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Meeting The Needs For Mini-Split



James Mayer, owner of Unity Heat Pumps, is pictured working on a recent residential installation. “We put time and care into each customer’s install to build our business and to make our world a better place,” he says.

By Lori Catozzi Cook

There are many advantages to installing a mini-split heating and cooling system in your home or business. Mini-splits are ductless, so energy loss is avoided, unlike systems with ductwork. They are also small, easy to install, have the capabilities for zoning individual spaces, and most importantly, they reduce pollution.

“Heat pumps are a new wave of technology in the United States that emit no exhaust air pollution as older furnaces do,” says James Mayer, owner of Unity Heat Pumps. “They are also much lower cost to operate than any other heating or cooling source (with maybe the exception of wood).”

UNITY, page 9

Tickets On Sale For Broadway’s Next Hit Musical At The Colonial Theatre – Improvisation At Its Best

The hilarious Broadway’s Next Hit Musical presents “The Phony Awards” at The Colonial Theatre at 95 Main Street in Keene on Saturday, April 6th at 8 p.m.

This unscripted theatrical awards show includes master improvisers who gather made-up hit song suggestions from the audience and create a spontaneous evening of music, humor, and laughter. The

audience votes for its favorite song and watches as the cast turns it into a full-blown improvised musical – complete with memorable characters, witty dialogue, and plot twists galore.

Every song is fresh. Every scene is new. Every night is different. It’s all improvised and it’s all funny.

For more details or tickets, call 603-352-2033 or visit www.thecolonial.org.

Community Supported Agriculture CSA Fair Hosted By The Monadnock Food Co-op

The Monadnock Food Co-op at 34 Cypress Street in Keene will host a Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) Fair on Sunday, March 10th from 2 to 5 p.m. in the co-op meeting rooms.

The CSA Fair will include Frank Hunter and Kim Peavey of Hillside Springs Farm, Stonewall Farm, Craig and Megan Jensen of Sun Moon Farm, Abenaki Springs Farm, Jack Rixey of Dog Days Farm (formerly Tracie’s Community Farm), Milkweed Farm, Nubi River Farm, and Mountain Foot Farm.

Each local CSA farm is unique, but they all offer “shares” of locally grown food to community members. There are variations in price, share size, distribution, and payment plans. Some CSA farms concentrate on vegetable production, while others provide eggs, meat, flowers, berries, and other local products. This is an important way to support local farmers and their families as it aids in offsetting many of the costs early in the season.

33rd Annual Keene Art Walk Call For Artists

The 33rd annual Keene ArtWalk will take place from May 31st through June 9th throughout downtown Keene. This popular annual event is a great opportunity for Monadnock Region artists to promote their art in public places by creating a gallery of art in storefront windows. This event is for all mediums; the jury will give priority to emerging artists and artists who are new to Keene ArtWalk.

Submit applications online at www.Entrythingy.com. Artists must be over 18 to apply. Younger

students need to be part of a school submission. The entry deadline is Friday, April 5th. There is a non-refundable \$38 entry fee. The fee will be waived for college students.

Also, for the second year, ArtWalk is accepting up to five entrants as “visiting artists” who reside outside of the Monadnock Region.

For more details, email Molly Fletcher at keeneartwalk@gmail.com.

Classical Paintings By Caleb Massin Exhibit In Dublin

For the month of March, the Dublin Community Center will feature classical paintings by Caleb Massin of Fitzwilliam. His works will be on display and available for purchase during open hours or by appointment. All are welcome to come meet Massin at a reception on Friday, March 8th from 5 to 7 p.m.

Having studied art at the Putney School, Bard College at Simon’s Rock, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and the Hoffberger School of Painting at the Maryland College of Art, Massin worked several years in the film industry as a scenic artist, working on the films *Twelve Years a Slave* and *Beautiful Creatures*, and the television shows, *Prison Break*, *Good Guys*, and *Dallas*.

He moved back to the area in 2013 and began to explore an interest in classical painting at the Pulido Studio in Hancock. These days, he runs Massin Painters, a commercial plastering and painting business as well as taking private portrait commissions. “The work in the show reflects my lifelong desire to create beauty,” Massin said.

PAINTINGS, page 10

Caleb Massin is shown with his artwork.



Woodard’s Open Sugar House Weekends Set

Woodard’s Sugar House in Surry will hold Open Sugar Houses on weekends from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Open houses will be held March 9th and 10th, 16th and 17th, 23rd and 24th, and 30th and 31st.

The sugar house is located at 1200 Route 12A. There will be a free raffle, free tours, and free samples will be available.

Woodard’s Sugar House is a small

sugaring operation offering a variety of premium maple products. They are committed to providing exceptional maple products and excellent customer service. The maple products are made by hand to ensure quality and taste. Visitors are always welcome to the sugar house.

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PET OF THE WEEK
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Micah

Hello there! My name is Micah, and I'm a charming 10-year-old mixed breed looking for my forever home. Life threw me a curveball when my beloved owner, who was a longtime supporter of the Monadnock Humane Society, passed away. Now I'm here, ready to embark on a new chapter with a loving family who will cherish me as much as my previous owner did.



Now, I have to admit, I'm not a big fan of other dogs, so I would prefer to be the only furry friend in the household. And as for those mysterious creatures called cats? Let's just say we wouldn't make the best of pals. But don't worry, I'll more than make up for it with my affectionate nature and loyalty.

One of my favorite pastimes is going for walks and exploring the great outdoors. Whether it's a leisurely stroll through the neighborhood or a hike in the countryside, I'm always up for an adventure. And let's not forget about playtime. I absolutely adore chasing after balls and frisbees, and I'll never say no to a good belly rub. If you think I would make a great companion for your home, please come down and visit with me during open hours.

The Adoption Center is located at 101 West Swanzey Road just outside of Keene on Route 10 South. Currently, 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.monadnockhumane.org.

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Collectors Club To Hold Show Saturday, March 9th

The Tri Town Collectors Club will hold its monthly show featuring coins, paper money, vintage sports cards, Pokemon, postcards, and other collectibles on Saturday, March 9th. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Brattleboro Holiday Inn Express.

Many dealers and collectors from the tri-state area have met often for over 20 years with a daylong series of hobby activities that is fun for the whole family.

Besides the usual offerings of coins, currency, stamps, sports cards, comic books, and Pokemon, there will be a special quiz for collectors.

There is no admission charge. Anyone wishing to set up a card table to sell their material may do so by calling Joe Fuller at 802-379-2353, or email at pepsijsoph@yahoo.com.

Community Potluck Supper In Walpole Saturday, March 9th

A Community Potluck Supper will be held at the First Congregational Church at 15 Washington Street in Walpole on Saturday, March 9th at 5 p.m.

Participants should bring a salad, entree, or dessert to share. Donation containers will be set out in support of World Central Kitchen's work in crisis zones around the world.

Keene VFW's St. Patrick's Day Luncheon Sunday, March 17th

The Keene VFW at 459 Winchester Street in Keene will host its annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon on Sunday, March 17th from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is to benefit local veterans and their families.

The menu includes a full course corned beef and cabbage dinner for \$12 or a Reuben sandwich meal for \$10.

Reservations are required for eat-in or take-out by Thursday, March 14th by calling 603-357-0149, texting 603-209-1277, or emailing cjpereault@my-fairpoint.net.

Schedule Update: Ricky Scaggs & Kentucky Thunder At The Colonial Monadnock Region Hears Bluegrass At Its Best

The Monadnock Region is in for a treat when Ricky Scaggs & Kentucky Thunder perform at The Colonial Theatre in Keene on Friday, June 14th at 8 p.m.

Since striking a cord on the mandolin that was given to him at the age of five, Scaggs has dedicated his life to music. Throughout his career he has received 15 Grammy Awards, the National Medal of Arts, and is a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame.

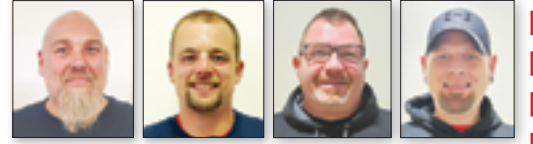
This musician has released 11 #1 country singles and four #1 country

albums. He has also released seven #1 bluegrass albums, including *Brand New Strings*, *Ricky Scaggs & Bruce Hornsby*, *Ricky Scaggs Solo: Songs My Dad Loved*, and *Cluck Ol' Hen LIVE with Bruce Hornsby*, to name a few.

The all-star lineup of Kentucky Thunder includes Russ Carson (banjo), Jake Workman (lead guitar), Dennis Parker (baritone vocals, guitar), Gavin Kelso (bass), Mike Rogers (tenor vocals, rhythm guitar), and Billy Contreras (fiddle).

For more details or tickets, call 603-352-2033 or visit www.thecolonial.org.

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US Air Force Langley Woodwind Quintet At Keene State Wednesday, March 13th



The United States Air Force Langley Woodwind Quintet will perform at Keene State College on Wednesday, March 13th from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The quintet features active-duty military musicians performing modern woodwind compositions and classic favorites. This performance will be held in the Alumni Recital Hall. Tickets are free for this event, but must be reserved to get a seat by calling 603-358-2168.



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Writers And Artists With Ties To New Hampshire Invited To Submit Work

Smoky Quartz, a journal of literature and art, is accepting submissions of prose, poetry, and art for its Spring 2024 online issue through Friday, March 15th. Complete submission guidelines can be found at www.smokyquartz.org/submissions. Those selected for publication will join a distinguished list of prior contributors including past New Hampshire poet laureate Alice Fogel, Pushcart Prize-nominated writer Michael Keshigian, and other award-winning writers and artists including Becky Dennison Sakellariou, Rodger Martin, Eric Pinder, Soosen Dunholter, and Barbara Danzer. *Smoky Quartz*, founded in 2012, is published by the Monadnock Writers' Group. The journal is named after New Hampshire's state gem and promotes writers and artists with ties to the Granite State.

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Third Saturday Supper In Swanzey

A Third Saturday Supper will be held at the First Congregational Church of Swanzey at 679 Old Homestead Highway on March 16th from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The Corned Beef Dinner includes corned beef, potatoes, cabbage, carrots and turnips, Irish soda bread, and a St. Patrick's Day cupcake. The cost is by donation.

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Spring Fling Craft Fair Saturday In Marlborough

The Federated Church of Marlborough will sponsor its Spring Fling Craft Fair at the Marlborough Community House on Main Street this Saturday, March 9th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Crafters have been busy all winter and now some will showcase their creations at the fair. The Marlborough Community House will have two floors of vendors offering jewelry, wood pieces, cards, stained glass, and much more. The Kid's Craft Corner will

be a fun addition. Marlborough bakers will be there with a light lunch and a bake sale.

The Spring Fling Craft Fair offers unique treasures by local artists, whether working with metal, wood, paper, or fabric.

The Community House is located at 160 Main Street. For more details, contact JoAnn Robinson at 603-876-4068.

The FitzMurphys To Perform At Open Mic In Dublin

On March 16th, the DubHub will host a combined Coffee House and Open Mic from 7 to 10 p.m. Snacks are available, and a monthly coffee sponsor provides the java. Attendees are welcome to BYOB. A featured

performance takes place for about 45 to 60 minutes, with open mic slots available before and after.

This month, on March 16th, the night before St. Patrick's Day, they will feature The FitzMurphys, Southern New Hampshire's happiest "Irish classic folk rock pop acoustic duo!" Rick Fitzgerald and Brian Murphy are an acoustic tag team that has played the traditional Irish favorites as well as folk and roots music from popular Irish musicians in the pubs, clubs, and gazebos of New England over the past 20 years. They have even been known to turn many popular songs into an Irish jig, just for fun.

E-mail info@dublincommunitycenter.org to reserve a spot on the open mic sign-up, or just show up that evening to try to find an available spot on the list.

Wicked Glass Art Holds Arch Workshops

Wicked Glass Art at 26 Roxbury Street in Keene will hold Arch Workshops on Sunday, March 24th from 1 to 3 p.m. and Thursday, March 28th from 4 to 6 p.m. All materials are included in the \$60 fee.

To register, call 603-757-3934 or email wickedglassart@gmail.com.

Literary Peep Diorama Contest In Hancock

The Hancock Town Library's Literary Peep Diorama Contest is now open. Everyone is invited to create a Literary Peep Diorama for 2024. The deadline is March 23rd, so participants need to decide on the book they will illustrate, gather a shoe box, buy some Peeps, and get cracking. LPDs must be based on a book, and any book can be used.

There are three divisions: adult, children, and family. Participants do not need to be Hancock residents. For more details, call 603-525-4411.

To see last year's entries, visit <https://hancocktownlibrarynh.wordpress.com/literary-peep-dioramas-2023/>

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KEENE ARTWALK

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We are excited to be celebrating the 33rd annual Keene ArtWalk in beautiful downtown Keene, NH. This is a wonderful opportunity for Monadnock region artists to take part in a grand tradition in the Keene area, promote public access to the arts, and create a gallery of art in our downtown storefront windows.

We encourage artists of all mediums to submit work. Please note that the jury will give first priority to emerging artists and artists who are new to Keene ArtWalk.

For the second year, ArtWalk is also accepting up to 5 entrants as 'visiting artists' who reside outside of the Monadnock Region.

Submit your application online at Entrythingy.com

- Click on "Call for entries list"
- Search New Hampshire to find the Keene Art Walk link
- Login or create an account and follow instructions to enter

Entry Deadline: Friday, April 5, 2024

There is a non-refundable \$38 entry fee.

Artists must be over 18 to apply. Younger students need to be part of a school submission. The fee will be waived for college students.

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Art Walk Committee contact: Molly Fletcher at keeneartwalk@gmail.com

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Aloha will host Norian March 8th, 9th, and 10th. The cost is \$260. This is a full weekend of learning about Yoga for happiness. For more details or to register, visit vagarog.com/alohakeene or call 603-762-3129.

Mindfulness Practice ~ Another Path Into A Deeper, Richer Layer

The word “mindfulness” is most often paired with the word “practice.” In all areas of our lives, we apply that word to a skill or undertaking that needs to be repeated in order to master a certain level of ease and ability. Even when mastery is achieved, more practice is necessary to maintain that skill.

How then is the word practice used in connection with mindfulness? According to someone who knows something about effort and skill, Yogi Berra, once said, “In theory, practice and theory are the same thing. In practice, they’re not.” In other words, we can talk eloquently about a subject, but all the theorizing in the world won’t bring ease and ability if we don’t practice the necessary skills until they become second nature.

Like approaching any new skill, meditation can be awkward and confusing to the beginner. Not every meditation session is calm, or even comfortable. But, with practice, glimpses of a calmer mind come into focus. The lift and insight that practice can bring becomes cumulative over time. As meditation teacher, John Tarrant notes: “Ultimately, we learn to be kind about the places the mind goes.” Instead of frantic and chaotic, the mind begins to gravitate toward concentration and awareness, a more open experience of life.

The skills involved in developing a mindfulness practice are simple. The breath, wherever it can be sensed in the body, becomes an object of attention. At first, the mind has trouble maintaining focus as thoughts whirl around and distractions draw attention off the breath. Eventually, with a commitment to keep coming back to the breath, the mind begins to slow down, the breath becomes less jagged, and the body begins to relax. In this more relaxed state, even if ease comes and goes during a meditation session, overall relaxation allows the mind to function more insightfully and with more generosity as chaos loses its grip on what we think and feel.

Further, John Tarrant says, “When you practice you can’t help but notice the beauty and kindness that appears in the world. The practice becomes something that draws you toward life rather than pushing you away from suffering. In this way, you can begin to notice that you can navigate by what you love.”

A relaxed mind is naturally more compassionate and empathetic. It is hard to be aware of others’ feelings, or even one’s own, when the mind is restless and driven by old unquestioned habits. With practice, those habits come to light and can be examined in the quiet of a meditation session. Then, that greater awareness can be taken out into the world of everyday interactions and responsibilities. Over time, it becomes easier to be aware of one’s inner state and of how helpful or unhelpful that set of feelings and thoughts may be. If we can recognize an unhelpful

agitated mind, we can take a moment and step back, feel the breath, and wait a moment until more calm allows the mind to settle and make better choices about how to handle what is in front of us. If mindful attention to the breath is not calming, there are other choices, e.g. sounds, images, and phrases.

Practicing greater compassion can be a very useful touchstone when a life crisis occurs that feels overwhelming and full of suffering. All lives are vulnerable to loss and disappointment, as well as physical pain and weakness. At those times, being able to take a few breaths and direct compassion,

Healing Perspectives
with Ginnie Gavrin

instead of judgement, toward the difficulty at hand can help the situation to become more human and more manageable.

Choosing what we practice reinforces how we direct our minds. If we practice mindless chaos without intervening with more helpful skills, we are always at the mercy of however the mind reacts, whether kind or unkind. Mindfulness practice offers us another path into a deeper, richer layer of our lives.

The Monadnock Mindfulness Practice Center offers instruction and practice in mindfulness meditation. Visit www.mindfulnesskeene.org.

Ginnie Goulet Gavrin has been practicing meditation for 30 years. Currently, she teaches meditation and writing workshops at the Monadnock Mindfulness Practice Center where she is a facilitator and member of the board. Ginnie worked as a massage therapist for over 25 years before retiring. She holds a Master’s Degree in counseling where she focused on integrating meditation into working through life crises.

City Of Keene Announces Roadway Safety Action Plan Project, Invites Public Input

The City of Keene recently announced the Roadway Safety Action Plan (RSAP) project aimed at preventing roadway fatalities and serious injuries within Keene. The RSAP will identify key strategies and actions to improve safety for all road users, including drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

“The safety of our residents and visitors is our top priority,” says City Manager Elizabeth Dragon. “This plan will guide our future efforts in maintaining safe and accessible roads, sidewalks, and crossings for everyone whether they are driving, walking, using a wheelchair, or bicycling.”

The city is seeking input from the public at www.KeeneNH.gov/RoadSafety. The survey will gather valuable information about residents’ experiences in Keene with traffic safety and their priorities for improvements. The survey will be open until the end of March.

There will also be two meetings so residents and others can provide input in person; these dates will be posted at www.KeeneNH.gov/calendar and at www.KeeneNH.gov/RoadSafety.

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Maple Syrup – Collect Sap, Reduce Over Heat

Native Americans living in the northeastern part of America were, according to oral histories and archeological discoveries, the groups likely to have made maple syrup, long before Europeans arrived in the region. Over time, the making of maple syrup has progressed from a simple process of collecting the maple sap in a variety of vessels to tubing systems.

And while it takes about 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of maple syrup because sap is about 98 percent water, each spring you will find people from backyards to large “sugar bush” operations collecting and boiling sap into syrup. I recall my young family eagerly hanging buckets on maple trees back in the 70s and 80s wherever we lived at the time. Once the sap was collected, it was cooked down over a crude evaporating system cobbled together from oven racks, baking pans and an old wood stove. The sap took what seemed like forever to reduce, but once it was nearly ready, quick work was needed to prevent it from boiling too low and scorching the pan. That syrup, sweet and dark like molasses, was bottled and saved for winter pancake breakfasts and use in various recipes. There was nothing like it – both for cooking and for warm memories!

And while technology in syrup-making has changed dramatically, in favor of vacuum systems, oil-fueled furnaces and reverse osmosis filters to remove some water before boiling, in essence, the process is still pretty much the same – collect sap, reduce over heat.

Top with chopped pears and drizzle on two tablespoons of the maple syrup. Roll up tenderloin from the long side, tucking in ends. Secure with toothpicks or wrap with kitchen string to hold together. Place cut side down in pan; brush lightly with some cooking oil. Roast, uncovered 30 to 35 minutes or until meat thermometer registers 160 degrees. Remove from oven. Drizzle remaining maple syrup over meat and roast five minutes longer. Let stand at room temperature five minutes before slicing. If desired, serve garnished with fresh parsley or sage sprigs and thin slices of pear.

*If nuts are not skinned, after toasting place in a cloth and roll with your hands – enough of the skin will fall off. Serves four.

Pancake in a Mug

Makes one serving, using a 10 to 12 ounce microwave safe mug

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup all purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- pinch salt
- 4 tablespoons whole milk
- 1 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- butter and real maple syrup for topping

Whisk the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt together in your mug. Add the milk, oil, and vanilla; whisk until combined, but don't over-mix (small lumps are fine). Microwave the mug at full power for one minute. Note: microwaves and mugs vary greatly, so you may need to play with this a bit to get the right time for your set up. Top with butter and maple syrup – enjoy!

Parsnip Pudding

Parsnips are root vegetables closely related to carrots and parsley. For some reason, parsnips haven't been given much cooking space in today's kitchens. I hope you'll give this vegetable a chance – and “root for it” by trying this pudding recipe.

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs. parsnips, peeled
- 4 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 2 large egg yolks
- 3 tablespoons maple syrup
- 1/4 cup dark rum
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 cup raisins
- a few drops lemon juice
- ground cinnamon

Parboil parsnips in water for 15 to 30 minutes, depending on size, until soft when pricked with fork; drain, cool and puree in food processor, food mill, or with a potato masher. Put pureed parsnip into a medium bowl; add all remaining ingredients except ground cinnamon. Taste – if it seems too bland, add a bit more salt and/or lemon juice. Pour into a buttered baking dish and bake in a 350 degree oven for 10 to 15 minutes, just long enough to thicken the egg yolks and combine flavors. Sprinkle a little cinnamon on top just before serving. Or top with whipped cream or ice cream, if desired. Makes four to six servings.

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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Cooking Corner
 with Nancy Adams 

Maple-Garlic Shrimp

This flavorful meal can be on the table with very little effort after the shrimp are marinated in maple syrup, soy sauce and garlic. Makes two servings.

Ingredients:

- about 1/2 lb. large uncooked shrimp, shelled and deveined
- 2 or 3 tablespoons real maple syrup
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- juice of 1 lime
- 1 or 2 sliced scallions

Place the shrimp in a dish or plastic bag with maple syrup, soy sauce, garlic and lime juice; marinate for 15 to no more than 30 minutes. Heat a bit of oil in a large skillet over medium high heat. Remove shrimp from bag or dish, reserving marinade, and sauté shrimp one to two minutes. Add reserved marinade to pan and cook until opaque, one to two minutes longer. Add scallions as garnish and serve over rice, if desired.

Maple Stuffed Pork

Pork tenderloin can sometimes taste a bit bland. Not so with this dish of pork tenderloin, filled with a lovely hazelnut stuffing, topped with pears and drizzled with maple syrup.

Ingredients:

- 1 (16 oz.) pork tenderloin
- salt and pepper as desired
- 1/4 cup hazelnuts, skinned*, toasted and chopped
- 1/4 cup shredded carrots
- 1/4 cup fresh breadcrumbs
- 2 tablespoons chopped onion
- 1/2 cup chopped pear (or substitute apple if preferred)
- 3 tablespoons real maple syrup, divided
- sage or parsley sprigs and sliced pears for garnish

Preheat oven to 425 degrees; coat a shallow baking pan lightly with cooking oil or spray. Split the tenderloin lengthwise cutting three quarters of the way through. Open flat, pound with a mallet to about one quarter-inch thickness; season with salt and pepper. In medium bowl, combine hazelnuts, carrots, breadcrumbs and onion. Spoon stuffing onto pork.

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	Close	Week's Change		Close	Week's Change
Honeywell (Allied Signal)	198.67	-1.96	Danaher Corp. (Kollmorgen)	255.87	2.03
Becton Dickinson (C.R. Bard)	235.31	-10.89	Merck (Hubbard Farms)	126.96	-2.49
Toronto Dominion Bank (TD Bank)	59.99	-0.45	Deluxe (NEBS)	19.41	0.19
PC Connection	66.62	-1.56	Teleflex (Jaffrey)	223.00	-13.32
Bank Of America (Fleet)	34.35	0.43	Timken (MPB Corp.)	84.59	3.85
Corning Inc.	32.45	-0.24	M&T Bank Corp. (People's United)	136.91	-1.19
Ametek, Inc. (Precitech)	180.68	2.48	Dover Corp. (Markem)	167.30	3.20

PRECIOUS METALS		COMMODITIES			
	Close	Week's Change	Close	Week's Change	
Silver (\$ per ounce)	23.37	0.39	Wheat (cents per bushel)	559.00	-11.00
Gold (\$ per ounce)	2092.50	46.70	Corn (cents per bushel)	424.25	10.50
Platinum (\$ per ounce)	892.60	-13.90	Soybeans (cents per bushel)	1,150.00	6.00
			Cattle (cents per pound)	188.00	0.00
			Crude (\$ per barrel)	79.78	3.21

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NH Highway System Under Financial Stress

By Garry Rayno

Lawmakers often do things today they know have future consequences with the attitude that will be another legislature's challenge.

How often do legislatures cut tax rates for the budget they craft during their two-term? Usually, the rate cuts begin in the next biennium's budget which will be the next legislature's problem two years later.

The legislature for the 2015-2016 term patted itself on the back for finding a solution to funding the remainder of the Interstate 93 expansion project from Salem to Manchester as the money was running out and the project was not close to being finished.

US Rep. Ann McLane Kuster worked with the federal Department of Transportation and the Senate Budget Committee to "find" \$200 million in low-interest money under the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act.

The federal money is loaned to states and the interest charge does not kick in until the proceeds are drawn.

Other funding was switched around including GARVEE (Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle) bonds and various state projects like betterment and local bridge aid, so the I-93 funding was secured and the project could be completed.

Also involved in this was an 11-cent gas tax increase with future proceeds allocated to retiring the TIFIA bonds.

At that point no one was anticipating a pandemic to cut state funding to highways because no one traveled for a year, or the Infrastructure Invest and Jobs Act money that helped pay for some major construction projects.

Even with the federal infrastructure money, the state's latest Ten-Year Highway Improvement Plan is "fiscally restrained."

And one of the big reasons is the TIFIA money is almost gone, \$35 million remains in fiscal year 2025 for paving and bridge aid for cities and towns, and \$2 million in 2026 when the state has to begin paying back the TIFIA money.

Between 2025 and 2026, the state's I-93 debt service jumps from \$2.19 million to \$23.41 million or an increase of a little over \$21 million for the next 10 fiscal years until the federal loan is paid off.

That is \$21 million currently funding paving projects on rural highways not eligible for federal funding and bridge aid that will no longer be available.

In Gov. Chris Sununu's transmittal letter to the House, he notes the reduction.

"This leads to a reduction in paving of approximately 200+ miles, which is projected to result in the decline of roads in good/fair condition," Sununu said. "GACIT (Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation) sees this as a priority that needs to be addressed at the State level and urges that options be developed and considered to continue funding this effort for roadways not eligible for federal funds."

In other words, the legislature needs to find \$22 million annually to not have the state's rural roads deteriorate over the next decade.

It is a little late in the session to be exploring ways to find the money on a consistent basis to ensure New Hampshire's rural roads are not in poor condition.

If lawmakers do not want to appear to be raising taxes in this election year, they can ignore it and let the newly elected 2025-2026 legislature deal with the problem.

But the TIFIA money is not the state's only highway construction and maintenance problem.

Sununu notes in his letter the draft highway plan submitted by the Department of Transportation focused on "maintenance and preservation of the existing road and bridge network, continue to invest in the core system programs, increased focus on Regional Planning Commission priorities, increased investment in municipal owned red-listed bridges, and focusing on existing projects and programs with the revenue to be received by the IJIA (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act)."

The problem the state has is the Highway Fund it depends on to pay for the non-federally eligible projects is not the cash cow it once was and has not been for some time.

In the past the state has "sold" sections of the turnpike system and bridges to the Turnpike Authority, which can more readily raise bonds at lower expense because of its revenue stream, i.e. tolls, than the state.

That was done to refrain from raising the gas tax, which the state eventually did in 2016 after decades of holding it steady.

The Highway Fund is dependent on a number of revenue streams, mostly the gas tax and vehicle registrations, and while registrations have an upward trend, the gas tax trend is going in the opposite direction.

The two things everyone believes are positives, greater efficiency, and lower emissions, have lowered the receipts.

Vehicles travel farther today on a gallon of gas than in the past, and electric vehicles reduce the state's auto emissions because they do not burn fossil fuels and there's the rub.

Ten years ago, the gas tax produced \$257 million in fiscal year 2014, and \$260 million in fiscal 2015.

In the years around the pandemic, the highway fund took in between \$226 to \$229 million, before jumping to \$282 million in 2022 when 10,000 more vehicles were registered before dropping to \$237 million in the most recently completed fiscal year 2023.

The projection for this fiscal year for the Highway Fund is \$260 million and currently is running \$4.3 million below expectations and below what was collected last fiscal year at this time, so hitting the estimate this fiscal year is shaky.

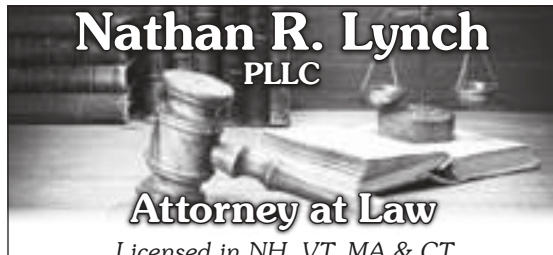
The other financial problem facing the state's transportation system is the federal money is also expected to decrease, both because the IJIA program will end soon, as will other federal money associated with the pandemic, and the federal gas tax has the same problem as New Hampshire with more efficient vehicles and the growth of electric vehicles.

For fiscal year 2025, the first of the new Ten-Year Highway Plan, the state anticipates receiving \$373.6 million in Federal Highway Administration funds and \$301 million in fiscal year 2026.

When the federal pandemic money is gone, it is expected to drop to \$281 million in 2027 and into the \$260s million for the next five or six years.

All those money sources add up to significant shortfall even without considering inflation and is it any wonder why no one wants to boost people's anticipation about new major highway projects.

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Unity Heat Pumps ~ Energy Efficiency At Its Best Meeting The Needs For Mini-Split Installers

UNITY, Continued from page 1

He continues: "One of the most significant benefits of heat pumps and mini-splits is their exceptional energy efficiency. These systems consume considerably less energy than traditional heating and cooling units, leading to noticeable savings on utility bills. The reduced energy consumption also contributes to a smaller carbon footprint, making them an eco-friendly choice."

Recently, Mayer moved his young family to the Keene area from Vermont as they felt a connection when they visited the area. He had several years of experience in installations and sales working for another company before opening Unity Heat Pumps last year. "Heat pumps are becoming super popular, so demand is high. That is part of the reason why we started Unity – to meet the need for installers."

Customer Jo Dery has this to say about Unity Heat Pumps: "James is very passionate and super knowledgeable about heat pumps. I am very happy with my new mini-split system. I plan to hire James for the annual system cleaning also."

Another customer, Candace Jensen, has this to say about her experience: "We had our heat pumps installed by Unity this December and they did a very clean and professional install. The units work great and James was very helpful in designing the install, and clearly knew what he was doing. He is very kind and considerate, and was easy to communicate with."

Mayer is very focused and offers vast knowledge when it comes to this industry. He also gets energized when he talks about the environment. "Heat pumps can provide the same level of comfort by transferring heat instead of burning fuel to create it with significantly less energy usage. This impressive efficiency saves you money and reduces your home's impact on the environment, aligning with current efforts to embrace more sustainable living practices. Unlike standard HVAC systems designed solely for heating or cooling, heat pumps and mini-splits are equipped to handle both tasks effectively. This flexibility allows you to maintain a comfortable indoor environment throughout the year without needing separate heating and cooling units."

He continues by saying that another notable feature that mini-splits have is the capability for zoned temperature control. "This means you can independently adjust the temperature in specific areas or 'zones' of your home, catering to individual preferences and occupancy patterns. As a result, you can avoid wasting energy by only heating or cooling occupied rooms, leading to additional cost savings and increased comfort."

Mayer is also pleased to have installer Timothy Mabe working with him. "We put time and care into each customer's install to build our business and to make our world a better place," Mayer says. "We take time to listen to the customer's goals and needs and take time to really analyze each unique space."



Installer Timothy Mabe is seen working on a Unity Heat Pump mini-split heating and cooling system installation.

"James does great work and the products he installed exceeded our expectations," says Nathan Brunk. "He works very clean and neat and made sure everything worked when the installation was done. I would recommend him to my friends and will probably use him for more heat pumps in the future."

Unity Heat Pumps offers a Heat Pumps for All program, where 10 percent of profits are donated to offer low or no-cost installs for those who need financial help. This helps lower-income people access to this technology that saves them money.

"Many heat pump and mini split installations qualify for federal and state tax incentives, such as the Residential Renewable Energy Tax Credit," says Mayer. "These incentives can offset a significant portion of the installation cost, making it a cost-effective choice for

homeowners. In addition to federal and state tax credits, some utility companies also offer rebates for energy-efficient upgrades. Their energy efficiency, year-round comfort provision, and zoned temperature control make them an appealing choice for those seeking both financial savings and enhanced indoor comfort."

For a project assessment from Unity Heat Pumps, call 802-365-1009 or email james@unityheatpumps.com.

"We celebrate with you when the install is complete – knowing that we did our part in reducing pollution for current and future generations," Mayer concludes.

For more details about the mini-split heating and cooling systems or to use a home heating cost calculator, visit www.unityheatpumps.com.

Scholarship For Jaffrey-Rindge Graduating Seniors

MilliporeSigma of Jaffrey and The Jaffrey-Rindge MLK Committee are partnering for a third year to offer the MilliporeSigma-MLK Student Service Scholarships. These scholarships will provide two graduating seniors who reside in Jaffrey or Rindge with a \$1500 scholarship to be applied to further education or technical training beyond high school graduation.

Generated in the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s focus on the importance of service, these scholarship opportunities are open to all 2024 Jaffrey and Rindge graduating seniors, includ-

ing publicly-schooled, home-schooled, and privately-school students, who demonstrate community service.

MilliporeSigma-MLK Student Service Scholarship applications will be available by Monday, March 4th at the Conant High School Guidance Department, The Ingalls Memorial Library, The Jaffrey Public Library, and on the MLK Celebration Jaffrey-Rindge MLK Facebook page. Additionally, applications will be shared with regional charter and private schools. The deadline for applications is Friday, April 19th.

Read the MSN [online](http://www.shoppernews.com): www.shoppernews.com

NH Highway System Under Financial Stress

MONEY, Continued from page 8

The roads New Hampshire once was so proud of compared to Massachusetts may soon resemble the Bay State's in years past.

The next legislature faces an overwhelming challenge in finding ways to maintain New Hampshire's highway system to go along with two very expensive court orders on education funding.

The bills are coming due.

Garry Rayno may be reached at garry.rayno@yahoo.com. Veteran journalist Garry Rayno explores a broader perspective on the State House and state happenings. Over his three-decade career, Rayno covered the NH State House for the New Hampshire Union Leader and Foster's Daily Democrat. During his career, his coverage spanned the news spectrum, from local planning, school and select boards, to national issues such as electric industry deregulation and Presidential primaries. Rayno lives with his wife Carolyn in New London.

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VETERAN OWNED

Farmers And Horses: All Stirred Up

We farmers have been trying to remain calm. But we're all stirred up, and not just because of the springy feeling in the air. It's not just because we're working in our greenhouses: raking beds, setting up propagation tables and heat mats, hauling in potting soil and seed packets.

No, we're stirred up about horses. For one thing, we've been feeding grain all winter to our four draft horses, because they're all at the age when a little extra in the winter helps.

Now grain is highly exciting. It's hard for a horse to keep calm in the face of a grain feeding, and it does a farmer good to remember the order of things: which horse to halter and bring in to the stalls first. Which horse will stand nicely next to which horse, even when grain is on the way. Which horse gets a little more grain, because they're harder keepers, and which horse gets a little less, because they're easy keepers.

Most important is which horse goes out of the stalls first. For instance, yesterday I brought Ben out first. He went nicely over to the hay waiting outside. Then I brought Molly out, not realizing she was going to race back in and check Ben's grain bucket to make sure he hadn't left any crumbs, either in the bucket or on the ground.

Meanwhile Moon, who I hadn't even bothered to halter, because he went into his stall on his own, decided to come out. But I was already asking Clyde to back out of his stall, and then I had to both keep Clyde in one place and try to get Moon out of the way at the same time. Finally Moon cooperated, but I had forgotten about Molly and Clyde.

full garden season.

We get pretty jazzed up on our horse trips, sure that this will be the perfect team for our little farm. So far, we've been to Connecticut to look at a giant team of Belgians, about whom my fellow farmer said, "It makes my stomach hurt just to think of those dinner-plate hooves trying to walk down our narrow garden pathways. All those heads of lettuce going crunch crunch crunch."

We've also seen a pair of black Percherons, who had the opposite effect: "It makes my stomach hurt to think of asking these two little horses to



Green Monadnock
with Kim Peavey

Molly was sure Clyde was going to get the grain crumbs, so she started bucking and squealing, and Clyde stopped backing, and I said "Molly, for heaven's sake!" and chased her out of the barn, while Clyde waited for me. Then I went back for Clyde, led him out, and was getting ready to take off his halter at the barn door, when Molly decided to squeeze past back into the barn.

"Molly, you turkey!" I said, letting go of Clyde, who went forward, and didn't want to stop for me to take off his halter because now Molly was behind him. But he finally did, and pretty soon I had four horses calmly eating hay in the barnyard.

All this is to say that grain is as exciting to horses as horses are exciting to horse farmers, which is why we farmers are all stirred up: We're planning to buy a new team. We don't really want to buy a new team, but our nice old horses don't have the pep for another

pull a full hay wagon up and down our hilly fields." Way out in western New York State, we saw two more giant teams of Belgians, and a lovely little too-expensive pair of Belgian mares.

Next we're headed to Maine to see three more teams. Maybe one of these will be the perfect team for us! Meanwhile we visit our four perfect grain-loving horses in the barnyard, wishing they were a little younger, and reminding ourselves of just what kind of horses we'd like to have come live and work with us.

Kim Peavey farms and writes from southwestern New Hampshire. She and her family, as well as two teams of draft horses, grow vegetables biodynamically for 100 local families through a CSA garden. See www.hillsidespringsfarm.com for more information on the horse- and hand-powered farm, CSA garden, or Kim's writing.

The Keene Multicultural Center Project: Building A More Welcoming Community

The Keene Multicultural Center Project recently launched a crowdfunding campaign through The Local Crowd Monadnock. The funds raised will help create a unique community gathering space.

"The Keene Community Cultural Center Project will bring together individuals from different cultural backgrounds with the common goal of addressing diverse needs to bring our community together," says Project Leader Gail Somers. "We hope to create a tangible physical space we can call home. Our community space will be a hub

for cultivating and celebrating culture. It will provide a space to hold classes, exhibitions, performances, workshops, educational programs, a resource center, and cultural events, all of which will bring numerous opportunities for volunteerism and community connection."

This crowdfunding campaign continues through March: monadnock.thelocalcrowd.coop/campaign/multicultural-community-center, or checks can be made out to Arts Alive and mailed to: Arts Alive, 15 Eagle Court, Keene, NH, 03431. Add "Keene Multicultural Center" to the memo.

Classical Paintings By Caleb Massin Exhibit In Dublin

PAINTINGS, Continued from page 1

"I have been deeply influenced by my mentors in Classicism, Numael and Shirley Pulido, and motivated by a deep reverence for the Old Masters. Drawing has always come naturally to me, even as a child, and this ability has created the foundation for all my different styles, from abstract expressionism

through my work in the film industry as a scenic artist and muralist and presently to Classical Realism."

The Dublin Community Center is located at 1123 Main Street in Dublin. For more details or to schedule an appointment, email info@dublincommunitycenter.org.



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ENTERTAINMENT

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10 Benefits Of Summer Camp

Experiencing summer camp as a child has many positive effects that carry you into your adult years. And for those adults who didn't get a chance to experience camp, you may not understand those benefits or know why so many parents send their children to camps.

At camp, children can:

Unplug from technology

Though this was not an issue when my sons went to summer camp in the 1990s/2000s, technology and its hold on our children is a very big issue now. When your kids don't have televisions, cell phones, or computers to rely on, it allows them to connect with the real world.

great place for kids to relax and make friends easily. It also has a way of drawing everyone together through playing, singing, laughing, and doing activities. And these friendships could develop into long-lasting relationships.

Understand the benefits of teamwork

Camp is all about teamwork. The kids learn to cooperate with each other. While living in a cabin with others, your child will share chores, resolve issues, and learn the importance of communication. Teamwork also carries into any activities they do while at camp.

Be physically active

Camp provides many opportunities to run, jump, hike, climb, and swim. In fact, I remember being kept very active when I went to summer camps as a child. When my head hit that pillow at night, I was down for the count until a bugle-playing Reveille woke me up in the morning.

Monadnock Family

with Lori Catozzi Cook



Become more independent

We all want our children to be more independent and to rely on their own instincts to grow into healthy adults. Camp is the perfect place where they can make decisions without the guidance of every move. Teaching independence at a young age will not only help your child to have a happy and healthy childhood but is also one of the beginning stages for your child to become a successful and confident adult.

Connect with nature

Nowadays, it seems as if children have more of an indoor life than an outside one. If you have a child who is constantly plugged into technology to fill his time, he will be pleasantly surprised when he connects with nature. Camp will help him branch out and enrich all the outdoor experiences that he's missing out on. More than likely this connection will be a permanent one in his life when his camp experience is over.

Learn new skills

Camps provide instruction, equipment, and the space for your child to develop skills and interests. They offer numerous activities for your child to choose from. He just might find an activity that he was reluctant to try before and end up with the ability to do things he never dreamed of, which, then again, builds confidence.

Develop friendships

At camp, a child is free from the pressures of social expectations that they might feel at school. Camp is a

Learn to be flexible

Sending your child to summer camp also means that he will learn to be flexible. Good counselors are encouraging and nurturing and this environment will help your child learn to handle setbacks, try something new, and conquer his or her fears.

Achieve mental stimulation

Kids need regular enrichment over the summer months, so they don't lose skills that they've gained throughout the school year. Camps offer activities that include STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) as well as art classes. Though camp won't seem like school to your children, they will definitely be learning.

Get a sense of purpose

Through activities like singing, dancing, playing sports, and group activities, summer camp provides children with a sense of community, and a purpose. It teaches children that they are part of something bigger than themselves and that they can make a difference.

All these things that children can do at camp are one more step to being more confident, building their self-esteem, and finding new interests. All pluses.

Check out the camp section in The Monadnock Shopper News during the month of March, and beyond, for summer camp opportunities for our youth.

Lori Catozzi Cook is the assistant editor and a feature writer for The Monadnock Shopper News.

Wednesday, Mar. 6

ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

Really Really: By Paul Downs Colaizzo 7:30-9pm. Wright Theatre, Redfern Arts Center, Keene State College. Full production, smaller scale. Warning: mature audiences only. Adult language, situation, and context. Explicit themes of sexual assault. \$12 general/\$7 seniors & youth/KSC students free. Box Office: **603-358-2168**.

Faculty Composer Recital 7:30-8:30pm. Alumni Recital Hall, Redfern Arts Center, Keene State College. Recital will feature four faculty composers: José, Tim Rogers, Lainee Ginsberg, and Heather Gilligan. \$12 general public/\$7 seniors & youth. **603-358-2168**.

FAIRS & SALES

Senior Health Fair: Power of Attorney Changes 10am-2pm. Covenant Living of Keene, 100 Wyman Road, Keene. **603-352-3235**.

LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

Marketing Momentum Workshop 5:30-6:30pm. 100 Emerald St., Keene. Get the most out of your Google business profile. For more details **603-593-2016**.

Friday, Mar. 8

ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

Public Reception: Caleb Massin - Classical Paintings 5-7pm. DubHub, 1123 Main St., Dublin. View through

March by appointment or during open hours. info@dublin-communitycenter.org.

Sacred Circle Dance 6pm. Peterborough Unitarian Universalist Church, 25 Main St. All dances are taught. Beginners are welcome. No partner is necessary. Please wear comfortable shoes. The program is free. Donations are appreciated and will benefit "End 68 Hours of Hunger." lucy@poetryofthedance.com.

The Power Station Coffeehouse Ministry 6pm. Whitcomb Hall, 17 Main St., West Swanzey. Heart warming music, coffee and friendships in an intimate setting. For more info call or visit Tom Travers: **603-381-9077**. tom@powerstation-nh.com.

Peterborough Folk Music: Beppe Gambetta 7pm. Bass Hall, Peterborough. **603-318-9196**. www.pfmsconcerts.org.

Diversity in Classical Music Symposium 7:30pm. Alumni Recital Hall, Redfern Arts Center, Keene State College. Celebrating African-American & Female Musicians. The Symposium takes place from 9am-5pm with an evening concert at 7:30pm. \$12 general public/\$7 seniors & youth. **603-358-2168**.

Let's Wet It!: Introduction to Watercolor 10am-12pm. Hancock Town Library, 25 Main St., Hancock. Join Sue Ann Hum for introductory art classes specifically for people who say they can't draw a straight line. \$15 fee for each class. Fridays in March. To participate contact hancocklibrary@comcast.net.

GCC Community Chorus: "Of Seasons and Singing" 12pm. Sloan Theater, Greenfield Community College, Greenfield MA. Free-donations welcome. **413-775-1812**.

Rock n' Roll Circus 2024
Friday, March 22, 7:30 PM
JAMES MONTGOMERY, JON BUTCHER, BRIAN TEMPLETON, DERIC DYER, CLIFF GOODWIN, MITCH CHAKOUR
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- DIVERSITY IN CLASSICAL MUSIC SYMPOSIUM** March 8
- UNITED STATES AIR FORCE WOODWIND ENSEMBLE** March 13
- 50th Anniversary EVENING OF DANCE** April 11-13
- NEW ENGLAND CENTER FOR CIRCUS ARTS** May 11

TICKETS: \$12 General Public, \$7 Seniors & Youth, Free for Keene State College students. For more information, please call the Box Office at 603-358-2168 or visit us online at keene.edu/redfern.
The Redfern Presenting Series is sponsored by the Courtyard by Marriott Keene Downtown.
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This Week's Winners



Picture Unavailable

Greyson Lahue, Keene, 5
Natalie DeYoung, Keene, 10

March 6, 2024

Natalie DeYoung, daughter of Beth & Jeffrey DeYoung, Keene, 10
Greyson Lahue, son of William Graham & Gabrielle Lahue, Keene, 5

March 11, 2024

Addison Means, daughter of Kevin & Alicia Means, Keene, 10

March 12, 2024

Anthony Parker, son of Amber Goodell, Langdon, 5

Submit your Birthday Kids' entry online at:
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Spring Fling

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 Questions? Call JoAnn Robinson • 603-876-4068

Saturday, Mar. 9
ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

Spring Exhibit: Opening Reception 6-7:30pm. Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main St., Jaffrey. Exhibit hours Wed. - Fri. 12-5, Sat. 10-2. **603-532-6527**. www.jaffreyciviccenter.com.

Monadnock Tri-State Dance Club - St. Patrick's Par-Tay! 7pm. ELMM Community Center, 21 Durkee St., Winchester. Live music by "NH Visitors." Everyone welcome. \$12. Refreshments available-50/50 Raffle. Rich: **603-398-8539**.

Let's Sing Taylor 8pm. The Colonial Theatre, 95 Main St., Keene. A live band experience. **603-352-2033**. www.thecolonial.org.

DINING PLEASURES

Community Potluck Supper 5pm. First Congregational Church of Walpole, 15 Washington St., Walpole. Bring a dish to share-salad, main course, or dessert.

Lucky Ladies Luncheon 10am-12pm. Cheshire Wellness Center, 103 Roxbury St., Keene. Free. See barcode for registration in Monadnock Shopper News ad dated 2/28. **603-357-5700**.

FAIRS & SALES

Spring Fling Craft Fair 9am-1pm. Federated Church of Marlborough, Community House, 160 Main St., Marlborough. Two floors of vendors. Handicap-accessible. For more information call JoAnn: **603-876-4068**.

MISCELLANEOUS

Blood Drive 9am-2pm. Monadnock Covenant Church, 90 Base Hill Rd., Keene. Schedule a time at **800-733-2767**. www.redcrossblood.org.

Open Sugar House Weekend 11am-3pm. Woodard's Sugar House, 1200 Rte. 12A, Surry. Free tours. **603-358-3321**. www.woodardssugarhouse.com.

Sunday, Mar. 10
FAIRS & SALES

CSA Fair 2-5pm. Monadnock Food Co-op, 34 Cypress St., Keene. The CSA Fair will include, Frank Hunter & Kim Peavey of Hillside Springs Farm, Stonewall Farm, Craig and Megan Jensen of Sun Moon Farm, Abenaki Springs Farm, Jack Rixey of Dog Days Farm, Milkweed Farm, Nubi River Farm, and Mountain Foot Farm. **603-355-8008**.

MISCELLANEOUS

Open Sugar House Weekend 11am-3pm. Woodard's Sugar House, 1200 Rte. 12A, Surry. Free tours. **603-358-3321**. www.woodardssugarhouse.com.

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Special Events at the DubHub:

Caleb Massin • Classical Paintings
 Friday, March 8th • 5-7pm • Public Reception
 View through March by appointment or during open hours

DubHub Coffee House & Open Mic
 Saturday, March 16th • 7-10pm • All Welcome!
 Featuring The FitzMurphys

Monadnock Storytelling & Spoken Word Circle
 Wednesday, March 20 • 6:30-8:30pm
 With Sebastian Lockwood & Papa Joe Gaudet • All Welcome

Dublin Community Center
 1123 Main St., Dublin, NH
info@dublincommunitycenter.org

Monday, Mar. 11
MISCELLANEOUS

Blood Drive 9am-2pm. Conant High School, 3 Conant Way, Jaffrey. To make an appointment call **800-733-2767**.

Tuesday, Mar. 12
MISCELLANEOUS

March Adventure Bus Trips: Encore Adventure Limousine & Transportation. \$49 per person. **603-357-2933**. www.advlimo.com.

Read the
Monadnock Shopper News
online:
www.shoppernews.com

St. Patrick's Party With NH Visitors Band

Monadnock Tri-state Dance Club will offer a chance to dance to live music with the NH Visitors Band on Saturday, March 9th at 7 p.m. Admission is \$12. There will be refreshments and a 50/50 raffle. All ages are welcome. The event will take place at ELMM Hall on Durkee Street on Winchester. For more details, call Rich at 603-398-8539.

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Sacred Circle Dance In Peterborough March 8th

The Peterborough Unitarian Universalist Congregation will host an hour of participatory Sacred Circle Dance on Friday, March 8th at 6 p.m. All dances are taught, and beginners are welcome. No partner is necessary. Attendees should wear comfortable shoes. The program is free, and donations are appreciated and will benefit "End 68 Hours of Hunger." Enter through the rear door. For more details, contact lucy@poetryofthedance.com.

Please, recycle this newspaper.

MYSTERY PHOTO

from THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CHESHIRE COUNTY

The first person to answer the question correctly at 9:30 a.m. or after on Friday will receive a certificate for \$25 to The Pub. 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)



On what street in what community was this church located?



The winner of last week's mystery photo contest was Jane Gambill of Walpole. The photo shows a gate house that used to stand on the existing large cement slab at Goose Pond.

New Local Artist Exhibits "Said I Am A Painter"



Landslide

Just over a year ago, artist Sue Ann Hum and her husband Rick became residents of Hancock. Hum is having her first New England solo show at the Hancock Town Library now through March 27th.

Hum's exhibit, titled "Said I Am A Painter," explores her body of work spanning the past ten years. A multi and mixed media artist, Hum never quite knows what she will create next.

Her most recent series, "She Said," offers a unique glimpse into the feminine experience. Hum says the expressive faces and quotes of the women in this series "say what all women are thinking." Some are touching, encouraging, enlightening; others are witty, sarcastic, sassy, and funny.

Hum will be teaching playful introductory classes at the library from 10 a.m. until noon on Fridays in March. There is a \$15 fee for each class, materials provided.

The class on March 8th is "Let's Wet It!" an introduction to watercolor. March 15th will be "Let's Draw Eyes!" (pencil and charcoal on paper). March 22nd will be "Let's Artfully Transform a Library Book!" a mixed media project.

To participate in a class, contact the Hancock Library at hancocklibrary@comcast.net. To see more of Hum's work, check out www.SueAnnHum.com

Exhibits can be viewed during regular library hours. Call the library at 603-525-4411 before visiting to ensure no events are scheduled at that time.

Putney Public Library Exhibits "Domestic Pleasures" Black And White Photographs

"Domestic Pleasures," a series of black and white photographs by Lynne Weinstein, will be on exhibit at The Putney Public Library at 55 Main Street in Putney, VT through Saturday, June 1st.

"Domestic Pleasures grew out of my interest in chores and their enduring presence in our lives," says Weinstein. "I wanted to investigate how I could transform mundane work

into moments of beauty. It was both a mindfulness activity of finding wonder and a formal exercise in building strong compositions with help of natural light. Each image is a self portrait shot on 4 x 5 film and printed on silver gelatin paper."

The library is open Mondays through Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Monadnock Tri-State Dance Club
MARCH 9 • 7PM
NH VISITORS
Admission \$12 • Refreshments 50/50 Raffle • All Welcome • All Ages
Info? Rich at 603-398-8539
ELMM Hall, Durkee St., Winchester

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Sat., March 9th at 5 p.m.
Bring a salad, entree, or dessert to share!
First Congregational Church of Walpole
Washington Square, Walpole • (603) 756-3997
All are Welcome!

March Adventure Bus Trips

Encore • 3/12 • \$49pp
Foxwoods • 3/16 • \$49pp
Boston/Your Way • 3/17 • \$55pp
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\$2.00 each! (normally \$3.50) **NO LIMIT**
12 oz. canned cocktail or beer
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The Queen's Cartoonists

DRUM TAO

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A FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE
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The Colonial Theatre is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization

CLASSIFIEDS


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Swanzey Recycling Center Job Openings

The Town of Swanzey, NH is accepting applications for both full and part time positions at its freshly renovated Recycling Center. The full-time positions offer a competitive benefits package including health insurance, paid time off, and a retirement account match and have a regular schedule matching the Center's open hours: Tuesdays and Fridays – 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays – 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturdays – 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For all positions NHDES Solid Waste Operator's certifications are ideal and strong people skills and ability to perform physical tasks including lifting, turning, reaching, and squatting required.

- Full-time Assistant Solid Waste Manager** with starting hourly wage \$20 - \$24 depending on qualifications and experience. The Assistant Manager supports the Solid Waste Manager in overseeing operations of the Recycling Center and participates in the management, operation, and processing of recyclables at the facility. Desired skills and experience include NHDES Solid Waste Operator's Certification, knowledge of municipal solid waste and recycling management issues, good mechanical aptitude and "trouble shooting" skills, and experience operating mechanical / motorized equipment used in solid waste operations.
- Full-time Solid Waste Operator** with starting hourly wage \$13 - \$15 depending on qualifications and experience. The Full-time Operator will work with other employees to assist customers at the facility and process recyclables.
- Part Time Solid Waste Operator** with starting wage \$13 - \$15 depending on qualifications and experience.

A complete position description and application is available at www.swanzeynh.gov. For further position detail queries should be directed to Solid Waste Manager Joshua Whipple at 603-338-0339 or jwhipple@swanzeynh.gov. Submit application and/or resume to Edna Coates at Human Resource Coordinator, at ecoates@swanzeynh.gov; PO Box 10009, Swanzey, NH 03446; or in person at Town Hall (620 Old Homestead Highway) until filled.

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 Each Additional Word = 25¢ • Each Additional Week = \$7.25 • Expires 10/31/24

Any advertisement for an incoming-producing product or service competing with an area business, regardless of its nature, or any ad to sell AKC Registered animals for profit, shall be considered a **BUSINESS AD**. **Lost & Found ads are FREE!**

BUSINESS AD 1" (25 words) • \$14.75 per week
 Each Additional 1/2" (12 words) = \$7.25 • Expires 10/31/24

check one First Name: _____ Last: _____
 Company Name (if Business Ad) _____
 Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Ext. _____ Use in Ad? (1 word) Yes No
 Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Ext. _____ Use in Ad? (1 word) Yes No
 Website: _____ Use in Ad? (1 word) Yes No
 Email: _____ Use in Ad? (1 word) Yes No
 First Issue to run (Wednesday date): ____/____/____ Run it for ____ weeks

Category: _____ Ad: _____

_____ Total # Words: _____

PERSONAL AD Cost Calculator		BUSINESS AD Cost Calculator	
15 Words, 2 weeks	\$14.75	1" (up to 25 words), 1 week	\$14.75
Additional words _____ x .25	+ _____	Additional 1/2" _____ x 7.25	+ _____
Additional weeks _____ x 7.25	+ _____	Total Ad Cost = _____	
Total Ad Cost = _____			

352-5250 DEADLINE: Friday 3pm prior to issue. Please mail this form, along with payment to MSN, PO Box 487, Keene, NH 03431 or place envelope in our **back door drop box** at 445 West St., Keene **by 8am Friday.**

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BRIAN'S RARE COINS NOW OPEN
 Buying and selling US Coins. Gold & Silver Bullion available at competitive prices. I need Silver Dollars, Indian Head Pennies, Buffalo Nickels, All sets of Coins, Paper, Money, All Proof & Mint Sets. Gold & Silver Coins & Jewelry, Sterling Flatware. Highest Prices Paid. 653 Washington Street, Claremont, NH 03743. Please call for hours **603-477-2902**

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Wanted
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 Planes, axes, Stanley tools, etc. **1 tool or entire collection.**
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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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205/55R16	225/60R16	225/45R17	235/65R18

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Submit cover letter and resume to keene pops@gmail.com or mail to Keene Pops Choir, PO Box 1244, Keene, NH 03431 or call (603) 903-9061

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SUMMER CAMPS!

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June 24 - 28 in collaboration with NHD
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