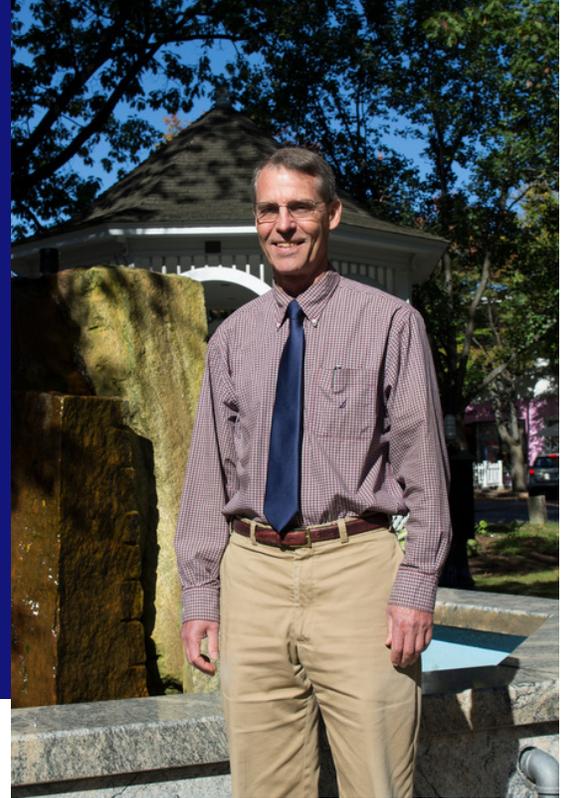
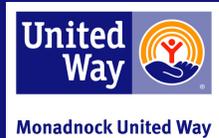


# STRONGER TOGETHER

## THIS IS MY UNITED WAY

by Peter Hansel

Chairman, Filtrine Manufacturing  
Board of Directors



I've spent my whole career working for a small family-owned business located in New York and New Jersey before settling in Harrisville, and then Keene.

I have grown to be very proud of this region that has nurtured us and our employees, has provided good schools for our children, medical care when we are ill, and a safe and enriching environment to live and retire in.

Filtrine Manufacturing Company has prospered for over a hundred years and made a small impact in the markets we serve around the world. But more importantly, because we have a close connection to our community, we have a desire to make this community a little bit better.

We want the children of our employees to grow and thrive in this region. We want those who haven't been as fortunate as ourselves to have the opportunity to succeed, or at least receive the comfort of a community that cares.

The Monadnock United Way is the most efficient way to make my donation to those local agencies that have the biggest impact on the needs of the region. I am always impressed by the hundreds of volunteer hours devoted to making sure that every dollar raised is stretched as far as it can go. To me, that kind of commitment, year after year, speaks volumes.

After serving as Industrial Division Chair for several years, I was asked in 2016 to serve as the General Campaign Chair. We raised an impressive \$1,885,721 that year, and I was proud to be part of such an effective and far-reaching organization. It was also an honor to learn so much about our community and all the ways we can have a collective impact.

Five years ago, when I took the helm as the General Campaign Chair, we were distracted by presidential political campaigns.

Today the Covid-19 pandemic makes it even easier to get distracted by our own issues and the 'new normal.' This makes it more critical to remind ourselves of the needs of the less fortunate: the homeless, the hungry, the drug-addicted, the seniors in need of transportation to a medical appointment, the little child whose parents both work or whose single mom or dad is struggling to put food on the table. These problems have not gone away.

Volunteering is the least we can do.

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