

York-based cleaning company a family affair

Concierge services also offered

By Rob Levey

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YORK — The Cleaning Safari was purchased in September by Jody Nicholson, who believes her attention to detail will keep existing customers and attract new ones, too.

"Because it's a family-run business, we're not only accountable to our customers, but to each other as a family, which is why nothing gets overlooked or forgotten," said Nicholson. "It's important as we move forward that people can count on us, because what we are really doing is building relationships with our customers. All we want to do is make them happy."

Working in teams up to four people, she said the business provides residential and commercial cleaning services and uses green products at a customer's request.

Citing that philanthropy is "a huge part of her business model," she noted her participation in the Cleaning for a Reason Foundation, through which she offers their cleaning services to cancer survivors for free or at severely reduced rates.

"I want to be involved in the community, give back, and help people," she said.

In support of The Cleaning Safari, Nicholson said she also offers personal assistant and concierge services through another business, Your Go-To Girl.

"We run errands, pick up prescriptions, cook meals, do laundry, home bookkeeping, help organize the home, and a wide assortment of other services for busy families or for the elderly who might need that little extra help to remain in their own homes," she said.

Hoping to provide as much value as they can, Nicholson said staffers provide discounts to AARP and AAA members and hope to begin formal partnerships with both organizations in the near future.

As for pricing, cleaning services range from \$30 to \$35 per hour, while concierge services average from \$20 to \$25.

Regardless of which services potential clients might need, the company's underlying concern is for the clients' overall well-being, she said.



Co-Owners of The Cleaning Safari Jody Nicholson and Allen Basey

"In any business, if you want to succeed you have to give back and show the community you are invested," said Nichelson, who noted she also recently worked with transitional housing program **Fair Tide** for its Nov. 20 benefit auction at Kittery Estates.

"They do important work, so I'm happy to donate to their cause through both my businesses," she said. "Without nonprofits, our community would not be what it is today."

For more information about The Cleaning Safari or Your Go-To Girl, visit www.cleaningsafari.com and www.yourgo-togirl.com, or call (866) 477-1602 or (603) 380-0069.