

The Keene Sentinel

Local Journalism Fund

Our Mission

The reader of The Keene Sentinel will feel a sense of belonging and will be inspired and empowered to engage in community. This is made possible by an innovative, caring, proactive and responsive news organization that serves as a trusted source and civic partner.

Our Impact

As a locally owned, independent news organization, The Sentinel is not beholden to corporate interests or shareholders. For our entire 225-year history, we have been here to serve our community with the news and information our neighbors need to live as informed, engaged citizens.

Continued, compassionate & comprehensive coverage

When strong storms tore through Keene in mid-July, severely damaging multiple homes in the Tanglewood Park Co-op mobile home community, Sentinel journalists were there to document the destruction. We returned to report on how the community came together to help their dozen-plus displaced neighbors. The Sentinel wasn't the only news organization to cover these devastating storms, but we are the only one based right here in the community. So, we are committed to sticking with stories like this that have deep and lasting effects on our neighbors. A little more than a month after the storms, we published an in-depth story on the challenges Tanglewood residents faced in accessing relief funding. And as the recovery continues, we'll be here, too.



Storm damage from the July 16 storm seen from overhead at the Tanglewood Cooperative in Keene nearly a month later. Roughly 177 trees were removed from the center of the upper park that were a danger to residents' homes, not including the 60 to 70 trees removed from cars and homes.

Holding power to account by promoting transparency

New Hampshire law requires legislators to submit public expense reimbursement reports after they receive anything valued at more than \$50 from outside groups. But months of reporting by The Sentinel found that doesn't always happen, and the state lacks oversight in this area at a time when outside influences increasingly hold sway over state politics and legislation. Specifically, The Sentinel investigation revealed the state was missing expense reports from multiple Republican lawmakers who attended conservative conferences in Florida, receiving free flights, hotel rooms and meals during events where they received "model legislation" to bring back to the Granite State. Simply by asking these representatives about their missing documents, several of them filed delayed reimbursement reports, and even for those who didn't, our reporting shined a light on how outside money can influence local government.



The Monadnock Region's trusted source for election results and analysis



Strong, resilient democracies depend on a free, fair and independent press. The Sentinel takes this role seriously in our community, especially during consequential elections. On Nov. 5, Sentinel reporters spread throughout the Monadnock Region, talking to voters about their most important issues and chronicling a historic local Election Day. Throughout the night, our journalists tallied results in the races for 24 N.H. House districts, four N.H. Senate districts, and three Cheshire County races. Without robust local journalism as a watchdog, politicians could spread self-serving narratives and attempt to manipulate elections. So, The Sentinel stands as a trusted, independent and authoritative source, keeping local elected officials in check and helping you make sense of politics and policy.

Honoring our history, celebrating our community

The Sentinel began publishing in Keene on March 23, 1799, making us one of the five oldest continuously publishing newspapers in the country. In September, we celebrated our 225th anniversary the only way we know how: with our community. The daylong gathering drew more than 1,000 people to downtown Keene for events including live music, a lecture series, classic car show and food trucks, all capped by a local celebrity softball game and firework show at Alumni Field. Thank you for celebrating with us and supporting The Sentinel for two-and-a-quarter centuries!



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