she worked as a Family Nurse Practitioner in the primary care practice at Monadnock Community Hospital in Peterborough, where she also served for many years as a registered

nurse. Ms. Pineo holds a Master of Science degree (Family Nurse Practitioner) degree from Rivier University in Nashua. She also holds an Associate of Science in Nursing degree from Rivier and a Bachelor of Arts in psychology from Framingham State College in Framingham, Massachusetts.



Geoff Pollitt, APRN, joins the Urgent Primary Care department. Mr. Pollitt recently completed his Doctor of Nursing

Practice at the University of Vermont in Burlington, Vermont, with a Family Nurse Practitioner focus. Mr. Pollitt spent the last several years in the University of Vermont Outpatient Clinics, working as a Registered Nurse in several different areas, including urgent care, primary care, and several ambulatory specialty clinics. He also spent four years in the United States Navy, serving as an Operations Specialist, Petty Officer 2nd Class, when he earned an honorable discharge in 2014. Mr. Pollitt holds a Bachelor of Arts in psychology and Italian from Haverford College in Haverford, Pennsylvania.



Heather Hannan, APRN, is the newest member of the Nephrology department. Prior to coming to Cheshire, Mrs. Hannan spent

the past six years at Catholic Medical Center, where she worked in the intensive care unit as well as the medical surgical float pool. She is a licensed Family Nurse Practitioner. Mrs. Hannan earned her Master of Science in Nursing degree (Family Nurse Practitioner) this past May from the University of New Hampshire in Durham. She holds an Associate Degree in Nursing from New Hampshire Technical Institute in Concord and a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Castleton State College in Castleton, Vermont.

Member News

Jenna Clark, MSN, APRN, FNP-C, Julie Cookish, APRN, FNP-C, and Roz Vara-Good, APRN, FNP-C, have joined the Family Medicine department.



Ms. Clark has spent the past eight years working as a registered nurse, most recently in the Family Practice department at Landmark Family

Healthcare in Londonderry and in the cardiology unit at Elliot Hospital in Manchester. Ms. Clark earned her Master of Science in Nursing degree from Rivier University in Nashua in May of this year. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, also from Rivier.



Prior to coming to Cheshire, Ms. Cookish worked at the University of Colorado Hospital in Aurora, Colorado, as a registered nurse in

the Medical Intensive Care Unit and as a rapid response nurse. A licensed Family Nurse Practitioner, Ms. Cookish boasts clinical experience in several Colorado-based facilities, including emergency and family medicine settings. She earned her Master of Science in Nursing degree from Regis University in Denver in May of this year. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Colby-Sawyer College in New London. Ms. Cookish also spent two months in 2020 working as a COVID-19 travel nurse through Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.



Prior to coming to Cheshire, Ms. Vara-Good worked as a registered nurse and relief charge nurse at the Denver Health Surgical

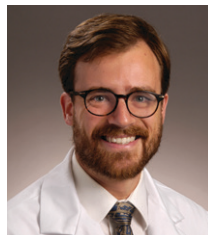
Trauma Unit in Denver. She also spent time as a travel nurse in Utah and

Colorado. Ms. Vara-Good, a licensed Family Nurse Practitioner, has clinical rotation experience at various locations in Colorado and New Mexico, including focuses on primary care, women's health, and urgent care. She earned her Master of Science in Nursing from Regis University in Denver this year. She also holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Colorado-Denver in Aurora, Colorado. Ms. Vara-Good, a central Vermont native, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont.



Lynn Nguyen, MD, joins the Women's Health department. Dr. Nguyen recently completed her residency in the obstetrics and

gynecology department at Southern Illinois University in Springfield, Illinois. Dr. Nguyen earned her Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine in Miami, Florida. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Miami location in Coral Gables, Florida. At the Hubbard Center for Women's Health, Dr. Nguyen will join a collaborative, multidisciplinary OB/GYN team which offers care for women from the beginning of their reproductive lives through, and after, menopause.



Olivier Van Houtte, MD, has joined the General Surgery department. Prior to coming to Cheshire, Dr. Van Houtte recently completed

his colorectal surgery fellowship at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut. He did his residency in general surgery at Abington-Jefferson Health in Abington, Pennsylvania. Dr. Van Houtte holds a Doctor of Medicine degree from the Warren Alpert Medical

School at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. He earned his Bachelor of Science in biology from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, Massachusetts.



Penny Van Alstyne, APRN, is the newest addition to the Pain Management department. Prior to coming to Cheshire, Ms. Van Alstyne

spent nearly a decade as a clinical manager and then as an APRN with Bayada Home Health Care and Hospice, based in Brattleboro, Vermont. Ms. Van Alstyne earned her Master of Science in Nursing degree from the University of New Hampshire in Durham, and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Franklin Pierce University in Rindge.

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Cheshire Medical Center Board of Trustees presented Tricia Zahn, MPH, director of community strategic partnerships for the

Center for Population Health at Cheshire, with a RISE (Resolve, Integrity, Sacrifice, Exceptional Service) to the Occasion award in September. The accolade recognizes an individual who has stepped up in an extraordinary way during a crisis or challenging period, making it possible for Cheshire to achieve its mission despite adversity.

Tricia's collaborative work, guidance, and direction with the Greater Monadnock Public Health Network were essential in the distribution and roll out of the COVID-19 vaccines.

Chamber News

Regional Branding Project Begins

The Chamber's project to brand and market the region got into high gear last week with a visit to the region from North Star Branding and Marketing, the place branding agency the Chamber hired to assist with the project.

Four representatives from North Star visited for the week.

They toured the region, visiting Gilsom, Walpole, Winchester,

Rindge, Hancock, and everywhere in between. Through a combination of one-on-one interviews and focus groups, they met with more than 75 local to collect their input about the region's strengths.

Their visit was the foundation of North Star's process of "discovering" our brand. There's a lot more work they have to do before they share their ideas with us. We'll continue to update Chamber members through this newsletter, and you can find more information about the project at www.BrandingMonadnock.com.



Will Ketchem of North Star Branding speaks at an info session at Keene State College

Chamber Night Out

If you didn't attend the first Chamber Night Out event at Outlaw Brewing don't despair — plans for the next few are already in the works! Details to come.

If you have an idea for or would like to host a Chamber Night Out, email info@keenechamber.com. Chamber Night Out events are open to the public, charge a set fee, and provide attendees an activity or experience beyond the usual networking event.



Monadnock Gift Guide

With the current supply chain issues, retail shopping might look a whole lot different this year. Why not make the best of it, and take

advantage of the Monadnock Region's many artisans and crafters? Here at the Chamber we've made it our holiday mission to connect local makers with holiday shoppers. This is the first year we will be publishing the Monadnock Gift Guide - featuring locally made gift ideas!



Participating makers and businesses will be featured in social media posts leading up to Plaid Friday (and beyond), as well as on the Gift Guide page on the Chamber website. Chamber members will have the added opportunity to be featured in an email blast, and will be featured on the website in our "Chamber Selects" category, which will default to the top of the page.

We're looking for submissions - email info@keenechamber.com to be included or suggest someone! At this time we are looking for physical products only, not gift certificates.

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Adventure Limousine Inc.	Electronic Imaging Materials	Masiello Insurance Agency Inc
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All Purpose Storage	Facilitated Change	Menadena, LLC
American House Keene	Fenton Family Dealerships	MoCo Arts
Anderson & Gilbert, Inc.	Frazier & Son Furniture	Monadnock Cooling Systems, Inc.
Anthony L Olson CPA/PFS	Galloway Real Estate	Monadnock Natural Health
Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music	Glazy for You! Pottery Place LLC	Monadnock Shopper News
Athens Pizza	Greenwald Realty Associates	Monarca Health PLLC
Autex Mazda	Grove Street Fiduciary	Motivate Gym
Beeze Tees Screen Printing	Hamshaw Lumber Inc	New Hampshire Community Loan Fund
Best Western Plus Keene Hotel	Historical Society of Cheshire County	New Hampshire Public Radio
Blais & Associates Realtors	HKS Associates Inc	Noyes Volkswagen
Bradley & Faulkner PC	Hoffman Family Foundation	Perry Family Dental Care
Bragdon, Baron & Kossayda, P.C.	Hogancamp PC	Phil-Mack Media
C&S Wholesale Grocers Inc	Horatio Colony House Museum	Phoenix Construction Inc.
Camino Verde Designs LLC	The Insurance Source Inc	Primerica
CC&D's Kitchen Market	J & J Discount	Princeton Properties Management Inc
Cedarcrest Center for Children	Joslin Management Corporation	RE/MAX Town & Country
Chartwells	Kapiloff Insurance Agency	River Valley Community College
Chesco Inc	Keene Auto Body Inc	Solutions for Today
Cheshire Glass Company, LLC	Keene Day Care Center	Sophia's Hearth Family Center
Chesterfield Inn	Keene Eye Care	St. Joseph Regional School
City of Keene	Keene Family YMCA	Targett Cleaners
Colony House	Keene Monument Co Inc	The Simple Nest
Community Finance, LLC	Keene Orthodontic Specialists, PC	Thomas Charters LLC
The Community Kitchen	Keene Santa Claus	Tousley Property Management, LLC
Community Volunteer Transportation	Keene Signworx	True Hope Therapeutic Horsemanship
Cooper Properties	Keene Smiles, PC	True North Investment Partners, LLC
Country Life Restaurant & Health Food Store	Kenny Ballard Consulting, LLC	Unity Building Technologies
Cup of Life Healing Center	Korvin Appliance Inc	W.S. Badger Company
Curry Copy Center of Keene	Lab'n Lager	Westside Animal Hospital
Custer Design	Lane & Bentley	Workplace Culture Solutions
Davis Oil	Lee and Mt Fuji Restaurant	The Works
DLC Management	Luca's Mediterranean Café	
	Maps Counseling Services	

New Members



As a socially and environmentally conscious company, Fair Trade Home Solutions is committed to paying its employees at minimum, a living wage, which is the wage necessary to afford a person or family's basic needs. This is important because people work harder when they aren't worried about basic survival and we strive to hire great people who are motivated to do their best on behalf of our customers

Fair Trade Home Solutions specializes in power washing and soft washing which includes house washing, roof washing, deck and concrete cleaning. We also do deck restoration which includes repairs and painting them and restaurant kitchen exhaust hood cleaning.

In addition to these services, we offer interior and exterior painting, deep cleanings in commercial and residential settings including for rental turnovers, full service residential moving, and we are a service provider for U-haul through movinghelper.com. I have personally done close to 2,000 residential moves, and floor cleaning, including stripping and waxing.

We are well equipped to serve both landlords, commercial clients and residential customers.

Fair Trade Home Solutions
603-757-6618
brandon@fairtradehomesolutions.com
www.fairtradehomesolutions.com/

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The numbers do not lie. Nearly 1 in 5 adults in the US live with a mental illness. An estimated 49.5% of all adolescents will deal with a mental disorder at some point in their lives. One in every 10 Americans over the age of 12 is currently facing an addiction to drugs and/or alcohol and 1 in 7 Americans will deal with a substance addiction at some point in their lives.

Those of us who call the Granite State home are no strangers to these facts. In New Hampshire, 221,000 adults are currently dealing with a mental health disorder. New Hampshire also has the second highest death rate from opioid overdoses relative to its population, and the highest death rate from Fentanyl overdoses. For many Granite Staters, the number one question is; Where can we turn for help?

Luckily, Keene has recently added a good answer to that question with the opening of Anew Behavioral Health. Anew is an outpatient behavioral health provider that helps individuals coping with mental health and substance abuse disorders. Anew brings quality care close to home. We provide positive, strength-based, individualized clinical solutions that offers our clients a better path to their best self.

Locally owned, locally operated, and conveniently located at 372 West St., Suite 102, Anew offers psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, nurses, and licensed therapists to assist in the treatment of mental health and substance abuse. Our providers utilize Assessment & Screening, Psychiatric Care, Nursing, Individual & Family Therapy, Medication Management, Medication Assisted Treatments and Care Coordination to develop an effective and individualized plan for you and your loved ones.

If you or a loved one is struggling with a mental health or addiction issue, it's time to begin Anew!

Anew Behavioral Health
Keene, NH
(603) 338-0033
jpratt@anewbh.com
<http://www.anewbh.com>

New Members



I have lived in the Keene area my entire life. I absolutely love the quaintness of our little city. The sense of community is something that I feel we are very blessed to have. I have always taken photos; mostly as a hobby, then I realized that it was the one thing I was so passionate about. To me there is nothing more perfect than capturing a precious moment that is preserved forever. I love to photograph everything, from people to animals to events. So many stories can be told with a single picture.

I believe nothing is more important than capturing the unique personality, character and soul of every individual person (or pet) that I photograph. I love learning about my subjects and spending time with them. I love watching little ones play and animals frolic through the yard. I enjoy the serenity of an elderly couple holding hands in silence and the smiles when people are doing exactly what they love to do. These are the moments I strive to capture, so that moment is frozen in time forever. When taking portraits, it is so important to not just capture a pose and a smile, but to capture the moment so that it may be cherished forever. "We take photos as a return ticket to a moment otherwise gone".

Every single person has a vision of what kind of images they want to capture. I try to not only capture all of those, but also to capture the unexpected. The candid shots that were so unexpected, yet are so completely perfect. The giggles, laughs, shots when they aren't looking directly at the camera... These are the moments that fill my heart and soul with happiness. I also believe in keeping things affordable. We are in such difficult times with everything going on in the world and I want to provide portraits that families can afford. I want to see our amazing little community strive no matter what this world throws at us and I am grateful to be a part of it!

Ammann Acres Photography - Sumer Amman
(603) 852-4808
ammannacresphotography@gmail.com
www.ammannacresphotography.com



PLP Composites produces the highest quality composite light poles and flagpoles available. All our products are hand-crafted in the USA, right here in Fitzwilliam, NH for beauty, durability and long life, and come with the strongest warranty in the industry.. Other companies manufacture fiberglass light poles, but we believe they take the high-production, cheap way out. Our PLP poles are crafted by hand, forming layer upon layer of glass and resin in a precise manner to build strength where it is needed and sparing it where it is not. In the end, our poles are beautiful and strong, without the shallow surface that mar other poles made with molds or by spun process. And our poles stand up to the wind, salt and weather that destroy other poles, delivering the highest quality composite light pole on the market. We are a small company in New Hampshire, the "Live Free or Die" state, that believes people, not machines, build better light poles.

Over the years, we have made flagpoles ranging from 6' to 123' long and developed a range of commercial light poles including decorative poles with molded decorative shrouds for all sorts of applications. The pursuit of quality and innovation has led to steady growth and many unusual products.

At PLP we are blessed to have a long-time staff, both in our offices and on our fabrication floor. The average tenure for our employees is over 15 years and many have been on staff for several decades. Every day they bring their care and focus to the crafting of our products and to interactions with our customers. We are proud to have them as part of our team.

PLP Composites
Fitzwilliam, NH
800-262-6075
info@plpcomp.com
<https://plpcomp.com/>

New Members

More New Members - Sept/Oct 2021

All Purpose Storage

Keene, NH

(603) 357-7760

keene@storeallpurpose.com

Hole in the Wall Studio

Keene, NH

(603) 439-1935

ben@holeinthewall.studio

www.holeinthewall.studio

KG Performance Solutions

Fitzwilliam, NH

(603) 242-7000

admin@kgperformancesolutions.com

www.kgperformancesolutions.com

Monadnock Music

Peterborough, NH

(603) 852-4345

info@monadnockmusic.org

<http://www.monadnockmusic.org>

Monadnock Region Board of REALTORS

Claremont, NH

(603) 543-5923

monadnockrealtorsnh@gmail.com

<http://monadnockrealtors.com>

Northern Lights Athletics

Keene, NH

(603) 831-3144

nlascheer@gmail.com

<http://www.northernlightsallstars.com>

Restoring Eden Wellness

Gilsum, NH

(603) 338-8797

restoringeden4naturalhealth@gmail.com

<https://www.restoringeden4naturalhealth.com/>

Small Business Administration

Concord, NH

(603) 225-1405

<http://www.sba.gov/nh>

Outlaw Brewing Company

Winchester, NH

(603) 239-6292

info@theoutlawbrewingcompany.com

<https://www.theoutlawbrewingcompany.com/>

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(603) 352-5550

thomas@thomastransportation.com

<http://www.thomastransportation.com>

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Community & Industry **Events**

Kiwanis Club of Keene Annual Tree Lighting Celebration

Friday, Nov 26, 2021 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Central Square, Downtown Keene

keenekiwanisinfo@gmail.com

A great family-friendly event to kick off the holiday season! Festivities will begin at 5:00 pm with live musical performances from local bands. Mrs. Claus will read the classic “Twas the Night before Christmas” story. Hot chocolate and cookies will be available for a donation from the students of the St. Joseph Regional School Builders Club and the Surry Village Charter School.

The Keene High and Monadnock Key Clubs will distribute free bells to all the children, which will be used to ring in the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus. The crowd will help Santa countdown to the magic moment when he flips the switch to light the large tree. Kids will then have a chance to visit with Santa for a photo (please bring your own camera).

For more information e-mail keenekiwanisinfo@gmail.com or visit keenekiwanis.org. Special thanks to the event sponsors: Fenton Family Dealerships and Keene Monument Company.

Keene Housing Kids Collaborative Holiday Bazaar - Volunteers Needed!

Saturday, Nov 13, 10:00am – 3:00pm

5 Harmony Lane, Keene, NH.

518-281-2676 (Liz mobile), info@keenekidscollaborative.org

Keene Housing Kids Collaborative is hosting a holiday bazaar in November for kids living in low-income households. The bazaars give kids a chance to select holiday gifts for their parents and siblings at no cost. Each child can select one present for each family member, which is gift wrapped by volunteers.

We need volunteers to help kids pick out gifts and wrap gifts. All volunteers must provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

Kids Holiday Bazaar needs gently used gift items:

Knickknacks, Kids toys/games, Things for moms, Jewelry, Things for dads, Gift boxes and bags

New items needed:

Wrapping paper, Scotch tape, Gift boxes and bags, Ribbon/gift bows

No Clothing or Electronics, please! Donation deadline Monday, November 8 - Call or email to schedule pickup of your donated items. Donations may be dropped off at our office by appointment.

Fourth Annual Holiday Pictures with Ponies Event

Saturday Nov 13, 2021, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Merry Meadow Farm, 1123 River Road, Westmoreland, NH

603-757-2808, information@truehopeth.org

We are excited to be hosting our fourth annual Pictures with Ponies event! Photos start at \$25 for one. Come dressed in your festival holiday apparel ready to smile with our festive ponies just in time for ordering some fun Christmas cards! Enjoy some warm hot chocolate or apple cider and baked goods while you peruse our raffle table and enter for a chance to win a gift basket or a Mary Iselin Painting, while you wait for your photos. We are also excited to announce we will have pony rides available this year during the event for just \$5. Contact True Hope Therapeutic Horsemanship at 603-757-2808 or information@truehopeth.org with questions.

Thanksgiving Farm Fare

Friday, Nov 19, 3:00 – 7:00 pm

Saturday, Nov 20, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Stonewall Farm, 242 Chesterfield Rd, Keene, NH

Keep your holiday celebration local by shopping for everything you will need to make a deliciously memorable feast and more at Farm Fare. Grace your table with items from area farms and specialty food producers who will be selling locally raised meats, produce, bread and stuffing mixes, berries, appetizers, wine and beer, desserts, condiments, and rubs, and herbs. Farm Fare will also feature collections of crafts and other handmade items perfect to give as hostess gifts or to get a jump on other seasonal giving.

Stonewall Farm's picturesque setting and beautiful timber frame facility offer a unique day of holiday shopping combined with an opportunity for outdoor exploration, all within a quaint New England setting sure to put visitors in the holiday spirit. Lunch and snacks will be available for purchase from vendors. No admission fee for the public!

First Feast with Michele Chalice

Wednesday Nov 10, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Monadnock Food Coop, 34 Cypress St, Keene, NH

outreach@monadnockfood.coop

Join Healthy Home Habitats' Michele Chalice for this free, on-site workshop, at the Monadnock Food Co-op. We will learn about and plant deer-resistant types of spring-flowering bulbs as well as native ephemeral plants that provide early nectar and pollen to our native bumblebees.

Participants will be able to experiment with the various tools that are used to plant bulbs and tiny plant tubers, the ways to protect these plants, bulbs, and tubers from squirrels as well as spring bulb design and growing tips. Contact Megan Lafaso Hercher at outreach@monadnockfood.coop with questions.

Community & Industry **Events**

Easygoing Hike Along the Hiroshi Loop Trail

Tuesday, Nov 9, 9:00 – 11:00am

The Hiroshi Land, NH-137, Peterborough

(603) 828-2959, mikiclementscollier@gmail.com

Join Miki Clements-Collier for a moderately easy 2-mile hike along the Hiroshi Loop Trail, with great views over Dinsmore Pond to Skatutakee and Thumb Mountains. We'll be hiking on trail (no bushwhacking), with minimal elevation gain. Bring a snack, and meet at 9 a.m. at the Hiroshi Land in Peterborough, which is located on the east side of Route 137, 2.1 miles north of its junction with Route 101. Back by 11 a.m. Space is limited, and registration is required at harriscenter.org/events. For more information, contact Miki at (603) 828-2959 or mikiclementscollier@gmail.com.

Family Program: Babies in Backpacks and Toddlers in Tow in Peterborough

Tuesday, Nov 9, 10 – 11 a.m.

The Hiroshi Land, NH-137, Peterborough

spikol@harriscenter.org

Calling all families with young children! Join Harris Center naturalist and animal lover Susie Spikol to wander trails and meadows in search of adventure and wild finds. This is a great opportunity to discover nearby nature, and to connect with other families who like to spend time outside. Space is limited, and registration is required at harriscenter.org/events. For more information, contact Susie at spikol@harriscenter.org.

Conservation Around the Globe

Tuesday, Nov 16, 5:30pm – 6:30pm

The Harris Center, 83 Kings Hwy, Hancock, NH

stahmann@harriscenter.org

Join Dave Johnson, Executive Director of the Katie Adamson Conservation Fund (KACF), for an introduction to wildlife conservation efforts — and opportunities for travelers to make conservation connections — well beyond the borders of the Monadnock Region. KACF began in Nepal in 2010, but they now lead projects in over 14 countries, from jaguar conservation in Costa Rica to beehive fences in Tanzania. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Harris Center. Space is limited, and registration is required at harriscenter.org/events. For more information, contact Miles Stahmann at stahmann@harriscenter.org.

Nature on Tap: A Life with Raptors

Wednesday, Nov 17, 5:30 – 6:30pm

Post and Beam Brewing, 40 Grove St, Peterborough

spikol@harriscenter.org

Join Chris Martin, raptor biologist and co-host of NHPR's Something Wild, for a happy hour talk on his adventures with birds of prey. Chris has done it all, from banding Bald Eagles to climbing cliffs to check on baby Peregrine Falcons. Learn how he got his start, and hear him recount some of his most spectacular experiences and close calls. Drinks on you, stories on us! Space is limited, and registration is required at harriscenter.org/events. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Post and Beam Brewing in Peterborough. For more information, contact Susie Spikol at spikol@harriscenter.org. Co-sponsored with Post and Beam Brewing.

Birdability: Because Birding is for Everybody... and Every Body

Thursday, Nov 18, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Via Zoom, helen@harriscenter.org

Birding is an activity that can bring joy and empowerment to everybody, but not everybody is able to go birding easily. Join Freya McGregor of Birdability — a new non-profit organization working to ensure that the birding community is welcoming, inclusive, safe, and accessible for people with mobility challenges, blindness or low vision, and other disabilities — for an introduction to accessibility in the outdoors. Learn about why this should matter to you (even if you don't have an accessibility challenge), ways to be a more welcoming and inclusive birder, the Birdability Map of accessible birding locations, and other resources for birders (and potential future birders) with accessibility challenges... Because birding is for everybody and every body! 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Registration is required at harriscenter.org/events. For more information, contact Brett Amy Thelen at thelen@harriscenter.org. Freya McGregor is the Birdability Coordinator and an Occupational Therapist. Birding since childhood, "dodgy" knee often creates an accessibility challenge for her. With a background in blindness and low vision services, she is passionate about enabling all birders and potential future birders to enjoy birding and nature as much as she does.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR FAMILY SHOPPER BOOK?

Good until July 31! We sell these at a reduced rate and on a first-come first-serve basis. Stop by to purchase yours - we are open Monday through Friday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Cash, checks and credit cards accepted.



Community & Industry **Events**

Raptors of the Monadnock Region: What We're Learning

Tuesday, Nov 30, 5:30 – 6:30pm

Via Zoom, brown@harriscenter.org.

Join Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory coordinator Phil Brown for a virtual exploration of the Monadnock Region's raptors. Find out which species live here all year round, which ones migrate and where they go, and what challenges they face in our changing world. Hear about local research being conducted to help biologists, policy makers, and the public better understand key birds of prey — and how what we learn can help ensure that raptors will be soaring the skies far into the future. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Closed captioning will be available. Registration is required at harriscenter.org/events. This event will be recorded. To ensure access to the recording, please register for this event, even if you cannot attend live. For more information, contact Phil at brown@harriscenter.org.

Teen Bedrooms: A Parent's Guide to Substance Use

Friday November 5, 2021, 6:00pm,

Peterborough Community Center, 25 Elm St, Peterborough, NH

Reality Check is co-hosting a Mock Teen Bedroom Event with the Peterborough Recreation Department. Learn about different things teens are using to get high. Walk through our "bedroom" to learn about the numerous items kids use to get impaired - you will be surprised!

TED Talks with American House Keene


Thursday Nov 18, 2021, 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Via Zoom, keeneassistant@americanhouse.com

Please join us via Zoom for our presentation of TED Talks! Our theme is Nature-Inspired Architecture Thursday, November 18th, at 12:30 PM. Here are the talks we'll be showing:

- 1) Jeanne Gang: Buildings that blend nature and city
- 2) Ma Yansong: Urban architecture inspired by mountains, clouds and volcanoes

This is a FREE virtual event. Please RSVP to Christy at keeneassistant@americanhouse.com to receive the Zoom Link.



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