



The Monadnock

SHOPPER NEWS

The Original Keene Shopper – “The Weekly with a Heart” – 68th Year of Community Service / April 22-28, 2026

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Small Pond Productions: *Drinking Habits 2: Caught In The Act*



Theater lovers will not want to miss this sequel to last year's production of Tom Smith's *Drinking Habits* where mistaken identities continue to abound, wine making returns, narcolepsy affects Mother Superior (yes, narcolepsy), and hypnotism goes wrong. And that's only the beginning. The show is directed by Ren Doyle and Tara Gillard. The show is set for May 1st, 2nd, 8th, and 9th at 7:30 p.m. and May 10th (the May 3rd show is sold out) at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 general and \$15 seniors/students. All performances will be held at the Community House of Marlborough on Route 101, 160 Main Street, in Marlborough.

The Sisters of Perpetual Sewing are back. It's been roughly a year since they won the World Prize for Best Wine, made secretly by Sister Philomena (Sue Wilbur) and Sister Augusta (PJ Cooke), and things have been quiet. That changes when the Sisters learn that their orphanage is threatened — and that Paul (Doyle), who has left the newspaper business to study for the priesthood, has reunited with his long-lost sister Kate (Zoe Ferrin), formerly Sister Mary Catherine, who has since married handyman George (Bryan Hebert).

PRODUCTION, page 8

Back row: Bryan Hebert and Ren Doyle; Middle row: Traci Booth, Sue Wilbur, PJ Cooke and Zoe Ferrin, Bottom row: Tara Gillard and Ray Mahoney in *Drinking Habits 2: Caught in the Act*.

(Photo by Maureen McHugh)

Tri-State Restoration, LLC Your Neighbors In Restoration



Kyle Murray, an IICRC certified rug cleaning technician for Tri-State Restoration, is trained in the various methods which safely and effectively clean a carpet under controlled conditions.

By Lori Catozzi Cook

When water damage, fire, smoke, or mold threatens your home or business, you will need the rapid response from the professionals at Tri-State Restoration who understand the urgency. The response team at Tri-State Restoration – a full-service, 24/7 emergency services restoration company – stops the destruction in its tracks, restoring spaces

to a clean, dry, and safe environment.

Our continued focus is on customer experience and professionalism, with an emphasis on clear communication, reliability, and treating every property with care and respect," says Sam Norway, owner – along with wife, Rebecca – of this locally owned and operated business.

RESTORATION, page 8

Monadnock Region Earth Festival Saturday

Monadnock Food Co-op will host its Earth Day Festival on Saturday, April 25th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The festival features live music, local food, and over 90 organizations showcasing a wide range of eco-friendly products, community resources, art, and handmade goods. Attendees can grab lunch at the co-op BBQ, check out the Electric Vehicle and Electric Bike Expo, enjoy live music from Swing Caravan, The Lion Sisters, and more. But first, there will be a meet

up with the co-op's board of directors in the cafe to help Green Up, Clean Up from 9 to 11am.

Earth Festival activities will be happening in and around the co-op, along the bike path, and Railroad Square in Keene. For more details, visit <https://monadnockfood.coop/event/2026-monadnock-region-earth-festival/>

The Monadnock Food Co-op is located at 34 Cypress Street in Keene, off Main Street via Eagle Court.

Blue Water Pool & Spa In Swanzey Under New Partnership – Anniversary Sale April 24th To May 4th

Blue Water Pool & Spa at 75 Birch Road in Swanzey has much to celebrate this year: a 12th anniversary serving the Monadnock Region and a new partnership to continue its growth and expand services.

"There's going to be a lot of new software and social media presence rolling out through the season to help streamline communication for not only requests and needs, but eventually complete transparency on all information recorded, inspections made, and needs to help maintain and prolong the life of a pool," says Tim Cloutier, the original owner of Blue Water Pool & Spa.

Joining Cloutier in this venture are co-owners Robin Drawing and Micah Fisher. Both Drawing and Fisher have extensive experience in the retail industry and are knowledgeable in the servicing and maintenance of everything pool and spa.

Cloutier has been in the industry for over 40 years; many know him as the founder of Clearwater Pool.

PARTNERSHIP, page 9



The Blue Water Pool & Spa team is ready to help with all pool and spa needs. Pictured are (L to R) co-owners Robin Drawing, Tim Cloutier, and Micah Fisher, with Ben Kirstein and Amy Blake.

Keene Library Book Sale Is April 24th, 25th, 26th

This past winter, the Friends of the Keene Public Library received the donation of two large and very interesting collections of books. These books will be in their upcoming April sale. The book sale is Friday, April 24th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, April 25th 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, April 26th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. is \$5/bag day. Fill a bag with books and pay just \$5.

The new material contains a large number of military books with interesting material on the Revolutionary and Civil Wars and much on WWII (e.g. Hitler's Aesthetics). There are a large number of the International Library of Technology books. They are amazingly detailed books on early 20th Century

technology from how early gas engines worked to architectural history. The donations included much mid-20th Century fiction (e.g. *Peyton Place*) and non-fiction (e.g. George Orwell). The children's section will have a nice selection of older children's books including many boys and girls juveniles dating back to the 19th Century.

The bulk of these books will be in the regular stock (typically \$2 per hardcover book), but check out the more valuable books at \$5 and up on the second floor. They also have received large donations of CDs and DVDs.

For more details, see the ad on page 2.

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PET OF THE WEEK

from THE MONADNOCK HUMANE SOCIETY

Dylan

Dylan is a seven-year-old mixed breed with a lot of personality and a soft spot for his people. He's crate trained, potty trained, and has a solid history with adults and older kids, making him a great match for a home that understands and respects his boundaries. Dylan is choosy about his canine friends and might prefer to be the only dog in the home, but MHS staff can facilitate a dog introduction for those who already have a pup in the home and are interested in adding Dylan!



Homes with cats or younger children might not be the best fit, as he can be a bit unaware of his size and prefers a calmer environment. Dylan can be sensitive, so he'll thrive with an adopter who pays attention to his body language and gives him time to build trust. With the right home, Dylan has so much potential to be a loyal and rewarding companion.

The Adoption Center is located at 101 West Swanzey Road, outside of Keene on Route 10 South. It's open Thursday through Sunday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Learn more at www.monadnockhumane.org.

THREE LINKS



WANTED: ODD FELLOWS MEMORABILIA

Three Links Archaeology is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of Odd Fellows lodge contents and is seeking historical materials from the IOOF and other fraternal societies, including Masons, Foresters, Knights of Pythias, and others.

Items of interest include: Lithographs • Art Pins Regalia • Jewelry • Books • Certificates • Photographs

If you possess Odd Fellows or fraternal items and are interested in selling or receiving a free appraisal, contact:

drk-ioof@yahoo.com
Facebook: Three Links Archaeology
603-209-3315

22ND ANNUAL

THE WESTMORELAND PTA PRESENTS

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SPRING BOOK SALE

Friday • April 24
10am - 6pm

Saturday • April 25
10am - 5pm

Sunday • April 26
10am - 2pm
\$5/bag on Sunday

Heberton Hall, Keene Public Library
60 Winter Street • Keene, NH

Mr. Speed: A Night Of Kiss Tribute At Colonial

If you love the music of rock legend Kiss, you don't want to miss Mr. Speed: A Night of Kiss tribute band that will perform on Friday, May 8th at 7 p.m. at The Colonial Theatre in Keene.

Mr. Speed delivers the sights, sounds, and raw power of classic Kiss with a high-energy live show that's been thrilling fans for over 30 years. From iconic anthems to fan-favorite deep cuts, this is a full-throttle celebration of the music, attitude, and spectacle that made Kiss legendary.

With a performance that is said to be pure Kiss - loud, authentic, and unforgettable - this tribute band has performed worldwide, including a standout appearance on *The World's Greatest Tribute Bands* on AXS TV.

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

Fitzwilliam Community Church Spring Rummage And Bake Sale

The Fitzwilliam Community Church's Spring Rummage and Bake Sale will take place May 2nd from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The week before, April 27th to May 1st, the church will be open between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. to take clothes and linens donations. They are not accepting white elephant items but would appreciate clean and gently worn items.

The sale will feature bargains and bakery goods of all sorts. From noon to 1 p.m., the last hour, attendees can fill a bag for a donation.

Dance Features "Loose Change" This Saturday

Monadnock Tri-State Dance Club will hold a dance on Saturday, April 25th from 7 to 10:30 p.m. at the VFW in Winchester.

The dance will feature live music by Loose Change. There will be free refreshments, a 50/50 raffle, and all are welcome. Admission is \$12.

For more details, call Barbara at 603-392-0447.

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The Laura Broad Memorial Arts and Culture Series presents:



Mak'hela The Jewish Chorus of Western Massachusetts
מקהלה

Sunday, April 26th • 3:00 pm || Directed by Laine Ginsberg

This concert is free and open to the public.

Mak'hela, the Jewish Chorus of Western MA, is back with a vibrant program featuring a rich blend of songs in Hebrew, Yiddish, and English - from timeless classics to contemporary favorites. Feel the harmony. Share the joy. Join us!

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OBITUARIES

Norman Susee

November 7, 1938 - April 9, 2026

Norman Susee of Walpole, New Hampshire, passed away peacefully on April 9, 2026. He was 87 years old. Norm was born in 1938 in Keene, New Hampshire, to Joseph and Winifred (Tuttle) Susee. He grew up in Keene, carrying with him the values of a small-town upbringing that would shape the rest of his life—hard work, kindness, and a deep sense of community. He later proudly served his country in the United States Air Force and was stationed in Dover, Delaware. Before his time in the service, he could often be found playing guitar alongside his brother, Harold Buskey. After returning home to New Hampshire, that love of country music only grew stronger. He went on to form The Cousin Bros, a band that became a familiar and welcome presence throughout the region, first performing as Norm & Jerry (Brown). What started as a shared passion turned into something much bigger—bringing country music, laughter, and connection to countless people over the years; if you knew Norm, you knew country music was never far behind. The band's journey brought them to memorable stages, including the Cheshire Fairgrounds, where they opened for country legends like Barbara Mandrell, Sylvia, Billy "Crash" Craddock, and Webb Pierce. For Norm, those moments were special—but just as meaningful were the nights spent playing country music in local clubs, community halls, and anywhere people gathered to enjoy good music. At one point, his passion for music took him to Nashville, Tennessee, where Norm and Jerry recorded two original songs, "Tennessee Street Runner" and "Eat Your Heart Out," written with their good friend Art Cottrell. When "Eat Your Heart Out" reached number one on radio stations in several southern states, it became a proud milestone in a life already rich with music. Over the years, Norm shared the stage with many talented local musicians, including Davey Schroeder, Dave Lake, Dave Colburn, Roy Carroll, and Jerry Scadova. The Cousin Bros became well known for playing at places like The Valley Green, Stella's Cellar, The Hungry Lion, and The Top Hat, as well as at The Moose, the American Legion, and the VFW. They played at weddings, anniversaries, and gatherings of all kinds—anywhere people wanted to celebrate. Longtime drummers Mel Skinner and Tom Bruen kept the rhythm going. Sometimes, they would be joined by Roy Carroll on the fiddle or the guest voices of Anita Pelloy, Marie Norway, or Joy Goodnow, which added to the band's unmistakable sound. He later played in the band Playing Possum with Phil Bond, Mike Mialkowski and Toby and Terry Taylor. But for Norm, it was just as much about the people as it was the music. He loved seeing a room come alive, watching others smile, dance, and forget their worries for a while. And if you were lucky enough to hear him play, you probably remember how he liked to end the night—with the song, "The Party's Over"; it was a signature moment, one that now feels especially fitting, though the party is over, the joy he brought to so many will not be forgotten. Outside of music, Norm was the kind of person everyone could count on. He had a gift for fixing things—if something was broken, chances are Norm could make it work again. In his later years, he worked at L & B Trucking in Westminster, Vermont, where that dependability and skill never went unnoticed. He gave his time and talents freely, always ready to lend a hand. He also found peace in simpler moments, especially when fishing. Even though he rarely kept any for himself, he took real pleasure in sharing his catch with others—a small but perfect example of his generous spirit. At the center of everything was his family. Norm deeply loved his wife, his children, and his grandchildren. He showed that love not just in words, but in the quiet, steady ways he showed up—through his actions, his reliability, and his presence. He will be remembered for his country music, his work ethic, and, most of all, his kindness and willingness to help anyone in need. He was predeceased by his parents, Joseph and Winifred Susee; his brothers, Myron, Donald, Harold, Allen, and Bert Buskey; his son, Alan Susee; and grandsons, Jeremiah Lawrence and Keith Norman Snide. He is survived by his loving wife, Calla Susee; his sons, William and Kenneth of Dover, Delaware, and Robert Susee (Larry) of Albany, New York; and four stepchildren, whom he loved as his own: Brenda Vandusen of Xenia, Ohio; Wanda Lawrence (Kevin) of Rockingham, Vermont; Pamela Hoose (Jim) of Westminster, Vermont; and Kevin Rumlill of Lebanon, New Hampshire. He is also survived by his sisters, Shirley Page of Swanzey, New Hampshire; Barbara Shay of Winchester, New Hampshire; and Audrey Crosby of Plymouth, New Hampshire, along with many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. And though the final song has been played, the country music he loved—and the love he gave—will continue to echo in the hearts of all who knew him.



There will be a family graveside service at 12pm, on Saturday, April 25th. Please join us for a celebration of Norm's life at: The Moose Club, Henry Street, Bellows Falls, Vermont, at 1pm, April 25th. Light refreshments will be provided.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Fenton and Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, Vermont.

Celebrate their lives

Honor your loved ones with a photo in the Shopper. Call 603-352-5250, email obituaries@shoppernews.com or ask your funeral director for details.

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Mak'hela Returns To Keene Synagogue



Mak'hela, the Jewish Chorus of Western MA

The Laura Broad Memorial Arts & Culture Series will present Mak'hela, the Jewish Chorus of Western MA, returning for their annual concert at Congregation Ahavas Achim in Keene on Sunday, April 26th at 3 p.m. The concert will be directed by Laine Ginsberg and is free and open to the public.

Attendees will sing, smile, and be swept away by a vibrant mix of music in Hebrew, Yiddish, and English. From timeless classics to modern favorites by Carole King, Billy Joel, Paul Simon, Matisyahu, and more, Mak'hela brings the joy of Jewish music to life.

Congregation Ahavas Achim is located at 84 Hastings Avenue. For more details, call 603-352-6747 or visit www.keenesynagogue.org.

Keene Farmers' Market Open Saturdays

Opening Day for the Keene Farmers' Market is Saturday, April 25th. The market will be open every Saturday through the end of October from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Gilbo Avenue in Keene.

All vendors have grown, produced, or created what they sell. The market offers vegetables, fruits, cheese, meat, eggs, honey, and maple products. Bakers sell breads, cookies, granola, and other treats. Local crafters sell furniture, soaps, jewelry, and more. Each market features live music by local performers.

Credit and debit cards are accepted in exchange for tokens that can be redeemed with the vendors.

EBT cardholders are encouraged to attend the market and utilize the Granite State Market Match program to double their benefits.

More details on the market are available at www.keenefarmersmarket.com. Guest vendor applications, nonprofit tabling requests, sponsorship inquiries, or other questions can be sent to keenefarmersmarketmanager@gmail.com. For updates, follow the market on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/farmersmarketofkeene/> or on Instagram at [instagram.com/keenefarmersmarket](https://www.instagram.com/keenefarmersmarket).

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Grand Opening Of Peachy Keene Yarn Shop Friday, May 1st – Yarn Cutting With Mayor, Door Prizes, Refreshments



Mindy Winograd of Peachy Keene Yarn Shop offers an array of yarns and knitting supplies at her new store on Washington Street.

Yarn crafts – such as knitting and crocheting – provide an outlet for creativity, offer stress relief, and are an affordable and portable hobby.

A new yarn business at 82 Washington Street in Keene, Peachy Keene Yarn Shop, will hold its Grand Opening on Friday, May 1st, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The day includes a Yarn Cutting Ceremony with Mayor Jay Kahn, door prizes, and refreshments by Fresh Day Cafe.

Owner Mindy Winograd welcomes people to stop by to check out this unique shop offering an extensive list of quality goods. Her shelves and cubbies are full of yarn – many are Winograd’s own hand-dyed

creations, other fibers, tools, patterns, books, make-a-long kits, and more.

This entrepreneur’s plan to open Peachy Keene Yarn Shop is to provide a space for the community to come together over yarn while providing some of the best customer service around. There is a cozy, comfortable seating area for knitters to lounge around and worktables set up for classes.

Winograd dyes her own yarn and was selling her wares at farmers’ markets and exhibitions when she lived in Texas. She moved to New Hampshire so she could get the most out of her passion – “living in a knitwear-friendly climate” – and enjoys the opportunity to wear her knitted creations more than just a couple of hours a day!

Peachy Keene Yarn Shop is open Thursdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more details, call 603-400-3430 or visit www.knitkeene.com.

Women Of ‘76 At Millstream Community Center

The Hinsdale Historical Society will hold a presentation on Women of ‘76 at the Millstream Community Center on Sunday, April 26th at 1 p.m. This will follow the 12:30 p.m. annual meeting.

Participants will experience the untold stories of courage and conviction from five remarkable women who witnessed and shaped the American Revolution. The presentation is by Rita Parisi of Waterfall Productions

NH Humanities Big Watch In Marlborough

A commemoration and reflection on the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence will be held at Marlborough’s Community House on Wednesday, April 29th at 7 p.m. with a film screening and discussion. The Community House is located at 160 Main Street.

Attendees will watch a short excerpt from *The American Revolution*, a new film directed by Ken Burns, Sarah Botstein and David Schmidt, followed by a community discussion. The featured segment, *The Spirit of Service*, explores service as a core American value, from the nation’s founding through the present day – examining volunteerism, civic participation, public leadership, and more.

The community discussion will be facilitated by Mary C Kelly, PhD, Professor of History at Franklin Pierce University.

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Interesting Insects

We spend much time and energy, strangely, often to our own detriment, avoiding the annoyance and discomfort of interactions with insects. Granted, mosquitos seek out our blood as food, bedbugs too. They don't cause heart attacks or chop off our limbs, but their stings are itchy. Honey bees and hornets retaliate more painfully when disturbed. Many other insects though, we simply dislike or are afraid of without personal experience. Do you actually know anyone who has been bit, not just nibbled, by a millipede, silverfish, or cockroach? Well, today I ask you to tolerate three groups of necessary insects this season.

things eat them, and that's how the energy from the sun moves through food webs. Most animals don't eat the plants themselves, they eat something that ate the plant, and that something is typically caterpillars. So we have to design landscapes that support those caterpillars or the energy flow that supports the rest of life is stopped." Consider every holey leaf in your landscape wholly this season. Decide to share your plant leaves for the benefit of all the baby birds in our community.

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Bees & Flies: Pollinators

Maybe you already know that our eco region has more than 400 native, many teeny-tiny, bees. They do not make honey, have nothing to defend, and so they no interest in bothering us. If provoked, they sting with less pain than honeybees. They are, however, more efficient pollinators. In particular, the buzz pollination of our bumblebees is the most effective because the vibrating of their pollen-covered body does a great job of mixing pollen between flowers. Then there are the second place pollinators, hoverflies. We recognize them as some sort of striped hybrid bee and hornet with bulging eyes. They have no stingers but "they visit us for our sweat" Kristie Reddick, an entomologist and half of the duo who make up The Bug Chicks, told us during an NPR Cultivating Place interview last summer. "We're like a giant walking potato chip. They'll land on us, dab their little tongues on us, get a little lick, and they're balancing their electrolytes in the same way that we do with salty electrolyte drinks." Approximately 75% of North American plants require pollination. So maybe, let's leave our perennial plant stalks cut at 18-24" heights for the 30% of native bees that nest in pithy stems and leave some bare soil for the 70% that are ground nesting. You'll see their little holes. Hoverflies are easier to accommodate, nesting in rotten wood, leaves, damp soil, or compost.

Mosquitos: Food & Pollinators

I get it. Their bites are not fun. But did you know that 99% of the dead bugs in that snappy zapper on your deck are not mosquitoes? The vast majority of the dead insects you see were supposed to be the food that parent birds need for their babies. Cornell University tells us that we have lost 3 billion birds since 1970. Lack of insects (remember when we used to have to wipe them off of our car windshields?) from various pesticides is a main cause. Mosquito larvae are also an important food source for fish. And lastly, mosquitos actually pollinate flowers as well because they feed on nectar too. This year, you could, instead, skip the fancy gadgets that spray metofluthrin, classified as a hazard class 2 neurotoxin, and plug in an oscillating fan close to your outdoor seating area to keep the air moving. I use Avon's Skin So Soft when hiking. Done, no more bites, Bob's your uncle.

For your health and the benefit of everyone's veggie and fruit plants, as well as the baby songbirds, become a pollinator protector. Email me, michele@healthyhomehabitats.com, a photo of you handing your insecticides to an attendant at Keene's next Household Hazardous Waste Disposal day, April 28th, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. I'll mail you native Aster seeds for free!

Michele Chalice, owner of @HealthyHomeHabitats, an environmental landscape consulting and education firm in Keene, NH, loves to talk with groups and new clients about how their home landscapes can shift to growing native plants and food; special places for their family, pollinators and wildlife. 603-313-9153 or michele@healthyhomehabitats.com

Caterpillars: Food & Pollinators

Douglas Tallamy – professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware in Newark, DE – tells us that "In terms of insects, caterpillars are the most important group in transferring energy from plants to other organisms. They're eating more plant material than any other type of insects and more

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Electrify This Earth Month

Every year on April 22, people around the world celebrate Earth Day. It is a time to think about how our daily choices affect the planet and what we can do to protect it. Electrification is one of the best ways we, as individuals, can make a difference. While the word may sound complicated, the idea is simple. Electrification means using electricity instead of fossil fuels like oil, gas, and coal to power the things we use every day.

From cars and buses to home heating and cooking, many parts of modern life still depend on fossil fuels. These fuels release greenhouse gases when burned, which trap heat in the atmosphere and contribute to climate change. Scientists agree that reducing these emissions is key to protecting the earth. Electrification offers one important way to do that.

One of the most visible examples of electrification is the rise of electric vehicles, often called EVs. Unlike traditional cars that run on gasoline, EVs use batteries and electric motors. This means they do not produce exhaust fumes while driving. As more people switch to electric cars, the amount of pollution from transportation can decrease. School buses, city buses, and even delivery trucks are also starting to go electric.

Electrification is not just about transportation – it also includes how we power our homes. Many houses today use natural gas or oil for heating and cooking. Switching to electric heat pumps and induction stoves can help reduce emissions, and keep indoor air quality safe and healthy.

Electrification is not a single solution to climate change, but it is an important part of a larger effort. By switching from fossil fuels to electricity – especially clean electricity – communities can reduce pollution, improve air quality, and build a more sustainable future.

If you are ready to start your electrification journey, or just want to learn more, join the Monadnock Sustainability Hub on Saturday, May 30th from 10 a.m. to noon at Keene Public Library's Heberton Hall for the launch of their new program, the Electrify Monadnock Fund. Meet with home energy coaches, contractors, and members of the Hub. Register today: bit.ly/EMLaunch

As Earth Day reminds us, protecting the planet is a shared responsibility. Electrification offers a clear path forward, one that combines new technology with everyday actions. With continued effort and innovation, it will help power a cleaner, healthier world for generations to come.

Rachel Ranelli is the current Program Manager for the Monadnock Sustainability Hub, a 501c3 nonprofit whose mission is to reduce climate pollution and reach 100% clean energy in the region. She is a 2023 graduate of Franklin Pierce University, with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, graduating with honors and a Sustainability Certificate.



Green Monadnock
with Rachel Ranelli

Another important part of electrification is how electricity itself is produced. If electricity comes from coal-fired power plants, it can still create pollution. However, the United States and many other countries are increasing their use of renewable energy. Wind turbines and solar panels generate electricity without burning fuel, making them much cleaner options. As the power grid becomes greener, electrification becomes even more effective in reducing pollution.

There are also economic benefits to electrification. Electric vehicles often cost less to maintain than gas-powered cars because they have fewer moving parts. Homeowners who switch to electric systems may save money on energy bills over time, especially as technology improves. In addition, the growing demand for clean energy is creating new jobs in manufacturing, installation, and maintenance.

This Earth Day, think about small steps you can take. Not everyone can buy an electric car right away, but there are other choices that make a difference. Using energy-efficient appliances, turning off lights when not in use, and supporting renewable energy programs are all ways to help.

Keene Business Takes On Red Pine Scale Infestation

A Red Pine Scale infestation has taken hold along Maple Avenue and nearby streets in Keene. The blight is an invasive, sap-sucking insect that kills red pine trees by feeding on their inner bark, creating white, cottony, wax-like masses on branches. There are no effective control methods to battle the infestation other than complete tree removal. Many dead trees will be cleared before they become hazardous – a development that hasn't been lost on Matt DeGrosky, owner of Monadnock Shutter & Shade.

"We've been following the updates about the Maple Avenue tree removal and reforestation plans and our hearts are with the neighbors who are about to feel that change in a very real way," says DeGrosky. "For many homeowners, those trees weren't just trees, they offered privacy, comfort, shade, and a sense of being tucked away."

DeGrosky is offering residents in affected areas a discounted price on select window coverings in what he's calling his first, and possibly only (ever) discount promotion. "No pressure, no big sales push, this is just our way of showing up for our neighbors," explains DeGrosky. "Whether it's adding privacy where you've lost it, cutting down new glare, or simply making your space feel a little more like yours again, we have a solution."

For more details about the Red Pine Scale Sale, call 603-352-0511 or see the ad on page 4.



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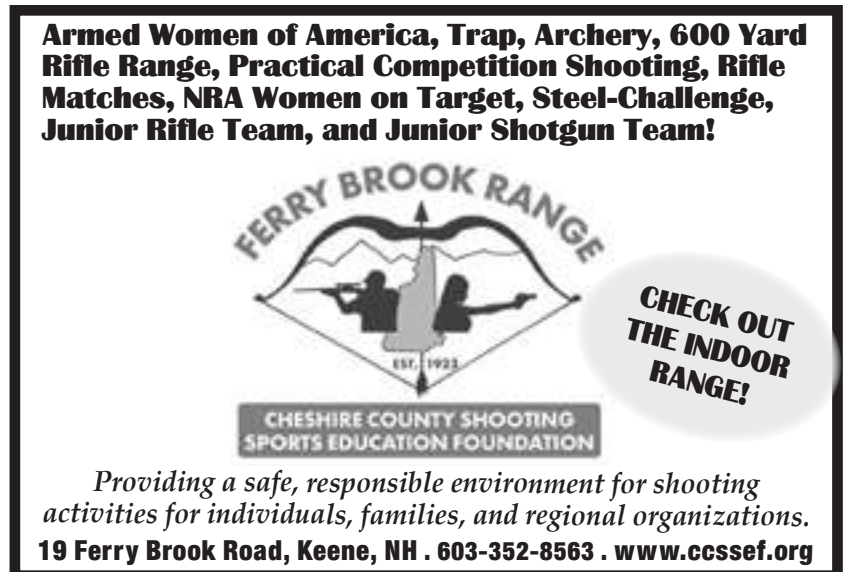
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	Close	Week's Change		Close	Week's Change
Honeywell (Allied Signal)	233.55	(1.51)	Danaher Corp. (Kollmorgen)	194.75	5.14
Becton Dickinson (C.R. Bard)	158.54	4.32	Merck (Hubbard Farms)	119.07	(2.35)
Toronto Dominion Bank (TD Bank)	105.35	4.64	Deluxe (NEBS)	30.62	2.51
PC Connection	64.29	1.87	Teleflex (Jaffrey)	131.58	13.19
Bank Of America (Fleet)	53.91	1.37	Timken (MPB Corp.)	107.66	0.91
Corning Inc.	164.38	(6.86)	M&T Bank Corp. (People's United)	218.79	(1.13)
Ametek, Inc. (Precitech)	236.26	1.35	Dover Corp. (Markem)	219.07	1.95

PRECIOUS METALS	Close	Week's Change	COMMODITIES	Close	Week's Change
Silver (\$ per ounce)	81.87	5.33	Wheat (cents per bushel)	598.00	28.00
Gold (\$ per ounce)	4,869.60	85.80	Corn (cents per bushel)	457.00	6.25
Platinum (\$ per ounce)	2,113.40	66.17	Soybeans (cents per bushel)	1,181.50	7.00
			Cattle (cents per pound)	247.15	(1.93)
			Crude (\$ per barrel)	85.20	(11.05)

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Long-Term Resilience During Geopolitical Instability

As the Iran conflict enters its second month, geopolitical stress continues to test investors. Historical stock market performance during geopolitical conflicts helps remind us that stocks are far more resilient than the moment may suggest. As we assess today's environment and the uncertainties surrounding ongoing military operations in Iran, we focus on two past conflicts we believe are instructive, though past performance does not guarantee future results.

The two periods offer contrasts. In 1990, at the start of the first Gulf War, the US economy was slipping into recession. Corporate profits were flattening, inflation remained elevated, and consumer confidence was fragile. With little fundamental support in place, markets initially struggled. Yet even then, equities began recovering well before the conflict formally ended, anticipating eventual stabilization.

By contrast, in 2003, when the Iraq War began, the economy had already healed from the dotcom bust and the 2001–2002 corporate accounting scandals. Corporate earnings were rebounding, monetary policy was supportive, and valuations were reasonable. With stronger fundamentals in place, markets responded positively after hostilities started and began a five-year bull market that didn't peak until October 2007.

Today, we see elements of both periods – but importantly, we do not see evidence that the long-term economic or earnings outlook has been meaningfully impaired. First and foremost, a demilitarized Iranian regime would ultimately contribute to a safer world and more stable markets, mitigating a key geopolitical risk that has persisted for nearly five decades. From a market perspective, nothing about the current conflict undermines our confidence in the long-term attractiveness of equities. For stocks, the more positive 2003 path seems more likely than 1990.

Beyond the human element, we can all acknowledge that this environment is uncomfortable. The

damage the Iranian regime has inflicted on energy and other infrastructure in the region is unsettling. Iran maintains control of the Strait of Hormuz. There is no easy off ramp. Yet history shows that markets often recover well before geopolitical tensions fully resolved and frequently with surprising force once clarity begins to emerge. As stocks hinted at with big gains on the last day of March, that outcome remains possible in our view.



While no one can predict how long this period of volatility will last, the underlying economic foundation and corporate America's earnings power remain strong. Attractive opportunities are likely to emerge from this downdraft once U.S. military objectives are achieved and tankers can move freely through the strait.

We believe it important to keep portfolio risk at or near long-term targets and remain well diversified. For long-term focused investors, we see opportunities to take advantage of weakness. Please feel free to reach out to me if you need a second opinion on your investment strategy.

No Strategy assures success or protects against loss. Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor, Member FINRA/SIPC

Joshua I. Houle, CFP is Founder and Wealth Manager of Houle Wealth Management at 143 West Street in Keene. He can be reached at 603-352-0222/ josh.houle@lpl.com.

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Tri-State Restoration – Your Neighbors In Restoration

RESTORATION, Continued from page 1

He proceeds by saying that the growth over the past two years has been driven largely by word-of-mouth referrals and strong community trust, reflecting their commitment to reliable, high-quality service.

Tri-State Restoration services include water, fire, and smoke damage; mold remediation; and blown-in insulation removal.

"I highly recommend Tri-State Restoration after seeing them in action on another job," says customer Pam O'Brien. "I had pipes burst soon after and called them in for this emergency. Sam and his team came immediately, knowing exactly what to do. They are extremely knowledgeable, fast, friendly, and very trustworthy and compassionate. They followed through on every detail."

Customer Gregory Potter has this to say about his experience: "We had a plumbing leak and subsequent mold problem that we discovered six months into our first pregnancy. What could have easily been a very stressful process was easy and hassle-free, thanks to Tri-State Restoration. We spoke to several experts and got several quotes before choosing them for the project. They understood how to work with the insurance company, jumped on the project right away, ended up under budget (by a lot!), stuck to their timeline, went out of the way to address the little things we mentioned, followed through on everything they said they would, and the finished product is better than it ever was before. Save yourself some time and stop looking for your remediation expert, you've found them!"

Sam says that they have invested in American-made equipment, supporting domestic manufacturing when possible while ensuring durability and top-tier performance in the field. One such manufacturer that Tri-State Restoration uses for carpet cleaning is The Butler System – a truck-mounted steam cleaning service that allows for deep cleaning, faster drying time, and exceptional results.

"We have an ongoing commitment to staying

current with industry best practices and equipment advancements, ensuring clients receive effective, modern restoration and cleaning solutions," he adds.

Tri-State Restoration goes the extra mile with continuing education offered in the industry. Most recently, one of their technicians received an Institute of Inspection, Cleaning, and Restoration Certification in carpet cleaning when they sent him to Georgia.

"We have also increased our capacity to serve customers more efficiently through strategic expansion of our service fleet – helping us respond faster to residential and commercial needs across the region," Rebecca says.

Bruce Kramer has this to say about Tri-State Restoration: "Sam visited our house several times to understand the source of our mold problem. Once he had a clear idea of the problem, he put together a plan, and he and his excellent staff executed it. He was great to work with, and they did excellent work."

Tri-State Restoration is more than just a restoration company – they are your neighbors, deeply committed to the well-being of a shared community.

"We have strengthened our presence as a trusted local business, building long-term relationships with homeowners, property managers, and community partners," Rebecca says. "We have pride in being a locally-rooted company, contributing to and growing alongside the community we serve."

She continues by saying that the business is actively involved in communities through local sponsorships and charitable donations – reflecting their commitment to giving back to the area they serve. This includes various school/sports program sponsorships, Growth by Giving Music Festival, Keene Housing Kids Collaborative, Swanzey Recreation, Elijah's Race half-marathon, Cedarcrest, David's House, and others.

Tri-State Restoration gives discounted rates to veterans and others in times of need. The business is located at 28 Monadnock Highway (Route 12 South) in North Swanzey. For more details or a free estimate, call 603-352-6802, email info@tristaterestoration.info, or visit www.tristaterestoration.info.

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Drinking Habits 2: Caught In The Act Production Planned

PRODUCTION, Continued from page 1

So, the two Sisters decide to put on a play written by Mother Superior (Traci Booth), who plays the lead role, naturally. Poor Paul offers to direct this opus, with Father Chenille (Ray Mahoney) taking every opportunity to display his magic tricks that never quite work. Then there is Sally (Tara Gillard) who, unbeknownst to Paul, is at the convent looking to help even she left Paul at the altar ... again. Of course everything goes hilariously wrong.

Tickets go fast; call the ticket line 603-242-2314. If special seating arrangements are required, mention it when calling, otherwise, it's first-come first-serve for seating. Pay by cash or check at the door, no credit cards.

For more details about this show, visit www.smallpondpresents.org.

MARCO POLO GARDEN
MYSTERY PHOTO

The first person to answer the question correctly at 9:30 a.m. or after on Friday will receive a \$25 gift certificate to Marco Polo Garden on Main Street in Keene. 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)



This bridge, constructed in 1889, connected what two towns?



The winner of last week's Mystery Photo was Andrea Sheldon of Keene. The early 1900s class photo was taken at Franklin School.

Sound Bath Event At Aloha In Keene

On Sunday, April 26th, Aloha, located on court Street in Keene, will host Priscilla Gale. Gale is returning with Himalayan metal bowls along with gongs for a sound bath. The event will take place from 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Redcoats & Rebels: NH And The American Revolution Presentation Set

New Hampshire's contribution to the Revolutionary War has long been overlooked. Some of its patriots' substantial activities happened before July 4, 1776. They secured a British fort, wrote the first State Constitution and provided a substantial number of fighters at Bunker Hill. On Wednesday, April 29th, people can learn more about New Hampshire's contributions at the Chesterfield Town Hall on Route 63 at 7 p.m.

Letter: Shining A Light On The Volunteers Who Strengthen The Community

To The Editor:
During National Volunteer Week (April 19-25), Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services (HCS) celebrates the volunteers whose dedication and generosity strengthen our community every day.

Each year, more than 100 volunteers give their time to HCS through our programs. Our Meals on Wheels volunteers deliver meals and provide essential safety checks for homebound adults; Event volunteers support annual Poinsettia Sales and Butterfly Release; and Hospice Volunteers are key members of our team, giving their time to be with patients and their families, offering essential respite and emotional support. Together with board and committee members who help guide the organization, they help bring care, support, and compassion to people throughout the Monadnock Region.

These acts of service may not always be visible, but together they shine a

powerful light across our community, bringing comfort to those facing illness, reassurance to families, and connection to neighbors who might otherwise feel alone.

Because of these generous individuals, the Monadnock Region continues to be a place where neighbors care for neighbors. We are deeply grateful for the time, kindness, and commitment our volunteers share. Their willingness to step forward, often quietly, makes an extraordinary difference in the lives of the people and families we serve.

National Volunteer Week is also an invitation. If you would like to become part of the HCS volunteer team, please call 603-352-2253 or visit www.hcsservices.org/volunteer to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

With gratitude,
**Kathy Baird, Volunteer Manager
Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services**

Blue Water Pool & Spa In Swanzey Under New Partnership – Anniversary Sale April 24th To May 4th

PARTNERSHIP, Continued from page 1

He welcomes the addition of Drawing and Fisher to help refresh and renew what he started. One change for these customer service-focused partners is the pairing with a new spa line that can handle the coldest of climates. Another change that will be offered is professional winter services to help protect and maintain spas against the freezing elements, ensuring the longevity of the equipment.

Blue Water Pool & Spa will hold its anniversary sale from Friday, April 24th, through Monday, May 4th, and welcomes everyone to stop by to meet the new owners. This 10-day sale includes the lowest prices on everything

from chemicals to above-ground pools. This locally owned and operated business carries – but is not limited to – pumps, filters, skimmers, ladders, solar items, thermometers, pipes, fittings, parts, chemicals, bromine, as well as pools, spas, and retractable enclosures.

Blue Water Pool & Spa provides full services that include pool openings, pool closings, and weekly maintenance and full-season pool service contracts. They also install in-ground and above-ground pools.

For more details, call 603-355-1500, email bluewaterpoolandspanh@gmail.com, or visit www.bluewaterpoolandspanh.com.

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Jordan Nadeau, daughter of Celsea Nadeau, Tim LaBounty & Dennis Nadeau, Hinsdale, 11

April 24, 2026
Weslyn Naeck, daughter of Cody & Olivia Naeck, Swanzey, 4

April 25, 2026
Cole Michael Davis, son of Michael & Nicole Davis Jr., Swanzey, 12
Grayson Heinemann, son of Megan Kilanski & Brad Heinemann, Brookline VT, 4

April 27, 2026
Andrew Woiciechowski, son of Valerie & Peter Woiciechowski, Rindge, 8
Alexander Woiciechowski, son of Valerie & Peter Woiciechowski, Rindge, 8

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Weslyn Naeck, Swanzey, 4
Andrew Woiciechowski, Rindge, 8



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Make This Mother's Day Unique And Personal

FAMILY, Continued from page 16

Then spend the day together virtually, cooking the same dish, watching the same movie, or going to favorite spots in your respective areas sharing those special places through video and photos. The coordination shows care, and the shared experience bridges the miles.

There's also something deeply meaningful about acts of legacy. Consider working with mom to document family traditions, recipes, or stories that might otherwise be lost. Spend the day interviewing her about her childhood, her favorite memories, and the lessons she's learned. Turn those conversations into a printed keepsake or digital archive. It's a gift that honors not just who she is as a mother, but who she is as a person with a rich history. The keepsake could also become a fun gift for younger generations to foster that connection with her.

Another option is to find a way of giving back in her honor. Choose a cause that matters to her and spend the day volunteering together or making a meaningful contribution. Whether it's helping at a local shelter, planting trees, or organizing a small

community effort, the shared purpose can make the day feel bigger than yourselves. It's a powerful way to celebrate the values she's passed down.

Finally, don't underestimate the impact of specificity. Highly personal gestures will resonate much more than a generic gift. Instead of just thanking her and telling her you love her, highlight the exact things she's done that have shaped your life. Tell her about the advice she gave, the sacrifices she made, and the quiet ways she showed up that really made a difference in your life.

Mother's Day doesn't need to be extravagant to be memorable. What matters most is intention – the willingness to pause, reflect, and celebrate her in a way that feels true to who she is. Whether it's an adventure, a quiet retreat, or a shared project, the goal is the same – to create a moment to remind Mom that you recognize all the little things she has done for you and how much you appreciate them. With a little creativity and care, Mother's Day can become a day of real connection that will build memories for a lifetime.

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.

Live Reptile Programs And More At Peterborough Library

The Peterborough Town Library at 2 Concord Street will host Morphs & Milestones, a non-profit that will be bringing reptile ambassadors to the library for two shows on Tuesday, April 28th at 11a.m. and 1 p.m. Each presentation will consist of an educational portion and a meet and greet with the reptile ambassadors. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

There is additional programming during April Vacation week.

For more details about the programs, visit www.PeterboroughTownLibrary.org.

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Balance

When I was in sixth grade, I decided I wanted to be on the gymnastics team. Since I grew up in a town that was very sports-heavy, this soon proved to be quite a challenging goal. I soon realized I would never make the team in floor exercise or uneven bars. Which left the balance beam, by default.

and shakes more. All the while, the legs seem to be being slowly sawed away.

In this way, we find ourselves in a most precarious state of unbalance. Wondering if what seemed not long ago to be steady and solid will soon self-destruct in flames or, maybe, ICE.

In such an unbalanced time, how do we maintain our own balance?

It is true that each of us are unique, such that what may work well for one person may not for another. Nonetheless, it can be inspirational to learn from those who

have experienced deeper dislocations and disruptions than most of us are facing now.

With this in mind, here is a short story about a man I once met in Chile and what he told me.

The subject of this story is a Mapuche man. This man had been a fierce opponent of the military junta that ruled Chile from 1973 to 1990. During those years, as a result of his clandestine efforts against the military government, he experienced both exile and a long stint as a political prisoner that included torture.

He told me how a stone helped him greatly during this time. That it was his grandmother who told him he needed such a stone for protection and where to find it. Which was a remote beach. It took him a week to find the stone, walking up and down the beach every day.

He showed me the stone. To my eyes, it looked like a regular stone.

Nothing special.

I asked how this stone had protected him.

He said that, of course, the stone was not magic. It did not cover him with a shield of invisibility. No stone could do that.

What the stone did, he continued, was to help him maintain his internal energy. So he would stay balanced and strong within, no matter what happened to him on the outside.

Stones are, after all, the most stable kind of beings on planet Earth.

If you feel so inclined, maybe you could try to find your own balance stone. Not by purchasing a fancy stone in a store or online. By going out in nature and asking to meet such a stone.

And if such a stone comes to you, welcome the stone. Ask the stone if they are willing to be used to help you maintain your balance and internal energy. But first, give it a small offering of a prayer or a song

or a pinch of sage.

See what happens.

Maybe keeping the stone close by and/or holding it in your hands at times will help you feel more grounded and balanced. And in this way help you stay strong within, no matter what is swirling around outside of your body, mind, and heart.

Wishing you balance in this season of balance, which is springtime.

Skye Stephenson enjoys writing and researching about sacred stones and place. She lives in Keene. <https://skystephenson.com/>

Healing Perspectives
with Skye Stephenson



I practiced for several months on the four-inch-wide beam. I learned how to walk without falling off, then walk and dip, until eventually I could do a backward roll and a headstand on the beam.

Tryouts came. I was aiming for the third spot (out of three) for balance beam. I thought I had an excellent chance. But then a friend who had not even hinted she was interested in the balance beam was standing there at the tryouts. And her strong performance knocked me off the team.

Thus ended my short and, ultimately, unsuccessful stint on the balance beam.

These days, I sometimes feel as if we are all collectively walking on a balance beam of sorts. But unlike the gymnastic balance beam with sturdy legs and a straight and solid body – the collective balance beam appears different day by day, hour by hour. It curves first one way, then the other. Then it shakes,

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Wednesday, Apr. 22

MISCELLANEOUS

Home Healthcare Hospice & Community Services: Walk-in Wednesdays-By Appointment HCS Charlestown, 33 Arborway. Confidential, free of charge discussion of services that are available. **603-352-2253**. www.HCSservices.org.

Home Healthcare Hospice & Community Services: Walk-in Wednesdays 1-3pm. HCS Peterborough, 454 Old Street Road Medical Arts Building, Suite 208. Confidential, free of charge discussion of services that are available. **603-352-2253**. www.HCSservices.org.

Walk-in Wednesdays 1-3pm. Family Resource Center at HCS, 312 Marlboro Street, Keene. Confidential, free of charge discussion of services that are available. From Healthy Starts to Hospice care. **603-352-2253**. www.HCSservices.org.

Celebrating Robert J. DiLuzio Sr.: 65 Years of Funeral Service 4-7pm. Keene Country Club, 755 West Hill Rd., Keene. With special recognition of Linda DiLuzio for 55 years of service and support.

Cosy Sheridan Concert 7-9pm. Dublin Community Center, 1123 Main St., Dublin. Backed by the strong rhythms and harmonies of Charlie Koch on bass and Kent Allyn on keyboard, her concerts are a wide-ranging, entertaining, and tuneful experience. Tickets \$20 pre-sale/\$25 at the door. **603-563-8080**. info@dublincommunitycenter.org. www.dubhub-nh.org/calendar.

FAIRS & SALES

Rummage Sale and Flea Market 8am-2pm. United Church of Christ, 23 Central Square, Keene. One day only. \$5 per bag sale from 12:30-2pm.

Spring Rummage Sale & Flea Market 9am-1pm. Marlborough Community House, 160 Main St., Marlborough. Gently used clothing, home goods, books, & toys. All items 1/2 price on Saturday until noon and then the bag sale.

Keene Public Library April Book Sale 10am-5pm. The Keene Public Library, 60 Winter St., Keene. Sale contains military books with material on the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, WWII, and International Library of Technology books. Fiction and non-fiction. Children's books, CDs, and DVDs.

FAMILY FUN

Teddy Bear Clinic and Touch-a-Truck Event 9am-1:30pm. Cheshire Medical, 62 Maple Ave, Keene. The Teddy Bear Clinic is most beneficial for children ages 2 to 12 and provides parents with a powerful tool to decrease fear and anxiety for their children during healthcare visits. Register at teddybearclinic@cheshire-med.com.

Saturday Storytime 10:30am. Peterborough Town Library, 2 Concord St., Peterborough. Head of Youth Services will share stories, sing songs and more – all ages are welcome. Stories will be on the shorter side with movement and songs in between to help keep younger listeners engaged throughout. Free. **603-924-8040**. www.PeterboroughTownLibrary.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rindge Earth Day Trash Collection 8am-12pm. Rindge Transfer Station. Bring your blue Earth Day bags filled with roadside trash to the Rindge Transfer Station. Each filled bag will entitle one to one raffle ticket. There will be four prizes of \$50 each, two for adults and two for children. Prizes will be awarded at noon. Rindgewomansclub@gmail.com.

50th Anniversary Celebration Continues 10am-2pm. Horse & Buggy Feeds, Rt. 12, Winchendon. Monadnock Kitty Rescue with cats for adoption event. **978-297-2518**.

"50 & Better" Event 10am-2pm. HCS, 312 Marlboro Street, Keene. Designed to connect older adults, caregivers, and families with local resources that support healthy aging, independence, and quality of life. **603-352-2253**. www.HCSservices.org.

Drive Electric: EV Showcase 11am-3pm. Whitney Brothers Parking Lot, 93 Railroad St, Keene. This expo will feature a wide range of EV models, plus firsthand insights from knowledgeable owners who know what it's really like to make the switch.

Spring Rummage Sale & Flea Market
One Day Only!



Saturday April 25
 8:00am-12:00pm
 12:30-2:00pm

United Church of Christ
 23 Central Square • Keene, NH

Thursday, Apr. 23

MISCELLANEOUS

Cheshire Village at Home Social: "The Landscape of Fraud" 1:15pm. Keene Senior Center, 312 Marlboro St., Keene. For more details and to register call **603-903-9680**.

Cousins in Conversation: Susie Spikol and Deborah Lee Luskin 6-7:30pm. Keene Public Library, Ruth Huntress Auditorium, 60 Winter St., Keene. Cousins Spikol and Luskin were both born in New York, and grew up on pavement, and have now been living in northern New England for decades. Join as they discuss how they followed different paths to similar ends: a deep love for the northern forest, language and stories. Amy Kraemer: **603-352-0157**. akraemer@keenenh.gov.

Red Cross Blood Drive 12-4:30pm. Rindge Meeting House, 6 Payson Hill Road, Rindge. To make appointment call **800-733-2767**. www.redcrossblood.org.

Friday, Apr. 24

ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

Opening Reception of Organic Abstraction and Improvisations: Alexander Pope 5-7pm. Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main St., Jaffrey. New exhibition of sculptural ceramic work by Alexander Pope. The event is free and open to the public and will include light refreshments and an opportunity to meet the artist. Jaffrey Civic Center: **603-532-6527**.

Opening Reception: Specimens by Peter Sandback 5-7pm. Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main St., Jaffrey. The event is free and open to the public. Jaffrey Civic Center: **603-532-6527**.

The Power Station Coffeehouse Ministry 6pm. Whitcomb Hall, 17 Main St., West Swanzey. Intimate coffeehouse setting, where people gather to share about Jesus Christ over a cup of coffee. Tom Travers: **603-381-9077**. www.powerstation-nh.com/.

60th Anniversary Spring Show 12-5pm. Jaffrey Civic Center, 40 Main St., Jaffrey. The event is free and open to the public. Jaffrey Civic Center: **603-532-6527**.

FAIRS & SALES

Spring Rummage Sale & Flea Market 3-6pm. Marlborough Community House, 160 Main St., Marlborough. Gently used clothing, home goods, books, & toys. All items 1/2 price on Saturday until noon and then the bag sale.

Keene Public Library April Book Sale 10am-6pm. The Keene Public Library, 60 Winter St., Keene. Sale contains military books with material on the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, WWII, and International Library of Technology books. Mid-20th Century fiction and non-fiction. Children's books, CDs, and DVDs.

Earth Day Fair & Market 12-4pm. Franklin Pierce University, DiPietro Library Courtyard, Rindge. The market will feature local food and craft vendors, as well as local organizations seeking to help people take action to become more sustainable. Swap Shop, where anyone can grab a used clothing or household item for free. Local craftspeople will be selling unique handmade items, such as lotions, soaps, hand sewn bags and other crafted goods. Home-made baked goods.

FAMILY FUN

Homeschool Library Day 11am. Conant Public Library, 111 Main St., Winchester. A time when homeschool families can meet together, find resources, and have fun. Come on in and make a craft, check out a book, and hang with other homeschool families. Meeting every other Friday, this event is open to all homeschoolers. **603-239-4331**. www.conantlibrary.org/.

MISCELLANEOUS

Plastic Bag Presentation: Environmental Nightmare 7-8pm. Peterborough Town Library, 1833 Room, 2 Concord St., Peterborough. This presentation about the very real perils of plastic bags, their cost to communities, and actions to take to reduce their many harms. Plastic-free refreshments. Bring personal reusable water bottles.

Saturday, Apr. 25

ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

Monadnock Tri-State Dance Club 7-10:30pm. VFW, 35 Main St., Winchester. Featuring live music by "Loose Change". There will be free refreshments, a 50/50 raffle, and all are welcome. Admission is \$12. Barbara: **603-392-0447**.

Sunday, Apr. 26

ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

Hurry Up And Paint Workshop: Steve Previte 9am-4pm. Stone Arch Village, 835 Court Street, Keene. Participants will learn to dominate their paintings by making forceful artistic statements with the use of color, brushwork, and paint application while working quickly on several paintings. This workshop is primarily for oil painters, but other mediums would work, as well. \$85 Monadnock Area Artists Association member, \$100 non-member. Registration at www.monadnockareaartists.org.

FAIRS & SALES

Keene Public Library April Book Sale: \$5/bag day 10am-2pm. The Keene Public Library, 60 Winter St., Keene. Sale contains military books with material on the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, WWII, and International Library of Technology books. Mid-20th Century fiction and non-fiction. Children's books, CDs, and DVDs. Fill a bag with books and pay just \$5.

MISCELLANEOUS

Hinsdale Historical Society Presents Women of '76 1pm. Millstream Community Center, 19 Main St., Hinsdale. Experience the untold stories of courage and conviction from 5 remarkable women who witnessed and shaped the American Revolution. Annual meeting at 12:30 followed by the program at 1.

Himalayan Metal Bowls: Priscilla Gale 4-5:30pm. Aloha Keene, 83 Court St., Keene. Himalayan metal bowls along with gongs sound bath. Not to be missed. \$35. www.vagaro.com/alohakeene.

Monday, Apr. 27

FAMILY FUN

Lego Drop-In Day 11am-5pm. Peterborough Town Library, 2 Concord St., Peterborough. **603-924-8040**. www.PeterboroughTownLibrary.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

Teen Crafternoon: Diamond Painting Coasters 1-2pm. Kay Fox Room, Keene Public Library, 60 Winter St., Keene. Middle and high schoolers, join this month for a special school break. Taking on the newest crafting trend: Diamond Painting! Similar to paint-by-numbers, join for a relaxing afternoon of making a coaster with tExTuRe! Due to limited spots registration is recommended. Eleanor Green: **603-352-0157**. egreen@keenenh.gov.


Red Cross Blood Drive 10am-3pm. Park Theatre, 19 Main St., Jaffrey. Donors are asked to call or visit to schedule appointment at **800-733-2767**. www.RedCrossBlood.org.

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Cosy Sheridan Concert Saturday, April 25th



Cosy Sheridan

Cosy Sheridan and her band will perform on Saturday, April 25th at 7 p.m. at the DubHub at 1123 Main Street in Dublin, with an evening of songs and stories. Sheridan has played at Carnegie Hall and the Cowgirl Hall of Fame as well as at coffee houses throughout the country. She plays a percussive, bluesy guitar, often in open tunings and occasionally with two or more capos on the neck. Backed by the strong rhythms and harmonies of Charlie Koch on bass and Kent Allyn on keyboard, her concerts are a

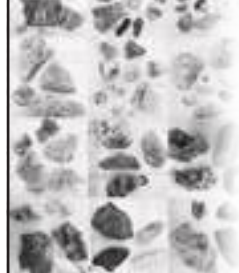
wide-ranging, entertaining, and tuneful experience. Sheridan first appeared on the national folk scene in 1992 when she won songwriting contests at both the Kerrville Folk Festival and Telluride Bluegrass Festival. She likes to make people happy at her concerts, and has been called one of our era's finest and most thoughtful songwriters. She teaches workshops in songwriting, guitar, and performance all over the country, and is the founder and director of Moab Folk Camp in Moab, Utah.

Tickets are \$20 pre-sale, and \$25 the day of the show. This concert is sure to sell out.

One source referred to Sheridan as a buddhist monk in a 12-step program trapped in the body of a singer-songwriter.

For more details, contact info@dublincommunitycenter.org or visit <https://www.dubhub-nh.org/events/cosy-sheridan-concert-1> for more ticket information.

Annual Keene Mineral Club Auction



Saturday, May 2nd
2:00 p.m.
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Chamber Singers of Keene **From AGE to AGE**

Sunday, May 3 • 7pm
St. James Church • Keene, NH

The Chamber Singers of Keene invite you to attend this concert under the direction of Morgan Bothwell, accompanied by Kirsten Davis.

Musical selections range from the Renaissance period to contemporary works by local composer, Cheryl Sharrock.

Tickets are \$20
Available from members in advance or at the door.

Tuesday, Apr. 28

MISCELLANEOUS

Bringing Up Beaver: John Aberth 7pm. Putney Public Library, 55 Main St., Putney, VT. Aberth's presentation will bring the story to life, offering audiences an intimate look at the realities of wildlife rehabilitation, the behavior and ecology of beavers, and the growing movement toward non-lethal solutions for human-beaver conflict, including tools like beaver baffles that allow communities and wildlife to coexist.

Wednesday, Apr. 29

ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence: Film Screening and Discussion 7pm. Marlborough Community House, 160 Main St., Marlborough. Watch a short excerpt from The American Revolution, a new film directed by Ken Burns, Sarah Botstein and David Schmidt, followed by a community discussion.

DINING PLEASURES

Adult Community Potluck Luncheon 11:45am-1:15pm. First Congregational Church of Swanzey, 679 Old Homestead Hwy. Bring a dish to share- salad, main course, or dessert. **603-352-6689**. office@swanzeyucc.org. www.swanzeyucc.org.

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MAY 3 & 10, 2026
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SPRING CRAFT FAIR

Saturday • May 2nd
9 am – 3 pm

Crafters • Food • Raffle

Swanzey Community House
18 Old Richmond Rd, East Swanzey

NH Humanities Big Watch
Wed., April 29th at 7PM

Community House
160 Main St, Marlborough

Film screening (a short excerpt) from The American Revolution, a new film directed by Ken Burns, Sarah Botstein, and David Schmid.

A discussion follows with Mary C Kelly, PhD, Professor of History at Franklin Pierce University.

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Tuesday, May 5th, 2026 - 6:30 PM

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The Not-So-Humble Dried Bean

Dried beans are the unsung heroes of the legume world, boasting at least a little bit of almost every nutrient you need. In addition, they are also inexpensive, simple to prepare, healthy – and are a good way to load up on fiber and plant-based protein. If you've been thinking about introducing more dried beans into your meals, read on...

To cook dried beans, follow the cooking instructions on the bag or cookbook recipe. The key to using dried beans easily is to soak them whenever you think of it, letting each pot be the source of several different meals. You can decide how you'll use the beans up to three or four days after they're cooked. Once the beans are tender and creamy inside, with a little give from the skin, you can portion them out for all sorts of different dishes. You might mix some with pasta, serve others in their broth with pre-cooked veggies, or use part of the batch plain and reheated in a bowl with avocado, tomato, and a fresh-poached egg. Perhaps you'd like some beans cooked with sausages in a sort of pseudo 'cassoulet' or try others in an herby gratin with any leftover shredded meat you have on hand. Cooked beans are a welcome addition to many soups and some beans just beg to be stuffed into tortillas or burritos. And if you don't wish to cook your own beans, canned beans are a healthy choice that are readily available to use interchangeably in most recipes – just remember to rinse and drain them well first.



Em's Bean & Egg Breakfast

Potato, Apple & Lentil Salad

Here's a warm potato salad with lentils added for protein and apples to give it crispness. This versatile salad is nice alongside salmon or steak. Makes six to eight servings.

- Ingredients:**
- 3 tablespoons Dijon mustard
 - 1/2 medium red onion, minced
 - 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
 - 1/4 cup apple juice
 - 1/4 cup olive oil
 - salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
 - 2 cups cooked brown lentils (or green lentils), still warm
 - 4 medium ribs celery, cut into 1/4-inch pieces, along with a few leaves
 - 2 medium sweet-tart apples (like Honeycrisp), cored and chopped into 1/4-inch pieces
 - 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
 - 1 1/2 lbs. uncooked fingerling potatoes, chopped into 1/4-inch pieces

In small bowl, whisk together mustard, onions, vinegar and apple juice. Slowly drizzle in oil while whisking to emulsify the vinaigrette; season with salt and pepper. In large bowl, combine warm lentils, celery and leaves, apples, vinaigrette and parsley; set aside. Put potatoes in a pot of cold, salted water; bring to a boil. Cook potatoes until tender but not mushy, five to seven minutes. Drain potatoes well and toss with lentil mixture while still hot. Serve while it is still warm.

Faux Refried Beans

This may not be an authentic refried bean recipe but it's tasty, hearty and easy to make. Use it whenever you make burritos, huevos rancheros, tortillas/ toppings, etc.

- Ingredients:**
- 1 1/2 cups cooked pinto beans, warm
 - 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
 - 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
 - 1/4 teaspoon chili powder
 - splash of hot water
 - salt and freshly ground black pepper

In a small bowl, mash the beans with the cumin, oregano, chili powder and enough hot water to give you the desired consistency. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Use as desired or keep refrigerated up to five days; reheat in microwave or with a touch of hot water on the stovetop.

Kidney Bean Salad

Nothing tastes better on a hot summer day, served with some cold meats and fresh bread and butter. Open one can well-drained but not rinsed kidney beans. In a bowl, mix beans with 1 cup cooked lentils, 1/2 green pepper and 1 small onion, both chopped fine, 1/2 cup chopped celery and 1/4 cup pecan halves. Chill to an icy crispness and 1/2 hour before ready to serve, moisten salad liberally with mayonnaise (homemade or jarred), into which you've stirred juice of 1/2 lemon, 1/2 teaspoon each sugar and prepared mustard and a dash of Worcestershire. Over the top, crumble 2 or 3 pieces of crisply cooked bacon.

Nancy Adams is a native of Peterborough and resides in Hancock.

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Cooking Corner
with Nancy Adams



Em's Bean and Egg breakfast for Two

A friend recently shared this recipe for a healthy and delicious breakfast. I hope you enjoy it powering you through the morning's activities.

Directions:
In a little pot (1qt. pot) on a small burner, sauté a little chopped onion in olive oil and add 3/4 cup of cooked beans (with its sauce, if any); add salt, pepper, ground cumin, and chipotle chili pepper to taste. On a gentle fire it will only take a few minutes to heat up to bubbly. Add half of a chopped small tomato. Squeeze some lime juice and mix. At the same time, heat up a small skillet to cook two eggs over-easy style. Time the eggs to be done but still a bit runny just when the bowls are ready to receive them. Prepare two bowls with some cut avocado; sprinkle a little salt and drizzle over some fresh lime juice. Spoon half of the warm bean mix over the avocado in each bowl. Top each with a cooked egg and season the egg with salt and pepper as desired.

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Make This Mother's Day Unique And Personal

Mother's Day may seem a long way off, but it's really just a few weeks away. If you want to make this year a more unique experience, now is the time to start planning.

Mother's Day falls on Sunday, May 10th this year. Rather than relying on tradition with a bouquet of flowers, a card, and taking Mom out for brunch or dinner, you might want to rethink the day. The best Mother's Day gifts aren't necessarily things – they're experiences, gestures, and moments that feel personal, thoughtful, and lasting.

One idea is to give the gift of time with intention. Instead of a vague promise to spend more time together, design a day that reflects her interests. If she loves the outdoors, plan a customized day of adventure with option for her to choose between options such as a scenic walk, a picnic with her favorite

foods, and maybe a stop at a local eatery she's been wanting to try. Have enough options so that she has can choose several to create the perfect day. Build in small surprises along the way – a handwritten note tucked into the picnic basket or a playlist curated for her with a mix of her favorite songs and songs that evoke specific family memories. The effort behind the planning becomes the gift itself. If advance preparation is more your style, present her with the choices in advance so you can organize the day to her liking without stressing about planning for all the options.

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Mother's Day Brunch
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Monadnock Family
with Sheri Lapointe



If your mom is one of those women who rarely takes time for herself, consider creating a personalized retreat at home. Transform the house into a calm, restorative space with candles, music, and a schedule that includes a good book and uninterrupted quiet. Coordinate with family members to handle all responsibilities for the day – meals, chores, and errands, allowing her to fully disconnect without worrying that her to-do list isn't getting done.

Another meaningful approach is to lean into storytelling and memory. Create a scrapbook experience instead of a traditional photo album. Gather family members – whether in person or virtually – and have each person share a favorite story, lesson, or moment involving her. Record these messages and compile them into a video or book she can revisit anytime. She may be very moved to learn how she has impacted the lives of the various people in your family.

If your mother enjoys learning or trying new things, consider gifting an experience that extends beyond the day itself. This could be a class you take together – cooking, pottery, painting, or even

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something unexpected like a dance lesson, language class, or a special trip together. The key is choosing something that invites curiosity and shared participation. It's not about mastering a skill; it's about having fun and creating new memories together.

If you and mom live far from each other and you won't be able to have a celebration in person, think creatively about how to connect via distance that goes beyond a phone call. Plan ahead to make the day truly special. Send her a package ahead of time with everything she'll need to create the day you want to gift her. It could include ingredients for a meal you plan, a small gift, and a printed itinerary.

FAMILY, page 10

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