

NEW BUSINESSES

Delectable Designs by Nicole  
WK Hair Bar  
The Barber Shop  
Nomad Studios

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Conley Tree Farm  
Sundance Tree Farm

BUILDING BLOCKS

Business Resources



THE TOWN OF  
FARMINGTON  
NEW HAMPSHIRE



We're reviving our newsletter with the goal of providing useful information to existing and potential business owners while keeping residents connected with various local happenings. This quarterly publication will be sent out via email and posted to the Economic Development Committee's webpage. Sign up [HERE](#) to receive a newsletter via email!

— Farmington Economic Development Committee

## Local Success Story: Businesses are Flowing In!

*Utilizing the Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive Program*



Photo of Delectable Designs by Nicole courtesy of Granite Stag Photography

Farmington recently welcomed three new businesses as part of a redevelopment project in the Village Center. This historic building located at 445 Main Street, welcomed [Nomad Studios](#), [Delectable Designs](#), [WK Hair Bar](#) and [The Barber Shop](#) as the latest arrivals in a series of businesses starting up or relocating to town. The property was purchased by Jason Lauze in May 2019 with the goal of revitalizing the building and encouraging economic growth in the downtown. The building was constructed in 1896 and prior to renovations was vacant, in disrepair, and unable to be rented. While planning for the adaptive reuse of the property, Mr. Lauze took advantage of a Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive, authorized through this program, RSA 79-E, to help offset costs incurred to improve the building. RSA 79-E is a program that encourages property owners to rehabilitate underutilized buildings in historic downtowns or village centers.

In exchange for such an investment, the property tax shall not increase as a result of the improvements for a finite period determined by the governing body. Farmington, when adopting the provisions of RSA 79-E grants the authority to the Board of Selectmen to accept and review applications for tax relief at any time. To assist with the review and evaluation process for qualifying structures, applicants must demonstrate that the property meets the following criteria: be in the downtown Village Center; undertake a substantial rehabilitation of the structure of at least \$75,000 or 15% of the structure's assessed value, whichever is less; and result in a public benefit for the community. At a recent Economic Development Committee (EDC) meeting, Mr. Lauze speculated that the program may not be widely known, especially within the business community, and suggested that additional outreach is needed to determine if there are other buildings in the downtown that may qualify. He continued by saying that in addition to RSA 79-E, there are other state grants and rebate programs for improving energy efficiency and implementing weatherization efforts that property owners should explore. Mr. Lauze concluded by telling the EDC that without this type of investment many buildings in the downtown would remain unoccupied. If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to the Planning and Community Development Department at 603-755-2774.

## Delectable Designs by Nicole



[Delectable Designs by Nicole](#) is the hidden gem you have been looking for. Whether it's a night in the chef's kitchen, wine-down hours, ticketed events, personal chef services, on or off-site catering, they've got you covered. The food they serve at Delectable Designs by Nicole is unique and delicious and has quickly become a foodie favorite. They offer many fresh farm-to-table ingredients and cater to all types of dietary requirements. They pride themselves in taking food design seriously, using locally sourced and foraged ingredients whenever possible. You will not want to miss out on their flavorful menu designs and their own in-house recipes. Get in touch today to make a reservation!

Their most sought-after service is *A Night in Chef's Kitchen* – where Foodies describe it as unique, intimate and one-of-a-kind. Join Weekly WINE-downs on Tuesdays from 12pm - 8pm (Reservations NOT Required), featuring occasional live music.

Looking for that perfect gift this holiday season? Look no further. A gift certificate to Delectable Designs is PERFECT! They'll even make your gift extra special for you by designing and mailing a fun package for that special someone!

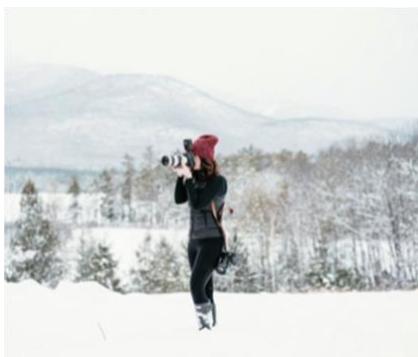
*Photos courtesy of Delectable Designs by Nicole and Granite Stag Photography*

### WK Hair Bar



The mission at [WK Hair Bar](#) is to provide you with high quality services to make your inner beauty shine! They provide haircuts, styles, chemical services, make up, waxing, facials and massages. WK Hair Bar strives to make you feel at home with their family. They pride themselves in their teamwork being their most valuable asset to ensure their guests remain first priority! All in all, they will ensure you leave feeling like your best self, and ready to live your best life! *Photo courtesy of WK Hair Bar*

### Nomad Studios



Kassandra Lee Russell, an award winning and published photographer, is the owner the new and much anticipated, Nomad Studios. Nomad Studios is a creative space open to not only photo and video creators, but also creates a meeting space for educational workshops, podcasting, YouTube content creation and more.

The name "Nomad Studios" came from Kassandra feeling nomadic in her own regard without an indoor studio home base. Often times it can be a challenge to (without trespassing) find locations to work with clients. She wants all artists to have a local space of their own to utilize by renting two, four, or full day use of the space. Monthly usage contract memberships are also available upon submission application approval. The space consists of 7 rooms, all created with the intent to inspire and allow artists to welcome clients into a safe controlled environment. NOMAD Studios is expected to hold a grand opening spring 2023. *Photos courtesy of Granite Stag Photography*

### The Barber Shop

Step up to the chair! [The Barber Shop](#), also known as [Blue Collar Barbers](#), is located on 457 Main Street. They offer haircuts, beard trims, skin fades, and shaves at an excellent rate. Book your appointment today for a great cut! *Photo courtesy of The Barber Shop*



## 'TIS THE SEASON

*Over the fields we go, laughing all the way*



### The Conley Farm

The [Conley Tree Farm](#) has been growing quality Fir Christmas trees since 1968. The farm has nearly 400 acres with approximately 80 acres in tree production. They plant quality northern grown transplants every year to help ensure a continuous supply of trees. The Conley Tree Farm sits a little over 700ft above sea level. The trees are sheltered by Blue Job and Hussey Mountains. The fields and trees are kept moist by natural springs running off of Hussey Mountain. These are just a few of the key factors that set their farm apart from other growers in Southern New Hampshire.



Enjoy scenic views from the farm while choosing the perfect tree with your family for the Holidays. Warm yourself with a savory bite or refreshing beverage to fuel your holiday cheer from Koz's Haute Box, an on-site food truck, featuring New England Soul Food and Bar! Want to savor that balsam tree smell all winter long? Be sure to pick up their Balsam goat milk soaps, candles, lotions and room sprays while supplies last during business hours.

*Update: After a very busy few weeks, "cut your own"*

*sales are closed for 2022. Follow their [Facebook page](#) for where you can pick up precut trees while supplies last.*

*Photos courtesy of Conley Tree Farm*



### Sundance Farm

The house and land on [Sundance Farm](#) began around the time our country was born. The original structure built by colonials - some of whom were born as subjects of the British crown - stands today, surrounded by newer additions - and the ever-bearing land. Today the farm is a serene and scenic mix of fields and woods on 160+ acres, with lots of growing hand-sheared Christmas Trees!

Sundance Farm was featured on the nationally televised HGTV series, "*We Bought the Farm*" documenting the search that led the owners to Sundance Farm, in season 2, episode 4 titled "*Live Free or Buy in New Hampshire*". Since 2017 they've planted thousands of seedlings including balsam, frasier, concolor, and even promising korean-balsam hybrids. It takes on average 7-10 years for a seedling to grow to a marketable size, and 2022 is the 2nd of their 'in-between' years. Owners are looking forward to larger selection in future seasons for your family holiday tradition.

Meanwhile, enjoy their local farm-made crafts and preserves sold on their [online store](#). Choose-and-cut tree sales will be by [appointment only](#) for the 2022 Christmas season.

*Photos courtesy of Sundance Tree Farm*



## Making Spirits Bright!

Thanks to the [Farmington Preservation & Improvement Organization](#) and the amazing volunteers that helped put up the lights downtown! The annual lighting event occurred on Dec. 2 to light up the town for the season! This year's Christmas tree was graciously donated once again from local, [Sundance Farm](#).

Rated #4 in [WMUR's 2017 Viewers' Choice Winter Edition: Hottest holiday experience](#), Farmington's lights were described by one WMUR viewer as "the lights are nothing fancy, but it's a special event for the community". In 2014, it appeared that a century-old tradition in Farmington would come to an end after objections were raised from about the lights being hung on utility poles creating a hazard for linemen. This sparked a movement across the community and since then, the lights have been strung on new poles and donated space on commercial buildings.

The 2022 Limited Edition Christmas Bulbs are available for sale. They are still only \$5.00 each and continued support is so greatly appreciated. [Farmington Preservation & Improvement Organization \(FPIO\)](#) has enough bulbs for this year and next, so be sure to get yours while you still can. Check the [FPIO Facebook page](#) for updates.



Photo source Thomas Sorensen Photography



Above photos courtesy of the Farmington Preservation & Improvement organization

## STAY CONNECTED!

The Economic Development Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Municipal Building at 365 Main Street. Come join us or visit our webpage for more information and resources. *Do you have a news or event suggestion?* Please email us at: [FarmingtonEDC@gmail.com](mailto:FarmingtonEDC@gmail.com)

## Seeking Placemaking Sub-committee Members!

Are you or someone you know involved in a Farmington, NH civic group or community group? We are looking to set up a sub-committee with a representative from every community group in town. This will help create a channel of communication so we can share what community projects each group is planning for visibility and potentially collaborate on a larger initiative in future. Please email us at: [FarmingtonEDC@gmail.com](mailto:FarmingtonEDC@gmail.com)

## BUILDING BLOCKS

Business Resources

- [Strafford Regional Planning Commission \(SRPC\) Economic Development](#)
- [SRPC Economic Development Resources](#)
- [Farmington NH Master Plan](#)
- [Farmington NH Business Resource Page](#)
- [NH Small Business Development Center](#)

## Welcome New Businesses

- [Delectable Designs by Nicole LLC](#) 
- [WK Hair Bar](#) 
- [Nomad Studios](#) 
- [The Barber Shop](#)

## CALL-TO-ACTION:



Seeking artists, muralists and builders for potential future projects!

Please email us at:

[FarmingtonEDC@gmail.com](mailto:FarmingtonEDC@gmail.com)