

John “Jack” Rooney
773-983-9252 | jcrooney2@gmail.com

Education

University of Notre Dame	Notre Dame, IN
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and American Studies, <i>magna cum laude</i>	Class of 2016
Minor: Journalism, Ethics & Democracy	GPA: 3.883

Selected Honors

- 2023: New England Better Newspaper Competition Award for Business Innovation and Audience Building Promotion
- 2022: New England Better Newspaper Competition Award for Best Solutions Journalism
- 2021: New England Newspaper & Press Association Publick Occurrences Award, New England First Amendment Institute fellow
- 2020: New Hampshire Press Association Community Service Award
- 2019: Ohio Associated Press Media Editors Awards, Division III: Best Spot News Coverage (first place), Best News Writer (second place), Best Business Writer (second place), Best Public Service (second place)

Professional Experience

<i>The Keene Sentinel</i>	Keene, NH
Managing Editor for Audience Development	February 2023-Present

- Develop a new position to oversee the newsroom’s efforts to leverage analytics to maximize the impact of our work, and serve our community by seeking new and underserved audiences
- Strategize with leaders across departments to design and implement initiatives and develop new products to expand The Sentinel’s reach and secure a sustainable, community-based economic future for New Hampshire’s oldest newspaper
- Coordinate regular events to connect Sentinel journalists with the community we serve

<i>Radically Rural</i>	Keene, NH
Co-Track Leader, Community Journalism	March 2023-Present

- Plan and lead the journalism program for an interdisciplinary national summit that builds a strong network of passionate and engaged people dedicated to helping their rural communities thrive
- Recruit diverse journalists to attend and speak at a conference that draws more than 500 people to rural southwest New Hampshire, and manage the journalism track’s travel and budget

<i>Monadnock Region Health Reporting Lab</i>	Keene, NH
Editor	January 2024-Present

- Lead The Keene Sentinel’s solutions-focused coverage of local health care access and equity
- Work directly with the Lab’s lead reporter to produce a weekly email newsletter, frequent in-depth news stories and multimedia projects, periodic events and free community resources
- Secure philanthropic funding, write grant applications, earn community financial support and manage the budget for the first nonprofit initiative of a legacy for-profit local news organization

<i>The Keene Sentinel</i>	Keene, NH
Deputy Local News Editor	October 2021-February 2023

- Co-led a team of 10 journalists to generate informative, engaging coverage of the Monadnock Region, rooted in community service and our mission to be a trusted source and civic partner
- Helped reporters develop stories from pitches to line editing, and consulted with fellow editors to plan daily and long-term news content that serves our audiences while effectively managing internal resources

The Keene Sentinel

Staff Writer

Keene, NH

May 2020-October 2021

- Developed sources while working primarily remotely and collaborated closely with editors to produce comprehensive daily and in-depth stories focused on education, business and solutions journalism

The Daily Record

Staff Writer

Wooster, OH

March 2018-April 2020

- Reported breaking news online, including photo and video production, and wrote daily and long-term enterprise news stories for print, with a focus on public safety, courts, business and local government
- Engaged with my community in-person and online to generate compelling, impactful stories that served local readers and resonated with wider audiences in markets including Columbus, Cincinnati and Akron

Tampa Bay Times

Summer Intern

Clearwater, FL

May-August 2016

- Covered breaking news for the Clearwater bureau of Florida's largest newspaper and wrote daily and enterprise stories for the metro section and a weekly regional edition

Concord Monitor

Reporting Intern

Concord, NH

May-August 2015

- Wrote frequent general assignment stories on a wide range of local issues, including the presidential primary campaign, and worked with editors to cultivate story ideas and enhance visual storytelling skills

Better Government Association

Investigative Intern

Chicago, IL

May-August 2014

- Learned from the investigative team at the Better Government Association, a non-profit organization that promotes transparency in local government through investigative reporting
- Reported on municipal meetings in Chicago, pulled records at county and federal courthouses and researched and fact-checked extensively for published reports

Campus and Community Activities

The Observer

Managing Editor

Notre Dame, IN

March 2015-March 2016

- Oversaw the daily operation and a staff of approximately 100 student journalists at the independent newspaper serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College
- Gained extensive copyediting and decision-making experience in a deadline-driven newsroom

University of Notre Dame Dublin Global Gateway

Dublin, Ireland

Programme Manager for Campus Ministry

August 2016-September 2017

- Fostered community among Notre Dame students studying abroad in Ireland through religious and spiritual programming
- Planned weekly local events and multiple excursions to promote genuine and educational experiences with Irish people and culture

Skills and Interests

- Conducting interviews and performing thorough academic and journalistic research and writing
- Significant experience managing social media and multimedia production
- Passion for exploring the natural world, especially through hiking and running