

April 15, 2020

For immediate release:



Janice Mercieri and Linda Gilmore, president of the NCBA accept the Partner of the Month check at the Littleton Food Co-op.

The Littleton Food Co-op was so happy to give this check to our Partner of the Month for March - the North Country Beekeepers Association! Their goal is to bring bee education to the public. They will be using the money to continue teaching students of all ages about the importance of honey bees and our native pollinators in the health of the north country. This season may be trying in regards to public outreach, these funds will go a long way to help them devise a way to reach people of all ages and educate on the importance that pollinators have in our food system and how bees touch the many aspects of our lives.



Susan Smith, beekeeping student, Janice Mercieri, North Country Beekeepers Association and Becky Colpitts. Littleton Co-op Community Outreach Coordinator with face masks for safety purposes

The Littleton Food Co-op strives to create a safe marketplace for our customers and for all employees. The CDC recommends the wearing of a face covering to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Janice Mercieri heard of this she put out a call to the North Country Beekeepers for sewers of masks. Susan Smith, a beekeeping student and avid sewer stepped up to the task. Thanks to Janice and Susan the Co-op is masked for the task at hand! Thank you for helping us keep safe!

One of the Co-ops strengths is our ability to cooperate and adapt, so in light of the current COVID-19 crisis we have made a couple of emergency changes to our Partner of the Month Program. In order to best serve our community, Habitat for Humanity Ammonoosuc Region (<https://www.habitat.org/us-nh/littleton/hfh-ammonoosuc-region>) has graciously postponed their scheduled slot for April, and instead we will be raising funds for Granite United Way's COVID 19 Relief Fund. We'll still be supporting Habitat for Humanity in January 2021, but right now you can directly help your neighbors when you shop at the co-op! In addition to Rounding Up at the register or adding cash to the collection box there, you may also: Give online at [www.graniteuw.org](http://www.graniteuw.org). A big shout out to Habitat for Humanity - Ammonoosuc Region for being willing to be flexible!

“Granite United Way has always been here for our communities - our neighbors need help now more than ever before with 1 in 4 families already struggling to afford their basic needs. We also know there will be lasting effects after this immediate crisis,” said Patrick Tufts, President and CEO of Granite United Way. “By establishing the COVID-19 Relief Fund we ensure access to critical services and help people get what they need to make it through today and tomorrow.” Granite United Way is working with state and local leaders to address needs in real time. “At a time of crisis, we know that aligning our work and support will be key to bolstering vulnerable individuals and families,” said Heather Staples Lavoie, Board Chair for Granite United Way. “I am proud to serve as Board Chair for Granite United Way, an organization that is a leader in addressing the pandemic – finding real-time solutions for the short-term and planning for ways to continue that support in the future.”

Member-owned Littleton Food Co-op serves the community by providing high quality food, offered at a fair price, with outstanding service. Everyone is welcome to shop and anyone is welcome to join. Located at the intersection of Cottage Street and Route 302 (exit 41 off I-93), the Littleton Food Co-op is open daily, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. For more information or to become a member, please visit [www.littletoncoop.com](http://www.littletoncoop.com), call 603-444-2800 or just stop by! See ya at the Co-op!