

# EDITORIAL & COMMENT

*When you do things from your soul, the river itself moves through you. Freshness and a deep joy are signs of the current.*  
—RUMI

## Kowaliw Anniversary



Rosemarie and Walter Kowaliw celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on August 19th with family and friends on a week-long vacation at a beach house on Rye Beach, a gift from their daughters Kristin, Marisa, and Julianne.

## Cheshire Children's Museum Celebrating 5th Birthday

To The Editor:

Over 136,000 people have visited since we opened on August 23, 2012 in the Colony Mill Marketplace. Earlier this year we moved into our new location at The Center at Keene. We were able to construct additional exhibits with our larger space. Almost 30,000 people visited in the past year!

There are so many people to thank – too numerous to mention everyone by name because so many members of our community have been involved. We are very grateful for our exhibit sponsors, donors, museum members, board members, and all the visitors who have come to play at the museum. The board of directors and museum staff deserve high fives for their dedication to making the museum the best place that it can be and for the distinction of having the museum voted the best fun place for kids five years in a row!

We are fortunate to have partners in MoCo Arts and The Monadnock Humane Society who visit the museum monthly to share their mission with our visitors. The museum also works with local social service agencies to allow their clients access to the museum when working with a caseworker. We believe it's important for everyone to play.

We invite you to visit the museum to help celebrate our fifth birthday. Admission is reduced to \$5 from August 23rd to the 27th with drawings for free prizes during that time as well as a birthday card contest. We are looking forward to many more birthdays as part of our wonderful community!

With a grateful heart,  
Deb Ganley

## Response To Articles On Religious Group, Church

Dear Editor,

I was quite disturbed by the coverage in last weeks *Monadnock Shopper News*.

IHM media and Slaves of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, both closely linked to the center, are both listed by Southern Poverty Law Center as active hate groups.

"Radical traditionalist Catholics may make up the largest single group of serious anti-Semites in America, subscribe to an ideology that is rejected by the Vatican and some 70 million mainstream American Catholics." More information can be found on the SPLC website, splcenter.com.

I don't understand the rationale for promoting a religious group in your publication. The same author penned an article on the Next Level Church a few months ago which I also found inappropriate.

The actions in Charlottesville last weekend have prompted me to speak out on the issue of the St. Benedict's Center. I do not believe racism and anti-Semitism can be tolerated, let alone indirectly

endorsed even in the context of a usually innocuous publication such as the *Monadnock Shopper News*.

I am very disappointed.

Sincerely,  
Catherine Vaughan  
Keene

**As a community newspaper, we try very hard not to print articles or ads that are divisive or controversial. Over our near 60-year history, we have printed hundreds of articles on local churches and religious groups, believing that religions and spiritual beliefs serve a higher good. That said, and with that belief, we were shocked to read that St. Benedict Center was linked to a hate group. We believed they were as portrayed in the article, a wholesome Catholic family center offering traditional Latin masses. While we like to do feature stories on our advertisers, hate is the opposite of the type of thing we stand for. In the future we will research our subjects further before featuring them.**

## Keene Serenity Center ~ A Place For Recovery

SERENITY, Continued from page 1

She goes on to say that the center has a very active board made up of treatment professionals, people in long term recovery, business leaders, civic leaders, and advocates for recovery and those trying to find recovery.

"The Keene Serenity Center was awarded one of seven Recovery Community Organization grants in 2016," says Vance. "These grants recognize that recovery communities are an integral part of the addiction crisis facing New Hampshire."

The Keene Serenity Center provides Peer-to-Peer Recovery Support to those struggling with addiction as well as their family. "Participation in peer recovery support groups increase the likelihood of maintaining abstinence," she adds.

These recovery coaches are not sponsors, case-workers, or clinicians; they are peers who have "been there and done that."

"Recovery is possible for anyone," says Sharan Rose, one of the peer recovery coaches. And Rose knows what she is talking about, as she is also a recovering alcoholic. "I found great support here. The center saved my life. It makes me a better person. I came here and found people who were kind and supportive."

Rose has been volunteering at Keene Serenity Center for two years. "I have a sense of purpose now and am empowered to reach out to help people," she adds. "If we keep reaching out, they will reach back."

Trained recovery coaches serve as facilitators and motivators, giving encouragement and hope for a better life and healthy living. "They provide feedback and motivation to develop the internal and

external resources that play a major role in initiating and sustaining recovery, such as life skills, stable housing, health care, employment, family support, healthy relationships, and connections to the community," says Vance.

The coaches work with a clinic supervisor, as well as clinicians in the community who specialize in helping people confront their addiction, recognize and resolve underlying issues, and help people take control of their lives.

Just a simple phone call can help someone know they are cared about and given much needed support and encouragement. So, another service that Keene Serenity Center offers is Telephone Recovery Support. A person new to recovery may sign up and receive weekly calls from a trained volunteer. Telephone Recovery Support can also share community resources and support meetings to further help the person on that road to recovery. All calls are 100 percent confidential.

Workshops, seminars, and meetings – all around recovery – are ongoing at this local facility. Recovery meeting times (and places, if elsewhere in the community) are listed at [www.keeneserenitycenter.org](http://www.keeneserenitycenter.org). Drop-in hours at Keene Serenity Center are Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and again on Mondays and Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. New meetings include Heroin Anonymous on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and All Recovery on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

September is National Recovery Month. The community's support and donations toward the Keene Serenity Center's mission is always appreciated.

For more details, call 603-283-5015.

# MYSTERY PHOTO

from THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CHESHIRE COUNTY

This early 1900s YMCA summer camp was held at what Cheshire County lake?



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. No walk-ins, please.

(Prepared by the Historical Society of Cheshire County)



The winner of last week's Mystery Photo contest was Carol Raynor of Nelson. The company was Winn Brothers Chair company of Harrisville.

## Community Worship At Vilas Pool Park This Sunday

There will be a Community Worship at Vilas Pool Park in Alstead on Sunday, August 27th at 10:30 a.m. hosted by area churches. Participating pastors will be Pastor Maureen Lasell, Rev. Joel Eaton, and Rev. Jim Berry.

John Goodwin will be playing the bells before the service.

After the service, there will be a Potluck Lunch with hot dogs, coffee, and fruit punch being provided.

For more details, call 603-835-2144.




## Local Interfaith Group Receives Grant For Local Leadership Training

The Monadnock Interfaith Project (MIP) has received its second grant of \$3000 from the Diocese of Manchester Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). MIP is a grassroots organization developed by local people of various faiths with a mission to build an interfaith coalition for community, understanding, and social justice.

Rev. Sandra Whippie, MIP guiding council president, describes the grant as supporting MIP to develop a series of leadership and workshops for people experiencing income and housing insecurity who wish to advocate for themselves and others.

The MIP coalition includes members of many congregations and agencies throughout the Monadnock Region. MIP is inclusive of varied spiritual perspectives and practices. MIP can come to congregations for informational meetings and listening sessions about social topics of concern. It also offers discussions that include screenings of Greg Pregent's documentary, "Hidden In Plain Sight," about homelessness in the Monadnock Region.

For more details, call Whippie at 603-355-2286, visit [www.mipnh.org](http://www.mipnh.org), or email [Monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:Monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com).

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