



CITY OF FRANKLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

"The Three Rivers City"

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Citizen of the Year Award 2022 **The Grevior Family**

It says a lot about a family furniture business that starts in the basement of the old Baptist church on the corner of Church and Franklin Streets. It says that its founder so believed in his vision of providing no-pressure sales, a quality product, and a commitment to support the local community that if the only place to set up shop was in the basement of a church, then so be it. And so, Nate Grevior did, in 1932, and the family has never looked back.

His commitment to top notch service to customers, and a wide variety of furniture items continues to this day through his son and wife, Bob and Andrea and grandson, Jason, and family. And yes, they are no longer in the basement having moved to Central St where they offer over 30,000 square feet of bedroom, living and dining room and occasional home furnishings.

However, many people run furniture stores, so how is this one different? As already mentioned, service for one. I can remember that my dad would call up Bob Grevior and announce that he needed a new recliner, and Bob would have the chair delivered and the old one picked up in very short order. When my own family moved back in 2011 – it was Jason who worked with my daughter to pick out her first “adult” bedroom suite, and his patience was outstanding. But there is much more to this family than furniture. Hopefully most of you know that the family donated the land on which Trestle View Park is located and is also a major sponsor of the Winni Trail, which runs from Franklin to Tilton via the upside-down bridge. Jason and his wife, Robin, have for years been the force, and cooks behind the annual Ring in the Holidays celebration held at the Veteran’s Memorial Ski area as a fundraiser for the ski area and local snowmobile club. This year there was a waiting list and over \$15K was raised, assisted by a live and silent auction. Jason himself was directly involved with Franklin High School, serving as their Football Coach. In an interview he stated that while he was the coach, he would make breakfast sandwiches for his team of over 60 students to make sure that all of his players had something to eat before going onto the field.

The family has always been involved in helping make Franklin a better Community.

As a member of the Franklin Falls Business Group, Jason is always ready to help out with whatever project we are proposing, always finding the quickest way to a “yes” to make things happen. I recall this summer, as the first White Water feature was being

constructed, Bob would stand outside and watch the progress. We stood together one day and talked about it and how excited he was to see such progress in Franklin. He mentioned to me that his father once told him that if you are going to do things for your community, do them while you are still living. And so, the family has, and will continue to do so through the next generation.

To Bob, Andy, Jason, Robin, Ryan, Nicholas, Nathan and Lex, thank you for being such a big part of Franklin's history and present. It is for this, that we recognize the Grevior Family as our Citizen of the Year for 2022.

Jo Brown, Mayor – City of Franklin