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DECEMBER 5 - 11, 2019

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GRANITE VIEWS **ROBIN MILNES**

Mental health



“Gratitude” is a word that gets used a lot this time of the year. The things that I am grateful for have changed considerably over the years. My family, my physical health, my mental

health — these things sustain me and allow me to live a happy and successful life. If just one of these things is out of balance, the house of cards can come tumbling down.

While people are generally sympathetic if you are struggling with family issues or physical illness, there is frequently still a stigma associated with a mental health issue. Yet our mental health is as critical to our well-being as our physical health. Just like physical illness, mental illness can strike at any time in one’s life. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, 1 in 5 adults struggle with mental illness, and 1 in 6 youth experience a mental health disorder every year. As of late October, there were about 35 people on the waitlist for admission to New Hampshire Hospital, most being held in emergency departments or psychiatric wards of hospitals around the state.

Fellowship Housing Opportunities is a Concord-based nonprofit that provides transitional and permanent housing for individuals suffering with mental health issues. Because of the work this organization has done for more than 30 years, 63 individuals have the opportunity to live independent, successful lives in a safe and supportive environment. Recently, Fellowship Housing Opportunities hosted a viewing of the documentary *God Knows Where I Am* at the Red River Theatres. This documentary tells the story of Linda Bishop, a New Hampshire native who was diagnosed with mental illness as an adult. Homeless, after being released from the New Hampshire Hospital, Linda took up residence in an abandoned farmhouse outside of Concord and, sadly, died there alone of starvation. The film helps us to understand the flaws in the mental health care system and the ongoing struggle between patient liberty and patient safety.

Good mental health care is a critical component of a healthy community and a healthy state. After months of budget negotiations between the governor and the legislature, some funding remained for a new secure psychiatric unit and to expand capacity at New Hampshire Hospital, albeit at a fraction of what the governor originally proposed. Reading, understanding and funding the “New Hampshire 10-Year Mental Health Plan” released in January 2019 must become a priority for our legislature. Continuing to short-change this budget line is sure to bring down the house of cards.

Robin Milnes is a small business owner and advocate with more than 30 years of experience in real estate acquisitions, property management, sales, leasing, budgeting, fiscal oversight, human resources and administration. She can be reached at rmilnes@inex.com.



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ON THE COVER

12 ALL TOGETHER If you love to sing — or hear others sing — there is no shortage of opportunities to make and listen to beautiful music across southern New Hampshire. The state is home to all kinds of choral groups, from those that accept singers of all ages and abilities to those that hold auditions for more advanced vocalists. Find out what groups to join if you want your voice to be heard, plus what to expect as a choral group member. And if you’d rather be in the audience, there are plenty of concerts — holiday and otherwise — coming up soon.



ALSO ON THE COVER, Majestic Theatre Studios in Manchester presents a holiday variety show, p. 22. See Mr. Nick & the Dirty Tricks one last time, p. 50. And find holiday fun this weekend, from shopping events to a Holiday House Tour in Nashua, in This Week, p. 20; at a Starry, Starry Weekend in Hopkinton and Contoocook, p. 26; and with family-friendly celebrations in Kiddie Pool, p. 27.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

NEWS & NOTES

4 More growth for New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets; PLUS News in Brief.

7 Q&A

8 QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

10 SPORTS

THIS WEEK 20

THE ARTS:

22 THEATER

Judy's Scary Little Christmas.

23 CLASSICAL

Curtain Call; listings for events around town.

24 ART

Local Color; listings for events around town.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE:

27 KIDDIE POOL

Family fun events this weekend.

28 GARDENING GUY

Henry Homeyer offers advice on your outdoors.

29 TREASURE HUNT

There’s gold in your attic.

30 CAR TALK

Automotive advice.

CAREERS:

34 ON THE JOB

What it’s like to be a...

FOOD:

36 MADE IN NEW ENGLAND EXPO Candy Cane demonstrations; In the Kitchen; Weekly Dish; Beer; Try This at Home.

POP CULTURE:

44 REVIEWS CDs, books, TV and more. Amy Diaz enjoys *Queen & Slim* and *Knives Out* almost as much as that second piece of pie.

NITE:

50 BANDS, CLUBS, NIGHTLIFE

Mr. Nick & the Dirty Tricks; Nightlife, music & comedy listings and more.

52 ROCK AND ROLL CROSSWORD

A puzzle for the music-lover.

54 MUSIC THIS WEEK

Live music at your favorite bars and restaurants.

ODDS & ENDS:

60 CROSSWORD

61 SIGNS OF LIFE

61 SUDOKU

62 NEWS OF THE WEIRD



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to Buzz Lightyear**



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Save the date

New Hampshire Secretary of State Bill Gardner has formally set the date for the 2020 presidential primary. In a Nov. 25 news release, Deputy Secretary of State Dave Scanlan announced that Tuesday, Feb. 11, would be the date when voters head to the polls to cast the first primary ballots in the 2020 presidential election cycle. The Iowa caucuses are scheduled for Monday, Feb. 3. Following the conclusion of the Nov. 15 New Hampshire primary filing deadline, the state ballot has been set with a total of 33 Democratic candidates and 17 Republican candidates.

Granite Pathways

State officials have terminated a contract with Granite Pathways Youth Treatment Center following the Nov. 25 hospitalization of five of the facility's patients due to drug overdoses. In a Nov. 27 news release, Gov. Chris Sununu announced that Granite Pathways' contract to operate its Manchester-based Youth Treatment Center in Manchester will be terminated effective Dec. 27 and that all new admissions to the facility have been temporarily suspended. The release goes on to note that the state will act to install a new management team led by director of the New Hampshire Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services Annette Escalante to oversee the facility's operations as well as the placement and eventual transition of the remaining youths residing at the center. More

action may be taken by the state at the conclusion of a 30-day review of all contracts New Hampshire had made with Granite Pathways.

Fentanyl overdoses

New data from the state Attorney General indicates that fentanyl has become public enemy No. 1 in the Granite State's ongoing effort to combat the nationwide opioid crisis. In a Nov. 25 Summary of 2018 New Hampshire Drug Overdose Deaths, the Department of Justice Office of Chief Medical Examiner detailed that 88 percent of all 435 accidental overdose deaths investigated by the office in 2018 were from fentanyl alone (202) or a mix of fentanyl and other drugs excluding heroin (180.) During the same period, heroin alone only accounted for just two deaths, a mix of heroin and fentanyl accounted for three deaths and all other opiates accounted for 30 deaths.

Residency law

According to the Associated Press, a controversial 2018 law that amends the definition of "residency" in New Hampshire will remain in effect for the 2020 presidential primary despite a legal challenge aimed at blocking its implementation. The law, HB 1264, ended the previous discrepancy between "residency" and "domicile" by making out-of-state citizens residing in New Hampshire who register to vote subject to residency requirements like obtaining a driver's license

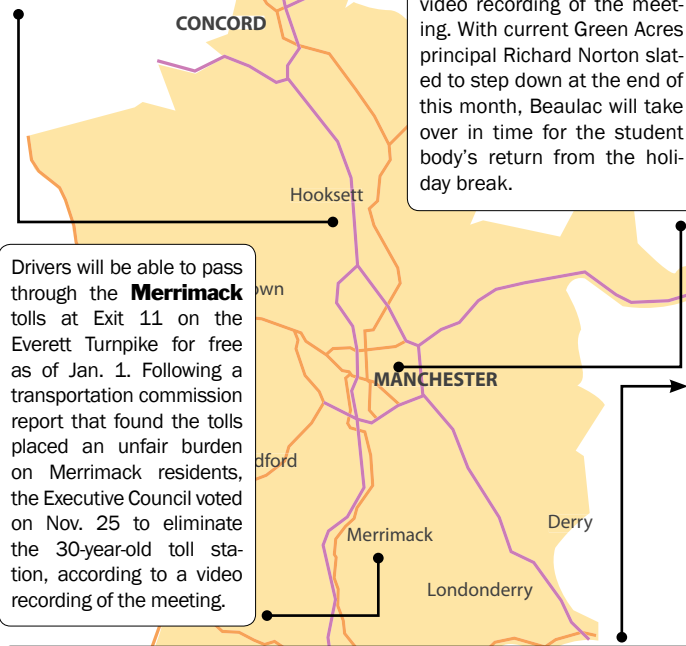
and/or registering a vehicle. While representatives from ACLU NH and the state Democratic Party sought a preliminary injunction against the law on the grounds that state officials were unclear on how the law would impact voters, Judge Joseph Laplante, Chief Justice of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire, denied the request on Nov. 27, citing a failure by plaintiffs to put forward witnesses who failed to register to vote due to confusion about the law. According to the AP, attorneys with ACLU NH will continue to fight against the law.

State project funds

Four rural development projects aimed at expanding broadband access, upgrading first responder equipment and helping low-income homeowners make energy efficiency improvements will receive over \$300,000 in federal funding. The grant funding, totalling \$316,047 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was announced in a Nov. 27 joint news release from Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Maggie Hassan and Rep. Annie Kuster, NH-02. As per the release, \$188,547 will go to the Northern Forest Center in Concord for broadband expansion and digital literacy development for the town of Lancaster; \$17,500 will be used to purchase a new vehicle for the Lancaster Police Department; Northumberland will receive \$50,000 for Bluetooth and Wi-Fi enabled defibrillator equipment and Southwestern Community Services in Keene will get \$60,000 to help

Hooksett gun seller Riley's Sport Shop abruptly ended 70 years of continuous operation last week. In a notice on the establishment's door and a Nov. 24 post on Riley's Facebook page, the business announced it was closing its doors and ceasing all operations. Riley's offered no comment on the reason for the closure.

Manchester's Parker-Varney Elementary School assistant principal Michael Beaulac will take over as the head principal of the Queen City's Green Acres Elementary School following his Nov. 25 appointment by the Board of School Committee, according to a video recording of the meeting. With current Green Acres principal Richard Norton slated to step down at the end of this month, Beaulac will take over in time for the student body's return from the holiday break.



Raymond superintendent of schools Tina McCoy has announced plans to relocate fourth-grade and preschool classrooms within the district, allowing the town to permanently shutter the portable classrooms at Lamprey River Elementary School, according to a Nov. 26 news release from the Raymond School District. All fourth-grade classrooms will be moved from Lamprey to Iber Holmes Gove Middle School and the preschool program will be moved out of Lamprey and into Raymond High School next summer in time for fall 2020.

low-income residents make safety and energy efficiency repairs.

Exit renumbering

Despite the looming threat of loss of federal highway dollars, Gov. Chris Sununu says he is against a federally mandated plan to renumber the exits on the nation's highways. In a Nov. 7 post on Facebook, Sununu said that exit numbers were a point of pride for some Granite Staters and that "we

shouldn't let Washington bureaucrats threaten to take that away." The Federal Highway Administration regulation would have states renumber exits so they correspond to the mileage marker at each location by 2022 or risk losing federal highway funds. Despite the Facebook post, Sununu has made no formal threat to veto the provision if it reaches his desk in the 10-year highway transportation plan that the state legislature will take up in 2020.

Politics This Week

- **Pete Buttigieg:** South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg is scheduled to return to New Hampshire Thursday, Dec. 5, beginning the day with an 11:30 a.m. town hall at New England College's Simon Center in Henniker before traveling to Milford for a town hall at the Milford Town Hall at 2:30 p.m., according to the campaign. At 7 p.m., Buttigieg will hold a town hall at Exeter High School. On Friday, Dec. 6, Buttigieg will take his turn on NHPR's 2020 Candidate Forum on the Exchange at 9 a.m. in Concord at NHPR's studio (2 Pillsbury St). He will then attend a house party in Concord at 10 a.m. Visit peteforamerica.com.
- **Marianne Williamson:** Author Marianne Williamson will be in the Granite State for several events, according to the campaign. On Thursday, Dec. 5, at noon Williamson will stage a meet and greet at the Art in the Age Cafe in Tamworth followed by a 3 p.m. event at the White Mountain Cafe & Bookstore in Gorham and a 6:30 p.m. meet and

- greet at Plain Kate's Riverside Saloon in Franconia. Visit marianne2020.com.
- **Tulsi Gabbard:** Hawaii Rep. Tulsi Gabbard will stage multiple events in the state this coming week, according to the campaign. On Thursday, Dec. 5, Gabbard will hold a town hall at the Community Oven in Hampton at 4:30 p.m. On Friday, Dec. 6, Gabbard will be in Jaffery for a town hall at 5 p.m., and on Monday, Dec. 9, she will hold a 6 p.m. town hall at the Arbor Restaurant in Nashua. Visit tulsi2020.com.
- **Michael Bennet:** Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet will be in the state for a town hall on Friday, Dec. 6, according to information from the campaign. The town hall will begin at 6:15 p.m. at the Highland Lake Inn in Andover. Visit michaelbennet.com.
- **Joe Biden:** Former Vice President Joe Biden will be in New Hampshire for an unspecified event on Sunday, Dec. 8, according to the campaign. Additionally, former second lady Dr. Jill Biden will be in New Hampshire for unspeci-

- fied events on both Sunday, Dec. 8, and Monday, Dec. 9. According to the campaign, additional details on the events are TBA. Visit joebiden.com.
- **Elizabeth Warren:** Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren will return to New Hampshire for a string of events later this week, according to the campaign. On Friday, Dec. 6, Warren will hold a community conversation in Peterborough at 2:15 p.m. at Bowling Acres (32 Elm St) followed by a 5:30 town hall in Henniker at New England College (98 Bridge St.) On Saturday, Dec. 7, at 11:15 a.m., Warren will hold a community conversation in Rochester at the Governor's Inn (78 Wakefield St) before ending the day with a town hall in Rye at 3 p.m. at Rye Junior High (501 Washington Road.) Visit elizabethwarren.com.

Find out where to see the 2020 presidential primary candidates each week in Politics This Week. If you know of a candidate meet-up or other event, let us know at politics@hippopress.com.

BEST WEEK for...

KID LEADERS

On Nov. 26, the New Hampshire Institute of Politics and New Hampshire Institute for Civics Education announced that Sanbornton Sant Bani School fifth-grader Suzy Brand was selected to serve as the 2020 Kid Governor. The second year that the contest has been held, Brand was selected in a statewide election by over 1,000 New Hampshire fifth-graders. According to a news release from the two organizations, Brand plans to spend her one-year term of office to raise money for outdoor gear, share outdoor challenges on her blog and work on a real bill to grant Granite State students more time outdoors during the school day.

WORST WEEK for...

MALL OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SHOPPERS

Those taking advantage of some holiday shopping deals at the Mall of New Hampshire on Sunday, Dec. 1, were briefly evacuated due to a natural gas scare. According to WMUR, the shoppers were evacuated at approximately 10 a.m. when a mall employee smelled natural gas near the Red Robin restaurant. Manchester firefighters discovered the source of the leak was a heating unit inside an empty store, WMUR reported, and proceeded to turn the unit's gas off. No injuries were reported and the mall was reopened by 11 a.m.

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NEWS

Liquor store strategies

Commission responds to growing competition

By Travis R. Morin
tmorin@hippopress.com

Wine-lovers and cocktail mixologists traveling through the Interstate 95 corridor in Hampton could soon be able to shop at one of two new 20,000-plus-square-foot New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets.

The new stores, whose opening dates are to be determined, will be the latest in the string of 32 newly opened or newly renovated outlets by the New Hampshire Liquor Commission since 2012. The commission, which oversees all wine and liquor sales in the state, is undergoing an agency-wide expansion and modernization initiative in an effort to increase revenue and compete with out-of-state liquor sellers, according to Commission spokesman EJ Powers.

"We started with this renovation process because of the changing environment in Massachusetts and the increased competition throughout the region," Powers said. "For many years, New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Stores were not necessarily prominently featured; they were in the corners of strip malls and places like that. One of the things that the leadership of the commission has done [is] worked to create a nationally recognized brand that can provide consumers with a better shopping experience and, by doing so, increase the amount of sales at the stores."

I-95

On Nov. 14, the commission announced plans to update the two existing 9,000-square-foot Hampton stores in a manner similar to the Hooksett Welcome Centers on both sides of I-93. The Hooksett Welcome Centers, built in 2015 in a partnership between the commission and Granite State Hospitality, each feature 16 gas pumps operated by Irving, retail shopping and a Common Man Roadside eateries food court.

Powers called the expansion of the Hampton locations on I-95 — already among the Commission's top five stores in terms of sales, he said — a "once in a lifetime opportunity" to promote liquor and wine sales among out-of-state customers, who account for 50 percent of the Commission's sales.

"We would use Hooksett as a good blueprint for how a successful partnership could work," Powers said.

The Commission is currently in the process of putting together a request for qualification in order to identify a real estate agent to help market the property for potential partners.

More stores

The proposed Hampton stores join a handful of recently renovated and constructed stores, including locations in Epsom, Somersworth and West Lebanon.

"We must make every effort to stay at the forefront of beverage alcohol industry trends, while maintaining the flexibility to quickly maneuver to sustain and grow our market share," Commission Chairman Joseph Mollica said of commission's

rebuild strategy. "Our ongoing effort to renovate and relocate New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets is certainly a big part of our response to that growing competition."

He said the state is competing with online sellers and big box retailers like Maryland-based Total Wine and More, which operates six locations throughout the Boston metro area.

"They are watching our every move and are aggressively working to divert our customer base," Mollica said.

While Mollica did not provide specific data on how all remodeled stores perform in comparison to their unrenovated counterparts, he pointed to recently renovated store No. 38 at the Portsmouth traffic, which he said has seen sales increase by 20 percent year over year since construction ended in May. Overall, the state has seen increased revenue in its stores. In each of the last five years, the Commission's total sales have set new records, with fiscal year 2019 coming in at \$723 million compared to \$700 million in fiscal year 2018, according to data from the Commission.

Gross versus net

Net profits, however, have remained stagnant due to ballooning operating expenses that in large part are due to the costs associated with the expansion and renovation strategy, including the additional staffing and overhead costs for the new facilities. Despite this year's record-breaking sales, the commission is reporting \$16 million less in net profits than in fiscal year 2018's.

According to Powers, debt that the commission has accrued over the course of its construction and renovation phase will begin to subside over the next few years as principal and interest on project-related bonds begin to decrease. Powers went on to project that the downturn in debt would drive an increase in net profits by 2022.

In 2018, total in-state liquor sales generated \$149.2 million in revenue for the New Hampshire General Fund, which TransparentNH, a state New Hampshire Department of Administrative Services administered website, estimates as making up 1 percent of the entire General Fund.

The falling net revenues have caught the attention of the state's Executive Council, which made the rare decision in February of this year to delay pay increases for the commission's management until the Commission provides a more detailed look at its Fiscal Year 2019 financial information, which will happen when the audited state financial report is available later this month. The delay, supported by Democratic Councilors Andru Volinsky, Debora Pignatelli and Mike Cryans, hinged largely on the Commission's failure to meet the legislature's revenue targets, with Volinsky pointing to falling net profits during the Council's deliberation.

The Liquor Commission also faced criticism from District 2 Councilor Volinsky, who is currently running to be the 2020 Democratic gubernatorial nominee, in February 2018. Volinsky called for an investigation into out-of-

state individuals making bulk liquor purchases at stores. In November 2018, the Department of Justice said the Liquor Commission had not violated any laws and ruled that there was no credible evidence that the commission had encouraged workers to skirt rules relating to large-volume cash sales.

Volinsky also said he sees cause for a "management overhaul" at the Commission, citing his disagreement with the strategy of renovation and expansion of existing stores and construction of new stores in parts of the state that are not typically associated with high-volume sales.

"I don't trust the decision-making being done there," Volinsky said of the Commission.

If it were left up to him, Voinsky said, he would convene a panel of experts to launch a nationwide search for new leadership, specifically to find a chief executive officer, chief operating officer and marketing director that are "experienced in this business and of unquestionable ethics."

Overall, Volinsky said the commission's leadership should be better experienced with the sale of regulated products in a retail environment, as well as with leveraging other in-state assets, suggesting the sale of ski tickets and park passes at liquor store locations.

Powers declined to directly comment on Volinsky's critique but cited over 100 years of experience in wine and spirit sales, hospitality and big box retail among the commission's senior leadership, as well as recent accolades like the commission's 2019 recognition as one of the top 100 Retailers for off-premise retailers by Beverage Dynamics magazine.

"Anyone that understands business, especially the highly competitive beverage alcohol industry, will attest to the liquor commission's vision," Powers said.

Location, location, location

Mollica said the new locations and investments in existing ones were "sorely needed" in order to "compete against a changing environment in Mass. and to appeal to a sophisticated customer base," while still keeping an eye toward the bottom line.

Appealing to that "sophisticated customer base" entails a substantial makeover from the run-of-the-mill liquor store, Mollica said. All newly constructed outlets boast features like expanded beverage selections, LED light fixtures, more shopping space and iPad kiosks to check product inventory and look at wine and food pairings.

The criteria for where to build a new store or which stores to remodel involve a number of variables, Mollica said, including population trends, traffic counts, and proximity to other retailers and major highways.

"What we're doing is recognizing that there's competition on all sides," Powers said. "That's why the commission is taking a very strategic approach in terms of renovating its brick and mortar locations and laying the foundation to sell wine and spirits in other ways." 🗨️

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Preserving the Granite State

\$3.5 million for natural and historical projects

The New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program has announced the 33 natural and historic resource projects that will receive \$3.5 million in grant funding. Including everything from \$100,000 to permanently protect the 133-acre Koerber Family Forest in Dunbarton to \$12,250 earmarked for repairs to Bow's circa 1832 Crossroads Community Church, the 2019 award funds cover projects in all 10 Granite State counties and correspond with LCHIP's mandate to help preserve natural, cultural and historical resources that are relevant to the "economy, environment and quality of life in New Hampshire." LCHIP executive director Dijit Taylor spoke about the program, the project selection process and LCHIP's overall mission of preservation.

Q: What is the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program?

LCHIP is a state program that provides matching grants to help communities and nonprofits protect and conserve natural, cultural and historic resources.

How does the matching part of these grants work?

Winners are required to provide at least \$1 for every dollar we give them, and they often provide a lot more than that.

What supplies the funds for these grants?

The funding comes from a \$25 fee that is paid at the Registrant of the Deed in each of the 10 counties of the state. Every time you register a deed, mortgage, mortgage release or plan, you pay that \$25, and that's where our \$3.5 million comes from.

How does LCHIP select the winning projects?

It's very complicated. People submit an extensive application to us that's due each year at the end of June after they attend a workshop about how to do a good job [on the application]. Over the summer, we read and review all of the applications, and go out and do site visits to almost all of them with a group of professional review panelists who help us with the decision making. ... Then there are review panels ... and they each meet for a whole day to compare and evaluate all of the applications. Their comments and evaluations go to our 18-member board of directors, who ... make the final decisions. The challenge this year was that we had over \$7 million in requests for funding and \$3.5 million to give out.

Does the ability of the public to visit and interact with a project have any bearing on the board's process for choosing winners?

Every property that's protected with the help of LCHIP is required to make themselves available to the public. That can mean different things in different situations, but the buildings are, generally, publicly accessible during business hours or on some regular schedule. ... Natural resource projects are required to allow the public to walk on the parcels with limited exceptions.

Can a project receive more than one LCHIP grant?

The types of projects are quite different on the two sides of the program. On the historic

resource side, where we're helping them with historic preservation activities, it's quite frequent for someone that we've helped to come back ... and look for money to do something else to that same building. On the natural resource side, it doesn't generally happen because it's permanent protection that's placed on the property, and once it's done it's done. Sometimes people will come back to request funds for an adjacent parcel.

Is there any sort of common theme that each of this year's 33 winning projects share?

The common theme is the value of the resource, the interest, enthusiasm and skill of the local project proponents and the passion that the project proponent has for their valuable resource.

You mention that the review project involves a lot of traveling around the state — are there any experiences from this year that stand out?

We went to two different farms where a younger generation of farmers is just doing an incredible job. In both cases, we walked around there saying "This feels like I'm in the middle of that movie *The Biggest Little Farm*." And the fact that there were two of those with these dynamic and knowledgeable young farmers was outstanding.

More than most states, I feel like New Hampshire's identity and livelihood are inexorably tied to our natural and historical resources. Do you see LCHIP as playing any role in that?

We really feel that we help protect the things that define the state. That's pretty much what Gov. Sununu said last year at our announcement event; he said, "LCHIP defines the 603."

If an individual or organization is reading this and wants to apply, what should they do?

It starts with a 10-plus-page application that we have on our website of LCHIP.org that explains the whole process. We usually open the grant round in April, the application is due at the end of June and training workshops take place in April and May for people who are interested in applying. New this year, we're doing some training workshops outside of our normal grant round schedule. We just did one over in the southwestern part of the state and we're planning on another one soon, possibly in the southeast.

— Travis R. Morin

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Heavy drinkers?

A new study indicates that the Granite State is among the 10 heaviest-drinking states in the union. In the details of a Nov. 26 news release, QuoteWizard, a division of online finance marketplace LendingTree, reported that New Hampshire was found to have the ninth-highest rate of alcoholic beverage drinkers in the United States over the last five years. Using data from the Centers for Disease Control, QuoteWizard reports that New Hampshire has 7.28 percent prevalence of heavy alcohol consumption, sitting slightly higher than the nationwide average of 6.21 percent of Americans whom the CDC considers to be heavy drinkers.

QOL Score: -1

Comment: *Although New Hampshire ranked higher than the national heavy drinking average, the state rate of DUIs is the 23rd-lowest in the country.*

Kissing season

You and your sweetie can be part of a world record attempt. Anheuser-Busch will attempt to earn the Guinness World Records title for “most couples kissing under the mistletoe (multiple venue)” this weekend. At three locations — the Merrimack Brewery as well as St. Louis, Missouri, and Fort Collins, Colorado — the company will attempt to get more than 900 couples ages 21 and older to take part in the holiday smooching tradition on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., according to a press release.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *According to the press release, “participating couples will be given their own sprig of mistletoe to hold above their heads, and must maintain their holiday kiss for at least five seconds for the record to be broken.” Reserve a spot to be part of the Big Kiss at brewerylights.com.*

Safety in the 603

Two of New Hampshire’s largest cities rank among the safest in the world, according to the results of a new study from WalletHub. According to the personal finance site’s 2019 list of the Safest Cities in America, Nashua broke the top 10 out of 182 cities by coming in at eighth place. Falling somewhat lower but still among the top-ranking locales, Manchester ranked 51st. WalletHub measures all 182 cities across three key dimensions: Home and Community Safety, Natural-Disaster Risk, and Financial Safety. These key dimensions were composed of 41 subcategories, including factors like assaults per capita, law enforcement officials per capita, the unemployment rate and risk level to various natural and manmade disasters.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *Nashua ranked fifth overall in terms of the fewest assaults per capita.*

Refugees welcome in the Granite State

New Hampshire will remain open for business for nonprofit agencies and local authorities looking to resettle refugees in the United States. On Nov. 27, Gov. Chris Sununu issued a notice of consent in response to Presidential Executive Order 13888, which was signed by the Trump administration last September with the intention of giving state and local governments the ability to reject the resettlement of refugees in their respective communities. With Sununu’s signature, each city’s mayor can now decide whether or not they want their municipality to accept refugees being resettled. In a statement, Sununu said his administration will work closely with area agencies to “ensure those who are resettled in New Hampshire have the opportunity to become hardworking members of our local communities.”

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *While this Executive Order impacts where refugees can be resettled, refugees are still entitled to move anywhere in the country after their initial resettlement.*

QOL score: 81

Net change: +2

QOL this week: 83

What’s affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at news@hippypress.com.

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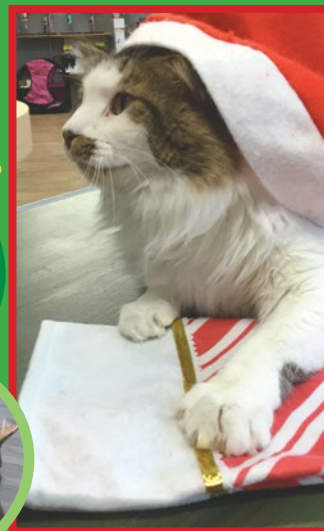
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Hot topics as December arrives



Somehow it's December already. To much going on I guess, so it just snuck up on me. That means there's a lot to talk about as we count down the final four weeks of the how-can-it-be-already second decade of the 21st century. Here's a preview.

I learned this one a long time ago watching how run-of-the-mill **Archie Griffin** became playing for the Bengals after being the only one ever to win back-to-back Heismans while playing at Ohio State in the 1970s. Great offensive lines can make mediocre players look like they're great, and terrible offensive lines can make great players look mediocre. That's why I have said many times in this space: Offensive line is the most underrated thing in all of sports. Anyone want to argue that after what we've seen in Patriot-land this season?

Now that the rematch is over, I had a big mis-remember from a similar incident to Cleveland's **Myles Garrett** conking Steelers QB **Mason Rudolph** on the head with Rudolph's own helmet. It came in the 1985 playoffs when I clearly remembered Oakland linebacker **Matt Millen** doing the same to Patriots GM **Pat Sullivan** during a trash-talking-filled walk-off after the Pats' upset win. But a little research showed Millen actually just hauled off and belted him in the jaw. No helmet involved. That wrecks a great story I've been telling for years.

Four early Celtics thoughts: (1) You can clearly see the offensive improvement in **Jayson Tatum** and **Jaylen Brown**. Particularly at and around the basket. (2) **Brad Wannamaker** is turning into a very reliable third guard. (3) They need reliable scoring help off the bench. (4) I know they're on pace to win 60, but with nine of 14 wins against sub-.500 teams I'm sticking with my 50-ish win prediction.

The smartest thing the Lakers did after

Anthony Davis was dropped in their lap was signing **Rajon Rondo**. I know the shoot first point guard is in vogue, but when you have AD and **LeBron** why would you want a PG looking to shoot instead of giving it to them? Plus, I bet Rondo comes up big as usual in the playoffs.

The year's caustic media sports quote has to be from New York Post baseball writer **Ken Davidoff** recently saying most likely to join (**Derek**) **Jeter** in this year's Hall of Fame class "is his old Red Sox nemesis and general embarrassment to the species **Curt Schilling**."

Having "just" 216 career wins makes Schilling candidacy marginal, but at 11-2 with a 2.23 ERA overall, 4-1 in the Series and having the bloody sock game on the resume, he's the best post-season pitcher ever and that counts triple for me. So, blow-hard or not, he's got my vote.

Speaking of great World Series moments. How about that two-fisted fan who blocked the ball Houston's **Yordan Alvarez** hit into the left field stands during Game 5 with his stomach and chest because catching it would have required dropping one or both of the beers he was holding?

I always thought both were good, solid players but never Hall of Fame material, but with the veterans vote coming up, if **Harold Baines** is in, **Dwight Evans** should be too. Baines was the better overall hitter — average (.289 -.272), hits (2,866-2,460), RBI (1,628-1,384) — but the power numbers were nearly identical and Dewey had him in runs (1,299-1,470), walks (1,062-1,391) and OBP (.356-.370). Plus, with eight Gold Gloves not only was Evans the best right fielder of his era, but along with **Roberto Clemente**, **Roger Maris**, **Mookie Betts** and a few others he's in the conversation for best RF ever, while Baines was mostly a DH after turning 30. The cherry on top is Evans was one of the few guys who was better in his 30s than his 20s.

Even with the Patriots not being the most sturdy 10-2 team we've ever seen,

with the 5-6 Eagles dropping like a rock after losing to Miami on the best trick play ever, wonder if (**stay in your**) **Lane Johnson** is still having more fun playing football in Philly than they are at Gillette.

What's most impressive about the Patriots' 20-year run is how all the up and comer "it" teams predicted to pass them by at the top failed to do so. Just mentioned Philly — one SB win and now on the way down. Ditto for the Jaguars, who are 9-19 since the Pats rallied to beat them in the 2017 AFC title game. Anybody seen Denver, **Rex Ryan**, or the Colts lately? In the early days Tennessee, Denver, Indy and Pittsburgh in the AFC and the Rams and Eagles in the NFC were on top. All except the Pennsylvania teams went under .500 for extended times. Even the G-Men, who beat them twice in the SB, have been in the playoffs just once in the last eight years.

How can you be called "America's Team" when you haven't even made it out of the divisional playoff round in 23 years? As **Fran Tarkenton** used to say back in the day, "That's incredible." So how in the name of **Chuck Howley** did Cowboys owner **Jerry Jones** get in the Hall with an inept record like that? Or said another way, how can he be in and **Bob Kraft** not be when his team has been to 10 SBs to JJ's three (which really were **Jimmy Johnson's** doing)? Really? With impeachment in the news, I say forget D.C., they should do it to Jerry in Canton.

Finally, how about that *three-year* ban the Korean Golf Tour gave leading money **Bio Kim** after he gave the bird to a heckler in the gallery? I'm hoping the Shaw's in Hooksett does that to the lady who did the same thing to me in their parking lot the other day. She cuts me off, and I get sign language! And given how quick she was on the draw, I'm pretty certain it wasn't her first rodeo either.

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Turkey Day had football

The Big Story: For some it came after a long rest and for some, like Trinity, it was a three-day turnaround to play in the annual Thanksgiving morning football game. Trinity closed out its state championship winning season with a 35-15 win over St. Thomas Aquinas in the first ever Bishop's Bowl. For Central it was a fourth straight Turkey Day win over Memorial, 14-0, and Nashua South beat rival Nashua North 27-13 in the 16th rendition of the game since Nashua divided its high school into North and South.

Sports 101: The last of Notre Dame's seven Heisman Trophy winners was named winner of the award on this day in 1987. For the ND lovers in the crowd: Who was that winner?

In Case You Missed It: If you skipped town early for the holiday you missed a barn-burner of a basketball game between Saint Anselm and SNHU when they scored a whopping 197 points. It was the highest-scoring game in the history of the storied rivalry. The win went to the Hawks 104-93 in OT after the somehow outscored the Penmen by 11 points (21-10) in the five-minute extra period. Game-high honors went to (the other) **Chris Paul** with 29 points to go along with his game-high 16 rebounds, while mates **Tyler Arbuckle** and **Danny Evans** added 24 and 21. All-

name teamer **Jacari Sanders** had 27 off the bench for the Penmen.

Sports Question of the Week: That we have another recruiting scandal for alleged financial assistance to a top recruit at the University of Memphis basketball program is not surprising. The question we have is, is the law firm arguing against the 12-game NCAA suspension of freshman and likely top NBA pick next spring **James Wiseman** really named **Ballin, Ballin, Fishman, Farest, Farese & Farese**?

Sports 101: Wide receiver/all-purpose return man **Tim Brown** wins the last Heisman Trophy won by a Notre Dame player in 1987, which for distraught ND lovers and the mathematically challenged is a how-can-that-be 31 years ago.

On This Day in Sports – Dec. 5: 1970 – L.A. Ram **Willie Ellison** sets NFL single-game record by running for 247 yards from scrimmage. **1970** – In Canada's heist of the century at the Hockey Hall of Fame bandits make off with the Stanley Cup, Conn Smythe Trophy and Bill Masterton Trophy. **2008** – days from the 40th anniversary of his winning the Heisman Trophy while playing for USC, former NFL running back, broadcaster and actor **O.J. Simpson** is sentenced to 33 years in the can for kidnapping and armed robbery. 🐼

The Numbers

19.7 – team-leading points-per-game average of Central alum **Jaylen LeRoy** for the Plymouth State basketball team, which is also getting major contributions from **Manny Alisandro** (11.8) and **Joe Simpson** (8.2) of Memorial and West respectfully.

33 & 17 – game-high

points and rebounds by **Shannon Ryan** when the women of Saint Anselm and SNHU had a barn-burner of their own won by Ryan and the Hawks 84-83 despite 59 combined points from Penwomen **Gyanna Russell** (30) and **Victoria Dean** (29).

163 – yards rushing and three TDs for **Josh**

Compoh on 21 carries in leading South to the aforementioned 27-13 win over North.

164 – rushing yards and three TDs for **James Thibault** while QB **Pete Alisandro** chipped with 84 more and two TDs as Trinity closed out its terrific season with that 35-14 win over St. Thomas Aquinas. 🐼

Sports Glossary

University of Memphis: A regular in the college basketball recruiting violations game over the years with two of three Final Four appearances vacated for RVs. Including the 2008 national runner-up club over bogus grade issues and someone else likely taking star **Derrick Rose** SAT. The best are from the era of '80s coach **Dana Kirk**, who went to the joint for racketeering charges related to the program.

Chuck Howley: Hall of Fame '60s-'70s Dallas Cowboys linebacker and only Super Bowl MVP from a losing team. That came in the dumpster fire of 1971, won 16-13 in OT on a FG by Baltimore Colts receiver/kicker **Jim O'Brien**.

Dumpster Fire of 1971: Official name, Super Bowl 5. Historically awful game most notable for SB 3 goat (that's lowercase) **Earl Morrall** not blowing it, two years after his four-pick day made the 18-point favorite Colts somehow lose to the Jets in SB3. This time he replaced injured starter **Johnny Unitas**, so he only had time for one pick. But inept Dallas QB **Craig Morton** made him look like the uppercase G-O-A-T during a 12-25, 127-yard, three-pick, 34.1 QB rating day, as Dallas converted once in 13 tries on third down.

Fran Tarkenton Quote: "That's Incredible" tag line and name of horrible 1980s TV show that had to be the inspiration for **David Letterman**'s Stupid Pet Tricks, only with humans. After someone did something really dumb, cohosts Tark and terrible made-for-TV-movie actors **John Davidson** and **Cathy Lee Crosby** would say in unison, "That's incredible. 🐼

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Hear your neighbors sing in this and every season — and how to join in

By Angie Sykeny
 asykeny@hippopress.com

Every week, hundreds of singers in choral groups across southern New Hampshire meet in schools, churches and community centers to practice for their next big performances. There are groups that accept singers of all ages and abilities, as well as auditioned groups for advanced, serious singers, but one thing is true of all the groups: Their members love to sing.

“Anyone can sing. The question is, do you want to sing? And our members really do,” Kathy Crouse, president of the Nashua Choral Society said. “They love music and they love singing and are so excited to show off what they’ve learned.”

Have a listen

Currently, many choral groups are preparing for their holiday concerts happening this month.

Some, like the Nashua Choral Society, are sticking to the classics: Vivaldi’s Magnificat, excerpts from Bach’s Cantata No. 140 and Handel’s Messiah, plus a rendition of Ave Maria by the group’s smaller a cappella chorus.

“We tend to do a lot of classical — Mozart, Beethoven, Bach,” Crouse said. “We branch out a little, but for our Christmas concert especially, we like to do the classics and spirituals — things to get you in the Christmas spirit.”

The Souhegan Valley Choir takes its Christmas concert in a different direction with pop and jazz classics from the 1950s and 1960s.

“Bing Crosby, Louis Armstrong, Harry Simeone — the type of music people would play on their albums while decorating cookies and trees,” director Jennifer Erdody said.

Generally, Souhegan Valley Choir does little classical music and more American standards and Broadway tunes. For its spring concert, Erdody said, they’re thinking of doing a theme like “Hits of Stage and Screen.”

“Our music is very accessible to our audience,” she said. “We feel like the audience

likes to hear different arrangements of songs they know, sprinkled with a few songs they don’t know.”

Other groups, like the Manchester Choral Society, are basing their Christmas shows around a particular theme. For Manchester Choral Society, it’s “A Season of Light,” and includes contemporary classical, including a work by American composer Morten Lauridsen and the debut of a work composed by New York-based composer Michael Bussewitz-Quarm.

“Manchester audiences will be the first to hear this exciting new music,” Manchester Choral Society director Dan Perkins said.

For the instrumentals, choral groups may hire area symphonies or orchestras or recruit a collective of area musicians.

“It gives [the music] a much fuller sound,” Crouse said. “You can sing with just a piano or an organ, but when you sing with an orchestra, it brings everything together to get that sound that you’re looking for.”

New Hampshire also has several barbershop choirs, which consist of one or more quartets or sectionals singing a cappella music in four-part harmonies. One of these choirs is the Concord Coachmen Chorus, a group of around 20 men, which will perform several Christmas concerts featuring everything from classic Christmas carols to more modern pop tunes from the 1950s and 1960s, like “(Everybody’s Waitin’ for) The Man with the Bag.”

“We do some of the really traditional barbershop songs that go back to the 1890s to 1920s, but we also do these nice, classic rock ’n’ roll kinds of things that don’t fit the style, but we make them work [in barbershop style], like ‘My Girl’ and ‘Bye Bye Love,’” Concord Coachmen Chorus membership VP and member Keith Beasley-Topliffe said.

For the audience, Crouse said, a choral concert is an opportunity to “sit back, relax, and let the music fill you.”

“That’s the goal of our concerts,” she said. “To give people a chance to break away from the hustle and bustle and enjoy an hour or two of good music and just enjoy the sounds.”

Behind the scenes

Every choral concert begins with the director choosing the theme and the music. For Erdody and others who choose to do more modern works, that means traveling to yearly “music reading sessions” sponsored by music publishing companies and sifting through dozens of new pieces. Directors may also access new pieces and listen to samples online.

“It’s a really long process to find pieces that are exactly right for my singers,” Erdody said. “I usually start by searching for music based on the theme we’re doing. Then I get a long list and narrow it down from there to decide what pieces flow best together and ... what suits my singers best.”

Perkins said that he, too, establishes a theme first, then works from there, attending many concerts and conventions to “find new and interesting music.”

“I’m always listening and searching for ideas and inspiration,” he said.

There are many factors to consider when choosing the right music, Nashua Choral Society director Dan Roehl said, such as the scope, difficulty, instrumentation, availability and cost of the performance materials.

“My hope is to both indulge and edify our audience,” he said. “To both reward and cultivate their curiosity about classical music ... with well-known favorites [and] with lesser-known hidden gems.”

Most choral groups rehearse for a couple hours once a week. Different directors may take different approaches to their rehearsals, depending on the type of choral group and whether it is a more social, non-auditioned group or a more serious, auditioned or competing group.

The Concord Coachmen Chorus, for example, will often practice in their sectionals first before practicing all together as a group.

Erdody, however, likes to have the whole choir start by singing through the pieces all together a few times to get acquainted with the pieces.

“That helps them get the idea of the sounds in their minds and get comfortable with the pieces,” she said. “Then, in the second rehearsal, [we’ll break up into] sectionals.”

Many choral groups have “section leaders” who help each sectional work on their sections individually. If new singers aren’t sure what section they belong in, the director will work with them to help them discover where their vocal range lies.

Rehearsals typically also entail vocal warm-up exercises and lessons in breathing, diction and dynamics techniques.

“That helps people get into good singing habits,” Erdody said.

“[We incorporate] tips about vocal technique, breathing and musical gesture every step of the way,” Roehl added.

Less experienced singers or singers who don’t know how to read music may find it helpful to sit in on early rehearsals first, just to observe, or to bring home “practice tracks” so that they can practice the music at home.

That may be especially helpful for singers in groups with more experienced singers where the rehearsals are more fast-paced.

“Our rehearsals are ... lively and energetic,” Roehl said. “We begin working on musical nuance even in the early stages of note-learning. ... We often sing in foreign languages, and we take the time to carefully review the pronunciation. ... Given that some of the music we learn can be challenging, some previous experience is helpful, [but] less experienced singers [can] do extra preparation outside of rehearsal in order to feel comfortable with the pace of rehearsals.”

Join the chorus

Whether you’re an experienced singer looking for a more advanced choral experience or a newbie singer just looking to have fun and enjoy fellowship with other singers, there is a choral group for you.

“You just have to be someone who has some time to devote to it and someone who likes to sing,” Beasley-Topliffe said. “You don’t have to have a great voice or lots of training. You can come, sing and just have fun hanging out with the guys every Thursday night.”

If you are new to singing, joining a chorus can also be a way to improve on your music

CONTINUED ON PG 14 ►

What is your background with music and singing?

I got involved with music at a young age. I've been playing the piano since I was about 6 years old and I grew up singing at church. I started band in elementary school, playing the flute. I played instruments and sang throughout high school and college. Once I graduated, I joined local choirs wherever we lived. We moved around a bit with my husband being in the military. I have sung in community choirs in Alaska, Ohio and now with the Manchester Choral Society.



Courtesy photo.

tion does for the surrounding community and youth in the area is a worthy cause. I have enjoyed being a part of that community and educational outreach.

What is your favorite song and/or concert that you have ever done with the chorus?

My favorite concert was probably our spring performance of 2016, "Requiem: Learning to Fall." MCS

often gets the unique opportunity to perform pieces that have never been heard before. This was one of the more profound and emotional performances/experiences that I have had with MCS. The theme of that concert was to promote a sense of unity and peace, to join communities, and to raise awareness for ALS, or Lou Gehrig's disease, a fatal neuromuscular condition. We collaborated with Peggy Johnson and the Yeoman's Fund for the Arts and New Hampshire composer Jonathan Santore that paraphrased Philips Simmons' book *Learning to Fall*, which was a reflection of his experiences with ALS and the art of living. This performance really hit home for so many of our members because one of our own was suffering and has since passed from ALS. He was able to sing his last performance with us during that concert.

Why did you want to join a chorus?

Music has had such a profound impact on my life. My dad has always said that he could tell when I was stressed out because I would sit down at the piano or sing along with my headphones on. Joining a chorus has been a major stress-reliever for me and really serves as a grounding mechanism amongst the chaos of being a busy working mom. Those 2.5 hours every week is a break from reality and a chance to engage and build friendships with others. I live for the "take your breath away" moments when all of our voices come together in harmony. You know, the ones that give you goosebumps or bring tears to your eyes.

Why did you decide on the Manchester Choral Society?

When we moved to New Hampshire in the fall of 2012, I had done some online research of choirs in the area. I sat in on some rehearsals, including the Open Sing for the Manchester Choral Society. I knew that MCS was the chorus I wanted to be in because of the instant connection I made with music director, Dan Perkins. Dan is one of a kind. I really appreciate how he looks for themes and inspiration that come from real, everyday experiences and cultures. He challenges us to be a part of more than just the notes on the page, to really find ties and connections to the music that are meaningful to us.

How about one of your favorite moments as a member?

There are so many wonderful experiences and moments in this chorus, but nothing beats having 65 people sing you "Happy Birthday" in six-part harmony.

What is the most rewarding thing about being part of the chorus?

The most rewarding part of being in the chorus is that it offers a sense of belonging to something bigger than ourselves. Yes, there are personal benefits, there are strong contributions that unite our surrounding communities, but the most rewarding for me are the moments of transcendence that occur that shift our focus from our own narrow view to that of our common humanity. Singing makes us all more optimistic, mindful and resilient.

How long have you been with MCS?

I joined MCS in the spring of 2013.

What part/sectional do you sing?

Soprano.

What has your experience been, being part of the chorus?

I have made so many wonderful friends in my time with MCS and some of those friendships extend outside of rehearsal time. I look forward to my Monday nights because it provides such a break from the everyday routines of work and motherhood. But even beyond the singing aspect, I have served on the board, including president, over the last six years. What this organiza-

Why should someone join?

MCS is like having your own community of like-minded individuals all passionate about singing, all seeking those personal moments. Singing in a chorus is more fun when we are surrounded by friends. You don't have to have the best voice or even sing as a profession to be a part of MCS. We have such a wide demographic of singers in the organization. We have so much fun together, and together we bring wonderful music to our audiences. It is a uniting passion not just for those who sing, but also for those listening. 🗨️

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Nashua Choral Society and the Granite State Choral Society does Mozart last spring. Courtesy photo.

◀ Continued from pg 12

and singing skills. There are also often opportunities to increase your involvement in the chorus by participating in smaller quartets or a cappella groups within the chorus, or to try out for a solo part.

"I have a better understanding now of how to make certain sounds, and it has helped me with my voice a lot," Crouse said.

For Erdody, the fellowship with other members is a big part of joining a chorus. She said that members bring food and enjoy social time during rehearsals, and that many members

have become friends outside of the chorus.

"If someone is sick or doesn't show up, we notice," she said. "Everyone gets to be really good friends."

Roehl said singing in a choir offers a number of proven health benefits, "mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually."

"It relieves stress and anxiety, gives a sense of accomplishment and belonging, and affords members the opportunity to share in experiencing and creating moments of exquisite beauty," he said. "There is nothing quite like it." 🗨️

WHERE TO SEE LOCAL CHORALES PG 16 ▶

Tina Summers, member and section leader of the Souhegan Valley Chorus

What is your background with music and singing?

I grew up singing in church and school choirs and have learned a lot about classical voice and breath control through years of private singing lessons. Before moving to New Hampshire in 2001 from the Boston area, I sang with the Harvard Square Community Chorus, Brookline Chorus, Quincy Choral Society and Tanglewood Festival Chorus during several holiday seasons with the Boston Pops.



Courtesy photo.

passages that are giving any section difficulty. Jenn (director) and Kim (accompanist) are wonderfully patient professionals who are very adept at making musical concepts understandable to a group with varying degrees of experience. There is a feeling of mutual support and working towards a common goal, and you make friends easily within the group.

What is your favorite song and/or concert that you have ever done with the chorus?

The "Uniquely American" concert in the spring of 2012 was a favorite, with several songs that the chorus did really well: "Earth Song" by Frank Ticheli, the folk song "O Shenandoah" and "Bridge Over Troubled Water." A more recent favorite song was from our 2017 holiday concert when my husband joined us on stage to play guitar for "Happy Xmas (War is Over)." I was so proud.

How about one of your favorite moments as a member?

SVC has given me the opportunity to form a quartet with chorus members who have become dear friends. Desperate Measures [the quartet] will be singing "Coventry Carol" at the holiday concert.

What is the most rewarding thing about being part of the chorus?

There is something magical about a group of people weaving their voices together to make beautiful music and share a message or tell a story to the audience.

Why should someone join?

If you can carry a tune and want to sing with a group of new friends, give SVC a try. 🗨️



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The Manchester Choral Society. Courtesy Photo.

Join the chorus

Find a local choral group that fits your voice

Concord Chorale

What it is: An auditioned vocal ensemble for professional and amateur New Hampshire vocalists, performing music ranging from Renaissance to contemporary.

Listen: Next performance is the holiday show "O Sing Joyfully," featuring seasonal pieces and arrangements by Arnesen, Batten, Christopher, Culloton, Finzi, Hayes and Narverud, on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. at South Congregational Church (27 Pleasant St., Concord). Tickets cost \$20 for general admission and \$15 for seniors in advance, and \$25/\$20 at the door.

Join: First, attend an Open Sing. The next one is in January, date TBA, at Concord High School (170 Warren St., Concord). You can sign up for an audition at the Open Sing.

More info: concordchorale.org

Granite Statesmen Barbershop Chorus

What it is: Men's a cappella group and Nashua chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.

Listen: Next performance is the "Christmas Cabaret" with New England Voices in Harmony on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 1 p.m. at Saint Joseph the Worker Church (777 W. Hollis St., Nashua). Tickets cost \$5 to \$20.

Join: Attend three rehearsals to express your interest in joining. Then, you will be given an application for membership. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., at the Nashua Senior Center (70 Temple St., Nashua).

More info: granitestatesmen.org

Manchester Choral Society

What it is: Auditioned community choir for serious choral singers.

Listen: Next performance is "A Season of Light" on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., at First Congregational Church (508 Union St., Manchester). Tickets cost \$20 to \$25.

Join: Complete a registration form and sign up for an audition online. Dues are \$150 annually or \$100 per semester and \$75/\$50 for students.

More info: mcsnh.org

The Concord Coachmen Chorus

What it is: Non-auditioned men's barbershop-style chorus that sings doo-wop, gospel, jazz and pop.

Listen: Next performance is at Christmas in the Village at Suncook United Methodist Church (152 Main St., Pembroke) Sunday, Dec. 8, 3 p.m.

Join: Stop by a rehearsal; they're held on Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m., at Parish Hall at St. John the Baptist Church (10 School St., Allentown)

More info: concordcoachmen.org

Granite State Choral Society

What it is: Non-auditioned chorus performing Broadway tunes, folk songs from around the world and well-known classical works.

Listen: Next performance is a Broadway-themed show happening Saturday, April 25, and Sunday, April 26. More information is TBA.

Join: Spring registration is at the first spring rehearsal on Sunday, Jan. 19, beginning at 3:15 p.m. at the First Church Congregational (63 S. Main St., Rochester). Rehearsals run from 4 to 6:30 p.m. Annual dues are \$100.

More info: gschoralsociety.org

Merrimack Concert Association Chorus

What it is: Musical ensemble open to all ages and abilities.

Listen: Next performance is Saturday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m., at Merrimack High School (38 McElwain St., Merrimack). Tickets cost \$14 for adults, \$12 for seniors 60+ and \$8 for students.

Join: Stop by a rehearsal; they're held on Sunday from 7 to 9 p.m., at John O'Leary Adult Community Center (4 Church St., Merrimack). There is no audition to join. There is a \$60 yearly membership fee, no cost for students.

More info: merrimackconcert.org

Monadnock Chorus

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Listen: Next performance is “Hope for the Holidays: Music from Around the Globe” on Saturday, Dec. 14, and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 4 p.m. at the Peterborough Townhouse (1 Grove St., Peterborough). Tickets \$20; free for students.

Join: Register online. Seasonal membership dues are \$60. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 7 to 9 p.m., at the UCC Church (33 Concord St., Peterborough).

More info: monadnock-chorus.org.

Nashua Choral Society

What it is: Non-auditioned choir presenting classical and contemporary music.

Listen: Next performance is the holiday program “Awake! It’s Christmas!” on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church (216 E. Dunstable Road, Nashua), with an orchestra and organ featuring Vivaldi’s Magnificat, excerpts from Bach’s Cantata No. 140 and Handel’s Messiah, plus caroling with the choir.

Join: The first three rehearsals of each semester are open to prospective singers for free. The next open rehearsals are Mondays, Jan. 6, Jan. 13 and Jan. 20, at 7 p.m., at Nashua Community College (505 Amherst St., Nashua).

More info: nashuachoralsociety.org

New England Voices in Harmony

What it is: Women’s barbershop a cappella chorus

Listen: Next performance is the “Christmas Cabaret” with the Granite Statesmen Barbershop Chorus on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 1 p.m. at Saint Joseph the Worker Church (777 W. Hollis St., Nashua). Tickets cost \$5 to \$20.

Join: If interested, attend a rehearsal. Rehearsals are held weekly on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Nashua Senior Center (70 Temple St., Nashua).

More info: newenglandvoicesinharmony.org

New Hampshire Gay Men’s Chorus

What it is: Auditioned men’s choral group providing opportunities for wholesome social interaction among and presenting a positive image of the gay community in New Hampshire.

Listen: Next performances are the holiday concert series “Amid the Winter’s Snow,” with shows on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Nashua (121 Manchester St., Nashua); Sunday, Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. at

South Church (292 State St., Portsmouth); Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church (79 Clinton St., Concord), and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 4 p.m. at The Derryfield School (2108 River Road, Manchester). Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$17 for seniors 65+ and veterans and free for children age 12 and under.

Join: Membership is open to all men and male-identifying individuals ages 18 and older who are gay or straight and gay-friendly. The next open rehearsals are Tuesdays, Jan. 7 and Jan. 14, from 6:30 to 7 p.m., at First Congregational Church (508 Union St., Manchester).

More info: nhgmc.com

Northern Voices A Cappella

What it is: A women’s a cappella show chorus

Listen: Next performance is at the Made in New England Expo at DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester (700 Elm St., Manchester) on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 2:30 p.m.

Join: Start by visiting a rehearsal. They are held at Holy Family Academy (281 Cartier St., Manchester) on Thursdays from 6:45 to 9:15 p.m. RSVP at meetup.com/northern-voices-ac.

More info: northernvoicesac.org

Portsmouth Pro Musica

What it is: A 60-voice mixed chorus performing sacred and secular works from centuries of choral music

Listen: Next performance is “Christmas Music for Voices and Brass,” featuring pieces from Handel’s Messiah as well as works from noted composers like Heinrich Schutz and John Rutter. The Portsmouth Brass Quartet will join. Performances are Friday, Dec. 13, at 8 p.m. at St. Mary’s Church (25 Chestnut St., Dover), and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m. at North Church Market Square (2 Congress St., Portsmouth). Tickets \$13 for adults and \$11 for students and seniors.

Join: Private auditions are offered as openings occur, and there is a waiting list. Annual dues, if accepted, are \$100 per semester.

More info: portsmouthpromusica.org

Rock Voices

What it is: Non-auditioned rock chorus

Listen: The winter concert season is Jan. 4 through Jan. 12. More information is TBA.

Join: Pre-register online to see where rehearsals are held. The cost to participate for one season is \$260.

More info: rockvoices.com

Rockingham Choral Society

What it is: An auditioned choral group presenting classical and contemporary works, with a focus on featuring members as soloists and small ensemble singers.

Listen: Next performance is the Christmas concert featuring two sacred masterpieces of the baroque, Marc Antoine Charpentier’s Messe de minuit pour Noël and Buxtehude’s Magnificat, with vocal soloists from the choir as well as a guest instrumental ensemble on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Christopher’s Episcopal (187 East Road, Hampstead) and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3:30 p.m. at Christ Church (43 Pine St., Exeter).

Join: Auditions are held during open rehearsals, held the first three weeks of each semester. The next three open rehearsals are on Tuesdays, Jan. 7, Jan. 14, and Jan. 21, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Cooperative Middle School (100 Academic Way, Stratham). Dues are \$50 per semester, waived for high school students.

More info: rockinghamchoral.org

Rhythm of New Hampshire Show Chorus

What it is: A four-part a cappella harmony barbershop-style chorus.

Listen: Next performance is TBA.

Join: First, visit a rehearsal, held every Thursday from 6:45 to 9:30 p.m., at the Marion Gerrish Community Center (39 W. Broadway, Derry).

More info: mhchorus.org

Songweavers

What it is: A women’s community chorus

Listen: Next performance is TBA.

Join: Register online or by calling 228-1196. The cost is \$125 per semester, plus an annual registration fee of \$30, or \$225 for both semesters and includes up to two rehearsals a week.

More info: ccmusicschool.org

Souhegan Valley Chorus

What it is: Non-auditioned choir performing pops to light classics.

Listen: Next performance is the holiday

concert “Sing We Now of Christmas: Music of Harry Simeone, Bing Crosby, and Louis Armstrong” on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. at Souhegan High School (412 Boston Post Road, Amherst). Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors.

Join: Join an open rehearsal on Tuesdays, Jan. 14 and Jan. 21, from 7 to 9 p.m., at Milford Middle School music room (33 Osgood Road, Milford).

More info: souheganvalleychorus.org

Sounds of the Seacoast

What it is: A women’s a cappella barbershop chorus

Listen: Next performance is the annual “Holly Jolly Christmas Cabaret” on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Jarvis Center at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church (40 Andrews Jarvis Drive, Portsmouth). It will feature a number of seasonal favorites, standards and modern tunes. Bring a nonperishable food item for the local food pantry.

Join: Join a rehearsal; they’re held on Mondays from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (22 Fox Run Road, Newington).

More info: soundsoftheseacoast.org

Suncook Valley Chorale

What it is: Non-auditioned community chorus performing classical, pop, Broadway and folk music.

Listen: Next performance is “A Grand Time for Singing” with the New Hampshire Gay Men’s Chorus and the New Hampshire Master Chorale at the Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord) on Sunday, Feb. 23, at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$23.

Join: Register online. Dues \$50 per semester.

More info: svcnh.org

Vocalocity

What it is: Non-auditioned community chorus focused on a fun, relaxed atmosphere.

Listen: Next performance is its 11th annual winter concert “Stormy Weather” on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m. at the Cooperative Middle School (100 Academic Way, Stratham). Tickets cost \$7 for adults and \$5 for kids and seniors 65+.

Join: There is a registration form online.

More info: vocalocitychorus.com

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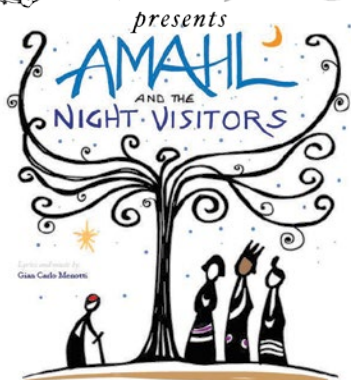
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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT DECEMBER 5 - 11, 2019, AND BEYOND



Saturday, Dec. 7

See bands, floats and, of course, Santa Claus today on Elm Street in downtown Manchester during the 2019 **Manchester Christmas Parade**, which starts at 4 p.m. This year's theme is "Christmas Around the World," according to the organizers at Intown Manchester in our story in last week's paper. Find more about the parade (and many of the events listed here) in our Holiday Guide, where you'll find events running through New Year's Day. Go to hippypress.com and click on "Read the Entire Paper: See Our Flip Book on Issuu," where you'll find complete issues that can be read on any device. Or, from our home page, click on "past issues" to find the PDFs. The holiday guide starts on page 12; the parade story is on page 20. Before the parade, check out the annual **Bedford Ambulatory Surgical Center Santa Claus Shuffle**, which starts at 3 p.m. in Veterans Park. The Shuffle is three miles long; the 100-yard Lil Elf Runs start at 2:30 p.m. Registration is \$30 for adults, \$25 for youth ages 12 to 20, \$10 for kids ages 11 and younger and free for children age 8 and below who would like to participate in the 100-yard Kids Elf Run. See millenniumrunning.com/santa for registration information.

Want more parade? Head to Merrimack on Sunday, Dec 8, at 3 p.m. for the **Merrimack Holiday Parade**, which starts at the Commons Shopping Plaza and runs down Daniel Webster Highway to the center of the town. This year's theme is superheroes. See merrimackparksandrec.org/holiday-happenings.



Thursday, Dec. 5

Shop at Intown Manchester's **Downtown Holiday Market** (which runs for the next three Thursdays as well as the two Saturdays before Christmas). The market features more than 50 local vendors with handmade goods and runs from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Brady Sullivan Plaza (1000 Elm St. in Manchester).

Friday, Dec. 6

Shop the night away at **Intown Concord's Midnight Merriment** tonight starting at 5 p.m. along Main Street in Concord (intownconcord.org). The night will feature music, carolers, the Concord Arts Market's Winter Giftopolis, a S'mores Station, a visit with Santa and more. See our story about the Midnight Merriment on page 19 of the Nov. 28 issue.

Friday, Dec. 6

The **Squirrel Nut Zippers Holiday Caravan** comes to Tupelo Music Hall (10 A St. in Derry; tupelomusichall.com, 668-5588) tonight at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$27 and \$42. Looking for more musical celebration? Tomorrow, Dec. 7, at 8 p.m. it's the **Ugly Sweater Christmas Party** at American Legion (24 Maple St. in Wilton, 654-9996) with music from Bat Magoon Band at this annual event. At Jupiter Hall (89 Hanover St. in Manchester, 289-4661) it's the **Hickory Horned Devils Holiday Concert** at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$15.

Saturday, Dec. 7

Get into the holiday spirit at five seasonally decorated Nashua homes and enjoy a wine tasting at Fulchino Vineyard in Hollis and music and refreshments at the Hunt Community in Nashua as part of the **Friends of Symphony NH's Holiday House Tour** today and tomorrow, Dec. 8, from noon to 4 p.m. both days, according to the website. Tickets cost \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door. See symphonynh.org.

EAT: With your sweetie

Take a break from holiday prep and events with the **couples cooking classes** at The Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Derry) will be Friday, Dec. 6, and Saturday, Dec. 7, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Learn to make potato gnocchi in a vodka cream sauce, arugula and pecorino salad with lemon vinaigrette and chocolate hazelnut mousse for dessert. The cost is \$160 per couple. See culinary-playground.com or call 339-1664.

DRINK: Beer with chocolate

Learn what **beers to pair with fudge** on Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Local Basket (10 Ferry St., Suite 120A in Concord; localbasket.com, 219-0882). The event will feature entries from several local breweries including Lithermans Limited Brewery of Concord, 603 Brewery of Londonderry, Henniker Brewing Co. and more. Wed., Dec. 11, 5 to 7 p.m. Admission is free on a first-come, first-serve basis. VIP entries are \$8 per person and include a take-home package of fudge and 5 percent off in-store purchases for that night.

BE MERRY: With historic holidays

Celebrate Christmas like the Shakers with **Christmas at Canterbury** on Saturday, Dec. 7, and Saturday, Dec. 14, 3 to 8 p.m. at the Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road in Canterbury; shakers.org). The cost is \$20 for adults, \$10 for ages 6 and up and free for kids 5 and under. Or head to Strawberry Banke Museum (14 Hancock St. in Portsmouth; strawberrybanke.org) for its **Candlelight Stroll**, which runs weekends, Saturday, Dec. 7, through Sunday, Dec. 22, from 5 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$12.50 for kids 5 and up, \$60 per family (which covers two adults and two kids ages 5 and up) and free for kids under 5 as well as active-duty military, veterans and their families.

Bluegrass Christmas Concert

Featuring the Chancel Choir at FCC, soloists, and bluegrass instrumentalists

Come and hear your favorite traditional carols as well as Americana selections.

SUNDAY, DEC. 8TH 4 PM

This is a non-ticketed event. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Union Leader's Santa Fund. Handicap accessible ramp available at the Amherst street entrance.

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ARTS

Being Judy

Old-fashioned holiday variety show comes to Manchester

By Angie Sykeny
 asykeny@hippopress.com

Judy Garland makes her big comeback in *Judy's Scary Little Christmas*, opening at the Majestic Theatre Studios in Manchester on Thursday, Dec. 5.

The original musical, co-written and directed by Jim Webber of Manchester, is modeled after a holiday variety show from the 1950s or 1960s and “stars” Judy Garland, Bing Crosby, Liberace, Ethel Merman, Richard Nixon, Lillian Hellman and Joan Crawford. The show takes a “dark and edgy turn,” Webber said, when an unexpected guest joins the party and forces the celebrities to face “the lies behind their legends.”

“It has elements of *A Christmas Carol* and *The Twilight Zone*,” Webber said. “It becomes metaphysical and has to do with the afterlife and with people’s personal redemption and people confronting their issues during the holiday season.”

In the musical, the audience itself plays the participatory part of the live studio audience for the television special.

“There are even ‘Laugh’ and ‘Applause’ signs when the celebrities come on, like there would be for an audience at a real TV studio,” Webber said. “It’s an intimate, fun experience for the audience, because it’s like they are in on the joke.”

Webber said that while he was not a “big fan of Judy Garland and these people, per se,” the musical is an “affectionate tribute”



Sheree Owens stars as Judy Garland. Photo by Michael von Redlich. Courtesy photo.

to them.

“They were all enormously talented artists, politicians, writers, and they contributed to our lives,” he said. “They weren’t perfect people, but I think it sends a nice message for the holidays that you don’t have to be perfect, you just have to show up and face the truth about your life.”

No auditions were held to cast the show, but rather Webber invited actors that he has been in contact with over the years

whom he thought would suit the roles. For the part of Judy Garland, that actor was Sheree Owens of Concord.

“Jim asked me last summer if it was a project I would be interested in, and it sounded fun and unique, so I said, absolutely,” Owens said. “Plus, I had an idea of what other actors might be involved and knew it would be a marvelous cast.”

Owens, who stands at around 5’0” (Garland was 4’11”), said she feels honored to

portray such “an incredible performer and person.”

“Even though there were things about [Garland’s] life that were incredibly tragic, she never gave up,” she said. “She was one of the greatest of all time, and through my research, the more I learned, the more I admired and respected her and her immense talent, and her sincere love for her children.”

This is the first production in which Owens has played a nonfictional person, she said, so preparing for the role required some outside research. Owens, for example, listened to Garland’s CDs and watched YouTube videos and DVDs of Garland’s films and the short-lived *Judy Garland Show*.

“It’s been hard to find the balance between taking on her mannerisms and unique way of speaking or singing and what my voice can actually do, all while being careful not to slip into caricature,” Owens said. “Judy and her celebrity guests are real people with real histories.”

Judy’s Scary Little Christmas

Where: Majestic Theatre Studios, 880 Page St., Manchester

When: Thursday, Dec. 5, and Friday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$20 adults, \$15 seniors 65+

Visit: majestictheatre.net

22 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

Theater

Productions

- **ANNIE** The Ogunquit Playhouse presents. The Music Hall Historic Theatre (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth) Nov. 27 through Dec. 22. See website for showtimes. Tickets cost \$45 to \$99. Visit themusichall.org.
- **THE NUTCRACKER** at on Wed., Dec. 4, at 10 a.m. and noon; Thurs., Dec. 5, and Fri., Dec. 6, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 7, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sun., Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$24 to \$28. Visit rochesteroperahouse.com.
- **THE NUTCRACKER** Sole City Dance presents. Rochester Opera House (31 Wakefield St., Rochester). Wed., Dec. 4, 10 a.m. and noon; Thurs., Dec. 5, and Fri., Dec. 6, 7 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 7, at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 8, at 2 p.m.
- **A CHRISTMAS CAROL: A LIVE RADIO PLAY** The Wind-

- ham Actors Guild produces, on Thursday, Dec. 5, and Friday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m., at Searles School (3 Chapel Road, Windham). Tickets cost \$12.50 for adults and \$10.50 for children and seniors. Visit windhamactorsguild.com.
- **A TUNA CHRISTMAS** The Peterborough Players (55 Hadley Road, Peterborough) present a holiday comedy. Dec. 5 through Dec. 15. See website for showtimes. Tickets cost \$43. Visit peterboroughplayers.org.
- **HERE COMES MR. DICKENS!** Gerald Charles Dickens, the great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens, presents the story. Nashua Senior Center (70 Temple St., Nashua). Fri., Dec. 6, at 12:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$18. Visit fortinage.com.
- **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** Ger-

23 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

- ald Charles Dickens, the great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens, will perform a one-man show on Friday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. at Nashua Community College (505 Amherst St., Nashua). Tickets \$30. Visit fortinage.com.
- **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** Hatbox Theatre (270 Loudon Road, Concord) presents Dec. 6 through Dec. 15. Showtimes are Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m., plus a Saturday matinee on Dec. 7 at 2 p.m., and a Thursday show on Dec. 12 at 12:30 p.m. Tickets \$18 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors. Visit hatboxnh.com.
- **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** The Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester) presents A Dec. 6 through Dec. 22. Showtimes are Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at noon and 5 p.m., with additional shows on Thursday, Dec. 12, and

- Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 to \$46. Visit palace-theatre.org.
- **AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS** The Manchester Community Theatre Players present AT St. Catherine Church (207 Hemlock St., Manchester). Fri., Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. and Sat., Dec. 7, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 for students and seniors and \$12 for adults. Visit manchestercommunitytheatre.com.
- **HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR** Concord Dance Academy presents. Sat., Dec. 7, at 1 and 6 p.m. and Sun., Dec. 8, at 1 p.m. Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord) Tickets are \$15. Visit concorddanceacademy.com.
- **A NEW ENGLAND CHRISTMAS** Pontine Theatre (1 Plains Ave., Portsmouth) presents. Fri., Dec. 6, at 7 p.m., Sat., Dec. 7, at 3 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$24 to \$27. Visit pontine.org.

25 Classical

Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

- **THE NUTCRACKER** The alumni of the Eastern Ballet Institute of Concord present on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. at Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord). Tickets cost \$18 to \$26. Visit ccanh.com.
- **THE NUTCRACKER** Portsmouth School of Ballet presents on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 5 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., at Exeter High School auditorium (1 Blue Hawk Drive, Exeter). Visit psb-nh.com.
- **THE NUTCRACKER** Northeastern Ballet Theatre presents on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m., at Dover High School (25 Alumni Drive, Dover), and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m., at the Kingswood Arts Center (396 S. Main St., Wolfeboro). The cost is \$20 for adults, \$17.50 for seniors and children under age 18, and a \$60

- maximum for a family of four. Visit northeasternballet.org.
- **ROCKAPELLA HOLIDAY** Stockbridge Theatre (5 Pinkerton St., Derry). Fri., Dec. 13, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 to \$35. Visit stockbridgetheatre.com.
- **ELF THE MUSICAL** The Majestic Theatre presents at the Derry Opera House (29 W. Broadway, Derry) on Friday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 and 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors 65+ and \$12 for youth age 17 and under. Visit majestictheatre.net.
- **ELF THE MUSICAL** Prescott Park Arts Festival and Exeter Hospital present Dec. 13 through Dec. 22, with showtimes on Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 1 and 7 p.m., and Sunday at 1 p.m. at the Exeter Town Hall (10 Front St., Exeter). Tickets cost \$5 for veterans and military, \$10 for children ages 12

CURTAIN

CALL

Notes from the theater scene

• **All kinds of Christmas Carols:** If you're looking for a more unique take on the *A Christmas Carol* story, check out these upcoming performances.

The Seacoast Repertory Theatre (125 Bow St., Portsmouth) presents *A Christmas Carol The Musical* now through Dec. 21, with showtimes on Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$16 to \$44. Visit seacoastrep.org.

The Windham Actors Guild produces *A Christmas Carol: A Live Radio Play* on Thursday, Dec. 5, and Friday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m., at Searles School (3 Chapel Road, Windham). Tickets cost \$12.50 for adults and \$10.50 for children and seniors. Visit windhamactorsguild.com.

Finally, Gerald Charles Dickens, the great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens, will perform a **one-man show of *A Christmas Carol*** on Friday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. at Nashua Community College (505 Amherst St., Nashua). Tickets cost \$30. Visit fortingage.com.

• **An Americana and bluegrass holiday:** Symphony New Hampshire presents **An Americana Holiday with Act of Congress** on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m., at the Keefe Center for the Arts (117 Elm St., Nashua), and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m., at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College,



The Windham Actors Guild produces *A Christmas Carol: A Live Radio Play*. Courtesy photo.

100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). Tickets cost \$18 to \$52. Visit symphony-nh.org.

First Congregational Church (508 Union St., Manchester) presents its "**Bluegrass Christmas**" concert featuring the Chancel Choir, soloists and bluegrass instrumentalists on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. The show is free. Visit facebook.com/fccmanchester.

• **Holiday hilarity:** The Peterborough Players (55 Hadley Road, Peterborough) present *A Tuna Christmas*, a holiday comedy, Dec. 5 through Dec. 15. Showtimes are on Thursday and Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; and Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 7:30 p.m. The comedy by Ed Howard, Joe Sears and Jason Williams stars Players' favorites Tom Frey and Kraig Swartz, who portray more than 20 different characters in the tiny, tight-knit and irreverent town of Tuna, Texas. Tickets cost \$43. Visit peterboroughplayers.org.

— *Angie Sykeny* 🍷

and under, \$20 for seniors 65+, \$25 for adults, and \$40 for VIP. Visit prescottpark.org.

• **DISNEY'S FROZEN JR.** The Peacock Players present Dec. 13 through Dec. 22, with showtimes on Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 10 a.m., 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15. Visit peacockplayers.org.

• **THE SANTALAND DIARIES** Hatbox Theatre (270 Loudon Road, Concord) presents on Thursday, Dec. 19, and Friday, Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 21, at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 22, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$18 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors. Visit hatboxnh.com.

• **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A LIVE RADIO SHOW** The New Hampshire Theatre Project presents at West End Studio Theatre (959 Islington St., Portsmouth) Dec. 20 through Dec. 29. See website for showtimes. Tickets cost \$30 for adults and \$26

for students, seniors and veterans. Visit nhtheatreproject.org.

Art

Events

• **MADE IN NEW ENGLAND EXPO** Organized by Millyard Communications, this event features a variety of New Hampshire-made farm and food products available, among other regionally made items. Sat., Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown, 700 Elm St., Manchester. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors over 65, \$2 for children ages 2 to 12 and free for children under 2. Tickets are available at the door, cash or check only. Visit eventsnh.com.

In the Galleries

• **"THE SHAKERS AND THE MODERN WORLD: A COLLABORATION WITH CANTERBURY"** Special exhibition.

Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester). Oct. 12 through Feb. 16. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors, \$10 for students, \$5 for youth. Visit currier.org or call 669-6144.

• **ROOM FOR MEMORY** Featuring the work of Heather Morgan. 3S Artspace (319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth). Nov. 22 through Jan. 5, 2020. Visit 3sarts.org.

• **FALL EXHIBITION** The New Hampshire Furniture Masters Association presents. Furniture Masters' Gallery (49 S. Main St., Concord). Now through Dec. 9. Visit furnituremasters.org.

• **SLEIGHBELL STUDIO 2019** Twiggs Gallery (254 King St., Boscawen) presents a curated collection of fine art and crafts affordably priced for holiday gift giving, on view now through Dec. 14. Visit twigsgallery.wordpress.com.

• **FLOOR VAN DE VELDE: VARIATIONS ON COLOR-FIELDS** Features light sculp-

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ARTS

LOCAL — COLOR — NH art world news

• **Holidays on Hanover:** The **Hanover Street Holiday Art Stroll** takes place in Manchester on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 4 to 8 p.m. Take a stroll on and around Hanover Street to see local artists and galleries. Participating locations include Diane Crespo Fine Art Gallery (32 Hanover St.), Silver Sunbeam Studios (83 Hanover St., No. 31), ARGH Gallery (416 Chestnut St.), and the Palace Theatre's Spotlight Room (96 Hanover St.), which will feature artist Kevin Kitner, K. Denis Art Creations, David Cote Art, Turnwood Fine Art and others. Check in at Diane Crespo Fine Art Gallery. Additionally on Hanover Street that day, Studioverne Fine Art Fused Glass and Creative Framing Solutions (81 and 83R Hanover St.) will host their annual **Holiday Open House** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Browse and purchase work by local artisans and make your own fused glass snowman ornament for \$15. There will be refreshments and live music. Visit facebook.com/verneorlosk. Finally, Muse Paintbar (42 Hanover St., Manchester, musepaintbar.com) will host **winter- and holiday-themed paint nights** almost every night throughout December. Costs vary. See website for dates and projects.

• **Open studio:** The Picker Artists Holiday Open Studio Event will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 3 Pine St. in Nashua. Meet the artists in their studios and check out handmade gifts such as stained glass, jewelry, woodworking, quilting, mixed media arts, clothing, fiber arts, photography, photo restoration, specialized printing, fine art and painting (as well as classes and gift certificates), according to the event listing. The event will feature live music in the afternoon and Santa all day, according to the group's Facebook page. See pickerartists.com.

• **Small giving:** Give the gift of small works



Diane Crespo Gallery. Photo by Angie Sykeny.

of art at these upcoming art shows and sales. ArtHub (30 Temple St., Nashua) presents a show, **"Joyful Giving: Big and Small,"** now through Dec. 21, featuring works of art in various media, priced for holiday gift giving. Call 405-698-1951 or visit naaa-arthur.org. The Whitty Gallery at Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center (30 Ash St., Hollis) presents its holiday gift-giving show **"Good Things Come in Small Packages"** now through Dec. 22. The show features unique and affordable small works in various media by local and regional artists. Call 465-9453 or visit wildsalamander.com. The Seacoast Artist Association (130 Water St., Exeter) has a show, **"Big Gifts Come in Small Packages,"** on view now through Dec. 27, with a holiday open house on Friday, Dec. 6, from 4 to 7 p.m. It features small works of art, all priced under \$100 for holiday gift giving. Visit seacoastartist.org. Creative Ventures Gallery (411 Nashua St., Milford) has a holiday show, **"Small Works - Big Impact,"** on view now through December, with small works of art in various media, priced affordably for gift buying. Visit creativeventuresfineart.com or call 672-2500. — Angie Sykeny

tures that explore energy in color. McIninch Fine Art Gallery at Southern New Hampshire University (2500 N. River Road, Manchester). Oct. 31 through Dec. 21. Visit snhu.edu.

• **"JOYFUL GIVING: BIG AND SMALL"** ArtHub (30 Temple St., Nashua) presents a show, now through Dec. 21, featuring works of art in various media, priced for holiday gift giving. Call 405-698-1951 or visit naaa-arthur.org.

• **"GOOD THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES"** The Whitty Gallery at Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center (30 Ash St., Hollis) presents its holiday gift-giving show now through Dec. 22. The show features unique and affordable small works in various media by local

and regional artists. Call 465-9453 or visit wildsalamander.com.

• **BIG GIFTS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES** The Seacoast Artist Association (130 Water St., Exeter) has a show on view now through Dec. 27. It features small works of art, all priced under \$100 for holiday gift giving. Visit seacoastartist.org.

• **SMALL WORKS - BIG IMPACT** Creative Ventures Gallery (411 Nashua St., Milford) has a holiday show on view now through December, with small works of art in various media, priced affordably for gift buying. Visit creativeventuresfineart.com or call 672-2500.

• **BRUCE MCCOLL: NEW PAINTINGS** Labelle Winery in Portsmouth (104 Congress St.).

Now through Jan. 6, 2020. Visit sullivanframing.com.

Openings

• **ROOM FOR MEMORY RECEPTIONS** Featuring the work of Heather Morgan. 3S Artspace (319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth). Fri., Dec. 6, 5 to 8 p.m. Visit 3sarts.org.

• **BIG GIFTS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** The Seacoast Artist Association (130 Water St., Exeter) has a show on view now through Dec. 27. It features small works of art, all priced under \$100 for holiday gift giving. Fri., Dec. 6, 4 to 7 p.m. Visit seacoastartist.org.

Markets & fairs

• **ANNUAL CUP SHOW AND**

HANDMADE MARKETS



Support local artists and do your gift shopping at these arts and crafts markets, going on now.

The Craftworkers' Guild's **Holiday Craft Shop** is open now through Dec. 22, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day at the Oliver Kendall House (5 Meeting-house Road, Bedford). There will be a variety of handmade goods by juried artisans. Visit facebook.com/CraftworkersGuild.

The Concord Arts Market presents its **Holiday Arts Market** every Sunday in December from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Eagle Square, Concord, and its Winter Giftopolis on Friday, Dec. 6, from 6 to 11 p.m. Shop a variety of handmade gifts by local artists and artisans. Visit concordartsmarket.net.

Intown Manchester's **Downtown Holiday Market** will be open at Brady Sullivan Plaza (1000 Elm St., Manchester) on Thursdays, Dec. 5, Dec. 12, and Dec. 19, from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays, Dec. 14 and Dec. 21, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Shop a variety of artwork and crafts by local artisans. Visit intownmanchester.com

New England College Institute of Art and Design (148 Concord St., Manchester) has a **Holiday Maker Fair** on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students, alumni and others will present handmade items. Visit nhia.edu/makerfair.

Craftworkers' Guild's Holiday Craft Shop. Courtesy photo.

SALE. Studio 550 Art Center (550 Elm St., Manchester). Now through Feb. 28. Browse mugs by clay artists from around the country to find the perfect Christmas or Valentine's Day gift. Visit 550arts.com.

• **THE CRAFTWORKERS' GUILD HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOP** More than 60 Guild member artisans and craftspeople will be participating, offering a wide variety of high quality crafts. They'll include seasonal decor, photography, fine art and prints, mixed media, jewelry and more. The shop will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nov. 29 through Dec. 22. Kendall House, Meeting-house Road, Bedford. Visit craftworkersguild.org.

• **INTOWN MANCHESTER'S DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY MARKET** This ongoing downtown craft fair features more than 50 local vendors with handmade goods. Thursdays, Dec. 5, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays, Dec. 14, and Dec. 21, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Brady Sullivan Plaza, 1000 Elm St., Manchester. Free admission. Visit intownmanchester.com/holiday-market.

• **GREAT HOLIDAY SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA** More than 75 juried artisans will offer a variety of products, such as scarves, candles, metal arts, ornaments, specialty foods, jewelry and more. Fri., Dec. 13, 5 to 9 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hampshire Dome, 34 Emerson Road, Milford. Free admission and parking. Visit gneartisan-craftshows.com.

Workshops/classes

• **DIY HOLIDAY GIFT EXTRAVAGANZA** In addition to decorating gift bags, there will be jewelry, felt bookmarks, bath salts, pet toys and more. Wed., Dec. 11, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broad-

way, Derry. Free; registration is required. Visit derrypl.org or call 432-6140.

• **RISOGRAPH 101 PRINT-MAKING WORKSHOP** This three-hour workshop is an introduction to the risograph printing process. Attendees will learn the basics of how the machine works, and leave with their own edition of 20 two-color prints, plus one print each from everyone else in the group. Fri., Dec. 13, 6 to 9 p.m. Directangle Press, Goffstown.

Classical Music Events

• **AN AMERICANA HOLIDAY WITH ACT OF CONGRESS** Symphony New Hampshire presents Sat., Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m., at the Keefe Center for the Arts (117 Elm St., Nashua), and Sun., Dec. 8, at 3 p.m., at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). Tickets cost \$18 to \$52. Visit symphonynh.org.

• **MONT VERNON MESSIAH SING** Mont Vernon Congregational Church (4 S. Main St., Mont Vernon) presents. Sat., Dec. 7, at 6 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. The show is free. See "Messiah Sing - MVCC" on Facebook.

• **O SING JOYFULLY** The Concord Chorale presents its holiday show "O Sing Joyfully," featuring seasonal pieces and arrangements by Arnesen, Batten, Christopher, Culloton, Finzi, Hayes and Narverud, on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. at South Congregational Church (27 Pleasant St., Concord). Tickets cost \$20 for general admission and \$15 for seniors in advance, and \$25/\$20 at the door. Visit concordchorale.org.

• **CHRISTMAS CONCERT** The Rockingham Choral Society presents its Christmas concert featuring two sacred masterpieces of the Baroque, Marc Antoine Charpentier's Messe de minuit pour

Noël and Buxtehude's Magnificat, with vocal soloists from the choir as well as a guest instrumental ensemble on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. at St Christopher's Episcopal (187 East Road, Hampstead) and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3:30 p.m., at Christ Church (43 Pine St., Exeter). Visit rockinghamchoral.org.

• **AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW** The New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus presents its holiday concert series "Amid the Winter's Snow," with shows on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Nashua (121 Manchester St., Nashua); Sunday, Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. at South Church (292 State St., Portsmouth); Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church (79 Clinton St., Concord); and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 4 p.m. at The Derryfield School (2108 River Road, Manchester). Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$17 for seniors 65+ and veterans and free for children age 12 and under. Visit nhgmc.com.

• **AWAKE! IT'S CHRISTMAS!** Nashua Choral Society performs its holiday program, "Awake! It's Christmas!" on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church (216 E. Dunstable Road, Nashua), with an orchestra and organ featuring Vivaldi's Magnificat, excerpts from Bach's Cantata No. 140 and Handel's Messiah, plus caroling with the choir. Visit nashuachoralsociety.org.

• **PEMI CHORAL SOCIETY** The Pemigewasset Choral Society is at the Silver Center for the Arts (17 High St., Plymouth, 535-2787) on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. Admission by donation to the annual concert by beloved singing group known affectionately as "Pemi" by its members. Also Dec. 5 at Gilford Community Church and Dec. 6 at St. Gabriel's Roman Catholic Church, Franklin (both events 7:30 p.m.).

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Have a Starry, Starry Weekend in Hopkinton and Contoocook

By Angie Sykeny
 asykeny@hippopress.com

Hopkinton and Contoocook will be filled with shopping and dining opportunities, art and holiday fun during the 16th annual Starry, Starry Weekend, happening Friday, Dec. 6, through Sunday, Dec. 8.

There will be 25 locations with festivities, including restaurants and shops with special deals and promotions, arts and craft pop-up shops and community special events.

"It's about holiday shopping, of course, but it's also about celebrating Christmas and the holiday season and letting more people know about Contoocook and how cool it is and all the great places we have to eat and shop here," LeeAnne Vance, president of the Contoocook Chamber of Commerce, said.

Vance said the whole community comes together that weekend to offer something special to residents and visitors.

"Pretty much all the stores and restaurants participate, in addition to the community centers and the artists in town," she said. "This is a great venue for them to be able to [get business] right in the town that they live."

Starry, Starry Weekend provides a more relaxing alternative to holiday gift shopping at the malls and big box stores and gives people an opportunity to shop locally alongside their neighbors.

"You don't have to fight all the people at the malls," Vance said. "Everyone is warm and inviting, and you get to see people that you haven't seen all year, and there are lots of hugs."

Even if you don't want to spend money at the shops or restaurants, Vance said, the villages during Starry, Starry Weekend are a magical place to be at Christmastime.



Der Markt at Marklin. Courtesy photo.

"You walk the square, and there's music, there's decorations," she said. "It's all very festive and inviting and gets you in the holiday spirit."

Food and drink

- Lakehouse Tavern (157 Main St., Hopkinton) Bring in a same-day receipt of \$10 or more from one of the participating shops and get 50 percent off an appetizer.

- Gould Hill Orchard/Contoocook Cider Co. (656 Gould Hill Road, Contoocook). The cider room will be open late until 8 p.m. on Friday for cider tasting. Cut your own Christmas tree on Saturday and Sunday.

- Covered Bridge Restaurant (16 Cedar St., Contoocook)

- Everyday Café (14 Maple St., Contoocook). Quick-bite specials, fun drinks for kids and craft cocktails for adults. Gifts from local artisans.

- Dimitri's Pizza (14 Park Ave., Contoocook)

Gift card purchases 10 percent off.

Community events

- Tree lighting and town band concert, Friday, 4 p.m.

- Mr. Vinny and the Toe Jam Puppet Band - Hopkinton Library (61 Houston Drive, Contoocook), Friday, 6 p.m.

- Gingerbread house workshop, Hopkinton Recreation, Saturday. Space is limited. Register at hopkintonrec.com.

- Reading of *The Polar Express*, Depot, Saturday, 6 p.m.

Fine arts and crafts

- The House of Art (846 Main St., Contoocook)

- Hopkinton Historical Society (300 Main St., Hopkinton)

- Annual Art Show & Sale "Last Chance Night," Friday, 5 to 7 p.m.

- Holiday Artist Pop-up (8 Maple St.,

Contoocook)

- Creative Angels Bazaar & Cookie Walk - Contoocook United Methodist Church (25 Maple St., Contoocook), Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Contoocook Artisans 42nd Annual Juried Craft Fair - St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (354 Main St., Hopkinton), Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Shopping Extravaganza, Maple Street School (194 Maple St., Contoocook), Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- Craft Sale, Slusser Center (41 Houston Drive, Contoocook), Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Shopping

- 3 on Main Mercantile (905 Main St., Contoocook)

- Christmas at the Depot (896 Main St., Contoocook)

- Contoocook QuiltWorks (906 Main St., Contoocook)

- Der Markt at Marklin (28 Riverside Drive, Contoocook). Offering candle-making factory tours.

- Indigo Blues & Co. (902 Main St., Contoocook)

- Carpets by Ketty (190 Pine St., Contoocook)

- Ohana Yoga (44 Cedar St., Contoocook)

- Union House Oddities (53 Maple St., Contoocook) 🍷

Starry, Starry Weekend

When: Friday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Hopkinton and Contoocook

Cost: Free admission

Visit: contoocookchamber.com

27 Kiddie pool

Family activities this week.

28 The Gardening Guy

Advice on your outdoors.

29 Treasure Hunt

There's gold in your attic.

30 Car Talk

Ray gives you car advice.

Children & Teens

Children events

• ELF TRAINING PROGRAMS

Elves-in-training will create hats and ornaments, decorate cookies and more. Thursday, Dec. 5; three sessions available: 1 p.m., 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry. Admission free but pre-registration required. Visit derrypl.org or call 431-6140.

• SANTA LAND

This annual event will feature games, arts and crafts, cookie decorating, bounce houses and more. Fri., Dec. 6, 5 to 7:30 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to noon. Gilford Youth Center, 19 Potter Hill Road, Gilford. Admission is free. Visit gilfordyouthcenter.com or call 524-6978.

• AMERICAN GIRL DOLL

TEA PARTY Attendees can bring their dolls for a guided tour of the museum, which will be followed by a tea party with crafts and other refreshments. Sat., Dec. 7, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Millyard Museum, 200 Bedford St., Manchester. Tickets are \$10 and all children must be accompanied by adults. Visit manchesterhistoric.org.

• KIDS' CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL

Kids of all ages can enjoy photos with Santa Claus, carnival games and other activities. Sun., Dec. 15, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Kid's World Indoor Playground of Salem, 288 N. Broadway, Salem. Tickets are \$14.99 general admission. Visit kidsworldsalem.com.

Storytimes

• HOLIDAY STORYTIMES

The story sessions are geared toward kids ages 3 to 6 and also feature sing-along songs and crafts. Mondays, 11:30 a.m., now through Dec. 16. Whipple Free Library, 67 Mont Vernon Road, New Boston. Admission is free but pre-registration is required. Visit whipplefreelibrary.org or call 524-6978.

Clubs

Toastmasters

• CONCORD TOASTMASTERS PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM This open house will include many of the elements of a regular Toastmasters meeting; impromptu speaking, timed

speeches and tips on how to organize a speech. It will showcase the organization that stars in Animal Planet's *North Woods Law*, New Hampshire Fish & Game. Tues., Dec. 10, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. New Hampshire Fish & Game, 11 Hazen Drive, Concord. Visit concord.toastmastersclubs.org.

Crafts

Holiday craft workshops

• DIY HOLIDAY GIFT EXTRAVAGANZA Decorate gift bags or make jewelry, felt bookmarks, bath salts, pet toys and more. Wed., Dec. 11, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry. Free; registration required. Visit derrypl.org or call 432-6140.

Printing workshop

• RISOGRAPH 101 PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP

This three-hour workshop is an introduction to the risograph printing process. Attendees will learn the basics of how the machine works, and leave with their own edition of 20 two-color prints, plus one print each from everyone else in the group. Fri., Dec. 13, 6 to 9 p.m. Directangle Press, 19 Main St., Goffstown. Visit directanglepress.com.

Dance

• FIRST SATURDAY CONTRA

DANCE Featuring Dave Langford calling, with Jeremiah McLane and Eric McDonald. Sat., Dec. 7, 8 p.m. Peterborough Town House, 1 Grove

St., Peterborough. \$10, \$7 for students and seniors. Visit monadnock-folk.org or call 762-0235.

Fairs & Festivals

Expos

• MADE IN NEW ENGLAND

EXPO Features a variety of New Hampshire-made farm and food products available, among other regionally made items. Sat., Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown, 700 Elm St., Manchester. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors over 65, \$2 for children ages 2 to 12 and free for children under 2. Tickets available at the door, cash or check only. Visit eventsnh.com.

KIDDIE

— POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

Holiday fun

From productions of the *Nutcracker* to massive light displays, we've entered the season of wall-to-wall events, many of them geared at kids or an all-ages audience. Find our listing of holiday events in **Hippo's Nov. 28 Holiday Guide issue**. Go to hippopress.com and click on "Read the Entire Paper: See Our Flip Book on Issuu," where you'll find complete issues that can be read on any device. Or, from our home page, click on "past issues" to find the PDFs. The holiday guide starts on page 12.

Meet Santa

There will be many opportunities to meet and get a photo with Santa this weekend:

- **Charmingfare Farm's** (774 High St. in Candia; visitthefarm.com) Santa's Big Party features horse-drawn rides, visits with Santa Claus, sugar cookies, hot cocoa, costumed characters and holiday performers. The event runs weekends at various times, from Saturday, Dec. 7, through Sunday, Dec. 22. Tickets cost \$22 in advance and \$25 at the door. Go online to check available times.

- Santa Claus will visit the **Rodgers Memorial Library** (194 Derry Road, Hudson) on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. to take photos and Christmas wishes from kids. Admission is free. Visit rogerslibrary.org or call 886-6030.

- The **Millyard Museum** (200 Bedford St. in Manchester; manchesterhistoric.org, 622-7531) will hold its annual holiday open house on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., which will feature guest appearances from Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus from 10:30 a.m. to noon. There will also be children's holiday crafts, raffles, old-fashioned board games, cookies and cider, holiday shopping and more. Admission is free.

- For a donation of \$1, kids can get their pictures taken with Santa Claus and printed right away at **Hooksett Public Library's** (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way in Hooksett; hooksettlibrary.org, 485-6092) Santa Party on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will visit the **Londonderry Access Center** (281 Mammoth Road in Londonderry; lactv.com) on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 1 to 3 p.m. Kids can visit with Santa on live TV and get photos; admission is free.

- Enjoy **s'mores with Santa** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the New Boston town common (5 Meetinghouse Hill Road, New Boston). The event will also feature marshmallow-roasting over fire pits, hot chocolate and cider, plus a make your own

ornament station for kids. Visit newbos-tonnh.gov/recreation.

- **Christmas in Litchfield** will run from 5 to 8 p.m. at Roy Memorial Park in Litchfield and feature live performances and local vendors in the Talent Hall, a craft and letter to Santa activity, a snack shack (tacos are mentioned) and make your own Christmas ornaments, according to christmasinlitchfieldnh.com, where you can also find parking information. The tree lighting will start at 7 p.m. with help from Santa Claus, who will light the tree, the website said. The event is cash only.

Trees!

- **Amherst's tree lighting festival** runs Friday, Dec. 6, through Sunday, Dec. 8, and will feature festivities around town, like a German Christmas market, visits with Santa Claus, live music, food and more. The tree lighting itself will be on Friday, Dec. 6, from 6 to 6:30 p.m., at the Village Green across from Amherst Town Hall. See amhersttreelightingfestival.weebly.com for a full schedule of events.

- **New Boston's holiday tree lighting** will be held on the town common on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 6 p.m. (rain/snow date is Dec. 8). There will also be light refreshments and holiday songs. See newbos-tonnh.gov.

- **Windham's holiday tree lighting** will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Town Hall. See windhamnh.gov.

- **Henniker's tree lighting** will be on Saturday, Dec. 7, starting at 4:30 p.m., at Henniker Community School (51 Western Ave.)

- **Lee's tree lighting ceremony** will be on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 4 p.m. at the Lee Triangle on Mast Road. See leenh.org.

- **Merrimack's Christmas tree lighting ceremony** is happening on Sunday, Dec. 8, at Abbie Griffin Park (6 Baboosic Lake Road, Merrimack) at 3:45 p.m. There will be live entertainment, visits with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, refreshments and more. See merrimackparksandrec.org.

And more trees!

- The **Southern New Hampshire Festival of Trees** will feature daily scavenger hunts for children, visits with Santa Claus and more. See the trees Thursday, Dec. 5 and Friday, Dec. 6, from 5 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Sherburne Hall (6 Village Green in Pelham). Admission costs \$5 for adults except on opening night, which is \$1, and is free for kids under age 12. Visit snhfestivaloftrees.pelhamcommunityspirit.org.

- The **Raymond Festival of Trees** runs Friday, Dec. 6, from 3 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at New Life Church (84 Nottingham Road in Raymond). Admission is free, and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there for pictures. See facebook.com/raymondfestivaloftrees or call 231-8772. 🍷

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THIS WEEK'S CRAFT FAIRS



• Join Intown Manchester for the return of its annual **Downtown Holiday Market**, on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., from Dec. 5 through Dec. 19, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Dec. 14 and Dec. 21, at the Brady Sullivan Plaza (1000 Elm St., Manchester). The ongoing downtown craft fair features more than 50 local vendors with handmade goods. Visit intownmanchester.com/holiday-market.

• Don't miss the **Pine Hill Holiday Fair**, happening at Pine Hill at High Mowing School (77 Pine Hill Drive, Wilton). An adults-only shopping event will be held on Friday, Dec. 6, with live music, desserts and handcrafted gifts, followed by a day-long family-friendly fair on Saturday, Dec. 7, with food stations, a cake walk and performances from the Flying Gravity Circus. Visit pinehill.org/holidayfair.

• Join First Baptist Church (121 Manchester St., Nashua) for its **Olde-Fashioned Christmas Fair**, happening on Friday, Dec. 6, from 3 to 5 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be a make-your-own cocoa bar, a penny raffle, a 50/50 raffle, visits with Santa Claus, a Christmas cookie walk and more. Visit fbcnashua.org or call 882-4512.

• Arlington Street United Methodist Church (63 Arlington St., Nashua) will host its annual **Holly Town Fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will feature handcrafted items by local vendors, plus baked goods, canned goods, candy, a cookie walk and a soup and sandwich lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit asumc.net.

• The GFWC Hudson Junior Women's Club is hosting a **craft fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Hudson Memorial School (1 Memorial Drive). Visit facebook.com/GFWCHWC.

• St. Patrick's Parish (12 Main St., Pelham) will host its annual **Christmas craft fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. In addition to local craft vendors, there will be a homemade baked goods table, a coloring contest and raffles. Call the church office at 635-3525 for details.

• Join the Amherst Lions Club for its 39th annual **craft fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Amherst Middle School (14 Cross St.). The annual event will feature more than 100 crafters, plus a silent auction and food for sale. Visit e-clubhouse.org/sites/amherstnh/page-7.php.

• The **Brookstone Holiday Fair**, happening at Brookstone Park (14 Route 111, Derry) on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., will feature local crafters and artists, photo opportunities with Santa Claus, a cookie decoration and a hot cocoa bar. Visit brookstone-park.com.

• The annual **holiday craft fair** at Unitarian Universalist Congregation (20 Elm St., Milford) on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., will feature handcrafted gifts, ornaments, jewelry, baked goods and more. Visit uucm.org.

• There will be a **holiday craft fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the cafeteria of Nashua High School South (36 Riverside St.). There will be homemade crafts, local vendors, raffles and more. Visit nashuasouthathletics.com.

• The 38th annual **Holiday Craft Fair and Family Festival** is happening on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Thorntons Ferry Elementary School (134 Camp Sargent, Merrimack). There will be local crafts, a cake walk, raffles, silent auction items and photo opportunities with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus. Visit pttf-events.com.

• The **Greenland Christmas Fair**, to be held on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Greenland Parish House (44 Post Road), will feature crafts, a cookie walk, visits with Santa Claus, children's activities, a luncheon with soups and sandwiches, a silent auction and more. Visit communitychurchofgreenland.org or call 436-8336.

• The **New Castle village Christmas fair**, happening on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the New Castle Recreation Building (301 Wentworth Road), will feature unique crafts, many with a nautical theme, including ornaments, mittens, sea glass artwork and more. There will also be gift baskets, a bake sale and a heritage treasures table. Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will be visiting from the North Pole from 10 a.m. to noon. Call 373-8088 for more details.

• The annual **Christmas in Strafford Craft Fair** will take place on Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Dozens of crafters sell their handmade items at various homes and other locations across town. Visit christmasinstraftford.com to access a map.

• The Somersworth Festival Association is hosting its 27th annual **holiday craft fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Somersworth High School (11 Memorial Drive). The fair will feature more than 150 crafters, plus food for sale. Visit nhfestivals.org.

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE THE GARDENING GUY

In praise of Christmas trees

Spruce up your home, then try planting

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

I know people who say we shouldn't be cutting down trees just to brighten our homes for the holidays. Trees are, after all, sequestering carbon and making our environment cleaner, greener, and all that. I disagree and will cut a fresh tree from my neighborhood tree farmer. I consider Christmas trees a crop like corn: planted, then harvested and then more are planted the next year.

If you want to have a live tree inside the house and plant it outside afterward, you can. I've never done it, but I've talked to people who have. Here's what I've learned.

First know that chances of survival are only 50-50 or thereabouts. Planting a tree in New England in January is not easy. For starters, the ground will probably be frozen. And keeping a tree hydrated and happy in the house is a challenge, even for an attentive tree steward. But let's see how you can improve your odds.

Want success? Think small. A six-foot tree will have a big, heavy rootball, and will be harder to move and harder to plant. Think three to four feet tall, maximum, and even smaller if you can. The best? A tabletop tree.

Buy a fir or spruce that has been grown in a plastic container, not one that is recently dug up or wrapped in burlap. Place the tree in the coolest part of the house — and never near a radiator or woodstove.

I suggest that you think where the tree will be planted after the holidays before you buy one. Too many times I've seen a huge blue spruce towering over a nice little ranch house, blocking out the sun from the big picture window. Why? Because the tree was small and cute when the owner of the house bought it, and he never thought about its ultimate size.

Balsam fir is one of the classic Christmas trees. In the wild it will grow to be 45 to 75 feet tall with a spread of 20 to 25 feet. This is not the tree to place close to the house. There are a few cultivars that are supposed to stay small, but mostly such trees just grow slower than the standard varieties. In 40 years, a dwarf may no longer be a dwarf.

Blue spruce is another good-sized tree in the wild, 30 to 60 feet tall with a spread of 20 to 30 feet. There are spruce that stay small, I have read. Blue Kiss is one that, after 40 years growing in Ohio, is reported to be only 8 feet tall and 10 feet wide. But that's still enough to block most windows. So choose the location well. Fat Albert is one that is designed to stay low and wide.

One thing you could do to keep the ground from freezing solid would be to buy a bale of hay or straw now and spread a thick layer of it over the soil at the site where you will plant your tree to serve as insulation. Between now and January it is likely we will have some



Think small when you select a living tree. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

very cold days. And unless we have a thick layer of snow, the top few inches of soil can be frozen solid by the time you want to plant your tree outdoors. Yes, you can break up frozen soil with a pick ax, but do you want to? Or you can dig the hole when you buy your tree.

I would also buy a few bags of topsoil now and store them in a warm basement. Then if the soil is frozen when it's time to plant, and you hack out a hole, you can backfill the hole with soil that is not in frozen chunks. You will want some bark mulch or wood chips to spread over the soil once the tree is planted, too.

Instead of keeping a live tree in the house for a month, the way many of us do with cut trees, think about having it indoors for just a week or 10 days. That will reduce the stress on the tree considerably. Keep the soil lightly moist, but not soggy.

When the time comes to plant your tree, be sure that you dig the hole the appropriate depth. Never plant a tree in a hole that is deeper than necessary. Look for the trunk flare, that part of the tree that would be above ground if growing in the wild.

Keep the trunk flare above ground and do not cover it with bark mulch. To do so is to consign your tree to an early death. The bark will rot if covered with soil or mulch, and the tree will decline in six to 10 years. Many trees come in the pot with the trunk flare covered with soil, so you may have to expose it when you plant. And don't forget to water your tree after you plant it, even if it is below freezing outdoors.

One nice thing about buying a cut tree that reaches the 10-foot ceiling in my house is this: after the holidays I will cut off all the branches and use them to provide some protection for less hardy plants that might be harmed by cold winter winds. I will layer them over perennials that are "iffy" in my climate, or use them to protect roses or other shrubs that might be damaged by the cold.

So go ahead and buy a live tree for the house if you wish, but please don't hold your nurseryman responsible if your tree doesn't survive the winter.

Henry is the author of four gardening books. You may reach him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net.



Dear Donna,
 We were cleaning out my mom's home and came across this AM radio. We put batteries in it and it worked — sounded so 1960s! Does it have any value?
 Joann from Allenstown

Dear Joann,
 The history of Arvin radios goes back to the late 1920s, even though you are right, yours is from the 1960s era (you can tell by the Arvin mark in red and that it is a transistor radio).

easily fit into a modern decor room. And the fact that it is working is a bonus.

Donna Welch has spent more than 30 years in the antiques and collectibles field, appraising and instructing, and recently closed the physical location of From Out Of The Woods Antique Center (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com) but is still doing some buying and selling. She is a member of The New Hampshire Antiques Dealer Association. If you have questions about an antique or collectible send a clear photo and information to Donna at footwdw@aol.com, or call her at 391-6550 or 624-8668.

Arvin Industries was located in Columbus, Indiana. The history of them is an interesting one and many of the radios from the 1940s to 1950s can bring some high values. If you're really interested, you can do more research, just to read some fun facts and to see some of the wild radios they produced.

Your radio would end up in the \$50 range since it is working. It's tough to say what a collector would pay so sometimes it could be lower or a bit higher. Today your radio could

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Workshops & seminars

- **ALZHEIMER'S & EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES** Presenter Charlie Zoeller will talk about how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer's Disease, as well as how to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia. Mon., Dec. 9, 6:30 p.m. Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry. Free. Visit derrypl.org or call 432-6140.
- **CELESTIAL SOUND BATH & FULL MOON MEDITATION** Thurs., Dec. 12, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Moth & Moon Studio, 173 S. River Road, Suite 4, Bedford. \$25. Visit higherheartshaling.com.
- **BREATHWORK MEDITATION WORKSHOP** Mon., Dec. 16, 7 to 9 p.m. Moth & Moon Studio, 173 S. River Road, Suite 4, Bedford. \$25. Visit higherheartshaling.com.

Misc
Holiday events

- **SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE FESTIVAL OF TREES** Trees, miniature trees and wreaths will be raffled off. There will be a variety of entertainment throughout the festival, including daily scavenger hunts for children, visits with Santa Claus and more. Thurs., Dec. 5, and Fri., Dec. 6, from 5 to 9 p.m., and Sat., Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sherburne Hall, 6 Village Green, Pelham. Admission is \$5 for adults except on opening night, which is \$1, and is free for kids under age 12. Visit snhfestivaloftrees.pelhamcommunityspirit.org.
- **LACONIA CHRISTMAS VILLAGE** Crafts, visits with Santa Claus, North Pole decorations and

- more. Thurs., Dec. 5, and Fri., Dec. 6, from 6 to 8 p.m., and on Sat., Dec. 7, and Sun., Dec. 8, from 2 to 5 p.m. 306 Union Ave., Laconia. Visit laconiachristmasvillage.org.
- **RAYMOND FESTIVAL OF TREES** Fri., Dec. 6, 3 to 8 p.m., Sat., Dec. 7, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 8, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. New Life Church, 84 Nottingham Road, Raymond. Admission free; Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there for pictures. Visit facebook.com/ramond-festivaloftrees or call 231-8772.
- **STARRY, STARRY WEEK-END** Returning to downtown Contoocook for the 16th year, the event features more than 20 holiday shopping destinations around town. Fri., Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat., Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit contoocookchamber.com.
- **INTOWN CONCORD'S MIDNIGHT MERRIMENT** This community event will feature downtown shopping opportunities, children's activities, live entertainment and more. Fri., Dec. 6, 5 p.m. Main Street, downtown Concord. Visit intownconcord.org or call 226-2150.
- **WILMOT LADIES AID SOCIETY COOKIE WALK** The annual cookie walk will be held as part of the Wilmot Community Association's holiday craft fair. Sat., Dec. 7, 9 a.m. New London Outing Club's indoor center, 114 Cougar Court, New London. Visit wilmotwca.org.
- **LIGHTS ON THE HILL** Enjoy hundreds of luminaries and activities happening in historic 19th century buildings, from the corner of Route 27 (High Street) and South Road in Candia. Other features include performances from the

Concord Coachmen Chorus and the Granite State Cloggers. Sat., Dec. 14, 2 to 8 p.m. Visit facebook.com/lightsonthehillnh or call 483-0506.

• **CHRISTMAS AT CANTERBURY** Each event is an opportunity to experience what Christmas was like during the era of the Shakers, with holiday-inspired craft making, a visit with Father Christmas, a toy train display, hot cider, Christmas carols and more. Sat., Dec. 7, and Sat., Dec. 14, 3 to 8 p.m. Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker Road, Canterbury. The cost is \$20 for adults, \$10 for children and teens ages 6 and up and free for children ages 5 and under. Shaker Village members receive a half-off discount. Visit shakers.org.

Nature & Gardening
Nature hikes & walks

• **FULL MOON NIGHT HIKE** Beaver Brook Association naturalists will lead this full moon night hike or snowshoe around the trails. Dressing in layers is recommended. Attendees will return to Maple Hill Farm for warm beverages and cookies. Sat., Dec. 7, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Beaver Brook Association, 117 Ridge Road, Hollis. \$15 per person; \$13.50 for BBA members. Visit beaverbrook.org to register.

Sports & Recreation
Personal recreation

• **5TH ANNUAL FANTASTIC FAMILY FRIENDS FITNESS FEST** This friendly competition is available for all ability levels to participate in, all to raise money for the Make A Wish Foundation. Sat., Dec. 7, 8:30 to 11 a.m. CrossFit Amoskeag, 21 Commerce Park N, Bedford. \$50 recommended donation. Visit crossfitamoskeag.com.

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Covering the nuts and bolts of lug nuts



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:
My problem is that my lug nuts have some kind of cover on them. And the covers are turning instead of the lug nuts themselves. How do I get the lug nuts off?
— Sidney

exposed? Or do you want to spend the money to replace them with new, chrome-covered lug nuts?

The downside of leaving them exposed is that eventually they'll rust and corrode and be hard to remove. The other downside is that your lug wrench will no longer work, so you'll have to buy a new one that fits your pared down lug nuts and toss it in the trunk.

But if the car is 15 years old, and you're not sure how long it's going to last, leaving the lug nuts exposed might be a reasonable choice.

You might be unpleasantly surprised to see how much a new set of chromed lug nuts costs. If you get them from the dealer, you could easily spend between \$5 and \$25 a nut depending on the car. And you need 20 of them.

You might find some at parts shops or online for about half that. But it's still a lot to pay for something that really should last the life of the car — but doesn't.

Good luck with these monumental decisions, Sidney.

Dear Car Talk:

Can you tell me why tire sizes are designated as they are?

If I understand correctly, we have metric, English and a ratio. Like, a "235-75R15" tire is 235 millimeters wide, has a 15-inch hole

in the middle for the wheel, and the sidewall height is 75 percent of the tire's width.

Can you explain the rationale behind all these different measurement systems? It seems like a Brit, an American and a statistician walked into a bar ... — John

Great question, John. And not an easy one to answer definitively.

The general answer is that the U.S. has stubbornly held onto its beloved feet and inches while the rest of the world has been trying to nudge us into meters and millimeters. And because that nudging has been only partly successful, we've ended up with a mish-mosh. That's the technical term for it.

One key fact is that the U.S. has traditionally been a dominant world market for tires. We have a lot of people, and have always had a lot of cars. So, the U.S. Department of Transportation got to set the original nomenclature for tires. That's why, until the 1960s, the wheel size was in inches, the tread width was in inches and there was no sidewall height information (the percentage known as the "aspect ratio"). Back then all tires had the same aspect ratio, which was 90.

But then, technologically superior radial tires were invented in Europe, and the Europeans wanted to sell their tires in the huge U.S. market. And since the only legal require-

ment for selling tires in the U.S. was that the wheel size be stated in inches (because consumers didn't care back then how wide a tire was), the Europeans just had to change that one number on their tires, and bingo! They had access to the world's largest tire market at the time.

That's when you started seeing radial tires with their widths listed in millimeters, because that's mandated by the Treaty of Versailles. Or maybe it's the Geneva Convention.

Of course, eventually, radial tires were manufactured here, too, and then U.S. tire makers wanted to sell U.S. tires in Europe, so they also adopted the millimeter rating for tread width.

Radial technology also allowed for wider tires and shorter sidewalls. That's when you started seeing aspect ratios on tires. And I'm guessing that, at some point, the U.S. and the U.K. were such dominant car markets that the European manufacturers just said "OK, Uncle!" and started using inches for wheel size in Europe, too. Because if you check out tires sold in Europe, the vast majority have the same nomenclature that we use here.

So, it's really a story of the mashup of globalization. And prepare yourself, John. In 50 years, you'll probably see Chinese characters on the side of your Goodyear.

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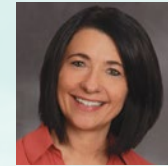
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ON THE JOB

KRYSTAL VIGUE CLINICAL LAB ASSISTANT

Krystal Vigue of Concord is a clinical lab assistant at Elliot Hospital in Manchester.

Q: *Can you explain what your current job is?*

I work as a clinical lab assistant. I receive, register and order testing on different kinds of specimens that come into the hospital.

How long have you worked there?

I have worked here for a little over two years.

How did you get interested in this field?

I started out working as a massage therapist and I've always been interested in the medical field. The human body is fascinating. My grandmother was a nurse for a long time. I looked into different jobs that are in the medical field and went from there. I went to school [to be] a patient care technician, which included phlebotomy, and I ended up

loving it. When I applied at the hospital they had this job open and I fell in love with it.

What kind of education or training did you need for this job?

I needed at least a high school diploma and they preferred training in phlebotomy as well. [Elliot] trains on site as well to make sure you are familiar with the ordering system and hospital policies. They really took the time to train on the job to expand on what I already knew. But if I came in with no experience, they would have treated me the same. It really helped being fresh out of school — not a lot of places give that opportunity

How did you find your current job?

I applied to a few other hospitals, but they required more experience. One of my teach-

ers actually mentioned [Elliot] to me, as she worked there, and how they're willing to train fresh out of school with limited to no experience. After I was done working as a [licensed nursing assistant] I applied to the hospital, they gave me an interview and I got the job.

What's the best piece of work-related advice anyone's ever given you?

Take it one specimen at a time and always ask questions even if it seems like a stupid question. It can get stressful with the volume we see, but thankfully everyone I work with works as a team and we have fun with it. Everyone asks questions, even people who have been here for years.

What do you wish you'd known at the beginning of your career?

How much and how fast things change in the field. Since I've been here, we've had upgraded machines, changes to test codes and updates to our computer software. Everything changes so quickly and there's also so much to learn, and you can think you know it all but, realistically, you can't. I worked at other jobs where things either didn't change, or if they did, it wasn't drastic and didn't take much training to learn. There's also so many different jobs in the lab that I wasn't aware of and they all have their own part in the whole work flow of things.



Krystal Vigue

What is your typical at-work uniform?

I typically wear scrubs. While I'm in the lab, I have to wear a lab coat over my scrubs and gloves to protect ourselves while handling the different specimens.

What was the first job you ever had?

My first job ever was working at McDonald's when I was 16, and I also babysat three kids for a neighbor of mine.

— Travis R. Morin 🍌

What are you into right now?

I crochet, do calligraphy, watch a lot of true crime documentaries and listen to true crime podcasts.

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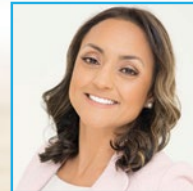


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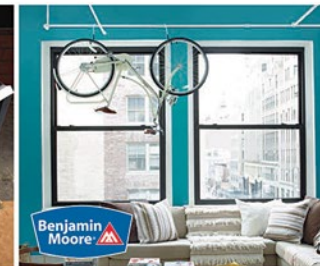
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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Wine wonderland:** New Hampshire Wine Week 2020 is right around the corner, with tickets available now to the 17th annual **Easterseals Winter Wine Spectacular**, happening on Thursday, Jan. 23, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown (700 Elm St.). Acclaimed wine-makers from all over the world come to the Granite State for this expo-style event, which has become the largest gathering of wines in northern New England with more than 1,600 types to taste. In addition, more than 20 local restaurants serve up food options to go with the wines. Tickets to the Grand Tasting are \$65 per person. Tickets for access to even more wines at the Bellman's Cellar Select room are extremely limited and cost \$135 per person. Visit nhwineweek.com.

• **Beer and fudge:** Join Local Basket (10 Ferry St., Suite 120A, Concord) for a **fudge and beer pairing event** on Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 5 to 7 p.m. Attendees will get to vote on the best fudge and beer pairing; beer entries will come from several local breweries, like Lithermans Limited Brewery of Concord, 603 Brewery of Londonderry, Heniker Brewing Co., Hobbs Tavern & Brewing Co. of West Ossipee and others. Admission is free on a first-come, first-served basis. VIP entries are \$8 per person and include a take-home package of fudge and 5 percent off in-store purchases at Local Basket for that night. Visit localbasket.com or call 219-0882.

• **Festive eats:** The next event of **The Winemaker's Kitchen Cooking with Wine class series** at LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst) is happening on Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The theme of this month's class is "Christmas favorites." Participants will enjoy cranberry punch and learn to make bacon pecan cheese logs, herb-roasted potatoes and carrots, maple mustard roasted chicken thigh, and eggnog pudding for dessert. Wine will be paired with each item. General admission is \$25 per person. Visit labellewinerynh.com or call 672-9898.

• **A full-course meal:** The **Jingle Ball Holiday Party** returns to Birch Wood Vineyards (199 Rockingham Road, Derry) on Friday, Dec. 13, from 6 to 11 p.m. The evening will feature a four-course holiday-themed dinner, a cash bar, music and dancing. Courses will include creamy crab bisque with chestnut brown butter; roasted local squash and baby arugula salad with pomegranate, goat cheese, toasted pecans and aged sherry vinaigrette; slow-roasted Angus short rib and grilled jumbo prawns with a root vegetable puree; and gingerbread creme brulee with spiced 40 ▶

FOOD

Gourmet flavors

Plenty for foodies at Made in New England Expo



Made In New England Expo. Photo by Matthew Lomanno Photography.



Made In New England Expo. Photo by Matthew Lomanno Photography.

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

From cooking spices to gourmet snacks and sweets, there will be all kinds of tasty gift-giving opportunities to discover at the annual Made in New England Expo.

The two-day event returns to the DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown for its third year on Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8.

More than 100 exhibitors from New Hampshire and across other New England states will be on hand throughout each day to sell their products, which will include all types of specialty foods, as well as everything from photography and prints to crafts, clothing and toys. The event was conceived a few years ago after the success of the Made in New Hampshire Expo, held every year in March for more than two decades, according to organizer Heidi Copeland, publisher of Business NH magazine and owner of EventsNH.

"I would say around 50 percent of the companies we have are New Hampshire-based, and then the others of course come from places in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont," Copeland said.

As with that event, many of the food booths at this one are following the "try it and buy it" tagline by offering samples to visitors.

Heidi Jo's Jerky, a Dunbarton-based producer of beef jerky and hot sauces, will be there, as well as Earthy Crunchy Snacks of Middleton, Mass., offering vegan chips made with farm fresh kale.

Also at the expo will be ChocolateU, a company out of Quincy, Mass., that offers "hot chocolate balls," or chocolate confections in a variety of flavors from milk and dark to mocha and salted caramel.

"They are balls of chocolate that you drop into hot water or milk and it makes hot chocolate," Copeland said. "They are actually new to the expo this year."

Other food-based newcomers will be Chrismix Candy, a Concord-based company offering sweet and salty chocolate toffees with organic extracts; Back Roads Granola of Brattleboro, Vt., which will have various flavors of granola like dark chocolate pecan and coconut ginger; and CB Stuffers of Swampscott, Mass., offering several flavors of peanut butter cups and chocolate "pizzas."

There is a small overlap of businesses that have appeared at the Made in New Hampshire Expo, so there is a chance you may see a few familiar faces if you have attended that event before.

Thistle's All Natural out of Loudon, for example, will be there to offer samples and jars for sale of its zucchini salsas and some of its new products like sweet and spicy zucchini relishes. Other returning vendors will include Loon Chocolate, a Derry-based producer of small batch bean to bar chocolate, and Cucina Aurora of Salem, which offers all natural herb-infused olive oils, cookie mixes and risotto seasonings.

In recent years, the Made in New Hampshire Expo had also introduced a "Libation Station," or a designated area in the corner of the room for attendees ages 21 and over to sample locally pro-

duced wines, meads and spirits. You won't find that to the same degree at this event, due to liquor regulations among each of the New England states, but a few New Hampshire beverage purveyors like Sap House Meadery of Center Ossipee and Fulchino Vineyard of Hollis will be there to pour samples of their offerings.

In addition to food and drinks, other products you'll find at the expo will include jewelry, clothing like T-shirts and hats, sunglasses, CBD oil, books, photo prints, textiles and some Christmas decorative ideas. Chichester's Live and Let Live Farm will also have a booth where attendees can meet with and pet ponies, rabbits and other rescue animals.

The expo's busiest time, according to Copeland, is typically in the morning on Saturday.

"If you want to come check it out but would like it to be a little mellow, I would say you may want to come after 1 o'clock in the afternoon or so on Saturday," she said, "and then of course, Sunday is the less busy of the two days." 🍷

Made in New England Expo

When: Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown, (Expo Center), 700 Elm St., Manchester

Cost: \$8 admission for adults, \$7 for seniors ages 65 and over, \$2 for children ages 2 to 12 and free for children under 2 (tickets are available at the door, cash or check only)

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Van Otis Chocolates to host candy cane making demos



Candy Cane demo at Van Otis. Courtesy photo.

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By Matt Ingersoll

mingersoll@hippopress.com

If you've ever wondered how candy canes get their shape, color and flavor, you can get an up-close look at the process this weekend at Van Otis Chocolates in Manchester. On Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8, the shop will host live demonstrations of how to make the popular holiday confection by hand in its upstairs kitchen.

This is the second year that the shop has extended the demonstrations from one day to two days, according to Emily Lazzar, sales and customer service manager for Van Otis. Each session lasts about 40 to 45 minutes and will kick off on the hour from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"You get to watch our chocolatiers make them basically from start to finish," Lazzar said. "It's a fun thing for families to do together that doesn't take up the whole day ... and it's also nice to involve the community in the process of making our candy."

Van Otis kitchen staff members will talk about each step and answer questions from attendees on candy cane making. The process involves heating a mixture of sugar, water, corn syrup and different flavor extracts, cooling it down until it has melted enough to become moldable, and then using a big metal hook hanging from the wall to stretch it out. This, Lazzar said,

helps to ensure that all of the candy's flavor is distributed evenly. The stripes are formed by hand-rolling colored pieces into the mixture.

Depending on which session you sign up for, you may get to see the candymakers create different flavors; peppermint is the most common, but Lazzar said they've also made others like blueberry, butter-scotch and cherry. When the candy is finished rolling, you will be given a little piece to make your own shape with — but you have to act fast.

"The candy takes a very short time to harden, so people only have maybe 10 to 15 seconds to stretch it into whatever shape they want," Lazzar said. "Some people like to make them into hearts, or you can just bend the tip like a traditional cane."

Half of the proceeds from the candy cane demonstrations will benefit Easter-seals New Hampshire. A large Santa Claus made of milk chocolate is also going to be raffled off in the store by the end of the weekend. 🍬

Candy cane making demonstrations at Van Otis Chocolates

When: Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8; demonstrations are on the hour from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (visit the website for the most up-to-date availability of each session)

Where: 341 Elm St., Manchester

Cost: \$6 per person; tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite via a link to Van Otis's website

Visit: vanotis.com



Candy Cane demo at Van Otis. Courtesy photo.



TRY THIS AT HOME

Homemade rosemary Parmesan crackers

Did you read the title and think, “Why would you ever make homemade crackers? There are many, many delicious crackers ready for purchase at the store.”

I understand that thinking. In all honesty, about 95 percent of the time, I buy crackers at the store. But there are times when homemade crackers are needed, and that’s where this recipe comes into play. So, let’s talk about the recipe.

This recipe isn’t just about the flavors; there’s the texture as well. When you think about crackers, no matter how yummy they are, you’re expecting something crisp and dry. These homemade crackers have the most unique tender yet crunchy texture. It’s like you made a really, really thin biscuit and baked it until the edges were crisp.

Then you have the flavors of this cracker. Fresh rosemary is essential. It offers such a nice woody essence. Add to that the salty and savory nature of Parmesan, and you have a delicious snack.

If you haven’t fallen in love with the crackers yet, just top them with something that has a hint of sweet. Maybe a teaspoon of goat cheese and a drizzle of honey? Warm brie and raspberry jam? If your palate is anything like mine, the sweet and



Homemade Rosemary Parmesan Crackers. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

savory mix of the two may encourage you to eat all of the crackers.

This recipe makes about four dozen crackers, so do your snack math carefully. If you’re sharing with a few people, you get about a dozen crackers each. That works well. If you’re making these for a bigger crowd, I highly recommend doubling the recipe. You don’t want to discover that you got to enjoy only one or two of these crackers.

Michele Pesula Kuegler has been thinking about food her entire life. Since 2007, the Manchester resident has been sharing these food thoughts and recipes at her blog, Think Tasty. Visit thinktasty.com to find more of her recipes.

Homemade Rosemary Parmesan Crackers

- 1½ cups flour
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- 3 teaspoons finely chopped fresh rosemary
- ¾ cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- ½ cup unsalted butter, chilled
- 4 tablespoons milk

Combine flour, salt, rosemary and Parmesan in the bowl of a food processor; pulse to combine.

Cut butter into tablespoon-sized slices.

Add butter; pulse until mixture resembles coarse meal.

Add 1 tablespoon of milk at a time, pulsing each time to combine.

Process until dough comes together and is well-combined.

Transfer dough to a floured work surface. Shape dough into a log. (I made mine rectangular, about 1-1/4” x 1” x 12”)

Wrap with plastic wrap, and refrigerate for at least 6 hours.

Heat oven to 325 degrees.

Line baking sheet with parchment paper.

Slice chilled log of dough into 1/4”-thick slices.

Place slices on prepared baking sheet, leaving an inch between each.

Bake for 12 minutes.

Flip crackers, and bake for an additional 12 minutes or until crackers are golden brown and firm in the center.

Transfer to baking rack to cool.

Makes 48 crackers.

Food & Drink

Author events

• **MARY ANN ESPOSITO COOKBOOK SIGNING** Sat., Dec. 7, 11 a.m. Tuscan Market, 63 Main St., Salem. Visit tuscanbrands.com.

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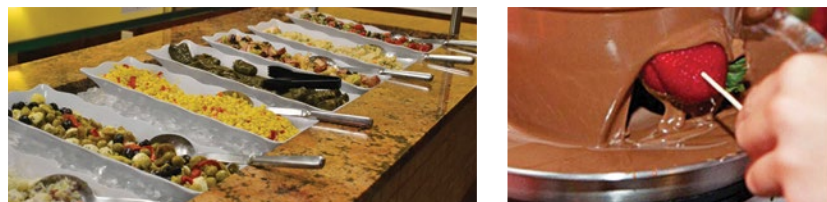
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IN THE KITCHEN

WITH SCOTT PATNODE



Since joining the kitchen staff of New England's Tap House Grille (1292 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 782-5137, taphousenh.com) last year, Chef Scott Patnode of Epping has had opportunities to create all types of unique additions to the menu. Twice a week, he'll get deliveries from Hip Peas Farm (hippeasfarm.com), a second business venture just down the street from the eatery under the same ownership that grows a variety of organic vegetables. A few of New England's Taphouse Grille's menu items feature ingredients sourced directly from the farm, like the Hip Peas Bowl, which has quinoa, rice, beans and greens like kale and spinach. Patnode has also been at the forefront of several special plated dinners at the restaurant, often with the participation of local breweries. A couple of the dinners have been held onsite at the farm as well, utilizing organically grown produce and locally sourced proteins. Before coming to New Hampshire, Patnode worked as a chef in restaurants and hotels in Massachusetts for more than a decade, including at the Fairmont Copley Plaza in Boston.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

I would definitely say a chef's knife ... or a microplane, [which is] a grater.

What would you have for your last meal?

A good chicken Parm with a fresh marinara, rigatoni and fresh basil, [and] either a good barley wine or a juicy IPA.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

I do like Gordo's [Burritos] in Raymond. That place is awesome. I would definitely recommend the burritos carnitas.

What celebrity would you like to see eating at your restaurant?

[Former professional cyclist] George Hincapie would be a cool one, or Bode Miller,

because I like ski racing too.

What is your personal favorite thing you've ever cooked?

The pig roast was really cool, because it was a new experience for me. We've done it twice so far, since I've been here.

What is the biggest food trend in New Hampshire right now?

Eating locally ... and just being aware of where your product comes from. I'd rather spend a little bit more and buy my food local.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

Pancakes with fresh maple syrup.
— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

Homemade black bean spread

Courtesy of chef Scott Patnode of New England's Tap House Grille in Hooksett (great for salads, burgers or sandwiches)

2 cups black beans
1 teaspoon cumin
1 teaspoon chili powder
1 teaspoon raw garlic
2 teaspoons zested lime
½ zested red onion
2 teaspoons cilantro
½ cup salad oil
Salt to taste

Combine all ingredients except salad oil in a food processor or immersion blender and blend until smooth. Slowly add in salad oil and a little bit of water to thin out the black beans. Season with salt.

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 36

maple whip and toasted hazelnut crumble for dessert. Vegetarian substitutes are available for all courses. Advance tickets are \$60 per person (reservations are required). Visit birchwood-vineyards.com or call 965-4359.

• **Colonial tea:** Join the American Independence Museum for one of two **colonial holiday tea tasting** events on either Saturday, Dec. 7, or Saturday, Dec. 14. Seatings are available at either 11 a.m. or at 2 p.m. Attendees can enjoy assorted teas, finger sandwiches, scones, cakes and tarts provided by the Maine-

based caterer For the Love of Food and Drink. Each seating is two hours long and will be held inside the Folsom Tavern (164 Water St., Exeter), which was built in 1775 and where George Washington once visited before he became president. Other features of the events will include making your own colonial crafts like mulling spices and lavender sachets, plus quill pen writing for kids. The cost is \$30 for adults and \$25 for children (prices are reduced by \$5 for museum members). Visit independencemuseum.org. 🍷



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- 4 sprigs fresh rosemary
- 3/4 cup fresh cranberries

Directions:

Steep green tea and allow to cool. When chilled, combine with juice and sparkling water. Pour over ice into four glasses and top with 1 sprig of rosemary and a few cranberries. Enjoy!

Nutritional Information

Amount per serving: Calories 130; Fiber 1 g; Total Fat .5 g; Saturated Fat 0 g; Sodium 25 mg; Protein 0 g; Carbohydrate 32 g

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DRINK

Drink these beers now

A couple stouts, an IPA and a pale ale

By Jeff Mucciarone
food@hippopress.com

I took a peek in my fridge and the organization is interesting to say the least. I feel like normal people have their food organized by type: cold cuts in one spot, condiments in one spot, vegetables and so on.

I suppose we're striving for that too, but it struck me that I have beer all over my fridge. Relax, I don't mean my fridge is full of beer but I do mean that different beers seem to be taking up residence in all corners, rather than approaching any semblance of organization. I've got a couple stouts hanging out in the bottom left, two more imperial IPAs relaxing on the door, a half-missing six-pack of brown ales on the top right, and a couple imperial stouts right next to the milk. Oh, and a random foursome of blueberry ales somewhere in the middle.

I didn't know what to make of it but I did think it was time to review some beers at random.

Meat & Potatoes Dinner Stout by Lord Hobo Brewing Co. (Woburn, Mass.)

To me, this drinks like a Guinness on steroids. It's dry and roasty and rich but it's got more alcohol burn than you'd get from a Guinness. At 7.7-percent ABV, that makes sense; it's a beer with some heft. Still, it isn't super heavy but my wife did remark, "Wow, that's strong." I think she was overreacting, frankly, but yes, it does slap you around a little bit.

On a cold Friday night after a long week, this is a perfectly hearty stout to sip by the fire or with a nice steak dinner.

Velvet Moon Mocha Stout by Mighty Squirrel Brewing Co. (Waltham, Mass.)

OK first, amazing brewery name. Second, amazing beer name. This drinks like velvet: smooth, and rich and full of coffee and chocolate. I don't wait in line for beer but I might wait in line for this. I don't know.

Just a perfect coffee stout — brewed with cocoa nibs and a cold brew coffee blend of Honduran, Nicaraguan and Ethiopian beans. I just don't know how you couldn't like this, with the exception of those terrifying individuals who do not drink coffee. This is a perfect dessert beer, of course, but I would literally drink this any time.



Meat & Potatoes by Lord Hobo Brewing is the perfect Friday evening stout in winter. Courtesy photo.

Radio the Mother-ship Double Dry-Hopped DIPA by Collective Arts Brewing (Waunakee, Wisconsin)

Hello. After drinking a bunch of rich, malty stouts and brown ales in recent weeks, it was wonderful to step back into the world of hops. This unfiltered West Coast style IPA features a hop blend of mosaic, citra and simcoe hops and it is just dynamite — bright and aggressive, bursting with huge citrus and pine notes. But the bitterness is not overwhelming.

This is dangerously easy-drinking, as despite its 8.5-percent ABV, it doesn't

feel that way when you're drinking it. So slow down and relax. This was perfect with a bowl of spicy chili.

Resonation Pale Ale by Great Rhythm Brewing Co. (Portsmouth)

This is just a perfect choice when you want some hops and some bitterness, but not too much of either. It's bright, crisp and flavorful but it's also quite refreshing. This is a nice choice during the holidays when you're looking for something a bit lighter to cut through all the fat. This does that but it still stands on its own. I might just make sure to keep this on hand at all times moving forward.

Jeff Mucciarone is a senior account executive with Montagne Communications, where he provides communications support to the New Hampshire wine and spirits industry.

What's in My Fridge

Unearthed Barrel Aged Stout (2017) by Long Trail Brewing Co. (Bridgewater Corner, Vermont): I recently visited my local Craft Beer Cellar, and the proprietor recommended this brew strongly when he saw me looking through a variety of stout options. He told me this one tastes like a Twix bar. Candidly, it doesn't. But it is delicious, with super rich notes of vanilla, toffee, chocolate and lots and lots of bourbon. This stout is aged in Heaven Hill bourbon barrels so you'd expect the big bourbon flavor but it still isn't overpowering. Sometimes, I feel like barrel-aged beers can be just too much liquor flavor, but this one is just right — extremely smooth and fulfilling. Cheers!

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Index

CDs pg44

• Waterslide, *Flicker* A+

• Sweet Lizzy Project,

Technicolor A

BOOKS pg46

• *Exposure* A

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FILM pg48

• *Knives Out* A

• *Queen & Slim* A-

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Waterslide, *Flicker EP* (Wampus Multimedia)



By rough guesstimate, it's been 14 years since I last talked about any releases from this defiantly indie company, which assuredly isn't a reflection of my trying to manage the flood of stuff that's trashed three of my email boxes over the years. I've been amiss, I'll admit, in not sticking with them from the beginning; label-runner (and this record's driving force) Mark Doyon prefers to avoid being overly commercial, but his roots in well-structured, immediately catchy pop are clear. For this four-

singer — the project's first since 2012 — we have an eclectic but easy dissection: take Dire Straits, Simple Minds, a generous dollop of Luke Temple and a sprig of Depeche Mode and you have this remarkably creative set of Americana-tinged power pop songs, whose binding element is Doyon's phlegmatic, low-slung twang. Opener "Skyglow," with its epic backing vocals and swirling pedal steel, is like the soundtrack to a massive Kansan dust storm, while "Brownout" adds mandolin segues to spaghetti-goth guitar rumblings. Great stuff here. A+ — *Eric W. Saeger*

Sweet Lizzy Project, *Technicolor* (Mono Mundo Recordings)



I hesitate to label this as world music, but this band started out in Cuba, so if they're able to get some traction in the U.S., it's certain that they'll be tagged as such by the tastemakers at South By Southwest and all that stuff. It's a collaboration between Cuban-celebrated singer Lisset Diaz Guevara (the band's titular Lizzy) and guitarist Miguel Alejandro Comas Damas, one of the country's biggest producers. The short version is that they faced something of a glass ceiling in Cuba, and were urged by Mavericks front man Raul Malo to

relocate to Nashville, where they're based now. As for the "not world music" part, this album jumps off with the title track, to which Guevara applies her po-faced Kate Bush-ish voice to churn up sweeping, urgent millennial angst in the style familiar to fans of Arcade Fire, Foals, etc., all making for an above-average hay-loft-indie time, but then — *then* — Damas steps in with an extended wide-screen, ocean-deep lead guitar bit that evokes nothing less than David Gilmour. Keep an eye on this crew for sure. A — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• And so we come to the home-stretch month of 2019, and the wonderful, exciting and possibly even bearable albums that will be released on Dec. 6! And we'll start with the most awesome thing you could imagine, namely the new compilation from the Yoda of dubstep, **Buri-al**, titled *Tunes 2011-2019*. This glitch-tech genius released his stuff anonymously for, like, ever, until some nosy reporter had to ruin everything, but at least he'll get paid for this very cool thing. I dunno man, I love this guy. Most of his stuff is weird, barely-there beats, oddball samples, and always — *always* — an undercurrent of percolating glitch that's best described as the "bacon and eggs" sound that results from playing scratched vinyl records. He's a genius, so go get hip to him, I beg of you.

• **Liam Payne** was one of those jumping-dancing-trick humans from the boy band One Direction, which I mention just so you'll know right off the bat that substance will be sorely lacking within the confines of this little blurb. *LPI* is his forthcoming new album, and one of the featured songs is "Stack It Up," which is about giant piles of money, because money is something that's important and really cool. I don't hate the song, because at least he's *trying* to rap, in a way, like if Vanilla Ice heard it 30 years ago he'd probably be impressed.

• **Yann Tiersen** is an avant-garde musician from France, and he sort of looks like the dude from the old TV show *House*, except more French. With great humility and obeisance he proffers to the human masses his new album, *Portrait*, and now I must go check it out on YouTube, to see if I should care about it. Let's see, we have here a song called "Rue des Cascades," and it's all just him playing piano all fancy for like the first three minutes. That's fine with me if someone wants to pretend to be Chopin to impress girls who like unwatchable art films, but then suddenly there's some knob playing an accordion, and then Tiersen starts singing, and it sounds like someone's creepy uncle, like he doesn't know how to trill with his voice, and I feel like I really shouldn't listen to any more of it lest I catch some sort of brain-freezing disease.

• In another corner of the Matrix we have Cuban **Camila Cabello**, whose new album *Romance* is on the trucks now. We've all grown to love tweeting about her and her cute boo Shawn Mendes, and there's no way to hate on her, because she had to go and do the "let's send help to Puerto Rico because no one else is" thing, so I come to this fight unarmed with hate-snark and will have to just listen to "Living Proof" until I go into sugar shock and have to guzzle water until I pop open. Aw, so cute, this song, beginning with its jump-rope-clappy sing-song opening, and then it's all about the millennial whoop, snapdance-bling, and a part where she sings super-high notes through Auto-Tune. No, it's Auto-Tune, please get a grip and a clue, just this once. — *Eric W. Saeger*

Local (NH) bands seeking album or EP reviews can message me on Twitter (@esaeger) or Facebook (eric.saeger.9). 🍷



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Branching out

NH Literary Award winner talks writing and publishing

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com

Manchester author and Chair of the New Hampshire Writers' Project Masheri Chappelle recently received the 2019 New Hampshire Literary Award for Outstanding Work of Fiction for her latest novel, *The Oracle Files: Escape*, the first of what will be a three-book series. *The Oracle Files* is a spin-off of Chappelle's debut novel *The Descendant*, also the first in a planned trilogy.

The series revisits the "Blue Vein Society," a term used for African Americans whose skin is light enough to reveal blue veins, which enables them to pass as Caucasian. It follows a Blue Vein matriarch and psychic Elizabeth Beeson Chase, and her progression from slave, to Quaker, to socialite in 1850 New York.

"Many people were interested in the Blue Veins and how they came to be," Chappelle said. "It's about colorism within the African American community, but as it turns out, other nationalities experience the same discrimination between light and dark skin in their cultural communities."

In the book, Elizabeth is tragically forced to give up her first love and first child because they are too dark to be Blue Veins, but at the end of the book, Elizabeth learns a secret tied to her psychic abilities and discovers that her purpose goes far beyond saving her own family.

Chappelle revealed that in the second book, which will be called *The Oracle Files: Freedom*, Elizabeth will put her gift into effect, bringing about the Civil War, and will influence Lincoln and "build the bridge that will help end slavery."

"I'm keeping the story in the historical realm, but adding a lot of psychic and spiritual aspects to it," Chappelle said, "so her psychic abilities really [give readers] a different way to look at what has happened and gives them more insight into racism and colorism during the time of slavery."

Chappelle has not only been busy writing the two trilogies, but also recently launched her own publishing company, My Portalstar Press, under which she published a second edition of *The Oracle Files: Escape*.

"With the first edition that I did with [an outside publisher], there were tons of typos every time I got the book back, so I decided to fire them and end that



relationship and take over and do what I needed to do, and that was to start my own [publishing company]," she said. "Now, I have an outlet for my work, so when it's done, I'm not relying on another [company] for publication and distribution."

My Portalstar Press will publish books by Chappelle as well as other authors. Her first client is Raymond author Dan Pouliot, who is looking to publish his book *Super Human*, the first in a new young adult series. The series is "about the power of thought and consciousness," Chappelle said, which is in line with the types of books that she intends to continue publishing through My Portalstar Press.

"All the material that comes through my company will be focused on providing hope and clarity and miracles that can happen and a sense of enlightenment," she said.

Chappelle said being part of the New Hampshire Writers' Project and the skills she has developed and the support she has received through NHWP helped her "muster the courage" to take on her own publishing company.

"It has helped tremendously in the process," she said. 🍷

Masheri Chappelle

Visit myportalstar.com for more information about the author and her publishing company, My Portalstar Press.

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POP CULTURE BOOKS

Exposure, by Robert Bilott (Atria Books, 386 pages)

If you live in New Hampshire you've probably heard about something called PFAS chemicals. These are Teflon-related chemicals that have found their way into our water and soil and that have been associated with harmful health impacts.

PFAS chemicals (there are thousands in the class) have fluorine bonds that are very difficult, if not impossible, to break. These are the chemicals that coat your Teflon pans and they are also used to cover waterproof camping gear (tents, rain apparel, etc.) and firefighting gear. These chemicals are so universally used that they are also found in certain brands of dental floss.

The problem with these chemicals is that because of the bond, they are considered "forever chemicals." Once they are in your body, they will stay in your body. PFAS chemicals have been associated with various cancers (breast, kidney, etc.) and diseases (thyroid, cholesterol, and hormone disruption including fertility issues.)

In short, PFAS chemicals are not good for human or animal health.

Exposure is the story of the lawyer who sued DuPont in West Virginia over PFAS contamination. This story, written by the young lawyer who headed the investigation, mirrors the story told in *The Devil We Know*, a documentary on the impact of PFAS chemicals on the same West Virginia communities. Residents had been unaware that these chemicals were in their water and environment until Bilott exposed the situation.

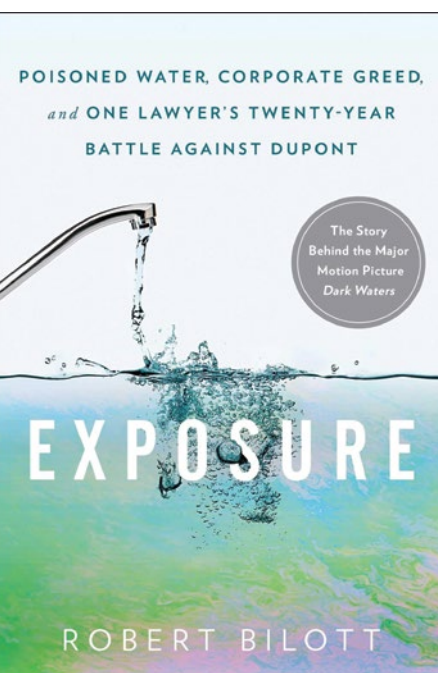
Let me be clear, *Exposure* is not a fun read. If you're on blood pressure medication, you might have to take extra meds in order to get through it. It will make you incredibly angry.

But let me also be clear that *Exposure* is a mandatory and important read for everyone who lives in New Hampshire. We have this situation here, right now. And it's a big problem.

Bilott chronicles his investigation into the chemical use and wrongful disposal into the communities. Originally, he agreed to take on a case of a farmer whose cows were all getting sick and were dying. He did this because his grandmother gave his name to the farmer. Bilott assumed that case would be quick work — it appeared that a chemical dump on the farmer's property was leaching chemicals into the nearby water supply. Find out what the chemical was, get it remediated by DuPont and then all would be well.

Instead Bilott fell down the rabbit hole of obstruction by DuPont. The more he investigated the company, the more information he discovered on harmful chemicals being used in the facility.

Bilott discovered that DuPont had known about the health harms of PFAS chemicals for decades as documented in memos unearthed by legal request. DuPont then hid that information from the public knowing that it would impact the profit bottom line.



As a result, not only did the farmer's cows get sick and die, but area residents also got sick with various illnesses and diseases associated with PFAS exposure.

This is where the blood pressure medication comes in (and ironically, chronic PFAS exposure is associated with high blood pressure). Bilott meticulously documents the roadblocks that DuPont puts up over and over in order to obstruct the legal investigation. They hide documents, they wait until the clock runs out in handing over requested material.

In short, they try their hardest not to be implicated in a situation that they know they created.

But in the end Bilott manages to expose them and hold DuPont responsible.

Exposure reads like a crime thriller. It is well-written and is documented with an extensive index. Much like the book *A Civil Action* — the true story where two of the nation's largest corporations were accused of causing the deaths of children from water contamination — this is also the story of a David fighting a giant corporate greedy and health-impacting Goliath.

Which all brings me back to New Hampshire. We currently have a similar situation in the southern part of our state by some PFAS using companies that have contaminated our water, soil, and environment, including our wildlife.

If you live in New Hampshire, if you drink water in New Hampshire, if you garden, hunt or fish in our state, you need to read this book in order to understand the problem we are facing with PFAS contamination.

It's real. It's here. And it's a huge health problem. *Exposure* explains exactly why we should all be concerned. Hats off to Robert Bilott for both his work in prosecuting DuPont and for his ability to share this important story with others.

Run, don't walk to get your copy of this book.

A — Wendy E. N. Thomas

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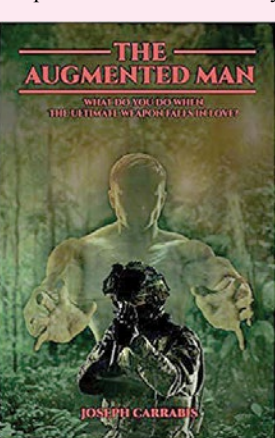
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Book Report

• **Books and chocolate:** Join Wilton Public & Gregg Free Library (7 Forest Road, Wilton) on Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 7 to 9 p.m., for Jolabokaflokkur, an Icelandic tradition in which books are given as gifts and the night is spent reading while enjoying chocolate. To participate, bring a new or like-new book, wrapped, with a short teaser about the plot on the outside. There will be spare books if you don't have one to bring. All the books will be displayed and each person will get to choose one. If you choose a book you have already read, you can swap it. There will be soups, breads, desserts and chocolate, plus special guests with live music and stories. RSVP requested. Visit wiltonlibrarynh.org or call 654-2581.



• **Sci-fi thriller:** Joseph Carrabis will read and sign his new book *The Augmented Man* at the Toadstool Bookshop (375 Amherst St., 9A, Somerset Plaza, Nashua) on Thursday, Dec. 5, at 6 p.m. The sci-fi military psychological thriller is set in a not-too-distant future, where the military, at war with South America, struggles because its soldiers are returning from combat too traumatized to function or continue fighting. Captain James Donaldson devises a solution

to this problem: recruit children who have already suffered massive psychological trauma who would be unaffected by the horrors of war and genetically modify their bodies to turn them into the ultimate weapons. These "Augmented Men," as they are called, are scheduled to be terminated at the end of the war, but one Augmented Man, Nick Trailer, survives. A physical and psychological monster, Nick goes into hiding in New England to avoid hurting humans, but things don't go according to plan when he comes in contact with a woman, Karen, and falls in love. Visit toadbooks.com.

• **Magazine debut:** *Monadnock Underground*, a new literary journal founded by Christopher DiLoreto and Zoë Wroten-Heinzmann with plans to issue quarterly print magazine issues, celebrates the debut of its first issue at a release party on Friday, Dec. 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Peterborough Town Library (2 Concord St., Peterborough). The issue, the culmination of more than six months of publication, features 15 original creative pieces from 10 authors, with a cover by local artist Hannah Ellingwood. At the event, there will be opportunities to meet the writers and editors, enjoy light refreshments and purchase copies of the issue. Visit medium.com/monadnock-underground.

—Angie Sykeny

Books

Author Events

- **JOSEPH CARRABIS** Author presents *The Augmented Man*. Thurs., Dec. 5, 6 p.m. The Toadstool Bookshop, 375 Amherst St., 9A, Somerset Plaza, Nashua. Visit toadbooks.com.
- **TERRY NELSON** Author presents *Hidden History of the New Hampshire Seacoast*. Sat., Dec. 7, 10 a.m. Water Street Bookstore, 125 Water St., Exeter. Visit waterstreetbooks.com.
- **MARY ANN ESPOSITO COOKBOOK SIGNING** Sat., Dec. 7, 11 a.m. Tuscan Market, 63 Main St., Salem. Visit tuscanbrands.com.
- **DANA HUNTLEY** Author

presents *America's Forgotten Colonial History*. Sat., Dec. 7, noon. Water Street Bookstore, 125 Water St., Exeter. Visit waterstreetbooks.com.

- **MITCH ALBOM** Mon., Dec. 16, 7 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Call 224-0562 or visit gibsonsbookstore.com.
- **CHRISTINE DUFFY ZERILLO** Author presents *Still Here*. Wed., Jan. 8, 6 p.m., Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Call 224-0562 or visit gibsonsbookstore.com.
- **CYNTHIA HERBERT-BRUSCHI ADAMS** Author presents *Italian Spices: A Memoir*. Thurs., Jan. 16, 6 p.m. Gibson's Book-

store, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Call 224-0562 or visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

Poetry

• **SLAM FREE OR DIE** Weekly poetry open mike and slam. Thursday, 8 p.m. Stark Brewing Co., 500 N. Commercial St., Manchester. \$3. Visit facebook.com/slamfreeordie.

Book discussion groups

• **ANIME & MANGA CLUB** A new club seeks members to join. Will involve book discussions, anime viewings, and workshops. No set date. Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson. Free. Visit rodgerslibrary.org. Call 886-6030.

• **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** Second Thurs., 7 p.m. Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester. Visit manchester.lib.nh.us.

• **BOOKENDS BOOK GROUP** Monthly discussion group. First Sun., 4 to 5 p.m. MainStreet BookEnds, 16 E. Main St., Warner. Visit mainstreetbookends.com.

• **BROWN BAG BOOK CLUB** Book discussion group. Last Tuesday, 12:15 p.m. Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester. Visit manchester.lib.nh.us.

• **GIBSON'S BOOK CLUB** Monthly book discussion group. First Monday, 5:30 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

• **MORNING BOOK GROUP** Monthly discussion. Fourth Wed., 10 a.m. to noon. Kimball Library, 5 Academy Ave., Atkinson. Visit kimballlibrary.com.

• **MORNING BOOK GROUP** Book discussion group. Second Thursday, 11 a.m. to noon. Smyth Public Library, 55 High St., Candia. Visit smythpl.org.

• **NASHUA NOVEL READERS** Monthly book discussion. Second Thursday, 7 p.m. Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Visit nashualibrary.org.

Writers groups

• **PLAYWRIGHT'S CIRCLE** Cue Zero Theatre Company hosts a monthly Playwright's Circle for local playwrights looking to improve their craft. Playwrights of all ages and experience levels are invited to bring 10 pages of an original work, which the circle will read aloud and offer feedback on while discussing the process and philosophy of playwriting. Bring at least one copy of your scene for every character. Every third Sunday, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jupiter Hall, 89 Hanover St., Manchester. Visit facebook.com/CZTheatre.

• **WRITERS GROUP** All levels and abilities are welcome. Second and fourth Friday, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Candia Smyth Public Library, 55 High St., Candia. Call 483-8245. Visit smythpl.org.



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FREE DOG PARK

Knives Out (PG-13)

A murderers' row of acting talent has a total blast in *Knives Out*, a comedy whodunit.

Daniel Craig and Chris Evans seem delighted to be playing outside their franchises (the James Bond movies and the Marvel Cinematic Universe, respectively). Jamie Lee Curtis, Michael Shannon, Toni Collette and the having-a-moment Don Johnson seem equally tickled; they all lean in to the prickly daffiness of their characters. LaKeith Stanfield gets some solid straight man moments, making up for what he lacks in minutes on the screen with impeccable timing. Katherine Langford, whom I guess I know from *Love, Simon*, has a small role but does enough with it that you notice her. Ana de Armas is great here — jumpy, funny and kind of the moral center of the movie.

And then there's Christopher Plummer, who just seems delighted — to be in this movie, to get to act so extravagantly ornery, to be (unlike his character Harlan Thrombey) alive.

That Harlan Thrombey is dead and how he died and even who killed him are revealed relatively early (to us) in this movie, though of course those facts don't provide the whole picture. His terrible family (Curtis, Evans, Shannon, Collette, Johnson and Langford — all playing children, in-laws or grandchildren) all seem to stand to gain from his death (or do they?) and most seem to have been on the outs with him before he died (or were they?). Somebody sent renowned detective Benoit Blanc (Craig, whose accent is as fantastic as his character's name) an envelope full of cash to join the police (Stanfield, Noah Segan) in their investigation. Does Harlan's mostly silent mother (K Callan) know something? What does Marta Cabrera (de Armas) have to do with any of this? Marta, Harlan's nurse, has a condition that makes her useful to Blanc as a participant in the investigation: when she lies, she pukes.

Knives Out makes the *Clue* comparison itself: Harlan's house is a giant *Clue* board, somebody says. The movie captures a lot of that *Clue* sense of humor and fun while



Knives Out

still telling a compelling mystery of the traditional "secret passages" and "why did the dogs bark at 3 a.m." variety. And I cannot over-exaggerate how much fun the cast has playing this game. There is such a sense of lightness and delight in every detail, every mustache-twirling bit of devilishness or snippy bit of pettiness (Collette is a master of giving pettiness just the right spin). Chris Evans might be having the most fun of all, so gleeful to play against type that he almost giggles in each scene.

Knives Out is a well-executed great time.

A *Rated PG-13 for thematic elements including brief violence, some strong language, sexual references and drug material, according to the MPA. Written and directed by Rian Johnson, Knives Out is two hours and 10 minutes long and distributed by Lionsgate.*

Queen & Slim (R)

A date turns into a run from the police in the beautiful and thoughtful *Queen & Slim*.

A couple goes to a diner for a not-terribly-promising first date — the man, played by Daniel Kaluuya, picked the diner in part because it's black-owned. The woman, Jodie Turner-Smith, is not impressed (though at "black-owned" she says "touche") and

admits she only contacted him because she wanted a distraction that evening.

I don't actually recall the movie using what Wikipedia says are the character's names — Ernest Hines and Angela Johnson — nor Slim and Queen. Quickly, they become two people in a bubble and don't really need names for each other.

This happens on the way home from the diner, when Angela warms a little bit to Ernest and Ernest maybe sees the possibility of extending this date or setting up another. But then they are pulled over by a lone police officer and the stop quickly goes wrong. (That is an extremely simplistic description of what happens; maybe something slightly more accurate might be, like, "there are 400-some years of North American history and then this traffic stop happens.") The twitchy officer (Sturgill Simpson) shoots, grazing Angela in the leg, and Ernest tackles him, and eventually the officer is shot. The scene plays out in front of the patrol car's dashcam but Angela, a lawyer, urges Ernest to run.

As the pair runs — just "away" at first but later Angela suggests they head to the home of her Uncle Earl (Bokeem Woodbine) in New Orleans; the story starts in Ohio — they bumble through more crimes of the self-preservation sort: trapping an off-duty sheriff who recognizes them in the trunk of

their car so they can take his truck, attempting to stick up a gas station to fill up. But Ernest, who lives up to that name and has that "everyman trapped in a nightmare" feel, isn't terribly good at "crime." He suggests that maybe the sheriff really can help them. And the gas station attendant isn't at all scared of Ernest's stick-up attempts; he's offers to buy their gas if he can just hold their gun for a little bit. Angela, who we earlier learn is a defense attorney dealing with a client's execution, and is clearly having some feelings about the American justice system, just seems scared, desperate and maybe a little bit resigned to the idea that there will be no good outcome.

As they run, they are sort of sheared of their normal facades — quite literally, even, since at Uncle Earl's, both cut their hair and attempt to change their appearance. They learn early on that they have become famous; some in the African American neighborhoods they pass through see them as heroes. Their faces are on the news (from which we also learn that the officer had a history of shooting unarmed civilians) and law enforcement is conducting an extensive search for them. But, with each other, their "couple on a date" personas kind of melt into people getting real, getting real because they have little to lose (their best hope is finding a way to Cuba), getting real because these might be the final days of their freedom or even their lives. They tell each other what they want in a partner, they talk about the things that are important to them. They have one of the most genuinely romantic sex scenes I've seen on film in a while, which is intercut with a scene of heartbreaking violence. (And while I'm not sure how I feel about that story-telling choice, I continue to think about it.)

This movie has several moments that are deeply, beautifully romantic. It also has moments of genuine humor. The cinematography is also beautiful, as the characters travel, often on back roads, through the southeastern corner of the country. But even in beauty or romance, the movie never lets you off the hook. The movie is throughout framed the way one scene unfolds with the

AT THE MULTIPLEX**Reviewlets**

* Indicates a movie to seek out. Find reviews for most films on hippopress.com.

Opening this week: *The Aeronauts* (PG-13) Felicity Jones and Eddie Redmayne are 19th-century balloonists risking death in the air to make scientific discoveries; *Playmobil: The Movie* Toys that you'd recognize if you saw them (they're sort of Lego without the building aspect, I think) get an animated movie featuring the voices of Jim

Gaffigan, Daniel Radcliffe, Meghan Trainor and Kenan Thompson.

In theaters now: *Frozen 2* (PG)

Voices of Kristen Bell, Idina Menzel. The adventures of Elsa and Anna continue in this sequel to the 2013 blockbuster. There are some cute songs — Olaf's "When I'm Older" and Kristoff's 1980s power ballad "Lost in the Woods") — and some nice moments and some beau-

tiful visuals but the movie didn't, like, dazzle me. However, "me" is probably not the point, except as the person who drives the *Frozen* generation to the theater. I do think the movie, particularly in its final third, skews a little dark and might be more elementary school than preschool fare. **B**

****A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood* (PG)**

Tom Hanks, Matthew Rhys. Hanks is Mister Rogers in this movie that isn't so much

a biopic of the extraordinary Fred Rogers, children's television host, but captures Rogers via the lens of a falling-apart journalist/new father tasked with writing a profile of him. The performances are excellent; the plot is I guess slightly above average. **B**

****The Irishman* (R)**

Robert De Niro, Al Pacino. An aging mob hitman recounts his life, to include his friendship with and ultimate assassination of Jimmy Hoffa, in this three-

and-a-half-hour saga from director Martin Scorsese. This movie is now available on Netflix and I think that might be the best way to view this movie, with all its small moments and details and story detours. **B**

***The Good Liar* (R)**

Helen Mirren, Ian McKellan. Mirren and McKellan have a great time in this meh movie about a con man, his rich-widow mark and the inevitable twistiness of their relationship. Is two actors having fun with

their roles enough to make up for some otherwise average movie-iness? With these two actors, yeah, maybe. **B-**

****Ford v Ferrari* (PG-13)**

Matt Damon, Christian Bale. Damon and Bale are car racers/designers working on behalf of Ford to build a car fast enough to be Ferrari in a 24-hour race in the mid-1960s. Both actors do good work making the processy work of building and racing a car interesting, even to the car novice. **B+**

couple driving through the country: It's pretty here, Slim says; is it, Queen asks as they drive past prisoners (all or mostly African American) working in a field. That — beauty, love, warmth, happiness marbled with fear, ugliness, violence and the complexities of American history and society — feels like this movie's medium, this is the clay it's building its love story out of. And this is a love story first, I think, even though it goes to an extreme place with the course of events and even though it has bigger things to say. The movie never loses its two central characters in the mix of the action and the bigger issues.

This is a credit both to the movie — which never cheats with anything, never feels like it's using anything lightly — and to the actors, who are superb. The movie gives the characters flaws, prickly moments, dodgy judgment. They both have to, in all scenes, do a lot of big emotions at once while working through the immediate actions of any particular moment.

I've never seen Turner-Smith before this (TNT's *The Last Ship* is one of her bigger credits) and she is excellent. She plays the layers of the Queen character — a professional woman, a scared fugitive, a woman

in love, a person dealing (and not) with past trauma — masterfully.

What's one step above "masterfully"? That's where Kaluuya is. In the scene where he cuts his hair, I felt like I was watching his character feel everything all at once — the weight of his situation, all his feelings about Angela so far, everything he's ever believed about himself, the loss of his family. We see something like this again in a scene where he asks a kid to take his photo; he does so much without doing a lot. (Actually, not unlike the way Robert De Niro can make small moments have weight in *The Irishman*.) Kaluuya's big roles have been in movies, *Get Out* and *Black Panther*, where it might be easy to lose some of what he's doing in the action around him but I hope this movie gets him recognition (cough, Oscar nominations, cough) to push him even further into the territory of heavyweight young actors. **A-**

Rated R for violence, some strong sexuality, nudity, pervasive language, and brief drug use, according to the MPA. Directed by Melina Matsoukas with a screenplay by Lena Waithe, Queen & Slim is two hours and 11 minutes long and distributed by Universal Studios. 🍷

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Sunday, December 8, 10:30 - 11:30 am
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MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600,
redrivertheatres.org

• *The Never Ending Story* (PG, 1984) Thurs., Dec. 5, 7 p.m.

• *JoJo Rabbit* (PG-13, 2019) Thurs., Dec. 5, 2:05 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 6, and Sat., Dec. 7, 3:25 and 8:30 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 8, 3:25 p.m.; and Mon., Dec. 9, through Wed., Dec. 11, 8 p.m.

• *Fantastic Fungi* (NR, 2019) Thurs., Dec. 5, 2:10 and 7:15 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 6, and Sat., Dec. 7, 1, 2:45, 4:30, 6:15 and 8 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 8, 1, 2:45, 4:30 and 6:15 p.m.; and Mon., Dec. 9, through Thurs., Dec. 12, 2:10, 5:35 and 7:15 p.m.

• *Parasite* (R, 2019) Thurs., Dec. 5, 2, 5:30 and 8:05 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 6, and Sat., Dec. 7, 12:30, 3:15, 6 and 8:45 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 8, 12:30, 3:15 and 6 p.m.; and Mon., Dec. 9, through Thurs., Dec. 12, 2, 5:30 and 8:05 p.m.

• *Harriet* (PG-13, 2019) Fri., Dec. 6, through Sun., Dec. 8, 12:45 and 5:50 p.m.; Mon., Dec. 9, through Wed., Dec. 11, 2:05 and 5:25 p.m.; and Thurs., Dec. 12, 2:05 p.m.

• *Witness for the Prosecution* (NR, 1957) Thurs., Dec. 12, 6 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL

40 Main St., Wilton, 654-3456, wiltontownhalltheatre.com

• *Joker* (R, 2019) Fri., Dec. 6, through Thurs., Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m., plus Sun., Dec. 8, at 2 and 4:30 p.m.

• *Parasite* (R, 2019) Thurs., Dec. 5, through Thurs., Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m., plus Sun., Dec. 8, at 2 and 4:30 p.m.

• *Scrooge* (1970) Sat., Dec. 7, 4:30 p.m.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

Main Branch, 405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550; West Branch, 76 Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, manchester.lib.nh.us

• *Shelter* (NR) Tues., Dec. 10, 1 p.m.

• *Patch Adams* (PG-13, 1998) Wed., Dec. 11, 1 p.m.

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4611, nashualibrary.org

• *Official Secrets* (R, 2019) Thurs., Dec. 5, 1 p.m.

• *Adrift* (PG-13, 2018) Tues., Dec. 10, 6:30 p.m., and Thurs., Dec. 12, 1 p.m.

• *The Lion King* (PG, 2019) Sat., Dec. 14, 2 p.m.

CHUNKY'S CINEMA

707 Huse Road, Manchester, 206-3888; 150 Bridge St., Pelham, 635-7499; 151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua, 880-8055, chunkys.com

• *Elf* (PG, 2003) 21+ screening, Thurs., Dec. 5, 7, 7:30 and 8 p.m.

• *The Polar Express* (G, 2004) Sat., Dec. 7, and Sun., Dec. 8, 9 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 1:15 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:45 p.m.

• *Frosty and Rudolph double feature* Wed., Dec. 11, 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

• *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946) Wed., Dec. 11, noon

CINEMAGIC

1226 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 644-4629; 11 Executive Park Drive, Merrimack, 423-0240,

cinemagicmovies.com

• *Gundam* Thurs., Dec. 5, 7 p.m. (Hooksett only)

• *Coming to America* (R, 1988) Thurs., Dec. 5, 8 p.m. (Hooksett only)

• *INXS: Live Baby at Wembley Stadium* Mon., Dec. 9, 7 p.m.

NEW HAMPSHIRE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

31 College Drive, Sweeney Auditorium, Concord, 271-6484, ext. 4115, nhti.edu

• *They Shall Not Grow Old* (R, 2018) Fri., Dec. 6, 7 p.m.

PETERBOROUGH COMMUNITY THEATRE

6 School St., Peterborough, pct-movies.com

• *JoJo Rabbit* (PG-13, 2019) Thurs., Dec. 5, 7 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL

Historic Theater, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth; Loft, 131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusicall.org

• *Hansard* (National Theatre London) Tues., Dec. 10, 6:30 p.m. (loft)

CINEMAGIC STADIUM 10

2454 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, 319-8788, cinemagic-movies.com

• *Meet Me in St. Louis* (1944) Wed., Dec. 11, 7 p.m.

THE FLYING MONKEY

39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
 • *Mountaintop* (2019) Thurs., Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m.

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THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **For the blues:** New Hampshire is something of a blues Mecca, and the **Road to Memphis** fundraiser is an event that helps winners of the Granite State Blues Society Challenge make it south for the International Blues Competition. This year's performers are Ms. Vee, known for singing that's soulful and witty, and the raucous yet danceable Frankie Boy and the Blues Experience. Go Thursday, Dec. 5, 8 p.m., Area 23, 254 State St., Concord (Smokestack Center). More at granitestateblues.org.

• **In the round:** The monthly High Street Coffee House hoot features **Newfound Grass**, an acoustic group that combines elements of bluegrass, soul, rock and jazz. Composed of Steve Abdu, Dave Shaw, Craig Engel and Ron Swisher, they'll play a headliner set followed by the regular open mike format, which welcomes players, poets and comics to take the stage for two songs or 10 minutes, with pass the hat donations. Friday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m., Congregational Church, 12 High St., Boscawen. Call 848-2410.

• **Throw it back:** Fans of Willie, Waylon and Townes will enjoy **Country Classic Show-down**, an evening of tributes to the genre, as a new downtown venue is transformed into Armadillo World Headquarters for a night. Presented by Granite State of Mind, the bill includes Dean Harlem, Dusty Gray, Rippin' E Brakes, The Nightblinders, Meaghan Casey, John Zevos Band and Beechwood. Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St., Manchester. Tickets are \$20 at palacetheatre.org.

• **Musical diplomats:** Two years after forming in 2008, Alabama-based **Act of Congress** had performed five tours as U.S. Cultural Ambassadors. NPR calls them "one of the freshest sounding, exuberant brands in all of the known acoustic universe." They perform Americana-flavored takes on holiday songs with Symphony NH. Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. at Keefe Center for the Arts, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Also Sunday, Dec. 8, 3 p.m., Dana Center, Manchester. Tickets \$18 and up at symphonynh.org.

NITE Last hoo-rah

Mr. Nick & The Dirty Tricks end with all-star show

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

A couple of Fridays ago, Nick David stepped to the microphone at Area 23 in Concord, said hello to a well-packed house and counted off his band into "Caught the Train," followed by a rousing version of "Spoonful." It was a night like many others, but with a bittersweet difference, as a chapter in his life was winding down.

After a dozen years, Mr. Nick & the Dirty Tricks — David, guitarist Gus Carlson and the rhythm section of drummer Rick Rousseau and bass player Ted Bukowski — are set to wrap it up as a band. The Concord show was their third to last; the next evening, they said goodbye to another favorite haunt, Strange Brew Tavern in Manchester.

The final show happens Saturday, Dec. 14, at Tupelo Music Hall in Derry. It's shaping into a *Last Waltz* affair, featuring the cream of New England's blues scene — or, as David terms it, a last hoo-rah. The long guest list includes a who's who of musicians who both inspired and accompanied the broad shouldered singer and harmonica player over the years.

During a set break, David talked about the upcoming show, memories of his band and plans for the future.

Sharing the stage at Tupelo will be Duke Robillard, Sugar Ray Norcia, Monster Mike Welch, Brian Templeton, Racky Thomas, Willie J. Laws and Jerry Portnoy. All helped shape David's musical direction, Portnoy in particular.

"He was in the Muddy Waters band, and there's not much of a bigger influence than Muddy," he said. "There are guys that are as much of an influence, but he's the top of the heap for me."

Roomful of Blues founder Robillard and harp ace Sugar Ray helped David understand the game early on.

"I got to go out and see those guys over the years as a fan," he said, adding that jamming with them was a bonus he never counted on;



Mr. Nick & The Dirty Tricks. Courtesy Photo.

he's grateful they'll be joining him at Tupelo. "I don't consider myself in that peer group, but I like that I can get my head into that peer group a little bit. That they all said yes and agreed to do it was awesome."

Since forming in 2007, there have been plenty of high points for the band. David curates the New England Winter Blues Festival every February in Salisbury Beach. Approaching its 10th year, the event has attracted a wealth of talent, including Muddy Waters' son Big Bill Morganfield; the Dirty Tricks backed him in 2018.

"I tell you what, I get goosebumps right now talking about it," David said, "because that's as close as I'll ever get to playing with Muddy."

That same year Mr. Nick & the Dirty Tricks took home a New England Music Award for Best Blues Act. "I figured we had maybe a two percent chance of winning," a surprised David said at the time, noting he hadn't canvassed social media. "That makes it even more valuable ... because it was voted by the public."

The show will be a retrospective; along with the all-stars, Brad Faucher, a guitarist who played in the band for its first few months, and bassist Tom Martin, a member for one and a half years, will sit in.

"But for the majority of the 12 years we have been together, it has been Rick, Gus, Teddy and I," David stressed.

Following the Dirty Tricks finale, David will keep making music.

"I'm not going away at all; it's just time to move on," he said.

A pair of projects are in the works. One is a 10-piece all-original soul and R&B act featuring two lead singers; the other is original blues, but with a harder edge.

"It's more Texas and lowdown, a heavier thing," David said. "I'm hoping to get it together for my winter blues festival."

David said the Dirty Tricks are ending amicably.

"We're all good friends. We care about each other," he said. "Three or four months ago, I said, 'Hey, man, it seems like this is kind of winding down, so let's say it out loud.' Some of the guys more than others felt like it was the right time, but it was all good." 🍷

Farewell to the Dirty Tricks

When: Saturday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.

Where: Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry

Tickets: \$35 at tupelohall.com

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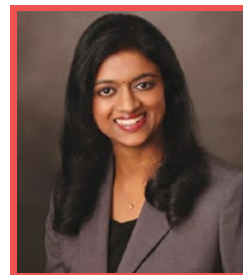
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Across

- 1. Electric guitars' needs, w/cords
- 5. Supertramp "I'll ___ little bit of my love to you" (4,1)
- 10. Loggins & Messina just saw a 'Long ___ Cat'
- 14. When Justin Moore goes fishing, he will

' ___ A Hook'

- 15. UB40 will hopefully pick ' ___ Ten' (3,2)
- 16. Old 45 player (hyph)
- 17. Hootie & The Blowfish " ___ on the inside" (4,6)
- 19. Loggins And Messina "Even though we ain't got money, ___ in love w/ya honey"

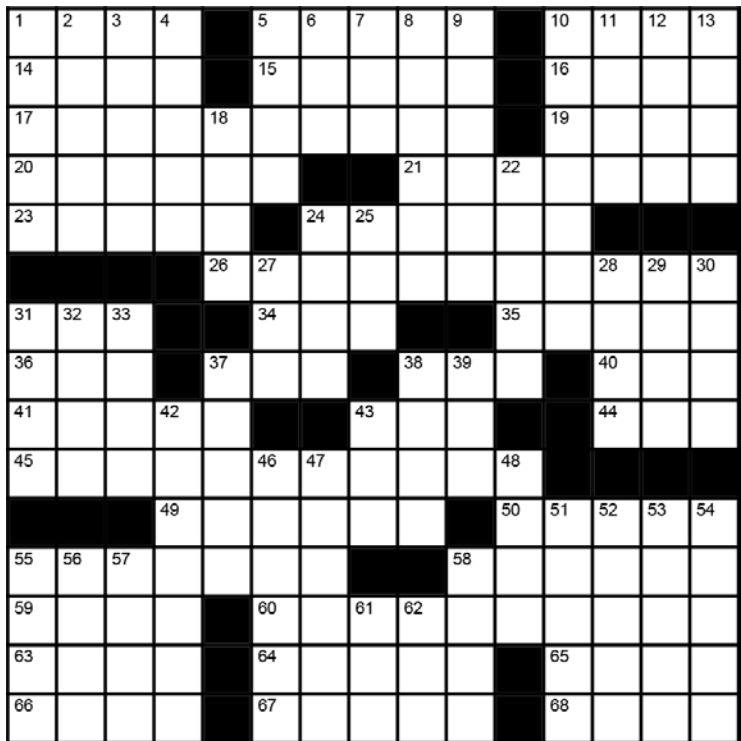
(2,2)

- 20. Regina Spektor 'The Prayer Of Francois (Motilva)'
- 21. The "E" of ELP
- 23. Paul Stanley uses one for painting, perhaps
- 24. Wardrobe does this to get wrinkles out
- 26. '93 Scorpions single about UFOs taking over USA? (5,6)
- 31. They took 'Care Of Business' (abbr)
- 34. Linkin Park is watching a boring movie and 'Waiting For The ___'
- 35. Jeff of ELO
- 36. 'Thinking Out Loud' Sexsmith
- 37. Hank Williams 'The ___ Train'
- 38. 'Death Disco' John Lydon band (abbr)
- 40. Composer Bernstein (abbr)
- 41. Smiths ' ___ And A Push And The Land Is Ours' (1,4)
- 43. US govt radio (abbr)
- 44. Guns N' Roses "Her hair reminds me of a warm safe place where ___ child I'd hide"

(2,1)

- 45. Aka: Talks with agents and managers
- 49. Mötley Crüe 'New Tattoo' single 'Hell ___ Heels' (2,4)
- 50. Adele 'Rumour ___' (3,2)
- 55. '12 Slash single about evil pouring down from the sky? (3,4)
- 58. Jimmy Eat World gambles at a 'Big' one
- 59. Pixies ' ___ Eiffel'
- 60. Night Ranger "I ___ find a window in my soul" (4,1,5)
- 63. Poor ol' Aerosmith will 'Eat The ___'
- 64. Like fans for anticipated album
- 65. 'Kiss Me' band Sixpence ___ The Richer
- 66. Alt-country crooner Case
- 67. To love a band deeply
- 68. Loggins & Messina 'Till The ___ Meet'

- 13. Journey 'Can't Tame' this Zodiac symbol
- 18. Madness' Kinks classic they covered
- 22. '83 Metallica debut 'Kill ___' (2,3)
- 24. She & Him song for the vocalist?
- 25. Legendary guitarist Nugent
- 27. Indie rocker Ted
- 28. LMFAO 'I'm ___ B****' (2,2)
- 29. Rapper Flo Rida 'Wild ___'
- 30. '99 Luftballons' singer
- 31. Stone Gossard's band, when not w/Pearl Jam
- 32. 'God' pianist/singer Amos
- 33. David Soul 'Don't Give Up ___' (2,2)
- 37. Coldplay/Kylie Minogue charity single
- 38. Kenny Loggins 'Return To ___ Corner'
- 39. Paice of Deep Purple
- 42. Weezer Pinkerton video/hit 'El ___'
- 43. Producer Butch
- 46. ELO ' ___ Little Love' (5,1)
- 47. 'Nothing Compares 2 U' O'Connor
- 48. '(There's) Always Something There To Remind Me' Sandie
- 51. Stryper song 'Together ___' (2,3)
- 52. 'Anticipation' Carly
- 53. Supremes ' ___ Out Of Love' (2,3)
- 54. Blind Melon ' ___ Of Home'
- 55. Tom Waits' 'Murder In The Red ___'
- 56. A deceptive Aimee Mann was 'Living ___' (1,3)
- 57. Might hit it when hangin' w/50 Cent?
- 58. Loggins & Messina "I didn't worry and I didn't ___"
- 61. Bruisable personality trait, after bad review
- 62. Falco ' ___ Kommissar'



11/28



Down

- 1. Mad Season 'River Of Deceit' album not called "Below"
- 2. Public rage over new star
- 3. '98 Candlebox album 'Happy ___'
- 4. At times, stars dictate fashion this
- 5. The show must always do this (2,2)
- 6. Highway band crash spot
- 7. 60s 'The Night Has A Thousand Eyes' singer Bobby
- 8. Who Dexy's Midnight Runners told to 'Come On'
- 9. '11 Blue October album ' ___ In America' (3,3)
- 10. Like singer without water
- 11. To 'Alison', Elvis Costello's are true
- 12. Atlas Genius song that says "in case it's true?" (2,2)

- 13. Journey 'Can't Tame' this Zodiac symbol
- 18. Madness' Kinks classic they covered
- 22. '83 Metallica debut 'Kill ___' (2,3)
- 24. She & Him song for the vocalist?
- 25. Legendary guitarist Nugent
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- 28. LMFAO 'I'm ___ B****' (2,2)
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<p>Alton JP China 403 Main St. 875-8899 Rusty Moose 16 Homestead Place 855-2012</p>	<p>Boscawen Alan's 133 N. Main St. 753-6631 Bow Chen Yang Li 520 South St. 228-8508</p>	<p>Farmer's Market Town Center 369-1790 Deerfield Nine Lions Tavern 4 North Road 463-7374</p>	<p>Popovers 11 Brickyard Square 734-4724 Telly's 235 Calef Hwy 679-8225</p>	<p>Millie's Tavern 17 L St. 967-4777 North Beach Bar & Grill 931 Ocean Blvd. 967-4884 Old Salt Tavern 409 Lafayette Rd. 926-8322 Shane's Texas Pit 61 High St. 601-7091 The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928 Tinos Greek Kitchen 325 Lafayette Rd 926-5489 Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954</p>	<p>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 New Hampshire 125 369-6962 Laconia 405 Pub 405 Union Ave 524-8405 Broken Spoke Saloon 1072 Watson Rd 866-754-2526 Granite State Music Hall 546 Main St. 884-9536 Naswa 1086 Weirs Blvd. 366-4341 The Big House 322 Lakeside Ave. 767-2226 Patio Garden Lakeside Ave. No Phone Pitman's Freight Room 94 New Salem St. 527-0043 Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100</p>	<p>British Beer Company 1071 S. Willow St. 232-0677 Bungalow Bar & Grille 333 Valley St. 792-1110 Cafe la Reine 915 Elm St 232-0332 Central Ale House 23 Central St. 660-2241 City Sports Grille 216 Maple St. 625-9656 Club ManchVegas 50 Old Granite St. 222-1677 Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880 Element Lounge 1055 Elm St. 627-2922 Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925 Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022 Great North Ale Works 1050 Holt Ave. Unit #14 858-5789 Ignite Bar & Grille 100 Hanover St. 494-6225 Jewel 61 Canal St. 836-1152 KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St. 627-RIBS Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St. 644-3535 Penuche's Music Hall 1087 Elm St. 206-5599 Salona 128 Maple St. 624-4020 Shaskeen 909 Elm St. 625-0246 Shorty's 1050 Bicentennial Drive 625-1730 Stark Brewing Co. 500 N. Commercial St. 625-4444 Strange Brew Tavern 88 Market St. 666-4292 Sweeney Post 251 Maple St. 623-9145 Whiskey's 20 20 Old Granite St. 641-2583 Wild Rover 21 Kosciuszko St. 669-7722</p>	<p>Mason Marty's Driving Range 96 Old Turnpike Road 878-1324 Meredith Camp 300 DW Highway 279-3003 Giuseppe's 312 DW Hwy 279-3313 Merrimack Able Ebenezer 31 Columbia Circle 223-2253 Big Kahuna's Cafe 380 DW Highway 494-4975 Homestead 641 DW Highway 429-2022 Jade Dragon 515 DW Highway 424-2280 Merrimack Biergarten 221 DW Hwy 595-1282 Paradise North 583 DW Hwy 262-5866</p>
<p>Amherst LaBelle Winery 345 Route 101 672-9898 Ashland Common Man 60 Main St. 968-7030 Atkinson Merrill's Tavern 85 Country Club Drive 382-8700 Auburn Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Rd 622-6564 Auburn Tavern 346 Hooksett Rd 587-2057 Barrington Nippo Lake Restaurant 88 Stagecoach Road 644-2030 Onset Pub Crotched Mtn. Ski Resort 588-3688 Bedford Bedford Village Inn 2 Olde Bedford Way 472-2001 Copper Door 15 Leavy Drive 488-2677 Murphy's Carriage House 393 Route 101 488-5875 T-Bones 169 South River Road 623-7699 Belmont Lakes Region Casino 1265 Laconia Road 267-7778</p>	<p>Bridgewater Bridgewater Inn 367 Mayhew Turnpike 744-3518 Bristol Back Room at the Mill 2 Central St. 744-0405 Kathleen's Cottage 91 Lake Street 744-6336 Purple Pit 28 Central Square 744-7800 Concord Area 23 State Street 881-9060 Barley House 132 N. Main 228-6363 Cheers 17 Depot St. 228-0180 Common Man 1 Gulf Street 228-3463 Granite 96 Pleasant St. 227-9000 Hermanos 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669 Litherman's Brewery 126 Hall St. Unit B 219-0784 Makris 354 Sheep Davis Rd 225-7665 Penuche's Ale House 6 Pleasant St. 228-9833 Pit Road Lounge 388 Loudon Rd 226-0533 Tandy's 1 Eagle Square 856-7614 True Brew 3 Bicentennial Square 225-2776 Contoocook Covered Bridge Cedar St. 746-5191</p>	<p>Derry Coffee Factory 55 Crystal Ave 432-6006 Drae 14 E Broadway 216-2713 Dover 603 Bar & Lounge 368 Central Ave. 742-9283 Cara 11 Fourth St. 343-4390 Dover Brickhouse 2 Orchard St. 749-3838 Falls Grill & Tavern 421 Central Ave. 749-0995 Flight Coffee 478 Central Ave. 842-5325 Fury's Publick House 1 Washington St. 617-3633 Garrison City Beerworks 455 Central Ave. 343-4231 Sonny's 328 Central Ave. 343-4332 Thirsty Moose 83 Washington St. 842-5229 Top of the Chop 1 Orchard St. 740-0006 Dublin DelRossi's Trattoria 73 Brush Brook Rd (Rt 137) 563-7195 East Hampstead Pasta Loft 220 E. Main St. 378-0092 Epping Holy Grail 64 Main St. 679-9559</p>	<p>Epsom Hilltop Pizzeria 1724 Dover Rd. 736-0027 Exeter Neighborhood Beer Co. 156 Epping Road 418-7124 Sea Dog Brewing 9 Water St. 793-5116 Station 19 37 Water St. 778-3923 Farmington Hawg's Pen 1114 NH Route 11 755-3301 Francestown Toll Booth Tavern 740 2nd NH Tpke N 588-1800 Gilford Patrick's 18 Weirs Road 293-0841 Schuster's 680 Cherry Valley Road 293-2600 Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230 Hampton Bernie's Beach Bar 73 Ocean Blvd 926-5050 Boardwalk Inn & Cafe 139 Ocean Blvd. 929-7400 Cloud 9 225 Ocean Blvd. 601-6102 CR's 287 Exeter Road 929-7972 Logan's Run 816 Lafayette Road 926-4343</p>	<p>Henniker Country Spirit 262 Maple St. 428-7007 Pat's Peak Sled Pub 24 Flander's Road 428-3245 Hillsboro Brick House 125 West Main St. 680-4146 Hillsborough Mama McDonough's 5 Depot St. 680-4148 Turismo 55 Henniker St. 680-4440 Hooksett Asian Breeze 1328 Hooksett Rd 621-9298 Chantilly's 1112 Hooksett Road 625-0012 Granite Tapas 1461 Hooksett Rd 232-1421 Hudson Backstreet Bar 76 Derry St. 578-1811 Nan King 222 Central St. 882-1911 River's Pub 76 Derry St. 943-7832 The Bar 2B Burnham Rd 943-5250 Town Tavern 142 Lowell Road 889-9900</p>	<p>Londonderry Coach Stop 176 Mammoth Rd 437-2022 Harold Square 226 Rockingham Road 432-7144 Long Blue Cat Brewing 298 Rockingham Road 816-8068 Pipe Dream Brewing 40 Harvey Road 404-0751 Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210 Twins Smoke Shop 128 Rockingham Rd No Phone Loudon Hungry Buffalo 58 New Hampshire 129 798-3737 Manchester Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545 Bonfire 950 Elm St. 663-7678 Bookery 844 Elm St. 836-6600</p>	<p>Merrimack Homestead: Jeff Mrozek Nashua CodeX B.A.R.: Piano Phil DeV-ille Country Tavern: Tom Keating Fody's: Girls Night Out Fratello's Italian Grille: Stephen Decuire O'Shea's: Nutfield Sessions Acoustic Open Newmarket Stone Church: Irish Music w/ Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki & Jim Prendergast</p>	<p>Peterborough Harlow's: Bluegrass Night w/ John Meehan La Mia Casa: Soul Repair Portsmouth 3U Artspace: Max Weinberg's Jukebox Beara Irish Brewing: Weekly Irish Music Cisco Brewers: Joel Cage Clipper Tavern: Side Car Dolphin Striker: Family Affair Portsmouth Book & Bar: Juliet Simmons Dinallo & Michael Dinallo with Rod Picott Press Room: Rebirth Brass Band The Goat: Matt Jackson</p>

Thursday, Dec. 5

<p>Ashland Common Man: Jim McHugh & Steve McBrian (Open)</p>	<p>Dover 603 Bar & Lounge: DJ Pez Cara: Open Bluegrass w/ Steve Roy Dover Brickhouse: Acoustic Night w/</p>	<p>Hampton North Beach Bar & Grill: Mike Lineau & Friends</p>	<p>Manchester Bookery: Elsie Eastman Central Ale House: Jonny Friday Blues Club Manchvegas: College Night w/ DJ Dadum Foundry: Josh Foster Fratello's: Jazz Night Jupiter Hall: Qwill Penuche's Music Hall: Bass Weekly Shaskeen: Five Feet/Blank State/Carbohydrates/Trent Larrabee Strange Brew: Seldom Playrights Whiskey's 20: DJs Shawn White/Ryan Nichols/Mike Mazz Yankee Lanes: DJ Dave</p>	<p>Merrimack Homestead: Jeff Mrozek Nashua CodeX B.A.R.: Piano Phil DeV-ille Country Tavern: Tom Keating Fody's: Girls Night Out Fratello's Italian Grille: Stephen Decuire O'Shea's: Nutfield Sessions Acoustic Open Newmarket Stone Church: Irish Music w/ Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki & Jim Prendergast</p>	<p>Peterborough Harlow's: Bluegrass Night w/ John Meehan La Mia Casa: Soul Repair Portsmouth 3U Artspace: Max Weinberg's Jukebox Beara Irish Brewing: Weekly Irish Music Cisco Brewers: Joel Cage Clipper Tavern: Side Car Dolphin Striker: Family Affair Portsmouth Book & Bar: Juliet Simmons Dinallo & Michael Dinallo with Rod Picott Press Room: Rebirth Brass Band The Goat: Matt Jackson</p>
<p>Auburn Auburn Pitts: Open Jam w/ Jay Frigoletto</p>	<p>Exeter Sea Dog Brewing: Dan Walker Station 19: Thursday Night Live</p>	<p>Hillsborough Turismo: Line Dancing</p>	<p>Londonderry Coach Stop: Sean Coleman Stumble Inn: Almost Famous</p>	<p>Loudon Hungry Buffalo: Jennifer Mitchell</p>	
<p>Candia Town Cabin Pub: Becca Myari</p>	<p>Gilford Schuster's: Dan The Muzik Man</p>	<p>Laconia 405 Pub: Eric Grant Band Granite State Music Hall: Saving Abel</p>			
<p>Concord Cheers: Brad Bosse Common Man: Holly Furlone Hermanos: Scott Solsky Penuche's Ale House: People Like You</p>	<p>Hampton CR's: The Last Duo</p>				

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Fody's Tavern
9 Clinton St. 577-9015

Fratello's Italian Grille
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Millyard Brewery
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O'Shea's
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Peddler's Daughter
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Penuche's Ale House
4 Canal St. 595-9381

Pig Tale
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864-8740

R'evolution Sports Bar
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Riverside Barbecue
53 Main St. 204-5110

Riverwalk Cafe
35 Railroad Sq.
578-0200

Shorty's
48 Gusabel Ave
882-4070

Stella Blu
70 E. Pearl St. 578-5557

White Birch Brewing
460 Amherst St.
402-4444

New Boston

Molly's Tavern
35 Mont Vernon Rd
487-2011

New London

Flying Goose
40 Andover Road 526-
6899

Newmarket
Stone Church
5 Granite St. 659-7700

North Hampton

Barley House Seacoast
43 Lafayette Rd 379-
9161

Throwback Brewery
7 Hobbs Road 379-2317

Northwood

Umami
284 1st NH Turnpike
942-6427

Peterborough

Harlow's Pub
3 School St. 924-6365

La Mia Casa Pizzeria
1 Jaffrey Road
924-6262

Pittsfield

Main Street Grill & Bar
32 Main Street 436-0005

Plaistow

Crow's Nest
181 Plaistow Rd
974-1686

Racks Bar & Grill
20 Plaistow Road
974-2406

Portsmouth

3S Artspace
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Beara Irish Brewing
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342-3272

British Beer Company
103 Hanover St. at
Portwalk Place 501-0515

Cafe Nostimo
72 Mirona Road 436-3100

Cisco Brewers
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Clipper Tavern
75 Pleasant St. 501-0109

Dolphin Striker
15 Bow St. 431-5222

Earth Eagle Brewings
165 High S. 502-2244

Grill 28
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Latchkey
41 Vaughan Mall
766-3333

Martingale Wharf
99 Bow St. 431-0901

Portsmouth Book & Bar
40 Pleasant St. 427-9197

Portsmouth Gas Light
64 Market St. 430-9122

Press Room
77 Daniel St. 431-5186

Ri Ra Irish Pub
22 Market Square
319-1680

Rudi's
20 High St. 430-7834

Thirsty Moose
21 Congress St 427-8645

White Heron Tea
601 Islington St 501-6266

Raymond

Cork n' Keg
4 Essex Drive 244-1573

Rochester

Governor's Inn
78 Wakefield St.
332-0107

Lilac City Grille
103 N. Main St 332-3984

Magrilla's
19 Hanson Road 330-
1964

Radloff's
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948-1073

ReFresh Lounge
45 North Main St.
402-4136

Revolution Tap Room
61 N Main St. 244-3022

Smokey's Tavern
11 Farmington Rd 330-
3100

Salem

Black Water Grill
43 Pelham Road
328-9013

Colloseum
264 North Broadway
898-1190

Jocelyn's Lounge
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Sayde's Restaurant
136 Cluff Crossing
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Suncook

Olympus Pizza
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Warner

Schoodacs Cafe
1 East Main St. 456-3400

The Local
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Weare

Stark House Tavern
487 South Stark Highway
529-0901

Wilton

Local's Cafe
65 Main St. 782-7819

Windham

Common Man
88 Range Road 898-0088

Old School Bar & Grill
49 Range Road 458-6051

Somersworth

Old Rail Pizza: Tom Boisse

Weare

Stark House: Alex Cohen

Windham

Common Man: Mike Morris

Friday, Dec. 6

Auburn

Auburn Tavern: Mark Dionne

Bedford

Murphy's: Austin McCarthy

Belmont

Lakes Region Casino: DJ Mark

Bristol

LinCross Roast Beef: Ericka
Cushing

Boscawen

Alan's: Bob French

Concord

Area 23: Hank Osborne Song-
writer Circles

Makris: Alan Roux Band

Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz
(105.5 JYY)

True Brew: Joe Fortin and Gale
Pellerin

Derry

Coffee Factory: Dave LaCroix

603 Bar & Lounge: DJ Music /
Frisky Friday

Dover Brickhouse: Holiday Toy
Drive with the Soggy Po' Boys

Fury's Publick House: Truffle

Thirsty Moose: Joe Sabourin

Thompson's 2nd Alarm: Andy
Kiniry

Epping

Holy Grail: Mike Hall & Gary
Carlson

Exeter

Sea Dog Brewing: Todd Hearon

Gilford

Schuster's: Dan The Muzik Man

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Rose Kula

Hampton

CR's: The Last Duo

Logan's Run: Radioactive

North Beach Bar & Grill: Jenni
Lynn Duo

Old Salt: Jimmy D

The Goat: Jonny Friday

Wally's Pub: Blacktop Mojo/
Red Sky Mary/Victim of Circum-
stance/Fifth Freedom

Henniker

Country Spirit: Reid

Hooksett

Chantilly's: Nicole Knox Mur-
phy

Hudson

The Bar: The Drift

Town Tavern: Josh Foster

Laconia

Acoustic Lounge: Jennifer
Mitchell

Broken Spoke Saloon: Talkin'
Smack

Pitman's Freight Room: Neal
and the Vipers

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

The Big House: DJ Kadence

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Mark Lapointe

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Brien Sweet
Bonfire: Isaiah Bennett
Derryfield: Duke
Foundry: Ryan Williamson
Fratello's: Chris Cavanaugh
Murphy's Taproom: Sunday Ave
Penuche's Music Hall: Radio Star
Shaskeen: Scissorfight
Strange Brew: BJ Magoon & Driving Sideways
Whiskey's 20: DJs Jason Spivak & Sammy Smoove

Press Room: Tribute to Jerry Garcia Band + Lonesome Lunch w/ Dave Talmage
Ri Ra: The Middle Men
Rudi's: Barbara London
Thirsty Moose: Adam Lufkin

Rochester
Magrilla's: Pete Peterson
ReFresh Lounge: Free Flow Friday Open Jam
Revolution Taproom: David Amato
Smokey's Tavern: Joel Cage

Seabrook
Chop Shop: 200 Proof

Weare
Stark House Tavern: Ken Budka

Dover Brickhouse: The Reconstructed
Flight Coffee: Kioea with River Sister
Fury's Publick House: Frenzie
Thirsty Moose: Joe Sambo

East Hampstead
Pasta Loft: Kate McDougall & Logan Bonnell

Epping
Holy Grail: Freddy Dame Jr.

Exeter
Sea Dog Brewing: Arty Francoeur

Gilford
Schuster's: Dan The Muzik Man

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Merrimack
Homestead: Rick Watson
Jade Dragon: DJ John Paul

Milford
Pasta Loft: Bat Magoon Band
Tiebreakers: Brad Bosse
Zinger's: Anthony Geraci

Nashua
CodeX B.A.R.: Piano Phil DeVillie
Country Tavern: Brother Seamus
Fratello's Italian Grille: Paul Luff
Peddler's Daughter: Best Not Broken

Nashua
Riverside Barbecue: Switch House Ramblers

Saturday, Dec. 7

Auburn
Auburn Pitts: Nicole Knox Murphy (Auburn Firefighters Holiday Party)
Auburn Tavern: Barry Brearley

Bedford
Murphy's: D-Comp

Boscawen
Alan's: Barry Brearley

Bow
Chen Yang Li: Ryan Williamson

Bridgewater
Bridgewater Inn: Horsepower

Bristol
Bad Lab Beer: Two Days From Monday
Purple Pit: Clyde Bisbee & The Wheelhouse Revelers

Hampstead
Jamison's: Joppa Flats

Hampton
North Beach Bar & Grill: Sun-gods
Old Salt: Corey Brackett
The Goat: Emily Rae
Wally's Pub: Beneath The Sheets

Hudson
The Bar: Toys for Tots Benefit w/ Nicole Knox Murphy/Dan Carter/EXP/Mitch Pelkey & Horizon

Laconia
Broken Spoke Saloon: Blues Tonight Band
Granite State Music Hall: DJ Music - Ladies Night
Tower Hill Tavern: Supernothing

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New Boston
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Umami: Zeb Cruikshank

Portsmouth
3S Artspace: Room for Memory featuring Chris O'Neill w/ Brian Killough/Lawrence w/ Aubrey Haddard
Cisco Brewers: Wellfleet
Clipper Tavern: The Connoption Fits
Dolphin Striker: George Belli & The Retroactivists
Portsmouth Book & Bar: Clاندستine
Portsmouth Gaslight: RC Thomas/Sean McCarthy

Candia
Town Cabin Pub: Lisa Guyer

Concord
Area 23: Errol Wayne Jam/P-Funk
Hermanos: Tim Gurshin
Penuche's Ale House: Andrew North & the Rangers
Pit Road Lounge: Drama Kings
Tandy's: Holiday Sing
True Brew: Rhythm Upstairs

Dover
603 Bar & Lounge: DJ Music / Sexy Saturday

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Paul Luff
Stumble Inn: Groove Cats

Loudon
Hungry Buffalo: Fuzzbox

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Dan Walker
Bonfire: Andrew McManus Band
Bungalow: Great American Ghost/Varials/Boundaries/Self Inflicted (reunion) & Blood Tithe
Derryfield: The Slakas
Foundry: Senie Hunt
Fratello's: Chris Gardner
Jewel: Ugly Sweater Pub Party
Jupiter Hall: Hickory Horned Devils Christmas
Murphy's Taproom: Nimbus 9

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thurs., Dec. 5 Derry Tupelo Music Hall: NAMI Fundraiser - Steve Bjork, Mitch Stinson, Kennedy Richard	Fri., Dec. 6 Manchester Palace Theatre: Paul D'Angelo	Tues., Dec. 10 Rochester Curlie's Comedy Club: Stand-up & Smokes	Thurs., Dec. 12 Manchester Strange Brew Tavern: Ben Davis & Timothy Pitts co-host open mic
Sat., Dec. 7 Manchester Headliners: Marty Caprioni	Wed., Dec. 11 Manchester Shaskeen: Ryan Brauth and Kathe Farris Murphy's Taproom: Laugh Free Or Die Open Mic	Nashua Fody's: Joe Yannyty/Alana Foden	Rochester Curlie's Comedy Club: Pregame Comedy Show

Manchester
Strange Brew Tavern: Ben Davis & Timothy Pitts co-host open mic

Nashua
Millyard Brewery: Brewery Comedy Tour

Rochester
Curlie's: Pregame comedy



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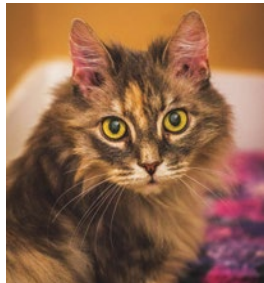
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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Penuche's Music Hall: Off Duty Angels
Salona: Ghost Riders
Shaskeen: Scissorfight
Strange Brew: Ken Clark
Whiskey's 20: DJ Hizzy/Shawn White
Wild Rover: Slainte

Merrimack

Big Kahuna's Cafe: Jodee Frawlee
Homestead: Sean Coleman
Jade Dragon: Victim of Circumstance/DJ Laura

Milford

J's Tavern: Paul Driscoll
Pasta Loft: Compaq Big Band Christmas Show

Nashua

CodeX B.A.R.: Piano Phil DeVille
Country Tavern: Charlie Chropoulos
Fratello's Italian Grille: Ted Solovicos
Liquid Therapy: Joe Pond
Millyard Brewery: Garrett Partridge Acoustic Triune
Peddler's Daughter: Down A Fifth
R'evolution: Savage Night w/ Jay Samurai
Riverside Barbecue: Down on Farragut

New Boston

Molly's Tavern: Rich and Bobby/John Chouinard

Newmarket

Stone Church: Rustic Overtones 8th Album Release party/Clandestine

Northwood

Umami: Gabby Martin/Open w/ Island Mike

Portsmouth

Cafe Nostimo: Austin Pratt
Cisco Brewers: Bonus Cat
Clipper Tavern: Pete and The Rhythm Method
Portsmouth Book & Bar: PMAC Teen Songwriters in the Round/Bill Staines
Portsmouth Gaslight: Dave Zangri/Grace Repetti
Press Room: Sojoy
Ri Ra: DJ Scotty
Rudi's: Mike Harrison
The Goat: Christie Ray
Thirsty Moose: Alex Anthony

Raymond

Cork n Keg: Gabby Martin

Rochester

Magrilla's: Mica Peterson

Revolution Taproom: Rock-spring Ugly Sweater Party

Salem

Jocelyn's: The Deviant Hiatus Holiday Show

Seabrook

Chop Shop: Toys for Tots Fund-raiser w/Bite The Bullet

Weare

Stark House Tavern: Justin Cohn

Sunday, Dec. 8

Ashland

Common Man: Holly Furlone

Bedford

Copper Door: Phil Jacques/Gabby Martin

Bristol

Bad Lab Beer: Sean Fell

Concord

Hermanos: State Street Combo
Penuche's Ale House: Open w/ Steve Naylor
Tandy's: Open w/ Mikey G

Dover

Cara: Irish Session w/ Frank Landford
Sonny's: Sonny's Jazz

Gilford

Schuster's: Dan The Muzik Man

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Wan-tu Blues Band & Jam

Hampton

CR's: Jazz Brunch w/John Irish
The Goat: Nick Drouin

Hudson

River's Pub: Acoustic Jam

Manchester

Candia Road Brewing: Original w/ Alli Beaudry
Jewel: Saving Vice (NH Holiday Show!)/Ovtlier/Secret Eyes/Letting Go/Attacking the Vision & Hollow Betrayal
Shaskeen: Rap night, Industry night
Strange Brew: Jam

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Open Stage with Lou Porrazzo

Newmarket

Stone Church: Andrew Polakow

North Hampton

Barley House Seacoast: Great Bay Sailor

Northwood

Umami: Bluegrass Brunch w/ Cecil Abels

Portsmouth

Press Room: Anglo-Celtic traditional folk/roots session + Jazz ft. The Jason Palmer & Jerry Bergonzi Quintet
Ri Ra: Irish Sessions
Rudi's: Jazz Brunch w/Jim Dozet

Rochester

Lilac City Grille: Brunch Music

Salem

Copper Door: Steve Aubert/Jodee Frawlee

Monday, Dec. 9

Concord

Hermanos: State Street Combo

Hampton

The Goat: Shawn Theriault

Manchester

Central Ale House: Jonny Friday Duo
Fratello's: Rob Wolfe or Phil Jacques

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo

Merrimack

Able Ebenezer: Ale Room Music
Homestead: Chris Cavanaugh

Nashua

Fratello's Italian Grille: Dave Zangri

Portsmouth

Dolphin Striker: Old School
Earth Eagle Brewings: Modern Records Pop Up

Ri Ra: Oran Mor

Tuesday, Dec. 10

Concord

Hermanos: Paul Hubert
Tandy's: Open w/ Mikey G

Dover

Fury's Publick House: Tim Theriault and Friends
Sonny's: Soggy Po' Boys

Gilford

Patrick's: Paul Luff

Hudson

Backstreet Bar: High Road hosts

Manchester

Fratello's: Kim Riley
Shaskeen: Brett Wilson
Strange Brew: Lisa Marie
Whiskey's 20: Sammy Smoove & DJ Gera

GET THE CROWDS AT YOUR GIG

Want to get your show listed in the Music This Week? Let us know all about your upcoming show, comedy show, open mike night or multi-band event by sending all the information to music@hippopress.com. Send information by 9 a.m. on Friday to have the event considered for the next Thursday's paper.

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack
Homestead: Brad Bosse

Nashua
Burtons Grill: Chuck n John
Fratello's Italian Grille: Amanda Cote

Newmarket
Stone Church: Rootin' Tootin' Acoustic Hoot hosted by Eli Elkus

North Hampton
Barley House Seacoast: Traditional Irish Session

Peterborough
Harlow's: Celtic Music Jam

Portsmouth
Clipper Tavern: Tequila Jim Open Jam
Press Room: Hoot Night w/Dave Gerard + Larry Garland Jazz Jam w/River City Jazz

Wednesday, Dec. 11

Bristol
LinCross Roast Beef: Don Bar-tenstein

Candia
Town Cabin Pub: Nicole Mur-phy

Concord
Hermanos: Eugene Durkee

Dover
603 Bar & Lounge: Rock the Mic w/ DJ Coach

Dublin
DelRossi's Trattoria: Celtic and Old Timey Jam Session

Hillsborough
Turismo: Blues Jam w Jerry Paquette & the Runaway Bluesmen

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Justin Cohn
Harold Square: Houdana the Magician (Tableside Magic)

Manchester
Fratello's: Ted Solovicos
Strange Brew: Jesse's Open Extravaganza

Merrimack
Homestead: Amanda Cote

Nashua
Country Tavern: Joel Cage
Fratello's Italian Grille: Phil Jacques

Portsmouth
Clipper Tavern: John Holly-wood
Dolphin Striker: Pete Peterson w/ Ben B. & Ben G.
Press Room: The Glenn Wixson Family Holiday Extravaganza
Ri Ra: Erin's Guild
The Goat: Beneath the Sheets Unplugged

Rochester
Lilac City Grille: Tim Theriault - Ladies Night
Revolution Taproom: Hump Day Blues w/ Jeff Hayford

NITE CONCERTS

Bank of NH Stage
16 Main St., Concord, 225-1111
Capitol Center for the Arts
44 S. Main St., Concord
225-1111, ccanh.com
The Colonial Theatre
95 Main St., Keene
352-2033, thecolonial.org
The Flying Monkey
39 S. Main St., Plymouth
536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com

Franklin Opera House
316 Central St., Franklin
934-1901, franklinoperahouse.org
Hampton Beach Ballroom Casino
169 Ocean Blvd, Hampton
929-4100, casinoballroom.com
The Music Hall
28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth
436-2400, themusichall.org
The Music Hall Loft
131 Congress St., Portsmouth
436-2400, themusichall.org

Palace Theatre
80 Hanover St., Manchester
668-5588, palacetheatre.org
SNHU Arena
555 Elm St., Manchester
644-5000, snhuarena.com
Stockbridge Theatre
Pinkerton Academy, Rte 28, Derry
437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Tupelo Music Hall
10 A St., Derry
437-5100, tupelomusichall.com

Badfish - Tribute to Sublime Thursday, Dec. 5, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
Hot Tuna Acoustic Friday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m. Colonial Theatre
Marshall Tucker Band Friday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m. Flying Monkey
Squirrel Nut Zippers Friday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Davina & the Vagabonds Friday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
Granite State of Mind Presents Classic Country Showdown Saturday, Dec. 7, 8 p.m. Palace Theatre
Chris Pureka & Kris Delmhorst Sunday, Dec. 8, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
The Fixx Tuesday, Dec. 10, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Celtic Christmas Friday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m. Colonial Theatre
John Denver Tribute Christmas Concert Friday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m. Flying Monkey
Boat House Row - Yacht Rock Experience Friday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Winterland Movie/Donaher Friday, Dec. 13, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
Purging Sin Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage

The Tubes Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 p.m. Flying Monkey
Spain Brothers Saturday, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre
Farewell to the Dirty Tricks - All-Star Blues Show Sunday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Mini Solstice Fest w/ Matt Flinner & Low Lily Thursday, Dec. 19, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
Christmas With The Celts Thursday, Dec. 19, 8 p.m. Flying Monkey
Sinatra Christmas w/ Rich Dimare Friday, Dec. 20, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre
Start Making Sense (Talking Heads Tribute) Saturday, Dec. 21, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
Samantha Fish Saturday, Dec. 21, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Simon & Garfunkel Story Saturday, Dec. 21, 8 p.m. Capitol Center
Recycled Percussion Thursday, Dec. 26, 8 p.m. Rochester Opera House
Recycled Percussion (through 1/4) Friday, Dec. 27, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre
Matisyahu Saturday, Dec. 28, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Enter The Haggis Sunday, Dec. 29, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage

Adam Ezra Group Tuesday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Kashmir (Led Zepplin Tribute) Saturday, Jan. 4, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Lotus Land (Rush Tribute) - also 1/11 Friday, Jan. 10, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Eggy Friday, Jan. 10, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
1964 Beatles Tribute Sunday, Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre
We Shall Overcome Saturday, Jan. 18, 8 p.m. Colonial Theatre
Mallett Brothers/Dusty Gray Thursday, Jan. 23, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
Apple Hill String Quartet Friday, Jan. 24, 8 p.m. Colonial Theatre
Imagination Movers Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Beatejuice Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m. Tupelo
The Machine (Pink Floyd) Sunday, Jan. 26, 8 p.m. Tupelo
Fruition w/ Caleb Elliott Thursday, Jan. 30, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
Tragedy: All Metal Tribute to the Bee Gees & Beyond Saturday, Feb. 1, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
Blue Oyster Cult Thursday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre
Eaglemania (also 2/8) Friday, Feb. 7, 8 p.m. Tupelo

NEW YEAR'S EVE 2019
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"I Before E?" — which way is it?

Across

- 1 Fraud-monitoring agcy.
- 4 Deprive of weapons
- 9 Judge's seat, in court
- 13 Boxer botherer
- 14 "London Warsaw New York" musician born in Poland

- 15 "Shepherd Moons" singer
- 16 2019 debaters, for short
- 17 "Gloves are off"
- 18 Unit of gold or silver?
- 19 Reattaches a tomato to a plant (but in a messy way)?
- 22 Grammy-winning bossa nova

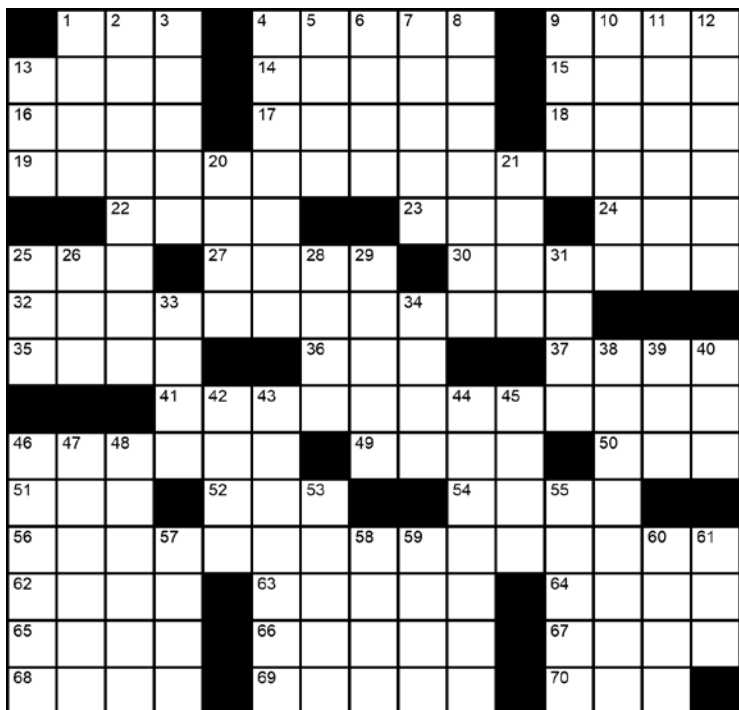
- musician Gilberto
- 23 Source of some milk
- 24 Big expense in blockbuster films
- 25 Freudian topic
- 27 "___ one, think that ..."
- 30 Drum teacher's session
- 32 Actor who's all about the money? 35 "Horrors!"
- 36 Lennon partner
- 37 "Incoming golf ball!"
- 41 Autobiographies, two by two?
- 46 Light benders
- 49 Part of the mnemonic HOMES
- 50 Wall-E's love interest
- 51 Common Market abbr., once
- 52 Bedroom furniture wood
- 54 Romanov royal of Russia
- 56 Roll call on a ship?
- 62 "Person of the Year" awardee

- 63 "The Many Loves of ___ Gillis"
- 64 ___ Yun (performing arts company with ubiquitous ads)
- 65 Strait of Hormuz country
- 66 Golf equipment
- 67 Like mud or slime
- 68 "99 Luftballons" German singer
- 69 Nine Inch Nails founder Reznor
- 70 #1 concern?

- 28 Natural gas add-in
- 29 Step in the shower?
- 31 Online financial services company focused on student loans
- 33 "House" actor Omar
- 34 American-born former queen of Jordan
- 38 Winter footwear
- 39 Lovejoy on "The Simpsons," e.g.
- 40 Point opposite WNW
- 42 In a wild way
- 43 Emphatic words after "There!"
- 44 Survival group?
- 45 Grateful Dead bassist Phil
- 46 Gel in jellies
- 47 Bring back on
- 48 Val Kilmer, in "Top Gun"
- 53 Boxed soup and bouillon brand
- 55 He was famous for fables
- 57 Pro wrestler John
- 58 Orchestra's tuning instrument
- 59 Swede's neighbor
- 60 Cold-___ (zinc-based brand)
- 61 At ___ cost

Down

- 1 Get out quick
- 2 Short-term earning opportunities
- 3 Inexpensive '80s keyboard manufacturer
- 4 Gaming company behind "Assassin's Creed" and "Just Dance"
- 5 1949 alliance
- 6 Professional org.
- 7 Public uprisings
- 8 It has a round cover
- 9 Wally's TV brother, with "the"
- 10 Hijinks
- 11 "Us" actress Lupita
- 12 Entered
- 13 "Fireside chat" monogram
- 20 Depilatory brand with "short shorts" ads, once
- 21 Window shopper, essentially
- 25 Tiny unit of work
- 26 Formerly Portuguese Indian territory



11/28



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SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from poems by Christina Rossetti, born Dec. 5, 1830.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *There is one that has a head without an eye, / And there's one that has an eye without a head. / You may find the answer if you try; / And when all is said, / Half the answer hangs upon a thread. —A Riddle* You'll be on pins and needles.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *I tell my secret? No indeed, not I: / Perhaps some day, who knows? / But not to-day; it froze, and blows, and snows, / And you're too curious: fie! / You want to hear it? Well: / Only, my secret's mine, and I won't tell. —Winter: My Secret* Some people can keep secrets and others can't.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *Remote, each single star / Comes out, till there they are / All shining brightly: how the dew's fall damp! / While close at hand the glow-worm lights her lamp / Or twinkles from afar. —Twilight* Calm And maybe the glow-worms like to look at the stars.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *Let us strike hands as hearty friends; / No more, no less: and friendship's good: / Only don't keep in view ulterior ends, / And points not understood —No, Thank You, John* Hearty friendship doesn't work with those who have ulterior motives.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *How comes it, Flora, that, whenever we / Play cards together, you invariably, / However the pack parts, / Still hold the Queen of Hearts? / I've scanned you with a scrutinizing gaze, / Resolved to fathom these your secret ways: / But, sift them as I will, / Your ways are secret still. —The Queen of Hearts* How many times until you decide to quit playing with Flora?

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *Somewhere or other there must surely be / The face not seen, the voice not heard, / The heart that not yet — never yet — ah me! / Made answer to my word. —Somewhere or Other* There are friends to be made.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *What would I give for words, if only words would come; / But now in its misery my spirit has fallen dumb: / O, merry friends, go your way, I have never a word to say. —What Would I Give?* When you finally think of the right words, you might want to write them down.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *A hubbub, a squeak, a bustle! / Who cares to chatter or sing / With delightful breakfast coming? / Yet they whisper under the wing: / 'So we may wear whatever we like, / Anything, everything!' —Freaks of Fashion* You can wear what you like.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *Robin says: 'A scarlet waistcoat / Will be all the wear, / Snug, and also cheerful-looking / For the frostiest air, / Comfortable for the chest too / When one comes to plume and pair.' / 'Neat gray hoods will be in vogue,' / Quoth a Jackdaw: 'Glossy gray, / Setting close, yet setting easy, / Nothing fly-away; / Suited to our misty mornings, / A la negligée.'*

—Freaks of Fashion It all depends on your perspective.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *Mix a pancake, / Stir a pancake, / Pop it in the pan; / Fry the pancake, / Toss the pancake — / Catch it if you can. —Mix a Pancake* Then eat it, and share.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *What can lambskins do / All the keen night through? / Nestle by their woolly mother; / The careful ewe. / What can nestlings do / In the nightly dew? / Sleep beneath their mother's wing / Till day breaks anew. / If in field or tree / There might only be / Such a warm soft sleeping-place / Found for me! —A Chill* You can build your own cozy nest.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *All earth's full rivers cannot fill / The sea, that drinking thirsteth still. / Sheer miracles of loveliness / Lie hid in its unlooked-on bed: / Anemones, salt, passionless, / Blow flower-like; just enough alive / To blow and multiply and thrive. —By the Sea* There's a whole world beyond your living room.

NITE SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			3	2		7	4	
7						3		
3	6				4			
		1		8				3
8								2
4				6		5		
			1				6	8
		8						5
	2	5		9	7			

**SU
DO
KU**

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

11/28

5	1	3	6	4	2	7	8	9
2	4	7	9	5	8	1	6	3
9	8	6	3	7	1	4	5	2
4	5	9	7	6	3	8	2	1
6	7	8	2	1	5	3	9	4
3	2	1	8	9	4	6	7	5
1	9	4	5	8	7	2	3	6
8	3	5	4	2	6	9	1	7
7	6	2	1	3	9	5	4	8

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Difficulty Level ★★★

12/05



Area 23
live music

THURSDAY 12/5
GRANITE STATE BLUE SOCIETY MUSIC AND FUNDRAISER - 5PM
ROAD TO MEMPHIS: FUNDRAISER - 6:30PM

FRIDAY 12/6
SONGWRITER CIRCLE - 8PM

SATURDAY 12/7
ERROL WAYNE HOSTS OUR SATURDAY JAM - 2PM
SECRET ARMY W/ OPENER BOO BOO GROOVE - 6PM

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Live Music

Fri. Dec. 6th
Rose Kula's (Acoustic Open Mic)

Sat. Dec. 7th
Closing at 4 pm for a private event

Sun. Dec. 8th
Benefit Jam for Harpo 3:00-til everyone plays!

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DEC 5

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DEC 6

DAVINA & THE VAGABONDS



DEC 8

CHRIS PUREKA & KRIS DELMHORST



DEC 27

THE GHOST OF PAUL REVERE

ALSO COMING SOON!

- 12/13 - "WINTERLAND" MOVIE SCREENING + DONAHER
- 12/14 - METAL NIGHT: PURGING SIN
- 12/19 - WINTER SOLSTICE MINI-FEST

- 12/20 - STEVEN ROGERS (COMEDY)
- 12/21 - START MAKING SENSE
- 12/28 - HIGHER EDUCATION
- 12/29 - ENTER THE HAGGIS

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION

Ewwwww

David Paul Wipperman, 61, of Largo, Florida, was taken into custody Nov. 21 in response to a road rage altercation a few weeks before, the Tampa Bay Times reported. According to arrest reports, during the incident, Wipperman left his truck and approached a woman driving a Kia sedan. She rolled down the window and apologized to Wipperman, who then spit the food he was chewing into her face, and some of it went into her mouth, the report said. Next, he allegedly opened her driver's side door and began screaming at her, pointing his finger in her face. He was charged in Pinellas County with felony battery and burglary of an occupied vehicle and held on \$12,500 bail.

Picky, picky

In Boca Raton, Florida, a robber approached a Wells Fargo bank branch teller with a very specific request on Nov. 18, reported WPLG. Sandy Hawkins, 73, entered the bank that morning and told the teller, "This is a robbery. I have a weapon," and put his hand in his waistband to indicate a gun, according to the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office arrest report. The teller started counting out \$100 bills, eventually totaling \$2,000, the affidavit said, but Hawkins explained that was too much money, and he only wanted \$1,100. Authorities said the teller made the adjustment, then slid the bills through the window to Hawkins, who left the bank. When detectives caught up with him the next day, he told them, "I will make this easy" and showed them a note he had written, which read, "Give me \$1,100. Now, No Alarms, Hope to get caught." He was booked into the Palm Beach County Jail on robbery charges.

Bright ideas

Elementary and middle school students in Bandung, Indonesia, have been spending too much time with their smartphones, according to Mayor Oded Muhammad Danial, who has come up with a clever distraction. In mid-November, authorities began distributing 2,000 baby chicks in cages with signs that read: "Please take good care of me." AFP reports the students will be required to feed their pets before and after school and can keep them on school premises if they don't have space in their backyard. Danial said the chick project, dubbed "chickenisation," is part of a larger endeavor by President Joko Widodo to broaden students' education. "There is an aspect of discipline here," said Danial.

Eighth-graders in the Payatas district north of Manila in the Philippines have come up with a way to help rid city streets of dog feces and maybe even lower local construction costs. The "bio-bricks" they've developed are made of 10 grams

of poop, which the students collect and air-dry, and 10 grams of cement powder, Reuters reported on Nov. 20. The students say their bricks can be used for sidewalk pavement or small structures, such as backyard walls. They admit the bio-bricks have a faint odor, but assert that it will fade with time.

Compelling explanation

In Bainbridge Township, Ohio, a 60-year-old man called police on Oct. 22 after firing two warning shots into his backyard, WOIO reported. The unnamed man told officers he was trying to scare an animal away, but when asked if it might have been a bear, he said, "It ain't no ... bear because it was jiggling my doorknob." The homeowner went on to tell police the animal had to be Bigfoot because it was 7 feet tall, and it comes to his home every night because neighbors feed it bananas. He also speculated that a woman who was missing from the area was taken by the "creature." However, officers found no large animal tracks in his yard and suggested he call again if he witnesses anything suspicious.

Multitasking

As college student Morgan Taylor got her nails done in a High Point, North Carolina, salon on Nov. 20, she was shocked when one of the nail technicians spread out a tarp on the shop floor and began butchering meat with what appeared to be a kitchen knife. "I asked them what it was, because just seeing them unload flesh and bones was a little bit shocking," Taylor told WFMY. "They said it was deer meat, and they were splitting it up between the workers to take home. It had already been skinned; they were sectioning it." Taylor reported the shop to the North Carolina Board of Cosmetic Art Examiners, which told WFMY its "inspectors have not received a complaint within memory of butchering in a cosmetic shop." It declined to comment further on the open investigation.

Wait, what?

Zhang Binsheng, 30, of Harbin, China, finally sought a doctor's attention after three months of struggling to breathe through his nose, Metro News reported in early November. Zhang told doctors at the Fourth Affiliated Hospital of Harbin Medical University that he couldn't sleep and also had a constant smell of decay in his nostrils. X-rays revealed Zhang had a tooth stuck in his nostril. The tooth, which Zhang had lost when he was 10 years old after a fall from the third floor of a mall, had somehow rerooted and continued to grow in his nasal cavity. It was removed in a brief surgery, and Zhang is said to be recovering.

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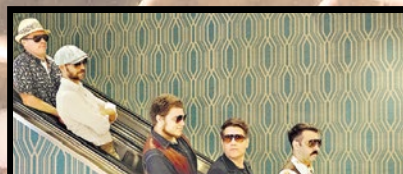
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