



**Rachel Dutil** is the Public Relations & Marketing Coordinator at Miner Institute in Chazy since 2009. She grew up in Champlain and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism from the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. She spent a few years in Albany County, NY working as a newspaper reporter and copy editor before returning to the North Country. Rachel is a freelance writer with *Strictly Business* and also opened Ice House Farm Store in Mooers with her husband in June 2021. She serves on the North Country Chamber of Commerce's Strategic Tourism Planning Committee and volunteers with Jane's Fight Fund which raises money to help support North Country residents who are fighting cancer.

**Melissa Monty-Provost** is co-owner of Country Dreams Farm in Beekmantown that features horse-drawn sleigh rides, living history tours of their farm, produce, petting zoos, corn maze, wedding venue and a high tunnel. Melissa served 8 years on the Agriculture Program Committee and has been a long-time supporter of CCE.

**Dillon Snell** grew up on a small beef farm in central NY. He participated in numerous 4-H and Herkimer County Cooperative Extension events from livestock shows to public speaking. He obtained an Associate's Degree in Dairy Production and Management from SUNY Cobleskill. He has worked as a dairy nutrition consultant for Poulin Grain, Mortgage Loan Originator and currently a Farm Advisor for AHV (Animal Health Vision). In 2017, he and his wife started Angelville Acres Cattle Company in Chazy, NY. They are primarily a black Angus cow-calf operation that sells feeder calves and freezer beef. Last year, they were happy to host a BQA training at their facility through extension. They enjoy having an open-door policy at their farm to help educate customers and the community about where their food comes from. While working at Poulin Grain he helped create and facilitate the Donate Dairy challenge, which was a fundraiser that raised \$10,000 to help purchase dairy only products for local food banks

**Jess Bouharevich** graduated from Miami University with a Bachelor of Science in Art & Dance, then danced professionally for the Morrison Dance. In 2009, she moved to China where she taught Preschool at an International School, worked as a freelance dancer/choreographer, and founded her own educational program, Epicenter, for children to learn English through Art and Dance. In 2011, Jess moved to the Netherlands to pursue a 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training with world renowned yogi, Robert Boustany of Pralaya Yoga. She lead private & public lessons, workshops, movement therapy classes, as well as yoga & contemporary dance classes. She continues to study and teach Aerial Yoga, Power Yoga, Vinyasa Yoga, Slow Flow Yoga, Restorative Yoga, as well as Ayurveda, and has cultivated her own personal/private practice, LoveJoy Revival. In 2019, Jess married Yuri Bouharevich and welcomed their greatest teacher on December 21, 2019, a beautiful baby girl. Rey's birth encouraged the move to the Adirondacks in 2021, as well as the manifestation of the White Rainbow Project.

**Shaun Castine** has worked at Miner Institute for more than 10 years. He started as part of the dairy team and now works with research. He and his wife Emily own Cast Iron Acres, a beef cow farm in Altona and are part of the Northeast Beef Promotion Initiative. They show at the Clinton County and Franklin County fairs and hope to show at the state fair eventually. Emily is also a local 4H leader.

**Elizabeth Ward** works with her husband, Christian Oest, as owner/operators of Cook and Gardener Garden Center which opened April 2005. She was born and raised in Plattsburgh and graduated from McGill University in 1998 with a Bachelor of Commerce degree with concentrations in Marketing and International Business. She previously worked with the International Client Service Team at Wellington Management Company, LLP, a global investment management firm headquartered in Boston until they decided to relocate to Plattsburgh and start their own business. Their retail business operates seasonally from April through December allowing their family some winter downtime to travel and enjoy skiing and other winter sports.

**Katie LaBonte** graduated from SUNY Plattsburgh in 2016 with a combined Bachelors/Master's degree in Childhood and Special Education. After graduating college, Katie went on to work at the Youth Advocate Program as an Assistant Director. In this role, Katie was responsible for helping to connect youth and their families to community supports and resources using a wrap-around approach. Currently, Katie works as an Adult Literacy Teacher/ Case Manager for CV-TEC, teaching students of ages ranging from 16 and older and helping them to obtain their High School Equivalency Diploma. Part of Katie's current job is helping to make sure her students are aware of resources and community supports, and helping her students and families connect to these.

**Sandy Geddes** has been a Plattsburgh resident since 1999. She came to Plattsburgh to attend SUNY Plattsburgh where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and Master of Arts in Communications. Sandy has been the Community Relations Coordinator at Meadowbrook Healthcare for three years and worked for other organizations doing marketing, recruitment, retention and approximately 7 years learned about the wonderful yet sometimes frustrating world of social media. She is the proud mom of two wonderful kids, Jacob (15) and Madeline (12), and avid (but not fast) runner and cow-owner of Watchrock Services (a contracting company) with her life/business partner, Bevan.