

EDITORIAL & COMMENT

“Love is patient, love is kind, it does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.”

— 1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Customer Has Enjoyed Her Dealings With Stoneman Jewelers

To The Editor:

Enjoyed your story about Stoneman. I visited Stoneman for the first time, sometime in the 1970s, when he was located in the A-Frame where Hanaford now stands. I had some unusual stones I was thinking of having made into jewelry, and had no one in mind to whom to take the stones, as jewelry was not in my budget. He was as helpful then, as he is now, which led me to wait a while. Thereafter, whenever any issue came up involving jewelry –buying, repairing, advice, etc. – Stoneman has been “my jeweler.” I could have tried other jewelers, but “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.” And with the variety of

items he sells, or can order, such as baby cups, cake servers, in addition to jewelry, gifts are easy to find, and engraving is available.

I had a watch with six sapphires; the watch gave out rather quickly and he advised it wasn’t worth fixing. But the sapphires were real, so he crafted a very classy pair of earrings. I like that everything I’ve had done didn’t leave the shop and was completed on the premises. The staff is also helpful. Although I’m only an occasional customer, I’m glad his business continues.

Joanne Stevens
Alstead

Conservation Workshop: From The Birds To The Bees

The Cheshire County Conservation District, in partnership with Ecologist Jeff Littleton of Moosewood Ecological, LLC, will offer a workshop: From the Birds to the Bees: Landscaping with Native Plants for Wildlife at Stonewall Farm in Keene on Friday, February 23rd from 2 to 4 p.m.

This event is for those who are interested in attracting wildlife to their backyard or installing a pollinator meadow or garden, who are having trouble managing invasive plants on their property, or who want to be a steward of the land or simply need advice.

From the Birds to the Bees: Landscaping with Native Plants for Wildlife dives into the ins and outs of ecological landscape design. From the basics of site planning to site preparation and native seed/plant selection, attendees will explore a plethora of ways in which they can enhance their outdoor property to

attract a variety of wildlife including birds and bees, among other wildlife, pollinators, and beneficial insects.

This is not a one-size-fits-all workshop. They will explore many landscapes from city lots to rural properties and guests are encouraged to come with questions and ideas specific to their own properties to help make for a lively and interactive workshop. This is a free workshop; however, donations help support operations and programming. The suggested donation is \$5 to \$10. RSVP early so they may have an accurate headcount, at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/from-the-birds-to-the-bees-tickets-42331266959>.

For more details, contact Lola Bobrowski at the Cheshire County Conservation District at 603-756-2988, Ext. 115 or email inquiries to lola@cheshire-conservation.org.

Record Breaking Year For Broker Associate Robin Smith With RE/MAX Town & Country In Keene

BROKER, Continued from page 1

“We are proud to say, that Robin closed 101 homes in 2017 and sold over \$18 million in sales,” says Ranger Curran, owner of the local real estate company. “When you meet Robin, you will not only gain an insight to real estate, but will also feel the passion, enthusiasm, and excitement that she possesses for this industry.”

Smith has many more accolades to her name, such as taking the Gold in the “Best Real Estate Agent” category in *The Monadnock Shopper News’ Best Of Monadnock* polls not once, not twice, but seven years in a row! She has also taken first place in the *Keene Sentinel’s Readers’ Choice Awards* for Best Local Realtor, and was a Five-Star Award Recipient for “Best Of NH” in *NH Magazine* (2011).

“If you need your real estate sold, look no further than Robin,” says client Kim Olsson Sevigny. “She is hard working, fair, dedicated, and most importantly, gets the job done. Couldn’t ask for a more professional and dedicated leader on your side.”

“I really care about what is going on with my clients and why they are doing what they are doing, so I can help guide and navigate them through the process of getting to where they want to be,” adds Smith.

Smith contributes her success in the industry to staying organized, such as having a daily to-do list. “I only have a list of necessary things to do that day, so my goal is obtainable.” She goes on to explain that she starts off with a minimal goal each year, but instead of checking on this goal throughout the year, she forges ahead with her work and waits until fall to find out.

“It’s really about doing what’s right and putting your best foot forward,” Smith says. And, as busy

as she is, this local Realtor doesn’t have an assistant that helps her; she handles all aspects of her business on her own.

This local broker associate also feels that having empathy and being present can really take a person far – in both their career and personal life. “If I have an elderly client and the weather is bad, I’ll call to find out if there is anything they need. That’s just the way I am,” she adds.

Smith has been breaking real estate records for years, but with all of her successes she continues to stay humble and focused. “I took my daughter (Kirsten Jutras) under my wing when she started in the real estate business, and I told her, ‘If you follow the money it won’t come. But if you do it for the right reasons, you will be blessed.’”

This guided principle of Smith’s is also apparent in her private life. Her dedication to the community over the years includes involvement with the Keene Lion’s Club, NH Sponsor-a-Highway, Draft Gratitude, Fast Friends, Monadnock Humane Society, Keene Dancing with the Stars, and the River Valley Animal Protection League in Charlestown – which is especially near and dear to her heart as this non-profit animal shelter is located in the town where she grew up.

For those who have been contemplating selling their house, this “sellers’ market” is the prime time to do so. Smith is certified as a seller representative specialist as well as a pricing strategy advisor. Having these two certifications allows her to position the sellers effectively into the marketplace.

For more details, looking to buy or sell a home, or for a consultation with Smith, call 603-313-9902, 603-357-4100, Ext. 118, or email robin@rsmithrealtor.com.

Sharing The Joy Of Cooking One Dish At A Time

COOKING, Continued from page 1

Before preparing any meals, Watson meets with potential clients for a free consultation. Menus are created and customized to meet any dietary needs. “I have clients who are diabetic, on low-sodium diets, vegetarian, vegan, dairy-free, gluten-free, as well as those with various food allergies.”

She enjoys working in kitchens of all sizes – small, large, and in between – throughout Keene and the surrounding towns. Customers will find menu suggestions on her website, but she’ll be the first to tell you that menu choices are limitless. “Some people ask for specific meals, some like me to make suggestions, others say ‘just feed me.’” For a chef like Watson, that’s a perfect opportunity to try something new.

To learn more about Joan’s Personal Chef service, Watson can be reached at 603-499-1667, and through her website, www.chefjoan.com.

MYSTERY PHOTO

from THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CHESHIRE COUNTY

This dance hall was located near what lake in what Cheshire County town?



The first person to answer the question correctly at 9 a.m. or after on Friday will receive a \$10 Gift Certificate from the Marco Polo Gardens. Call The Monadnock Shopper News, West Street in Keene, at 603-352-5296. You may win only one contest every three months. Only one call per person per week.

(Prepared by the Historical Society of Cheshire County)

The winner of last week’s Mystery Photo contest was Felicia Grayson of Keene. The photo was of the Keene (or B&M) railroad station.



Universal Class Introduction At Keene Public Library February 23rd

Residents and Keene property owners can take classes for free with the Keene Public Library’s new Universal Class web service and a library card. The Universal Class database offers hundreds of non-college credit continuing education courses ranging from history, art, and math to real estate, computer technology, and beauty lessons, plus job and career skills, academic topics, hobbies, language learning, and more.

Participants can enroll in up to five courses and have up to six months to finish each course. These courses can be accessed by the Internet 24/7 and feature a real instructor who people

can communicate with through email.

Universal Class also offers courses to help homeschoolers, those who are seeking GED training, and entrepreneurs looking to start a business. Universal Class is available to registered borrowers of the Keene Public Library.

Participants can find out more about Universal Class at an introductory workshop on Friday, February 23rd at 11 a.m. The workshop will show how to register and the variety of classes available. The workshop will be held in the library’s auditorium in the lower level. The library is located at 60 Winter St.

For more details, call the library at 603-352-0157.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater February 23rd And 24th In Charlestown

Love, murder, and laughs will be in the air Friday, February 23rd and Saturday, February 24th at 5:30 p.m. (with a snow date of Sunday afternoon, February 25th) at the Town Hall in Charlestown. The Charlestown Rotary and River Theater Company are teaming up to present *Poetry To Die For*, a Valentine’s Day-themed murder mystery dinner. Dressing as your favorite poet is optional.

In *Poetry To Die For*, a local poetry group is holding a special reading with dinner and invited guests to celebrate the upcoming release of Charity Holmes’ new book. She is a long-time member of the poetry group and an internationally famous

poetess. It has recently been rumored that Holmes may have plagiarized work from the group. The audience is encouraged to interact with the actors to help solve the murder of one of the poets. A three-course dinner will be served, with choice of entrees (steak tips, baked potatoes, and vegetable or spaghetti squash Alfredo). All dinners include salad, rolls and butter, chocolate mousse, and non-alcoholic beverages. Guests may bring their own alcoholic beverages. The cost is \$30 per person. Seating is limited, and reservations are requested, by emailing todayis4memories@gmail.com or calling 603-543-0433 or 603-439-1896.

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