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The Monadnock SHOPPER NEWS

The Original Keene Shopper – "The Weekly with a Heart" – 69th Year of Community Service / November 18-24, 2026

Electric Earth Concerts Gala: The Horszowski Trio



Pictured L to R Jesse Mills, violin; Rieko Aizawa, piano; Ole Akahashi, cello

Electric Earth Concerts (EEC) will celebrate the start of the holiday season with the Horszowski Trio, with a gala concert, followed by an elegant champagne reception on Sunday, November 22nd at 4 p.m. at the First Church in Jaffrey. Known for their interpretative depth, versatility, and commitment to both the traditional repertoire and newer works, they will perform Romantic trios by Brahms, Beethoven and Smetana. Admission to the gala is $75 per person, payable online or at the door via cash or check. The concert will be followed by a champagne reception for the players and audience.

The Horszowski Trio has quickly become a vital force in the international chamber music world since their formation in 2011. In 2023, the "Horszowski Trio Prize" was created by the prestigious Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition, to award piano trio winners.

Brahms and Beethoven are names that everyone knows. Somewhat lesser known, but a fine composer, Bedrich Smetana pioneered the development of a musical style that became closely identified with his people's aspirations to a cultural and political "revival." He has been regarded in his homeland as the father of Czech music. Internationally he is best known for his 1866 opera *The Bartered Bride* and for the symphonic cycle *Má vlast* ("My Fatherland"), which portrays the history, legends, and landscape of the composer's native Bohemia.

To hear the Horszowski Trio online, visit https://www.horszowskitrio.com/listen-watch.

Kiwanis Club Of Keene Hosts Tree Lighting Celebration

On Friday, November 27th from 5 to 7:30 p.m., Kiwanis Club of Keene will kick off the holiday season with its tree lighting event on Central Square in Keene.

This is a family-oriented event with entertainment and sing-alongs, cocoa and cookies, a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, a reading of *'Twas the night before Christmas*, and a specialty mailbox for letters to Santa.

Attendees should dress warmly to enjoy all that the festivities have to offer.

Thanksgiving Weekend Of Arts: Putney Craft Open Studio Tour



By Judy Hawkins



By Joshua Gold Potter

Art and fine craft collectors and holiday shoppers are invited to the oldest continuing craft tour in the country, the 48th annual Putney Craft tour, November 27th, 28th, and 29th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the tour is free.

Twenty-three of Vermont's most prominent makers will open their studio doors all three days bringing hundreds of visitors into the scenic, winding back roads of Putney and Westminster West.

Folks can visit glass blowers, potters, jewelers, woodworkers, painters, even artisan cheese and wine makers, all nestled among the hills and valleys in and around Putney.

"The opportunity to experience the uniqueness of the number and the variety of craftspeople and artists in a small rural environment is the real draw of such tours," says glassblower Robert Burch (#19), one of the founders of the tour.

ARTS, page 11

Signature Smiles Dental

Dental Care You Can Smile About



Debbie Leith (left), a patient as well as the patient care coordinator at Signature Smiles Dental, is pictured having a patient consultation with Dr. Charland at Signature Smiles Dental.

By Lori Catozzi Cook

Dental check-ups aren't just about cleaning your pearly whites. These exams let your dentist detect cavities or gum disease early, check that your fillings are secure, review your oral hygiene and more to protect your overall health.

At Signature Smiles Dental in Rindge, Jennifer Charland, DMD, PLLC is a true patient advocate. "At Signature Smiles Dental, patients are people, not numbers," she says. "The practice prioritizes listening to concerns, building trust, and providing individualized care in a welcoming and respectful environment."

She continues: "As a practice, we are true believers that preventive care and education are the keys to optimal dental health. We strive to provide dental health care versus disease care. That's why we focus on thorough exams: checking the overall health of your teeth and gums, performing oral cancer exams, and taking X-rays when necessary."

DENTAL, page 4

MoCo Arts Presents Disney's *The Little Mermaid* Saturday, December 12th

MoCo Arts will brings Disney's *The Little Mermaid* to The Colonial Theatre on Main Street in Keene for two performances on Saturday, December 12th at 2 and 7 p.m.

The middle and high school theater students of MoCo Arts will dive into a family-friendly staging of the Hans Christian Andersen tale and the animated film.

Ariel, the youngest daughter of King Triton, longs for life above the waves and for Prince Eric. When she trades her tail for legs in a deal with the sea witch Ursula, it's up to Flounder, Scuttle, and Sebastian to help set things right.

With music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater, and a book by Doug Wright, the score is full of songs folks already know by heart, including *Under the Sea*, *Kiss the Girl*, and *Part of Your World*.

Tickets are $19 to $25. For more details, call 603-352-2033 or e-mail boxoffice@thecolonial.org.

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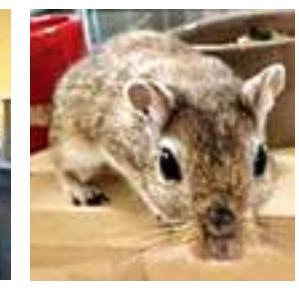
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Gamora and Nebula are a pair of sisters looking for their new home. These two ladies enjoy socializing with people who come to visit. They love creating new tunnels in their tank and exploring their space. Gerbils make great pets for children and teens because they are active during the day and tend to be more open to socialization and handling. They are very sweet girls with a lot of potential for their futures.

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.monadnockhumanesociety.org.

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Keene High School Ski Sale Offers Great Savings

On Saturday, November 21st, the Keene High School Alpine Ski team will hold their annual fundraising sale featuring new and used skis, snowboards, boots, ice skates, and winter gear with all proceeds benefitting the team.

Those wishing to consign or donate gear can do so on Friday, November 20th from 6 to 8 p.m. The club asks that gear be less than 10 years old and in good working condition.

On Saturday, the team will also offer a $25 edge tune and wax special for personal gear or for equipment purchased at the sale. Raffle tickets will be available for purchase. Prizes include an Apple Watch and gift baskets filled with gift cards and other items. The event takes place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Keene High School cafeteria. For more details, e-mail keenealpineboosters@gmail.com.

Santa Visit At Holiday Bazaar On November 21st

A Holiday Bazaar will be held at the The Fieldhouse at Homestead Mill in Swanzey on Saturday, November 21st from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is the first holiday event presented by the Cheshire Fair Association.

There will be a variety of vendors and crafters selling their wares. Shoppers will find handmade ornaments, handcrafted bath and body products, sweet treats and hot sauces, paintings, leather goods, clothing, pet accessories, woodworking, and candles.

There will also be an author/book sale event and free activities for kids, including coloring pages and holiday crafts. Nana's No Nonsense Baked Potatoes & Loaded Tots will be available for purchase. Santa will pay a visit for the little ones as well.

The Fieldhouse at Homestead Mill is located at 2 South Winchester Street. For more details, call the Cheshire Fair Association at 603-357-4740.







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Joel Hannon Helps Seniors Find The Right Medicare Coverage

Joel Hannon believes that choosing Medicare coverage should never be a one-size-fits-all decision. With four decades of insurance experience, he has helped individuals and families navigate the insurance industry, bringing experience, personal attention, and a commitment to finding the coverage that best meets each customer's needs. For the past 20 years, he has focused on helping seniors understand their Medicare options, including Medicare Supplements, Prescription Drug Plans, and Medicare Advantage Plans.

"With Medicare offering numerous coverage options and an often confusing array of choices, having a knowledgeable and trusted advisor can make all the difference," says Hannon."Whether you need extensive medical care or simply want peace of mind knowing you have the right health coverage, my goal is to simplify the complexities of Medicare."

Every individual has different healthcare needs, financial considerations, and priorities. His approach is centered on understanding those needs and helping each customer find a plan that makes the most sense for their individual situation.

"I help answer your questions and guide you through the options so you can make informed decisions about your healthcare coverage, whether you're just becoming eligible for Medicare at age 65 or reviewing your coverage at age 85."

Equally important to Hannon is being there for his customers beyond the initial enrollment process. He prides himself on being an accessible, trusted advisor throughout the year, providing ongoing guidance and assistance as questions and circumstances arise. "Medicare doesn't have to be overwhelming. Having someone you can turn to for answers and guidance can make the process much easier."

For more details or assistance understanding Medicare coverage options, contact Joel at 603-876-5041.

Signature Smiles Dental – Dental Care You Can Smile About

DENTAL, Continued from page 1

Charland has more than 25 years of experience in dentistry and 20 years of practice ownership. Her independently-owned dental practice provides general and individualized restorative treatment, including metal-free fillings, aesthetic crowns, bridges, dentures, and implant restorations, with a focus on healthy, functional, natural-looking smiles.

"Dr. Charland and her entire staff are the most compassionate professionals out there," says Holly Morin, about her experience at Signature Smiles Dental. "From dental cleanings to crowns, they are simply the best in the industry. Even though I am anxious at the dentist, they really strive to make it a comfortable experience."

"Every visit is so friendly and efficient," adds Johanna Ierna. "I feel the whole staff is looking out for me and my well-being."



Dr. Jennifer Charland, DMD of Signature Smiles Dental provides an individualized care focus at her practice in Rindge.

The mission of Signature Smiles Dental is to help patients achieve and maintain healthy, comfortable, functional, and confident smiles. "Patients benefit from experienced dental care that values personal relationships, clear communication, and thoughtful treatment recommendations," Charland adds.

The team at Signature Smiles Dental strives to make patients feel heard, informed, and comfortable while helping them make decisions that suit their needs. Cohesive communication, individualized treatment, and helping patients understand their options as dental techniques and expectations evolve are paramount at this local practice.

"The best experience I've ever had at a dental office," says Hannah Coalter. "Everyone was extremely kind and caring. The ladies at the front desk were all super friendly and welcoming. The hygienist was absolutely incredible, explaining everything she was doing and making me feel as comfortable as possible. I would highly recommend this office if you have any anxiety surrounding dental appointments."

Charland values continuing education and professional involvement, including her leadership work with the New Hampshire Dental Society. The practice combines an emphasis on prevention and patient education and aims to be known for welcoming, compassionate, thorough care and genuine relationships with patients.

Named a "Top Dentist in General Dentistry" by *NH Magazine* for multiple years, Charland is proud of the dedicated dental hygienists, assistants, and administrative team who she feels are central to Signature Smiles Dental.

Signature Smiles Dental is located at 31 Sonja Drive, Suite 3. Office hours are Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon.

"We are a dental practice devoted to restoring and enhancing the natural beauty of your smile using conservative, state-of-the-art procedures that will result in beautiful, long-lasting smiles," Charland concludes.

For more details or to set up an appointment, call 603-899-2422, email info@signaturesmilesnh.com, or visit www.signaturesmilesnh.com.

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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 $20 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)



What Cheshire County village is shown in the photo?



The winner of last week's Mystery Photo Contest was Phyllis Christian of Keene. The ox-drawn wagon was photographed in front of school #9 in Swanzey.

Charlestown Senior Center To Hold Christmas Bazaar And Cookie Walk

The Charlestown Senior Center will hold its annual Christmas Bazaar and Cookie Walk on Friday and Saturday, November 20th and 21st, at 223 Old Springfield Road in Charlestown.

The bazaar will include gently used items, 15 gift baskets, nine gift cards from local merchants, jewelry, crafts and other giftable items. A handcrafted afghan and a small hand-pieced quilt will also be offered. One room will be devoted mostly to Christmas décor, including lights, decorations and wrapping paper. A small bake sale will be held along with the cookie walk.

Unless an item is marked, everything is by donation. Free coffee will be available all day.

Christmas Bazaar At St. Bernard's Parish Hall

On Saturday, November 21st from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., a Christmas Bazaar will be held at St. Bernard's Parish Hall at 185 Main Street in Keene.

This event includes crafts, new and nearly-new goods, baked goods, books, decorations, gifts, jewelry, religious items, holiday items, and more. Lunch will be sold from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more details, call 603-355-8831.

Dance Features "Loose Change" Saturday, November 21th

Monadnock Tri-State Dance Club will hold a dance on Saturday, November 21th from 7 to 10 p.m. at ELMM Memorial Community Center at 21 Durkee Street 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.

Conservationist Of The Year Award Open For Nominations

Nominations for the 2026 Rindge Conservationist of the Year Award are open for submission from now until Saturday, November 21st.

The Rindge Conservation Commission encourages people who live or work in Rindge to let the commission know about anyone they believe has gone beyond expectations to preserve land and water for future generations.

Nominations can be a person, business, or organization that has positively fostered and supported conservation in Rindge.

Submitting a nomination is easy. The nomination form and instructions are found online at https://tinyurl.com/RCCAward. Fill out the form and click "submit," e-mail it to rindgeconcom@rindgenh.gov, or drop off the completed form at the Rindge Town Office.

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Traditions New And Old

There is something about November in New England that makes you slow down and pay attention. The colorful leaves have mostly fallen, the mornings have a familiar chill, and you start to dress in sweaters or flannels, grab coats before heading outside, and scrape frost from windshields before you can drive anywhere. The days are getting shorter and thoughts begin turning toward the holidays and the people we look forward to seeing.

Memories from years past seem to mingle with the tasks required today. The smell of familiar items baking, old favorite holiday songs playing, and the holiday decorations from years past being unpacked can transport you to holidays of your childhood and the people, places, and traditions that made the season so special.

In small New England towns, the traditions seem to be woven into the fabric of the community. There are holiday fairs that have been taking place for many decades with homemade gifts to purchase. There's the fudge that your neighbor makes every year that you look forward to having.

The thing about traditions is they develop into something that makes the season feel special. As the weather changes, you start to think about the activities that you look forward to year after year.

Some traditions are ones you grew up with that have carried on. Maybe it's a particular dish that always shows up on the Thanksgiving table, and it would feel wrong not to have it. Maybe it's the recipe for Christmas cookies passed down through the generations that you continue to make every year.

Some traditions were carefully planned, while others simply happened until they became part of the family story. Some traditions change and develop over time. Sometimes they might shift for just that one year and create some lasting memories. Growing up, Thanksgiving dinner was always hosted by my mother. Most of the time it was immediate family, but I recall the year my mother's brother and his family came to New Hampshire to join our celebration. It was a very big group and I think we ended up bringing a picnic table inside to fit everyone. One thing I always remember from our family thanksgivings were the pies. As a kid I was not a huge fan of pie crust, but I know that my mother's pie crust was exceptional and her chocolate cream and lemon meringue pies couldn't be topped.

Children may not always appreciate the traditions. Sometimes they may complain about having to travel to get to relative's homes a distance away, or they may fuss over having to help with preparations or clean up. Despite rolling their eyes and expressing discontent, these holiday traditions really cement into positive memories they would miss if you left them out.

I remember one time I was invited to spend the night at a friend's house, and my mother reminded me that if I left, I'd miss the pot roast she was making. At the time, I wasn't a huge fan of pot roast and I insisted I'd rather go with my friend. Then when I woke the next morning, I suddenly felt bereft from missing the pot roast and had to go home to see if I could get some leftovers. Those things we think don't matter as kids often become things we treasure.

Monadnock Family with Sheri Lapointe



As kids grow into adults, the holiday planning falls to them, and it often includes some of those treasured memories from childhood. Married couples may fuse together parts of their own childhood traditions to carry on with their own families. New traditions may develop as family's grow and change. A few years ago, I discovered a botanical garden in Massachusetts that features a spectacular holiday lights display every year. Now that has become a yearly trip. In fact, since first discovering that garden, I've visited throughout the year to enjoy the flowers.

Communities have their own traditions, too. It may be the holiday concert at the local elementary school, the tree lighting ceremony, or a church craft fair. These events may seem like ordinary parts of small-town life, but they're also reminders of the connections that make a community feel like home. Seeing familiar faces, catching up with neighbors, and reconnecting with people we may not have seen since last year.

Perhaps the greatest gift traditions offer is reminding us that the most meaningful family moments don't require elaborate plans or expensive activities. They require time, attention, and a willingness to spend time together.

As Thanksgiving approaches, it's worth taking a few minutes to think about the traditions you want to carry forward. Is there a family recipe that deserves to be written down and shared, or a story about a grandparent or great-grandparent that younger family members should hear? And maybe there are some new traditions you want to start.

Years from now, someone may pull out an old recipe, decorate a tree with a familiar ornament, or tell a story that has been passed down for generations. And in that moment, they may be carrying a little piece of what you created into the next generation.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
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November 18, 2026
Annette Epps, daughter of Heidi & Dan Epps, Marlborough, 8

November 20, 2026
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This Week's Winners



Annette Epps, Marlborough, 8 (L)
Logan Nikiforakis, Swanzey, 11 (R)


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Waste Not, Want Not

Great advice if you want to save money. With inflation roaring almost everyone wants to save money. Why not cut waste?

Over the years at work, I learned about efficiency, continuous improvement, and waste reduction. I really bought into not wasting energy once I was paying for it. So, no surprise that I became an energy auditor. Since my first energy audit at home, I've steadily made efficiency improvements. When the aging roof needed replacement, I upgraded the insulation, replacing fiberglass batts with foam and blown in cellulose. As a builder friend says, "I put a better hat on it." Recently, I qualified for more efficiency work done courtesy of NHSaves. It was the insulation project in the basement that I never finished. I can already feel the difference as the cold weather gets started; it's more comfortable and I'll save on heating this winter and many more.



When it comes to energy efficiency, a heat pump is hard to beat. It just uses a little electricity to move a gas from inside to outside exchanging heat and keeping you cooler or warmer depending on the season.

One of your largest sources of waste is a well-kept secret. For much of my adult life I watched for low gasoline prices to save money. Then I found out that cars waste 75 percent of the gasoline burned to move the car. EVs only waste 20 percent of the electrons put in to get you down the road.

Being over 50 percent more efficient made electric vehicles very appealing. There was very little choice when I got my first EV in 2018, and it cost a lot more than my fuel-efficient hybrid. It was a lot more fun to drive though. By 2022 my choices were better though still pricey. But I knew the lower fueling costs, the better efficiency, and lack of maintenance expenses made owning an EV a good deal. Now, there are more new electric options and they're getting more affordable, so I can finally get a vehicle type that I really want. As more EVs come off leases, more affordable used EVs are becoming available too. If you aren't interested in an EV you can cut wasting fuel money by not idling, not accelerating going up hills and keeping tire pressure up and getting recommended tune-ups.

Do yourself a favor, check out NHSaves and the Monadnock Sustainability Hub for rebates, incentives, and information on energy savings.

Some folks hate recycling, too much work to rinse containers or sort paper. If you can, try two valuable options: composting plant waste to enrich your garden soil and recycling aluminum cans. A stint in the paper industry taught me the importance of sorting, because mixed recycled materials are worth less.

Some industries are embracing the circular economics of seeing that their products are recovered, reprocessed, and reused. Batteries are a good example: shredded EV batteries yield black mass – a powder from which valuable minerals can be recovered and reused. Interestingly, China has lowered tariffs on black mass to encourage its booming battery industry.

What waste could you cut: the wasted gasoline burned when idling or the 75 cents per dollar wasted by going electric? Sealing drafty gaps or getting a free NHSaves energy audit to prioritize efficiency and comfort opportunities?

If you want to fight inflation, cutting wasteful greenhouse gasses from warming our world is a top priority. Making the planet hotter creates more weird and often costly, damaging weather which is already raising food prices and will only get worse.

John Kondos has been harvesting free fuel from the sun for five decades and enjoys the freedom, performance, savings and ease of ownership of an EV.

Troop 33 Jaffrey Spaghetti Supper

On Saturday, November 21st, Boy Scout Troop 33 will host a Spaghetti Supper at the American Legion Post 11 on Webster Street in Jaffrey from 4 to 7 p.m.

The supper includes spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert, and drinks. The cost is $10 for adults, $6 for seniors and children, and $5 for veterans. Baked goods will also be available for sale.

The Most Dangerous Step You'll Take This Winter Might Be Your First



Every winter in New England, we prepare for the inevitable. We put snow tires on our cars, service our furnaces, stack the firewood, and dig out the snow shovels. But there's one piece of winter equipment we often overlook. It's something we rely on every single day, and it might be the most important piece of safety equipment we own. Our shoes.

After more than 30 years of fitting feet here in Keene, I've learned that one of the biggest misconceptions about winter footwear is that a big, rugged-looking tread automatically means good traction. It doesn't. In fact, some of the most aggressive-looking winter boots can be surprisingly slippery on ice. And some of the best-performing footwear on icy surfaces looks nothing like the traditional winter boots we've worn for generations. There's a huge difference between a shoe that looks winter-ready and one that actually provides traction on snow and ice.

Ted McGreer is the owner of Ted's Shoe & Sport, located at 115 Emerald Street in Keene. Since 2000, he and his award winning team have helped customers find the perfect shoe for work, sports activities, or leisure pursuits.

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STOCK WATCH

Listings At Close of Market November 13, 2026 • Courtesy of RBC Wealth Management
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	Close	Week's Change		Close	Week's Change
Honeywell (Allied Signal)	222.46	2.41	**Danaher Corp.** (Kollmorgen)	233.02	2.77
Becton Dickinson (C.R. Bard)	218.03	6.15	**Merck** (Hubbard Farms)	147.46	1.03
Toronto Dominion Bank (TD Bank)	123.76	1.36	**Deluxe (NEBS)**	26.78	0.22
PC Connection	82.91	3.76	**Teleflex** (Jaffrey)	155.10	4.23
Bank Of America (Fleet)	51.02	1.60	**Timken** (MPB Corp.)	108.91	6.88
Corning Inc.	114.08	7.95	**M&T Bank Corp.** (People's United)	221.12	3.37
Ametek, Inc. (Precitech)	242.11	13.44	**Dover Corp. (Markem)**	209.95	6.10

PRECIOUS METALS	Close	Week's Change	COMMODITIES	Close	Week's Change
Silver ($ per ounce)	48.69	(3.28)	Wheat (cents per bushel)	670.00	16.50
Gold ($ per ounce)	3,878.20	(196.10)	Corn (cents per bushel)	457.25	15.00
Platinum ($ per ounce)	1,494.16	(41.11)	Soybeans (cents per bushel)	1,232.75	42.50
			Cattle (cents per pound)	224.93	10.75
			Crude ($ per barrel)	89.07	(1.53)

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Grounded Electric Offering Services

Grounded Electric is offering residential and light commercial electrical services in the Monadnock area. Master electrician Steve Lawrence brings more than 12 years of experience in many areas, from small to larger projects. He'll wire a house from start to finish and wire smoke detectors, generators and mini splits. He does panel upgrades, remodels, sheds and barns, adding lights, outlets, and switches. He's also available for troubleshooting electrical problems.

Grounded Electric offers free estimates and is fully insured. For more details, call 603-903-4379 or email to groundedelectric89@gmail.com.



Steve Lawrence of Grounded Electric is installing a dimmer switch in a second-floor three-room, one-bath remodel with all new wiring.

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Let's Get On The Map!

A Monadnock Homegrown National Park Biodiversity Map Challenge

Many people have worked hard to get out our recent mid-term vote. Lots of other people are saving our world in other ways every day. I say, how about we take a breath, make a shift to have some fun saving pollinators, expanding our biodiversity with a Monadnock Homegrown National Park (HNP) Biodiversity Map Challenge? I noticed that our Monadnock Region, as shown on the HNP's Biodiversity Map, is a little spartan of registered locations. In fact, New Hampshire has only 435 people who have added their home landscape or habitat to the map. Massachusetts has over 2000 sites and even Maine has 606 sites.

Woods and Gardens
with Michele Chalice



I'm a member of Keene's Conservation Commission and we've indeed decided that it's time for some free family fun, free friend fun, free community fun. We're going to grow and plant more of the native plants that support the native bees, butterflies, moths, wasps, flies, and beetles that feed the bird families we love to see and hear from our windows or walks along a trail. As you may already know, plants that are regionally adapted to our soil and weather co-evolved with over 400 native bees as well as hundreds of moths and butterflies. This wide number of species cannot survive with only our current limited range and number of conventional landscape plants.

So let's bust out! Each of our new registrations will show that every single individual can take independent action to make a difference in restoring our country's former biodiversity. The project has three parts: A 2026 Winter Seed Sowing workshop, an Early 2027 Summer Seedling Transplant and Swap workshop, and a Volunteer Planting Day at one of Keene's parks in the fall of 2027. All events are free and along the way people in our region can register their landscapes as they plant and care for at least one native plant. I bet that we can add 500 new sites.

Part One: A Winter Seed Sowing event on Sunday, December 13th from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Keene Recreation Center. No registration necessary. Folks can bring their own clean one-gallon plastic jug. They can also bring their own perennial flower seeds, but I'll be providing many native perennial flower seed options. Everyone will go home with a cap-less jug of soil and seeds that will sit outside all winter long, going through a process of freezing and thawing (cold stratification) that native seeds need to sprout.

Part Two: A Summer Seedling Transplant and Swap workshop. This is where we'll learn how to transplant the teeny-tiny plant babies growing inside the recycled gallon jug into recycled plastic six-pack planters like we buy at the garden store. This way we can swap and share the different baby perennials. The catch is, you got it, we have to baby the baby plants by taking care of them until they're big enough to plant out in our landscapes in the late fall. Remember, perennial plants have a three-year cycle. They "sleep" the first year while they grow new roots. The second year they "creep," grow bigger, and third, they "leap," growing into their mature size with abundant blooms.

Part Three: A Volunteer Planting Day at one of Keene's parks in the fall of 2027.

Now, this is not a certification. I will talk about those next month. You don't have to change your whole landscape. In fact I advise starting with a small area. We'll be joining over 50,000 other people throughout our nation. This is a visual map listing, acknowledging that you have planted at least one native plant in your home landscape. Please hold your horses if you've already planted natives! Your registration can be part of the Monandock project by waiting for the website that HNP is creating for the project as we speak. Until then, save the December 13th date. Find and clean your plastic jug, and think about a sunny location in your home landscape where it will thrive. Let's do this!

Michele Chalice, owner of @HealthHomeHabitats, an environmental landscape consulting and education firm in Keene, 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

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Gilsum Church Holiday Fair At Church And Library

Saturday, November 21st

The Gilsum Church Holiday Fair will be held on Saturday, November 21st at the church at 13 Main Street from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and at the library at 650 Route 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This event includes pies, donuts, and other baked goods for sale; raffles; a cozy cafe at the church; and handcrafted gifts and stocking stuffers for sale.

Besides baked goods, the library will have a tent sale, book sale (inside), and take-out lunch items (soups and sandwiches).

St. John's Church Holiday Fair Returns With Famous "Cookies By The Pound"

St. John's Church will host its annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 21st from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 26 Elm Street in Walpole – continuing a beloved and festive tradition now in its fourth decade.

The centerpiece of the fair is St. John's "Cookies by the Pound." Shoppers select from dozens of varieties of homemade Christmas cookies — traditional favorites like gingerbread, shortbread, and sugar cookies, seven-layer bars, ginger snaps and more; international holiday classics such as German pfeffernüsse and Mexican wedding cookies; and New England specialties like maple stars, hermits, and whoopie pies. Every cookie is homemade by members of the St. John's community.

"We have some of the finest home bakers in the region, and, by the time the doors open, we'll have hundreds of cookies on the table," says Mary Schoppmeyer, who leads the annual cookie drive. "Come early for the best selection!"

The fair will also feature baked goods, including pies, chocolate tarts, plum puddings and dinner rolls, along with fresh wreaths and swags for holiday decor (handmade from materials foraged in Walpole's forests), handcrafted birdhouses, antiques, and home goods.

For more than 30 years, the St. John's Holiday Fair has been a fixture of the season in Walpole and surrounding towns. This year brings a new convenience: for the first time, the fair will accept credit cards and Apple Pay in addition to cash and checks.

The fair takes place alongside the Thanksgiving Farmers Market on Walpole Common, the Walpole Firefighters Auxiliary Crafts Fair at the Walpole Town Hall, and the UCC's Mistletoe Mart – a packed day of holiday shopping and fun in Walpole!

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FRIDAY

Scouts Sell Food, Wreaths At Keene Holiday Craft Show



Pictured from left to right are Leo Clarke, John Marsh, Micah Griffin, Pratikk Selvam, Karen Johannesen, Ryan Marsh, Dillan Hatt, Jess Hatt, Cameran Stroup, Trent Perry, Ryder Johannesen, Isaac Gorecki, and Edwin Jaquez.

Troop 18, Scouting America (formerly known as Boy Scouts of America), has been serving youth in the Keene area for over 75 years.

Thanksgiving weekend, the boys will be serving up homemade comfort food and selling fresh balsam wreaths alongside over 100 other local crafters at the Keene Holiday Craft Show. The show takes place Saturday, November 28th, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Keene High School.

Scouting has a long history of fostering youth leadership through outdoor adventures, weekly meetings, and community service. The scouts enjoy regular camping and hiking trips, and enjoy giving service in a variety of ways. This weekend, they will be collecting food donations for the annual National Scouting for Food campaign. For more details on the program or to inquire about joining, email troop18sgc@gmail.com.

Recently the scouts embarked on a trip to West Virginia and Pennsylvania to attend the National Scout Jamboree, raft on the New River, explore the country's history, and honor the heroes and victims of 9/11 at the New York and Pennsylvania memorials.

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Putney Craft Open Studio Tour

ARTS,

Continued from page 1

Burch is an entertainer, glassblower, and teacher, and his studio is alive with demos all weekend long. For him, the tour is a family affair with both his daughter and son on the tour as well. His daughter, Caitlin Burch, (#20) specializes in hand-blown glass and lampwork jewelry and his son Ryan Burch (#18), focuses on functional ceramics.

Well-marked signs and tour maps will lead the way. Folks can start at Putney Mountain Winery & Spirits, featuring award-winning artisanal wine and spirits. In addition to tastings, visitors will find information, an exhibit, and tour maps. Kate Dodge, (#3) former owner of the Winery will be displaying her landscape photography there.

The festival atmosphere extends into the evening with the return of a beloved regional tradition: Sandglass Theater's *A Rafter of Crankies* performing for its 12th consecutive year at Green Mountain Orchards. Showtimes are Friday, November 27th, and Saturday, November 28th, at 5 and 7:30 p.m. both nights. Tickets and information can be found at sandglasstheater.org.

For more details, downloadable maps, and artisan profiles, visit putneycrafttour.com.

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Honoring Children's Grief

November is Children's Grief Awareness Month, an opportunity to deepen our understanding of how loss and grief impact children and families, and how we can best support them. This year's awareness campaign, Flip the Script, invites us to rethink how we understand and respond to grieving children.

According to the 2025 New Hampshire report from the Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model, one in 12 New Hampshire children will experience the death of a parent or sibling by the age of 18. Behind this statistic are children in our own homes, schools, neighborhoods, and communities, many of whom may be carrying their grief quietly and who may be feeling alone.

Healing Perspectives
with Nadine Laughlin



For every one of these children, there are family members and loved ones who are also grieving, often struggling with their own sorrow and changes while trying to find it in themselves to support the children in their lives. As families, friends, neighbors, teachers, and communities, we are the village that can help hold and support a child through the experience of loss.

In our culture, death and grief have often been kept in the shadows. With the best of intentions, adults have sometimes tried to protect children from the realities of loss, shielding them from difficult conversations, funerals, and rituals of mourning, and even from witnessing the sadness of the adults around them.

But perhaps protecting children doesn't mean shielding them from grief. It can mean helping them feel safe enough to encounter grief, with loving adults alongside them. We can bring warmth and light to experiences that have too often been kept in the shadows.

When children hear us speak openly about someone who has died, when they see our tears, when they witness us remembering and missing someone we love, they learn that grief is something we all experience, something that can be spoken about, that belongs in our shared lives.

Simple rituals of remembrance can also help bring grief out of the shadows. We might light a candle on a loved one's birthday or holiday, share favorite stories or photographs, prepare a special meal. These small gestures allow us to acknowledge the continuing place of someone we love in our lives, rather than allowing their absence to become something we avoid speaking about. Children can be invited to participate in these rituals in whatever ways feel comfortable and meaningful to them.

Children may move in and out of their grief, feeling profound sadness one moment and returning to play and laughter the next. Grief may also appear as anger, anxiety, withdrawal, and changes in behavior. They may carry difficult questions, guilt, or regrets that they don't know how to express. Just as adults do, some children wonder whether something they did, or failed to do, might somehow have contributed to their loved one's death. Having opportunities to share these thoughts with compassionate, understanding adults, or with other children who have experienced loss, can help ease their sense of isolation and self-blame.

Organizations such as Experience Camps offer free summer camps where grieving children can share experiences, build friendships, play, and discover they are not alone. Bereavement-focused organizations and hospice programs may also offer support groups and resources for children and families.

Adults who are grieving need support, too. Seeking understanding and companionship for our own grief can help us remain present and available to the children we love.

Healing from grief does not mean getting over the death of someone we love. It means gradually finding ways to live with that loss, integrating it into the unfolding story of our lives, while continuing to experience connection, joy, meaning, and purpose.

As we recognize Children's Grief Awareness Month, we can begin by asking how we might make more room for grief in our families, schools, and communities. Not by trying to fix it or hurry it along, but by allowing it to be witnessed, expressed, and shared.

Nadine Laughlin is a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and certified grief educator. She can be found at Monadnock Mind Body Medicine based in Keene, NH.

Yoga For Positive Mental Health At Aloha

Josephine Russell is reviving a workshop that she offered many moons ago at CMC. During the darkest time of the year, many folks have at least a touch of Seasonal Affected Disorder. For some people, the holiday season is lonely. For some, maybe there was a loss during the holidays that comes back to weigh heavily onto their minds.

The workshop offers ideas to incorporate into people's lives to help them weather the darkness. Even certain foods can bring people into a good mood. Russell will offer cacao, which is said to induce a state of bliss.

The event will take place Saturday, November 21st from 1:30 to 4 p.m. This is a fund raiser for MAPS. The cost is $54 to register online at vagaro.com/alohakeene. Those who show up at the door can pay a donation of any amount.

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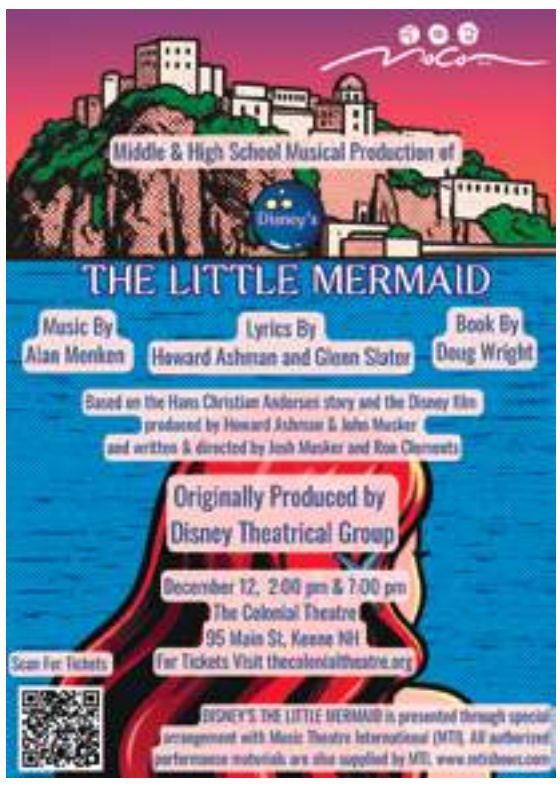
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Wednesday, Nov. 18

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"What the Declaration of Independence Offers U.S. Social Movements": Meg Mott 5:30-7pm. Peterborough Town Library, 2 Concord St. How the Declaration of Independence acknowledges the people's right to rebel. **603-924-8040**. www.peterboroughtownlibrary.org.

Veterans Yoga Project: Mindful Resilience 12-1pm. Cathedral of the Pines, 10 Hale Hill Rd., Rindge. Wednesdays, Fridays. All welcome, donation. info@cathedralofthepines.org.

Thursday, Nov. 19

ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

Ben Cosgrove Piano Concert 7pm. Dublin Community Church, 1125 Main St., Dublin.

Arsenic and Old Lace 7:30pm. The Edge Theater, 310 Marlboro St., Suite 112. Tickets at www.edgeensemble.org/boxoffice.

MISCELLANEOUS

Chair Yoga 1pm. Keene Parks & Recreation Center, 312 Washington St. Registration at www.keeneparks.com.

Infinite Worlds Book Club 6-7:30pm. Keene Public Library, 60 Winter St. Non-traditional book club for adults focusing on speculative fiction. November's Theme: Robots and Androids. Katelyn McStravick: **603-352-0157**. kmcstravick@keenenh.gov.

Andrews Inn Documentary: Slideshow First Looks and Hot Takes 6:30pm. Ciao Popolo, 36 The Square, Bellows Falls, VT. Updates on the progress on the Andrews Inn documentary. Free.

Trivia Thursdays: Wade The Great Entertainment 6:30-8pm. Mama McDonough's Irish Pub, 80 Airport Rd., Keene.

Calmly on the Waters – Seasonal Essays from Monadnock with Jarvis Coffin 7pm. Hancock Town Library, 25 Main St. Free and open to all. No registration needed.

Christmas Bazaar!
Saturday, November 21st • 8 am–1 pm
St. Bernard's Parish Hall, 185 Main St., Keene
Crafts, new & nearly-new goods, baked goods, books, decorations, gifts, jewelry, religious items, holiday items, and more!
Lunch sold from 9 am-1 pm
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Saturday, Nov. 21st
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Swanzey Community House
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DINING PLEASURES

Troop 33 Jaffrey Spaghetti Supper 4-7pm. Jaffrey American Legion Post 11, Webster St. Jaime Hutchinson: hutchjl@hotmail.com.

$5 Take Out Only Meal: Turkey Dinner 4-6pm. Samuel E. Paul Community Center, 61 South St., Troy. Troy Recreation Department: **603-313-2243**.

Turkey Dinner 5-6pm. First Congregational Church of Swanzey, Rt 32. Take out available. Dine in or take out. **603-352-6689**. office@swanzeyucc.org.

FAIRS & SALES

Winter Crafts Fair 7-9pm. Gathering Waters Charter Public School, 98 South Lincoln St., Keene. Artisan and craft vendors, raffle, food, and live music. Adults.

Christmas Bazaar, Cookie Walk 8am-1pm. Charlestown Senior Center, 223 Old Springfield Rd. Gift baskets and gift cards, jewelry, crafts, afghan, quilt, décor, small bake sale, cookie walk.

FAMILY FUN

Homeschool Library Day 11am. Conant Public Library, 111 Main St., Winchester. **603-239-4331**. www.conantlibrary.org/.

MISCELLANEOUS

Veterans Yoga Project: Mindful Resilience 12-1pm. Cathedral of the Pines, 10 Hale Hill Rd., Rindge. All are welcome. By donation. info@cathedralofthepines.org.

Sat., Nov. 21

ARTS, MUSIC, THEATER

Coffee House & Open Mic 6-9pm. Dublin Community Center, 1123 Main St. Feature: bluegrass band, The Bottom Dollars **603-563-8080**. info@dublincommunitycenter.org. www.dubhub-nh.org.

Monadnock Tri-State Dance Club 7-10pm. ELMM Community Center, 21 Durkee St., Winchester. Featuring 'Loose Change.' Everyone welcome. $12. Refreshments available, 50/50 raffle. Barbara: **603-392-0447**.

Arsenic and Old Lace 7:30pm. The Edge Theater, 310 Marlboro St., Suite 112. Tickets at www.edgeensemble.org/boxoffice.

DINING PLEASURES

Troop 33 Jaffrey Spaghetti Supper 4-7pm. Jaffrey American Legion Post 11, Webster St. Jaime Hutchinson: hutchjl@hotmail.com.

$5 Take Out Only Meal: Turkey Dinner 4-6pm. Samuel E. Paul Community Center, 61 South St., Troy. Troy Recreation Department: **603-313-2243**.

Turkey Dinner 5-6pm. First Congregational Church of Swanzey, Rt 32. Take out available. Dine in or take out. **603-352-6689**. office@swanzeyucc.org.

FAIRS & SALES

Gilsum Holiday Fair Gilsum Church, 13 Main St., 9-2. Gilsum Library, 650 Route 10, 10-2. Baked goods, raffles, cafe, handcrafted gifts and stocking stuffers. Tent sale, book sale, and take-out lunch items.

Christmas Bazaar 8am-1pm. St. Bernard's Church, Parish Hall, Keene. Crafts, new and nearly new goods, baked items, books, gifts, jewelry, religious and holiday items, more. Lunch 9 a.m.-1 p.m. **603-355-8831**.

Christmas Bazaar & Cookie Walk 8am-1pm. Charlestown Senior Center, 223 Old Springfield Rd. 15 Gift baskets and 9 gift cards. Jewelry, crafts, afghan, quilt, décor, cookie walk. Unless an item is marked, everything is by donation.

Federated Church of Marlborough: Holly Berry Fair 9am-2pm. Community House, 160 Main St. Greens, Grandma's Attic, crafts, Lunch-to-Go, baked goods. Raffles.

St. John's Walpole Holiday Fair 9am-2pm. 26 Elm St. "Cookies by the Pound." Dozens of varieties of Christmas cookies, homemade by members of the community. Baked goods, wreaths, swags, birdhouses, antiques, and home goods.

Holiday Bazaar 9am-2pm. The Fieldhouse at Homestead Mill, 2 S. Winchester St., Swanzey. Crafters, author/book event, kids' activities, Santa. Cheshire Fair Association: **603-357-4740**.

Westmoreland Ladies Aid Holiday Bazaar 9am-2pm. 9 South Village Common, Westmoreland. Handicrafts, greenery arrangements, baked goods, cookie walk. Christmas items and books. Soup & sandwich lunch 11am-1pm. Quilt raffle drawing at 1pm. Santa available for pictures.

Holiday Craft Fair 9am-2pm. Swanzey Community House, 18 Old Richmond Rd., East Swanzey. Raffles including hams & turkeys. Luncheon.



KHS Alpine Ski Team Fundraiser 9am-1pm. Keene High School Cafeteria, 43 Arch St., Keene. New and used skates, skis, snowboards, boots, winter gear. $25 Edge-Tuning. Raffles. keenealpineboosters@gmail.com.
Winter Crafts Fair 10am-3:30pm. Gathering Waters Charter Public School, 98 South Lincoln St., Keene. Vendors, raffle, food, live music. Children's activities.
Christmas On The Pond And Christmas Around The Bend Holiday Fairs 9am-3:30pm in Marlow. Over 90 vendors will be set up and selling their wares in the historic buildings and up the road at Perkins Academy. There will be a free shuttle between sites.

LECTURES & WORKSHOPS

"Yoga for Positive Mental Health" 1:30-4pm. Aloha Keene Yoga Studio, 83 Court St. Foster positivity and resilience. Mindful movement and breath work. $54. Fundraiser for MAPS. **603-762-3129**. www.vagaro.com/alohakeene.

MISCELLANEOUS

International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day 1-3pm. Hannah Grimes Center for Entrepreneurship, 25 Roxbury St., Keene. Support each other. Register at www.AFSP.org.
Peterborough Holiday Stroll 9am-2pm. Downtown Churches. Crafts for children, baked goods, handmade gifts, and refreshments. A map with highlights can be found at each location. Marsha: **603-563-8067**. www.facebook.com/peterboroughholidaystroll.
Red Cross Blood Drive 9am-1:30pm. Dublin Community Center, 1123 Main St., Dublin. To make an appointment call **800-733-2767**. www.redcrossblood.org.
Story Time 11am. Conant Public Library, 111 Main St., Winchester. Recommended for ages 3-8, all ages welcome. **603-239-4331**. www.conantlibrary.org.
Makerspace Open House 11am-2:30pm. Keene Library, 60 Winter St. Demos. Free, intended for adults and youth ages 14+. Amy Kraemer: **603-352-0157**.

Sunday, Nov. 22

ARTS, MUSIC & THEATER

Arsenic and Old Lace 2pm. The Edge Theater, 310 Marlboro St. Tickets at www.edgeensemble.org/boxoffice.
Electric Earth Concerts: Gala: Horszowski Trio 4pm. First Church in Jaffrey, 14 Laban Ainsworth Way. $75. Students free. Tickets at door with cash or check. www.electricearthconcerts.org.

Monday, Nov. 23

MISCELLANEOUS

Red Cross Blood Drive 9am-1:30pm. Cathedral of the Pines, 10 Hale Hill Rd., Rindge. **800-733-2767**. www.RedCrossBlood.org.

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THE EDGE THEATER @ 310 Marlboro St, Suite 112, Keene, NH
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I Am Thankful For A Variety Of Side Dishes

"Life does not move so fast," wrote Ralph Waldo Emerson, "that there is not time for courtesy." Let there always be time enough for sharing and gratitude.

Thanksgiving, a traditional day of feasting since Abraham Lincoln's 1863 proclamation, continues today as a reminder of sharing and gratitude. This week Cooking Corner shares recipes for some favorite side dishes, perhaps with a bit of tweaking here and there.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Cider-Roasted Vegetables

If you're a fan of lots of side dishes but are limited in either energy or space, this recipe has it all in one big, flavorful dish. Serving size varies with the amount of vegetables chosen, so plan accordingly.

Ingredients:
3 cups apple cider or juice
1 cup semisweet white wine (like a Riesling)
2 tablespoons butter
1¼ lbs. each, turnips, carrots, sweet potatoes, parsnips, onions, and potatoes (mix and match) salt and pepper to taste

Boil apple cider and wine in heavy saucepan until reduced to three-quarters of a cup, about 30 to 40 minutes; whisk in butter. Meanwhile, peel and cut vegetables into about half-inch pieces. Put vegetables in large roasting pan; pour apple cider mixture over vegetables and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Roast in preheated 425 degree oven until vegetables are tender and golden in color, stirring occasionally, about 45 minutes. If desired, dish may be cooked early in the day and reheated to hot or room temperature for serving.

Cinnamony Sweet Potatoes

With surprise tastes of cinnamon and garlic, these are not your marshmallowy sweets favored by some. Sweet they are, but tempered by different flavors. If you like sweet potatoes with your holiday dinner, try this variation for star reviews.

Ingredients:
3 large sweet potatoes, cut into 1-inch chunks
6 garlic cloves, unpeeled
2 or 3 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon dried thyme or 1 sprig fresh
1 cinnamon stick 3-4", broken into pieces
1/2 teaspoon salt and freshly ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Put all the ingredients into a baking dish large enough to hold them easily; toss to combine and spread into single layer. Roast until the potatoes are tender and nicely browned, 30 to 40 minutes. Serve hot or warm, along with garlic cloves.

Honey Rum Onions

If you're a creamed onion fan, try this variation of flavors for a change. They make a nice little side dish (and are very good on leftover turkey sandwiches).

Ingredients:
1 lb. onions, sweet onions or yellow
2 tablespoons butter
1/4 cup honey
1/4 cup rum (I like dark but light is fine)

Cut onions in half from root to stem. On cutting board, place onions, flat side down and slice crosswise into quarter-inch slices. In a small saucepan, add onions and enough water to cover. Broil gently over medium-low heat until onions are soft but still have some crunch, about five minutes; drain well and pat dry. In medium fry pan, melt butter with the honey and rum over low heat. Add onions and cook, stirring often, until well glazed, stirring often, about five to 10 minutes.

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Cooking Corner with Nancy Adams



Sweet & Sour Brussels Sprouts

Some folks who don't particularly like Brussels think these are pretty good. Try this recipe and see if you agree. Makes six to eight servings.

Ingredients:
3 cups fresh Brussels sprouts, or 2 (9-oz.) pkgs. frozen
6 slices lean bacon
2 tablespoons any favorite vinegar
2 teaspoons sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt and freshly ground pepper
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder

Trim sprouts and cook in medium pot of water for eight to 10 minutes; drain and set aside. In a large skillet, fry bacon until crisp. Remove bacon, crumble coarsely and set aside. Drain fat from skillet leaving two or three tablespoons in pan. To drippings, add vinegar, sugar, salt, pepper and garlic powder. Add sprouts; stir and heat through. Serve hot or warm topped with crumbled bacon.

Rutabaga Puree with Crispy Shallots

This side dish, combining rutabagas, potato, and shallots, has become a staple at Union Square Cafe in Manhattan and was adapted from a recipe clipped from a magazine many years ago. Try this for a change of pace at your table.

Ingredients:
2 medium rutabagas, about 3 lbs. peeled and cut into 2-inch pieces
1 medium potato, peeled and cut into 1-1/2 inch pieces
3 tablespoons butter
2-3 tablespoons sour cream
salt and freshly ground pepper
1½ tablespoons peanut oil
3 large shallots, peeled and thinly sliced

Preheat oven to 250 degrees. In large saucepan, bring water to boil and cook rutabagas and potato until both are tender. Drain well and put vegetables in a food processor, along with butter and two tablespoons of the sour cream. Season with salt and pepper and if mixture isn't quite creamy, add the additional sour cream. Transfer mixture to a two-quart casserole dish, cover and set in the center of oven to keep warm. In heavy eight-inch skillet, heat peanut oil over medium-high heat. Add shallots and sauté until nicely browned and crisp-tender, about four minutes. Drain shallots on paper towel and then fold them into the rutabaga-potato mixture. Note: shallots can be done a day in advance and rewarmed when ready to use. Serve hot. Makes six servings.

Orange-Buttered Peas

You usually can't go wrong with a colorful side dish of peas. This one is simple and has added flavors of orange and mushrooms. Serves four.

Ingredients:
3 tablespoons orange marmalade
2 tablespoons butter
1 tablespoon grated orange zest
1/2 cup thinly sliced fresh mushrooms
1 (12 oz.) bag of frozen small peas
salt and pepper to taste

In a saucepan over medium heat, combine marmalade, butter and orange zest. Add mushrooms; cook and stir until mushrooms are tender. Cook peas in another pan of boiling water until tender, three to five minutes; drain well. Add mushroom mixture, toss and season to taste with salt and pepper.

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


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