



Sometimes Wishes Do Come True A Very Happy Daria Levy Now Has A Home In Keene



Daria Levy and her cousin, Julia Gresser

Readers of The Monadnock Shopper News may remember an article that ran in mid-October and an accompanying ad that ran for a few weeks about Daria Levy, a local woman in need of a home to share with caring people who would help to support and assist her with some of her needs.

LEVY, page 5

A Generous Spirit

By Deb Paul

We want to recognize the residents, organizations, and the volunteers who step up each year, time after time, who are tremendously generous when it comes to helping out the less fortunate.

In the midst of the holiday rush, fulfillment of wishes, donations of food, gift cards to provide holiday baskets, and donations of toys and new and used clothing came in. The generosity is involved with many individuals, ranging from schoolchildren to those with businesses collecting socks, warm hats, coats, and toys.

Donations don't get where they need to be without the help of volunteers; they, too, were in abundance in the holiday season that just passed.

SPIRIT, page 5

“Until he extends the circle of his compassion to all living things, man will not himself find PEACE.”

-Albert Schweitzer

Peace is meant to be our natural state. “A whirlwind never outlasts the morning, nor a violent rain the day. Just as earth and sky return to PEACE, so should we.”

Tao Te Ching 23 (1,2) (The Drigotas Family)

Since the war began in Ukraine, in my yoga classes, we have been dedicating our practice to peace in the world. Yoga is a practice of peace in the face of conflict. A hero surrenders; he/she does not fight. Surrender is the ultimate act of peace in our heart. Simply having us think thoughts of PEACE hopefully will spread like a wave to envelop the world.

Josephine Russell

PEACE IS POSITIVE THOUGHTS ABOUT MYSELF AND OTHERS.

ETHAN JOHNSON, AGE 7

“Before you speak, let your words pass through three gates; Is it true? Is it kind? Is it necessary?”

Rumi, a Sufi mystic

PEACE

“PEACE must begin with each one of us. Through quiet and serious reflection on its meaning, new creative ways can be found to foster understanding, friendships and cooperation among all peoples.”

~ Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, former Secretary of the United Nations

“ALWAYS ASK YOURSELF: ‘WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I SAY NOTHING?’”

-KAMAND KOJOURI

“World peace must develop from inner peace. PEACE is not just mere absence of violence. PEACE is, I think, the manifestation of human compassion.”

-Dalai Lama XIV

“Without inner PEACE, outer peace is impossible. We all wish for world PEACE, but world peace will never be achieved unless we first establish peace within our own minds. We can send so-called ‘peacekeeping forces’ into areas of conflict, but PEACE cannot be opposed from the outside with guns. Only by creating peace within our own mind and helping others to do the same can we hope to achieve PEACE in this world.”

-Geshe Kelsang Gyatso

“On a time of unprecedented challenge and evolutionary transition we must heal the wounds of the past, engage fully in the transformation of present conditions, and create a future of unparalleled dignity and beauty for all beings and for all life on Earth.”

-James O’Dea

“The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world.”

Marianne Williamson

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Last Minute Gifts... 15-18

Table with 4 columns: BIRTHDAYS (14), ENTERTAINMENT (13-14), GREEN (9), MYSTERY PHOTO (6); CLASSIFIEDS (19-20), FAMILY (4), HEALING (10), PETS (2); COOKING (11), GARDEN (7), MONEY (8), REAL ESTATE (19)

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Well, hi there! My name is Okii and I am looking for my forever home for the holidays. I am a tad shy at first, but once I get to know you, I am all about being pet and giving headbutts for attention. I prefer a quiet home where I can lounge about as I can be a couch potato some days. I have lived with small to medium dogs in the past and done well, so I can go to a home with dogs. I lost my best friend and cat companion in my previous home and then became cat selective. I specifically did not like the younger male or the senior female cat I lived with, but I could try a home with other cats with slow introductions. My adoption fee would be 25 percent off as part of the Home For The Holidays Promotion at the shelter! I would love to meet with you during open visiting hours.

Okii is a Domestic Shorthair, female, grey and white, four years old.  
The Adoption Center is located at 101 West Swanzezy Road just outside of Keene on Route 10 South. The adoption center is open to the public Thursdays through Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Learn more about the adoption process, and about other adoptable pets, at [www.monadnockhumanesociety.org](http://www.monadnockhumanesociety.org).

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December 24-31, 2023

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**Dec. 24th • 7 P.M. "Saviors, Shepherds & Stars"**  
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## “Embracing Joy, Love, Hope And Peace”

### Seasonal Services At Keene Unitarian Universalist Church

The Keene Unitarian Universalist Church has some big end-of-the-year plans for 2023. They begin with two services (10 a.m. and 7 p.m.) on Christmas Eve, and end with a joyful New Year's Eve “Countdown Coffee Hour,” after the service on New Year's Eve morning.

“The 75-minute Christmas Eve evening service is always our biggest service of the year,” said Rev. Michael F. Hall with a smile. “Yet, this year, Christmas Eve is also on a Sunday – so, for those who are traveling later in the day, or cannot get enough of the spirit of the season, or just need a place to be in community – we have a totally different service planned for the morning, with the KUUC Choir on hand. Both services will include all that is necessary: a timely message and a Christmas prayer, beautiful music, enduring stories, and beloved readings. At KUUC we embrace it all: joy, love, hope, and peace.”

“At the evening service, we will welcome back soloist Laura Grier to sing *Oh Holy Night*,” added KUUC Music Director Donna Dearth, celebrating her fifth year at the church.

“I'm looking forward to our Christmas Eve offerings,” said Religious Exploration Coordinator Malory Hicks, “both services will be beautiful and, as always, having the ‘No Rehearsal Christmas Pageant’ in our evening gathering adds to joy and inclusiveness of the event – and it is such a hoot!”

“We haven't even talked about New Year's Eve,” said KUUC's minister, “I guess you'll just have to be there.” Sounds like a plan.

Keene Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 69 Washington Street. For more details, visit [www.kuuc.org](http://www.kuuc.org) or call 603-352-1719.

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## Goal Setting – A Family Affair

With December winding down and a new year approaching, now is a good time to begin looking at setting goals for a successful and happy new year for the whole family. I'm not meaning the resolutions we make and forget in a month, but creating some strategies to make your new year more family focused and less overwhelming.

I don't know about you, but I have found that creating a flexible plan makes it more likely that I'll get to more of the things I want to do than if I just try to wing it. Now I'm a creature of habit, so it sometimes takes a bit of planning to get to things that aren't what I usually do. Having flexibility allows for last minute changes due to unforeseen circumstances and allows for adjustments to the plan to meet your family's needs and desires. When I don't have a plan, I sometimes find that I spend way too much time trying to decide what I want.

Get the whole family involved in creating some family goals for the year. Make it a fun activity – have a family favorite meal, get out a calendar and start looking at what each family member prioritizes. If one child is hoping to audition for the school play, highlight the days that the play will run so everyone will be ready to cheer the thespian. If you know there is a busier time at work, make note to avoid over-scheduling during that crunch time. Use the calendar to identify potential dates for family vacations or identify when your college student will be home from school.

Make a family wish list of things you want to do this year. You may not get to everything on the list, but it gives you some ideas for planning out the year. Make sure everyone gets a voice in planning things to do so everyone feels included.

In addition to planning fun activities for your family, consider what you want to improve in your family. Perhaps you have fallen into a dinner time rut and want to introduce some new healthy recipes. Maybe you want to have family members help out a bit more and want to start a chore chart to help organize and divide tasks.

Prioritize improved health for the whole family. Create an exercise plan that incorporates activities your family enjoys doing together. This could be a daily half-hour family dance party or some scheduled time on the slopes or sledding hills to get everyone moving. Improve your family's sleep habits by developing a schedule that promotes good sleep. This might include shutting off the screens an hour before bedtime, and having a spot for phones to be stored at night to limit distractions. For

younger kids, maintain some bedtime routines to create an atmosphere that helps kids wind down. Make sure the grown ups try to get adequate sleep, too. The better rested everyone is, the better everyone will feel.

To help your goal plan be more effective, use the acronym SMART when setting goals. Goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-focused are more effective and likely to be more successful. Specific goals are more focused. A family goal to get more exercise may be too open to interpretation; a more specific goal might be to do a physical activity together for 30 minutes three times per week. That makes the goal more measurable. You can easily know if you have accomplished it. Is three times a week achievable for your family, or would it be better to start with once a week? If your family already engages in regular exercise, that goal might not be relevant for your family. Maybe trying one new activity a week would be a more relevant goal. Finally, Time-focused means that you select a time frame for the goal. Maybe you want to revisit your goals in a month or maybe three months. Setting a time limit will allow you to have a clear time frame in mind which will make it easier to follow through to the end.

**Monadnock Family**  
 with Sheri Lapointe



Setting goals as a family will increase family unity as you work toward improving family communication. This is also a great way to model for kids how to set goals and follow through. You will have your own built-in cheering section to keep everyone focused.

Make sure you take time to celebrate successes as you meet your goals. If you set a goal for a month and you succeed, have a family celebration to stay motivated and decide if you want to continue with the goal, adapt it, or be done with it. Goals are always changing and evolving. Have fun with it and see what your family can accomplish together.

*Sheri Lapointe is a licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor with a Master's Degree from Antioch New England University. She works as a behavioral health clinician for the Granite State Children's Alliance. She also has many years of experience teaching in local schools. Send comments to her at The Monadnock Shopper News, P.O. Box 487, Keene, NH 03431.*



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## City Announces Kurt Blomquist's Retirement And Honors His Service

Public Works Director, Kurt Blomquist, will retire from the City of Keene at the end of December. He has dedicated 30 years of his career to serving the City of Keene and the greater community in many important capacities.

Blomquist joined the city in November of 1993, marking the beginning of decades of unwavering commitment and leadership. He has played a significant role in overseeing numerous projects that have improved safety, sustainability, and quality of life for our residents, businesses, and visitors. In May of 2015, he was appointed as the City Emergency Management Director and successfully managed many resources and operations to ensure everyone's safety during severe storms, flooding, community emergencies, and the COVID-19 pandemic. In December of 2021 Blomquist was appointed as an Assistant City Manager, where his impressive historical knowledge of the city and experience managing operations provided for excellent leadership across the organization.

His accomplishments include helping to lead Keene toward becoming a greener community, establishing creative energy-saving and carbon-reducing strategies in city projects and purchasing practices. This includes helping the city reduce its carbon footprint by 25 percent from 1995 to 2015, overseeing the transition of the Transfer Station completely off-grid, the installation of 2100 solar panels to power both the Public Works facility and Police Department, the installation of hydroelectric turbines at the Water Treatment facility, and the use of biodiesel fuel for some city vehicles. He is also greatly appreciated for his involvement in many of the resources that are taken for granted, including safe roads, reliable water and sewer infrastructure, flood mitigation improvements, an extensive trail system, and so much more.

Blomquist's excellence and dedication to public service earned him a distinguished award as an American Public Works Association Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year award in 2019.

## Sometimes Wishes Do Come True A Very Happy Daria Levy Now Has A Home In Keene

LEVY, Continued from page 1

Levy explains, "This [Keene] is where my roots are, where I have a lot of friends and people who know me and are glad to see me. Hopefully, I'll be able to get a job in the community, get some money, a better life, and make a contribution to the community."

She is so grateful to everyone who helped make this dream a reality, and especially to her new home providers for taking her in. Levy's heartfelt thanks go to the Keene YMCA, particularly Cindy Puza, Rabbi Dan Aronson of Congregation Ahavas Achim who wrote letters to all of the faith groups in Keene on Levy's behalf, Mary Jensen at the Keene Senior Center, and Jay Smeltz and Julie Dickson who advocated for Levy also. She is particularly grateful to The Monadnock Shopper News and its staff for getting the word out about her need for a home. It worked. She and Gresser couldn't be more thrilled. What a way to end the year and begin the next one. Welcome home, Ms. Levy; keep those smiles coming.

## A Generous Spirit

SPIRIT, Continued from page 1

Whether it was carting gifts and food to a central location, matching gifts with the appropriately-aged recipient, packing holiday food boxes, or even serving at soup kitchens, these people were ready to fill the need.

But the holidays are far from the only time for the generous spirit in our towns. Free clothing is offered throughout the year at several local establishments. Sports teams and school clubs dedicate time to helping out the less fortunate – learning something about the world in the process.

In addition to various food pantries, our community kitchens offer hearty breakfasts or a spaghetti dinner, with volunteers doing everything from donating the food to cooking the meals, serving the guests, and taking the time to sit down and chat with people who may not have many other opportunities for socializing.

We'd be remiss if we didn't also highlight the volunteers who fill seats on town and school district boards and commissions. While some of their decisions may elicit criticism, that's the nature of a democracy. This doesn't detract for an instant from the appreciation they're due for being willing to leave their homes and take the action needed to keep our communities functioning.

If you're into the spirit of making a New Year's resolution, volunteering to help your community is a good one to top the list. To those who already do so, we offer our appreciation and thanks.

## Christmas Events At Winchester Church

The United Church of Winchester, located at 99 Main Street, will hold several events to celebrate the Christmas season.

On Friday, December 22nd at 6 p.m. there will be an open table supper and informal worship.

Sunday, December 24th will feature a Service of Prayer & Reflection from 10-10:30 am and a candlelight service of lessons and carols at 7 p.m. On Sunday, December 31st at 10 a.m., there will be a morning worship and carol sing.

Enter from the parking lot on Parker Street. The church is barrier free, open and affirming, and all are welcome.

## Candlelight Yoga At Aloha On Christmas Eve

All are invited to join Josephine Russell at Aloha in Keene for her Christmas Eve Candlelight class, December 24th from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

This is a signature class of Russell's teaching. This is the one class that she continues to repeat annually. It has become a holiday tradition for folks. Through yoga poses, images of the season are brought to life. A meditative feeling will be invoked. This is a great class to turn inward and to realize the meaning of this dark solstice season.

The cost is \$20. Register at [vagaroo.com/aloha-keene](http://vagaroo.com/aloha-keene) or call 603-762-3129.

## Longest Night Candlelight Memorial In Keene

A candlelight memorial to honor and remember those who died in the last year after experiencing homelessness will be held on the winter solstice, the longest night of the year.

The event will take place Thursday, December 21st at 5:30 p.m. at the United Church of Christ on Central Square. The main entrance is on the square; parking is in the back.

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(Prepared by the Historical Society of Cheshire County)

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On what street in what Cheshire County community was this gas station located?

The winner of last week's mystery photo contest was Al Goodale of Swanzy Center. The photo was taken in South Village, Westmoreland.



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**Savings Bank Of Walpole's Mark Bodin On NH Business Review's 2024 New Hampshire 200 List**

Mark Bodin, President of Savings Bank of Walpole, has been included on NH Business Review's 2024 New Hampshire 200 list. This prestigious list recognizes a unique group of people who have made their mark on New Hampshire's economy, business climate, and the state as a whole.



Mark Bodin

"We are thrilled to unveil the 2024 edition of the New Hampshire 200 list, showcasing an extraordinary cohort of leaders who are spearheading progress in their respective industries within the Granite State," says Mike Cote, NH Business Review's editor. "This unique group of recipients represents a cross-section of the thriving pulse of business in New Hampshire today – individuals who are undeniably leaving an indelible and positive mark on our state." Bodin will receive his award next April at an awards ceremony hosted by NH Business Review. The publication is also set to release a comprehensive New

Hampshire 200 book, spotlighting the achievements of the honorees.

"I am honored to be on NH Business Review's New Hampshire 200 list of business visionaries," says Bodin. "As a leader, my focus is to ensure the bank successfully navigates challenges that come our way, but at the same time, seize emerging opportunities that can benefit our customers, staff, and community."

**Savings Bank Of Walpole Included On American Banker Magazine's Best Banks To Work For List For 7th Consecutive Year**

Savings Bank of Walpole was named a 2023 Best Bank to Work For in the United States for the 7th consecutive year by American Banker Magazine. The bank ranked number 46 out of 90 banks named on the "Best Banks" list, which represents the top 2 percent of community banks in the country. Savings Bank of Walpole was the only New Hampshire bank to make the list.

"As a small, local bank, being included on American Banker Magazine's Best Banks to Work For list is a great honor for Savings Bank of Walpole," says Mark Bodin, president of Savings Bank of Walpole. "It takes teamwork, and the results rely heavily on staff participation and engagement. It really is a testament to our culture here at SBW, and I'm extremely proud to be the president of this great bank."

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# The Celebration Of Winter

The celebration and gratefulness of the winter solstice is such a good entry into the hardest season for a gardener, at least for this gardener. But it is also a good time to sit by the fire and reflect on our garden accomplishments, a time of repose.

I used to dread the dark days of winter. I especially don't care for the cold, being a true summer girl, but with the solstice, the days slowly inch towards brightness and warmth. Now, I celebrate winter. It is time to drop the shades to keep the darkness at bay, to light some candles, and sit by the fire and catch up on my reading. My garden journal keeping, seed catalog perusing, and all those other winter delights I refer to as my armchair gardening.

I still wander the gardens each day. I especially love it early in the morning between farm chores and the morning dog walk when the standing grasses, seed heads, and leaves are covered in sparkly frost, and seeing the early birds enjoying the seed heads of the echinacea, and the fruit of the crabapples that have been softened by the cold and are now a yummy treat.



**Woods and Gardens**  
with Allison Kerwin

Not knowing what we are going to have for snow-fall this winter, I will stash a couple of bags of fallen leaves and boughs from gathered Christmas trees before they get fed to the goats as their winter treat. These I will use if we don't get enough snow cover to protect the plants. So if we don't get enough snow by the New Year, out come the bags of leaves that will be spread over the crowns of the plants and held in place by the tree boughs. In the spring, the branches will be removed, and if the leaves haven't broken down, will be used as mulch around the plant. A win-win for the garden. Winter protection and early, easy mulching with goodness.

My winter reading list includes a new book by Jinny Blom, *What Makes a Garden*; re-reading *The Land Gardeners* by Bridget Elworthy, and, hopefully, Monty Don's new *The Gardening Book*. By the time I get through these tomes it will be time to get serious about seed ordering.

Seed ordering is one of my favorite winter pastimes. Oh, the tricks of the seed companies to send out their colorful catalogs full of enticing vegetables, flowers, and herbs when we are at our lowest ebb, so desperately needing scent, flavor and everything else towards the end of winter. Oh, this is a dangerous time, with catalogs full of tantalizing growing delights, and when we look at the snow-covered gardens the possibilities are endless and so easy. With the click of the button, the shopping cart is full of seeds and plants. Oh, those seed companies are wily.

Enjoy and embrace winter. As a gardener, it is my time to rest and recover, catch up on reading books and catalogs, and walk the gardens. Before you know, it will be February, the light improves, and at least I can begin seeding.

I won't be writing again until the New Year. So from my gardens to your gardens, have a safe and

## National Poll Identifies Hancock As Top 150 Underrated Winter Family Destinations

Many travelers are drawn to popular spots like Aspen's famous ski slopes, Hawaii's sun-drenched shores, or the mesmerizing Northern Lights in Fairbanks, Alaska. Yet, America's vast expanse is brimming with lesser-known wonders. These hidden gems often remain unnoticed, overshadowed by the allure of iconic destinations or waiting to be uncovered by the masses.

"Travel isn't just about visiting the popular spots; it's about discovering the hidden corners that capture the essence of a place. These underrated winter destinations remind us that every state, every town, has its unique story waiting to be experienced," says Rose Ackermann of FamilyDestinationsGuide.com.

Locally, the town of Hancock has been identified as a hidden gem for winter family vacations. This quintessential New England village transforms into a picturesque winter wonderland during the colder months. Families can enjoy activities like ice skating on Norway Pond, cross-country skiing on pristine trails, and cozy horse-drawn sleigh rides through the snow-covered countryside.

## Ring In The New Year Party In Richmond

On Sunday, December 31st from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Richmond Public Library will host a Ring in the New Year party with ringing the year in at noon.

This family fun-filled party includes games and snacks. The group will take turns ringing the library's school bell to usher in 2024.

happy holiday season. May you get everything on your gardening wish list. I thank you for being loyal readers of my missives. Until next year.

Allison Kerwin is the owner of *The Enchanted Garden*, a garden design and maintenance company based in Hancock.



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## STOCK WATCH

Listings At Close of Market December 15, 2023 • Courtesy of RBC Wealth Management  
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|                                 | Close  | Week's Change |                                  | Close  | Week's Change |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------------|----------------------------------|--------|---------------|
| Honeywell (Allied Signal)       | 203.40 | 8.79          | Danaher Corp. (Kollmorgen)       | 227.23 | 9.74          |
| Becton Dickinson (C.R. Bard)    | 237.01 | 4.71          | Merck (Hubbard Farms)            | 105.11 | 1.36          |
| Toronto Dominion Bank (TD Bank) | 62.40  | 2.78          | Deluxe (NEBS)                    | 19.46  | 1.03          |
| PC Connection                   | 67.45  | 2.24          | Teleflex (Jaffrey)               | 254.58 | 7.16          |
| Bank Of America (Fleet)         | 33.60  | 2.64          | Timken (MPB Corp.)               | 79.40  | 5.19          |
| Corning Inc.                    | 30.46  | 1.35          | M&T Bank Corp. (People's United) | 142.76 | 10.11         |
| Ametek, Inc. (Precitech)        | 163.13 | 5.97          | Dover Corp. (Markem)             | 152.50 | 8.88          |

| PRECIOUS METALS         | Close   | Week's Change | COMMODITIES                 | Close    | Week's Change |
|-------------------------|---------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Silver (\$ per ounce)   | 24.47   | 0.34          | Wheat (cents per bushel)    | 629.50   | -2.75         |
| Gold (\$ per ounce)     | 2033.80 | 14.40         | Corn (cents per bushel)     | 482.50   | -4.25         |
| Platinum (\$ per ounce) | 966.40  | 54.10         | Soybeans (cents per bushel) | 1,332.50 | 26.25         |
|                         |         |               | Cattle (cents per pound)    | 167.75   | 5.27          |
|                         |         |               | Crude (\$ per barrel)       | 71.78    | 0.45          |

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# A Budget Holiday

Inflation has not lessened its squeeze on the economy. Food prices are up, as are, of course, interest rates, rent, and heat. Folks everywhere are looking to make space in their budgets.

We've got you covered! Here is a brief list of ideas to keep your gift budget low and your home warm and comfortable during the holidays.

Buy a tree from a local charity and decorate it that day. Usually local factions of the Masons or Rotary club will sell trees at lower prices so everyone can enjoy the holiday. Bring hot chocolates and make it a fun tradition by playing holiday music and games on the way!

Craft fairs are having their seasonal bonanza. Finding unique gifts for Hanukkah at the craft fair is a great way to make memories during the holiday.

Go shopping with a friend who you trust to hold you accountable in your budget.

Keep an eye out for local art events. Similar to craft fairs, but usually put on by the town, supporting local artists is a fantastic way to up your gifting game this year.

Consignment shops offer handpicked quality at discount prices. New Hampshire has so many uncommonly good secondhand stores. Plan a day trip to visit a new one out of town, bring a friend or family. Have a winter adventure!

Make cranberry juice or pickles or ginger beer and give it away as gifts. Make sure to taste it first and have a backup plan when giving away food. There are tons of recipes online, but be aware of food safety requirements and test what you give away.

If you're really feeling adventurous, plan a swap with friends!

Take cuttings of your plants and repot them into tiny pots to give away as gifts. I love to do this with hydroponic plants, too. A pretty bottle or one with a memory attached (like a great bottle of wine you shared) makes a holder for a hardy plant like pothos.

## Economy and You

with Amie Spicer



Sourdough starter is also a trendy gift for your foodie friends. It's extremely easy to make: A heaping spoonful of yeast added to equal parts water and flour makes the divine flavor of sourdough pop. Be aware, this gift does take some care: It cannot survive outside the fridge. Also, a starter must be fed regularly or it will die off.

Fiber craft gifts are not considered low budget unless you're specifically using yarn from an existing stash or a recycled resource. But the versatility of this gift option still puts it on the list. T-shirt yarns are very popular and versatile and can be made from, you guessed it, old shirts. Bedsheets, denim straps, even old plastic bags can become yarn. Using your time and care to craft a personal gift, especially if it's from reused materials, is an excellent way to stay in budget this year.

This list is far from exhaustive. There are so many ways to share joy this season. Especially in times like these, our local community is what sustains us. As we begin a new year, I want to give thanks for all the effort and support our readers and sustainers show. Thank you. Have a great holiday season.

*Amie Spicer moved to the Monadnock area seven years ago from Denver, CO. Before the pandemic, they ran the community supper at All Saints' Church in Peterborough and created the community supper master list, a statewide data base of local free food resources. They love being active within the local community and taking long drives into the mountains. They are also a long-time performance artist with an emphasis in the circus arts.*

**New Year's Goal:**  
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## New Hampshire Farm Future Fund Recipients

The 2023 recipients of the New Hampshire Farm Future Fund by the 10 New Hampshire Conservation Districts include the Monadnock Conservancy with Five Sigma Farm in Sullivan and Horizon Farm in Bennington.

The mission of the New Hampshire Farm Future Fund is to provide funding for farm viability planning in concert with the conservation of important agricultural soils. This program enables the opportunity to place a conservation easement on important farmland and to invest in the future viability of the farm business. The ultimate goal is to ensure that farmland is conserved, productive, and available for future generations.

For more details about the New Hampshire Farm Future Fund, visit [www.cheshireconservation.org/nhff](http://www.cheshireconservation.org/nhff).

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**Happy Holidays**

Here's to all good things this holiday season.

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# Beekeeping 101



Common Eastern Bumblebee gathering pollen on Goldenrod in Keene. John Therriault took this picture in October.

What does being green mean? I did an internet search today and, without asking, a Bing artificial intelligence engine gave me an answer culled from multiple sources on the internet. It was surprisingly concise. The AI engine told me being Green is "committed to minimizing the impact of human activities on the environment, respecting natural resources and other living creatures." Wow.

I then asked the AI about green habits. It gave me five major points: 1. Avoid buying plastic bottles, 2. Recycle, 3. Plant a tree, 4. Save water, and 5. Save energy. I think over the last three years I have covered each of these points. With the new year about to start, consider one of these five items as a potential resolution for 2024. I am resolved to plant a Linden tree in the spring. The American Linden, or boxwood, is a great source of nectar for our native pollinators.

Thomas Fuller said, "he that plants trees loves others beside himself."

If you are considering becoming a beekeeper either this spring or in 2025, it is time to start preparing. Beekeeping is a hobby I have done for the last seven years and it is intoxicating. To watch the bees work together to build the comb, raise the babies, gather the nectar, pollen, water, and propolis, and finally cure and cap the honey, is humbling. Here are the steps you should take if you have an interest:

## Green Monadnock

with John Therriault



Read a book on beekeeping. The text I often refer to is *Beekeeping for Dummies*. It has great pictures and clear descriptions. You can buy it at most booksellers or borrow it from the library.

Sign up for a class. The Monadnock Beekeepers Association (MBA) holds an introductory class every February. This is taught by a highly experienced local beekeeper and focuses on bee biology, behavior, and common tasks. You can sign up for this class at [www.monadnockbeekeepers.com/education](http://www.monadnockbeekeepers.com/education). The MBA will provide package bees that students who complete the course can buy.

Find a local beekeeper and pick their brains. All beekeeping is local. The tips and tricks that work in Virginia will be of little use in helping your colonies to survive Monadnock winters. This person can also become your mentor for your first season. A mentor is a sounding board for your questions and observations and can provide guidance on time critical actions.

GREEN, page 10

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# Best Friends For 52 Years

Soul mates? I really do not know. But I have always felt that my husband and I were best friends. We grew to be best friends quickly, as we got married 10 weeks after we met. Soon after getting married, we found ourselves on a remote island in the South Pacific living in a Polynesian culture, speaking a different language. We spent almost all our time together for the first three years of our marriage, be it with the locals or just the two of us.

Now after 52 years of being best friends, it feels that we are strongly and karmically linked. In the last five years, both of us have had serious medical situations. His was/is heart, mine was/is cancer. The parallels of our medical events are what my mom would call "uncanny."

My husband had a massive heart attack, an unusual kind. Once he was helicoptered to Worcester, they said he had a five percent chance of surviving. They added that if he did survive, his heart should be good. He was in ICU for three weeks, most of that time in a coma and on full life support. His brother and sister came from Illinois to see him alive for the last time, even though he was in a coma. When his sister walked into the room, that was the moment that his heart began to beat again on its own. Karmic connection? My husband luckily survived. And his heart is functioning to full capacity. It is truly a miracle.



My husband broke his tooth first. I followed breaking the mirror tooth. Karmic destiny?

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**Healing Perspectives**  
with Josephine Russell

Fast forward three years. I was diagnosed with a rare (100th of one percent) form of cancer. The first parallel to my husband's heart event: We both had a rare diagnosis, his a rare heart attack and mine a rare cancer. My diagnosis was that I had one, maybe two, years to live. The second parallel: Neither of us had much of a chance to survive our medical diagnoses. He had a five percent chance of surviving. I had a year to live. Today I am alive and at the moment cancer free. A third parallel. We have both not only survived but today we are both in good health.

There are more parallels. My husband was taken to a hospital with some of the best heart doctors in the world. I got my treatment at Dana Farber, the leading experts in my kind of cancer in the world. I believe that if we had not gotten the care that we got, neither of us would be alive today. One more parallel to happily share. We both surprised even the doctors!

I have one more uncanny parallel to share. The nurses/doctors kept saying how "healthy" we were. In my mind was, "Yes, but I have cancer, that does not sound very healthy." But by "healthy," they meant that we had no other existing conditions. Neither of us. Neither of us were on medication for anything. We both discovered that if you are to have a very serious health event, that it is far better to be "healthy" going into the event if you wish to survive.

Today my husband and I are both grateful and I mean grateful to be alive and enjoying life. Daily we are grateful for each other, our best friend.

Here is the last parallel. Our health events changed our lives in positive ways. My husband appreciates me more than ever (I had to add this – ha

ha) and I him. My husband has taken on the part-time care of our nearby grandson when our daughter is working or needs time for herself. Also, he is on a spiritual search as never before, asking some of the most profound questions that we ask ourselves about life, meaning, and purpose. For me, I cherish each day as never before. Each day is truly my whole life. Also, I have a stronger conviction and desire to serve our community at large. For me that is through the modality of my path, which is yoga.

Between the time of my husband's heart event and my diagnosis of cancer, we bought the old Red Cross building on Court Street. We renovated and repurposed the building to provide services for healthy living. We are both great believers in taking good care of yourself in whatever form that takes. We both believe in giving back to our community. Service to others gives us great joy at this time in our lives.

Many of our friends who know our journey say, "You two are both walking miracles."

To end with humor, look at the photo. Our Halloween smiles. My husband broke his tooth first. I followed breaking the mirror tooth. Karmic destiny? Soul mates? Simply a coincidence?

Cheers to your good health in 2024. Never underestimate the value of good health. One of our yoga sayings is: "Health is Wealth."

Josephine Russell has been traveling around this amazing earth since the 60s. It was during her early travels abroad that she took her first yoga class while on a slow boat to India. Josephine has been on the path of yoga since that time. She is owner of Aloha Keene, a Healthy Living Center, at 83 Court Street. You can contact her at josephine@alohakeene.com.

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## Beekeeping 101

GREEN, Continued from page 9

Decide what type of hives you will keep. The most common hives are Langstroth style hives. There are also several types of hives to minimize lifting including horizontal and Slovenian hives.

Gather your equipment. First and foremost, you will need an electric fence to prevent bears rampaging through your apiary. The damage a bear can do to a beehive is terrible. Then assemble the wooden ware, boxes/frames/etc. that your first colonies will need. You also need a bee suit or jacket, gloves, hive tools, and a smoker. Be cautious about used equipment unless you know the beekeeper that used the equipment and they are free of disease spores.

Lay out your apiary once the snow melts. A south or south-east exposure with morning sun and afternoon shade is best. Doing this before the bees arrive is great because it is easy to move things around when the hives are empty. Speaking from experience, moving an occupied hive is much more difficult.

Farewell

I have had the privilege of writing this column for the last three years. I want to thank you for the positive feedback I have gotten from readers. It is time for me to move on. I find that I am covering topics again and again with little new to add. I say goodbye with a light heart and best wishes for you and yours to have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

John Therriault has lived in the region for 10 years. He is a beekeeper with hives in Keene, Surry, and Roxbury; the past president of the Monadnock Beekeepers' Association; and an alternate member of the Keene Conservation Commission. During the summer he collects swarms and relocates honeybee colonies from buildings and fallen trees. He also talks about pollinators in local schools.

# Busy-Day Dinners For a Holiday Season

On the night before Christmas wherever you'd look  
 All the family was busy – with no time to cook.  
 There were presents for wrapping and stockings to make  
 Plus church service and carols, no time to bake.  
 Yet 'ere all the household was tucked into bed,  
 A Christmas Eve dinner they had to be fed.  
 So off to the kitchen we hastened away  
 to leaf through our files without delay.  
 What there to our wondering eyes should appear  
 but quick-cooking ideas, both easy and clear.  
 There were casseroles and meats made with ease;  
 add only a salad and breads to please.  
 These simple ideas we hope will delight,  
 wishing Merry Christmas to all, down to the last bite.  
 –adapted from a 1982 Gourmet Magazine article



## Squash-Sausage Puff

This soufflé is a special addition to nearly any buffet or dinner table. The recipe may be increased if necessary, or make two. Everything for this dish can be prepared a day in advance (don't bake it yet) and refrigerated, except for folding in the egg whites. Several hours before you are ready to serve the puff, bring the ingredients to room temperature. Then, fold in egg whites and bake as directed. Makes four to six servings.

**Ingredients:**  
 2 cups hot mashed butternut squash  
 3 eggs, separated  
 1/4 cup flour  
 1/4 cup minced fresh parsley leaves  
 2 tablespoons butter, melted  
 2 teaspoons finely chopped onion  
 2 teaspoons lemon juice  
 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme  
 salt and pepper to taste  
 1/2 lb. bulk pork sausage, cooked and well-drained  
 fresh thyme, optional

In a bowl, combine squash, egg yolks, flour, parsley, butter, onion, lemon juice, thyme, salt, and pepper; mix well. Stir in sausage. Cool for 10 minutes. In medium mixing bowl, beat egg whites until stiff peaks form; fold into squash mixture. Pour into greased and floured two-quart baking dish. Bake, uncovered at 375 degrees for 45 to 50 minutes, or until a knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Garnish with thyme if desired; serve immediately.

## Moroccan Lamb Stew

A simple stew that's enhanced by the flavor of curry and fruit. If you're not partial to lamb, substitute beef or pork cubes. Make a day ahead and refrigerate. Serves four.

**Ingredients:**  
 1 lb. lean lamb, trimmed of fat and cut into one-inch cubes  
 1 tablespoon flour  
 3 teaspoons curry powder  
 2 cups dry red wine  
 1 (16-ounce) can stewed tomatoes, drained  
 1 1/2 cups frozen cauliflower, snap peas, and carrots (from 16-ounce pkg.)  
 1/4 cup chopped dried apricots

Sauté lamb in large saucepan coated with one tablespoon olive oil or nonstick cooking spray. Brown on all sides, stirring frequently. Add flour and curry powder; mix well. Cook two minutes, stirring constantly. Gradually add wine, stirring constantly. Cook five to eight minutes, until bubbling and slightly thickened. Add tomatoes, vegetables, and apricots. Bring to boil; reduce heat. Cover and simmer 15 minutes, or until vegetables are tender and lamb is no longer pink.

## Pasta with Broccoli and Feta

A favorite vegetarian dish that's a good edition to a buffet table. Or serve it for a simple supper, along with a mixed greens or fruit salad. Makes four to six servings.

**Ingredients:**  
 1 1/2 cups orzo or other rice-shaped pasta  
 1 bunch broccoli (about 1 lb.), cut into florets  
 1/4 cup olive oil  
 3 tablespoons pine nuts (substitute chopped walnuts or hazelnuts)  
 1/2 teaspoon crushed dried red pepper  
 3/4 cup crumbled feta cheese (about 3 1/2 oz.)  
 3/4 cup black brine-cured olives, pitted and halved (like Kalamata)  
 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese  
 1/4 cup chopped fresh basil  
 salt and pepper to taste

Cook orzo in boiling water about eight minutes. Add broccoli and cook until crisp-tender, about two minutes. Meanwhile, heat oil in skillet over medium heat. Add pine nuts and stir until golden brown, about three minutes. Add crushed red pepper and stir until aromatic about 30 seconds. Remove mixture from heat. Drain pasta and broccoli. Transfer to large bowl. Pour oil mixture over and toss to coat. Add feta, olives, Parmesan, and basil. Toss to coat; add salt and pepper.

## Ham-Cheese Omelet Roll

Cut into slices, a platter of these pretty swirls will disappear fast. If desired, this can be prepared one day in advance and reheated in a low oven, covered with foil, but save out the final 1/4 cup of cheese to sprinkle on top when you reheat it, rather than using it during the initial baking step. Makes 10 to 12 servings.

**Ingredients:**  
 4 ounces cream cheese, softened  
 3/4 cup milk  
 2 tablespoons flour  
 salt to taste  
 12 eggs  
 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard  
 2 1/4 cups shredded cheddar or Swiss cheese, divided  
 2 cups finely chopped cooked ham  
 1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions

Line bottom and sides of a greased 15x10x1-inch jelly roll pan with parchment paper; grease paper lightly and set aside. In medium mixing bowl, beat cream cheese and milk until smooth. Add flour and salt; mix until combined. In large mixing bowl, beat eggs until blended. Add cream cheese mixture; mix well. Pour into prepared pan. Bake in preheated 375 degree oven 30 to 35 minutes, or until eggs are puffed and set. Remove from oven and immediately spread with mustard and sprinkle with one cup of the cheese. Sprinkle with ham and onions and one cup more of the cheese. Roll up from short end, peeling parchment paper away while rolling. Sprinkle top of roll with remaining cheese and bake three to four minutes longer or until cheese is melted.

*Nancy Adams is a native of Peterborough and resides in Hancock. She and her husband, Bud, have raised four sons. She has been featured as one of Yankee Magazine's great New England cooks. Nancy welcomes suggestions – send them to: Nancy P. Adams, 22 Birch Road, Hancock, NH 03449.*

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# ENTERTAINMENT

and DINING

## Putney Library Exhibits Still Life, Watercolors By Alice Freeman



By Alice Freeman

Still Life, a series of recent watercolors by Alice Freeman is on exhibit at The Putney Public Library until March 2nd.

"For me painting is all about color and the joy it produces: in the doing of it and in the looking at it," Freeman says. "Watercolor is my preferred medium because of its unexpected quality and the knowledge that I never have complete control over it. Much of the magic happens on the paper after the brush has been lifted. I am attracted to brightness and intensity, while at the same time enjoying delicacy and detail. Watercolor has it all."

Freeman moved to East Putney in 1972. She started painting in watercolor almost immediately. She has studied painting with Naoto Nakagawa, David Rohn, and most recently with Lynn Zimmerman.

Freeman has exhibited at The Stratton Arts Festival, VT; the West Village

Meetinghouse, Brattleboro, VT; the AVA Gallery, Lebanon, NH and at Art on the Mountain, Wilmington, VT. Her work is in several private collections.

In the 1990s Freeman took a lengthy detour into furniture painting and teaching, and in the first 15 years of the 21st century she designed and made quilts, an art she still enjoys. Several years before the pandemic, Freeman's love of painting in watercolors returned. The paintings in this exhibition are a sampling of her watercolors since then.

Alice Freeman and her husband, author Castle Freeman Jr., have lived in Newfane, VT since 1975, together with many long-haired Dachshunds.

Putney Public Library is located at 55 Main Street in Putney, VT. This art show, like all library programs, is free and open to the public.

## Earth Colony Presents Pachamama Music Video Premiere And Party

On Friday, December 29th at 7 p.m., Nova Arts on Emerald Street in Keene will be hosting a special event, the release of Earth Colony's new music video for their song *Pachamama*.

The evening will feature intimate performances by a variety of local musicians and will conclude with a screening of the video. Directed by Jeff Kolter and Earth Colony's Tod Born, the *Pachamama* video is dedicated to the magic and beauty of the planet. The video premiere is free and open to the public.

For more details, contact [todborn@gmail.com](mailto:todborn@gmail.com).

## Avenue A Teen Writers Display Poems At The Peterborough Library

The Peterborough Town Library is hosting an exhibition of poems by Avenue A Teen and Community Center's Write Out! program titled: Silent Discussions with Strangers and Friends.

The exhibition will be on view in the Community Art Gallery at PTL until the end of January.

The exhibit features 20 poems interspersed with mirrors hanging on the walls. The mirrors allow the reader to catch a glimpse of themselves while they read the poem. Each writer posed a question at the bottom of their poem asking the reader to think about how they might respond, thereby creating a conversation between the writer and the reader.

"Avenue A has created a crucial community resource for our region's teens and the library is thankful to have opportunities to partner with them and be another location for their amazing programs. The teen writers featured in this exhibit have done a fantastic job sharing their work and I encourage the community to take a moment to visit and interact with their words," said Public Services Librarian Aimee LaRue.

For more details on Avenue A Teen and Community Center, visit [avenueatc.org](http://avenueatc.org).

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

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We would like to thank you and everyone else in our wonderful community for spending another enchanting year with us. We hope your holidays are enjoyed by the fireside, with excellent company and your favorite books.



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**Christmas Candlelight Service In Munsonville**

The Chapel by the Lake at 529 Granite Lake Road in Munsonville will have its Christmas Candlelight Service on Saturday, December 23rd at 7 p.m. with Pastor Thom Demers. Refreshments will follow.

**Blue Christmas Service At St. James Church**

The holiday season can sometimes be one of the most challenging and blue times of year. If you're feeling less than festive this year, but at the same time are thirsty for a word of hope, come to St. James Church at 44 West Street in Keene on Wednesday, December 21st at 7 p.m. for the annual Blue Christmas Service.

Come together with others to take a pause to find the power of God's presence in the darkness during a quiet time of prayer, reflection, and candlelight.

For more details, call 603-352-1019 or visit www.stjameskeene.com.

**Wednesday, Dec. 20**

**ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER**

**Monadnock Storytelling & Spoken Word Circle** 6:30-8:30pm. DubHub, 1123 Main St., Dublin. Sebastian Lockwood & Papa Joe Gaudet. info@dublincommunitycenter.org.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Home Healthcare Hospice & Community Services: Walk-in Wednesdays** 1-3pm. HCS Charlestown, 33 Arborway. Confidential, free of charge discussion of services that are available. 603-352-2253. www.HCSservices.org.  
**Red Cross Blood Drive** 12-5pm. Jaffrey Bible Church, 133 Turnpike Rd. 800-733-2767. www.redcrossblood.org.

**RELIGIOUS**

**Blue Christmas** 7pm. St. James Episcopal Church, 44 West St., Keene. If you are grieving a loved one, a job loss or dealing with any kind of loss, find the power of God's presence during a quiet time of prayer, reflection and candlelight. 603-352-1019. www.stjameskeene.com.

**Thursday, Dec. 21**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Solstice Candle-Lighting** Keene Senior Center, 70 Court St. Honor the important people in your life. Dedicate a candle online or at the Center. \$5 each. 603-352-5037. www.thekeeneseniorcenter.org.

**Longest Night Candlelight Memorial** 5:30pm. United Church of Christ, Central Square, Keene. A candlelight memorial to honor and remember those who died in the last year after experiencing homelessness will be held on the winter solstice, the longest night of the year.

**Zumba Gold** 10:45-11:45am. Keene Parks & Recreation Center, 312 Washington St. Aerobic dance exercise program for seniors and beginners using holiday songs as well as latin and pop music in a friendly, noncompetitive environment. Tuesdays and Thursdays through Dec. 28th. 603-357-9829.

**Friday, Dec. 22**

**ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER**

**Christmas Carols & Holiday Songs** 6-7pm. Westmoreland Park Hill Meeting House, 1 Park Hill Common Road, Westmoreland. Celebrate the warmth of the season and sing favorite Christmas Carols and Holiday songs. Dress warmly and stay for refreshments afterwards.

**RELIGIOUS**

**Celebrate the Miracle of Christmas: Open Table Supper & Informal Worship** 6pm. The United Church of Winchester, 99 Main St.

**Saturday, Dec. 23**

**RELIGIOUS**

**Christmas Candlelight Service** 7pm. The Chapel by the Lake, 529 Granite Lake Rd., Munsonville. All are welcome. Refreshments to follow.

**Sunday, Dec. 24**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Yoga** 4:30-6pm. Aloha

Keene, 83 Court St. A holiday tradition. \$20. Register at 603-762-3129. www.vagaro.com/alohakeene.

**RELIGIOUS**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** 6pm. Advent Lutheran Church, 137 US Rt. 202, Rindge. 603-899-3095. www.adventlutheranchurch.org.

**Christmas Eve Service** 6pm. Westport Church, 109 Westport Village Rd., Swanzey. All are welcome.

**Celebrate the Miracle of Christmas: Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols** 7pm. The United Church of Winchester, 99 Main St.

**Christmas Eve Service: "Saviors, Shepherds and Stars"** 7pm. Keene Unitarian Universalist Church, 69 Washington St. For more details visit website. www.kuuc.org.

**Celebrate the Miracle of Christmas: Service of Prayer & Reflection** 10-10:30am. The United Church of Winchester, 99 Main St.

**Monday, Dec. 25**

**RELIGIOUS**

**Annual Wassail** 6pm. Keene Unitarian Universalist Church, 69 Washington St. For more details visit website. www.kuuc.org.

**Tuesday, Dec. 26**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Blood Drive** 12-5pm. Courtyard by Marriott, 75 Railroad St., Keene. To make appointment call 800-733-2767. www.redcrossblood.org.

**Wednesday, Dec. 27**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Home Healthcare Hospice & Community Services: Walk-in Wednesdays** 1-3pm. HCS Peterborough, 9 Vose Farm Rd. Confidential, free of charge discussion of services that are available. 603-352-2253. www.HCSservices.org.

**Friday, Dec. 29**

**ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER**

**Friday Night Classics: The Polar Express** 3pm. The Colonial Theatre, 95 Main St., Keene. 603-352-2033. www.thecolonial.org.

**Earth Colony Presents: Pachamama** 7pm. Nova Arts, Emerald St., Keene. Music video premiere & party. Intimate performances by a variety of local musicians and will conclude with a screening of the video. Free and open to the public. todborn@gmail.com.

**Saturday, Dec. 30**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Blood Drive** 9am-1:30pm. Dublin Community Center, 1123 Main St., Dublin. To make an appointment call 800-733-2767. www.redcrossblood.org.

**Walk-in Soothing Stones** 11am-2pm. Terrapin Glassblowing Studio, 79 Hadley Rd., Jaffrey. 603-593-5073. www.terrapinglass.com.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**  
 from HANNAFORD'S SUPERMARKETS

December 24, 2023  
 Quincey Holden, son of Caitlin Evans & Dylan Holden, Keene, 7

December 25, 2023  
 Braxton Latiolais, son of Shanna Latiolais & Ryan Bragg, Keene, 6

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Braxton Latiolais, Keene, 6  
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PRINT OR TYPE CLEARLY

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 AGE\* \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 PARENTS' NAME (S) \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\*Age child will be on this birthday.

Submit your Birthday Kids' entry online at:  
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### CAUTION

READERS ARE CAUTIONED that we occasionally run ads that require an initial investment or money in advance. We urge our readers to "do their homework" before responding to any ad. Check out the advertiser thoroughly and verify their claims to your total satisfaction. Only then should you proceed at your own risk. We try to screen ads that require you to send money before receiving a product or service. But these efforts are no substitute for your own investigation, and we don't endorse or guarantee any claims made in any of the ads we publish. If you want more information about claims made in ads on subjects such as work at home opportunities, travel or vacation specials, purchasing land or vehicles from government surplus or below wholesale, loans or other credit opportunities (including credit repair), or weight loss and other health products and services, we urge you to contact the Better Business Bureau, Inc., 25 Hall St., Suite 102, Concord, NH 03301; (603) 224-1991; or bbbnh.org; or the Office of Attorney General, Consumer Protection and Antitrust Bureau, 33 Capitol Street, Concord, NH 03301 (603-271-3641).

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We wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year!

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**Windham Solid Waste Management District Is Hiring!**  
 WSWMD is seeking to fill the position of **Programs Manager**, who designs, implements, & manages programs for solid & hazardous waste management & education for the Windham Solid Waste Management District & its member towns. This is a full-time position with competitive pay & 100% benefits after 90 days.  
 The job description & application are available at [www.windhamsolidwaste.org](http://www.windhamsolidwaste.org) or via email to [admin@windhamsolidwaste.org](mailto:admin@windhamsolidwaste.org).  
 WSWMD is an equal-opportunity employer.

**NOW HIRING**

**Tucker Transportation**  
**Seeking part-time minivan school bus drivers**  
 25-30 hours per week, paid holidays and sick days.  
 Clean driving/criminal record required.  
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**Windham Solid Waste Management District** is now accepting applications for a **FULL-TIME TRANSFER STATION WORKER** to begin work in January, including some Saturdays. This is a permanent, full-time position offering full benefits. Job description & application are available at [windhamsolidwaste.org](http://windhamsolidwaste.org) or at the office, 327 Old Ferry Rd, Brattleboro. WSWMD is an equal-opportunity employer.

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**Adult Foster Care Home Care Provider**  
 Looking for a nurturing, compassionate Female who enjoys socializing and being out in the community. In your home.  
 Established Day Program Monday - Friday

- **Competitive Stipend**
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**Direct Support Professionals**  
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- Extensive training provided
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- Benefits for Full Time

Contact Rob Gillis at (603) 924-3326  
 Or email [rob@mworksource.org](mailto:rob@mworksource.org)

**health & wellness 2024**

To kick off the new year, The Monadnock Shopper will feature a special Health & Wellness Section through the month of January!  
 We will feature pet health in this section as well!

**January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>**  
 Deadlines the preceding Thursday at 4 pm  
 For further info, please call 603-352-5250.

**HIRING AT KEENEY HOLDINGS, LLC.**

**WALK-IN WEDNESDAYS**

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The events will include on-site interviews, facility tours and online application assistance. Let us know you are interested! Please contact [recruiting@oatey.com](mailto:recruiting@oatey.com) for more details.  
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