

A FREE PUBLICATION

# TRENDY

20 Pine Street, Woodsville, NH 03785  
Phone: 603-747-2887



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# TIMES

Email: April@TrendyTimes.com  
Website: www.TrendyTimes.com

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## Honors Given at Horse Meadow Cemetary Ahead of 250th



On Saturday, November 18th Members of the Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution and Ross-Wood Post #20 American Legion joined forces to honor some of this coun-

try's first veterans. With the approach of the nation's 250th anniversary more of these ceremonies can be expected in Haverhill as well as many other surrounding towns.

Photos courtesy of Alain Brinn



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# TRENDY Dining Guide

**Turkey**  
 Written by  
**April Scruton**  
 with editing and  
 reworks by  
**Ashley Scruton**



For this issue, I decided that I would write about the three Thanksgivings I was privileged to attend this year. It was an experience, to say the least.

The first was with my best friends' Mark and Melissa, and their family. This wasn't the first or last, for sure. My mission at this event? Bring the rolls. Easy. I nailed that. Anthony and I (George was with his sister, Nancy) arrived to the hustle and bustle that comes with this holiday, and all of the orders being thrown around. The turkeys were done on two big green eggs, which for those that don't know, is a special smoker that's sold at Farmway.

The second Thanksgiving we had was at my parents' house, Dad and Janice's. Here was another house full, with the three of us, Dad and Janice, and a recently made friend who has purchased my parents' Central Street property. This turkey was done in a roaster until it was juicy and falling apart. Truly yummilicious and cooked to perfection.

The final escapade for this holiday was held at my very own home. This was,

in my biased opinion, the craziest and most chaotic event of the three. Not only was it my entire household (five people), but also my parents (another two) alongside Anthony's family (ten more here), totaling this event at seventeen. Talk about cooking to impress while your head spins.

This also happened to be my very first time cooking a turkey by myself. I was a tad nervous and spoke with a ton of people on how to cook it. I was told to use a bag, or to put tin foil over it (which also had various times to leave the foil on for). I decided to turn to the internet at one point, specifically Pinterest, and found a recipe calling for the turkey to be brined. So at ten o'clock the night before, I decided to take what I had at the house and use it, instead of using the brine of salt and water which would have taken too long. I put onion powder, garlic powder, water and chicken broth in a cooler and had it sit there overnight.

The next morning I was up with the sun for a coffee run to Cumbie's (always needed on a busy day) then came home and started preparing the turkey. I set the temperature for 325 degrees to get

things started. We were set to eat around one o'clock that afternoon. I was planning for it to cook for five hours, giving it half an hour to set. I soon realized that I didn't have an indicator thing (is there anyone that actually knows what that device is called?? It's like the thing on the end of your shoelaces.) but I made due with a meat thermometer. I had recently also purchased a baster and injector so after the first hour I used that to inject onion and garlic powder with some chicken broth and turned up the heat to 350 degrees. I may have also added in a can of beer along the way. You know, for good measure. I let that cook for about two hours more and then started basting it roughly every half hour with the juices from the bottom of the pan. Around noon I took off the foil and added even more juices so that it could brown and crisp. As one does with so much going on, I lost track of time and ended up taking the bird out around ten til one. It was glorious. All brown and crispy skinned, at the perfect temp and ready to be devoured. Anthony was charged with the slicing and distribution. I have to say that normally, I am much more for the darker meat but this turkey had wonderful flavor all around. Best turkey I've ever made! \*wink\* For this reason, and

others, I have to say this was my favorite Thanksgiving to date. I was so grateful I was able to enjoy this holiday with my family and friends, although I was missing some important ones down south.

The moral of this dining guide? Don't be afraid of your first turkey. Don't let anyone tell you there's only one way to fry a bird.

And as my sister proved, if you don't love the gobble make beef to avoid the squabble.

Hoping that everyone had an amazing time with their people, no matter the way you celebrate! Until next issue!

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Ken Squier on the call in victory lane during the first seasons of Thunder Road International Speedbowl, a nationally-recognized short track that he founded in 1960. (ACT File Photo)

## Thunder Road and American-Canadian Tour Mourn Loss of Founder Ken Squier

Barre, VT — Kenley Dean Squier, founder of Barre, Vermont's Thunder Road, co-founder of the Motor Racing Network (MRN), NASCAR Hall of Famer and the voice of sports events across Vermont, New England and beyond passed away on Wednesday, November 15 at the age of 88.

Born on April 10, 1935, Squier was immediately involved in the radio business with the family owned and operated WDEV in Waterbury, Vermont. Following his parents' love of horse racing, Ken quickly found auto racing at New England fairgrounds and up-and-coming backyard dirt tracks to be more exciting. He started his legendary lap-by-lap commentating career calling those jalopy races on the back of log trucks at these fly-by-night ovals before moving up to more legitimate race tracks like Colchester's Mallet's Bay Raceway

and Waterford's Northeastern Speedway.

Taking the lessons learned at the early tracks, Ken chose a plot of farmland at the end of Fisher Road in Barre to build his crown jewel, Thunder Road International Speedbowl, opening to a capacity crowd in June of 1960. In the early days of coupe racing, Squier created such celebrated events as the Labor Day Classic, Memorial Day Classic, Vermont Governor's Cup and the world-famous Vermont Milk Bowl, each of which is still being contested to this day.

Along with painting his drivers as heroes each and every week, showcasing them as the "common man doing uncommon deeds," Ken also proved to be a clever businessman. He chose Thursday nights to showcase his creation on the simple basis that all the stonecutters of Barre's granite quarries were paid on Thursday and wanted Thunder Road to have first option in weekly entertainment. Squier went on to build the celebrated Catamount Stadium in Milton during the 1965 season and later co-founded the Motor Racing

Network in 1970 alongside NASCAR founder Bill France Sr.

Perhaps his most well-known achievement came in February 1979 with the first live flag-to-flag broadcast of the Daytona 500. It was Ken on the call who pointed out Dale Earnhardt at the start of his rookie season, excitedly caught the infamous fight between the Allison Brothers and Cale Yarborough and Richard Petty's record sixth of seven wins in 'The Great American Race,' a phrase that Ken added to the NASCAR dictionary. That same year, Ken partnered with Tom Curley to create the NASCAR North Tour, an international racing series that ultimately became the American-Canadian Tour, which celebrated its 45th consecutive season in 2023.

In the years that followed, Squier continued to elevate athletes to heroic status whether through national television coverage of NASCAR events on CBS, TNN and TBS and the Winter Olympics, announcing stock car races across the Northeast or play-by-play on WDEV Radio coverage of local high-school and college sports.

After working with Curley to wrestle back his beloved Thunder Road from a New York businessman in 1982, both Ken and Tom elevated the Barre speedbowl to one of the nation's leading short tracks. Ultimately, it was Ken that brought Vermont businessman Pat Malone and former Thunder Road champion Cris Michaud together in 2017 to purchase Thunder Road, after the two had been pursuing the purchase separately, to leave one final and long-lasting stamp on 'The Nation's Site of Excitement'.

Squier was inducted into the New England Auto Racing Hall of Fame in 2002 and the American Motorsports Hall of Fame in 2010. Ken was the inaugural recipient of the 2013 Squier-Hall Award for NASCAR Media Excellence alongside fellow namesake and broadcaster Barney Hall before



Ken was a frequent visitor to Thunder Road after selling his famed creation to the partnership between multi-time Speedbowl champion Cris Michaud and Vermont businessman Pat Malone, speaking here with Malone (R) and Vermont Governor and Thunder Road champion Phil Scott (L) following a drivers meeting in 2019. (Buzz Fisher photo)

being inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame in 2018.

Funeral Arrangements have not been announced at this time. The Squier family will release any further information on planned services.

We send out from Trendy Times our sincere condolences for the passing of this great man. Who will be sincerely missed.

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## Consider These Year-End Financial Moves

It won't be long before we turn the page on 2023. But you still have time to make some financial moves that can pay off in 2024 — and beyond.

Here are a few to consider:

Review your progress toward your goals. Have you made progress toward your long-term goals over this past year? If not, you may want to revisit your investment and financial strategies.

Boost contributions to your retirement plans. If your employer allows it, you may be able to increase your contributions to your 401(k) or similar retirement plan before the year ends. And you have until April 15 to contribute to your IRA for the 2023 tax year. You can put in up to \$6,500 to your traditional or Roth IRA and add another \$1,000 if you're 50 or older. (Your ability to fully contribute to a Roth IRA is based on your income).

Don't waste FSA dollars. If you have a flexible spending account (FSA) through your employer, you've likely used it to take care of a

variety of health care costs, such as deductibles, co-payments and coinsurance. But FSAs are "use it or lose it" accounts, so if you have unspent dollars at year-end, you risk losing them. Make sure you know your employer's deadlines for incurring expenses and submitting claims so you can take full advantage of your FSA.

Contribute to your HSA. When you have a health savings account (HSA), your contributions are tax deductible, your earnings generally grow tax free and your withdrawals are tax free, as long as they're used for qualified medical expenses. Plus, an HSA isn't "use it or lose it" — you can carry unused funds through retirement, when you can still use them for qualified medical expenses. And you've got until the April 15 tax deadline to contribute to your HSA for 2023 (Check with your employer on how to contribute to your HSA past December 31, 2023.)

Strengthen your emergency fund. If you

don't already have an emergency fund, see if you can start one before the year lets out. Eventually, try to put away three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account.

Think about tax-loss harvesting. If you have some investments that have lost value, and they no longer fit into your plan, you could sell them to offset gains from other investments, including capital gains distributions from mutual funds. And if your losses exceed gains for the year, you could use the remaining losses to offset up to \$3,000 of ordinary income — and any amount over \$3,000 can be carried forward to offset gains in future years. You'll want to consult with your tax advisor before embarking on tax-loss harvesting.

Bundle your charitable contributions. A few years ago, a change in the tax laws resulted in a large increase in the standard deduction, which led to fewer people itemizing deductions and less incentive for making deductible charitable gifts. But if you can afford to "bunch" two to three years' worth of charitable donations, you may be able to itemize and gain a greater tax benefit.

It's always challenging to reach your goals and gain feelings of control over your financial future. But by reviewing your situation every year and making the appropriate moves, you can help yourself keep moving in the right direction.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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## Want to Connect to Other Readers? Join the Bath Book Club!

The Bath Library Book Club will be discussing "The Exiles," by Christina Baker Kline on Monday, Dec. 9, 2023 at 4:30 pm at the Bath Public Library.

"The Exiles," historical fiction set in Australia, 1840, a time when England was pouring its prisoners into a land "beyond the seas," is about three very different women whose lives become intertwined.

A governess, seduced by her employer's son, is arrested on trumped-up charges and finds herself pregnant and destined to deliver a child on the long sea voyage.

A young herbalist, midwife and thief sets up

business on the voyage and is befriended by the governess.

An orphaned indigenous girl, taken from her people to become a servant, becomes the third female character in this well researched story by the bestselling author of "The Orphan Train."

Books may be picked up at the Bath Library; hours are Monday and Wednesday 9:00 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm; and Saturday 9:00 am to noon. Anyone with an interest in reading and conversing about books is welcome to attend. For information, please contact the library at 603-747-3372 or email bathlibraryljh@gmail.com

## Weathervane Theatre Announces Cast for Inaugural Holiday Season



MARISA KIRBY

JEWELL NOEL

NICOLE FLUEGGE

GRACE LIVINGSTON KRAMER

WHITEFIELD, NH - November 20, 2023—Weathervane Theatre is pleased to announce the cast for its inaugural holiday season this December. Featuring four veterans of the Weathervane stage, the holiday season company will perform two productions—Who's Holiday! and Winter Wonderettes—in alternating rep over one week in three locations. Bretton Woods Vacations, Crosstown Motors, and Mountain View Grand Resort & Spa proudly sponsor Weathervane's inaugural holiday season.

"For as long as I have been Weathervane's Producing Artistic Director, our audiences have asked for holiday programming," said Ethan Paulini. "I'm so excited to finally be able to give the North Country some high-quality holiday entertainment featuring some of our most beloved performers!"

The first production of Weathervane's holiday season—Who's Holiday!—is an adults-only comedy about How The Grinch Stole Christmas' Cindy Lou Who, who is now all grown up and lives in a trailer park. Wildly funny, Matthew Lombardo's heartfelt comedy finds us as guests at Cindy Lou Who's Christmas party as she recalls that Christmas Eve she first met the Grinch and the twisted turn of events her life has now taken.

This solo show stars Marisa Kirby. Kirby's credits include six seasons at the Weathervane featured in roles ranging from Miss Adelaide (Guys and Dolls) to Alice Murphy (Bright Star - New New

Hampshire Theatre Award nomination) and the Off-Broadway Drama Desk-nominated production of Baby.

Opening on December 12 in Weathervane's holiday season is the family-friendly jukebox musical Winter Wonderettes by Roger Bean. A sequel to last year's The Marvelous Wonderettes, join Betty Jean, Cindy Lou, Missy, and Suzy for a rockin' holiday party! Packed with your favorite '60s versions of holiday classics like "Santa Claus is Comin' to Town," "Jingle Bell Rock," and "Winter Wonderland," this is a holiday treat for all ages with no wrapping required!

Winter Wonderettes features Kirby, who reprises her role of Suzy from last year's production. Joining her from 2022's Marvelous Wonderettes is Jewell Noel as Betty Jean. Noel's credits include Weathervane productions of Meteor Shower (Corky), The Mountaintop (Camae), and the Off-Broadway Drama Desk-nominated Baby.

New to the Wonderettes is Nicole Fluegge as Cindy Lou. First appearing on the Weathervane stage in 2020 swinging from a chandelier, Fluegge's Weathervane credits include Heathers (Veronica Sawyer) and Kinky Boots (Nicola). Rounding out the cast is Grace Livingston Kramer as Missy. Livingston Kramer's credits include Weathervane's Mamma Mia! (Rosie) and Blood Brothers (Linda). She is also Weathervane's company manager.

Ethan Paulini directs

both productions. Winter Wonderettes is music directed by Andrew Morrissey and features a live band (Morrissey, Kevin Silva, and Rick Erwin). Weathervane's holiday season also includes design and supervision by Rien Schlecht and Billy Smith with assistance by Scout Hough. Egypt Dixon is the production stage manager.

A limited engagement, Weathervane has partnered with two additional venues to offer various entertainment experiences. For patrons in the North Country, they can choose between a traditional theatre experience and see a show at the Weathervane Theatre, or they can go to the Crystal Ballroom at Mountain View Grand Resort & Spa for a dinner theatre experience where the ticket includes a three-course meal. For patrons near Boston, Improper Bostonian Shows will host performances at Plymouth's Memorial Hall in Plymouth, MA, on December 16th and 17th. Performances in the North Country (Whitefield, NH) run Sunday, December 10th, through Friday, December 15th.

The lead sponsor for Weathervane's holiday season is Bretton Woods Vacations.

Tickets for all three venues are on sale now at weathervanenh.org. The Weathervane Box Office is currently operating on an off-season schedule. Please allow 72 hours for correspondence by phone (603-837-9322) or email (boxoffice@weathervanenh.org). The physical box office is closed until December.

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EVENTS FROM LOCAL NON-PROFITS, SCHOOLS AND TOWNS. *PRESENTED FREE BY TRENDY TIMES.*

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Monroe Public Library

## EVERY FRIDAY

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NOON - 7:00 PM  
Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River.

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## Tuesday, November 28

Woodsville Wells River 4th of July  
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Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River

## Thursday, November 30

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## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

Loading Dock  
Micromassé, Katie Matzell, Cilla Bonnie  
7:30 pm

## HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Landaff Town Hall see pg 13  
9 - 2 pm

## SPAGHETTI AND MEATBALL DINNER

5 -7 PM see pg 14  
North Haverhill Methodist Church  
No. Haverhill, NH

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

LOW LILY'S WINTER SOLSTICE CON-  
CERT at Alumni Hall, Haverhill:  
7:30 pm see pg 9

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

Pine Hill Singers  
Winter S  
The Meeting House, Sugar Hill NH  
3:00 pm

## HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

Clifford Building see pg 13  
9 -3PM  
Woodsville, NH

## Monday, December 11

Ross-Wood Unit #20 Auxiliary Monthly Meet-  
ing  
6:00 PM  
American Legion Home, Woodsville

## Wednesday, December 13

Ross-Wood Post #20 American Legion  
Monthly Meeting  
6:00 PM  
American Legion Home, Woodsville

## Thursday, December 14

Ross-Wood Squadron #20 SAL Monthly  
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sions to 600 words or less.



# TRENDY TIMES

A FREE PUBLICATION

## Horse Meadow Senior Center is having our 2nd annual Festival of Trees.



We are very excited to invite the community to come take a look and enjoy the trees.

The center is open from 8:00am-3:00pm and the coffee is ready and hot!! The trees are

Part of a raffle. Tickets are \$5.00 for a sheet of 25 and the winners will be drawn on December 7th.

We are very grateful to those who have donated trees, so far, for this event: The Town Office of N. Haverhill, Cottage Hospital, Oliverian Automotive, Northern Human Services,

Maggie Anderson, Florence Thornton, UMW Women of Faith/N. Haverhill United Methodist Church and many donated anonymously. Along with the Festival of trees we will be having a silent auction from 12/4 until 12/15 and on 12/1 from 5:00-7:00 is "Cookies with Santa".

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## Letter to the Editor Rebuttal to Mr. Foryan's Letter

To the Editor

There was a lot to unpack in Alex Foryan's Letter to the Editor in the November 14th issue of Trendy Times. Per usual, his letter makes a lot of claims that are not true, distorts or leaves out key information. I will comment on three of his 8 points he made.

In the case of Oregon Department of Education, Mr. Foryan states that Oregon suspended 11th grade competency tests reading, writing and math. When is fact according to KTVZ – TV, "The Oregon Board of Education voted to extend through the 2027-28 school year a pause on the testing requirement that began when the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020. Most high school students will still take state-mandated standardized tests, only that they won't be used to determine if they have the skills needed to graduate". (there are graduation requirements that students must meet) The report goes on as to why the board made their decision and that it is indeed not popular with many parents.

Mr Foryan reference to "New York city is paying \$13 million to roughly 1300 people arrested or beaten by police during BLM riots." is disingenuous; most of the events were peaceful protests

*Richard,*

*Isn't America great? You have every right to write this Letter to the Editor, as did Mr Foryan. As editor I have every right to respond, or not respond as I see fit. No one out there telling any of us we should not voice our opinion. Of course that right is not absolute. There are times and circumstances where what is written can be held against you. Public opinion is only one such manner.*

not riots and Mr. Foryan called the protesters criminals being rewarded for their actions. First, according to the AP, "protesters who were arrested on certain charges — including trespassing, property destruction, assaulting an officer, arson or weapons possession — will be excluded from the settlement". Second \$13 million sounds like a lot of money, but it works out to about \$10,000 per person. Not exactly a lot of money if you have injuries and/or if your rights were violated. The AP article continued "During some of the 2020 protest marches, officers deployed a crowd control tactic known as kettling against peaceful protesters, corralling them in tight spaces and attacking them with batons and pepper spray before making mass arrests". This is what Mr. Foryan, called police doing their job.

I am really surprised that Mr. Foryan has so little understanding about the siting of the interstate system in the 1950s and 60s and would say anyone who believes there were racial inequities in the design of the highway system has an IQ of negative. Perhaps Mr. Foryan would like to rethink that statement. There are many documented cases of intentional destruction or

dividing minority neighborhoods. The LA Times reported, "In Nashville, civic officials added a curve to Interstate 40 in 1967 to avoid a white community in favor of knocking down hundreds of homes and businesses in a prominent Black neighborhood. Highway planners in Birmingham, Ala., did the same thing when routing Interstate 59". Google: "The racist history of America's interstate highway boom" and many articles documenting this will be listed.

Believing in racial equality or holding a city accountable when the right to peacefully protest is violated is not radical left poison as Mr. Foryan said, it has nothing to do with socialism or Marxism but is what this country is suppose to stand for and suppose to be.

Except for one word, I do agree with Mr. Foryan's closing sentence. "People need to vote in candidates who support our constitution, law and order, accountability, commonsense and just plain old decency". I left out the word conservative (candidates) he included, as I think the above qualities are ideals conservative, liberal and progressive citizens can and should embrace.

Richard M Roderick  
Wells River, Vermont

*In regards to the main content of either of these letters I think I have already written enough and will leave the final decision as to what and who to believe up to the readers of Trendy Times. I will also invite others to chime in. After all everyone's opinion is worthwhile. Just ask me, I'll tell you.*

Gary Scruton, Editor

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# NEK COUNCIL ON AGING HOSTS 2023 ANNUAL MEETING



St. Johnsbury, VT - The NEK Council on Aging held its 2023 Annual Meeting on November 16th at the St. Johnsbury Meal Site and Meals on Wheels (St. Johnsbury House). The meeting was open to the public and attended by an estimated 55 people including Vermont Lt. Governor David Zuckerman and Beth Stern representing the office of Senator Bernie Sanders and representative Chip Troiano.

The meeting began with a welcome from the Council's Executive Director, Meg Burmeister and an address from Board President, Susan Gordon, who thanked staff and volunteers.

"I was pleased to attend a recent NEKCOA community listening session at the Groton Library where representatives of the Council offered solutions so a neighbor could remain in her home," said Gordon. "It is very rewarding to work with an agency that continues to have such an impact in the communities they serve."

Evan Hammond,

Board Treasurer, led the nomination and approval of the new slate of officers for the Board of Directors. They are Susan Gordon, President; Lisa McCrae, Vice President; Evan Hammond, Treasurer; and Nancy Hogue, Secretary. Board members selected to a second term are Evan Hammond, Nancy Hogue, and Lisa McCrae. New members of the Board were nominated and approved. They are Ross Farnsworth of St. Johnsbury, Janel Henriksen of Lyndonville, Erin Kelly of St. Johnsbury, and Jennifer Olsen of Albany. The Board extended their appreciation to Kris Lance for her service on the Board.

Guest speaker, Anna Guest, from the Maine Council on Aging and Project Manager for the Tri-State Learning Collaborative on Aging (TSLCA), offered a presentation entitled "Disrupting Ageism: Taking Age-Positive Action." The presentation highlighted the work done in Maine and throughout New England to combat ageism

and the discrimination of older Americans. She provided helpful tools to reframe phrases or language that promotes ageism.

"Anna highlighted how harmful everyday phrases, or tone of voice can be when addressing our older friends and neighbors," said Meg Burmeister, NEKCOA Executive Director. "She spoke of the benefits of aspirations and that age positive views improve both longevity and quality of life. Anna shared examples of the inequities that compound a negative view of aging which is very engrained in our culture and challenged us to speak out and change the conversation." The Council honored the NEKCOA Senior Companions as the 2023 Humanitarian Heroes. The award celebrated and recognized their dedication and service to older Vermonters.

The Senior Companion program is a federally supported program that brings neighbors to neighbors supporting wellbeing of our older neighbors. Their compassion and dedication of peers is a remarkable gift to those served.

The meeting concluded with the recognition of staff for years of service: Kelly Sawyer, who is retiring, for 20 years; Lucy LeMay and Jodi Lessard for 15 years; and Karen Desrochers and Megan Durocher for 5 years. A copy of the 2023 NEKCOA Annual Report is available at [www.nek-council.org](http://www.nek-council.org).

# Old Church Theater

Old Church Theater is wrapping up their rehearsals For the 4th and Final show of the 2023 season.

Join us for the "Psychic" written by Sam Bobrick, and Directed by Scott Johnson. Show dates are December 1,2,3 and 8,9,10. Shows are at 7pm on Fridays & Saturday and 3pm on Sundays.

This a dramatic comedy mystery (warning: there is some Adult language and, themes).

You will find some old time favorites on stage such as Meghan Bullard and Chris Leary, plus Vincent Moore, as well as some new faces in Eric Volk and Jack Walker.

The story is about a down and out writer trying to come up with a storyline for a new book, but is not having much luck. So he puts a sign in the window, "Psychic" readings \$25.00, to try to make money to pay the bills in the meanwhile. Things heat up pretty quickly and soon he has several

clients coming in for help. This is where things take a turn and the story gets interesting. Come check out all the shenanigans.

For one night only there will be a special "spaghetti dinner and a show"!! Old Church Theater is collaborating with the Bradford Boy Scout Troop 778 to offer a Dinner and a show and the opportunity to support two local non-profits simultaneously!!

On Saturday, December 2 The Boys Scouts will be serving a spaghetti Dinner from 5 to 7 PM at the Congregational church. There will be available, for every dinner purchased, comp tickets for 50% off the admission price for the Old Church Theater production of "The Psychic" at 7pm on the same night. These comp tickets are only good for the show on December 2.

Come out, Get a meal and See a Show. We hope to see you there!!!

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# LOW LILY'S WINTER SOLSTICE CONCERT at Alumni Hall, Haverhill:

With a vocal blend that has been dubbed "outstanding" and "meticulous," Low Lily has crafted a signature sound which they have shared with enthusiastic audiences throughout North America and the UK, garnering two #1 songs on international folk radio and two Independent Music Award wins.

Chosen as Falcon Ridge Folk Festival's "Most Wanted Band" of 2016, Low Lily plays acoustic music that is deeply rooted in tradition yet sounds refreshingly contemporary. In the past six years, the band released a full-length album with award-winning title track "10,000 Days Like These" and their original song "Hope Lingers On", which has been sung by choirs around the world as an anthem for peace and justice. In the past couple of years, they have also released a couple of singles and a holiday EP,

and are currently recording their third album, "Angels in the Wreckage".

The members of Low Lily are veterans of the stage, having performed with numerous well-known names in folk and traditional music: Mandolinist/guitarist/singer Flynn Cohen has toured with Ruth Moody, John Whelan, Cathie Ryan and Aoife Clancy. Guitarist/singer Liz Simmons has performed alongside Tom Chapin, Livingston Taylor, Melanie, and Long Time Courting. Newest member Fiddler/singer Natalie Paddilla has performed with Peter Rowan and Elephant Revival.

The BAILIFF'S CAFE will be serving up preordered dinners along with desserts and beverages. For more information and tickets: [www.courtstreetarts.org](http://www.courtstreetarts.org)



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## Letter to the Editor

### "Patriotism lives at Lafayette Regional Elementary School"

Dear Editor,

Just as they did years ago when they answered the call to serve our country in the various branches of our US military, local northern Grafton County veterans answered the call again, but this time, by accepting an invitation, and attending an event entitled a "Thank You Tribute to our Veterans" by the students and staff of Lafayette Regional Elementary School in Franconia.

The vets were honored as part of the schools "We Salute Our Veterans" in the school auditorium.

In-coming Principal, Amy Koop, along with SAU 35 Superintendent, Kate Segal, welcomed all for this first-of-a-kind event at Lafayette, held on Monday, November 13, 2023. I know I've never witnessed this event at this school in the 20 years I've lived here.

Many thanks are being extended to the classroom teachers, classroom paras and subs, the multi-talented librarian, the gracious music teacher, the "Coast Guard vet" custodian, the school secretary and office staff, and the cafeteria chef who is also a vet! It seems from the outcome of this marvelous

display of gratitude and patriotism by the students and staff... all involved devoted much time and effort in making this tribute such a warm, welcoming, wonderful, and meaningful event, not only for the vets, but more importantly, for the impressionable, young students.

It was refreshing to see the entire student body stand, place their hands over the hearts, and recite The Pledge of Allegiance to our American Flag. Great job, kids!!

One could tell that the music teacher spent considerable time leading the Lafayette School Chorus in singing a Thank You Tribute entitled "The Brave" written by John Riggio. Another wonderful expression of Thank You to the vets was played by the Lafayette School Band, and led by the same music teacher. The selections which were played included "When the Saints Go Marching In" and "Ode to Joy/Conquest," which went off without a hitch! Who knows...someday, these same students may be playing in the US Army Band, or the US Navy Band, or the US Air Force Band? And, to think, it may

have all started here in little Franconia Elementary.

"Thank You" letters, written by the students themselves, and read to the assembled audience via a microphone, promoted some self-confidence in these Kindergarten to Grade 6 students! Maybe, a Presidential candidate will someday spawn from that courageous reading!?

The final "Thank You" by the kids to the vets was a memorable march around the auditorium with the kids waving and shouting "Thank You" to the vets.

All in all, this "Thank You Salute" by the students and staff of Lafayette Elementary School left this vet with the view that there is still hope for the kind of America envisioned by our Founding Fathers centuries ago.

The students' display of patriotism should be a model for other New Hampshire school boards and town boards to emulate.

Nick De Mayo, M. Ed., QM-3, USS John F. Kennedy (CVA-67), Navigation, Plank Owner Sugar Hill, NH

Nick,

*I certainly can not comment on the program presented by the Lafayette School, but certainly would add my thank you to the students and staff for the salute to veterans.*

*I can comment on some recent events that I am aware of. Both Blue Mountain Union school in Wells River, VT and the Woodsville Elementary School offered invitations to members of the Ross-Wood Post #20 American Legion in Woodsville to attend events and speak to students. I was unable to attend but heard that things went very well. On Veterans Day the parade in Woodsville stopped at the gazebo and part of the program was presented by band and then chorus members from Woodsville High School. A huge thanks to those students and leaders. Finally, pos-*

*sibly a once in a lifetime event took place on Saturday, November 18 at the Horse Meadow Cemetery in North Haverhill. A well dressed and rehearsed group of members of the Sons of the American Revolution along with representation of the Daughters of the American Revolution and members from Ross-Wood Post #20 American Legion met to offer homage to six veterans of the Revolutionary War.*

*I mention all of these to show that I also believe that the country is strong and the people are strong. There are many caring adults and students that honor and respect our veterans. It all makes me proud to be an American Veterans myself.*

Gary Scruton, Editor

My Apologies: Go out to JP Watson He had written a Letter to the Editor on 10/31 addressing his opinions on the problem in journalism today. His name had been cut out. I feel that it is important for people to be allowed to express their opinions. Sol wanted to make it known that that was his opinion and my mistake. Sincerely, April Scruton Publisher/ Owner

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### Letter to the Editor Veterans Day Event

To the organizers of the Veterans' Day event in Woodsville:

Another year would it be possible to block off all the side streets on both sides of the road that go by the gazebo where the event is held? Last year a log truck sat by the Iron Rail with a loud idle during most of the speeches. This year there cars com-

ing off a side street, turning to go back up Rt. 302 with a police car sitting there running.

I hope I wasn't the only one standing on the sidewalk who was distracted and unable to hear the speeches or the singers.

How about next year at 10:50 putting out "Road Closed" barriers before the parade starts? Maybe

this will make for a more respectful day for our veterans. Hopefully next year ...

Sincerely, Mary Lou Boyce,  
Wells River, VT

Mary Lou,

*I sit in a rather unique position regarding this matter. As editor of Trendy Times I answer all the Letters to the Editor that come our way. As Commander at Ross-Wood Post #20 American Legion, the organization that hosts this annual event, I feel this letter is more appropriately answered while I wear that cap.*

*First, you were not the only one to notice vehicles coming close to our ceremony. It has, unfortunately, been that way for many years. I will offer a big thank you to the Haverhill Police Department for their continued assistance is putting on this parade (as well as the Memorial Day Parade each year). A cruiser leads the marchers down Central Street from Village Pizza. Even during that time we will inevitably meet a few vehicle. Most pull over and wait for the full group to pass. That cruiser also pulls ahead as we ap-*

*proach the gazebo area to stop traffic at the junction with Rt. 302. However there are so many side streets that it would be near impossible for them to cover every one.*

*A second note I will make for next year is to turn up our speaker system a bit more. Our guest speaker offered some fine words and we were more than thrilled to have members of the WHS chorus singing the National Anthem. We will attempt to make it more enjoyable in the future.*

*Finally, thank you for attending the ceremony and making some helpful suggestions. I hope we can do a better job in the future.*

Gary Scruton, Commander  
Ross-Wood Post #20 American Legion,  
Woodsville / Editor, Trendy Times

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# Three Nemeses

By: Elinor Mawson

There are three objects in one room at my house that I absolutely hate! Unfortunately, they are all very necessary in my life, so I have to have them nearby. I will explain.

The first is my computer. It is a desktop, which means I can't take it with me if it becomes a problem. Most of the time it does what I need it to do, the rest of the time, I would throw it out the window if it weren't attached to a bunch of wires. A lot of the time, it involves my password. This password works until I get a message (mostly from the bank) that says it either needs to be changed or that they never heard of me before. Go figure! Then I have to call the bank, explain my problem and sometimes they can fix it. I have gone round and round with them recently when they got a new system. You don't want to know my dark thoughts at this time.

The second is my sewing machine. It was made in Switzerland, and I chose it because 1) it was highly recommended, and 2) it was at a time when I could afford its inflated price. It came with a whole set of attachments which I have never used.

Once or twice the box they were in fell upside down and it took a Philadelphia lawyer to put them back in the right order. This machine has a bobbin which I describe as "quirky". Sometimes it goes in OK and other times it jams up my machine. It has been to the shop more times than my car. And there's hardly a day that goes by when I am not saying very unpleasant things to it.

Finally there is my vacuum cleaner. I am having cramps just typing the words. It is quite new, but what made me choose it remains a deep dark mystery. I absolutely HATE the damn thing. It's heavy. It has a cord that needs unwinding and winding, and always becomes unplugged. It hates to vacuum up threads and small scraps of paper. It is noisy. And I always get a backache while I am using it. I threaten it with all kinds of terrible 'punishments whenever I look at it. And my vocabulary knows no bounds as I push it back and forth.

I know my blood pressure elevates whenever I use these machines. My doctor would recommend getting rid of them. But how would I keep track of



Funk & Jazz Hammond organ trio, dazzling vocals & songs, indie/R&B grooves. All ages, doors open at 7:30, music at 8pm. BYOB with 21+ ID. \$5 student discount at the door, \$15 advanced tickets online, \$20 at the door.

Micromassé is a trio of accomplished musicians offering a fresh new sound that is nostalgically analog, worldly and explosively modern. Combining the classic sound of the Hammond Organ with dynamic electric guitar and infectious drums; Micromassé strives to bring instrumental music to new frontiers while maintaining a positive groove and a fun vibe.

Katie Matzell is a singer/songwriter from Portland, Maine who released her self-titled, debut EP in 2018. *Maine Today* called it "fierce and dazzling," adding that Matzell's vocals are "sweet, full and gorgeous"

# The Loading Dock Littleton, NH December 2nd



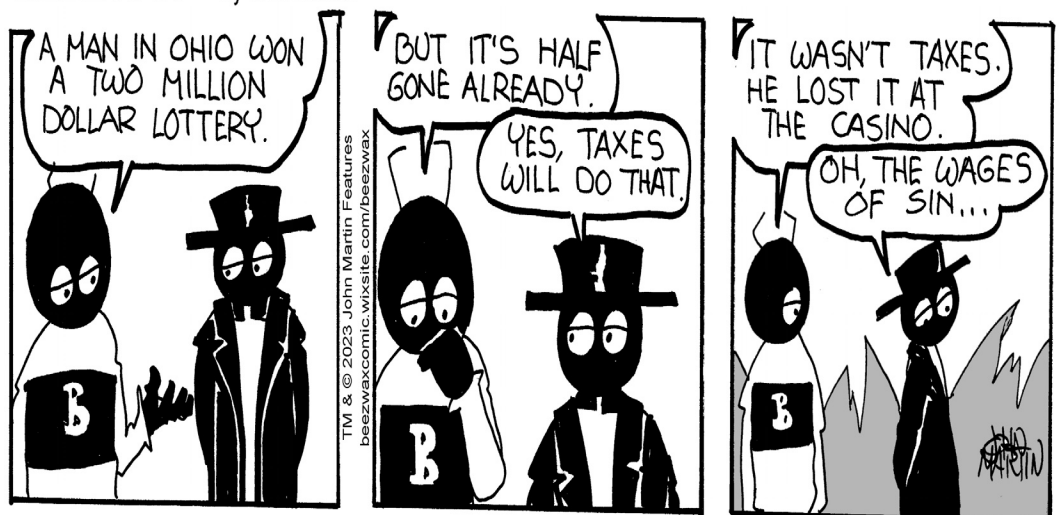
with a "richness to them that make the songs burst all the more." The *Deli Magazine* said "Matzell's voice, both effortless and simple, floats above a sea of washy keys and pocket grooves, calling comparisons to not only her influences of the past (Bonnie Raitt and Aretha Franklin), but to her contemporaries — Norah Jones and Emily King immediately come to mind." Matzell was nominated by the New England Music Awards in 2018 for Female Performer of the Year. She has both performed and collaborated with notable regional and national acts while touring the Northeast in support of her debut release. You can expect new music from Katie in the coming year.

Cilla Bonnie is a working bass player, singer and songwriter. Over the past 15 years she's played, toured and recorded in numerous

projects from Maine to Los Angeles. In 2020 she released her fourth recording project, 'August' with her bandmates Emmett Harrity (keys) and John Suntken (drums). Cilla Bonnie's music is a blend of R&B-inspired groove and structure similar to Radiohead. In addition to her solo project, Cilla currently plays bass for the 2022 NPR Tiny Desk Contest Winner, Alisa Amador and Boston-based soul artist Ali McGuirk.

The Loading Dock is a non-profit creative space dedicated to presenting original art. The venue is located on Mill Street in Littleton, the entrance is next to a loading dock directly behind Topic of the Town and just up the street from Bad Art. The best parking is on Main Street or in the free parking lots on Pleasant Street behind the movie theater.

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### Letter to the Editor All Votes Should Be Equal

To the Editor,  
Millions of Americans change their state residence each year. While their views and values don't change, the weight given to their Presidential vote will often be substantially altered due to the archaic Electoral College. The lopsided advantage it gives to small states can result in as few as 23% of U.S. voters depriving 77% of their choice for President. It also encourages Presidential candidates to ignore the majority, by concentrating on a few battleground states.

We should be allowed to choose our President the same way we choose our governors. And why shouldn't U.S. Senators represent equal numbers of persons? Surely the interests of a resident of Wyoming are not 50 to 60 times more important than the interests of a Texas or California resident.

These 18th Century

constructs are not only profoundly undemocratic, but they were controversial concessions to persuade slave states to ratify the Constitution. They are part of the "three-fifths compromise" where slaves were counted as three-fifths of a person in establishing a state's population. While slaves could not vote, this compromise gave undue weight to the few, wealthy white male landowners who could vote. Thus, Virginia, with many slaves, started with more than a quarter of the electoral votes needed to win the Presidency. Unsurprisingly, during our Republic's first 36 years, slave-owning Virginians were President for 32.

Some have tried to justify the continued existence of the Electoral College and U.S. Senate as necessary to ensure that rural communities are not overlooked. But even

here, these institutions have been failures. Rural America continues to suffer some of the nation's greatest poverty and lowest life expectancy.

Moreover, most rural residents live in the 12 most populous states, which suffer the greatest dilution in their federal voting weight. It is state governments which often have the greatest impact on their residents' health. When a state like Texas, with several million rural residents, turns away billions of federal dollars for social programs, such as Medicaid, many residents are left without health insurance and other necessities.

The brilliant Framers of our Constitution provided mechanisms to meet changing concepts of fairness, such as through Constitutional Amendments, and framing Constitutional rights in

dynamic language that can encompass modern standards of fairness. As noted by the pundit, Jon Stewart: "If the framers didn't want the Constitution to change they would have set it in concrete."

Almost 60 years ago the U.S. Supreme Court established the principle of one-person-one-vote for all state legislatures. In Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 533, at 562 (1964) the decision proclaimed that "...legislators represent people, not trees and acres...". Public opinion polls have consistently found the same support for repealing the Electoral College.

The abolition of slavery did not end the discriminatory impact of the Electoral College. It resulted in new schemes to disenfranchise African Americans, such as poll taxes, literacy tests, and gerrymandering. As recently as this June, the U.S. Su-

preme Court refused to stay a court decision striking down Alabama's new Congressional map, based on the state's historic racial and voting-related discrimination.

Despite the divisiveness spread by partisan politicians, we are generally united across party lines in supporting major programs, such as Social Security and Medicare. In the face of major foreign threats, like Pearl Harbor or 9/11, there are no red and blue states; just the United States.

Our country has become the leader of the Free World by promoting equality. Extending this equality to our votes for President and Senators will continue to advance what Lincoln described as "the last best hope of earth."

Barry Zitser, MPH, JD  
Bethlehem, NH

Barry,

*It may very well be true that the Electoral College is not the best system for electing the President of these United States. However, is a popular vote that much better? If popular vote decides the winner, won't small states lose out when it comes to seeing the candidates?*

*By New Hampshire law, we hold the first in the nation primary. If*

*we didn't would we see nearly as many candidates for president? And would our votes (not to mention those in Vermont with an even smaller population) be more ignored?*

*In regards to the make up of our US Senate. I would agree that some Senators represent many more than others. But when it comes to the House of Represen-*

*tatives, they are all represent a fairly equal amount of voters. Some would say that is part of the balancing act of power at the national level. There are three branches of government; Administrative, Judicial, and Representative (which includes the House as well as the Senate). Both Judicial and Representative are made up of multiple levels. When you look at*

*the big picture it seems to make sense to me.*

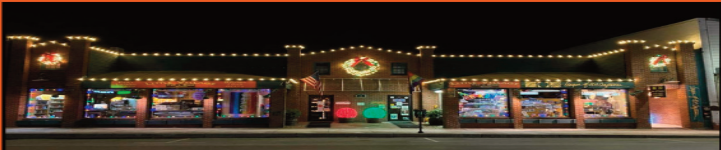
*Is our country perfect in how we legislate? Probably not. Are we perfect in how we elect? Apparently not. But we are far better off than so many people of this planet. I, for one, am glad I live here.*

*Gary Scruton, Editor*



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# ALL ABOUT THANKS

By: Maggie Anderson

It's funny the thoughts folks have about America's Thanksgiving tradition. So many people here in Japan are sorrow-filled for me over the fact that I have to be away for, what they term, the most important American holiday.

They needn't worry about me, I'm having a ball, and there will be turkey left when I return. Hank and I have to stuff most of a turkey in the freezer these days any how.

If somebody decides we need a whole bird I always feel like some pioneer trying to cache enough food to get us through a long winter.

Besides it seems kind of pointless now that we're not braving New Hampshire's winters any longer.

I never understood the urgency of piling up so

much food on a single day, that the table legs begin to quake the way mine do anytime I have to face a crowd.

Getting together with family and friends is important, but there are plenty of favorite family recipes in every household that would feed the crew, and eliminate the need for all the suggestions in magazines about what to do with all the leftovers.

Last month those same magazines were telling us how to deal with the tensions of being in close proximity with family, how to avoid conflict, how to get a room so we can clear our heads without Uncle Cliff's opinions over whatever current political tide is rolling in.

And yet the whole world believes the most

important day on our calendar is Thanksgiving. Everyone here seems to feel my pain over not being home for the biggest day of the year.

I appreciate their moral support, but I'm truly thankful Hank had friends who invited him for the feast, happy to know he won't have to slave over a hot stove all day, only to press all those leftovers into the hands of family trying to make a clean getaway because they filled their own freezers already.

Most of all I'm grateful there's plenty in the cupboards to eat, even if it isn't the traditional sacred bird, on this traditional day.

I hope you all had the Thanksgiving meal of your dreams, whether it was turkey or not.

## NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2023 BUSINESS AND CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

17th Annual Community Awards to be Presented January 16, 2024

WELLS RIVER, VT -- The Cohase Chamber of Commerce is now accepting nominations from the public for its 2024 Business of the Year and Citizen of the Year awards. The deadline for nominations is December 18, 2023.

The awards are presented annually to a business and an individual who have had a significant impact on the community in the past year. Winners will be celebrated at the Cohase Chamber Annual Meeting on January 16, 2024.

Last year, Bliss Village Store received the Business of the Year award, and Katherine and Tom Kidder of Newbury, Vt., shared the Citizen of the Year award. Nominees for both awards must meet certain requirements, including leadership, innovation, and charitable work in the community.

For a full list of criteria, past winners, and to submit your nomination online, please visit [cohase.org](http://cohase.org).



Eastern Coyote - This fall while mowing open fields on our Tree Farm I noticed in the area that had been mowed a nice looking Eastern Coyote having a good time feeding on field mice which were much easier to catch after the field was mowed. When I got home I found that their feeding diet was mice, rabbits, woodchucks, muskrats and berries in the summer and snowshoe hare and deer in the winter months. Growing up in the 1950's and 60's we never saw them but today they are quite common to see in the woods.

Tom Thomson



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# ACT's Welcome to Coös Party at Big Day Brewing!

The Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (ACT) has launched conservation efforts in Coös County, offering land-owners more opportunities to protect their lands. To celebrate, ACT is hosting a party at Big Day Brewing, in Gorham NH on Thursday, November 30th. There will be live music, ACT merchandise and time to learn about ACT as an organization and mingle with fellow community members.

The party will kick off at 5:00pm and will run until 7:00pm, when trivia begins. There will be live music throughout the duration of the party by the band Beans, a fun funky band from Burlington, VT. Come and enjoy one of Big Day's many beverages, snack on some flat-bread pizza, and learn about ACT and our efforts to conserve and maintain farmland, outdoor recreation, waterways, forests, and scenic views in Coös County.

A huge thanks to Big Day Brewing for their hospitality and support of ACT and the community!

ACT's events are a great way to meet new people, get outside, explore new places and enjoy some amazing local drinks. Check the ACT website or sign up for our monthly E-News to find out about future ACT events <https://act-nh.org/education-events>.

The Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust inspires and leads private, voluntary action to conserve the land the North Country loves. Learn more and become a member at [act-nh.org](http://act-nh.org) or by calling (603) 823-7777.



Attached photo by Jim Frohn  
Caption: On Saturday, November 11, 2023, participants gathered in the conference room at the UNH Extension office in North Haverhill to learn wreath-making techniques from local wreathmakers Ron and Joanne Fullerton. While there, County Forester Jim Frohn taught the group how to identify balsam fir on their woods walks and how to harvest boughs in a way that doesn't harm the trees. Each attendee left the event with a wreath they had created themselves.

Keep the home fires burning. Host a couples November to Remember Party!

Message April at [a.dyke2@vahoo.com](mailto:a.dyke2@vahoo.com) or call 802-461-9886 to schedule your party.

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by **Cindy Pinheiro**  
to contact **Cindy**  
(aka **Cin Pin**)  
write to the editor at  
[gary@trendytimes.com](mailto:gary@trendytimes.com)

# Apple Crisp Cookies

## By: Cin Pin



Hello hello my fellow chefs! How are all of you doing today? I'm doing good and in Rhode Island with my family. Arlo the baby has started to walk and boy does he love getting around. He is such a happy boy. Angelo and Abigail are getting so big so fast. Nick and Tobi are good parents, I am such a proud grandma and mom. Enjoying my Rhode Island favorites and hopefully going Twin Oaks for some good food and drinks!

Today's recipe is so "Delicioso ". It's a cookie everyone will like and they are crunchy and chewy. I used my stand mixer and mini food processor, it made it easy peasy but you can use a hand mixer if that's what you have. Let's get started with today's recipe and how to make it.

**Ingredients**

- 2 1/4 cups rolled oats (not instant or fast cooking)
  - 1 cup all purpose flour
  - 1/2 tsp baking soda
  - 1/2 tsp salt
  - 1/4 tsp ground all spice
  - 1 tsp cinnamon
  - 1/2 tsp nutmeg
  - 1/4 cup melted butter
  - 1/4 cup applesauce
  - 3/4 cup packed brown sugar
  - 2/3 cup white sugar
  - 1 large egg
  - 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
  - 1/2 cup Granny Smith apple (I used 1/2 of an apple and it measured 1/2 cup) cut very small
  - 1/2 cup chopped walnuts (2.25 oz. package)
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix all dry ingredients in large bowl with a whisk. Set aside. Melt butter in small bowl and put in your mixing bowl.

Mix applesauce in with butter add brown and white sugars keep mixing and add egg and vanilla extract and mix. Slowly add the dry mixture to your mixing bowl until combined. Put apple and walnuts in and mix until combined scraping sides and bottom. The mixture will be sticky. Use your 1 1/2 Tbsp cookie scoop and on 2 cookie sheets lined with parchment paper scoop cookie mixture. The scoop works really well and releases no problem. Put 2" apart and let rest on cookie sheet for 10 minutes then bake for 10-14 minutes until edges are browned. Remove from oven and cool on cookie sheet 10 minutes then carefully remove and finish cooling on wire rack. I got 35 cookies using a third sheet if you need to. That's it! It's worth investing in a cookie scoop it will make the job so much easier. Shaw's or Walmart sell them. They are not that expensive. Store cookies covered or in covered container. Enjoy!!! You will be a star for these scrumptious treats.

Well folks that's it for today's recipe and I hope you will try them. If you have any questions please contact Gary and I will help you out. Until next time I am signing off. Merry Christmas to all of you.  
Sincerely,  
Cin Pin

Due to personal reasons this is a repeat from a previous issue. Our prayers and lots of hugs go out to Cin Pin!

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