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APRIL 16 - 22, 2020

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LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

FREE

# WHEN WILL I GET MY MONEY

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FINANCIAL QUESTIONS**



**INSIDE: PLENTY OF PUZZLES**

**Don't waste the crisis**

Former Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel has been quoted as saying, “you never let a serious crisis go to waste, and what I mean by that, it’s an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before.” I’m sure that all of us would consider the coronavirus a serious crisis. What will it mean to various aspects of American society once the crisis is over? More specifically, what will it mean to aspects of life where you spend the majority of your time and effort?

I spend most of my time in education redesign, an area where it is challenging to make meaningful progress. The inertia of the 20th-century model of learning inside classrooms is difficult to break out of. We’ve heard for more than half a century how the majority of students feel that school is “boring.” Yet we do largely the same things over and over. We’ve done them for over a century. We try to get better at them but largely our efforts are far less successful than we’d like.

Recently, at one of the Covid-19 task force press conferences, Vice President Mike Pence stated that Betsy DeVos (U.S. Secretary of Education) “told me that Florida and New Hampshire are setting the pace for K-12.” This did not come as a surprise to me. New Hampshire has been the pacesetter in education redesign since 2005 when the state Board of Education changed its education regulations to include learning for credit in settings other than traditional classrooms. Since then, the Virtual Learning Academy Charter School (VLACS) has been established and has become widely recognized as one of the best online schools in America.

Additionally, the term ELO (Extended Learning Opportunity) has become a part of New Hampshire’s education vernacular. ELOs are those experiences that take place in hands-on, real-world environments for credit toward graduation. While the New Hampshire ELO experience has been good, it’s not ubiquitous. Too many school districts are doing too little with opportunities for students to learn in real-world settings. The New Hampshire Department of Education has done the research on ELOs. These experiences work amazingly well for our students. While it’s clear that online learning is going to receive a tremendous boost as a direct result of the coronavirus crisis, when we get back to whatever normal is, real-world/ELO types of experience need to become part of the new normal in how we educate our kids.

*Fred Bramante is the past chairman and member of the New Hampshire State Board of Education. He speaks and consults on education redesign to regional, state and national organizations.*



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## Covid-19 updates

There were 1,020 confirmed cases of Covid-19 in New Hampshire as of April 13, state health officials reported. Several of the cases are still under investigation, but so far the virus has caused 152 hospitalizations and 23 deaths statewide. According to the state Department of Health and Human Services, community-based transmission of the virus continues to increase, while most of the remaining cases are in people who have either travelled to domestic or international locations or have had close contact with someone with Covid-19. More than a third of all of the confirmed cases in the state, the data shows, are in Rockingham County.

## Emergency orders

Since last week, Gov. Chris Sununu has issued three more emergency orders in response to the Covid-19 crisis. On April 9, Sununu issued Emergency Orders No. 28, No. 29 and No. 30.

Emergency Order No. 28 is a temporary non-congregate sheltering order, directing state and local agencies to work together with community members to identify isolation sites and temporary housing for people experiencing virus symptoms.

Emergency Order No. 29 requires state agencies, boards and commissions to submit recommendations to Sununu if any regulatory deadlines and requirements should be adjusted in response to the ongoing state of emergency.

Emergency Order No. 30 gives temporary requirements to all health care being provided in alternate settings like schools, auditoriums and convention centers, in effect until either rescinded by Sununu or the state of emergency is terminated. Per the order, all health insurance plans from carriers regulated by the state's Insurance Department should be covered for ACS (alternative care site) services, including those that are out-of-network, which will be reimbursed.

Details of all Emergency Orders can be found on [governor.nh.gov](http://governor.nh.gov).

## Fiscal Committee

On April 13, the state's Joint Fiscal Committee filed an emergency motion asking a judge not to allow Gov. Chris Sununu to disburse the \$1.25 billion in federal Covid-19 relief funds without legislative approval. In a statement, Joint Fiscal Committee chair Rep. Mary Jane Wallner said it is that agency's job to receive and spend the federal funds during emergencies, calling the legislative branch "the voice of the people." New Hampshire is expected to receive these funds by the end of the month. On April 10 the Joint Fiscal Committee approved about \$1.2 million of the \$1.25 billion during its first remote meeting, including to bolster the state's Meals on Wheels program. Granite Staters can send an email to [nhcovid19stimulus@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:nhcovid19stimulus@leg.state.nh.us) to communicate with the legislature on how they feel the funds can best be used.

## Emergency relief office

Sununu, meanwhile, recently announced the formation of the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR), an agency that "will be charged with the investment and oversight of Covid-19 relief and stimulus funds provided to New Hampshire by the federal government," according to a press release. In a letter to state Senate President Donna Soucy outlining the formation of the office, Sununu said the new office will be similar to former Gov. John Lynch's 2009 New Hampshire Office of Economic Stimulus. "Unlike the 2009 stimulus investment process that used the budget to ensure legislative input, the urgency and timing of this crisis does not allow for that course of action," Sununu said in a statement. "We are creating a bipartisan Legislative Advisory Board within the office to ensure transparency and input to the process." State banking commissioner Jerry Little was selected to serve as executive director of the office.

## Milk rationing

Granite State Dairy Promotion is calling against the rationing of milk and other dairy products at grocery stores and super-

markets. According to a press release, the closures of restaurants, schools and food service businesses across New Hampshire has led to an oversupply. "We have more milk now than we ever have and it's a tragedy to see farmers dumping milk while stores are placing purchase limits," director Amy Hall said in a statement. These limits, she said, are contributing to more people driving to the supermarkets when they should be staying home. "If automobile manufacturers can turn their production lines into PPE and ventilator production, I have faith grocery stores can keep milk flowing without limits," Hall said.

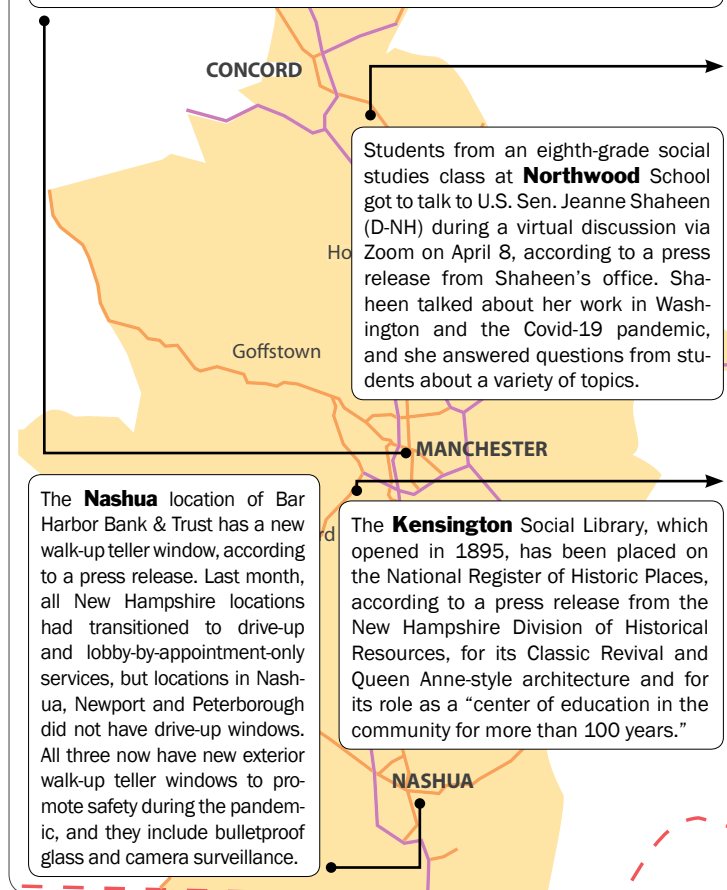
## Child care providers

More than 250 child care programs statewide have been designated as emergency providers through the newly established Emergency Child Care Program, created to support families of essential workers, state health officials announced. According to a press release from the state Department of Health and Human Services, more than \$5 million in funding through the New Hampshire Child Care Collaborative is already going to the 262 ECCPs across the state. In order to qualify as an ECCP, child care providers met criteria around proximity to hospitals and surge centers, number of slots available and ability to serve vulnerable children. "Ensuring that we have child care centers open in every part of the state for families while parents provide essential services to Granite Staters is a critical part of our response," Gov. Chris Sununu said in a statement.

## Voter integrity law

A New Hampshire Superior Court judge has struck down SB 3, a voter integrity law passed in 2017, as unconstitutional, according to multiple press releases. Hillsborough County Superior Court Judge David A. Anderson ruled on April 8 that SB 3 violates the Constitution as "unreasonably burdening the right to vote and violating equal protection." A suit had been filed by the League of Women Voters of New Hampshire and state Democrats. New Hamp-

Grant applications from nonprofits that serve children in need in the greater **Manchester** area are now being accepted for the Queen City Rotary Club's 2020 awards cycle, according to a press release from the Rotary. The club has also set aside funds in support of efforts related to Covid-19, and it is welcoming grant applications for similar efforts, or for other agency projects. The deadline is April 20, and grants will be given out later this spring. Visit [queencityrotary.org](http://queencityrotary.org) to apply.



shire Young Democrats President Lucas Meyer and former executive director Amelia Keane both testified against SB 3 in court. In a statement, House Republican leader Dick Hinch called the ruling "extremely disappointing" and "a blow to fair and secure elections in our state." State Sen. Regina Birdsell, a prime sponsor of SB 3, said it was intended to bring accountability "without infringing on Granite Staters' right to vote."

## Absentee voting

If you're wary about going out to vote in this year's primary or general elections due to Covid-19, you'll be able to request an absentee ballot, according to an April 10 memorandum released by the state Attorney General's office. "Voters should not have to choose between their health and exercising their constitutional right to vote," the memo reads. "Thus, any voter who is unable to vote in person ... because of illness ... or who fears that voting in person may expose himself/herself to others ... will be deemed to come within the defini-

tion of 'disability' for purposes of obtaining an absentee ballot." The primary election is scheduled for Sept. 8, with the general election on Nov. 3.

## Prison lawsuit

The estate of a Manchester man who died after spending six days in the Valley Street Jail last year has filed a lawsuit against the Hillsborough County Department of Corrections, according to an April 10 press release. Nicholas Sacco died of opioid-related withdrawal at Elliot Hospital on May 22, 2019, at the age of 24, after being found unresponsive in his cell at Valley Street Jail. He had been there for nearly a week on a 72-hour hold for a probation violation. Attorney Anthony Carr of Shaheen & Gordon, who is representing the Sacco family estate, said Sacco repeatedly asked for medical attention from Corrections staff and did not receive it. The members of the medical group contracted to care for the inmates at Valley Street Jail are also mentioned as defendants in the lawsuit. 🌧️



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# When will I get my money?

Answers to some of your coronavirus-related financial questions

By Matt Ingersoll and Angie Sykeny  
 mingersoll@hippopress.com  
 and asykeny@hippopress.com

With the coronavirus wreaking havoc on income sources for businesses and individuals, local experts weigh in on all things financial, from when you can expect your unemployment checks to what you should do if you can't pay your rent, student loans or credit cards.

## WHEN WILL I GET MY MONEY?

**U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire (questions answered via email)**

*When can I expect my federal stimulus check to come in?*

The direct payments included in the CARES act are being distributed by the Department of Treasury on a rolling basis — some Granite Staters have already received these payments.

*How much am I actually getting?*

These payments are made to working Americans for as much as \$1,200 per person and \$500 per child. If an individual makes under \$75,000 a year, he or she will get a check or direct deposit for the full \$1,200 as well as what they're entitled to for children, as long as they filed a tax return in 2018 or receive Social Security benefits. Individuals making between \$75,000 and \$99,000 a year will receive a reduced amount based on a sliding scale. [There is] one exception to this: if someone files as a head of household and makes below \$112,500, he or she will receive the full \$1,200 payment. For married couples — so joint filers — making below \$150,000, they will get a check or a deposit for \$2,400 and there's a similar sliding scale for incomes up to \$198,000, after which they will not receive the direct payment assistance. [These amounts] are not considered taxable income ... and do not count as an advance on Granite Staters' next tax refund. Additional information is available on the IRS' website.

*What are the different ways I can receive my money?*

Payments will be received through direct deposit or a check in the mail. If an individual has direct deposit set up with the IRS, that is the fastest way to receive this federal assistance. If someone did not file a federal income tax return in 2018 or 2019, he or she can visit [the] new web portal recently launched by the IRS [at [irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here](https://irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here)] to fill in their personal information to securely set up direct deposit and receive their payment. If

someone did file a federal income tax return in 2018 or 2019 but does not receive direct deposit and would like to update their information to receive payments directly, the IRS is launching a new application later this month to allow people to enter their bank account information for direct deposit.

**Rich Lavers, deputy commissioner, New Hampshire Employment Security**

*I'm filing for unemployment for the first time. How do I do it?*

The first thing you do is go on the New Hampshire Employment Security website, which is [nhes.nh.gov](https://nhes.nh.gov), and click on the button on the home page that says 'file a claim for benefits.' That brings you into the benefit system. It's initially called 'workforce connect' on the first page. Because we've seen a dramatic increase in volume of filers, we've assigned different blocks of time that are based on the first letter of your last name. You'll see a chart that shows which days and times you can file based on your name. If you're filing as a new individual, [the system] will ask basic information about you and your work history, and you'll select a username, password and security questions. It will then ask you a series of questions about your recent previous earnings, whether you're expected to receive a severance package, things like that. This is what we call an initial claim.

After you complete the initial claim, you'll need to file a weekly claim. The system calls it a continued claim. So starting each Sunday, if you were unemployed for that prior week ending on Saturday, you would file a continued claim on the same website, [and] it would just be a quick review asking you if you've been unemployed for the same reason. It's that weekly claim, then, that triggers your payment.

*How has collecting unemployment benefits in New Hampshire changed in the era of Covid-19, in terms of who is eligible and how much I can get?*

Eligibility prior to this crisis was a little more complicated, but now that's not the case. No one who is filing has any work search requirements or earnings that must report to us. Those requirements have been waived, because we know that many people who are currently filing ... remain attached to their employment. Obviously, we don't want people to be searching for work right now. You can also file if you're self-employed.

Gov. Sununu broadened eligibility by issuing Emergency Order No. 5 on March 17, before the federal government passed the CARES act, so New Hampshire has been bet-



ter prepared than most other states because we acted so quickly.

Under Emergency Order No. 5, eligibility for unemployment benefits was broadened to include any scenario related to Covid-19, so this includes parents who need to care for children who are no longer in school, people who are sick because of Covid-19, or people who are caring for a family member with the virus.

On March 27, the CARES act was enacted into law, and this brings increased benefits through federal funding. This kicks in an additional \$600 a week for every single eligible person, even if they are receiving partial benefits. So the maximum amount you could've received in benefits per week had been \$427, [with] your base amount determined based on your earnings of the first four quarters of the most recently completed five. But under the CARES act, that maximum amount has now increased to \$1,027 per week. Each person has \$600 more federal dollars coming in. That \$600 is a flat rate, so you're getting it regardless of your earnings or federal eligibility.

*So when will I get my unemployment checks?*

Ignoring all of the unique issues that could cause a delay in someone receiving benefits, if you worked in New Hampshire and had at least \$2,800 in earnings split equally over two separate quarters in your four quarter base period, then you could expect to receive your first payment about eight to 10 days from when you file. However, you still need to be going on the system each week and filing your continued claim to certify eligibility for the prior week.

Regarding the \$600 payments from the CARES act, we had hoped those funds to be available at the end of this week, but now it is looking like they will be delayed by one week and will be available at the end of next week. We are working around the clock to finish programming for these new payments.

But unfortunately, we are still receiving guidance from the [U.S.] Department of Labor, which makes finalizing these types of programs and being able to deliver these payments difficult.

## PAYING THE RENT

**Elliott Berry, managing attorney, New Hampshire Legal Assistance, Manchester Office**

*What are my options if I can't afford to pay my rent during the Covid-19 crisis?*

There is nothing in the emergency orders that relieves [renters] of their obligation to pay their rent. The only thing that is different now is that the consequences of not paying their rent are delayed. There is an eviction moratorium in effect until May 4. Now, that could be extended, but as of now, people need to be prepared to start paying their rent again after May 4, or else they are going to be doing a lot of scrambling to avoid eviction. ... I can't urge people enough to communicate with their landlords during this time. I think that, once the moratorium is over, most landlords will be inclined to try to work with their tenants to come up with a payment agreement that allows the tenant to catch up with their rent over time. Your landlord may allow you to make monthly payments that you can afford in addition to your regular rent. ... People who apply for unemployment compensation may be eligible for some expanded unemployment benefits [to help them pay rent], and people who are completely unable to pay their rent and support themselves can go to their city or town welfare department. Local welfare agencies are the last stop on the social welfare chain; they're required to help people who have no other options. ... There's not nearly enough subsidy money to cover everybody, but there is some, and people who need it should definitely be trying and apply for it. ... Nonprofits and community action agencies may also have some



money for emergency rental relief for people who are unable to pay their rent in the case of an emergency, and people can certainly try applying for that [assistance], as well.

## PAYING BILLS

### Jerry Little, Bank Commissioner, New Hampshire Banking Department

*Are banks and credit unions providing any forbearance [which allows a person to defer regularly scheduled payments for a time, with the understanding that the person will eventually pay back the full amount that they owe] on credit card and consumer loan payments for people who have been affected by Covid-19?*

Banks and credit unions are strongly urged right now to work closely with consumers on a one-to-one basis. When somebody experiences an interruption like a job loss resulting from the coronavirus, one of the first things they should do is contact their financial service provider, explain what their situation is and talk with them about how they can both work together to help each other get through the situation. I'm absolutely certain that banks and credit unions are taking those calls today and are working with people to help them deal with their debt more reasonably, based on the current situation. ... You aren't going to necessarily see a lot of debt released and forgiven, but what you will see is extending terms on loans, forbearing on immediate payments, lowering the interest rates a little bit and other things like that. ... Ultimately, [banks and credit unions] are stronger when their community is stronger; there's a symbiotic relationship between financial institutions and their consumers. [Covid-19] is impacting everyone, and it's no one's fault. We're all in this together and have to work together to get out of it.

*How can I prevent my credit score from plummeting during the Covid-19 crisis?*

Guidance from federal agencies is that institutions that are providing forbearance should not report related missed payments or reductions in payments [to credit bureaus]. A consumer's credit score should not be impacted simply because Covid-19 impacted their financial life. That being said, people still need to make every effort they possibly can to pay their debt. ... I've [heard that] a lot of folks believe that, because there's a moratorium on evictions and foreclosures, they have the green light to say, 'I don't need to pay my rent or my mortgage this month because I can't be evicted, so I'm going to save my money,' even if they are still employed and still have a paycheck coming in. That's a big mistake. If you can pay your debt, you have to pay your debt if you want to protect your credit score. ... If you can't pay, you need to communicate with your lenders. Call them as soon as you find out you've been laid off or whatever

er your situation is. If you just stop paying and your lender doesn't know what your situation is, they will still send a report to the credit bureau that you didn't pay, and that will harm your credit score.

*How can I ensure the security of my finances and protect myself against financial scams and other threats during the Covid-19 crisis?*

An event like [Covid-19] always breeds scams. People are generally good-hearted and want to help, and the bad guys understand that and will take advantage of it. A financial institution or agency of the state or federal government is never going to contact you individually. If someone contacts you and says, 'I've got some money for you, but first you have to give me your Social Security number and bank account number so that I can make sure the money gets deposited straight into your account,' it is never coming from a legitimate source, and you should immediately hang up. They are not trying to do you a favor; they are trying to steal from you. If you believe you are eligible for one of the support payments coming from the federal or state government, you should only talk with people that you reach out to and make the initial contact with, and make sure you use official government websites to identify who to talk to.

### Amanda Noonan, Director of Consumer Services and External Affairs, New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission

*I have electric and cable bills coming up. What if I am unable to pay them in full when they are due? Will my lights get shut off?*

Gov. Sununu's Emergency Order No. 3 prohibits all utility companies from turning off services during the State of Emergency. This includes electric, gas, cable, telephone and internet service. But the important thing for customers to understand is that it does not remove their responsibility for paying their bill. You will still ultimately owe those bills. Under the order, you're able to make a payment arrangement with the utility company over a six-month period, so you absolutely should reach out to your utility even now. Even if you can only pay say, \$50 a month, communicating with the company shows good faith on your part and also [the company's] ability to post the payment to your account. So we encourage people to reach out to their utility company, start working with them now, and think ahead to the future.

The order also applies to competitive providers. There are competitive suppliers of the energy portion of your electric bill, so in other words, whichever utility company owns the poles and wires down the street from your house, and that could be Eversource, Liberty [Utilities] or Unitil, is the

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NEWS CONTINUED FROM PG 7

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## Tori Berube, vice president of college planning and community engagement, New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation

*I'm worried about being able to pay my student loan payments on time. What should I do?*

Under the CARES act, which President Trump signed on March 27, anyone who has student loans directly from the federal government now has them in forbearance from March 13 to Sept. 30, which means they do not need to make payments. During this same time frame, those loans will have a zero percent interest rate. This applies to all federal student loans people have taken out since July 1, 2010. Older federal loans, as of right now, do not qualify for those provisions, so if you have student loans you borrowed from the government prior to July 1, 2010, then those are not included in the forbearance and zero percent interest rules. However, there is work being done to provide some relief to those borrowers, but that hasn't been finalized yet.

Some borrowers have private student loans that come from banks, credit unions and non-profits. Those do not have the forbearance or zero percent interest rates applied to them, either. If you refinanced a federal student loan into a private loan through your bank, those do not qualify for forbearance. But you would be best suited to contacting your own private loan lender directly and asking if there are any special provisions they are offering as a result of Covid-19. There is no blanket policy in place for all of them, so it's a question to ask each individual lender. The best advice I can give is for people to contact their lender as quickly as possible to investigate what services and options are available to them.

## GOING TO THE DOCTOR

### Rich Allen, owner and founder of Allen Associates, a health insurance agency based in Manchester

*Is the cost for a telehealth appointment with a health care provider the same as it is for an in-person appointment?*

No. ... A doctor's office has staff, lights, heat and rent to pay for. That's why a personal visit to the doctor costs anywhere from \$100 to \$200. [Telehealth] is a lot cheaper for everybody. ... There are a number of [health insurance] companies that offer [telehealth], and a lot of them don't charge for it because they consider it to be a separate thing from the regular services [they cover], as far as deduct-

ibles and copays go. Some companies may charge \$50 or something like that ... but they are waiving those costs, just for now, because of the Covid-19 crisis. ... Now, telehealth appointments probably won't be with your regular doctor. I don't know of any local doctors who are set up with telehealth. Because everything changed so quickly, doctors have had to call up their patients [who had existing appointments] and say, "We're going to have to do this over the phone." New Hampshire just isn't caught up with the telehealth system yet, which means if you want [service from] your regular doctor right now, you're probably going to have to do it over the phone. It also means [local doctors] haven't figured out how to change the costs for their appointments yet. It's very difficult to change a [health insurance] benefit policy in the middle of the year, so they're charging people the same copay for these phone appointments that they charge for their regular appointments. I personally think [phone appointments] should cost less, but that's up for discussion.

## SMALL BUSINESSES

### Rachael Roderick, acting district director, U.S. Small Business Administration, New Hampshire District Office

*What financial assistance is available for New Hampshire small businesses and non-profits that have been affected by Covid-19?*

There's the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program where businesses can get emergency funds to pay for their operating expenses while they're waiting for business to resume. That comes with an emergency advance of up to \$10,000, which is forgiven; it doesn't need to be paid back. ... Businesses will get that advance within a week or so [of applying]. ... If they need more than [the emergency advance funds], they can get a disaster loan, which will be offered at a 3.75 percent interest rate, to be paid over 30 years, with no payments [required] for 12 months. ... I'm not sure exactly how soon they'll get those loans, but I know it will be as soon as possible. ... Then, there's the Paycheck Protection Program, which gives businesses [funds equaling] two-and-a-half times the amount of their average monthly payroll, which is enough to cover eight weeks of payroll, plus a little extra. At least 75 percent has to be used for payroll, and up to 25 percent can be used for utilities, rent or mortgage. As long as the business uses the funds for that purpose [the funds] will be forgiven. ... Businesses will get that money within 10 days [of applying]. ... To qualify, a business has to have 500 employees or less, and nonprofits have to be private nonprofits, and they have to prove that they have experienced an economic impact due to the coronavirus. ... Businesses can apply for the Economic Injury Disaster Loan at covid19relief.sba.gov. For the Payroll Protection Program, they have to go through one of our lenders, which they can find at sba.gov/nh. 📍



# Patriots' plan going forward



Thanks to losing four key defenders, their ultra-reliable kicker of the last 14 seasons and their QB of 19 years, the Patriots are in transition. That's why I said last week with you-know-who and Coach B no longer joined at the hip Thursday's NFL draft kickoff will be

the first day of Part II of the **Bill Belichick** regime in New England.

While some (endlessly) lament and rehash the loss of the quarterback, I'm the opposite, excited to see what comes next. As great as it was, the reign of the GOAT was coming to an end sooner than later and I'm ready for something new. The impatient and spoiled among us probably won't be happy as it won't be business as usual. But it should be fun to watch how the greatest football mind of his time goes about trying to put the team back on the path to regular contention over the next two off-seasons and bridge year of 2020. First:

**They've Been Here Before:** Not exactly, but today's situation is very similar to what Coach B faced when he arrived in 2000. That is to say, while the 12-4 Patriots of 2019 were better than the 8-8 Pats of 1999, both were/are coming off big second-half slides. In 1999 it was a 2-6 finish after starting 6-2, while in 2019 it was a 4-5

over the final nine weeks after starting 8-0. But both are/were teams in decline with solid cores to build around as he retooled. The 2000 core included **Tedy Bruschi, Willie McGinest, Ty Law, Lawyer Milloy** and **Adam Vinatieri**, who all played vital roles in building the dynasty. This time it's a very strong defensive backfield and some solid but getting to be more expensive offensive lineman along with skill position guys **Julian Edelman** and **James White**.

The 18 month plan includes the following.

**2020 – The Bridge Year:** Given the defections just mentioned that can't be filled due to a messy salary cap situation, the realistic view says they're not likely to compete at the highest level next year. So a "bridge (not tank) year" view makes sense, where they try to win games playing young guys like **Chase Winovich, N'Keal Harry, Joejuan Williams, Jarrett Stidham** (probably) and their 2020 draft picks extensively to see who plugs into the plan going forward.

**2021 – The Spending Spree:** The Patriots will have roughly \$100 million to spend in free agency next off-season. That will let them address a myriad of needs, and reluctance to mess with that probably played a role in not giving a certain legendary QB the two-year deal he craved. And since having all that cash will let them build wider overall depth as well, I'd go all in to use what's needed from this year's draft picks to get a second 2020 first-round pick to fill two holes with

high-end talent before spending big in 2021.

The four 2020 objectives should be:

**Re-order the Salary Cap:** One of the prime reasons they've been so successful for so long was their superior salary cap management. But it finally caught up to them as they just didn't have enough depth when injuries hit the offensive line, to fill the black hole left at tight end by Gronk's surprise retirement or get reliable wide-out replacements for **Brandin Cooks** or **Danny Amendola** when they left the team.

**Get Younger:** They were the oldest team a year ago and played like it over the last nine weeks when the so-called "historic" defense turned into what it really was, a defense good enough to win if the offense had been within two area codes of any of their teams of the previous 10 years.

**Retool the Team:** There are holes or question marks at QB, tight end, wideout, run stoppers on the defense, linebacker and, after an injury-filled year, on the offensive line. There's also the reality that by the end of 2021 some or most of the Edelman, **Joe Thuney** or **Shaq Mason, Marcus Cannon, David Andrews**, if his blood clout issues remain, **Dont'a Hightower**, the **McCourty twins** and **Patrick Chung** core could be gone for financial or diminishing production reasons. That's why giving their younger, cheaper replacements options more playing time makes sense.

**Start the QB Evaluation Process:** After the loss of you-know-who they need to find a per-

manent quarterback solution. But with this a two-year process, I don't see a permanent solution as crucial for 2020. So the 2020 options are:

**Sign Cam Newton:** This has been getting some media traction lately, but he only makes sense if they can truly compete for the AFC title in 2020. Otherwise a one-year rental doesn't make sense.

**Draft a QB:** If they find what they think is their guy, do it. But given that 34 of the 74 QB's taken in the first round since 1990 have been total busts (mainly because desperate teams overreach) and that 24 very good ones, including three of the four all-time TD pass leaders, came after Round 1, taking one there just to get one doesn't make sense. Especially if it involved trading up for a question mark.

**Jarrett Stidham:** People think they need a ready-on-Day 1 guy because he'll be replacing a 40-TD-per-season legend. But he's not. Over the final nine weeks of 2019 last year's QB threw for these many yards: 285 (loss), 216, 190, 326 (loss), 169 (loss), 128, 271 (loss), 221 (loss), 209 (loss). He also had a 150-yard game in the 16-10 Week 4 win over Buffalo. That's journeyman territory. So while I have no idea how good Stidham is or isn't, if the coaches who saw him every day think he can play, I say roll the dice. If it turns out he can't, then take one next year with the better draft position they'll likely have.

Next week we'll look at the specific needs.

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### NEWS & NOTES

## QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

### Fisher Cats pitch in

The New Hampshire Fisher Cats baseball team announced in an April 14 press release its launch of a new donation program to raise funds for the Granite United Way Covid-19 Relief Fund. The donations will be made by the Fisher Cats through ticket voucher sales. The ticket vouchers can be redeemed for tickets to any Fisher Cats game, once games resume. There are two ticket voucher packages available: four vouchers for \$24, which will give \$12 to the Relief Fund, and two vouchers for \$12, which will give \$6. According to the press release, the Granite United Way Covid-19 Relief Fund provides support for vulnerable families and individuals in the community to help them cope with the short- and long-term impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. Visit [nhfishercats.com](http://nhfishercats.com).

**Comment:** *The undated ticket vouchers are a great way for fans to get excited about the upcoming season and help Covid-19 relief efforts at the same time.*

### Get moving for a good cause

Some local nonprofits are getting creative and turning to virtual formats for their fundraising efforts. Pope Memorial SPCA - Concord Merrimack County announced in an April 13 press release that it is converting its annual Dirty Paws Fun Run 5k event into a virtual fundraiser. From April 18 through May 2, participants can seek pledges and walk or run on their own and log their progress. They can also share photos of their independent fundraising activities on social media for a chance to win prizes. In an April 9 press release, Easterseals NH announced that it would make its annual Zumbathon fundraiser a virtual Zumba party. Zumba instructors have recorded their routines, to which participants can follow along at home. Registration is open now through April 17 at 4 p.m., and participants will have access to the recordings from April 19 through April 22.

**Comment:** *To learn more about how to participate in these fundraisers, visit [popememorialsPCA.org](http://popememorialsPCA.org) or [easterseals.com/nh/get-involved/events](http://easterseals.com/nh/get-involved/events).*

### Explore New Hampshire from home

Two New Hampshire organizations are offering a virtual look at the state's history and culture. New Hampshire Humanities' "Humanities to Go" series is now presenting its free programs on the video conferencing platform Zoom, according to its website. The next program is "A Walk Back in Time: The Secrets of Cellar Holes" on Friday, April 17, at 6 p.m. Visit [nhhumanities.org](http://nhhumanities.org). The New Hampshire Division of Travel and Tourism Development announced in an April 8 press release that a wide variety of virtual experiences are now available at [visitnh.gov](http://visitnh.gov), offering "visitors and residents alike the opportunity to experience the state from the comfort and safety of their homes." The online content includes an audio and video tour of the Currier Museum of Art, a virtual exhibition of the M/S Mount Washington, live views of Lake Winnepesaukee, a virtual yoga class hosted by Evolve Mindful Movement, online learning resources for kids provided by the Children's Museum of New Hampshire and more. New content will be added to the website on a daily basis.

**Comment:** *Oh, the places you'll go ... in your pajamas.*

### Millions of masks

According to an April 12 press release from the Office of the Governor, approximately 91,000 pounds of Personal Protective Equipment, including 6.6 million masks, 50,000 face shields and 24,000 coveralls and Tyveks suits, arrived at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport via a FedEx cargo plane on April 12 and is now being distributed to first responders and health care workers across the state at no cost to help fight the coronavirus. New Hampshire inventor Dean Kamen volunteered to facilitate the transaction and shipment of the supplies from China and front his own money as a private buyer to expedite the process, which would have taken longer if it was headed by the state. Before the shipment arrived, New Hampshire was running dangerously low on PPE, the press release said.

**Comment:** *Leave it to Kamen to think outside the box. His creative solution for getting PPE into New Hampshire quickly may have saved lives.*

**QOL score:** 63 (the score is temporarily suspended, but QOL will still be keeping tabs on New Hampshire's well-being each week)

*What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at [news@hippypress.com](mailto:news@hippypress.com).*

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# ARTS

## Online rhymes

### New Hampshire celebrates Poetry Month virtually

By Angie Sykeny  
asykeny@hippopress.com

April is National Poetry Month, and while many of the planned poetry readings, workshops and other festivities have been canceled due to the coronavirus, poetry lovers in the state are finding alternative ways to connect and celebrate together.

“The whole month was full of events, and that all went down the tubes,” New Hampshire Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary said, “but I thought, ‘We can’t just do nothing for Poetry Month. We have to go beyond the situation.’”

Every Wednesday and Saturday through April, Peary is facilitating free virtual poetry workshops for New Hampshire residents through the video conferencing platform Zoom. She said each of the workshops held so far has had around two dozen participants, tuning in from all over the state.

“It’s cool to see so many new faces,” she said. “[The virtual format] has really changed the dynamics of interaction within the New Hampshire poetry community, and I love the interactions between people that I’ve been seeing.”

The series explores a variety of poetry forms; list poems, simile poems and narrative poems were covered earlier in the month, and upcoming sessions will look at villanelle and sestina poetry. The final two sessions will be feedback sessions.

To start, Peary leads participants in a mindful writing exercise, which is “good for processing stress, anxiety and trauma,” she said.

“My hope is that, despite all of the horrible things going on, these sessions are a time of imagination and calm,” she said. “It feels good to forget about everything for an hour and be creative.”

After the exercise, the group reads and

discusses one or two poems that exemplify the form of poetry being taught. At the end of the workshop, Peary leaves participants with a prompt to help inspire their poetry writing.

“I have [workshop participants] sending me their poems a few days later,” Peary said. “It’s great to see that they are using the prompts and are writing.”

In addition to hosting her own virtual workshops, Peary has offered to help organizers of writing groups in the state who “may be intimidated by technology” to set up their own virtual meetings.

Peary has also partnered with Kirsty Walker, president of Hobblebush Books, to publish an anthology of “Poetry in the Time of COVID.” The call for submissions on Peary’s blog states that the anthology will feature around 50 poems by New Hampshire residents depicting “how Granite Staters are experiencing and responding to isolation, job loss, changes in community, family and relationship, school, technology, personal values, sickness, grief, loss or changes in security, freedom of movement, identity, and health.”

“Writing is a good way for people to cope right now,” Peary said, “and the anthology is an amazing opportunity for us to process, express and document what we are going through right now.”

Hobblebush Books will donate 10 percent of the proceeds from every copy of the anthology sold to an organization working to provide relief from the Covid-19 crisis in the state. Peary said she and Walker plan to host live readings for the anthology once public gatherings are allowed to resume.

In another sector of the New Hampshire poetry community, Slam Free or Die, an all-ages slam poetry series for spoken word artists and poets, is giving poetry lovers in the state a different way to celebrate National Poetry Month. The series is

bringing its Thursday night open mike, traditionally held in Manchester, to a virtual format via Google Meet.

“We’ve been hosting a weekly show for 15 years,” co-organizer Emil Eastman said. “It’s always been a safe space for people to connect and experience art, and we thought it was important to maintain that space for people, especially now.”

The virtual open mikes have been drawing around 20 to 30 participants. A number of those participants have been newcomers, which co-organizer Jonathan Wolf attributes to the lifestyle changes brought on by the Covid-19 crisis.

“Instead of spending our time driving around, running errands, we’ve all had to slow down,” Wolf said, “and that has given people more time and energy to start exploring poetry as [a means of] self-expression.”

The virtual format of the open mikes has also played a part in attracting more first-time participants, Wolf said.

“Folks who might not normally have the gumption to get up in front of a room are feeling a little more comfortable expressing themselves in this format, which is really exciting for us,” he said.

Peary said it is inspiring to see the New Hampshire poetry community pull together to think outside the box and celebrate National Poetry Month in unconventional ways.

“They’re making lemonade out of lemons,” she said. “Their resilience is astounding.” 🍋

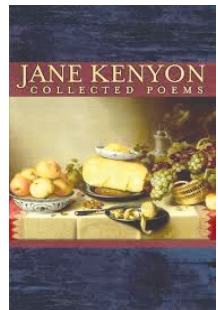


NH Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary. Courtesy photo.

#### Quarantine reads

New Hampshire Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary recommends some poetry essentials for a stay-at-home National Poetry Month.

- *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude* by Ross Gay
- *Collected Poems* by Jane Kenyon
- *The Duino Elegies* by Rainier Maria Rilke
- *New Selected Poems* by Mark Strand
- *Anything by Emily Dickinson*



Collected Poems by Jane Kenyon

#### Be a poet

##### Slam Free or Die virtual events

Virtual **slam poetry open mikes** are held every Thursday from 8 to 10 p.m. via Google Meet. Sign-up forms and the links to the join the video conferences are posted on the Slam Free or Die Facebook page. Details about upcoming virtual poetry **workshops** will also be announced on Facebook. Visit [facebook.com/slamfreeordie](https://facebook.com/slamfreeordie).

##### “Poetry in the Time of COVID” anthology

Submissions are being accepted now for the anthology of poetry about Covid-19, to be edited by New Hampshire Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary and published by Hobblebush Books. All New Hampshire residents are welcome to submit an original poem that addresses how they or the people around them are affected by and/or responding to the Covid-19 pandemic. The deadline for submissions

is May 1 at noon. Visit [hobblebush.com/anthology-submission](https://hobblebush.com/anthology-submission). The anthology will be published in the summer of 2020, and copies will be available for purchase online through the publisher’s website.

##### Virtual poetry workshops hosted by New Hampshire Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary

- Saturday, April 18: Villanelle
- Wednesday, April 22: Sestina
- Saturday, April 25: Feedback Session
- Saturday, April 29: Feedback Session

The workshops are free. To join, send an email to [balconyofwords@gmail.com](mailto:balconyofwords@gmail.com) by 9 a.m. the day of the workshop, with the subject line “RSVP.” In the body of the email, include your full name, email address and town of residence. You will receive a link to the Zoom conference call at 11:30 a.m. The workshops start at noon.

#### Youth celebrate poetry

• More than 9,000 New Hampshire students from 40 high schools and home-school groups participated in 2020 Poetry Out Loud, a national poetry recitation program. Sydney Kilgore of Concord High School was named the state champion, and won a \$200 prize (plus \$500 for her school to buy poetry books). Adyant Shankar of Nashua South High School was named the runner-up and won \$100 plus \$200 for his school.

• Nominations are now open for the next **New Hampshire Youth Poet Laureate**, an honorary one-year position held by a New Hampshire high school student who has demonstrated dedication to and excellence in writing

and an enthusiasm to share it with the public, particularly other young people. The youth poet laureate is also given the opportunity to publish a chapbook of poems during his or her tenure. All students in grades 9 through 12 residing in New Hampshire are eligible. The nomination deadline is May 15, and the new NHYP will be announced in June. Visit [nh.gov/nharts](https://nh.gov/nharts) or email [info@poetrysocietyofnewhampshire.org](mailto:info@poetrysocietyofnewhampshire.org).

• Slam Free or Die will host a **Youth Showcase** on Thursday, April 30, from 8 to 10 p.m. on Google Meet. The slam poetry open mike is open to all youth poets from New Hampshire. Sign-ups will open on April 24. Visit [facebook.com/slamfreeordie](https://facebook.com/slamfreeordie).



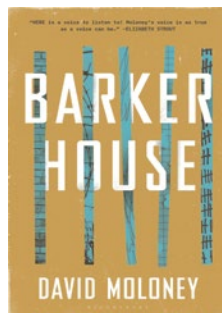
# ARTS NEWS

The latest from NH's theater, arts and literary communities

• **Home concerts for kids:** Grammy-nominated children's musician Judy Pancoast of Goffstown is hosting a series of live concerts called "Love from the Family Room" on her Facebook page every Monday at 11 a.m. During the concerts, which run for half an hour or longer, Pancoast performs original songs and invites kids to dance and sing along. She said she wants to give kids and families some entertainment while they are staying home during the pandemic. "I love performing, and I'm enjoying the idea that I'm providing a service to those parents at home with young children," Pancoast wrote in an email. The concerts are free, but donations are appreciated, she said, and can be made via a virtual "tip jar" on her Facebook page. Pancoast has canceled all of her live concerts through June. Visit [facebook.com/judypancoastmusic](https://facebook.com/judypancoastmusic).

• **Authors on Zoom:** Gibson's Bookstore, based in Concord, has two virtual author events coming up. David Moloney will present his new novel *Barker House* on Thursday, April 16, at 7 p.m. It follows nine New Hampshire correctional officers over the course of one year on the job. Their lives become subtly intertwined until the death of one in their ranks brings them all together. Moloney himself worked in the Hillsborough County Department of Corrections in New Hampshire for four years. David Allen Sibley will present his book *What It's Like to Be a Bird: From Flying to Nesting, Eating to Singing – What Birds Are Doing, and Why* on Friday, April 17, at 7 p.m. The guide, which appeals to both birding enthusiasts and anyone with an interest in birds, is one in a series of nature guides written and illustrated by Sibley. The events are free and will be streamed live via the video conferencing platform Zoom. The links to access the virtual events are posted on their respective event pages on [gibsons-bookstore.com](https://gibsons-bookstore.com).

• **Online media classes:** The Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications, based in Manchester, is offering classes online. The schedule includes "Student Journalism: What is the Law?" on Thursday, April 16, from 1 to 2 p.m.; "Vetiquette – The Art of Gathering Effectively in a Virtual Space" on Tuesday, April 21, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.; "Content Creation in the Time of Covid-19" on Wednesday, April 22, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.; "Freedom of Information Laws and Your



David Moloney's *Barker House* and David Allen Sibley's *What It's Like to Be a Bird: From Flying to Nesting, Eating to Singing – What Birds Are Doing, and Why* will be featured in upcoming virtual author events by Gibson's Bookstore.

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SIBLEY



Cue Zero Theatre Company presents a series of theater book review episodes on its podcast. Courtesy photo.

"Right to Know" on Thursday, April 23, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.; "First Amendment in Times of Crisis" on Wednesday, April 29, from 1 to 2:30 p.m.; and "Write Now or Write Away: Creating Personal Narrative in Real Time" on Thursday, April 30, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The classes are free and registration is open now. Visit [loeb.school.org/online-classes](https://loeb.school.org/online-classes).

• **Theater podcast:** Over the next several weeks, Cue Zero Theatre Company, based in Manchester, is doing a series of book review episodes on its podcast. The episodes will feature discussions about theatrical texts like *Actions: The Actors' Thesaurus* (2002) by Marina Caldarone, *Stage Managing and Theatre Etiquette: A Basic Guide* (1998) by Linda Apperson and more. The first book review episode was released on March 28 and looks at *Staging Sex: Best Practices, Tools, and Techniques for Theatrical Intimacy* (2019) by Chelsea Pace. The podcast is available for streaming on Apple, Google, Spotify and Anchor podcast platforms. Visit [facebook.com/cztheatre](https://facebook.com/cztheatre).

— Angie Sykeny 🍀

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f t y in



# INSIDE/OUTSIDE

## (Nearly) foolproof veggies

A few foods you can depend on

By Henry Homeyer  
listings@hippopress.com

In uncertain times, one thing is certain: you can always depend on yourself. If you're worried about having enough food, grow some vegetables that are nearly foolproof. Gardening is not rocket science. Here's what you need to know:

All vegetables do best in full sun. The minimum amount of sun is six hours, though you can grow herbs and greens in four hours.

Good soil is very important. Yes, heavy clay or sandy soil will produce some veggies, but improving it with compost will improve your results. Buy some, work it in.

You shouldn't use any chemicals. Not insecticides, not herbicides, not chemical fertilizers. The fertilizers can be replaced with compost and organic bagged fertilizers that are made with all-natural ingredients and minerals. Your plants will do fine without chemicals, and will be healthier for you to eat.

Adequate moisture is also key. Newly planted seeds or seedlings cannot dry out completely and survive. Later on, when mature tomatoes or beans have roots deep in your soil, they can endure a period of drought. But if they start to wilt, they are in trouble and need a soaking. Visit your garden every day to see how your plants are doing. Buy a hose long enough to reach the garden.

Weeds are not your friends. They compete for water and soil nutrients, and, if big enough, sunshine. For most small gardens, you can keep weeds under control in 10 minutes of weeding — if you do so every day. Mulching will help with both moisture levels and weed control.

What should you grow? If you're worried about having enough food, grow potatoes. So long as you don't have a swarm of potato beetles eating the leaves, or a blight, potatoes are sure winners. They will provide calories better than anything else you can



Even a small garden like this produces nice veggies. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

grow, and they store well. I'm still eating mine from 2019.

Next on my list of veggies to grow is kale. It produces a lot of greenery that can be added to any soup, stew or stir-fry, adding vitamins A to Z. (Yes, I know, there is no vitamin Z). Unlike lettuce or spinach, kale freezes well. You can pack a lot of kale into a quart zipper bag and put it away for days you can't go to the store. It's great in a smoothie, too. I've never had a pest or disease on my kale.

Then there are the winter squashes: Blue Hubbard and Waltham butternut will store well for many months — all winter and into the next season. They can be stored on a shelf in the pantry, or cooked and frozen. Either way they are nutritious, tasty and very easy to grow. But they have long vines and need space. Zucchini for summer eating are great, very productive, and take less space than winter squash.

Tomatoes are more problematic. Yes, every soup or stew I make uses tomatoes. I freeze them whole in zipper bags, I cook them into sauce and paste. But tomatoes get the blight sometimes. They will surely produce some tomatoes, but in terms of a guaranteed crop?

Nope. That's rolling the dice. My suggestion? Grow some cherry or cocktail-sized tomatoes.

The little tomatoes get ripe earlier, and many are quite disease-resistant. My favorite is one called Sun Gold. Defiant is a red medium-sized hybrid with good flavor and high resistance to late blight — but not early blight. I will always plant some heirlooms for flavor — Brandywine and Oxheart are two of my favorites.

Lastly, I recommend planting onions. They are easy to grow, tasty, and keep away scurvy on long ocean voyages, as we learned in grade school. But of course they are inexpensive, and you can buy a 25- or 50-pound sack of them from a farmer. But I like having my own. Buy onion plants if you can get them, or sets (little bulbs) if you cannot. Plant 3 inches apart.

So how do you actually prepare a garden for planting? Pick a spot in the middle of the lawn. Get rid of the grass in the plot: Use a shovel or a garden fork to dig it out. Shake the roots to save the soil from the roots. This is hard work. Plan on spending half an hour every day digging out sod until the job is done.



Fresh potatoes from one plant. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

You should not just rent a rototiller and chew up the lawn. Tilling won't kill the grass, just aggravate it. The roots will produce new plants all summer long. So start early. Today, or this weekend. Don't put it off (unless the soil is soggy).

How much garden do you need? Don't bite off more than you can chew. A good starter-size bed is 10 feet by 12 feet. Mound up soil to build two wide beds — 30 to 36 inches wide, with a walkway down the middle and a bare strip along the outside edge of the plot. You will need to improve the soil with composted cow manure as lawns are notoriously devoid of minerals and organic matter.

Here's what I planted in a 10-by-12 bed in the lawn a few years ago: two tomato plants with some early lettuce around them. Two peppers, two broccoli, five potato plants, a tripod of green beans, some carrots and cukes, and one zucchini. But that was a supplement, not subsistence. I'd say you would need six beds to produce enough food to make a serious contribution toward feeding a family of two. Let's hope our farmers and grocers will stay in business!

Henry's website is [Gardening-Guy.com](http://Gardening-Guy.com). 🍷

### INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

Can you let me know the value of this set of jewelry that belonged to my mom? I have no use for it any longer and am thinking of selling it, but before I did I wanted to run it by you. They are all marked Florenza.

Lori

Dear Lori,

Nice bracelet, hat pin and earrings. Florenza jewelry was around since the 1930s but signed from 1948 through 1981, when they shut down. The story is a very interesting one if you wanted to do more research for yourself.

I want to say that because you don't have

the necklace with your assortment of pieces it must have gotten lost along the years. Having all the other pieces suggests that it too was there at one point.

But look at all the pieces you do have and make sure there are no stones missing. This will change the value. Even the tiny costume stones missing will mean less money from a collector. Some people will buy it with stones missing, but they will pay so much less. So check it over carefully.

As far as a value goes I would say together as a lot it would bring in the \$40 to \$60 range. The hat pin could be unusual and possibly bring more, or not. You never really know

until you try to sell it. Your market would be an antique shop, online or a flea market.

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](http://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](mailto:footwdw@aol.com), or call her at 391-6550 or 624-8668. 🍷



Courtesy photo.



INSIDE/OUTSIDE  
**KIDDIE**  
 — POOL —  
 Family fun for whenever

**Making a mess for science**

• The **SEE Science Center** in Manchester (see-sciencecenter.org) is continuing to post videos that show off the center's exhibits and offer scientific demonstrations, such as one that expands a balloon using a baking soda and vinegar reaction. Another recent video also explains how to make stomp rockets.

• The **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center** in Concord (starhop.com) also continues to update its blog with activities and experiments. One post shows how to make "Space Goo" (with cornstarch) that might be strong enough to protect an egg when dropped. A "Chemistry Kitchen: Crazy Cakes" activity even features an edible element, by varying a cupcake recipe to show what different ingredients do in a recipe (and what happens when you remove that ingredient).

• Speaking of edible learning, **America's Test Kitchen's Kids Young Chef Club** site (americastestkitchen.com/kids/home) features a Kitchen Classroom series with recipes and activities that explain things like emulsions (while making salad dressing). The series features new recipes and activities for each week (April 13 started week 5).

**Doing art**

• The **Currier Museum of Art** (currier.org) has several activities in its "Currier From Home" section including videos of storytimes and project ideas, such as an outdoor drawing activity featuring chalk and painter's tape. The site also has videos about drawing, collages, watercolor and more that would appeal to artists of all ages as well as a more adult-oriented lesson in making chicken salad.

**Learning with nature**

• The **Seacoast Science Center in Rye** (seacoastsciencecenter.org) is offering videos and activities on its website and social media. A video on owls, for example, runs through a variety of different New Hampshire owls and their hoots. A video posted Monday featured instructions for making your own sensory tank, bubbles and bubble wand. A video on Saturday shows a rescued seal being released on a beach in Massachusetts. Printables include a "First Signs of Spring" scavenger hunt (just as applicable inland as on the coast), ocean animal-related activities, a (bowl-sized) boat building challenge and more. And after you visually identify some signs of spring, check out the "Spring Soundscapes" video, which helps you figure out which animals are making some of those forest noises.



Pete introduces you to simple machines and the pulley chairs in a video at see-sciencecenter.org/pulleys. Courtesy photo.

• Also helping you answer the "are those ducks" questions you might have when you hear quacks in the springtime is a video from the **New Hampshire Audubon** (nhaudubon.org). The Audubon is running a Spring Seek and Find Challenge that encourages people to get out (safely) and find the early sounds and sites of spring. The "Phoebe Challenge" posted April 1 features a video of the bird the Eastern Phoebe. The Audubon is encouraging people to take photos and send along a description of their finds, according to the website. And when the kids come back inside, they can check out the Audubon's weekly live streams (available afterward): on Tuesdays at 3 p.m. it's "Hands On with NH Audubon" with an educational activity, on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. it's a storytime featuring a children's book about nature and on Thursdays at 10 a.m. it's a live animal Q&A with educator Shelby Morelli, featuring one of the Audubon's animal ambassadors, according to the nhaudubon.org.

**History!**

• Bring a little Manchester history home with the kid-friendly **Millyard Museum's** fun book, which you can print out from the museum's website, manchesterhistoric.org/millyard-museum. The book, which has elements to color as well as activities such as a maze and a word search, gives brief looks at different eras of the area's history and some key historical figures. The site also has some suggested reading lists for kids of varying ages who want to do a deeper dive into the city's history and life in the mills.

• Older kids looking for even more history should check out the **New Hampshire Historical Society's** website (nhhistory.org), where you'll find its Timeline that runs through significant moments in the state's history, from a British exploration of the Piscataqua River in 1603 to the establishment of the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program in 2000. You can also see the society's six online exhibitions, including "Harriet Dame: New Hampshire's Angel of Mercy," about a Civil War nurse, and a survey of the works of artist and author Marian Cannon Schlesinger. 🍷

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# Decipher your oil light



*Dear Car Talk:*

*When the oil light is on, is the oil pressure low or is the oil level low?*  
— Bob

Yes. Unless otherwise noted, a red light that says “OIL” on the dashboard means your oil pressure is dangerously low. Of course, the pressure could be low because you don’t have enough oil in there. But oil pressure can also be low because your oil pump is failing, because your engine bearings are all worn out and they’re too loose to maintain pressure or for a number of other reasons — none of which are good news.

So when you see a red light that just says “OIL,” that means your pressure is low, and you’ll want to pull over and shut off the engine as quickly as it’s safe to do so. Sometimes you’ll see the oil light flicker, especially when you’re at idle — like at a traffic light. That’s when oil pressure is at its lowest anyway. It’s a sign that you’re on the verge of having a serious problem. At that point, we usually recommend a mixture of 90 weight gear oil, sawdust and bananas in the crank case. Or whatever tropical fruits happen to be in season.

There are a few cases where the oil light

comes on simply because the oil pressure sensor is bad. That’s a lucky break. But, generally speaking, seeing the oil light come on while you’re driving is bad news. And it’s a light you never want to ignore.

On the other hand, lots of newer cars also come with an oil level light, which is different. That’s not an emergency warning light. It’s more of a maintenance reminder light. The oil level light is designed to eliminate your need to check your oil with a dipstick. Checking the oil used to be a regular chore for car owners. But most people don’t want to do anything other than start the car and drive these days. And based on the rush to self-driving cars, it’s clear we don’t even want to do that much anymore.

Over the years, we’ve made clear to car makers that rolling down our own windows or taking the key out of our pockets is way too much trouble, so many of them have eliminated the dipstick and replaced it with a sensor. If your car has an oil level light, and it comes on, that’s just a sign that you need more oil. It’s usually not an emergency. That light will normally come on when you’re down a quart.

While it’s not ideal to drive around down a quart of oil, you can certainly drive until you can get to a gas station or a Cheapo-Mart where you can buy a quart. You shouldn’t do

any lasting damage if you take care of it in a timely manner.

If the light doesn’t turn off after you add a quart, then drive it to your repair shop, because you may have a leak or some other problem.

Resist the urge to add a second, third or fourth quart, so you don’t overfill the crankcase and do more damage.

To sum up, as much as we hate to do this to you, Bob, we’re going to send you to your owner’s manual. Look up “oil light” in the index at the back of the book. If you have two different oil lights, you’ll need to know that. And you’ll need to know how to distinguish between them so when one of them comes on, you’ll know if it’s time to mosey on over to your gas station or to your new car dealer’s showroom.

*Dear Car Talk:*

*Why aren’t the fog lights on newer cars yellow in color? They are often plain glass, with white lights. They don’t even use yellow bulbs. Why is that?* — Ross

Because yellow lights don’t help with fog.

I guess someone once thought that yellow light somehow cut through fog better. He probably mansplained about the Rayleigh law and wavelengths of various colored light. And he was completely wrong.

But he was apparently very convincing.

And hugely influential in the fog light industry. Because back in the 1960s and ‘70s pretty much all fog lights had yellow lenses. They certainly looked cool. I’ll give them that. But they did nothing to help you see in fog.

As you probably know, fog — which is droplets of water — reflects the light produced by your headlights, making it hard to see.

You probably also know that turning on your bright lights in fog only makes visibility worse because more light gets scattered and reflected back to you.

The only thing that helps at all in fog are lights that are positioned and aimed very low, toward the street. And that’s what proper fog lights try to do: light up the actual road right in front of you, shining as little light as possible directly into the fog at eye level.

Under certain conditions, that can help. But honestly, fog is tough. Sometimes, you just have to slow way down or pull over and wait it out.

The good news is that while yellow light doesn’t do any better in fog than white light, it doesn’t do any worse, either. I mean, a yellow lens (or anything other than a clear lens) will reduce the sheer amount of light that gets through. But the color itself won’t aggravate the situation. So if you like yellow, Ross, go get a highlighter and have at it.

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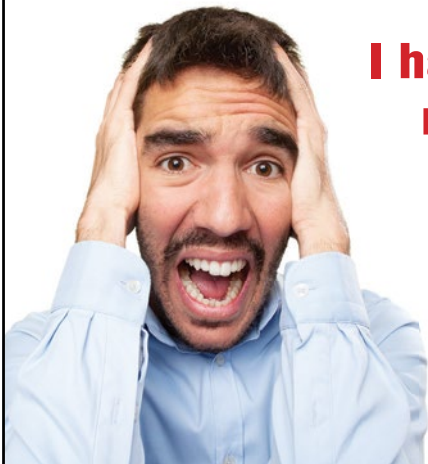


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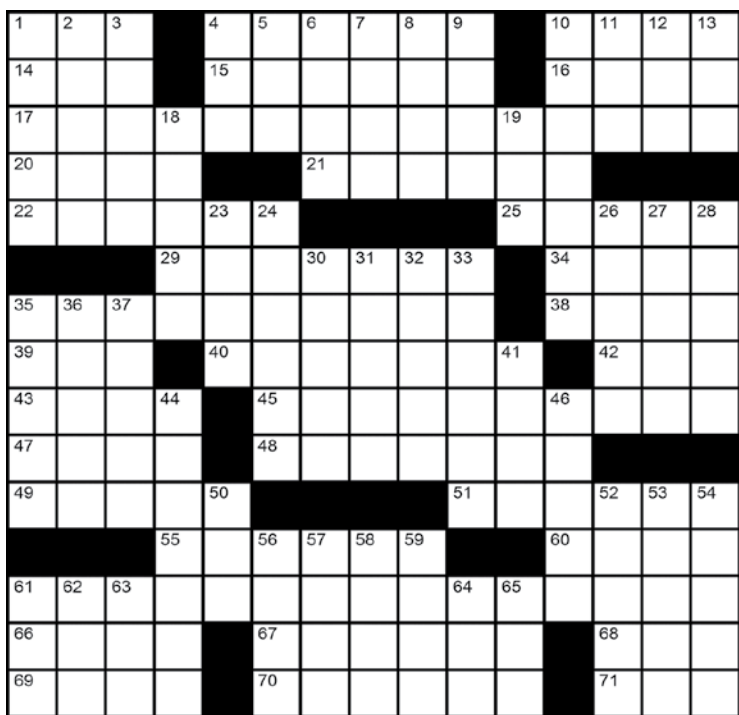
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# "I Oh You One" — or four, actually



Enjoy this Jonesin' Crossword, originally printed in 2012!

**Across**

- 1 Multi-purpose shot, for short
- 4 "\_\_\_ on a Plane"
- 10 E-mail from Nigeria, maybe
- 14 Big Band, for one
- 15 Start, as a riot
- 16 What programmers write
- 17 Cameraman's question about which talk show star to film?
- 20 Maritime patrol org.
- 21 Malaria-carrying fly
- 22 Concert memento
- 25 Darkest part of a shadow
- 29 Reagan aide Peggy and aviator Fred
- 34 Shrinking Asian body of water, with 63-down
- 35 Spanish NBA player who explodes in a volatile fuel mix?
- 38 Tell the cops everything
- 39 Coffee server
- 40 Title role for Peter Weller
- 42 They tow broken-down cars
- 43 Use a shiv

- 45 Menu phrase meaning "you can add pineapple to any item"?
- 47 Put on the payroll
- 48 Atones
- 49 Country on the Red Sea
- 51 Accompany
- 55 Genie's home
- 60 Song from Sarah McLachlan's "Surfacing"
- 61 Must decide which pitching feat to choose?
- 66 Ice skating jump
- 67 Save from peril
- 68 It's small and strummable
- 69 Side
- 70 Lower, like regions
- 71 1/525,600th of a yr.

- 8 Smurf suffix
- 9 Splinter group
- 10 Psychological patterns
- 11 Dove bar?
- 12 Super Bowl highlights?
- 13 Got together with
- 18 Getting older
- 19 Home of the Beavers, for short
- 23 MGM opening sound
- 24 "And I'm ready \_\_\_ right through the sky" (Richard Marx lyric)
- 26 Prickly bush
- 27 Tried to attack
- 28 Pond scum
- 30 Like some gases
- 31 "Girl with \_\_\_" (Renoir painting)
- 32 Night, to Noriega
- 33 Everett of "Citizen Kane"
- 35 Like annoying salesmen
- 36 "Glee" character Abrams
- 37 Take weapons from
- 41 Pie charts show them: abbr.
- 44 Flower that helps heal cracked skin
- 46 Musician's org.
- 50 Smoking alternative, once
- 52 Strong loathing
- 53 Talk show host Lake
- 54 Occupied
- 56 Undecided, in an angsty way
- 57 Old school pronoun
- 58 Shopping trip sheet
- 59 \_\_\_ A Sketch
- 61 Head cover
- 62 Fire
- 63 See 34-across
- 64 Election Day day: abbr.
- 65 "Love, Reign \_\_\_ Me" (The Who)

**Down**

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Bridge part
- 3 Ripped jeans cover-up
- 4 Obedience school lesson
- 5 Dir. opposite SSE
- 6 Eight, in Essen
- 7 Sportages and Spectras

**R&R answer from pg 27 of 04/09**



**R&R Classic answer from pg 28 of 04/09**



**Jonesin' answer from pg 29 of 04/09**



**Jonesin' Classic answer from pg 30 of 04/09**

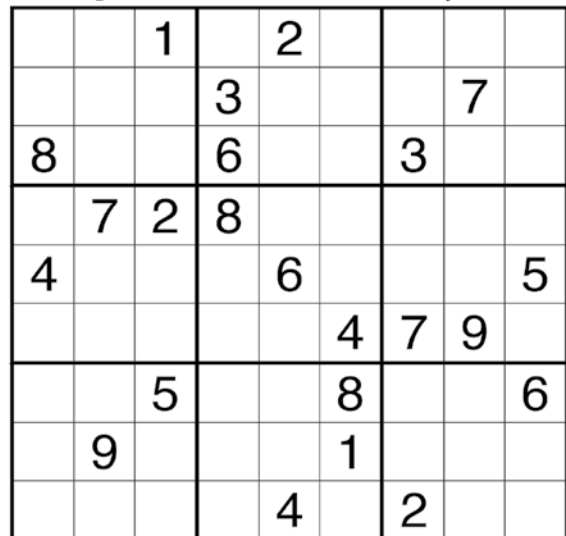


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**SUDOKU**

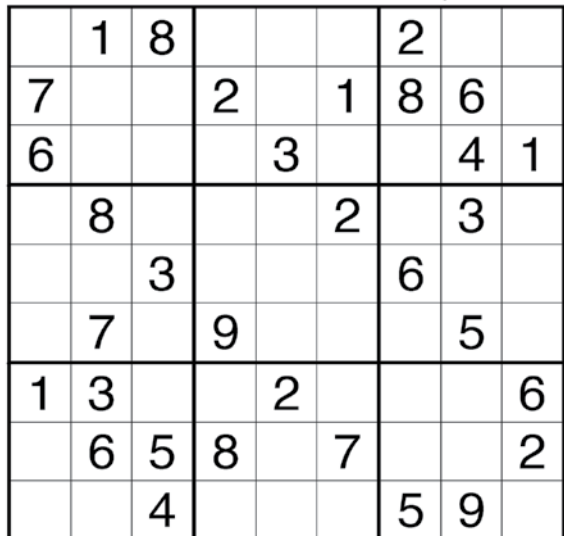
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week's puzzle answers on pg 32.

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A** By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle B** By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle C** By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★



# GOT A BIG FAT PUZZLE TRYIN' TO BREAK ME

**Across**

- 1. James Horner soundtrack for Banderas film 'The \_\_\_ Of Zorro'
- 5. 70s Swedish Frida Lyngstad pop band
- 9. 'If I Ever Lose My \_\_\_ In You' Sting
- 14. When \_\_\_ Loves A Woman (1,3)
- 15. XTC started their letter to the big guy with '\_\_\_ God'
- 16. Powerman 5000 '\_\_\_ Mega'
- 17. Like a celebrity relationship that has its ups and downs (slang)

- 18. Star might have one across castle wall
- 19. Michael Jackson sang of 'Rockin' \_\_\_' in the treetops all day long
- 20. Jack Johnson "I was \_\_\_, \_\_\_, wishing you believed in superstitions" (7,7)
- 23. Promise Ring's shipwreck signal on 'Very Emergency'
- 24. Producer/artist Brian that worked w/David Byrne
- 25. Kinks filled the tank with 'A Gallon Of \_\_\_'
- 26. Talk Talk classic '\_\_\_ My

- Life'
- 29. 1974 Who comp 'Odds & \_\_\_'
- 32. Drunk driving stars might get one
- 34. BB King classic smash (3,6,2,4)
- 40. \_\_\_ Man Of Constant Sorrow (1,2,1)
- 41. Breeders song about police term for unknown John?
- 42. Barenaked Ladies song named after city west of Tulsa?
- 43. '04 Simple Plan album '\_\_\_ Any.. ' (5,3,7)
- 48. 'When I Need You' Sayer
- 49. Catherine Wheel song about 'Doll Parts' band?
- 50. Instrumental Japanese band named after little piggy, perhaps
- 51. 'Plush' hard rockers (abbr)
- 54. Bar bill that might be steep, if you're rocking hard
- 56. George Strait 'All My \_\_\_ Live In Texas'
- 58. Beatles '64 "introductory" album (4,3,7)
- 64. Audioslave 'I \_\_\_ Highway' (2,3)
- 65. Jeffrey \_\_\_ Isbell, or Izzy Stradlin'
- 66. Kinks "\_\_\_ a big fat mama trying to break me" (1,3)
- 68. Jamaican legend Winston Rodney, or Burning \_\_\_
- 69. Richard Marx 80s smash 'Hold \_\_\_ The Nights' (2,2)
- 70. State Motley Crue is from, for short
- 71. Trumpets, e.g.
- 72. Iron Maiden keeps the light on from their '\_\_\_ Of The Dark'
- 73. Zac Brown was '\_\_\_ Deep'

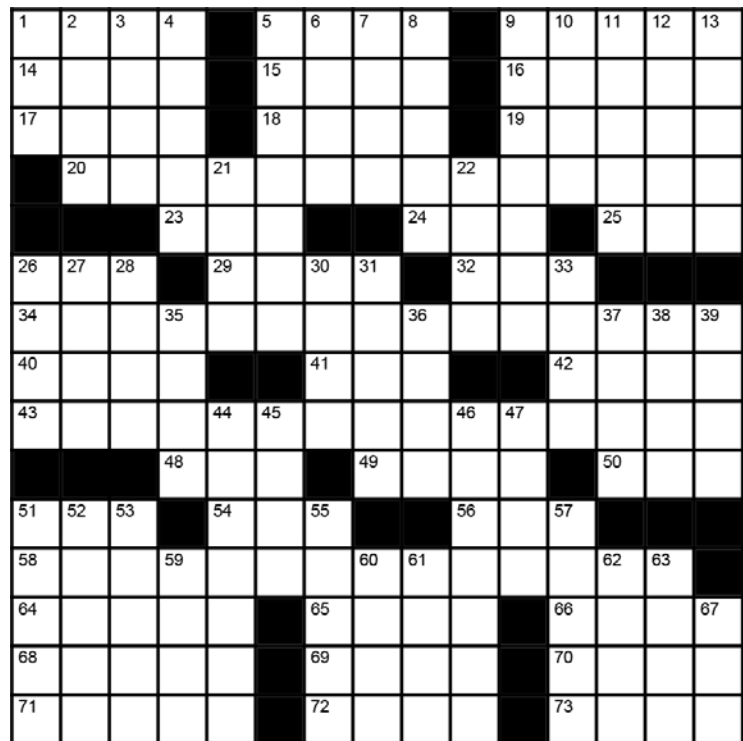
in it

**Down**

- 1. '03 Limp Bizkit album 'Results \_\_\_ Vary'
- 2. 'Abnormally Attracted To Sin' piano girl Tori
- 3. Jim Croce 'I'll Have To \_\_\_ Love You In A Song' (3,1)
- 4. What stomach is in during stage fright, perhaps
- 5. Manager acts as one
- 6. Phil Collins 'You'll \_\_\_ My Heart' (2,2)
- 7. '94 REM single '\_\_\_ And Blame'
- 8. A confused Kinks asked 'What \_\_\_ Doing?' (3,2)
- 9. Joan As Police Woman song that made her very upset?
- 10. It's Beginning To Look \_\_\_ Like Christmas (1,3)
- 11. Wham! '84 album 'Make \_\_\_' (2,3)
- 12. Blues Traveler '\_\_\_ Magna'
- 13. What bass does from strap
- 21. Reggae's 'Equal Rights' icon Peter
- 22. Kinks '\_\_\_ Will Love You (3,1)
- 26. Tesla told us it's just 'The Way \_\_\_' (2,2)
- 27. 'For We Are Many' All \_\_\_ Remains
- 28. '\_\_\_-Charmed Life' Third Eye Blind
- 30. British 'Here With Me' singer
- 31. '03 'Someday' band named after a deadly sin
- 33. Eric Clapton "\_\_\_ off on '57 Chevys" (1,3)
- 35. Kinks' Little Richard cover

- 'Long \_\_\_ Sally'
  - 36. Ed Sheeran will build a 'House' w/one
  - 37. Soul Asylum "Supersonic just how you want it, catatonic, she's always \_\_\_" (2,2)
  - 38. 'Confession' band III \_\_\_
  - 39. '90 AC/DC album 'The Razor's \_\_\_'
  - 44. Fans used to send their idols them in the mail
  - 45. 'Five Years Time' \_\_\_ & The Whale
  - 46. Ms. 'Rigby', to Beatles
  - 47. How to find your friend with your cell
  - 51. #1
  - 52. Beats per minute
  - 53. 'Young Folks' \_\_\_, Bjorn, & John
  - 55. Bon Jovi laid us down on a '\_\_\_ Roses' (3,2)
  - 57. Singer Grace of Jefferson Airplane
  - 59. John Mellancamp 'No Better \_\_\_ This'
  - 60. Drifters and also 'Stand By Me' singer \_\_\_ King (3,1)
  - 61. '72 Allman Brothers album '\_\_\_ Peach' (3,1)
  - 62. 'Magnet & Steel' Walter
  - 63. English Beat '\_\_\_ Salvation'
  - 67. Worn by bad boy rocker to court
- © 2020 Todd Santos

Find more puzzles on pages 31 & 34.



**SUDOKU**

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week's puzzle answers on pg 32.

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle D** By Dave Green

	5	8				1	6	
2			9		5			7
			6					4
			1					5
		7					3	
			8					9
			5					6
3			7		4			1
	1	4				5	7	

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Difficulty Level ★★★

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle E** By Dave Green

			2	9				
4	9			7			5	3
	1	5				7	8	
7								5
	3						4	
1								8
	4	3				8	1	
5	8			4			2	6
				8	3			

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Difficulty Level ★★★

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle F** By Dave Green

							1	
	5							3
4			1	9			6	8
		9		5				
1				8				2
				6		8		
7	3			2	5			4
9							7	
	6							

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★



By Matt Ingersoll  
food@hippopress.com

• **Special-edition coffee mugs: Schoodacs Coffee House** is now selling special-edition fundraiser mugs labeled “Keep Calm and Drink Coffee” to help offset the cost of being closed. Mugs are available to order now at schoodacs.myshopify.com and will be shipped in early May (shipping cost is \$10 domestic and \$20 international for up to four mugs). Schoodacs originally said it would plan to reopen on May 22, but an April 10 update on its Facebook page read it would “continue to follow the trends of this virus and the accompanying economic impact to guide us on next steps.”

• **Poutine scene:** Tickets to this year’s **New Hampshire PoutineFest** go on sale on Saturday, April 18, at 10 a.m. The event — for now, at least — remains scheduled for Saturday, June 13, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Anheuser-Busch Brewery Tours (221 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack). Tickets were supposed to go on sale back on March 21, but that date was postponed due to Covid-19. This is the second consecutive year the festival will be held at Anheuser-Busch, as it was at Northeast Delta Dental Stadium in Manchester its first three years. Restaurants, food trucks and other businesses from New Hampshire and other New England states will compete for the best poutine dish as determined by your vote. The festival also features beer, live music, games, children’s activities and more. Tickets are \$35 general admission, \$15 for children ages 6 to 12 and free for children ages 5 and under. Premiere tickets are \$45 and include early entry to the event, plus a T-shirt and other swag. Tickets are expected to sell out quickly, but if the festival gets canceled, refunds will be issued to all attendees. Visit [nhpoutinefest.com](http://nhpoutinefest.com).

• **Bacon & Beer festival canceled:** After originally postponing its ticket sale date from March 21 to April 18, the organizers of the **New Hampshire Bacon & Beer Festival** have now canceled the fifth annual event, which had been scheduled for May 16. “Faced with the uncertainty of new requirements for large gatherings and ensuring the safety of our attendees at large events, at this time we feel it is the best decision,” read an April 9 post on the event’s official Facebook page, which goes on to encourage festival goers to support each of the participating local breweries and restaurants. Next year’s Bacon & Beer festival is set for May 22. 🍷

# FOOD

## Keeping the beer industry alive

Local brewers talk Craft Beer Week and homebrewing

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingersoll@hippopress.com

This year’s New Hampshire Craft Beer Week was observed as scheduled, April 2 through April 11, but while the week normally features onsite dinners, tastings and workshops, this year’s celebrations were held in the form of live video chats, social media campaigns and other promotional efforts. Local brewers talk about what they’re doing to keep the craft beer industry alive, plus how you can brew at home.

### Virtual brews

Data from the Brewers Association shows that up to 43 percent of all craft breweries across the country may be forced to close for good within the next three months if the Covid-19 crisis continues. In New Hampshire the economic impact of craft beer is \$452 million, roughly \$172 million of which is in labor income, according to figures from 2018, the most recent available.

“[We are] looking for ways to help our industry weather this storm,” Jeff Cozzens, president of the New Hampshire Brewers Association, said in an email. “I don’t know a brewery that hasn’t laid off or furloughed staff. ... Some have shut their doors entirely to ride this out.”

One way the Association has promoted craft breweries is by releasing a compilation of all those that are offering takeout, curbside pickup and other social distancing measures. The full list, with complete hours and ordering information, is available at [granitestatebrewersassociation.org](http://granitestatebrewersassociation.org). Although in-person events are sparse, there are a number of beer releases and deals on growlers, cases, bottles, cans and merchandise still happening, details of which are reflected in the list.

Cozzens said they have also been actively campaigning around the social media hashtags #supportyourlocalbrewery and #keepnhbrewing.

Some brewers have been hosting virtual happy hours, live educational chats and other online events, as part of a Nationwide Cheers, a national campaign to support the industry. Association executive director CJ Haines said a virtual beer festival for Granite State brewers is being planned in the coming weeks.

As for the DRAFT Festival — or the Derry Regional Ales & Films Together Festival — that event series has been postponed to June.

Scott Schaier of Beer Distributors of New Hampshire said he almost immediately noticed an impact on beer sales after Gov. Sununu’s March 16 executive order limiting all bars and restaurants to takeout and delivery.

“There were probably about seven days in a row where we were selling at grocery stores ... the equivalent amount of what we would sell the week before the Super Bowl. The volume went



Homebrew supplies at Barley & Hops in Milford. Courtesy photo.

way, way up,” Schaier said. “So I think everyone is still passionate about it. I don’t think that’s going to change.”

### Quarantine homebrewing

If you’ve considered making beer or wine at home since all of the state’s tasting rooms are closed, you’re not alone. Several local homebrew supply stores said interest in equipment and craft beer recipes has increased since the state’s stay-at-home order began.

Jesse Mertz of Kettle to Keg Homebrew Supplies in Pembroke said he’s been taking orders from many new customers since his shop opened in 2006, even though it has been limited to phone ordering and curbside pickup the last several weeks.

“I think the two biggest commonalities are people [have] kids and thus less time [for home brewing], or the craft beer already on the market was so good that they stopped,” Mertz said. “But ever since this national emergency has been declared, business has picked back up.”

Jeff Walch, owner of Jasper’s Homebrew & Winemaking Supply in Nashua, said he has noticed a “significant surge” among home brewers wanting to get back into the hobby during their time stuck at home. The store is currently

closed to walk-in customers, but online ordering and curbside pickup are available for most of its products, which include all-inclusive homebrewing kits, as well as separately sold equipment and ingredients.

Incredibrew in Nashua, while closed currently for beer-making classes, is selling wine-making kits with around 40 varieties of wine to choose from, owner Erik Crosswell said.

In Milford, Barley & Hops has a small selection of home brew kits and products. Owner Chris Perry said three different levels of starter kits are available that include all of the equipment and ingredients you need. He’s also in talks with a few local brewers to possibly start beginners’ workshops or instructional videos via Zoom.

“It’s one of the things we’re trying to do to keep breweries in the forefront of people’s minds while the tap rooms are closed,” he said. “What we may do is just have one person talk about fermentation and another talk about dry hopping, or something like that.”

If you’re a first-time home brewer, there are starter kits available at nearly every local home brew supply store. According to state law, no license or permit is required for brewing beer at home for personal consumption, as long as you’re over 21 and aren’t selling it.

A typical home brewer kit that includes all the necessary equipment, such as the fermenters, thermometer, tubing and bottles, will cost roughly \$90 to \$100, depending on the brand. Stores will sell ingredients and beer recipes separately, according to Walch.

“Home brewing is kind of like backyard grilling. It’s a hobby,” he said. “You understand better what you can do with a grill when you use it over and over again, and home brewing is exactly the same. Once you have the equipment, you just need to keep using it by choosing which recipe or style of beer you want. ... Your hazy

BEER CONTINUED ON PG 23 ▶

### Where to get beer and wine making supplies

*Here’s a list of businesses offering home brewing and winemaking supply kits, supplies and recipe ingredients. They are closed for walk-ins but some offer online ordering, shipping and curbside pickup.*

• **Barley & Hops** (614 Nashua St., Milford, 249-5584, [barleyhops.beer](http://barleyhops.beer)) offers curbside pickup and in-store purchases with the number of people in the store limited to eight or nine, depending on staffing. The store offers first-time starter home brew kits, plus fermenters, brew pots, bottles, grain bags, chilled hops, sugars and other items that are sold separately.

• **Candia Road Brewing Co.** (840 Candia Road, Manchester, 935-8123, find them on Facebook) offers call-aheads and curbside pickups for its home brew supplies.

• **Incredibrew** (112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, [incredibrew.com](http://incredibrew.com)) is selling winemaking kits with around 40 varieties of wine to choose from. The store is currently closed for walk-in customers, but curbside pickup for wine is available.

• **Jasper’s Homebrew & Winemaking Supply** (522 Amherst St., Nashua, 881-3052, [boomchugalug.com](http://boomchugalug.com)) has temporarily closed its store to walk-in customers but offers online ordering, curbside pickup and shipping for select items. Jasper’s sells fully established home brewing kits, plus hundreds of the store’s own unique recipes.

• **Kettle to Keg Homebrew Supplies** (123 Main St., Pembroke, 485-2054, [kettletokeg.com](http://kettletokeg.com)) is temporarily closed for walk-ins but is offering phone ordering, shipping and curbside pickup for its home brewing supplies.





Charla Mayotte of Celeste Oliva in Concord, with husband Clark. Courtesy photo.

Charla Mayotte of Hooksett is the owner of Celeste Oliva (8 N. Main St., Concord, 225-3866, celesteoliva.com), a specialty store offering artisan olive oils, balsamic vinegars and sea salts that opened in 2014. Celeste Oliva's product line includes more than a dozen types of ultra premium olive oils that are hand-bottled at the store. The oils originate from several countries in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres, with olives that are crushed within two to four hours of being harvested. Close to 35 balsamic vinegars coming from different areas of Italy are also available. A native of western New York, Mayotte said the inspiration to open the store came from her disappointment with olive oils sold in supermarkets and desire to bring a higher-quality product to the Granite State. Although the store is temporarily closed to walk-in visitors, online ordering is available, as well as curbside deliveries to customers within a 15-mile radius. Celeste Oliva will also appear at this year's Derry Homegrown Farm & Artisan Market, scheduled to begin in June.

**What is your must-have kitchen item?**

Olive oil, of course! I use all of mine for cooking. I don't even use any other oil anymore.

**What would you have for your last meal?**

My husband makes a really good black bean burger. I'd have that, probably [with] french fries or coleslaw.

**What is your favorite local restaurant?**

It depends on what I'm in the mood for. Two that I go to a lot would be Live Juice and The Works [Bakery Cafe in Concord].

**What celebrity would you like to see trying one of your products?**

Gordon Ramsay.

**What is your favorite olive oil that you offer?**

Probably either the garlic-infused olive oil or the coratina extra virgin olive oil. I like to use the garlic oil to cook things like chicken, fish and eggs.

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

I feel like more people are turning to Mediterranean-style foods and ingredients.

**What is your favorite thing to cook at home?**

I like to make my own marinara sauce with spaghetti.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

**Homemade black bean veggie burgers**

*Courtesy of Charla Mayotte of Celeste Oliva in Concord*

- 1 16-ounce can black beans, drained and rinsed
- ½ green bell pepper, cut into 2-inch pieces
- ¼ red onion
- 3 garlic cloves, peeled
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon chili powder
- 1 tablespoon cumin
- 1 teaspoon Celeste Oliva cayenne-infused or baklouti green chili-infused extra virgin olive oil
- ½ cup bread crumbs

Preheat oven to 375 degrees and lightly oil a baking sheet. In a bowl, mash the black beans with a fork until thick and pasty. Finely chop bell pepper, garlic and onion in a food processor, then stir in the mashed beans. In a small bowl, stir together egg, chili powder, cumin and olive oil. Stir the egg mixture into the crushed beans. Mix in the bread crumbs until the mixture is sticky and holds together. Divide the mixture into four patties. Place patties on a cookie sheet and cook for about 10 minutes on each side.



# nutritious nibbles

Asparagus is available year round, but has a peak season between February and June. As a source of vitamin E, an antioxidant, asparagus helps your body's defenses by fighting free radicals that can cause cell damage throughout the body.

## Fresh Asparagus Salad

**Serves: 4**

**Ingredients:**

- 3 cups thinly sliced fresh asparagus
- 2/3 cup chopped scallions
- 4 radishes
- 1/2 Avocado from Mexico, diced
- 1 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1/4 cup Cabot® Lite50 Sharp Cheddar Cheese, shredded
- 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- McCormick® pepper, to taste

**Directions:**

1. Snap and discard the ends of the asparagus.
2. Cut the remaining asparagus diagonally into thin slices and place in bowl.
3. Stir in scallions, radishes, avocado, parsley and cheese.
4. Prepare dressing by mixing vinegar, olive oil and pepper. Toss asparagus mixture with the dressing. The vinegar will help tenderize the asparagus without cooking.
5. Refrigerate at least one hour, allowing flavors to meld and the asparagus to become tender. Serve chilled.

**Nutritional Information**

Amount per serving (approximately 1 cup): Calories 200; Protein 6 g; Fat 18 g; Saturated Fat 3 g; Sodium 50 mg; Carbohydrate 6 g; Fiber 4 g; Sugar 1 g



◀ BEER CONTINUED FROM PG 22

juicy New England-style IPA, for example, may be more pricey than an Irish-style stout because of all the ingredients, in particular the hops."

Home brewing will take roughly four to five weeks on average, from the time you steep your grains to when your beer is ready to drink.

"The actual brewing part of it is quick, but you typically need to allow two weeks to let the yeast ferment into alcohol, then another two weeks after you bottle the beer for it to develop carbonation," Walch said. "Higher-al-

cohol beers will tend to take a little longer for maturation."

While he hasn't yet seen it happen, Mertz said he does expect a supply shortage in the future due to Covid-19 could lead to more of a "back to basics" approach for home brewers.

"We like to throw everything and the kitchen sink out there. That experimentation is what drives the hobby and the craft," he said, "but I do think you're going to see more of a resurgence in basic home brewing. I think that's definitely in the pipeline." 🍷

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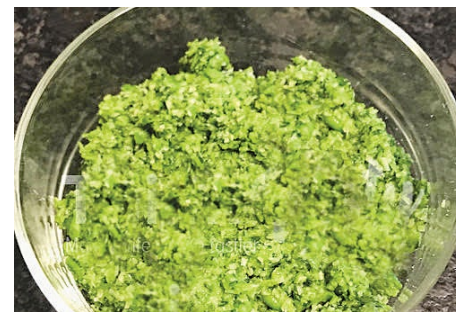
**TRY THIS AT HOME**

## Pea & cilantro pesto

When I originally envisioned this recipe, I assumed we would have a typical spring with the frivolity of trips to the farmers market to buy freshly harvested produce. I'm sure in that vision I thought about myself shopping among a crowd, perusing tables filled with an assortment of locally grown and made items. This spring is not that spring I imagined. However, that doesn't mean we can't make this recipe. In fact, I think we need to make this recipe. It's bright green and (to my mind) tastes like spring. Although we need to stay home, we can invite some spring beauty inside and serve it from our kitchens.

This recipe is flexible. If you have access to fresh peas, whether it be from your grocery store or your own garden, then use fresh peas. If fresh peas aren't an option, use frozen peas. You really won't notice much of a difference, if any at all.

What I like about a recipe such as this one is that not only is it flexible in whether your peas are fresh or frozen, it's also flexible with the flavors. Like your pesto to be extra cheesy? Put more Parmesan into the recipe. However, keep in mind you'll need an extra bit of lemon



Pea & cilantro pesto. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

juice to blend the pesto. Can't find fresh cilantro? You can replace it with a different herb. Make this pesto to fit your grocery store and pantry, as well as your palate.

Be creative with this recipe while being mindful of its flavor and texture. It may not be quite the recipe you initially envisioned, but it still can be something you enjoy.

*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. Please visit [thinktasty.com](http://thinktasty.com) to find more of her recipes.*

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### Pea & Cilantro Pesto

Makes approximately 1 cup of pesto

- 1 1/2 cup peas\*
- 3/4 cup fresh cilantro
- 1/2 cup shredded Parmesan
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice, about 1 lemon
- Salt & pepper

Place peas in bowl of food processor. Add cilantro, garlic and Parmesan. Secure food processor lid and add half of the lemon juice. Turn food processor to high. Leaving food processor on high, add a tea-

spoon of lemon juice. Turn processor off; scrape down sides of bowl. Turn food processor to high, adding more lemon juice if needed to fully incorporate ingredients. Season with salt and pepper, and pulse to combine. Transfer to a small bowl. Serve with crackers or as a topping for spaghetti squash or pasta.

\*If using frozen peas, defrost. If using fresh peas, cook until tender.

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# Spring wines raise spirits

Kick off rosé season early this year

By Fred Matuszewski  
food@hippopress.com



Spring is a time of rebirth, the budding of trees, the greening of grass. This spring we look to get out, albeit with caution — a solitary walk in your neighborhood or on a seldom-traveled path in the country. With the warming of our days we are greeted with warm sunlight by day and the sound of tree frogs in the evening. Spring can be a time of reflection with these signs of hope. For this season I recommend a new wine, a rosé; a familiar wine, the Bordeaux; and a delightfully “fun wine,” the sparkling Moscato Spumante.

The rosé I have selected is **Fleur de Mer Rosé**, 2018, originally priced at \$21.99 and on sale with a price of \$17.99. It has a brilliant coral pink color and is a medium-bodied wine that evokes aromas and flavors of subtle citrus, lavender and Mediterranean herbs. It is fresh and elegant with a soft texture and mineral finish that is balanced with refreshing acidity. Fleur de Mer means “Flower of the Sea,” and the wine brings to one’s mind the region’s famed fields of flowers and vines that bask in the warm summer sun. Cotes de Provence is an extensive appellation that includes vineyards of the greater Provence region and extends all the way east to the border of Italy. Its sites vary from subalpine hills, which receive the cooling effects of the mountains to the north, to the coastal warm Mediterranean of St-Tropez. This wine is a superior rosé, made from high-quality grenache, syrah, cinsault and carignan. It can be sipped with hors d’oeuvres of soft cheeses and berries or paired with fish or chicken.

The Bordeaux is **Château Forlouis Montagne Saint-Émilion**, 2015, originally priced at \$41.99, with a Price Busters sale price of \$20.99. It is a blend of 80 percent merlot and 20 percent cabernet franc, a classic Bordeaux-style blend. This wine was profiled in an earlier Hippo column and is one of my favorites. Montagne-Saint-Émilion is the largest “satellite” title of the Saint-Émilion appellation or grape growing district. It is hilly and planted principally with merlot and cabernet franc, and to a lesser degree cabernet sauvignon. The soils are clay and limestone, with traces of sandy clay and gravels. The Château estate, of 30 acres, planted with 30-year-old vines, lies at the heart of the Montagne appellation. To the nose the wine has notes of dark cherries to plums. It has great structure, full of oak-aged tannins with touches of dark chocolate. One reviewer noted to cellar this wine and drink

it starting in 2023. So, you’re a little early, and thus the dominance of tannins. If you wish to drink it now, decanting is strongly recommended for an hour or so before drinking. If you wish to cellar it, lay the bottle on its side to keep the cork damp and store it in a cool, dark place, perhaps a basement, where temperatures will fluctuate without dramatic swings. This is a wine to pair with a good steak or roast, or a hearty Italian red-sauced pasta dish. It will elevate your spirits.

Have a little fun and pick up a bottle of **Bottega Petalo Il Vino Dell Amore Moscato Spumante**, originally priced at \$18.99, on sale at a price of \$9.99. According to their website, and the winemaker’s notes, “Produced by the Bottega family, this delicately sweet sparkling wine is crafted from Moscato grapes grown in northeast Italy’s Colli Euganei region, nestled between two fabled cities of love, Verona and Venice. Wild roses grow among the Moscato vines and this scent of roses subtly perfumes the wine, together with fragrant notes of peach and apple. Petalo is beautifully balanced on the palate, with fresh fruit flavors and fine, persistent bubbles.” Bottega has a history of four centuries in the world of wine and grappa. Since the 17th century the family has cultivated the vine as tenant farmers producing grappa and liquors, appreciated worldwide. With such a pedigree, it is a shame it took so long for me to discover it! This is truly a great wine to pair with a dessert or just enjoy in the late afternoon.

After juggling your day with work and your kids’ remote learning assignments, go outside and put your feet up and relax, even for a few minutes. Sip a bit of that chilled rosé, create a hearty Italian pasta dish to pair with that Bordeaux, or just sit back with the sparkling moscato. After all, you’re not going anywhere too soon!

*Fred Matuszewski is a local architect and a foodie and wine geek, interested in the cultivation of the multiple strains and varieties of grapes and the industry of wine production and sales. Chief among his travels is an annual trip to the wine producing areas of California. 🍷*

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## CDs pg26

- The Grim Bros, *Devil Moon* A+
- Dave Douglas, *Dizzy Atmosphere: Dizzy Gillespie at Zero Gravity* A

## BOOKS pg27

- *The Falcon Thief* B+

## • Book Notes

To let us know about your book or event, email [asykeny@hippopress.com](mailto:asykeny@hippopress.com).

To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to [listings@hippopress.com](mailto:listings@hippopress.com).

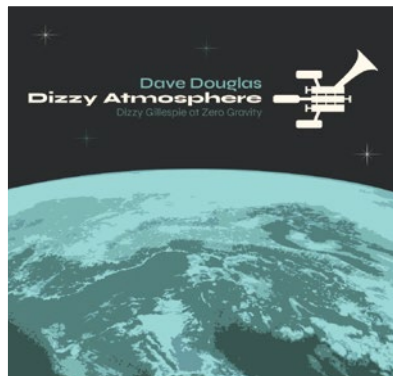
## FILM pg28

- *Trolls World Tour* B
- *Never Rarely Sometimes Always* A
- *The Whistlers* B+
- *Shaun the Sheep* Movie B

The Grim Bros, *Devil Moon* (self-released)

At this point, the best way to help local bands that have been grounded by the coronavirus shutdown is through any online means available. While many local acts are streaming online shows, other artists have records coming out, in other words “product” you can simply buy to keep bands going. This Portsmouth-area band is a bluesy jam-rock act that’s well worth hearing, if only going by this Allman Brothers-sounding tune; it’s the title track from their album, which is on the way as we speak. I hate to be one of those

hacky critics who harps on “production values” and such, but the production here does sound quite pro, and when I say it sounds like the Allmans, I’m honestly not exaggerating for effect, because the singer is a dead ringer for Gregg Allman. The music itself is more jammy, sort of like Phish but with a bit more loudness. Nice job all told. Fans don’t have to wait for the album, as the track can be downloaded for a dollar here: [thegrimbros.bandcamp.com/track/devil-moon](http://thegrimbros.bandcamp.com/track/devil-moon). A+ —Eric W. Saeger

Dave Douglas, *Dizzy Atmosphere: Dizzy Gillespie at Zero Gravity* (Greenleaf Music)

The title of the newest record from rising jazz trumpeter Douglas might naturally lead one to expect either a predictable set of covers or a mawkish “I Remember Clifford”-style elegy. That’d be wrong, though; half of the pieces here are Douglas originals, and those tunes evoke a (slightly) modernized reboot of Dizzy’s vibe itself rather than some sort of forced roleplaying. This one is crafted by a sextet of modern greats we’ve talked about before, including Dave Adewumi, who — speaking of roleplaying — stands as a James Moody yang to Douglas’s yin, particularly on “Cadillac,” which studies but doesn’t exactly nick Dizzy’s “Sing Low, Sweet Cadillac”; if anything, it serves as a great excuse to table some call-and-response and snaking interplay between the two trumpets. “Mondrian” includes a nod to Dizzy’s classic tune “Bebop” but stands, as do all the other original compositions, on firm, barely excavated ground. A — Eric W. Saeger

## PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

- April 17 looms, folks, it veritably *looms*. With it being a Friday, new music releases will pour into the overcrowded market on that fateful day, starting with the new **Danzig** album, *Danzig Sings Elvis!* This is of course the old punk-rock dude who was into bodybuilding, which was one of the many things that caused punk rock to become uncool. Huh, wow, he’s serious, like his version of “Always On My Mind” is mellow, and not metal, and he sounds like Elvis. Why did he do this? I don’t know.

- **Shabazz Palaces** is the Seattle-based hip-hop duo of Ishmael Butler and Tendai “Baba” Maraire, which tends to do “a lot of layering” in their tunes, which means they’re weird, in this case. *The Don of Diamond Dreams*, their new album, features a song called “Chocolate Souffle,” and it’s definitely weird, like if Flaming Lips were OG rappers from a million years ago. All set with that.

- There are a couple of breaking items to discuss in the area of album release date news, which is to say that, owing to the coronavirus outbreak, as a record buyer, you may find that your favorite band has pushed back its drop date. One is Latin boy band **CNCO**’s untitled third LP, whose release was punted to an as-yet-undetermined date. I really am not cool with that for two reasons. First, as a critic whose job is to relay accurate information to the public, it’s obviously a pain in the neck to have to double-check my work before getting it out of my face forever. Second: Why? Not to get too cringey, but the mission of an artist is to soothe and/or satiate the masses, to make life just a little bit better for people who’ve suddenly found themselves in dire need of one essential thing or another. Art is random, made of wisps of emotion whirling in the cultural winds, with nothing ever guaranteed, especially success. For a band to hold back a release because of, as the 4channers would say, “muh capitalism,” the cynicism comes through loud and clear, and really, it’s a bit stupid under these anything-goes circumstances. Just roll the dice you’ve been handed, bands, jeez.

- I suppose if I were to forgive any band for rescheduling their next record release, it would be **Nick Mason’s Saucerful of Secrets**, who announced on March 20 that the street date of their concert album *Live at the Roundhouse* has been pushed back to Sept. 18. The 76-year-old Mason, who was the original drummer for Pink Floyd, launched the project as a laugh, a vehicle for “playing some early Pink Floyd — the songs pre-*Dark Side of the Moon* — that had not been given a live outing for decades.” Most regular readers know that I couldn’t care less about Pink Floyd, but come on, the guy’s 76, with probably little to no desire whatsoever to record new stuff under any heavy contractual pressure, and besides, he’s not David Gilmour or Roger Waters, just the drummer. I chalk up the postponement to an obvious lack of a retirement plan on Mason’s part, and hence a need to promote the live show when everything’s back to normal, so he gets a hall pass. — Eric W. Saeger

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

## Retro Playlist

Eric W. Saeger recommends a couple of albums worth a second look.

Whether your albatross is being trapped home-schooling your kids, “working” from home (the hardest part of which involves managing interruptions from your loved ones and pets and trying to resist the urge to drift off into spur-of-the-moment black holes of Google distraction, searching for super-important things like “Is Mr. T alive or dead?”), let’s face it, you’re cracking up.

Once cracked, at some point you’ll find yourself indulging in a mini-binge of stupid, lunkheaded but awesome music that makes you dance with the cat or dress the dog up like W.C. Fields. Like you I’m sure, I have an unofficial, ad hoc mixtape I’ll slap together and



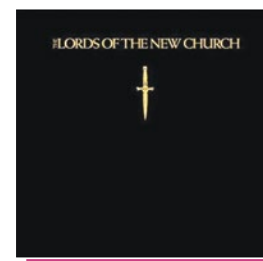
stream for times when a too-long bout of all work and no play has made me into a complete loon. I don’t know what songs marooned millennial workers choose in this “punk is dead” world, where no band plays dumb-stupid music at the expert-stupid level of Twisted Sister or Ramones (before you start with The Hives or Black Lips, don’t). In the past, there

were plenty of bands that made dumb-stupid rock into an art form, music that seemed written solely for the purpose of inspiring instant self-cures for cabin fever, the step that always comes before you finally give up and get to that dreary home-organization task you’ve put off for two or 32 years.

But thanks to your streaming service, there’s hope if you’ll just look for it. Toward that, I’ll try to help. Most Americans have no idea

how big the band **Slade** was in their native U.K. back in the day. They had a string of No. 1 hits in the U.K., and their manic singer Noddy Holder is still on “the telly” a lot, because he’s funny. Their 1984 album *Keep Your Hands Off My Power Supply* included the essential bagpipe-metal classic “Run Runaway,” as well as “My Oh My,” a power ballad so irresistibly moronic that it could probably wipe out the coronavirus on its own if everyone drove around with their radios cranking it, the way Slim Whitman’s “Indian Love Call” took out the aliens in the film *Mars Attacks*.

Some of you are goth, though, and need a certain amount of vampirism present in your motivational “I’m so bored that I’m actually going to clean and organize the entire refrig-



erator, but not quite yet” dive into rock ‘n’ roll dumbness. For that, you want **Lords of the New Church**’s self-titled 1982 LP. Punk but new wave, it’s a combination of The Damned and the Ramones, too lamebrained to be considered “well-written” but catchy nonetheless. Caution: Don’t play it if your long-procrastinated task involves heights or fire, because the emergency room is already full.

If you’re in a local band, now’s a great time to let me know about your EP, your single, whatever’s on your mind. Let me know how you’re holding yourself together without being able to play shows or jam with your homies. Send a recipe for keema matar. Email [esaeger@cyberontix.com](mailto:esaeger@cyberontix.com) for fastest response.



**The Falcon Thief**, by Joshua Hammer (Simon & Schuster, 281 pages)

It begins with animal exploitation, edging toward abuse. Insert complicated, colorful characters, who may or not be criminals, who can rappel down a mountain like James Bond. Wrap it in a mystery involving some of the world's most endangered species.

It's not the Joe Exotic, but *The Falcon Thief*, a surprisingly gripping story about the underground market for viable eggs of peregrine falcons, the raptors that have been called "the perfect predator" because of their speed and astonishing vision.

There are peregrines, of course, in New Hampshire; you can watch one nest in real time on a live webcam on New Hampshire Audubon (nhaudubon.org). And there exists, in Deering, the New Hampshire School of Falconry, where families can go to learn about humans partnering with falcons to hunt game.

But this is not a book about peregrines generally, but about the illegal egg trade, which is as fascinating and disconcerting as anything you've seen on the Netflix show *Tiger King*. It begins when a traveler at Birmingham International Airport, about two hours from London, is discovered to have 14 eggs, wrapped in socks, taped to his body.

When confronted by customs officials, the man kept changing his story. First, it was a joke he was playing on his father; then, it was an unorthodox way of keeping his spine straight. They were duck eggs, he said; the embryos were dead. He was a collector who planned to blow out the embryos and add them to his collection.

Already skeptical, the investigators grew even more suspicious when they located the man's car and discovered an incubator in the trunk.

Hammer, an independent journalist, came across this story when he saw a short article in a British newspaper headlined "Thief Who Preys on Falcon Eggs

is Back on the Wing."

"The notion that there was a lucrative black market for wild birds' eggs seemed faintly ridiculous to me, like some wacky quest out of Dr. Seuss's *Scrambled Eggs Super!*, which I'd read aloud many times over the course of a decade to my three boys," he writes.

He wasn't all that interested in birds, but wanted to know why — and how — people were risking decades of imprisonment to smuggle eggs only slightly smaller than a chicken egg. So he made a few calls upon his return home, and fell into a rabbit hole of intrigue involving the egg thief, Jeffrey Lendrum, and Andy McWilliam, the British grandfather and retired policeman who became the detective charged with, um, cracking the case.

There was much to discover. As it turns out, Lendrum had been raiding nests of wild birds since he was a child, encouraged by his father, whose "love" for wildlife was expressed in collecting it. (Quotations mine — it's a little hard to accept that a true biophilic found it ethical to raid bird nests as he did.) Father and son would collect eggs from nests and then blow out the living embryo. (You can do this at home with Google and paperclip, but please don't.)

At the time, the family lived in Rhodesia, which had strict conservation laws, but this did not stop young Lendrum from becoming "a prolific nest raider."

Hammer quotes one of Lendrum's childhood friends who said that egg theft became an obsession, and a competition. "Waller remembers clambering into nests as an adolescent to take the live eggs of the common sparrow hawk. 'I'd climb a tree and there would be a chicken egg in the nest with a sign on it saying, 'Too late sucker,' he recalls."

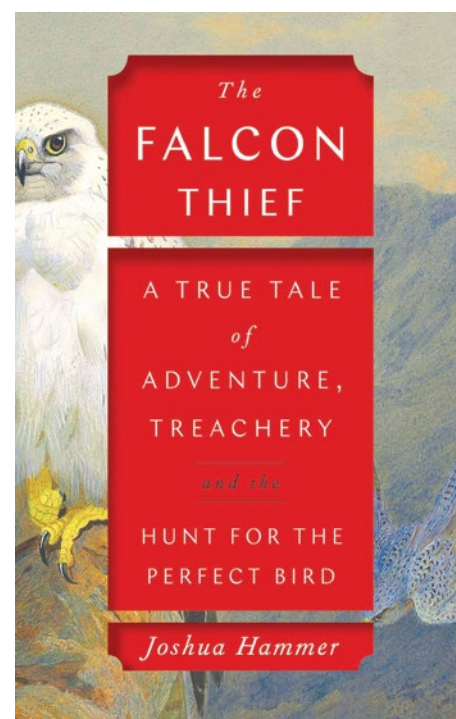
This is a strange enough subculture, "the mesmerizing power of the egg," but it became a profession once Lendrum figured out that there were wealthy men in the Middle East willing to spend tens

of thousands of dollars for peregrine eggs snatched from the wild. These were preferred over the eggs of captive birds because they believe that the offspring of wild birds would be healthier and better hunters.

Problem is, in most countries, not only is the trapping of wild falcons illegal, but so is raiding their nests. (It wasn't always — a guide to hunting with birds written in 1247 gave tips on how to steal just-hatched chicks from their nests.) So it has become an underground industry, much like the drug trade, except that cocaine doesn't tend to hatch and start chirping when you're going through customs if you've planned wrong.

*The Falcon Thief* is an encyclopedia of information about falcons and falconry, but mostly reads like a mystery. If the pace slows in places, it's because of Hammer's dogged reporting. For the most part, it soars.

**B+** — Jennifer Graham



### BOOK NOTES

There are no books published, as yet, about Joe Exotic, the subject of the wildly popular documentary series *Tiger King* on Netflix.

But a great companion book to binge-read if you're watching the show is last year's *No Beast So Fierce*, recently released in paperback.

By Dane Huckelbridge, it's nonfiction that tells the story of the Champawat Tiger, which killed more than 400 people around the turn of the century in India and Nepal.

Wrap your mind around that: Just a little more than 100 years ago, on this very planet, there was a tiger pulling children from their beds and carrying off women working in fields, and this happened more than 400 times, over seven years, before anyone could stop it.

Why?

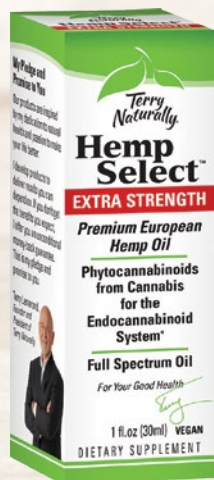
For one thing, India was under strict control of the British empire and ordinary citizens were prohibited from owning guns, so they were helpless to fight off a 500-pound man-eater. Also, the tigress (the

Champawat Tiger, contrary to its name, was a she) was desperate. Her mouth mangled by what it is believed to be a poacher attack, she started attacking people not out of revenge, but because humans were the only things she could easily subdue.

Enter Jim Corbett, hired by the British government to put an end to the terror. He is as memorable a character as the tigress herself, and the story of the hunt is engrossing. It's also a reminder of what striped power is constrained in the cages of those roadside zoos.

Meanwhile, if you're trying to pass time without tigers or White House press briefings, a number of authors are explosively tweeting these days and worth checking out. Among them: Anne Lamott (@annelamott), Amy Tan (@amytan), J.K. Rowling (@jk\_rowling), Scott Adams (@ScottAdamsSays), Augusten Burroughs (@augusten), Joe Hill (@joe\_hill) and Jodi Picoult (@jodipicoult). If I left out your favorite, email me at [byjennifergraham@gmail.com](mailto:byjennifergraham@gmail.com).

— Jennifer Graham



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**Trolls World Tour (PG)**

The brightly colored, big-haired trolls return with their jukebox of covers and mashups in *Trolls World Tour*, a sequel to 2016's animated *Trolls* that is getting its "big screen" release to all of us watching movies on small screens.

Poppy (voice of Anna Kendrick) is now queen of her village of trolls, and former grump Branch (voice of Justin Timberlake), now a willing participant in troll society, is her friend but wants to be more (in an extremely PG way). Unbeknownst to Poppy, though, the trolls of her pop-songs-loving village are only a part of the wider troll universe. There are country music trolls, techno trolls, classical music trolls, funk trolls and others (reggaeton, yodeling, K-Pop). She learns about this wider world and how it broke apart when Queen Barb (voice of Rachel Bloom), queen of the hard rock trolls, sends what Poppy thinks is an invitation to plan the ultimate party. But others — her father (voice of Walt Dohrn), Branch — see it for what it is, a request for surrender. Poppy plows ahead determined to make friends with Barb. Barb meanwhile conquers every troll-musical-genre land she tours through and takes their magical guitar strings (the source of each troll community's musical sound) with the goal of putting six of the magical strings on her guitar, playing the ultimate power chord and forever getting rid of any music that isn't hard rock.

Barracuda!

When I saw the first *Trolls* in 2016, I thought it was maybe too lightweight but that with its upbeat music, pink heroine and



*Trolls World Tour*

kid-craft-y world the movie (and its officially licensed merchandise) would appeal to my young daughter and I was so very right. When I saw *Trolls World Tour* on the release schedule, I immediately looked to see how much the soundtrack would cost (\$12.99). And, thanks to our weird universe of watching "theater" movies at home, I've actually seen parts of this movie multiple times now, as my kids watched it several times within the 48-hour rental window. The movie provided hours of entertainment at a time when any entertainment that doesn't involve injury of property or siblings is extremely welcome. So, all in all, while \$33 (\$19.99 rental plus soundtrack) is a pretty hefty price tag, it is money well spent.

Is it good, you ask? Does it matter? It's fine. This movie isn't quite as sharp as the original, maybe, but it has a slightly heftier message ("we are all different and that's great!" is how I'd boil it down). Its villain is less frightening (the Bergens, the large gobliny creatures in the last movie, wanted to eat the trolls; Queen Barb just wants them to *rawk*), which is nice if you have younger kids in your living room audience. The movie still has nice moments of visual and storytelling weirdness and has some fun with musical genre and how it visually portrays a style of music. The songs aren't quite up to, like, *Lego Movie* standards when it comes to blending smart comedy with musical style but they have some cleverness. At one point the trolls sing a hard rock

song that is short but knows what it's doing, stylistically. There is also a nice detour into the Funk Trolls world, ruled by King Quincy (voiced, of course, by George Clinton) and Queen Essence (voiced by Mary J. Blige).

This movie does exactly what it needs to do at a time when providing this kind of low-pressure kid-friendly entertainment is what is needed most. **B**

*Rated PG for some mild rude humor, according to the MPA. Directed by Walt Dohrn and David P. Smith with a screenplay by Jonathan Aibel & Glenn Berger and Maya Forbes & Wallace Wolodarsky and Elizabeth Tippet, Trolls World Tour is an hour and 30 minutes long and distributed by Dreamworks Animation. Available for \$19.99 for a 48-hour rental.*

**Never Rarely Sometimes Always (PG-13)**

A 17-year-old girl from small-town Pennsylvania travels to New York City to get an abortion in *Never Rarely Sometimes Always*, a well-acted, tension-filled drama.

This movie is well-acted and well-crafted all the way around but it's no lighthearted viewing experience. The movie gives you such a picture into teenage-girlhood, their thought processes and the things they have to endure, that I felt at times this could almost qualify as a horror movie. I felt on edge and anxious throughout. The movie is also not here for any kind of both-sides-iness when it comes to abortion. It does not make speeches; it shows, unflinchingly.

**AT THE SOFAPLEX**

Several movies that were in theaters at the time they closed are now available for home viewing. Here is a rundown of recent releases and some of the bigger award movies and end-of-year movies from 2019. Indicates a movie to seek out. Find full reviews for most films in past issues, which are available at [hippopress.com](http://hippopress.com).

***Bloodshot* (PG-13)**

Vin Diesel, Guy Pearce. The Valiant Comics character Bloodshot is played as sort of a Wolverine knock-off in this hash of familiar action movie set pieces. Though Diesel's main character is of only minimal interest, Lamore Morris, playing a hacker, adds some needed life. **C-** Available for purchase.

***Blow the Man Down* (R)**

Margot Martindale, June Squibb. This movie has great performances all the way around, including the central characters played by Sophie Lowe and Morgan Saylor. After two sisters in a small Maine fishing village lose their mother, one tries to distract herself with a night of booze and bad choices. Except, the choices are a little worse than intended and soon both girls have to quickly figure out how to hide a body. This action introduces them to their town's dark underbelly in this enjoyable dark comedy. **A** Available on Amazon Prime.

***Charlie's Angels* (PG-13)**

Kristen Stewart, Ella Balinska. With Naomi Scott rounding out the new Angels and Elizabeth Banks playing a new Bosley, with Patrick Stewart along as a retiring Bosley. Near the end of this movie somebody delivers the line "go, you," and that line delivery is worth the price of viewing all by itself. This movie is middling for about the first two-thirds but ends extremely strong and, had it done bet-

ter opening weekend, has all sorts of potential to become a great lady-focused action comedy franchise. **B** Available for rent or purchase.

***Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution* (R)**

This documentary tells the story of Camp Jened, a camp in upstate New York for people with disabilities at a time when general accessibility was still decades in the future. It also tells the story of Judith Heumann, a woman who fought for the basic civil rights of people to go to school, access public buildings, have careers and more. **A** Available on Netflix.

***Dark Water* (PG-13)**

Mark Ruffalo, Anne Hathaway. A lawyer takes on a case of a farmer in West Virginia and ends up uncovering the potentially nationwide dangers associated with the chemicals called PFOAs. Ruffalo, who plays the central lawyer who kind of stumbles upon this case, is fine, here, in a role that feels like a lesser riff on his *Spotlight* performance. I feel like

this movie built itself on his skill and the genuine importance of the subject but was never quite sure how to solve some of the built-in problems of telling a paperwork-heavy story that spans multiple decades. **C+** Available for rent or purchase.

***Dolemite Is My Name* (R)**

Eddie Murphy, Da'Vine Joy Randolph.

I am a sucker for a "let's make a movie" movie, which is what this very R-rated comedy from Eddie Murphy ultimately is. Based on the true story of Rudy Ray Moore, who (in this movie at least) is a struggling comedian who finds success when he creates a character called Dolemite and starts producing comedy albums, *Dolemite* soon finds Rudy making his own movie on a shoestring. Performances by Snoop Dogg, Keegan-Michael Key, Mike Epps, Craig Robinson, Tituss Burgess and more — and especially Wesley Snipes — make this movie a winner. **A** Available on Netflix.

***Dolittle* (PG)**

Robert Downey Jr., Antonio Banderas.

Plus a bunch of really talented actors doing voices, none of which saves this inert movie that blends live action and animated animals to create one hour and 41 minutes of lifeless who-cares storytelling. Michael Sheen still shows up to play the villain, all ready to go. **D** Available for rent or purchase.

***Emma* (PG)**

Anya Taylor-Joy, Johnny Flynn. Emma has many fine qualities but she can also be careless with people's feelings and kind of, well, clueless, so argues this new adaptation of the Jane Austen novel. This *Emma* not only highlights the comedy aspect of the story but gives everybody, from Taylor-Joy's Emma Woodhouse to Flynn's Knightley, welcome flaws that add some tartness to this delightful sweet treat. Be warned, English students; the movie doesn't exactly follow the book (you still have to read the book). **A-** Available for rent for \$19.99 for a 48-hour period.



We meet Autumn (Sidney Flanigan) on an evening that feels like an accurate window into her life. She performs well in a talent show, singing and playing the guitar, to enthusiastic applause. She also gets some static from a couple of boys at her school both during the performance and later. She seems to have a good relationship with her caring but harried mom (Sharon Van Etten) and a crummy relationship with a guy (Ryan Eggold) giving off strong “mother’s jerk boyfriend/current husband” vibes.

So while Autumn seems like a capable young woman, she also seems fairly on her own when she realizes that she’s probably pregnant. After getting a mix of disheartening, bad and misleading advice from both a shady clinic and the internet, she tells her cousin, Skylar (Talia Ryder), who is about Autumn’s age and works with her at the local supermarket.

Soon the girls are packing for a bus trip to New York City. Though an abortion is more accessible there, it isn’t easy. Because Autumn has been given incorrect information about how far along her pregnancy is, she has to make more visits to the clinic than she planned for. What the girls meant to be a there-and-back trip soon turns into a multi-day visit.

This movie has so many standout elements, from the way it portrays the maze of predatory men that surround these girls to the way a teenage “fix the problem and keep my parents from finding out” mindset leads to some dangerous decisions (Autumn’s unwillingness to, for example, use her insurance card to help her pay for her medical needs or call for help when the girls are short on cash feels like a very real kind of fear-based young-person mode of thinking). But let’s focus on two really excellent elements of this movie: Flanigan’s performance and the Autumn-Skylar relationship.

Flanigan is only 21, according to a Hollywood Reporter story, and this movie is her first real credit. Has anybody ever netted an Oscar nod with their first performance (and in a movie released early in the year)? I don’t know and I don’t know that this movie will be remembered when we get to award season, even during this strange year, but this is an outstanding first effort. It doesn’t feel like a director manipulating a newcomer’s rawness to produce some “naturalistic” effect. Flanigan appears to be making smart, deliberate decisions about what she’s doing and how she presents Autumn as a young woman who holds so much back. The whole performance has an understated quality (that fits with how a teenager can sink into themselves) but in a way that still allows what Autumn is going through and the big emotions she’s wrestling with to come out.

In what is probably going to be called the “never rarely sometimes always” scene, Flanigan is quiet and the dialogue is, as it is throughout the movie, spare. But she still



*Never Rarely Sometimes Always*

makes you feel all of the things piling on her as she answers relatively straightforward questions about her life and relationships. It’s excellent work.

The movie is also extremely skillful in how it portrays the relationship between Autumn and Skylar. The things they don’t need to say, the way they care for each other without discussion, even the way they fight — it gives us a perfect picture of who they are individually and what they are for each other that some speech about their friendship could never do as well. It’s a credit to this movie’s writing (it’s not easy to write something this minimalist) and direction (both by Eliza Hittman) and to the performances from both actresses.

*Never Rarely Sometimes Always* is not an easy movie to watch but it is excellently made. **A**

*Rated PG-13 somehow — it feels very R, at least emotionally — for disturbing/mature thematic content, language, some sexual references and teen drinking, according to the MPA. Written and directed by Eliza Hittman, Never Rarely Sometimes Always is an hour and 41 minutes long and distributed by Focus Features. It is currently available for 48-hour rental for \$19.99.*

## **The Whistlers (NR)**

**A police officer becomes a double or maybe even a triple agent in an operation involving a drug dealing cartel in *The Whistlers*, a movie in Romanian, Spanish and occasionally English that is available for rent, including through Red River Theatres in Concord.**

Magnolia Pictures, which is distributing the movie in the U.S., is one of the film distributors taking part in a “virtual cinema,” which allows people to “buy a ticket” to rent a movie in a way that gives part of the money to a participating brick-and-mortar independent theater. *The Whistlers* is one of the Magnolia Pictures movies you could buy a ticket to through Red River.

Can a person be a triple agent? At some point in *The Whistlers*, I found myself thinking, wait, what side does Romanian police officer Cristi (Vlad Ivanov) really work for? This movie folds back on itself several times, giving us flashbacks to fill in action and characters, and I’ll admit that a few times I lost track a little of when I was.

But generally: Cristi is a police officer who is maybe dirty or maybe posing as dirty to work with a group of drug dealers. Specifically, his current operation is to help free Zsolt (Sabin Tambrea), a sort of mid-level drug guy being held by Cristi’s department. In service of that goal, he’s sent to an island in Spain where he learns a whistle language, one that will allow him and the others who are part of the drug dealing operation to communicate while the police are around without the police knowing what they’re saying.

Teaching Cristi are an assortment of henchmen and Gilda (Catrinel Marlon), a woman Cristi has had something of a pretend affair with. They had an afternoon of passion, the central point of which was to pass information and tickets while being watched by video surveillance that Cristi knew was in his apartment. Gilda is also Zsolt’s sister and the two of them have a scheme worked out separate from the plans of the big drug boss.

Back in Bucharest, Cristi seems to go back and forth between working for the drug dealers and for his police department boss Magda (Rodica Lazar), herself not the straightest of arrows.

For a movie with a fair amount of violence, *The Whistlers* has a bouncy jaunty feel, with title cards and timeline reminiscent of 1990s American indie movies and with a dry sense of humor throughout. I also enjoyed that distinctly European TV and movies thing where everybody is decidedly an adult (even the sultry Marlon is in her mid-thirties), with Ivanov selling the shumpiness of an underpaid middle-aged police officer (scenes with his mother,

played by Julieta Szonyi, highlight the “life has not turned out as he planned” quality of Cristi, no matter whose side he’s really on).

Perhaps the fact that “to the supermarket” is the only travel I’m currently engaged in makes *The Whistlers*’ international caper quality even more appealing. The movie is a light, slightly fizzy cocktail that gives you a few moments in the Spanish sunshine. **B+**

*This film is not rated (but with all the killing and the sex, let’s say “R”). Written and directed by Corneliu Porumboiu, The Whistlers is an hour and 37 minutes long and is distributed by Magnolia Pictures.*

## **Shaun the Sheep Movie (PG)** **Sheep hit the big city in *Shaun the Sheep Movie*, an Aardman Animations movie from 2015.**

I’m reaching back to this one because I liked this year’s Netflix movie *A Shaun the Sheep Movie: Farmageddon* so much. That is a perfect G-rated “if you’re old enough to watch movies, you can watch this” bit of family sweetness.

This first movie is not quite as gentle but didn’t seem to freak out my preschool-aged kids.

Here, we see more of the origins of Shaun (voiced by Justin Fletcher, though as with *Farmageddon* there isn’t really any dialogue; it’s more, sort of, wordless vocal noises), a sheep in a small herd on an idyllic English farm. The herd is watched over by the rules-following dog Bitzer (voice of John Sparkes) and to a lesser degree the human farmer (also Sparkes), who has lately begun to get kind of numbed to the drudgery of farm work.

The sheep, trying to break free of the schedule, help the farmer take a nap but instead of just getting a few hours of goof-off time, the sheep accidentally set in motion a series of events whereby the farmer ends up in the big city with a case of amnesia. Bitzer and Shaun —with the rest of the sheep following, because, you know, sheep — end up in the city searching for the farmer and trying to avoid an aggressive and mean animal containment officer.

This inflated ego baddie is a scarier, more directly villainous Big Bad than the antagonist in *Farmageddon* but this movie still has a lot of general sweetness, visual cleverness and burps — which, like, my kids were definitely in it for the burps. Shaun has a mix of can-do spirit and caring for his fellow animal that helps to give more depth to his mischievousness. **B**

*Rated PG for rude humor, according to the MPA. Directed by Mark Burton and Richard Starzak with a screenplay by Mark Burton & Richard Starzak, Shaun the Sheep Movie is an hour and 25 minutes long and is distributed by Lionsgate. It is currently available for rent or purchase.* 🍷



# THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Old friend:** Fresh out of Berklee, **Liz Longley** was selling out Tupelo Music Hall months in advance, and she was booked to return in June, but then Covid-19 hit. Thus, a virtual concert must suffice. Longley just released a new album, *Funeral for My Past*, produced by Nashville hotshot Paul Moak, is her declaration of independence and the third most successful project in Kickstarter history. Thursday, April 16, 7 p.m., [youtu.be/W7UZVLLs86w](https://youtu.be/W7UZVLLs86w). See [facebook.com/LizLongleyMusic](https://facebook.com/LizLongleyMusic).

• **Up north:** Ironically, one of the greatest breakup songs ever came from a married couple. **Whitehorse** is the Hamilton, Ontario-based duo of Luke Doucet and Melissa McClelland. Each was an independent songwriter before finding harmony together. The aforementioned scorching, “Broken,” appeared on their eponymous 2011 album. Since the pandemic, the two have been hosting weekly Happy Hour livestreams to kick off the weekend. Friday, April 17, 5 p.m., link at [whitehorsemusic.ca](https://whitehorsemusic.ca).

• **Every day:** The world is an emptier place without live shows from **Adam Ezra Band**, but the barefoot bard of good times is making up for the absence with a nightly online Gathering. Playing guitar and harmonica, Ezra has an energy that’s infectious, particularly on heartfelt songs like “The Toast” from his band’s 2017 LP, *Hurricane Wind*. “Here’s to our hearts and the air that we breathe,” he sings, “here’s to a round in good company.” Friday, April 17, 7 p.m. Go to [adamezra.com/gathering-series](https://adamezra.com/gathering-series) for details.

• **Serious music:** Classical guitarist **David William Ross** performs a livestream concert with Spanish by Albéniz and Tárrega, along with selections from Piazzolla and other Latin American composers. The online event is part of the Music in the Time of Quarantine series hosted by Peterborough-based Monadnock Music, which sadly had to recently announce the cancellation of its annual Thing in the Spring festival. Sunday, April 19, 3 p.m. See [facebook.com/monadnockmusic](https://facebook.com/monadnockmusic) for details.

## NITE

# Going it alone

Liz Bills talks about her new album

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

After gaining notice with Analog Heart and winning a New England Music Award with her band The Change, Liz Bills was ready to debut her first solo album with a regional tour when the pandemic put her plans on hold. Undeterred, the singer-songwriter launched a series of virtual shows, many in collaboration with Nashua-based vocalist Jessica Olsen and other friends from the region.

The Berklee College of Music graduate teaches voice, piano and guitar; luckily, most of her students are now online, and Bills has been donating tip jar proceeds from her Facebook Live performances to other artists who aren’t as fortunate.

Bills plans a virtual release show for her single “Mama” on May 1. She talked recently by phone about the new album and how she’s faring in this Covid-19 moment.

**Have you discovered anything about yourself personally during this crisis?**

Yeah — I think I mostly enjoy the quarantine. ... I’ve struggled with going solo and [have] kind of been trying to run away from it, so this kind of forces me to really go out by myself and just do a lot of reflecting. In that sense it’s been a blessing, a gift.

**Tell me about the solo project — how it came about, and what people can expect.**

I’ve been running from the solo thing for most of my career. What started as Liz Bills & The Change became an entity of its own with everyone’s personality in the band [but] it’s all of my solo songs, everything I’ve written. Long story short, after I recorded that record last year, I realized I really needed to go solo, to sort of face myself.

**‘Train Song’ will be on the album, and it sounds like a statement of purpose.**

My belief as a young girl was that I was just not good enough no matter what — I’m too quiet, I’m too chubby and ugly. ... Sometimes I feel like I’m strong, I’m brave and creative, I’m talented, but deep down I still have that core belief that I’m not good enough no matter what I do. So when I sat down and wrote ‘Train Song’ I was really talking about struggling with the idea of being a full-time musician and being able to tour and those are just things other people do and it’s not something I could do. And I guess what really turned it around was — do you know the artist Ruby Rose Fox?

**Yes, absolutely. She’s great.**

She’s such a powerful personality for me to be inspired by, and she put out a video of her on tour. She just cried the whole time [saying] “being solo and touring is hard, and I don’t like it.” It was just so honest. That’s how I feel, and she’s Ruby Rose Fox. If she can feel that way and still do it then maybe I can too.

**What’s the most surprising thing about this whole experience for you to this point?**

I guess the most surprising thing has been I’ve never seen anything like this, but none of us has really seen anything like this happen. I think the closest thing we had was like a snowstorm two years ago, I think, where the power lines went out and so when we woke up there was no power or heat and the cell phones didn’t work because the cell phone towers were down. I guess I can only really compare it to that. You never think that anything can shut down the world or your town or anything but this has really shut down everything. I guess I’ve been in denial and I continue to be surprised by just that this can go on for this long and people are not working or going out. You are afraid to be around one another. It’s just so bizarre. It’s almost like you’re in a movie or something.

**What is your process? Do you come up with lyrics first and follow up with a melody**



Liz Bills. Photo by Hunter Stamas.

**that needs words?**

It’s usually most always a melody. I’ll play the chords first and I’ll hum the melody over the chords and then I’ll put words into the melody. I think this year I tried to start going backwards — as I’m getting older I feel like I have more specific things I want to say, so I’m trying to go in and write songs. That’s a lot harder than I thought it would be; it’s just making me not want to.

**Tell me about your new single, ‘Mama’s Song’ and the Mother’s Day card you’re selling with it.**

I wrote it for my mom. ... Now that I’m in my thirties, I reflect about how I’m a lot like my mother now — and that’s a good thing. She was so strong for us and so loving. When I play the song, a lot of people say, ‘I have to go call my mom now,’ so I thought a Mother’s Day card with a download in it would be good merch. I know a beautiful artist, Claudia Tremblay, and I wanted to showcase her artwork as well.

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# YOUR BROWN SKIN SHINING IN THE SUN

Enjoy this Rock and Roll Crossword, originally printed in 2012!

**Across**

- 1. It does it like 'A Knife', to Bryan Adams
- 5. Actors in video

- 9. 'Philophobia' Scots \_\_\_ Strap
- 13. "Tin soldies and Nixon coming"
- 14. Circle Jerks song about a legend?
- 15. Dixie Chicks 'Not Ready To Make \_\_\_'
- 16. "And in a dark brown voice she said \_\_\_"

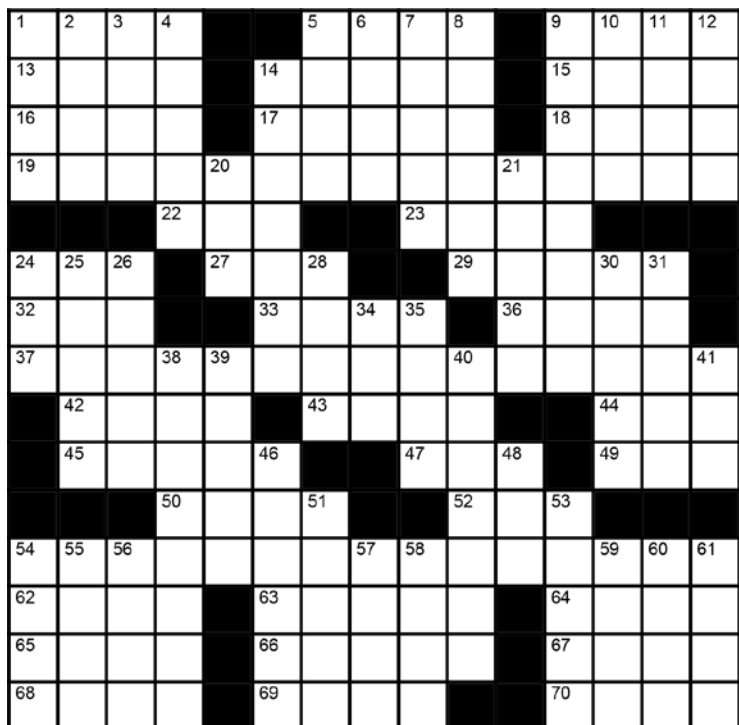
- 17. En Vogue singer Terry
- 18. Tour spreadsheet numbers
- 19. '84 Don Henley album 'Building \_\_\_' (3,7,5)
- 22. "Uncle" that got to Willie Nelson
- 23. 'Don't You (Forget About Me)' singer Jim
- 24. Wail
- 27. 'Señor Blues' Mahal
- 29. What Kansas does before vacuuming
- 32. What you did to unused tix
- 33. Petra 'More Power \_\_\_' (2,2)
- 36. Canuck 'Fantasy' guitarist Aldo
- 37. Pet Shop Boys '\_\_\_ Deserve This' (4,4,1,4,2)
- 42. Woodwind instrument
- 43. Queensryche 'Promised Land' song (1,2,1)
- 44. Known as Yazoo in England
- 45. Relating to tonality
- 47. Greg Ginn of Black Flag's hardcore label
- 49. 80s Finn brothers band Split \_\_\_
- 50. Piece of song
- 52. Reggae man \_\_\_-A-Mouse
- 54. Faces song for Independence Day? (5,3,7)
- 62. What fans do when you come out with a disco song
- 63. What you don't want member to catch on tour

- 64. 3rd Bass '\_\_\_ Office'
- 65. Mindless Self Indulgence song about going after something? (2,2)
- 66. Musical composition
- 67. 'Bright Days Dark Nights' rockers that go into hibernation?
- 68. will.i.am band Black Eyed \_\_\_
- 69. Whose piano it was in Casablanca
- 70. Mika 'The Boy Who \_\_\_ Too Much'

**Down**

- 1. Afroman '\_\_\_ 45'
- 2. Miami Sound Machine 'Falling In Love' song (hyph)
- 3. 'Eepee' band Weeping \_\_\_
- 4. Where Rick Springfield moonlighted
- 5. Tourniquet has a 'Golden' one
- 6. Prince 'Willing And \_\_\_'
- 7. Like overproduced production
- 8. Bonnie Raitt live '95 album 'Road \_\_\_'
- 9. Yes singer Jon
- 10. Group that awards certifications (abbr)
- 11. What Johnny Depp does, since he didn't make it musically
- 12. Go-Go's 'Beauty And The \_\_\_'
- 14. Pause
- 20. Warrant 'Dog \_\_\_ Dog'
- 21. Cee Lo Green 'Forget You'

- co-writer Mars
  - 24. Uncooked Alarm song?
  - 25. Marilyn Monroe 'Some Like \_\_\_' (2,3)
  - 26. 'If Ever You're In My Arms Again' Bryson
  - 28. 'Livin' On A Prayer' singer Jon Bon \_\_\_
  - 30. Iggy Pop 'Live 1977' album (2,3)
  - 31. What PMRC say some rockers worship
  - 34. Welcoming vote for new member
  - 35. Elvis Costello's are true
  - 38. Rod Stewart "\_\_\_ the night, it's gonna be alright"
  - 39. Some were talking in the 80s
  - 40. Phish 'Down With \_\_\_'
  - 41. Where Ozzy had a 'Blizzard'
  - 46. Van Morrison 'When The \_\_\_ Come Falling Down'
  - 48. Neil Young '\_\_\_ Men Workin'
  - 51. Jazz singer O'Day
  - 53. Eddie Floyd '\_\_\_ On Wood'
  - 54. Hit's opposite
  - 55. The Beatles visited a 'Penny' one
  - 56. 80s 'Don't Cry' band
  - 57. "I don't want to work, I want to bang on the \_\_\_ all day"
  - 58. Marijuana nugs, slang
  - 59. 'It Looks Like You' Dando
  - 60. Springsteen's Holly cover '\_\_\_ On'
  - 61. Whitesnake '\_\_\_ An' Easy'
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## SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *A Woman Makes a Plan: Advice for a Lifetime of Adventure, Beauty, and Success*, by Maye Musk, born April 19, 1948.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** People talk a lot these days about superfoods. Meanwhile, they're terrified of bread. Like any other food, bread can only do so much.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** I didn't feel special or privileged about being a model. It was just a job. It was better-paying than other jobs, which was nice, but when I found that out, it surprised me. You went somewhere, you put on a dress, you walked around the room, you went home. Why would that be well-paid? Yes, why would it?

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** I was the first dietitian whose book was on a cereal box, with me on the cover! That really made me feel fantastic! Eat a balanced breakfast.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** ... I had to study on my own to pass the American exams and practice nutrition in the US. ... Surprisingly, I passed the exams, sold my Toronto practice, and moved in with my sons in Mountain View. But when I got there, there was no mountain and no view. And no kids, because they worked day and night. Don't judge a town by its name.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** If you think marriage is the key to happiness, talk to your friends who are married. Talk, and listen.

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** We spent long days in the saddle, and it was quite a rough trip, and wet. We never lit a fire and ate only canned food and bread. Sleep was limited, because at night, the cattle kept trying to lick our faces or steal our blankets. Be grateful for companionship.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** I learned quickly that lunch or dinner dates meant three

hours of listening to a man complain or just talking about himself the whole time. ... They didn't ask anything about me. Don't bother.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** Sometimes even celebrities can be alone. When I was running the modeling school in Bloemfontein, I was asked to take my students to the airport to welcome Miss Universe. She stood there alone. I was very polite and didn't want to approach her and impose. It was exactly what I had experienced at parties when I didn't know anybody, until somebody took pity on me. I thought, 'I remember that feeling.' I went over and said, 'Hello. I'm the director of the modeling school. I just wanted to welcome you.' She said, 'Thank you for talking to me! It's horrible to stand alone!' So remember: even Miss Universe feels awkward at parties. This goes for online parties too.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** You don't need to eat kale to be healthy! You can, but you don't have to. But you can.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** I remember meeting someone who had just been fired. I asked her where she was going to find another job. She said she had put it out to the universe to provide. I said sending out a resume could be better. Help yourself.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** I couldn't afford to have anybody else color my hair anymore, so I started doing it myself and it became various shades of blond and orange. Blorange, as they call it. It was pretty bad. Very frizzy, and I was cutting it myself to save money. They still let me model for some reason, so I didn't worry about it. This week's theme is Getting Creative With Hairstyles! Soon enough it will be Let the Professionals Do It week.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** Remember that persistence works, sometimes. Consider your definition of success.



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## Sudoku Answers from April 9

### Puzzle A pg 27

4	6	8	1	2	9	7	3	5
5	2	9	3	7	6	1	4	8
1	7	3	5	8	4	2	9	6
7	1	2	4	5	8	3	6	9
9	5	4	6	3	1	8	2	7
3	8	6	7	9	2	4	5	1
6	3	1	8	4	5	9	7	2
2	4	5	9	1	7	6	8	3
8	9	7	2	6	3	5	1	4

### Puzzle D pg 28

7	1	4	2	5	8	6	9	3
2	5	3	6	9	7	1	4	8
6	9	8	4	1	3	5	2	7
9	3	2	5	6	1	8	7	4
1	4	7	9	8	2	3	5	6
5	8	6	7	3	4	9	1	2
3	7	5	1	4	6	2	8	9
4	6	9	8	2	5	7	3	1
8	2	1	3	7	9	4	6	5

### Puzzle B pg 27

5	3	7	6	2	4	9	1	8
4	8	9	7	1	5	2	3	6
1	2	6	3	8	9	7	5	4
6	4	1	8	3	2	5	9	7
8	9	2	5	6	7	1	4	3
7	5	3	9	4	1	6	8	2
2	1	8	4	9	6	3	7	5
3	6	5	1	7	8	4	2	9
9	7	4	2	5	3	8	6	1

### Puzzle E pg 28

7	3	9	2	6	4	8	1	5
8	2	4	3	1	5	9	7	6
1	6	5	7	9	8	4	3	2
6	4	7	1	5	9	2	8	3
2	9	3	4	8	7	6	5	1
5	1	8	6	2	3	7	4	9
9	8	6	5	4	1	3	2	7
3	5	2	8	7	6	1	9	4
4	7	1	9	3	2	5	6	8

### Puzzle C pg 27

5	8	2	6	9	7	3	1	4
4	9	1	2	8	3	5	7	6
3	6	7	1	5	4	8	9	2
2	5	9	8	1	6	7	4	3
7	1	8	4	3	5	6	2	9
6	3	4	9	7	2	1	8	5
9	2	5	7	6	1	4	3	8
1	4	6	3	2	8	9	5	7
8	7	3	5	4	9	2	6	1

### Puzzle F pg 28

5	2	4	8	7	3	9	6	1
6	9	8	5	2	1	3	7	4
3	7	1	6	4	9	2	8	5
1	8	3	4	9	5	7	2	6
2	6	7	3	1	8	4	5	9
4	5	9	7	6	2	8	1	3
9	3	6	1	8	7	5	4	2
7	1	5	2	3	4	6	9	8
8	4	2	9	5	6	1	3	7



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**Life imitates Netflix**

Authorities executed a search warrant relating to a narcotics investigation in the South Texas town of Mercedes on March 25, but what they seized wasn't drugs. Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Sammy Parks told the Associated Press that officers had been warned there were exotic animals on the 5-acre property, and game wardens who joined the search found a white Bengal tiger, bobcat, kinkajou, porcupines, llamas, emus and deer. While no arrests were made, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department had to euthanize three of the animals; the remainder were removed to the Austin Zoo for examination and rehabilitation.

**How the world has changed**

• Amy Simonson and Dan Stuglik proceeded with their planned wedding on April 4 in Pokagon, Michigan, but the coronavirus pandemic forced them to get creative. While the original guest list of 150 people had to be pared down repeatedly as restrictions were placed on public gatherings, Stuglik was determined that his bride not walk down the aisle between empty pews in the Old Rugged Cross Church. He hit upon the idea of filling the church with cardboard cutouts of family and friends and stopped by Menasha Packaging Co. to ask for help. Employees Ted Harris and Luke Arendash jumped at the

chance. “[Stuglik] was just looking for a general person shape, but I was able to make it a little bit more realistic audience for them,” Harris told The Herald Palladium. The company supplied more than 100 cutouts of varying sizes, shapes and hairstyles. The newlyweds moved their reception to October and canceled their honeymoon in Newport, Rhode Island, but Stuglik said they “both have peace now, because it’s stripped down to what it should be, which is us and God, getting married.”

• Our four-legged friends are taking advantage of the Covid-19 lockdown in multiple cities, United Press International reported: On March 31, 122 Kashmiri goats took over the Welsh town of Llandudno, eating gardens and sleeping in the yards; on April 6, residents of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, reported a large herd of deer casually wandering through neighborhoods; in Gir, Gujarat, India, citizens were warned on April 5 to stay inside not only because of the pandemic but because a large lion was nosing around the city; at a Fast Stop store in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, a bear took the low-traffic opportunity to dumpster dive on April 3; and in the Central Region of Singapore, witnesses captured video of a horse galloping through the empty streets of Bukit Timah on April 6. She had escaped from the Paisano Polo Academy, where the owner said she'd only been loose for about 20 minutes.

• Recent sunny weather in the Czech spa town of Lazne Bohdanec, where sunbathing naked is allowed, brought out more than a hundred eager sunbathers — nude and not — but police were soon on hand to warn they still needed to wear face masks, as ordered by the Czech government, reported the Daily Mail. “Citizens can be without clothes in places designated for this purpose, but they must have their mouths covered and must observe the numbers in which they can go out into nature,” police spokeswoman Marketa Janovska told local media. “We understand that many people do not have a garden and want to ventilate in the countryside,” she added. About half of the 150 people were not wearing masks, but no fines were issued.

**Coronavirus cosplay**

Police on horseback and motorcycles in Hyderabad, India, are reminding civilians about the dangers of Covid-19 by wearing large red masks and headdresses in the shape of the virus as they patrol. Police Commissioner Anjani Kumar said the masked officers would be stationed at various city junctions, Fox News reported. Ironically, the city organized a rally on April 7 to kick off the awareness campaign, displaying signs reading “Please Avoid Gathering” and “Social Distancing Is Social Responsibility.”

**Crowd control**

• According to his attorney, Rumson, New Jersey, resident John Maldjian, 54, intended for his “Stay at Home” Pink Floyd cover concert to be viewed only on Facebook Live by his friends on April 4. However, at the last minute, Maldjian decided to play his guitar on his front porch, which drew a crowd. What started with a few neighbors eventually grew to about 30 people in his front yard when police showed up to enforce social distancing orders, NJ Online reported. One of the “partiers” allegedly became abusive, according to police, but attorney Mitchell J. Ansell said his client had “absolutely no malicious intentions ... and never wanted this to escalate.” Maldjian was charged for violating emergency orders.

• A 21-year-old woman and her 61-year-old father, of Key West, Florida, told Monroe County Sheriff's officers they were on a boat off Wisteria Island April 4 where they spotted a group of about 20 college-aged people drinking on the beach, the New York Daily News reported. The woman said they approached the group and asked them to obey social distancing orders and keep the noise down, but the people became violent and struck both victims in the head with a baseball bat. Authorities said both sustained head injuries in the attack; the attackers jumped into three boats docked nearby and took off, and no one has been arrested.

Visit [newsftheweird.com](http://newsftheweird.com).

**JONESIN' CROSSWORDS BY MATT JONES**

**“No Time, 2 DY” — aka DY, another DY**

- Across**  
 1 Last letter  
 6 Part of R&R  
 10 “Nae” sayer?  
 14 Japanese dish meaning “pulled noodles”

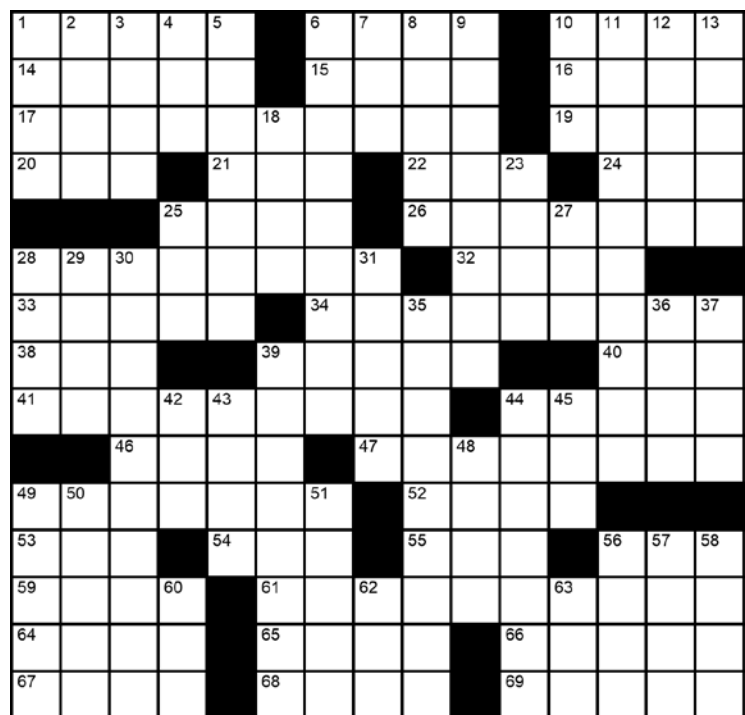
- 15 You can smell it from a dumpster fire  
 16 ‘80s “This Old House” host Bob  
 17 Friend who helps with homework  
 19 Computer operating system developed by Bell Labs  
 20 Aptly named Quaker cereal  
 21 Measure for weighing boats  
 22 Tirane’s land, for short  
 24 506, in Roman numerals  
 25 Word before chimes or chill  
 26 Gave the go-ahead  
 28 Powerful giant  
 32 Chicago daily, briefly  
 33 Chopin technical piece  
 34 Australian actress in “Damages” and “Bridesmaids”  
 38 Lapse  
 39 Edmonton hockey player  
 40 Leo/Virgo mo.  
 41 Flakes in a pizzeria packet  
 44 “In-A-\_\_\_-Da-Vida”  
 46 Christmas season  
 47 Shown again  
 49 Identifying, on Facebook  
 52 Nautical zookeeper  
 53 Relative of .org  
 54 Language seen at some gubernatorial press conferences

- 55 “So what else?”  
 56 Retirement spot?  
 59 Goes on the radio  
 61 Buffalo Bob Smith’s puppet  
 64 Health plan prefix  
 65 Dramatic honor  
 66 Jim Henson character  
 67 Accepts as true  
 68 Battleship markers  
 69 Leases an apartment

**Down**

- 1 \_\_\_ it seems  
 2 Sum work?  
 3 Birds with green eggs  
 4 Diploma alternative  
 5 “Whenever you want”  
 6 Like some plane tickets  
 7 Hall formerly of “The Tonight Show”  
 8 Vending machine contents, maybe  
 9 Attempt to contact again  
 10 “Law & Order” spinoff, initially  
 11 TV kid in the lower left corner  
 12 Food with a pimiento  
 13 Rides around Manhattan  
 18 One-named Irish rocker  
 23 Pet parakeet, say, to meme-makers

- 25 Join together  
 27 Home improvement letters  
 28 Can in a bar  
 29 Basic verb in Versailles  
 30 Hand-cranked instrument  
 31 Excavator  
 35 Sings outside a window (hey, that’s distancing!)  
 36 Modigliani work, often  
 37 “By jove!”  
 39 Workplace with non-union members  
 42 Bulldog’s cousin  
 43 Controversial director Kazan  
 44 More pleased  
 45 Extra A’s take it from “That feels good” to “What the #\*\$#”  
 48 Rainbow Dash or Fluttershy, e.g.  
 49 Second squad in a game, perhaps  
 50 “Au revoir!”  
 51 Classroom sphere  
 56 Onetime capital on the Rhine  
 57 Work on Wikipedia, e.g.  
 58 Does some hair coloring  
 60 Bro’s sib  
 62 Accessory on “RuPaul’s Drag Race”  
 63 Hematite, for one  
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