

The Monadnock Shopper News



Readers' Choice Awards



Congratulations to the Winners!

including Ruth Sterling, fine artist whose oil paintings

"Monadnock From Macdowell," "Andrews Arbor," and "Beyond The Forest" are shown above.



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Welcome To The 2026 Best of Monadnock Readers' Choice Awards Favorites

And the votes have been tallied! We're proud to present this year's Best of Monadnock, selected from nominations submitted by The Monadnock Shopper News readers. It's all about the people and businesses who make daily life better.

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks for your efforts. Here, in this issue, is the recognition of your neighbors' appreciation for the work that you do. And that is no small achievement. You have created something special.

We've been doing this since 2006, and every year brings a mix of familiar faces and fresh names. There's something satisfying about seeing long-standing favorites continue to earn your loyalty – and something equally exciting about watching first-time honorees join their ranks. The Monadnock Region has no shortage of people and places worth cheering for.

Take a look at the following pages to find out the winners. Whether it was one you voted for or just a curiosity about how your community's tastes change from year to year, we wish you good luck and many thanks for stopping by.

All valid online ballots were entered into a drawing for restaurant gift certificates. The winners are Rebecca Norway, Sherri Hudson, Daniel Thibeault, Cassandra Davis, and Ross Ewing.

On The Cover: This year, we dedicate the cover to Ruth Sterling, who won Gold under the category of "Fine Artist" in the Best of Monadnock Readers' Choice Awards.

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The Poll

Community

Attraction/Event

(22 different events received votes)

- Gold** Cheshire Fair pg. 22
247 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
cheshirefair.org • (603) 357-4740
- Silver** Keene Pumpkin Festival
- Bronze** Keene Pride Festival

Business that you miss (gone 10+ years)

(81 different places received votes)

- Gold** Nicola's
- Silver** Black Lantern
- Bronze** Armadillos

Charitable Contributor

(40 different places received votes)

- Gold** Savings Bank of Walpole pg. 42
84 Marlboro St., Keene, NH 03431
walpolebank.com • (603) 355-1667
- Silver** Fenton Family Dealerships pg. 57
Rt. 12S & Production Ave., Keene, NH 03431
fentondealerships.com • (603) 354-5100
- Bronze** Putnam Foundation

Company to Work for

(43 different places received votes)

- Gold** Keeney pg. 2
75 Plumb Pak Dr., Winchester, NH 03470
(603) 239-6371
- Silver** Ganio Land Management pg. 7
PO Box 565, Spofford, NH 03462
ganioland.com • (603) 357-4561
- Bronze** Cheshire Medical Center

Dog Friendly Business

(67 different places received votes)

- Gold** Cheshire Horse pg. 49
8 Whittemore Farm Road, Swanzey, NH 03446
(603) 358-3001
- Silver** Dogs on Depot pg. 27
20 Depot St., Peterborough, NH 03458
facebook.com/dogsondepot • (978) 386-0992
- Bronze** Horse & Buggy Feeds

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Community

Event For Charity

(37 different events received votes)

Gold Hairball – Monadnock Humane Society pg. 44
 Route 10, Swanzey, NH 03446
monadnockhumanesociety.org • (603) 352-9011

Silver Lights, Camera, Keene – MoCo Arts pg. 45
 40 Roxbury St., Keene NH
moco.org

Bronze Walk for Animals – Monadnock Humane Society pg. 44
 Route 10, Swanzey, NH 03446
monadnockhumanesociety.org • (603) 352-9011

Fine Artist

(50 different artists received votes)

Gold Ruth Sterling

Silver Mary Iselin

Bronze John Traynor

Firefighter

(15 different firefighters received votes)

Gold Greg Seymour

Silver Ashley West

Bronze Jason Martin

Monadnock Shopper columnist

(13 different people received votes)

Gold Nancy Adams

Silver Kim Peavey

Bronze Lori Cook

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Back Row: Shan, Drew, Blake, Chris, Parker, Levy

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Community

Mural/public art

(20 different murals received votes)

Gold Jennie Powers Mural
Silver Abenaki Mural
Bronze Parrish Shoes Mural

New business

(27 different places received votes)

Gold Downtown Barber pg. 13
85 Emerald Street, Suite 105 • Keene, NH
603-313-3719
Silver Homestead Covered Bridge
Bronze Banh Mi

Non-profit organization

(41 different places received votes)

Gold Monadnock Humane Society pg. 44
Route 10, Swanzey, NH 03446
monadnockhumanesociety.org • (603) 352-9011
Silver Home Healthcare & Community Service
Bronze Feeding Tiny Tummies

Politician

(17 different people received votes)

Gold Kahn, Jay pg. 11
jkahn@keenenh.gov
Silver Fenton, Donovan
Bronze Filiault, Randy

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(L-R) Shannakay, River, and Katie



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Community

Principal/Headmaster

(19 different people received votes)

Gold Susan Grover, Symonds School
 Silver Mike Smith, Keene Middle School
 Bronze Lori Stevens, Emerson Elementary

Store Window display

(25 different places received votes)

Gold Hannah Grimes Marketplace pg. 22
 46 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
 (603) 352-6862
 Silver Soul Emporium
 Bronze Eat More Cake

Teacher

(80 different teachers received votes)

Gold Kristen Hertzler, Franklin Elementary School
 Silver Laura White, Chesterfield Elementary School
 Bronze Sarah Galligan, Gathering Waters pg. 56
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Food

Appetizers

(48 different places received votes)

- Gold** Lee's & Mt. Fuji pg. 16
314 Main St., Marlborough, NH 03455
leeandmtfuji.com • (603) 876-3388
- Silver** Granita Enoteca
- Bronze** Tempesta's pg. 51
401 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 355-1311

Bagels

(11 different places received votes)

- Gold** The Works Bakery Café
- Silver** Bagel Mill
- Bronze** Panera Bread

Bakery

(31 different places received votes)

- Gold** Keene on Cookies pg. 21
10 West St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 354-3011
- Silver** Eat More Cake
- Bronze** B Bakes Deli & Cakes

Barbecue

(15 different places received votes)

- Gold** CC&D's Kitchen Market
- Silver** Tempesta's pg. 51
401 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 355-1311
- Bronze** Guerilla Grill



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Food

Beers

(34 different places received votes)

Gold Elm City Brewing Company
Silver Frogg Brewing
Bronze Post and Beam

Breakfast

(45 different places received votes)

Gold The Pub Restaurant & Caterers pg. 52
131 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
thepubrestaurant.com • (603) 352-3135

Silver Lindy's Diner
Bronze Brewbakers Café

Buffet

(9 different places received votes)

Gold Papagallos Restaurant pg. 20
9 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
papagallos.com • (603) 352-9400

Silver Tempesta's pg. 51
401 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 355-1311

Bronze Monadnock Food Co-Op pg. 30
34 Cypress St., Keene, NH 03431
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Food

Children's Menu

(32 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Tempesta's** pg. 51
401 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 355-1311
- Silver** **Papagallos Restaurant** pg. 20
9 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
papagallos.com • (603) 352-9400
- Bronze** **Pub Restaurant & Caterers** pg. 52
131 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
thepubrestaurant.com • (603) 352-3135

Coffeehouse/Cafe

(16 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Prime Roast Coffee Co.** pg. 28
16 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
primeroastcoffee.com • (603) 352-7874
- Silver** **Monadnock Food Co-Op** pg. 30
34 Cypress St., Keene, NH 03431
monadnockfood.coop • (603) 355-8008
- Bronze** **Brewbakers Café**

Deli

(21 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Jenna's Market** pg. 29
255 West St., Keene, NH 03431
jennasmarket.com • (603) 338-0012
- Silver** **Park Ave. Deli & Market**
- Bronze** **B Bakes Deli & Cakes**

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Food

Desserts

(39 different places received votes)

Gold Keene on Cookies pg. 21
10 West St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 354-3011

Silver Granita Enoteca

Bronze B Bakes Deli & Cakes

Family

(65 different places received votes)

Gold Tempesta's pg. 51
401 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 355-1311

Silver Papagallos Restaurant pg. 20
9 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
papagallos.com • (603) 352-9400

Bronze Arlington Inn & Tavern

Food Truck

(23 different places received votes)

Gold Doug's Dogs pg. 6
Route 101, Marlborough, NH 03455

Silver Voodoo Box

Bronze Salt & Lime

French Fries

(41 different places received votes)

Gold Local Burger pg. 31
82 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
localkeene.net • (603) 355-3993

Silver Fritz, The Place To Eat

Bronze Cheshire Village Pizza pg. 35
9 Ashuelot St., Keene, NH 03431
cheshirevillagepizza.com • (603) 357-4604

Hamburgers

(59 different places received votes)

Gold Local Burger pg. 31
82 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
localkeene.net • (603) 355-3993

Silver Five Guys Burgers & Fries

Bronze Guerilla Grill

Health Food

(41 different places received votes)

Gold Monadnock Food Co-Op pg. 30
34 Cypress St., Keene, NH 03431
monadnockfood.coop • (603) 355-8008

Silver Hungry Diner

Bronze Nature's Green Grocer

Hot Dogs

(24 different places received votes)

Gold Doug's Dogs pg. 6
Route 101, Marlborough, NH 03455

Silver Toasty Buns

Bronze Local Burger pg. 31
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Food

Ice Cream

(26 different places received votes)

Gold Rick's Gourmet Ice Cream
Silver Piazza Ice Cream
Bronze Frisky Cow Gelato

Lunch

(106 different places received votes)

Gold Jenna's Market pg. 29
255 West St., Keene, NH 03431
jennasmarket.com • (603) 338-0012
Silver B Bakes Deli & Cakes
Bronze Park Ave. Deli & Market

Outdoor/Patio

(65 different places received votes)

Gold Granita Enoteca
Silver Elm City Brewing Company
Bronze Jenna's Market pg. 29
255 West St., Keene, NH 03431
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Pizza

(49 different places received votes)

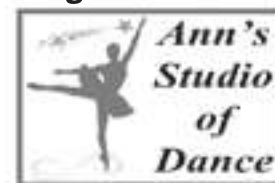
Gold Cheshire Village Pizza pg. 35
9 Ashuelot St., Keene, NH 03431
cheshirevillagepizza.com • (603) 357-4604
Silver Pizza Pie pg. 41
815 Court St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 357-2500
Bronze Pizza Down Under pg. 33
800 Park Ave., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 355-1190

Restaurant

(77 different places received votes)

Gold Papagallos Restaurant pg. 20
9 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
papagallos.com • (603) 352-9400
Silver Tempesta's pg. 51
401 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 355-1311
Bronze Granita Enoteca

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Best Firefighter

Deputy Fire Chief Gregory Seymour

Deputy Fire Chief Gregory Seymour of the Keene Fire Department was voted Gold under the new category of "Firefighter" in the Best of Monadnock Readers' Choice Awards.



Seymour's father and uncle were both firemen, so from a very young age, he knew that serving the community in this capacity was what he wanted to do. He has an extensive background in public safety and emergency medical services.

A spokesperson for the Keene Fire Department, Seymour served as lieutenant and paramedic with the fire department from 2014 to 2024, when he was given his present position as deputy fire chief.

Seymour is married and the father of two. In his off-time, he can be found rooting for his kids from the sidelines at one of many sporting events.

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Food

Restaurant, Chinese

(23 different places received votes)

Gold Lee's & Mt. Fuji pg. 16
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leeandmtfuji.com • (603) 876-3388

Silver Marco Polo Garden

Bronze Cherry Garden

Restaurant, ethnic

(38 different places received votes)

Gold Thai Garden pg. 36
118 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
thethaigardengroup.com • (603) 357-4567

Silver Mi Jalisco pg. 28
463 West St., Keene, NH 03431
mijalisco1nh.com • (603) 354-3123

Bronze Banh Mi

Restaurant, Italian

(22 different places received votes)

Gold Papagallos Restaurant pg. 20
9 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
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Silver Granita Enoteca

Bronze Delrossi's

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Food

Restaurant, Mexican/Latin

(11 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Mi Jalisco** pg. 28
463 West St., Keene, NH 03431
mijalisco1nh.com • (603) 354-3123
- Silver** **Mexica** pg. 6
21 Rte. 12 S., Fitzwilliam, NH 03447
mexicanh.com • (603) 585-2201
- Bronze** **La Pinata**

Restaurant, new

(17 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Buba Street Noodle Bar**
- Silver** **Noble Ramen House**
- Bronze** **The Perch**

Restaurant, vegetarian

(15 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Monadnock Food Co-Op** pg. 30
34 Cypress St., Keene, NH 03431
monadnockfood.coop • (603) 355-8008
- Silver** **Thai Garden** pg. 36
118 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
thethaigardengroup.com • (603) 357-4567
- Bronze** **21 Bar and Grill**

Romantic

(33 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Granita Enoteca**
- Silver** **Sole's**
- Bronze** **Restaurant at Burdick's**

Seafood

(30 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Granita Enoteca**
- Silver** **Tempesta's** pg. 51
401 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 355-1311
- Bronze** **Pearl Restaurant & Oyster Bar**

Soup

(45 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Buba Street Noodle Bar**
- Silver** **Monadnock Food Co-Op** pg. 30
34 Cypress St., Keene, NH 03431
monadnockfood.coop • (603) 355-8008
- Bronze** **Jenna's Market** pg. 29
255 West St., Keene, NH 03431
jennasmarket.com • (603) 338-0012

Sunday Brunch

(17 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Papagallos Restaurant** pg. 20
9 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
papagallos.com • (603) 352-9400
- Silver** **The Dinner Table**
- Bronze** **21 Bar and Grill**

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Food

Sushi

(10 different places received votes)

- Gold** Lee's & Mt. Fuji pg. 16
314 Main St., Marlborough, NH 03455
leeandmtfuji.com • (603) 876-3388
- Silver** Kurama Omakase
- Bronze** Saka Japanese Restaurant

Wines

(42 different places received votes)

- Gold** Granita Enoteca
- Silver** Walpole Mt. View Winery
- Bronze** Restaurant at Burdick's

Wings

(39 different places received votes)

- Gold** Brickhouse Pizza and Wings
- Silver** Elm City Brewing Company
- Bronze** Marco Polo Garden

Lifestyle

Alternative Healthcare Provider

(46 different places received votes)

- Gold** Granite State Natural Medicine pg. 5
20 Depot St., #220, Ste. 3, Peterborough, NH 03458
DrGalbraith.com • (603) 924-8111
- Silver** Cheshire Wellness Center pg. 9
103 Roxbury St., Ste. 103, Keene, NH 03431
CheshireWellnessCenter.com • (603) 357-5700
- Bronze** Basic Balance Acupuncture

Art Gallery

(14 different places received votes)

- Gold** Hannah Grimes Marketplace pg. 22
46 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-6862
- Silver** Monadnock Area Artist Assoc.
- Bronze** Thorne-Sagendorf Art Gallery

Concert/Live Theater

(20 different places received votes)

- Gold** Colonial Theatre
- Silver** MoCo Arts pg. 45
40 Roxbury St., Keene, NH 03431
moco.org • (603) 357-2100
- Bronze** Park Theatre

Concert Series

(22 different places received votes)

- Gold** Electric Earth Concerts pg. 8
PO Box 44, Peterborough, NH 03458
(603) 499-6216
- Silver** Ashuelot Concerts
- Bronze** Apple Hill Center

Lifestyle

Event Venue

(11 different places received votes)

Gold Stonewall Farm
Silver Alyson's Orchard
Bronze Nova Arts

Family Fitness Center

(17 different places received votes)

Gold Keene Family YMCA pg. 30
200 Summit Road, Keene, NH 03431
keene-ymca.org • (603) 352-6002
Silver Planet Fitness
Bronze Shaolin Studios

Fun Place, adults

(37 different places received votes)

Gold Madam Sherri's pg. 18
82 Main Street, Keene, NH
madamsherris.com • 603-354-3377
Silver Yankee Lanes
Bronze Twinkle Town Miniature Golf

Fun place, kids

(32 different places received votes)

Gold Cheshire Children's Museum
Silver Twinkle Town Miniature Golf
Bronze Robin Hood Park

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Lifestyle

Gym/Health Club

(19 different places received votes)

- Gold** Keene Family YMCA pg. 30
 200 Summit Road, Keene, NH 03431
keene-ymca.org • (603) 352-6002
- Silver** Planet Fitness
- Bronze** Shaolin Studios

Mini Golf

(5 different places received votes)

- Gold** Twinkle Town Miniature Golf
- Silver** Humdingers pg. 46
 850 Marlboro Road, Keene, NH 03431
 (603) 352-3222
- Bronze** Mini Golf at The Shattuck

Music/Dance Locale

(10 different places received votes)

- Gold** Madam Sherri's pg. 18
 82 Main Street, Keene, NH
madamsherris.com • 603-354-3377
- Silver** MoCo Arts pg. 45
 40 Roxbury St., Keene, NH 03431
moco.org • (603) 357-2100
- Bronze** Nova Arts

Power Sports

(16 different places received votes)

- Gold** Gary's Power Equipment pg. 54
 9 Warwick Rd., Winchester, NH 03470
garysmahindra.com • (603) 239-4953
- Silver** Full Throttle Power Sports
- Bronze** Troy Powersports

Retirement living

(8 different places received votes)

- Gold** Covenant Living of Keene pg. 34
 95 Wyman Road, Keene, NH 03431
CovLivingKeene.org • (877) 313-2542
- Silver** Summerhill Assisted Living pg. 17
 183 Old Dublin Road, Peterborough, NH 03458
springvillagesummerhill.com • (603) 924-6238
- Bronze** RiverMead

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Lifestyle

Social Media Presence

(103 different places received votes)

- Gold** Monadnock Humane Society pg. 44
Route 10, Swanzey, NH 03446
monadnockhumanesociety.org • (603) 352-9011
- Silver** Random Acts Of Senseless Kindness
- Bronze** Savings Bank of Walpole pg. 42
84 Marlboro St., Keene, NH 03431
walpolebank.com • (603) 355-1667

Sports bar

(21 different places received votes)

- Gold** 21 Bar and Grill
- Silver** Lab 'n Lager
- Bronze** The Pour House

Tattoo/body piercing

(20 different places received votes)

- Gold** Dark Mark Tattoo pg. 53
341 West St., Keene, NH 03431
DarkMarkTattoo.com • (603) 352-9222
- Silver** Creative Ink
- Bronze** Art For Life Tattoo & Piercing

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Best Principal

Susan Grover of Symonds School

A new category that was added to the Best of Monadnock Readers' Choice Awards 2026 was that of "Principal/Headmaster." The first-place position went to SAU 29 Principal Susan Grover of Symonds School.



An educator for 33 years, she received her Master's in Leadership in 2018. Now in her third year as principal of this Keene school, Grover was taken aback by this recognition.

"I am very honored," she says. "We have a very special community that is a joy to serve."

Parents, staff, and district administrators describe Grover as an incredibly compassionate educator, a "wonderful and

adored leader," and a dedicated human.

When Grover isn't walking the halls giving support to staff and students, she can be found at home enjoying her garden or doing something else she loves – cooking.

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Lifestyle

Yoga

(11 different places received votes)

- Gold** Aloha Healthy Living pg. 41
83 Court St., Keene, NH 03431
alohakeene.com • (603) 338-0006
- Silver** Everglow Wellness
- Bronze** Mudita Massage & Wellness

Yoga teacher

(55 different places received votes)

- Gold** Josephine Russell pg. 41
83 Court St., Keene, NH 03431
alohakeene.com • (603) 338-0006
- Silver** Ashley Nesbitt
- Bronze** Mary Potter, Mudita

Services

Accountant

(44 different places received votes)

- Gold** Anderson & Gilbert, Inc pg. 35
295 Park Avenue, Keene, NH 03431-2734
(603) 357-1928 • www.agtaxfolks.com
- Silver** H & R Block
- Bronze** Rust & Company CPAs

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Readers' Choice Awards **Readers' Choice Awards** **Readers' Choice Awards** **Readers' Choice Awards** **Readers' Choice Awards**

Services

Ad agency/publicist

(7 different places received votes)

Gold Silver Direct pg. 6
351 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
silverdirectinc.com • (603) 355-8855

Silver Paragon Digital Marketing

Bronze The Monadnock Shopper News

Alternative energy

(6 different places received votes)

Gold Green Energy Options

Silver ReVision Energy

Bronze Unity Heat Pumps pg. 18
james@unityheatpumps.com • 802-365-1009

Appliance repair

(19 different places received votes)

Gold Monadnock Appliance pg. 56
497 US-202, #1, Rindge, NH 03461
monadnockappliance.com • (603) 899-9999

Silver Korvin Appliance pg. 21
65 Roxbury St., Keene, NH 03431
korvin1.com • (603) 352-3547

Bronze Jaffrey Appliance pg. 44
Jaffrey, NH 03452
jaffreyappliancerepair.com • (603) 831-2658

Acupuncturist

(16 different places received votes)

Gold Basic Balance Acupuncture

Silver Monadnock Acupuncture Center pg. 14
45 Main St., Peterborough, NH
monadnockacu.com • (603) 784-5664

Bronze Five Element Acupuncture

Architectural firm

(13 different places received votes)

Gold KCS Architect pg. 17
170 Main St., Marlborough, NH 03455
www.kcs-architects.com • 603-439-6648

Silver Michael Petrovick, Architect pg. 12
310 Marlboro St., Ste. 266, Keene, NH 03431
mjparchitect.com • (603) 636-7056

Bronze Daniel Scully, Architects



Auto Trucks Big Rigs

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Services

Audiology

(9 different places received votes)

Gold Brattleboro Hearing Center pg. 27
 217G Old Homestead Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
 (603) 354-3325

Silver Cheshire Medical Center

Bronze Miracle-Ear

Auto Body

(26 different places received votes)

Gold Quality Care Collision pg. 29
 512 Winchester St, Keene, NH 03431
qualitycarecollisionandrefinishing.com • (603) 352-4472

Silver Keene Auto Body

Bronze Key Collision

Auto detailing

(14 different places received votes)

Gold Alternative Detailing Solutions pg. 19
 257 Rt. 10, Gilsum, NH 03448
 (603) 358-3300

Silver Mean Bead Detailing LLC

Bronze Carbone's Pristine Detailing

Auto mechanic

(46 different places received votes)

Gold Wilder Automotive pg. 41
 384 Washington St., Keene, NH 03431
www.wilderautomotive.com • 603-354-3094

Silver Emerson's Towing & Repair

Bronze Monadnock Ford pg. 60
 119 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
MonadnockFord.com • (603) 283-5900

Bank

(19 different places received votes)

Gold Savings Bank of Walpole pg. 42
 84 Marlboro St., Keene, NH 03431
walpolebank.com • (603) 355-1667

Silver Service Credit Union

Bronze Mascoma Bank

Banquet/reception facility

(19 different places received votes)

Gold Keene Country Club

Silver Stonewall Farm

Bronze Marlborough House pg. 55
 9 Ling St., Marlborough, NH 03455
 603-876-0004 • www.themarlbroughhouse.com

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Services

Bartender

(41 different places received votes)

Gold The Stage

Silver Madam Sherri's pg. 18
82 Main Street, Keene, NH
madamsherris.com • 603-354-3377

Bronze Sole's

Brakes/muffler shop

(19 different places received votes)

Gold Monadnock Ford pg. 60
119 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
MonadnockFord.com • (603) 283-5900

Silver Dube's Tire Center pg. 45
300 Park Ave., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-1445

Bronze City Tire Company of Keene

Builder/contractor

(23 different places received votes)

Gold Bergeron Construction Co. pg. 51
27 Matthews Road, Keene, NH 03431
bergeronconstruction.com • (603) 352-4447

Silver K&J Dean Builders pg. 25
kandjbuilders.com • (603) 499-3561

Bronze Finley Construction pg. 12
Keene, NH 03431
FinleyConstruction.us • (603) 903-9218



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2nd Place SILVER AWARDS

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Services

Business Coach

(8 different places received votes)

Gold Hannah Grimes Center
Silver Workplace Cultural Solutions
Bronze Bridget Archbold

Car Wash

(9 different places received votes)

Gold Key Road Car Wash
Silver Mint Car Wash
Bronze Alltown Car Wash

Carpet/Flooring Installation

(13 different places received votes)

Gold Syd's Carpet & Snooze Room pg. 11
43 St. James St., Keene, NH 03431
sydsofkeene.com • (603) 352-4315
Silver Carpet Clearance Warehouse
Bronze Martin & Sons Flooring

Caterer

(22 different places received votes)

Gold Pub Restaurant & Caterers pg. 52
131 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
thepubrestaurant.com • (603) 352-3135
Silver Tempesta's pg. 51
401 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431, (603) 355-1311
Bronze CC&D's Kitchen Market

Cell Phone Service

(8 different places received votes)

Gold US Cellular
Silver Verizon
Bronze T-Mobile

Chimney Sweep

(9 different places received votes)

Gold Tri-State Chimney pg. 4
tristatechimney.com • (800) 530-6639
Silver Chimney Specialists
Bronze 603 Chimney

Chiropractor

(19 different places received votes)

Gold Cheshire Wellness Center pg. 9
103 Roxbury St., Ste. 103, Keene, NH 03431
CheshireWellnessCenter.com • (603) 357-5700
Silver Devine Back & Body Care
Bronze Rob League Chiropractor



Like This Place

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Family Fitness &
Gym/Health Club

SILVER

Day Care Provider &
Summer Camp

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Services

Cleaning, Carpets

(8 different places received votes)

- Gold** Granite State Carpet Care pg. 34
6 Kingsbury St., Keene, NH 03431
granitestatecarpetcare.com • (603) 358-3457
- Silver** Cheshire Cleaning pg. 8
cheshirecleaning.com • (603) 209-9735
- Bronze** Oriental Rug Works

Cleaning, General

(20 different places received votes)

- Gold** Cheshire Cleaning pg. 8
cheshirecleaning.com • (603) 209-9735
- Silver** Dust To Shine pg. 42
80 Peterborough St., Unit 10, Jaffrey, NH
dust2shine.com • (603) 532-4227
- Bronze** Tri-State Restoration

Dance school

(9 different places received votes)

- Gold** MoCo Arts pg. 45
40 Roxbury St., Keene, NH 03431
moco.org • (603) 357-2100
- Silver** Ann's Studio Of Dance pg. 16
122 Roxbury St., Keene, NH 03431
• (603) 357-0929
- Bronze** NH Dance Institute

Day Care Provider

(20 different places received votes)

- Gold** Sophia's Hearth Family Center
- Silver** Keene Family YMCA pg. 30
200 Summit Road, Keene, NH 03431
keene-ymca.org • (603) 352-6002
- Bronze** Footsteps Daycare & Learning Center

Dentist

(32 different places received votes)

- Gold** Our Town Dental pg. 39
106 Grove Street, Peterborough, NH 03458
ourtowndentist.com • (603) 567-4955
- Silver** Welnak Dental
- Bronze** Perry Family Dental Care

Dental Hygienist

(48 different people received votes)

- Gold** Montshire Pediatric Dentistry, Laura Burt
- Silver** Mark Wirant, DDS, Jen Ellison
- Bronze** Spoonwood Dental, Catherine Gray



Burgers - Fries - Shakes - More

Thanks for your votes!

GOLD	GOLD	BRONZE
Best of Monadnock 2026 Readers' Choice Awards	Best of Monadnock 2026 Readers' Choice Awards	Best of Monadnock 2026 Readers' Choice Awards
Hamburgers	French Fries	Hot Dogs

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Services

Disposal

(9 different places received votes)

- Gold** Dana's Container Service pg. 10
Keene, NH
danasrolloffdumpsters.com • (603) 352-5981
- Silver** Monadnock Disposal Service
- Bronze** Casella

Dog Training

(18 different places received votes)

- Gold** Monadnock Humane Society pg. 44
Route 10, Swanzey, NH 03446
monadnockhumanesociety.org • (603) 352-9011
- Silver** Green Mountain K-9
- Bronze** Denise Mazzola's Everything Dog

Dog/Cat Groomer

(13 different places received votes)

- Gold** Paws To Groom pg. 49
980 Rte. 12A, Surry, NH
pawsforawhile.com • (603) 876-4733
- Silver** Dogs on Depot pg. 27
20 Depot St., Peterborough, NH 03458
facebook.com/dogsondepot • (978) 386-0992
- Bronze** Doggone Beautiful Pet Styling



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Services

Dog/Cat boarding

(13 different places received votes)

- Gold** Monadnock Humane Society pg. 44
Route 10, Swanzey, NH 03446
monadnockhumanesociety.org • (603) 352-9011
- Silver** Mukota Kennels pg. 44
119 Matthews Rd., Swanzey, NH 03446
mukotakennel.com • (603) 352-8809
- Bronze** Fast Friends

Dry Cleaner

(7 different places received votes)

- Gold** Targett Cleaners pg. 19
30 Ashuelot St., Keene, NH 03431
targettcleaners.net • (603) 357-8487
- Silver** Liberty Laundry and Dry Cleaning
- Bronze** Garden Island Of Keene

Electrician

(73 different places received votes)

- Gold** More Power Electric Co. pg. 20
(603) 499-3962
- Silver** Elm City Electric
- Bronze** Hamblet

Esthetician/Skin Care

(22 different places received votes)

- Gold** Kelly Gorsuch Skin Care
- Silver** Crabtree & Co pg. 50
11 Roxbury Street, Keene, NH
603-903-2335
- Bronze** European Esthetics

Eye Doctor/Optical Shop

(11 different places received votes)

- Gold** Eye Works pg. 53
166 West St., Keene, NH 03431
eyeworks.com • (603) 352-7803
- Silver** Keene Eye Care pg. 57
338 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
keeneeyecare.com • (603) 357-4090
- Bronze** Vision Center Keene

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Services

Garage Door

(9 different places received votes)

Gold **Champion Overhead Door** pg. 4
123 Ryan Rd., Dummerston, VT
(802) 579-4477

Silver **Keene Door**

Bronze **Elm City Garage Doors**

Glass Company

(11 different places received votes)

Gold **Northeast Glass** pg. 27
445 West St., Keene, NH 03431
nhnortheastglassllc@gmail.com • (603) 852-5565

Silver **Granite State Glass**

Bronze **Cheshire Glass Company**

Hair Salon

(29 different places received votes)

Gold **Mia Capelli Salon** pg. 23
382 West St., Ste. 104, Keene, NH 03431
(603) 358-0030

Silver **Crabtree & Co** pg. 50
11 Roxbury Street, Keene, NH
603-903-2335

Bronze **Style Lounge Salon**



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Services

Hairstylist (person)

(50 different people received votes)

Gold Sue Wilbur at Mia Capelli Salon pg. 23
382 West St., Ste. 104, Keene, NH 03431
(603) 358-0030

Silver Kammie Greene at Style Lounge Salon

Bronze John Brown at Downtown Barber pg. 13
85 Emerald Street, Suite 105 • Keene, NH
603-313-3719

Hair – men's/boys

(15 different places received votes)

Gold Downtown Barber pg. 13
85 Emerald Street, Suite 105 • Keene, NH
603-313-3719

Silver Karl Roberts

Bronze Mia Capelli Salon pg. 23
382 West St., Ste. 104, Keene, NH 03431
(603) 358-0030

Heating Oil And Gas

(17 different places received votes)

Gold Swanzey Oil pg. 15
919 Route 10, West Swanzey, NH 03469
swanzeyoil.com • (603) 357-5400

Silver Davis Oil Co.

Bronze Cota and Cota

Home Health Care

(7 different places received votes)

Gold Home Healthcare & Community Service

Silver Comfort Keepers

Bronze Green Light Physical Therapy

HVAC System Service

(12 different places received votes)

Gold Bergeron Mechanical

Silver Gary Jackson Heating Services

Bronze Pinney Plumbing & Heating pg. 22
217 Old Homestead Hwy., West Swanzey, NH 03469
pinneyplumbing.com • (603) 357-0944

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Best Artist

Ruth Sterling

To say that Ruth Sterling was “floored” when finding out she won Gold under the category of “Fine Artist” in the Best of Monadnock Readers’ Choice Awards would be an understatement.

“I see myself as someone who helps and supports other artists while trying to improve my own art,” she says.

Sterling’s career in logo design, graphic design, and advertising was built on her education as an art major in college. “But there was always another side to art that

I wanted to pursue, and that was pastels – those messy chalk-like pigment sticks that are applied dry and can be blended so beautifully,” she adds.

In 2017, Sterling took out her pastels and drew a winter scene. Within a year, she had applied to the Keene Art Walk. “Each year my work is accepted, I am thrilled beyond words.”

When Art in the Park urgently needed volunteers four years ago, Sterling offered to handle the online registrations as the co-chair. “It is a beautiful community-building event presented by Monadnock Area Artists Association (MAAA). To help shore up the organization, I became vice president of MAAA, thanks to Sue Doyle, who offered to be president.”

Sterling’s two years as president followed. During that time, many support programs were developed for member artists, one which allowed them to exhibit and sell their work year-round at the MAAA Art Gallery @ Syd’s on St. James Street in Keene. The gallery now houses the works of more than 40 area artists!

Sterling has taken classes under the tutelage of area artists Mary Iselin, Kyle Stuckey, and Maryann Mullett. “I studied with nationally known pastelists Barbara Jaenicke and Liz Haywood-Sullivan through the Vermont Pastel Society. These classes were invaluable and changed everything about the way I do art,” she says.

Sterling also gives a nod to pastelists Carol Corliss, Gill Truslow, and Kate Beetle, who offered encouragement and shared equipment and tips.



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Services

Insurance Agency

(19 different places received votes)

Gold **Kapiloff Insurance Agency** pg. 11
417 Winchester St, Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-2224

Silver **Insurance Source, Inc.**

Bronze **Bellows Nichols Agency**
10 Main St., Peterborough, NH 03458
bellowsnichols.com • (603) 924-7155

Insurance Agent

(57 different people received votes)

Gold **Alex Kapiloff, Kapiloff Insurance Agency** pg. 11
417 Winchester St, Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-2224

Silver **Craig Vickers, State Farm Insurance Company**

Bronze **Cheryl Belair, Insurance Source, Inc.**

Services

Jewelry Repair

(19 different places received votes)

- Gold** Stoneman Custom Jewelers pg. 14
82 Washington St., Keene, NH 03431
stonemancustomjewelers.com • (603) 352-0811
- Silver** Cheshire Jewelers pg. 33
149 Emerald St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 358-6543
- Bronze** Hobbs Jewelers

Kitchen/Bath Renovator

(12 different places received votes)

- Gold** Finley Construction pg. 12
Keene, NH 03431
FinleyConstruction.us • (603) 903-9218
- Silver** K&J Dean Builders pg. 25
kandjbuilders.com • (603) 499-3561
- Bronze** Bergeron Construction Co. pg. 51
27 Matthews Road, Keene, NH 03431
bergeronconstruction.com • (603) 352-4447

Landscape Company

(11 different places received votes)

- Gold** Ganio Land Management pg. 7
PO Box 565, Spofford, NH 03462
ganioland.com • (603) 357-4561
- Silver** Maple Hill Nursery pg. 46
197 West Swanzey Road, West Swanzey, NH 03469
MapleHillNursery.com • (603) 357-2555
- Bronze** Home-Land Landscaping pg. 24
Harrisville, NH 03450
homelandlandscaping.us • (603) 827-3019

Laundromat

(9 different places received votes)

- Gold** Liberty Laundry and Dry Cleaning
- Silver** Garden Island Of Keene
- Bronze** Suds Bucket Laundry

Lawyer

(43 different lawyers received votes)

- Gold** Charles Donahue pg. 6
143 West St., Keene, NH 03431
charliedonahue.com • (603) 357-2363
- Silver** Law Offices of Little & Tomasko pg. 26
103 Roxbury St., Ste. 203, Keene, NH 03431
littletomaskolaw.com • (603) 355-8005
- Bronze** Bragdon & Kossayda, P.C.

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Services

Massage Practice

(11 different places received votes)

- Gold** Deep Roots Massage & Body Work
Silver Mudita Massage & Wellness
Bronze Devine Back & Body Care

Massage Therapist

(32 different people received votes)

- Gold** Christine Braaten pg. 21
103 Roxbury Street Suite 309, Keene, NH
603-313-5411
Silver Mark Rebillard, Deep Roots Massage & Body Work
Bronze Jessica Day, New Day Massage

Music Lessons

(8 different places received votes)

- Gold** JoAnne Mead
Silver Rousseau's Music
Bronze Retromusic

Nail Salon

(10 different places received votes)

- Gold** Helen's Nail Salon pg. 40
204 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
helensnailsalon.com • (603) 903-0443
Silver Crabtree & Co pg. 50
11 Roxbury Street, Keene, NH
603-903-2335
Bronze California Nail Salon

Nursing Home/Assisted Living

(11 different places received votes)

- Gold** Covenant Living of Keene pg. 34
95 Wyman Road, Keene, NH 03431
CovLivingKeene.org • (877) 313-2542
Silver Summerhill Assisted Living pg. 17
183 Old Dublin Road, Peterborough, NH 03458
springvillagesummerhill.com • (603) 924-6238
Bronze RiverMead

Oil Change

(21 different places received votes)

- Gold** Monadnock Ford pg. 60
119 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
MonadnockFord.com • (603) 283-5900
Silver Dube's Tire Center pg. 45
300 Park Ave., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-1445
Bronze City Tire Company of Keene

Painter, Interior/Exterior

(18 different places received votes)

- Gold** C.M. Minkler Paving & Painting pg. 26
Keene, NH 03431
ThinkMinkPavingandPainting.com • (603) 414-7997
Silver S&S Painting
Bronze O'Brien Painting

Paving

(7 different places received votes)

- Gold** C.M. Minkler Stripe-It Seal-It pg. 26
Keene, NH 03431
stripeitseal.com • (603) 414-7997
Silver Cooper Paving pg. 21
1059 West Swanzey Road, Swanzey, NH 03446
(603) 239-8051
Bronze Gemini Paving

Services

Pet Sitter

(15 different places received votes)

- Gold** Dogs on Depot pg. 27
20 Depot St., Peterborough, NH 03458
facebook.com/dogsondepot • (978) 386-0992
- Silver** Diane's Country Critters
- Bronze** Woodland Wanders pg. 33
www.woodlandwanders.org • 857-ANY-DOGS

Plumber

(16 different places received votes)

- Gold** Pinney Plumbing & Heating pg. 22
217 Old Homestead Hwy. West Swanzey, NH 03469
pinneyplumbing.com • (603) 357-0944
- Silver** Buckley Plumbing And Heating pg. 28
PO Box 82, West Swanzey, NH 03469
(603) 352-6722
- Bronze** Lawrence Bros. Plumbing & Heating

Private School

(14 different places received votes)

- Gold** Trinity Christian School pg. 37
100 Maple Ave., Keene, NH 03431
tcskeene.org • (603) 352-9403
- Silver** Gathering Waters pg. 56
98 S. Lincoln St., Keene • (603) 352-0659
31 Washington St., Keene, NH • (603) 733-8969
- Bronze** Mountain Shadows

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Services

Real Estate Agency

(46 different places received votes)

- Gold** RE/MAX Town & Country pg. 13
117 West St., Keene, NH 03431
mykeenehome.com • (603) 357-4100
- Silver** Better Homes & Gardens Masiello pg. 41
69A Island St., Keene, NH 03431
masiello.com • (603) 352-5433
- Bronze** Blais Realtors

Real Estate Agent

(57 different people received votes)

- Gold** Robin Smith, Better Homes & Gardens Masiello pg. 41
69A Island St., Ste. 3, Keene, NH 03431
masiello.com • (800) 741-1540
- Silver** Denise Thomas, Better Homes & Gardens Masiello pg. 41
69A Island St., Ste. 3, Keene, NH 03431
masiello.com • (800) 741-1540
- Bronze** Kristin Perkins, Better Homes & Gardens Masiello pg. 41
69A Island St., Ste. 3, Keene, NH 03431
masiello.com • (800) 741-1540

Roofer

(11 different places received votes)

- Gold** The Melanson Group pg. 4
Keene (603) 352-4232 • Bow (603) 224-0444
www.melanson.com
- Silver** Guyer & Son Roofing pg. 38
19 Spruce St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 876-9915
- Bronze** A L Johnson & Sons pg. 53
69 Bowkerville Rd., Fitzwilliam, NH
(603) 242-3846

Seamstress/Alterations

(9 different places received votes)

- Gold** Liberty Laundry and Dry Cleaning
- Silver** Clothes Doctor
- Bronze** Eller Alterations

Septic

(14 different places received votes)

- Gold** SepticPro pg. 50
217 Old Homestead Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
(603) 357-1300 • thesepticpro.com
- Silver** Stones' Septic Service
- Bronze** Bell's Septic Tank Service



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Services

Service/Staff, Not Restaurant

(98 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Cheshire Wellness Center** pg. 9
103 Roxbury St., Ste. 103, Keene, NH 03431
CheshireWellnessCenter.com • (603) 357-5700
- Silver** **Fenton Family Dealerships** pg. 57
Rt. 12S & Production Ave., Keene, NH 03431
fentondealerships.com • (603) 354-5100
- Bronze** **Monadnock Ford** pg. 60
119 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
MonadnockFord.com • (603) 283-5900

Service/staff (restaurant)

(37 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Mama McDonough's Irish Pub**
- Silver** **Tempesta's** pg. 51
401 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 355-1311
- Bronze** **Granita Enoteca**

Small machine repair

(7 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Ronnie's Small Engine** pg. 52
59 Sawtelle Rd., Jaffrey, NH 03452
ronnies-small-engine.com • (603) 532-7596
- Silver** **Gary's Power Equipment** pg. 54
9 Warwick Rd., Winchester, NH 03470
garysmahindra.com • (603) 239-4953
- Bronze** **Guyette's Sales & Service, Inc.**

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Services

Stock broker/financial planner

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Gold Joseph D. Durell, RBC Wealth Management pg. 43
70 Main St., Ste. 300, Peterborough, NH 03458
www.joedurell.com • (603) 924-4816

Silver Houle Wealth Management pg. 32
143 West St., Keene, NH
603-352-0222 • www.houlewealth.com

Bronze Annie Colombie

Storage Units

(17 different places received votes)

Gold Store It of Keene pg. 48
96 Dunbar St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-5231

Silver MTT Storage

Bronze All Purpose Storage

Summer Kids' Camp

(15 different places received votes)

Gold MoCo Arts pg. 45
40 Roxbury St., Keene, NH 03431
moco.org • (603) 357-2100

Silver Keene Family YMCA pg. 30
200 Summit Road, Keene, NH 03431
keene-ymca.org • (603) 352-6002

Bronze Stonewall Farm



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Gold Medal - "Event for Charity" HairBall Gala
Gold Medal - "Social Media"
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Services

Tax Preparer

(23 different places received votes)

- Gold** Talon Retirement & Tax Solutions pg. 40
116 Main St., Marlborough, NH 03455
TalonRS.com • (603) 354-7774
- Silver** Jackson Hewitt pg. 37
30 Warwick Rd., Winchester, NH 03470
(603) 392-0315
- Bronze** Anderson & Gilbert pg. 35
295 Park Avenue, Keene, NH 03431-2734
(603) 357-1928 • www.agtaxfolks.com

Towing

(12 different places received votes)

- Gold** Emerson's Towing & Repair
- Silver** Gauthier Auto Service pg. 49
119 Peterborough St., Jaffrey, NH
603-532-7391
- Bronze** J&B Towing

Travel Agency

(7 different places received votes)

- Gold** AAA Northern New England pg. 13
429 West St., Keene, NH 03431-3937
(603) 358-0460
- Silver** Fitzgerald Travel pg. 35
fitzgeraldtravel.com • (603) 363-8000
- Bronze** Wheelock Travel, Inc.

Tree Service

(15 different places received votes)

- Gold** Phil's Tree Services pg. 52
Keene, NH 03431
PhilsTreeServices.com • (603) 352-0202
- Silver** Wilcox Tree Service pg. 20
923 Rt. 12, Westmoreland, NH 03467
wilcoxtreeservice.com • (603) 363-8197
- Bronze** J.A. Hutchins Tree Service pg. 25
j-a-hutchinstreeservice.com
(603) 446-0185

Veterinary Clinic

(15 different places received votes)

- Gold** Keep 'em Healthy pg. 10
120 North Main St., Troy, NH 03465
KeepemHealthy.com • (603) 242-6007
- Silver** Cheshire Animal Hospital pg. 53
505 Winchester St., Keene, NH 03431
CheshireAnimalHospital.com • (603) 352-8585
- Bronze** Westside Animal Hospital pg. 46
670 Park Ave., Suite A, Keene, NH 03431
westsidevet.aahavet.org • (603) 357-0123

Website Developer

(7 different places received votes)

- Gold** CharlesWorks pg. 59
charlesworks.com • (603) 924-9867
- Silver** Keene Web Works
- Bronze** Paragon Digital Marketing

Website Hosting

(7 different places received votes)

- Gold** CharlesWorks pg. 59
charlesworks.com • (603) 924-9867
- Silver** Keene Web Works
- Bronze** Paragon Digital Marketing

Services

Window/Screen Sales & Service

(12 different places received votes)

- Gold** Northeast Glass pg. 27
Swanzey, NH
603-852-5565 • nhnortheastglassllc@gmail.com
- Silver** Carbone's Window & Awning
- Bronze** Hamshaw Lumber pg. 55
3 Bradco St., Keene, NH 03431
hamshawlumber.com • (603) 352-6506

Shopping

Appliances

(11 different places received votes)

- Gold** Korvin Appliance pg. 21
65 Roxbury St., Keene, NH 03431
korvin1.com • (603) 352-3547
- Silver** Monadnock Appliance pg. 56
497 US-202, #1, Rindge, NH 03461
monadnockappliance.com • (603) 899-9999
- Bronze** Manny's TV & Appliances

Auctions

(10 different places received votes)

- Gold** Keene Auctions pg. 47
96 Dunbar St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-2313
- Silver** Winney Auction & Appraisal
- Bronze** Peterborough Auctions

Auto Dealership, New

(18 different places received votes)

- Gold** Monadnock Ford pg. 60
119 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
MonadnockFord.com • (603) 283-5900
- Silver** Honda Of Keene
- Bronze** Toyota/Volvo of Keene

Auto Dealership, Used

(22 different places received votes)

- Gold** Fenton Family Dealerships pg. 57
Rt. 12S & Production Ave., Keene, NH 03431
fentondealerships.com • (603) 354-5100
- Silver** Monadnock Ford pg. 60
119 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey, NH 03446
MonadnockFord.com • (603) 283-5900
- Bronze** Fairfield's

Auto Salesperson

(61 different people received votes)

- Gold** Jaime Rios, Toyota/Volvo of Keene pg. 57
Rt. 12S & Production Ave., Keene, NH 03431
fentondealerships.com • (603) 354-5100
- Silver** Tony Percoco, Nucar Nissan
- Bronze** James Lapointe, Honda Of Keene pg. 57
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Shopping

Auto Salvage

(9 different places received votes)

- Gold** Buffum Auto Parts pg. 39
1A W. Swanzey Rd., Swanzey, NH 03446
(603) 352-9010
- Silver** Dave's Automotive Enterprises pg. 31
42 Roxbury Rd., Marlborough, NH 03455
davesautoentnh.com • (603) 876-3961
- Bronze** Turnpike Auto Parts

Bargain shopping

(25 different places received votes)

- Gold** Salvation Army
- Silver** Turning Leaf Consignment pg. 50
140 Monadnock Hwy, Swanzey, NH 03446
facebook.com/turningleafconsignment • (603) 354-3768
- Bronze** More Than A Thrift Store

Bicycles

(9 different places received votes)

- Gold** Norm's Ski & Bike Shop pg. 4
62 Martell Court, Keene, NH 03431
normsskibike.com • (603) 352-1404
- Silver** Alpine Bike Works
- Bronze** Walmart, Keene



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Books

(13 different places received votes)

Gold Toadstool Bookshop pg. 25
12 Emerald St., Keene, NH 03431
toadbooks.com • (603) 352-8815

Silver Barnes and Noble

Bronze Hannah's Books

Bridal boutique

(6 different places received votes)

Gold Country Bridals and Formal Wear pg. 12
17 Main St., Jaffrey, NH 03452
countrybridals.com • (603) 532-7641

Silver Pamela Moore Bridals

Bronze Alibers Bridal Shop

Building supplies

(19 different places received votes)

Gold Hamshaw Lumber pg. 55
3 Bradco St., Keene, NH 03431
hamshawlumber.com • (603) 352-6506

Silver LaValley

Bronze Home Depot

Cameras

(6 different places received votes)

Gold Peterborough Camera Copies & More

Silver Target

Bronze Walmart, Keene

Candy

(17 different places received votes)

Gold Ye Goodie Shoppe

Silver Life Is Sweet

Bronze Burdick Chocolates

Clothing, men's

(11 different places received votes)

Gold Hubert's Department Store pg. 24
19 Wilton Rd., Peterborough, NH 03458
huberts.com • (603) 567-4130

Silver Howard's Leather pg. 42
1651 Rte. 9, Spofford, NH 03462
howardsleathernh.com • (603) 363-4325

Bronze Sam's

Clothing, Women's

(17 different places received votes)

Gold Clay's pg. 55
106 Main Street, Keene, NH 03431
claysclothing.com • (603) 357-2919

Silver Hubert's Department Store pg. 24
19 Wilton Rd., Peterborough, NH 03458
huberts.com • (603) 567-4130

Bronze Synergy Sportswear, Inc.

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Coins/precious metals

(6 different places received votes)

- Gold** Gilsum Coin Mine pg. 25
3 Brakehill Rd., Gilsum, NH 03448
(603) 762-8744
- Silver** Colonial Coin Of Marlborough
- Bronze** Good Fortune pg. 47
110 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
goodfortunejewelry.com • (603) 357-7500

Computers

(7 different places received votes)

- Gold** Brown Computer Solutions pg. 51
148 Key Rd., Keene, NH 03431
keenemacs.com • (603) 352-3349
- Silver** Staples
- Bronze** Monadnock PC

Consignments

(19 different places received votes)

- Gold** Consignment Cabin pg. 31
1 Main St., Marlborough, NH
603-876-3352
- Silver** Turning Leaf Consignment pg. 50
140 Monadnock Hwy, Swanzey, NH 03446
facebook.com/turningleafconsignment • (603) 354-3768
- Bronze** Begin Again

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Shopping

Cool Gifts

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Gold Hannah Grimes Marketplace pg. 22
46 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-6862

Silver Soul Emporium

Bronze Bull Moose

Fabric Store

(5 different places received votes)

Gold New England Fabrics

Silver The Moses House

Bronze Hobby Lobby

Farm Stand/Market

(15 different places received votes)

Gold Pete's Stand pg. 34
Route 12, Walpole, NH 03608
(802) 376-4737

Silver Keene Farmers' Market

Bronze Green Wagon Farm

Firearms

(6 different places received votes)

Gold Monadnock Firearms pg. 48
10 Hwy. 12, Fitzwilliam, NH 03447
monadnockfirearms.com • (603) 585-3494

Silver Q&A Armory pg. 17
6 Brakehill Rd., Gilsum, NH 03448
(603) 439-0155

Bronze Trader John's Gunshop

Footwear

(30 different places received votes)

Gold Ted's Shoe & Sport pg. 3
115 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
tedsports.com • (603) 357-8337

Silver Bootleggers pg. 38
West Street Shopping Center, Keene, NH 03431
bootleggersfootwear.com • (603) 352-5201

Bronze Hubert's Department Store pg. 24
19 Wilton Rd., Peterborough, NH 03458
huberts.com • (603) 567-4130



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Nail Salon

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Shopping

Furniture, New

(8 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Frazier & Son** pg. 47
233 Old Homestead Hwy., Swansey, NH 03446
frazierandsonfurniture.com • (603) 352-0337
- Silver** **Andy's Furniture & Gifts**
- Bronze** **Aumand's Furniture**

Furniture, Pre-Owned

(16 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Turning Leaf Consignment** pg. 50
140 Monadnock Hwy, Swansey, NH 03446
facebook.com/turningleafconsignment • (603) 354-3768
- Silver** **More Than A Thrift Store**
- Bronze** **Puggy's**

Garden Center/Nursery

(29 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Maple Hill Nursery** pg. 46
197 West Swansey Road, West Swansey, NH 03469
MapleHillNursery.com • (603) 357-2555
- Silver** **Cheshire Floral Farm** pg. 3
92 Pleasant St., Marlborough, NH 03455
(603) 355-7930
- Bronze** **Blue Seal**



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Gourmet food

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- Gold** **Monadnock Food Co-Op** pg. 30
34 Cypress St., Keene, NH 03431
monadnockfood.coop • (603) 355-8008
- Silver** **Jenna's Market** pg. 29
255 West St., Keene, NH 03431
jennasmarket.com • (603) 338-0012
- Bronze** **Market at Burdicks**

Groceries

(10 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Monadnock Food Co-Op** pg. 30
34 Cypress St., Keene, NH 03431
monadnockfood.coop • (603) 355-8008
- Silver** **Market Basket**
- Bronze** **Hannaford Superstore**

Hardware

(13 different places received votes)

- Gold** **Jack's Hardware** pg. 28
37 Park Ave., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-1517
- Silver** **Hamshaw Lumber** pg. 55
3 Bradco St., PO Box 725 Keene, NH 03431
hamshawlumber.com • (603) 352-6506
- Bronze** **Aubuchon Hardware**



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Best Teacher

Kristen Hertzler



Music Teacher Kristen Hertzler at Franklin Elementary School in Keene received the Gold in the "Teacher" category for the Best of Monadnock Readers' Choice Awards 2026.

Hertzler attributes this praise to her good relationships with students and her colleagues. "I try to make music accessible and enjoyable to kids," she says.

Her students have a plethora of instrument options – from recorder to ukulele – to choose from. Something else she offers in her classes is cardio drumming, which combines music and PE for a full-body workout.

Hertzler grew up in a musical household, as both parents were musicians. She went on to graduate from Cairn University in Pennsylvania, where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in both Bible and Music Education.

When not at school, Hertzler is very active as worship director at Grace Community Church in Spofford. She is married with four children.

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Shopping

Jellies/jams

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Gold Cheshire Garden

Silver Hannah Grimes Marketplace pg. 22
46 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-6862

Bronze Sidehill Farm

Jewelry, new

(19 different places received votes)

Gold Stoneman Custom Jewelers pg. 14

82 Washington St., Keene, NH 03431
stonemancustomjewelers.com • (603) 352-0811

Silver Cheshire Jewelers pg. 33

149 Emerald St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 358-6543

Bronze Hobbs Jewelers

Jewelry, Pre-Owned

(13 different places received votes)

Gold Good Fortune pg. 47

110 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
goodfortunejewelry.com • (603) 357-7500

Silver Cheshire Jewelers pg. 33

149 Emerald St., Keene, NH 03431
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Bronze Puggy's



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Shopping

Leather Goods

(7 different places received votes)

- Gold** Howard's Leather pg. 42
1651 Rte. 9, Spofford, NH 03462
howardsleathernh.com • (603) 363-4325
- Silver** The Cheshire Horse pg. 49
8 Whittemore Farm Road, Swanzey, NH 03446
(603) 358-3001
- Bronze** Angry Bull Leather Design

Locally Made Products Store

(30 different places received votes)

- Gold** Hannah Grimes Marketplace pg. 22
46 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-6862
- Silver** Monadnock Food Co-Op pg. 30
34 Cypress St., Keene, NH 03431
monadnockfood.coop • (603) 355-8008
- Bronze** Monadnock Oil & Vinegar Co.

Locally Owned Business

(110 different places received votes)

- Gold** Hannah Grimes Marketplace pg. 22
46 Main St., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-6862
- Silver** Monadnock Food Co-Op pg. 30
34 Cypress St., Keene, NH 03431
monadnockfood.coop • (603) 355-8008
- Bronze** Soul Emporium

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Shopping

Maple syrup

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- Gold** Woodard's Sugar House pg. 3
1200 Route 12A, Surry, NH 03431
woodardssugarhouse.com • (603) 358-3321
- Silver** Ben's Sugar Shack
- Bronze** Stuart & John's Sugar House

Monuments

(4 different places received votes)

- Gold** Keene Monument Co. pg. 48
555 Main Street, Keene, NH 03431
KeeneMonument.com • (603) 352-7221
- Silver** Peterborough Marble & Granite Works
- Bronze** Abbiati Mounuments

Pet food & accessories

(19 different places received votes)

- Gold** The Cheshire Horse pg. 49
8 Whittemore Farm Road, Swanzey, NH 03446
(603) 358-3001
- Silver** Horse & Buggy Feeds
- Bronze** One Stop Country Pet Supply

Picture framing

(7 different places received votes)

- Gold** Indian King Framery pg. 36
12 Main Street, Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-8434 • indiankingframery.com
- Silver** Inkberry
- Bronze** Michael's

Pool/spa supplies

(8 different places received votes)

- Gold** Clearwater Pool & Spa pg. 39
233 Monadnock Hwy. Rte. 12, Swanzey, NH 03446
clearwaterpoolandspa.net • (603) 357-5874
- Silver** Blue Water Pool & Spa Supplies
- Bronze** Falvey Pools & Spas

Power Equipment

(12 different places received votes)

- Gold** Gary's Power Equipment pg. 54
9 Warwick Rd., Winchester, NH 03470
garysmahindra.com • (603) 239-4953
- Silver** Hamshaw Lumber pg. 55
3 Bradco St., Keene, NH 03431
hamshawlumber.com • (603) 352-6506
- Bronze** Guyette's Sales & Service



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Teacher

Sarah Galligan

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Shopping

Sheds

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Gold Cheshire Shed & Gazebo

Silver Blueberry Hill Sheds

Bronze Hamshaw Lumber pg. 55

3 Bradco St., Keene, NH 03431
hamshawlumber.com • (603) 352-6506

Specialty Niche Store

(53 different places received votes)

Gold Soul Emporium

Silver Retromusic

Bronze Bull Moose

Tires

(24 different places received votes)

Gold Dube's Tire Center pg. 45

300 Park Ave., Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-1445

Silver City Tire Company of Keene

Bronze Town Fair Tire

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Vacuum sales & service

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Gold The Vacuum Store pg. 54
451 West St., Keene, NH 03431
TheVacuumStoreOfKeene.com • (603) 352-5085

Silver Monadnock Appliance pg. 56
497 US-202, #1, Rindge, NH 03461
monadnockappliance.com • (603) 899-9999

Bronze Cocoplum Appliances

Window treatments

(15 different places received votes)

Gold Monadnock Shutter & Shade pg. 32
28 Roxbury St., Keene, NH
monadnockshutterandshade.com • (603) 352-0511

Silver Budget Blinds

Bronze New England Fabrics

Wood/pellet stoves

(6 different places received votes)

Gold Green Energy Options

Silver Treehugger Farms

Bronze Heart Line Stove Shop

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Gold New England Fabrics

Silver Knitty Gritty Yarn Shop

Bronze Harrisville Designs

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- ★ Used Auto Dealership
- ★ Salesperson: Jaime Rios



in the categories of

- ★ Service/Staff
- ★ Charitable Giving
- ★ New Dealership: Honda



in the categories of

- ★ New Dealership: Toyota
- ★ Salesperson: James Lapointe

**Congratulations to all the winners of the
2026 Best of Monadnock Readers' Choice Awards!**



Thank you to our incredible community for your continued support and a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated team, whose hard work and passion make it all possible every day!

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CONGRATULATIONS!

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Jaime Rios
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in the category of

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James Lapointe
for being voted



in the category of

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Thank you to everyone who voted, and congratulations to Jaime and James on this well-deserved recognition! Your dedication to our customers and community shines through every day.

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Index of Advertisers

ADVERTISER	PAGE	ADVERTISER	PAGE	ADVERTISER	PAGE
AAA Travel	13	Gauthier Auto Service, LLC	49	Monadnock Humane Society.....	44
AL Johnson Roofing.....	53	Gilsum Coin Mine.....	25	Monadnock Shutter & Shade	32
Aloha Yoga.....	41	Good Fortune.....	47	More Power Electric.....	20
Alternative Detailing Solutions	19	Granite State Carpet Care	34	Mukota Kennel	44
Anderson & Gilbert	35	Granite State Natural Medicine.....	5	Norm's Ski & Bike.....	4
Ann's Studio of Dance.....	16	Guyer & Son Roofing	38	Northeast Glass.....	27
Bellows-Nichols.....	12	Hamshaw Lumber	55	Our Town Dental	39
Bergeron	51	Hannah Grimes Marketplace	22	Papagallos	20
Bootleggers.....	38	Helens Nail Salon.....	40	Paws to Groom.....	49
Braaten, Christine.....	21	Home-land Landscaping	24	Perkins, Kirsten.....	26
Brattleboro Hearing	27	Houle Wealth Mgmt	32	Petes Stand	34
Brown Computer.....	51	Howards Leather	42	Petrovick.....	12
Buckley Plumbing.....	28	Hubert's.....	24	Phil's Tree Services.....	52
Buffum Auto Parts	39	Humdingers	46	Pinney Plumbing & Heating.....	22
CharlesWorks.....	59	Indian King Framery.....	36	Pizza Down Under	33
Champion Overhead.....	4	J. A. Hutchins Tree Service	25	Pizza Pie.....	41
Cheshire Animal Hospital.....	53	Jackson Hewitt.....	37	Prime Roast.....	28
Cheshire Cleaning.....	8	Jack's Hardware	28	Pub Restaurant & Caterers.....	52
Cheshire Fair.....	22	Jaffrey Appliance.....	44	Q&A Armory.....	17
Cheshire Floral Farm.....	3	Jay Kahn	11	Quality Care	29
Cheshire Horse	49	Jenna's Butcher	29	RBC Wealth.....	43
Cheshire Jewelers.....	33	Kapiloff Insurance	11	ReMax.....	13
Cheshire Village Pizza.....	35	Katie Sutherland Arch.....	17	Ronnie's Small Engine, LLC.....	52
Cheshire Wellness Center	9	Keene Auctions	47	Savings Bank of Walpole.....	42
Clay's	55	Keene Eye Care	57	SepticPro	50
Clearwater Pool & Spa	39	Keene Family YMCA	30	Silver Direct	6
CM Minkler.....	26	Keene Monument Company	48	Smith, Robin	8
Consignment Cabin	31	Keene On Cookies.....	21	Steven Wilder Automotive.....	41
Cooper Paving	21	Keeney	2	Stoneman	14
Country Bridals	12	Keep 'Em Healthy	10	Store-It.....	48
Covenant Living	34	K&J Dean Builders.....	25	Summerhill	17
Crabtree & Company.....	50	Korvin	21	Swanzy Oil.....	15
Dana's Container.....	10	Law Offices of Little & Tomasko.....	26	Syd's	11
Dark Mark Tattoo.....	53	Lee & Mt. Fuji.....	16	Talon.....	40
Dave's Automotive Ent.....	31	Local Burger.....	31	Targett Cleaners	19
Dogs on Depot.....	27	Madame Sherri's	18	Ted's	3
Donahue, Charlie	6	Maple Hill	46	Tempesta's Restaurant.....	51
Doug's Dogs	6	Marlborough House	55	Thai Garden.....	36
Downtown Barber.....	13	Masiello Real Estate	41	Thomas, Denise	16
Dube's Tire Center & Auto Repair.....	45	Mead, JoAnne	25	Toadstool	25
Dust to Shine, LLC.....	42	Melanson	4	Tri-State Chimney	4
Electric Earth Concerts	8	Mexica Restaurant.....	6	Trinity Christian School	37
Eye Works.....	53	Mi Jalisco	28	Turning Leaf Consignments	50
Fenton Family Dealerships.....	57	Mia Capelli.....	23	Unity Heat Pumps	18
Finley Construction.....	12	Moco Arts	45	Vacuum Store.....	54
Fitzgerald Travel.....	35	Monadnock Acupuncture	14	Westside Animal Hospital	46
Frazier & Son Furniture.....	47	Monadnock Appliance.....	56	Wilcox Tree	20
Ganio Land Management	7	Monadnock Firearms	48	Woodard's Sugar House.....	3
Gary's Power	54	Monadnock Food Co-Op.....	30	Woodland Wanders.....	33
Gathering Waters Charter School	56	Monadnock Ford.....	60		


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- ✓ has been in business for at least 10 years
- ✓ has several or more people
- ✓ carries workers' compensation on its employees
- ✓ carries liability insurance
- ✓ maintains a committed presence in networking groups
- ✓ is accredited and has a good rating with the Better Business Bureau: (<https://BBB.org>)
- ✓ understands your community and reciprocates by referring business to you
- ✓ has a phone contact where one can at least leave messages
- ✓ has an email contact where one can send information
- ✓ provides automatic site updates at no additional ongoing charge
- ✓ backs up websites every night for at least a month
- ✓ provides website encryption (SSL) at no additional ongoing charge
- ✓ does not require hosting or domain contracts
- ✓ does not overcharge you by selling inflated monthly maintenance plans
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