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GRANITE VIEWS **ROBIN MILNES**

Finding the silver lining



Many of us have undoubtedly gone stir crazy with the current stay-at-home guidelines for New Hampshire. Let's face it, we've been asked to pivot on a dime from our normal lives to this new world of working remotely, online learning, connecting socially via the internet, and re-learning how to food shop in mass quantities to limit our outings. Add to the mix wearing masks, the inability to go to the hair salon, favorite restaurants or the gym, and it all leads to a whole lot of grumpiness.

Yet, in spite of all of this, there is so much goodness happening in New Hampshire right now that I find it helpful to stay focused on the positives. For me it comes back to the basics. Our family remains healthy, our son is safely at home with us and we have a roof over our head and food on the table. The ability to watch my husband read bedtime stories to our grandchildren on FaceTime fills me with indescribable joy. Taking a long walk with my husband each morning is a gift. Daffodils are blooming and my peony bushes are showing signs of life. Through these things, I find happiness and gratitude.

There is much to be grateful for. The generosity of Granite Staters should never be underestimated. The Bedford Sewing Battalion distributed free masks in the Harvest Market parking lot. Through the "New Hampshire Together From Home" broadcast, \$760,000 was raised to benefit the New Hampshire Food Bank. Local inventor and entrepreneur Dean Kamen procured 91,000 pounds of PPE, plus an additional 500,000 masks, through his relationships in China. New Hampshire banks issued 11,582 loans to small businesses totaling just over \$2 billion in the first round of funding of the federal Payroll Protection Program, saving thousands of jobs in the Granite State. We have dedicated, compassionate health care workers who come to work each and every day, putting their own health at risk, to take care of ours. The same can be said for essential business employees working hard to make sure that shelves are stocked and items are available.

Gov. Sununu continues to shepherd us through this crisis with a steady hand and strong leadership. Not surprisingly, he enjoys strong bipartisan support (89 percent) for his handling of the Covid-19 crisis. He is asking for patience as plans are developed to safely re-open our state. We've got this. Look for the silver linings as we stay the course and ensure the safety of all New Hampshire residents. Stay well, stay safe, stay strong.

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



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With the governor's Home Hike Challenge in effect, we have some tips for making local hikes fun and safe.

ALSO ON THE COVER, get the scoop on which ice cream shops are open for the season, and how to get your mint chocolate chip fix safely, p. 16. Concord's Mr. Aaron is bringing music to kids and families virtually, p. 26. And once again we have extra puzzles to keep your stay-at-home mind sharp, p. 27, 28 & 29.

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Covid-19 updates

Health officials reported on April 27 that there have been 1,938 cases of Covid-19 diagnosed in the state. Sixty deaths have been reported as a result of complications from the virus. On April 25, the state Department of Health and Human Services reported that seven more people had died, the highest number reported in a single day in the state so far. Of the total reported cases of Covid-19, 246 people, or about 13 percent, have required hospitalization, while 798, or about 41 percent, have recovered. A majority of all the cases are in either Hillsborough or Rockingham county, according to the data.

Governor's orders

On April 23, Gov. Chris Sununu issued Executive Order 2020-07, which includes technical amendments to the order he issued on April 14 establishing the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR). The new office is designed to work with the state Legislature on accepting and managing federal relief funds received in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Executive Order 2020-07 allows for the appointment of two new members to GOFERR's Stakeholder Advisory Board — Amy LaBelle, owner of LaBelle Winery in Amherst, and Hollie Noveletsky, CEO of Novel Iron Works in Greenland. Other members include Dean Christon; executive director of the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority; Bill Ardinger, attorney for Rath, Young and Pignatelli; Scott Mason, owner of Northwind Farms; Nancy Merrill, director of planning and development for the City of Claremont; and Ben Wilcox, president and general manager of Cranmore Mountain Resort. "The creation of the Stakeholder Advisory Board brings together community and industry leaders from across the Granite State to provide key input on Covid-19 relief efforts," Sununu said in a statement. The board held its first preliminary meeting remotely on April 16. More members from various industries are likely to be added.

On April 24, Sununu issued Executive Order 2020-08, extending the State of Emergency in New Hampshire for an additional 21 days, through May 15. This is the second time Sununu has extended the State of Emergency, after first declaring it on March 13 and then extending it on April 3. As of April 27, the statewide stay-at-home order remains in effect through May 4.

Also on April 24, Sununu issued Exhibit D to Emergency Order No. 29, as well as Emergency Orders No. 34, No. 35 and No. 36. Exhibit D to Emergency Order No. 29 extends the time frame that the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission is allowed to review rate requests from public utility companies, from 12 months to 18 months.

Emergency Order No. 34 gives further temporary requirements for health care insurers and pharmacy benefit managers of coverage related to the coronavirus.

Emergency Order No. 35 temporarily waives the 28-day separation period before a retired public employee can return to work on a part-time basis.

Emergency Order No. 36 ensures worker's compensation coverage of New Hampshire first responders who have been exposed to Covid-19. To be eligible, a first responder must have tested positive for the virus and the case must have been reported to DHHS.

Details of all Emergency and Executive Orders can be found at governor.nh.gov.

Sununu lawsuit dismissed

A New Hampshire Superior Court judge has granted Gov. Chris Sununu's motion to dismiss a lawsuit filed by four state legislators regarding Covid-19 federal relief funds, according to a press release. On April 22, Hillsborough County North Superior Court Judge David A. Anderson handed down the ruling, saying that Sununu was acting within his executive power as governor to approve federal spending decisions. "Although plaintiffs are all members of the legislature, for purposes of taxpayer standing they are no different than any tax paying resident of New Hampshire," Judge Anderson wrote. "To ... allow an individual state taxpayer to stop or even delay the governor from distributing purely federal funds intended for the benefit of the public in the midst of a global pandemic would be contrary to the public interest." In a joint statement, Senate President Donna Soucy, House Speaker Steve Shurtleff, Rep. Mary Jane Wallner and Sen. Lou D'Allesandro, who were all named as plaintiffs in the lawsuit, said they "respectfully disagree" with the ruling. "The Joint Fiscal Committee is the body that legally approves proposed spending requests by the executive branch during an emergency," the statement read.

Reopening task force

On April 21, Gov. Chris Sununu announced the formation of the Governor's Economic Re-Opening Task Force, which will develop a plan and oversee all state and private-sector actions necessary to reopen New Hampshire's economy. The new task force, which held its first meeting on April 22, is made up of a bipartisan group of lawmakers and state officials. In a statement, Sununu said that the task force "will work collaboratively with public health experts and stakeholders across all industries to examine how we can start to reopen ... our economy in phases."

CMC furloughs

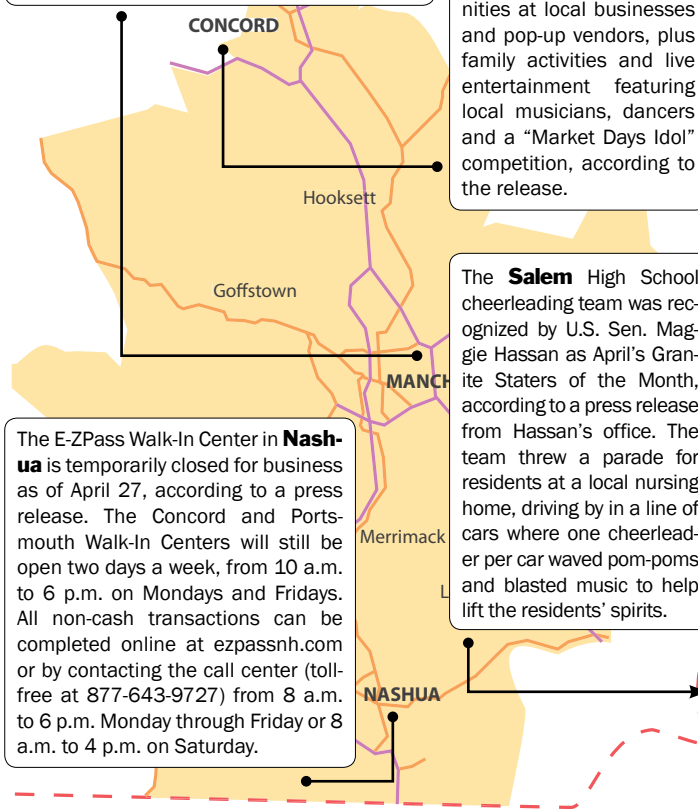
Catholic Medical Center in Manchester has placed 423 employees, or about 13 percent of its workforce, on a 60-day furlough beginning April 26, citing financial challenges caused by Covid-19, according to a press release. An additional 914 employees, or 29 percent, will have their hours reduced, including those whose schedules were already affected by the hospital's ongoing response to the virus. Leaders at the vice president level and above are taking a 15-percent cut, and executive directors are taking a 5-percent cut. Although CMC has transformed itself to be fully prepared for Covid-19 patients, the virus has had "a dramatic and devastating financial impact" on the facility. According to the release, CMC lost approximately \$11 million in March and is projecting a \$60 million to \$70 million year-to-date loss by the end of June. In addition, OR cases and primary care visits are down more than 60 percent. "I recognize the added stress this will place on many of our valued employees and their families," CMC president and CEO Dr. Joseph Pepe said in a statement. "These steps are temporary, and I look forward to the day, hopefully sooner than we expect, when we are all working alongside each other again."

Special education grants

The New Hampshire Department of Education announced the release of \$1 million in special education grants to state school districts to support remote learning, according to an April 21 press release. Grants are based on student enrollment, with a minimum of \$3,000 and a maximum of \$25,000 to each district. They come from \$1 million in unspent federal Fiscal Year 2018 discretionary funds. "We had planned to use these funds for professional development this spring, but after speaking

The Institute of Art and Design at New England College in **Manchester** announced in a press release that it will offer a new bachelor of fine arts degree in animation starting this fall. The degree program is intended to "meet next-generation workplace demand for the creative fields of animation design, digital illustration, stop motion animation, and 3D modeling," Darryl Furtkamp, associate dean for the Division of Art and Design, said in the release.

The 46th annual Market Days Festival in downtown **Concord**, which usually takes place at the end of June, has been rescheduled for Aug. 20 to Aug. 22, according to a press release from Intown Concord. Plans for the event include shopping opportunities at local businesses and pop-up vendors, plus family activities and live entertainment featuring local musicians, dancers and a "Market Days Idol" competition, according to the release.



to districts across the state, we found that support for remote instruction was a far more pressing priority for special education," Rebecca Fredette, state director of special education for the state DOE, said in a statement. Under the current law, the grants must be spent by Sept. 30, but state education officials are seeking an extension from the federal Department of Education. Grants may be used for the purchase of technology, payment for services provided to students, or fees for software or programming related to providing remote special education.

PSU nursing grads

Senior nursing students of Plymouth State University's class of 2020 graduated a full month ahead of schedule, allowing them to begin working on the front lines in the state's hospitals to combat Covid-19, according to a press release. Seventy percent of PSU's nursing graduates expect to become licensed in New Hampshire, and many will begin working at the hospitals where they completed their senior capstone semesters. They will work as graduate nurses until they complete the National Clinical Licensing Exam later this spring. "Nursing requires teamwork and performing under

pressure, and the challenges of this semester demonstrated to our students the importance of remaining calm and focused," Jean Coffey, Ph.D., APRN, FAAN, Director of PSU's nursing program, said in a statement.

20-day license plates

The New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles has extended the expiration date of previously issued 20-day license plates through May 31, according to an April 23 press release. All New Hampshire DMV-issued 20-day plates as well as New Hampshire authorized dealer 20-day plates issued on or after Feb. 26 have been given an automatic extension through May 31. Additionally, customers whose licenses have expired or are set to expire between April 1 and May 31 may apply for a six-month license extension over the phone, by calling 227-4020. The DMV has transitioned to phone and online services and appointment-only walk-in services, consolidated to five locations, in Concord, Dover, Manchester, Newport and Twin Mountain. The REAL ID compliance deadline has also been extended, until October 2021, but those transactions are not being conducted for the duration of the stay-at-home order. 🌊

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NEWS & NOTES Q&A

Delivering the message

Meet the interpreter from Sununu's press conferences

David Krueger has been working as an American Sign Language Certified Deaf Interpreter for the last six years, most recently alongside Gov. Chris Sununu, interpreting the governor's press conference briefings about the coronavirus pandemic since March. Krueger, who has been deaf since birth, started his training in 2003 and is qualified to interpret in various fields, including government, legal, medical, mental health and education. He responded to some questions via email about the inner workings of his job.

Q: *What drew you to this line of work?*

I decided to pursue a career in interpreting because I saw many deaf people struggling to understand interpreters who learned ASL much later in life, often in college as part of their degree program. Imagine that you had to listen to someone who was not a native English speaker for access to critical information. You would be listening to someone who may have an accented form of English. There may be grammatical errors and likely idiosyncrasies that would not be the case with a native English speaker. This is what deaf people endure on a daily basis, as a majority of interpreters are not native users of ASL.



David Krueger. Courtesy photo.

so the mental processing during the live broadcast is significantly less than when we have no advance preparation and are working from scratch.

There are many new words and phrases associated with the coronavirus pandemic — "Covid-19," "social distancing," etc. For journalists, the Associated Press has

provided a style guide for how to write about the coronavirus. Is there something similar for ASL? Are there certain words or phrases that have been challenging to convey?

I am part of a core group of deaf interpreters working in press conferences across the country that meet weekly via online video conferencing where we discuss similar terminology and concepts that are covered in press conferences. This is where we come to a consensus on certain signs for specific vocabulary related to the pandemic. One of our goals during interpreting is to avoid spelling out words because doing that does not give much meaning to the word. Think of it as saying a word in spoken English without any inflection. The inflection and how the word is used within the context adds meaning to the word. This is why, in ASL, spelling is primarily used for proper nouns or highly specialized words that are not used on a daily basis.

What other behind-the-scenes elements go into what you do?

I want to emphasize that doing this job requires a lot of hours spent in training over several years, at minimum, along with accumulating a diverse amount of work experience within several sectors of the interpreting field, and with a variety of individuals. A high-stakes press conference is not an appropriate place where a new interpreter should get their feet wet, nor one where any deaf person can jump in and sign. The ASL interpreting field requires each person within the team to do a large amount of mental processing and engage in a significant amount of teamwork, with a shared goal of providing an accurate interpretation.

It seems that you wear mostly black and dark colors during the press conferences. Is that a standard wardrobe choice for [interpreters]?

Suppose that you are listening to an important message and there is some static in the background. This causes you to work more on the listening part and less on the understanding part. Not to mention, you are also getting annoyed about the sound interference. So, basically, you will miss the importance of the message. ASL

What is your method for interpreting?

When I interpret, I am working with another interpreter who can hear and signs to me the spoken English message. Then, I take that message and create the necessary linguistic and cultural components to make the message more accessible to the widest audience. Typically, I work with my team in a consecutive process. However, with the governor's press conferences, the process is nearly simultaneous, which requires so much more advance preparation to interpret effectively. The team concept is so important for press conferences. The other interpreter cannot do what I do. I cannot do what the other interpreter does. However, together, we create a more all-encompassing interpretation.

How do you prepare for each press conference? Are you given a rundown of what is going to be said beforehand?

My team and I stay abreast of the national and regional news by ways of various news outlets. Within the Granite State, we pay close attention to Gov. Sununu's posts on his Twitter and Facebook accounts to give us clues as to what might be on the agenda for the next press briefing. On the day of the press conference, the interpreting team is given a rough script from the governor's office approximately 15 minutes prior to the start of the press conference. We can see the outline of topics and some of the details that Gov. Sununu will cover in his briefing. Mind you, this script is not identical to what the governor says during the live broadcast. Above all, we are interpreting what the governor says along with the intent and spirit of his message. However, this rough script is extremely beneficial because it allows the interpreting team to formulate a general idea of how to produce the interpretation in advance,

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is a visual language. It requires people to sign clearly and with no visual distractions for the message to be clearly communicated. This is why sign language interpreters wear clothes in solid colors that contrast with their skin tone.

are watching the interpretation, on television or online, will know that the governor values the importance of having the deaf community included during the press conferences.

What has been the most unexpected part of this experience for you? What is it like to be in the public eye on a regular basis during the coronavirus pandemic?

The unexpected part is being recognized and praised by Gov. Sununu for the work that the interpreting team is doing. We are really grateful for the support from the governor and his office for the work we do during the press conferences. At first, I was nervous about being in the public eye and wondered if the governor was comfortable with me sharing the camera with him during the live broadcasts. Shortly afterwards, I saw that he quickly became comfortable with the interpreting team and that his office extended the welcome mat to us as an integral part of the whole press conference experience. Now, the feeling that we get from working for Gov. Sununu is that it is a great honor and a truly enjoyable experience.

Do you get recognized in public?

Before Gov. Sununu asked people to wear masks in public, various people who recognized me from the live broadcasts of the press conferences approached me and said hello with a smile. Since the mask request, I pass around anonymously just like anyone else.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

The most challenging part is the cognitive exertion of the interpretation itself. I need to process the information that I am getting, understand the point that is being made, decouple the English structure, and construct information into the context and structure of another language [ASL] while maintaining accuracy and integrity of the original message, and do all of that within just a few seconds after the governor speaks. It is a highly complex task and one that I really enjoy doing.

What is your favorite part?

My favorite part is arriving on site, seeing everyone in the interpreting team, seeing the now-familiar reporters and the camera people in the room, seeing the people from the governor's office, seeing Gov. Sununu, and doing the press conference knowing that the deaf people who

How do you unwind from all of this?

After each press conference, I exercise self-care by decompressing for a bit in the car before driving back home. Although it is enjoyable, providing interpretation for these press conferences generates high stress. Thus, the adrenaline runs high, and I need the time to wind down.

— Angie Sykeny 🗨️

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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS

Frustrating NFL draft

By immediately trading out of Round 1 in a head-spinning three days of wheeling and dealing, **Bill Belichick** reminded me right off the bat on Thursday why I so hate his approach to the NFL draft. Then after dropping from 23 to 37, he took safety **Kyle Dugger** to fortify the team's biggest strength – the secondary. That he used his top pick for long-term team-building benefits over filling several glaring immediate needs was bad enough. But not only did no one have a clue who Dugger was; in what had to be an NFL draft first, no one had ever even heard of the football program or school — Lenoir-Rhyne — he came from.

If he wanted to tick off **David J. Long** the Patriots fan, mission accomplished, to give him an A+ in the Freaking Infuriated Fan draft day grading category.

Since I wasn't alone, thank goodness for the Covid-19-induced social distancing of the day. Because if he did that before an assembled Patriots Nation crowd hungering for good news at Gillette after an off-season of major defections it could have gotten ugly. Instead it had the yackers incredulously yacking, sending texts flying from Nashua to Colebrook as I got a call from my apocalyptic friend on Cape Cod **John Garner**, who seemed headed next for the ledge on the Bourne Bridge. And to get all the "I can't believe he did that" bad news out of the way, the guy picked to replace esteemed future Patriots Hall of Fame kicker **Steve Gostkowski** has a tat from the controversial far-right U.S.-government-resistance group 3 Percenters. With a family military background, he says he thought it stood for something else and will cover it going forward. But it still was part of a looney weekend that made the tone-deaf **Antonio Brown** signing seem almost lucid with the way it started.

However, it settled down after that, as Coach B got back into Round 2 with another deal to start a run of picking back-to-back linebackers **Josh Uche** and **Anfernee Jennings** from solid programs at Michigan and Alabama, two tight ends in Round 3, and then came the kicker **Justin Rohrwasser** (Marshall), three offensive lineman and another linebacker with his final six picks. Like everyone else, I'm not sure how good any of them are, but all filled real needs. And since it turns out the uber athletic Dugger returned six punts for TD's for juggernaut Lenoir-Rhyne, he may fill a big need, because the 2019 return game was abysmal.

None of that satisfied the draft graders who liked available others ranked higher at the same position. Or the folks who endlessly talked about getting a QB. Apparently because they somehow haven't got it through their thick skulls the Pats are going with **Jarrett Stidham**. That was an endless theme after each NE pick or when another QB came off the board.

All in all, an interesting three days and we

won't know how it actually went for about three years. Though we all hope it's more 2013 than any of their drafts since. Here are a few more thoughts on the weekend.

Since top ranked at his position **Cole Kmet** of Notre Dame went six picks after the tight end needy Pats took Dugger, guess we'll be keeping an eye on how both progress next year. Especially if neither of the TE's taken, **Devin Asiasi** (UCLA) and **Dalton Keene** (Virginia Tech), light the house on fire.

By the way, drafting Cole now gives Chicago 10 tight ends on the roster.

Memo to friend/reader **Keith Kelly**: Next time you talk to brother **Chip** ask how good Asiasi really is.

After the **Tom Brady** carmelo-drama, looks like **Aaron Rodgers** is the next sainted QB to be Jimmy G'd after the Pack took **Jordan Love** from noted QB factory Utah State 26th overall.

Given its topical nature with the vaunted miniseries underway, ESPN.com gets the best draft headline after that pick with "Heir Jordan – Packers trade up to get Love."

Somebody confirm this and get back to me, but I'll bet **Antoine Winfield Jr.** taken in Round 2 by Tampa Bay is the first guy ever drafted by a team whose QB was once picked off by a draftee's own father, as senior did to Brady with Buffalo in 2001.

Finally, to the folks still yacking over not using the top pick on a QB, a little history. Since 1990 only 25 of the 74 QB's selected in Round 1 turned out to be really good, 15 didn't live up to expectations and 34 were total busts. During the same time 23 taken after the first round became pretty good to all-time great QB's, who won six MVP awards and led their teams to 15 SB appearances and nine wins. The GOAT of QB's, Brady, was a sixth-round pick taken at 199 overall. The GOAT before him, **Joe Montana**, came in the third round. The GOAT before him, **Johnny Unitas**, was an undrafted street free agent, which takes us back to 1955. The all-time leader in TD passes, **Drew Brees**, came in the second round and the all-time leader in consecutive NFL games played, **Brett Favre**, also was a second-round pick. So why do you think the first round is the only place to get a QB?

This also isn't the first time Coach B has trusted an untested second-year QB with no NFL experience, is it? You may recall that's what Brady was when **Drew Bledsoe** went down in 2001. How'd that turn out? Can't say Stidham will become Brady-esque good, but how many besides me (and long before **John Madden** did) said Brady reminded them of Montana early on in 2001?

If you don't believe me on the Montana claim, ask my real estate mogul friend **Bill Weidacher**. He's the guy with the big head in the podcast ad on this page. He'll back me up.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com.

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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

New plan for college students

Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester announced in an April 22 press release that, in response to the anticipated long-term economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on students and families, the private university is currently developing a new learning model to make higher education “more affordable, flexible and accessible.” Courses will be offered in three modalities: online independent learning, online learning with face-to-face academic support from faculty, and project-based learning with guidance from advisors and other academic support. Students will still have the option of living on campus and participating in on-campus clubs, activities, athletics and other experiences. The model, projected to launch in the fall of 2021, will reduce the campus tuition cost by 61 percent, bringing it down to \$10,000 per year. This fall, SNHU is offering one-time Innovation Scholarships to all incoming campus freshmen, which will cover 100 percent of their first-year tuition cost.

Comment: *The reduced tuition cost will make SNHU more affordable than many public colleges and almost all private institutions, which have an average tuition cost of \$36,000, SNHU COO Amelia Manning said in the press release.*

You go girls

Girls Inc. of New Hampshire announced in an April 23 press release that it raised \$175,000 from its annual gala, which was held on April 17 in a virtual format due to the coronavirus pandemic. Nearly 1,500 guests tuned into the live-streamed event, including Gov. Chris Sununu, Sen. Maggie Hassan, Sen. Jeanne Shaheen and Justin Spencer of the New Hampshire-based performance group Recycled Percussion and TV show *Chaos & Kindness*. Local musicians Tanya Myrick and Brad Myrick performed, and current members and alumni of Girls Inc. spoke. Girls Inc. of New Hampshire is a nonprofit organization offering programs for girls that promote a healthy lifestyle, education and independence. The money raised from the gala will support the organization’s remote programs through the remainder of the school year; provide food, supplies and financial assistance for girls and their families who are in need; and fund scholarships allowing girls to participate in summer camps and after-school programs.

Comment: *Girls Inc. programs address all kinds of issues affecting girls, such as math and science education, pregnancy, drug abuse prevention, media and economic literacy, adolescent health, violence prevention, careers and leadership, participation in athletics and more.*

Premium paybacks

At least 23 companies that sell automobile insurance in the state are returning auto insurance premiums to their policyholders, according to an April 23 press release from the New Hampshire Insurance Department. Collectively, the companies implementing premium payback programs supply more than 90 percent of the written auto insurance premiums in the state. Approximately \$32 million in premiums will be refunded in cash or applied as credit toward policyholders’ future bills.

Comment: *Auto insurance companies have reported seeing a significant decrease in the number of claims filed since the stay-at-home order was put in place, with fewer cars on the road and subsequently fewer accidents.*

Stay fit at home

Planet Fitness is offering a series of virtual fitness classes to help people get active at home. The 20-minute, no-equipment-required “Home Work-Ins” are free and accessible to all and are streamed live every day at 7 p.m. on the Planet Fitness Facebook page. Each class is led by a different fitness expert or celebrity guest. According to a recent email from the franchise, Caleb McLaughlin from the hit Netflix show *Stranger Things* and Kyle Cook, a personality from the first season of Bravo TV’s reality show *Summer House*, were a couple of the celebrity guests featured in April. Retired NBA player Matt Bonner, who played for the San Antonio Spurs, will lead the class on Friday, May 1.

Comment: *Planet Fitness was founded in Dover in 1992 by brothers Michael Grondahl and Marc Grondahl and is currently headquartered in Hampton.*

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@hippopress.com.

75

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ARTS NEWS

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

• **Show your talent:** The Concord Coalition to End Homelessness announced in a recent press release that it is seeking contestants for its second annual Talent Show, scheduled to take place on Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Bank of New Hampshire Stage in Concord. The deadline for applications is May 15, applications will be reviewed in May, and selected applicants will be invited to audition live in June in Concord. "Given the Stay-at Home Order, we suspect lots of folks may be practicing their special talents at home and may be chomping at the bit to get to perform for people other than their immediate family or via Zoom," Leslie Fincke, the organization's Chief Operating Officer, said in an email. The Talent Show is a fundraiser to help the coalition in its mission to end homelessness in Concord. Last year's event featured 10 acts, attracted almost 300 spectators and raised \$30,000. "The community just responded so well to this brand new event last year," Greg Lessard, Talent Show committee chair, said in the press release. "Over 50 local businesses sponsored the Talent Show, and ticket sales were just shy of selling out." In addition to the performances, there will be games, audience voting and food provided by Concord Food Co-op and O Steaks & Seafood. For contest rules and to apply to be a contestant, visit concord-homeless.org/talent-show-about.

• **Covid-19 poetry:** Submissions are being accepted now through Friday, May 15, at 11 p.m. for an anthology of poetry about Covid-19, to be edited by New Hampshire Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary and published by Hobblebush Books. 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" resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic. "Writing is a good way for people to cope right now,"



The Concord Coalition to End Homelessness is taking applications for its fall Talent Show. Courtesy photos.

Peary told the Hippo in April, "and the anthology is an amazing opportunity for us to process, express and document what we are going through right now." Visit 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. 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 Hobblebush Books president Kirsty Walker plan to host live readings for the anthology once public gatherings are allowed to resume.

• **Virtual art studio tour:** Artist Rosemary Conroy has created a virtual tour of her new Franconia art studio, she announced in a recent newsletter. The three-minute video, uploaded on the video sharing platform Vimeo, follows Conroy as she walks through her two-floor studio in the town's old fire station. The studio includes a work space upstairs and a gallery space downstairs, where she hopes to "have lots of open houses and special gatherings and hang out with other artists," she said in the video. "I really look forward to ... showing this all to you in person." Conroy does vibrant and colorful acrylic paintings of wildlife using many different techniques and tools to create unique textures and layering effects. Watch the virtual tour at vimeo.com/403742421 and learn more about the artist at rosemaryconroyart.com.

• **Walk the theater:** The Stockbridge Theatre in Derry announced in an April 28 press release the launch of its new virtual theater, designed by



the Londonderry-based company Aspect Virtual, that allows viewers to take an interactive tour of the theater from home. As you "walk" around the theater, head for the distinctive red "launchpads" where you can look at artwork and watch performances. Visitors are invited to create and submit their own performance videos as well, using an image of the theater as a backdrop. The backdrop can also be used for Zoom meetings. New prompts will be posted regularly, and content in the virtual theater will be constantly updated and changing. "During a time of such uncertainty, it is wonderful to be able to continue providing our audiences with the opportunity to experience the arts in a venue that they hold near and dear," Matt Cahoon, the theater's director of cultural programming, said in the press release. Visit the virtual theater at bit.ly/virtualstockbridge.

• **No summer theater in Peterborough:** The Peterborough Players theater company announced in an April 24 press release that it will be canceling its 2020 summer season due to ongoing health concerns related to Covid-19. This would have been the company's 87th year. The season was going to open with Peter Danish's new play *Last Call* on June 17. "This decision was not made lightly," the press release said. "This is simply an intermission. We take this hiatus in anticipation of a joyful return to the stage." Visit peterboroughplayers.org.

• **A "shellebration":** Jetpack Comics & Games in Rochester is "shellebrating" TMNT Day on Tuesday, May 5. Kevin Eastman and Peter Laird, creators of the beloved comic book franchise, debuted the first Teenage Mutant Nin-



Rosemary Conroy gives a virtual tour of her new Franconia art studio. Courtesy photo.

ja Turtles comic at New Hampshire's first comic book convention, The Portsmouth Mini-Con, on May 5, 1984, according to jetpackcomics.com. On May 5, Eastman will join Jetpack Comics & Games owner Ralph DiBernardo for some online fun, the site said. Check back for further details.

• **Speaking of comics:** Saturday, May 2, would have been Free Comic Book Day (which has been postponed until later in the summer, according to a post on freecomickbookday.com) when comic book publishers offer specially produced free comic books. This year, there are 47 different free comic books produced for this day and you can see a preview of some of them at the Free Comic Book Day website. Some area comic book stores are offering low key (stay-at-home rules appropriate) celebration of the day. Double Midnight Comics (which has locations in Manchester and Concord) is still putting together the details of what they're calling "Kinda Sorta Free Comic Book Day," which will include bags of comics for kids, a daylong livestream about comics and more, according to an email from the store. See dmcomics.com. Jetpack Comics is offering restaurants who do curbside pick up free comic books to give out on Saturday and a bag of comics to customers who pick up their items from Jetpack curbside on Saturday, according to an email. Merrymac Games and Comics in Merrimack is giving away 100 goodie bags, which will include comics from previous Free Comic Book Days while supplies last on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (find the store on Facebook), according to an email from the store.

— Angie Sykeny 🍀

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Back to nature

NH encourages hiking — with some caveats

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippypress.com

“You’re healthier at home — but that doesn’t mean you shouldn’t get some exercise,” Gov. Chris Sununu said in a Facebook post earlier this month. “I’m challenging Granite Staters to find hikes off the beaten path, close to your home, or a lesser-known trail you’ve been meaning to explore.”

He encouraged hikers to post pictures of their hikes on social media using the hashtag #HomeHikeChallenge.

Brent Wucher, public information and marketing officer for the New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation, said State Parks is working with the governor to promote the Home Hike initiative and help people find ways to enjoy the outdoors safely.

“Now that the weather is nice, people want to get outside, unwind and spend time in nature,” Wucher said. “We’re lucky in New Hampshire, because we have a plethora of places to go do that, and in a lot of places you can do it without seeing another soul.”



Gov. Sununu challenges Granite Staters to go hiking close to home. Photo courtesy of the governor's Facebook page.

New Hampshire State Parks manages 93 parks throughout the state. State beaches, the Appalachian Trail and the White Mountain National Forest are closed, but other parks have opened early — they typically don’t open until Memorial Day — to “meet the demand and make sure people have more options” for hiking, Wucher said. However, most of the open parks remain unstaffed, their indoor facilities like bathrooms and historic site buildings

remain closed, and visitors are asked not to use onsite amenities such as campgrounds, playgrounds and picnic tables.

To manage the traffic at some of the most popular parks, State Parks has expanded the new reservation program that it launched last year, allowing visitors to reserve a day-use pass or parking pass in advance online to ensure that they will have access to the park when they arrive.

“We don’t want people to make a plan for the day and drive there only to find that it already has

CONTINUED ON PG 14 ▶

Local rail trails

With their wider paths, rail trails make it easier to hike safely and stay 6 feet away from others.

Derry Rail Trail

3.2 miles, paved

Access points: From the north, parking is available at Hood Park or in Derry’s town center. From the south, use the parking lot at Windham Depot, just over the Windham town line.

Goffstown Rail Trail

7.5 miles, unpaved

Access Points: Parking is available at the Goffstown Parks and Recreation Center, 155 S. Mast St.; Hillsborough County Offices complex on Mast Road; a paved area on Danis Park Road; a paved parking area on the east side of Moose Club Park Road; and a parking lot at the Sarette Recreation Complex at 2 Louis St. in Manchester.

Londonderry Rail Trail

4.5 miles, partially paved

Access point: Unlimited parking is located at the Interstate 93 Exit 5 Park & Ride (4 Symmes Drive, Londonderry).

Nashua Rail Trail

11 miles, paved

Access Points: In Nashua, the rail trail begins at Gilson Road at Country Side Drive. The nearest parking lot is at South Depot Road in Nashua. Parking is also available at Hollis Street in Massachusetts, just south of Groton Road in New Hampshire at the state line.

New Boston Rail Trail

1.75 miles, unpaved

Access Points: Parking lots at Gregg Mill Road/Lang Station trailhead; Parker Road.

Northern Rail Trail

57.6 miles, hardpacked dirt

Access points: There are several along the trail. The best from its southern end is at the Hannah Dustin Park & Ride (Route 4 in Boscawen).

Salem Bike-Ped Corridor

5.1 miles, partially paved; a few parts are still under construction

Access points: From the north, parking is available off Route 28, just over the Windham town line. From the south there is room at the Hampshire Road crossing, where the trail meets the state line into Mass. Parking is also available near Tuscan Kitchen (67 Main St.).

South Manchester Trailway

2.2 miles, partially paved

Access points: The parking lot of the former Shaw’s Supermarket (off Beech Street in Manchester).

Windham Rail Trail

4.3 miles, paved

Access points: From the north, limited parking is available at Windham Depot (off Depot Road, near the Kitchen & Country Store at Windham Junction). Another parking area is on the southern end of the trail at Route 28, just north of Range Road, near the Salem town line.

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Seek out empty lots and fuzzy bears

How to hike in the time of the coronavirus

By Dan Szczesny
news@hippopress.com

Recently, on a bright afternoon during one of our neighborhood walks in Manchester, a silver SUV rolled in close to the sidewalk where I was walking my five-year-old daughter, Uma, in her stroller.

“Hi, little girl, how is your day?” came a voice from the passenger seat.

My daughter’s eyes went wide. There in the seat, sticking halfway out the window, was a gentleman dressed in a full head-to-toe lime green fuzzy bear outfit.

“Daddy, look!” she shrieked.

The couple was going for a ride, they told us, trying to enjoy their isolation, searching for stuffed bears in the neighborhood, and when they saw a kid, they pulled over to entertain.

During this spring of social distancing and isolation, one hiking option that has taken hold in New Hampshire has been what organizers are calling the New Hampshire Bear Hunt. Households across the state have taken to filling their windows with stuffed animal bears, making the forced walks around their local neighborhoods more like a treasure hunt for families.

This has been a particular blessing for myself and my daughter. Last summer and fall, we began tackling New Hampshire’s Fire Tower list, a series of hikes to the 16 active watch towers in the state, something her little legs could do. We had tagged five before the pandemic shut down the state. So now, we were sticking close to home.

The man stayed in his car and Uma stayed in her stroller, respectfully distant, but they chatted for five minutes, about the weather, about bears in windows and about keeping safe.

“Well,” the bear man finally said, “we’re off to find more bears. You stay safe, Uma, and have a great day!”

We gave them directions to our own house, where we have several stuffed bears stacked in our front windows, and they pulled off to find more bears, leaving the two of us in wonder.

“Daddy, did you ever see a bear character in a car just driving around like that?”

I shook my head. “No, I haven’t, baby. That was amazing.”

With New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu’s stay-at-home order extended into at least May, and with several recreational organizations such as the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, the Appalachian Mountain Club and many state and municipal open spaces following suit, finding fresh air for your family can be a challenge these days.

Here are some ways to safely find some fun and sun outside.

Can I hike big?

The short answer is yes, all our famous and not-so-famous mountains are open for business.

The more complicated answer is that you’d

best be prepared to walk there.

On Friday, April 24, the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service announced that the White Mountain National Forest was essentially closed to all but local recreationists, even though the trails stayed open. So, how does that work? Basically, nearly every trailhead and trailhead parking lot, day-use recreation area and recreation facility is closed. Hikers can still use the trails, but they have to walk there or be dropped off. In other words, the White Mountains are open if they’re in your backyard.

And the fines are steep, up to \$5,000 for a parking violation.

Also, most smaller or more regional outdoor organizations are keeping the actual trails open, but working on restricting access to maintain the areas for local hikers. For example, collectively The Nature Conservancy, New Hampshire Audubon and the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests are keeping all of their combined 90,000 acres of conservation land in the state open to the public. Even the Appalachian Mountain Club isn’t explicitly forbidding its members to hike. However, all these outdoor organizations are working hard to raise awareness about ways to minimize the dangers to hikers and to communities through a program called “Be Safe, Be Well, Be Local.”

Jack Savage, the president of the Forest Society, said that hikers and outdoors-lovers need to plan their adventure more carefully and find trails and paths more off the beaten path.

“The advice we’ve been giving is, if you get in your car and drive someplace, before you go, have two or three options for yourselves,” he said. “If you see a parking lot is full, that’s a signal that the trail is at capacity so go to your second choice.”

Popular mountains like Mount Major in Alton have been overrun by hikers, and Savage said, by his count, about half the cars he sees overflowing the trailheads are from out of state. The Forest Society owns the trailhead and manages the parking area along Route 11 for the state.

“Those trails are steep in some sections and thin and there’s a lot of sweating and heavy breathing that goes on when you’re hiking,” he said. “Enough is known about virus transmission that you want to use an overabundance of caution.”

To discourage hikers from tackling the bigger, harder hikes, the AMC has even suspended its 4,000-footer club program. According to Steve Smith, the owner of the Mountain Wander bookstore in Lincoln, N.H., and a member of the AMC’s Four Thousand-Footer Committee, any high peaks hiked during the stay at home order won’t be counted toward a hiker’s pursuit tagging the summits of each of the state’s 4,000-foot-or-higher mountains.

“We can’t forbid people from hiking, obviously, but by not counting the peaks, we provide a disincentive to head north to bag peaks,” he said.

Savage said that there are plenty of forest properties around the state, many in southern New

Hampshire, that get little use and are perfect for a local hiker; for example, The Leslie C. Bockus Memorial Forest in Londonderry/Hudson.

“Now is not the time for some epic hiking,” Savage said. “It’s time to slow down and not think so much about the destination.”

How to hike local

Now that you’ve decided to put off the big hike adventures and stick close to home, the question is, how do you do that without going around and around your same block day after day? In particular, if you live in an urban area in the Merrimack Valley, say Manchester, Nashua or Concord, how do you hike safely and meaningfully?

For that, I turned to someone who hikes for a living. Mike Cherim, the owner of Redline Guiding, has been guiding hikers and tourists on big and little hikes around the state for years. He’s also a Mountain Justice, someone who will marry you from a remote location.

His business has been shuttered since March 15, a voluntary step he took days before the governor’s stay at home order because, he said, “we’re non-essential and that’s the reality of it. If everybody did a little of that, we’d all be back to work sooner.”

Cherim is also one of the administrators and founders of the popular Facebook group Covid-19 Support Group, where about 2,000 members gather to tell their stories and collect information and support through the crisis.

The first bit of advice Cherim gives is to not consider all of New Hampshire as local: “I literally live in the White Mountains, but I don’t consider all of the White Mountains my backyard.”

Instead, find an unknown park, trail or small mountain hike in your neighborhood. In Cherim’s case, there’s a trailhead less than a mile from his door where he’s able to hike a small mountain. And if he encounters someone else on the trail? “We take evasive maneuvers!” he said.

If you’re city-bound, there are plenty of little-used recreation areas in the southern part of the state that offer the hiker and families a decent woods fix without too much effort.

The Merrimack Conservation Commission manages places like the Horse Hill Nature Preserve or Grater Woods. In Manchester/Auburn, the Massabesic Audubon Center offers five miles of wide trails, and the Tower Hill Pond Loop Trail is a smooth four-mile trail of open forest. Londonderry Trailways offers three conservation areas and nearly 30 miles of trails to pick and choose from. In Goffstown/Bedford, the Florence M. Tarr Wildlife Sanctuary has an easy 1.7-mile loop that can be hiked by anyone. The Pulpit Rock Conservation Area in Bedford offers a family-friendly trail to a waterfall.

While the visitor centers or facilities at these places are likely closed, the trails remain open. Just heed the advice of the experts and maintain six feet of distance and if you notice that the trail-



The author and his daughter, Uma (hiking last fall). Dan Szczesny photo.

head lot is full, move on to Plan B.

“This is a great chance to check out your local neighborhood in some detail, find those hidden parks, areas I used to just pass by but now I’m exploring them,” Cherim said. “Adventure is what you make it.”

Give ‘bears’ a chance

If all you have are city streets, though, you can’t go wrong with hunting for bears.

The New Hampshire Bear Hunt has been picking up steam since its founding in mid-March by Belmont resident Kate Lewey. With more than 11,000 members on its Facebook page, Lewey said that there are officially 1,500 bear locations pinned to the group’s Google map. That number includes about 200 in Manchester, 100 in Nashua and 75 in Concord.

“Realistically, we know there are far more than that from people who may not have Facebook or have convinced grandparents and aunts and uncles to put up bears,” Lewey said.

During one of our walks in our small Manchester neighborhood, we encountered 15 bears in about a two-mile walk.

Lewey got the idea from a news story she read about a similar Bear Hunt taking place in New Zealand. Lewey had just been furloughed from her job as a dental assistant and needed something to keep herself occupied.

“It’s such a simple gesture, but it means so much and everyone has stuffed animals laying around,” she said. “It helps keep kids, families, the elderly and those at risk engaged in something safe and fun and comforting.”

Lewey herself has a giant stuffed bear, Barry, that sits outside her house. And when my daughter and I got home from our latest Bear Hunt adventure, Uma was so thrilled to have chatted with the bear man that she rooted around in what she calls her “animal friend” bin and produced a second window bear.

The bears are multiplying. Keep hiking, everyone.

Dan Szczesny is a longtime journalist and hiker and a member of New Hampshire’s 4,000-footer club. He’s written travel memoirs about Nepal, Alaska and hiking with kids. His latest book, The White Mountain: Rediscovering the Hidden Culture of Mount Washington, won the NH Writers Project award for 2019 work of outstanding non-fiction. Szczesny, an associate publisher of the Hippo, lives in Manchester with his wife and daughter. 🐻

Oh dear

Dealing with deer, woodchucks and more

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

I've never had much trouble with deer eating my vegetables or flowers. I know gardeners who have wept when they saw that their lovely tulips had been munched by deer just when they were achieving perfection. But I've always had dogs, and dogs leave scents that are scary to deer. My little corgi, Daphne, leaves messages saying to the deer, "I am actually a wolf." And they believe her.

So what do you do if you don't have a resident wolf? Some gardeners use deer repellents. In general, they work for a while and then the deer get used to them and come for lunch. Irish Spring brand soap, little containers with cotton balls soaked in coyote urine, rotten-egg-based repellents. Yes, they work, but if you have a lot of deer and they want to come in, they will.

The best repellent I've found is garlic clips that I get from Gardener's Supply. These are little devices that hold garlic oil and clip onto branches. You must first puncture a seal with a little tool that comes with it. They've worked all winter for me on tasty shrubs. But the only truly surefire solution is to put up an 8-foot-tall fence. In recent years manufacturers have come up with good sturdy plastic fine-mesh fencing that weighs little and is affordable. But you still have to put up the fence posts, which is hard work or can be a considerable expense.

You can buy 8-foot steel posts that can be pushed and pounded into the ground. You can buy cedar posts and use a posthole digger. Ten-foot pressure-treated 4-by-4 posts last forever, but may leach chemicals into the ground.

I saw an alternative method once. The gardener bought lengths of plastic pipe, the kind used by plumbers. He cut it into 12- to 24-inch sections and buried them in the ground every 10 feet. He used either a crowbar or an auger to make holes big enough for the pipe.

Then he cut saplings of an appropriate size, say an inch and a half across at the base, and 10 feet tall or more. He just slipped the sticks into the pieces of pipe. They were a little loose inside the pipe, and wobbled a little, but the fence worked — and he didn't have to buy fence posts.

The slick part of the whole operation was the "door." He just put two extra pieces of pipe in the ground along the fence line, one at the end of the run of fencing, the other 10 feet back. He lifted the final pole (with the attached fencing), and walked it back to an empty pipe 10 feet away and dropped it in. The netting was attached to the fence using plastic zip ties.

I saw another alternative method at a public garden at Fort Ticonderoga, New York. They used electric fencing enhanced by little pieces of aluminum foil that were attached to the fence with clothespins. Each piece of foil got a dollop of peanut butter, which attracted the



My dog Daphne tells the deer a wolf is near. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

deer.

When a deer licked the peanut butter it got a non-lethal but very unpleasant jolt. The power to the fence was turned off each day when visitors were present, and the fence was rolled up, along with the fiberglass rods that supported it. This system has an initial expense of the fence charger, wire and 4-foot posts, but it worked perfectly. The deer did not forget the jolt, even if they were hungry and they certainly could jump the fence.

A less serious but very aggravating problem is with your neighbor's cat, who at this time of the year uses your freshly prepared and seeded carrot or lettuce bed as its personal kitty box. An easy fix? Prune your roses or raspberries and place the thorny branches over them. Felix the cat will stay away, and before long your plants will make it look less inviting.

Then there are the rodents: woodchucks, chipmunks and squirrels, possums and raccoons. Again, there are repellents and fencing, with fencing working better. Every 10 or 15 years I am inundated with squirrels. The only method I have found to salvage my garden is to trap them in Hav-a-Hart traps and deport them 5 miles away (that may be overkill) on a lonely road, far from a house.

Trap size is important: A woodchuck or large animal needs a trap with a 12-inch square opening that is about 36 inches long. Squirrels do fine in something with a 6-inch square door that is 18 inches long.

In order to catch a rodent, it is best to use a trap that only has one door, or to wire one door shut if the trap has two. Put the bait food past the trigger, so the animal will have to step on the trigger to get to the food. Woodchucks like watermelon, apples or beans. Squirrels and chipmunks love sunflower seeds and peanut butter on a cracker. Chunky or smooth? They don't seem to care.

Trapping is not a solution I like. Why? A released rodent has only a small chance of survival, I am told. Also, in some towns there are laws against transporting wild animals. Maybe we should all just learn to share our bounty with the critters.

Henry is a long-time UNH Master Gardener and the author of four gardening books. Write him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or P.O. Box 364 Cornish Flat, NH 03746.

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

Free comic book ... someday

• Saturday, May 2, would have been **Free Comic Book Day** (which has been postponed until later in the summer, according to a post on freecomicbookday.com). Some area stores are keeping a tiny bit of the celebration going, pandemic-style, with special offerings including livestreaming comics-related discussions or offerings of previous years' Free Comic Book Day comics (with some stores focusing on all-ages offerings) with curbside pick-up. See page 10.

• And get free comics anytime via **Hoopla**, a media streaming service whose offerings include comic books and graphic novels and which is



Graphic courtesy of freecomicbookday.com.

available with a library card. A recent visit to Hoopla showed offerings of 13,874 comic books and graphic novels with books geared to a variety of ages (there is a “children’s titles only” filter). Many area libraries are allowing residents to apply for and receive library cards online; see your local library’s website for details.

Screen time

• The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (aviationmuseumofnh.org) is taking everyone on a **virtual around-the-world trip** starting Friday, May 1. A virtual vintage twin-engine DC-3 propeller plane will travel to spots such as Stonehenge, London, Paris and more using the museum’s Elite flight simulator and software that shows the terrain (including buildings like Parliament in London or the Eiffel Tower in Paris) as the plane passes over it, according to a press release. The plane will take off on Friday from Manchester-Boston Regional Airport and head to Europe via the “North Atlantic Ferry Route” with stops in Newfoundland, Labrador,

Greenland, Iceland and Scotland, the release said. Video highlights will be posted along with scientific, geographic, historic and cultural information every two days as the plane travels around the world for at least the next two months, the release said. Go to the museum’s website to see an example of the footage (the video clip features a flyover of Devil’s Tower in Wyoming).

• Get another bird’s-eye-view of the world via the New Hampshire Audubon’s **Peregrine Web Cam** (which you can access via nhaudubon.org, under the “Conservation” tab). Three cameras monitor the comings and goings at the peregrine falcon nest at 1750 Elm St. in Manchester. As of April 27, two falcons could be seen trading off time sitting on a group of eggs (and a chat thread on one of the three pages offers some commentary on which bird, mom or dad, is currently on the eggs).

• Have your own Monday movie marathon; **Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker** (PG-13) is currently available for rent or purchase but on Monday, May 4 (Star Wars Day), it will start streaming on Disney+, putting all nine Skywalker-centric Star Wars movies (plus *Rogue One*) in one place. May the Force ... 🍌

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,
I am sending you pictures of a tub full of light shades. We have over a dozen. These have been in the garage, and we are doing some spring cleaning. Can you tell us anything about them? Are they for candles?

Lea

Dear Lea,
Right now is a great time to do spring cleaning and stay home and healthy!
The shades you have are meant to go into antique lanterns. (Except the larger round one must have been for a light.) They were used with kerosene for lighting in homes, barns, railroads, etc. It’s not uncommon to find them today, stored away like yours were. But I would

take another look for a box with the lanterns. The value of them without the lanterns is low (being clear with no embossing). They most likely were for home use. To reuse them again with candles could be more valuable to a decorator. I always say everything has another purpose and is worth something to someone.

I hope this was helpful, Lea, and maybe you can find a new purpose for them. If not, I think the value for a box of them would be in the \$50 range.

Donna Welch has spent more than 30 years in the antiques and collectibles field, appraising and instructing, and recently closed the physical location of From Out Of The Woods Antique Center (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com) but is still



Courtesy photo.

doing some buying and selling. She is a member of The New Hampshire Antiques Dealer Association. If you have questions about an antique or collectible send a clear photo and information to Donna at footwdw@aol.com, or call her at 391-6550 or 624-8668. 🍌

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 11

the maximum number of people,” Wucher said.

A limited number of parking spaces have also been reserved for State Park license plate holders, season pass holders, New Hampshire seniors, New Hampshire National Guard personnel, New Hampshire disabled veterans and active military personnel.

The best way to help limit the traffic and make hiking at our state parks a safe activity for all is to only visit the ones in your local area rather than travel to parks in other parts of the state.

“We have so many state parks throughout the state, so a lot of people have one in close proximity to their homes,” Wucher said.

Before you head to your local state park, have a backup plan with some alternative hiking spots to visit in case the park is crowded.

“We love to see people and families enjoying

our state parks, but getting outdoors can come in different forms,” Wucher said.

The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests manages 190 forest reservations, the Nature Conservancy manages 28 preserves, and the New Hampshire Audubon manages 40 wildlife sanctuaries around the state, according to the organizations’ websites.

Additionally, New Hampshire has more than

20 rail trails, which Wucher said are “perfect” for maintaining social distance.

“Rail trails are nice and wide and spread out, and there aren’t usually that many people,” he said. “The key point here is that we have so many different options, and I can’t stress enough that people need to be finding those alternatives [to crowded hiking spots] and staying close to home.” 🍌

Find a hiking spot

Here are a few websites that can help you find local hiking areas — just be sure to follow all safety guidelines, and be prepared to leave if the area you go to is too crowded. For the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department’s general tips on hiking safety and a list of things to bring on a hike, visit wildlife.state.nh.us/outdoor-recreation/hiking-safety.html.

- **State parks:** nhstateparks.org/visit/state-parks
- **Conservation lands:** nature.org/en-us/get-involved/how-to-help/places-we-protect
- **Forest reservations:** forestsociety.org/reservation-guide
- **Wildlife sanctuaries:** nhaudubon.org/get-outside/sanctuaries-2
- **Rail Trails:** nhstateparks.org/visit/recreational-rail-trails

Chemistry at the gas pump



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:
Where I live, in the People's Republic of California, gas costs much more than anywhere else.

For instance, I recently saw 87 octane for \$3.60 a gallon, 89 octane for \$3.80 a gallon, and premium 91 octane at \$3.90 a gallon. My wife's older Lexus LS400 runs nicely on 89 octane.

Here's my question: If I buy 89 octane, it costs me \$3.80 a gallon. What if I put in half a tank of 87 octane, and half a tank of 91 octane? Would I get 89 octane at 5 cents less per gallon? Inquiring minds would like to know. — Tom

Yes. You've broken the code, Tom. But now that the oil companies know who you are, prepare to see your face on a wanted poster in every Exxon station bathroom.

This is, in fact, exactly how most gas pumps deliver 89 octane fuel. When you choose 87 octane, it gives you fuel from the 87-octane storage tank below the pumps. When you choose 91 octane, you get fuel from the 91-octane tank.

But when you choose 89 octane, the gas pump literally just blends the two fuels as it sends it into your gas tank, giving you half of each, which gives you 89 octane.

So you can do exactly the same thing your-

self, and save 5 cents a gallon. The only thing it costs you is your time. But we can calculate that, too.

Let's say your tank takes 20 gallons of fuel. You start with the 91 octane and you add 10 gallons. Then you stop, turn off the pump, and start again.

Of course, now you have to reenter your credit card, enter your ZIP code, submit your fourth-grade report card, choose the 87 octane, and wait for the pump to turn on again.

Let's say that adds an extra three minutes to your refueling time. With 5 cents off every one of your 20 gallons of fuel, you save a total of a dollar. A dollar every three minutes is the equivalent of \$20 an hour.

So if your time is worth less than \$20 an hour, you're in the black, Tom. Just don't forget to factor in the dollar in time you just wasted reading this answer, too.

Dear Car Talk:
When I purchased a new Saturn SL in 2002, I had no idea that it would still be running 333,333 miles later.

While it has needed regular maintenance, it has never stranded me or failed to get me to my destination. It even has its original clutch and rear brakes.

I'm now getting grief from family members who don't appreciate my Saturn's longevi-

ty. They assume that any vehicle with so many miles must be a heap to be avoided.

How can I bring enlightenment to these non-believers? Or am I just too cheap to purchase a new vehicle to make them happy? — Pat

I'm going with option 2, Pat.

You never expected your 2002 Saturn to last 333,333 miles. And neither did Saturn. To be fair, we do get occasional letters from Saturn owners who have very-high-mileage cars and who sing their economic, if not aesthetic, praises.

I tend to think those rare, high-mileage Saturns have more to do with the owners themselves, who are very conscientious, gentle drivers and would probably make any vehicle they drive last for decades. But that's a Ph.D. thesis for another day.

If the vast majority of your driving involves short trips and low to modest speeds, there's no reason you couldn't keep driving your old Saturn if you want to, Pat.

But I doubt you're just moseying around town. Why? Because, according to my calculations, you're driving about 20,000 miles a year. And what you're missing during all those hours every day you spend in that car are the vastly improved safety features that newer cars now have.

Structural protection is better. There are air-bags galore in modern cars — side bags, head

bags, knee bags, wind bags. Oh, wait, that's me.

There's automatic emergency braking that applies the brakes if you don't see a hazard and react in time. There's lane-keeping assistance that nudges you back between the lines if you drift. There's blind spot monitoring that tells you if someone is pulling up alongside you on either side.

You may be more enlightened, Pat, but you're less safe than the relatives who are urging you to update your wheels — either out of love or, more likely, embarrassment.

Or maybe it's the aroma in the car that your relatives can't stand, Pat. You may have become inured to the Saturn's old car smell sometime during the past 250,000 miles. And we haven't even mentioned the improvements in pollution controls or fuel economy. Or the seat and steering wheel warmers.

If you do decide to upgrade (and rest assured, you've gotten every penny out of your Saturn), be sure to get every available safety feature on your new car.

It's likely you'll be writing to us again in 2037 asking if you really need to upgrade your 2020 Kia to a battery-powered hovercraft. And loading up on the latest safety equipment will put off your next rendezvous with obsolescence a little bit longer.

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FOOD

Getting the scoop

How the ice cream season is going so far

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Virtual brews:** The New Hampshire Brewers Association will hold the first ever **Keep New Hampshire Brewing Virtual Beer Fest** on Saturday, May 2, from 2 to 6 p.m. A general admission or VIP ticket will grant you access to a Facebook group, where links will be provided to all of the digital festival happenings. Using Facebook, YouTube, Zoom, Twitter or Instagram, festival goers will be able to participate in livestream chats with local brewers, virtual tastings, trivia and more. The Association is hoping to create an environment where you can do all the things you would normally at a brewfest, just virtually. All attendees are encouraged to post photos and comments to social media using the hashtag #keepnhbrewing. You can also download the NH Brewers app to access a list of all Granite State breweries offering beer to go, curbside pickup and delivery. General admission tickets start at \$5 per person, or \$35 with a “Keep NH Brewing” T-shirt included. Special access VIP tickets are \$50, or \$65 with the T-shirt included. A portion of the proceeds from the festival will benefit the New Hampshire Employee Hospitality Relief Fund, which supports restaurant and hospitality employees who have been impacted by Covid-19. Visit tickets.beerfests.com/event/keepnhbrewing.

• **Rage baking:** Join Concord’s Gibson’s Bookstore in virtually welcoming authors Katherine Alford and Kathy Gunst on Wednesday, May 6, at 6 p.m., via Zoom. Alford and Gunst will be presenting their new book **Rage Baking: The Transformative Power of Flour, Fury and Women’s Voices**, a collection of more than 50 recipes, short essays and quotes from some of our country’s best female bakers and activists. During their talk, Alford and Gunst will be baking the three berry galette recipe from their book and adapting it into a pie using your existing pantry ingredients. Zoom is free to use and does not require any logins or account registrations. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com/event/rage-baking to access the link.

• **Concord Farmers Market postponed:** The **Concord Farmers Market’s** opening date for the summer season, originally scheduled for Saturday, May 2, on Capitol Street, has been pushed back indefinitely. Market president Wayne Hall told the Hippo he has been working closely with the

Moo’s Place Ice Cream was just weeks away from opening for the season when owners Steven and Christy LaRocca found themselves retooling their entire business model. After a short delay, both shops, in Derry and Salem, are now open, but with reduced hours and significant operational changes.

“There is a lot more being done to get the same result,” Steven LaRocca said. “We’ve gone from walkup orders to call ahead and [having] everything pre-packaged to go. . . . So it’s basically not as efficient as we’re used to operating, because we’re needing more people to man the phones, and some to just work the cash register or just scoop the ice cream.”

As the weather starts to turn warmer, local ice cream shop owners and wholesalers talk about the measures taken and the production challenges they’ve been faced with.

Social distance scoops

Lix Ice Cream Parlor in Litchfield opened on schedule in early March. But since then, owner Jay Thomas said, it’s been a very different environment at the stand.

“We love to interact with our customers . . . and the unfortunate thing is that we’ve kind of had to put that on pause,” he said. “The general public has been understanding and doing an excellent job keeping their distance from one another in line. They’ve got their masks on and we’ve got ours, and we keep the window closed in between orders.”

King Kone in Merrimack was also able to open as scheduled. According to owner George Soffron, there is one employee designated for handling money only and others for scooping and handing out ice cream — all of them, he said, wear gloves at all times while all surfaces are repeatedly sterilized.

In Concord, owner Carol Frekey-Harkness of Frekey’s Dairy Freeze said all ice cream orders are scooped in cups with closed lids, then placed in a stapled brown paper bag. For the time being, they are not scooping cones, although you can ask for one on the side that is wrapped up separately and included in the bag.

They’ve also implemented “social distancing cones,” or spray-painted ice cream cones on the pavement six feet apart from each other for people to stand on while waiting in line. No one is allowed to eat ice cream on the premises, unless they are in their cars.

“We have had to cut our hours back a little bit, but so far, so good,” Frekey-Harkness said. “Everyone’s been pretty good about leaving enough space between each other for the most part.”

LaRocca said Moo’s Place is closed for indoor seating, and both shops have temporarily

suspended the sale of all ice cream cones, banana splits and other “open-air” foods. They’re also accepting credit card payments for the first time.

“We’re doing the best we can to tweak the system a bit . . . by reducing the amount of actual contact with the food and with cash,” he said.

While all ice cream orders are being scooped into cups, LaRocca said he has seen a significant increase in bulk sales over the past few weeks, possibly due to customers wanting to have larger quantities available so they can stay at home.

“We’re selling probably six or seven times as many packaged half gallons of ice cream than we normally do,” he said. “We’re actually struggling a bit to keep half gallons in stock right now, because that’s becoming such a larger and more popular side of our business.”

Similarly, sales of pre-packaged pints of ice cream at Triple Elm Coffee & Ice Cream in Sandown have climbed, according to owner Dave Valence. He also owns Axel’s Food & Ice Cream in Merrimack, which opened for the season a week later than scheduled, on April 2.

“Online ordering has been big for us,” Valence said of both locations.

Blake’s Ice Cream is offering its own make-your-own sundae kits to assemble at home, which come with a half gallon of ice cream, plus toppings like hot fudge, caramel sauce, whipped cream, nuts and cherries.

“Ice cream brings joy to people, and we thought it would be a really fun thing for families to enjoy together at home,” Blake’s co-owner Ann Mirageas said.

At Hayward’s Homemade Ice Cream in Nashua, takeout service has been limited to only every other window as a way to encourage social distancing. One of its windows on the side of the building has also been designated for call-ahead orders only. The shop’s Merrimack location is using its dining room for a similar purpose.

Dawn Padfield of Memories Ice Cream in Kingston said different windows are being utilized for customers to order through and then receive their ice cream out of.

“Everyone has been appreciative and extraordinarily patient that we’ve been here and we’re adapting,” she said. “It’s amazing how many people live for the routine of getting that dessert every night.”

Arnie’s Place in Concord and Dudley’s Ice Cream in Loudon are among the ice cream spots in the Granite State that, despite normally being open by this time of year, remain closed indefinitely. Dudley’s owner Carolyn Dudley said her decision not to open came down to one of safety.

“We just didn’t feel like we had everything



Sundae kit from Blake’s Ice Cream. Courtesy photo.

we needed in place, with all that needs to be done,” she said. “We’ll start making ice cream within a week or so before we open.”

Behind the counter

While Valence said he has been fortunate there have been no interruptions in ice cream deliveries — both Axel’s and Triple Elm get their product from Richardson’s Ice Cream in Middleton, Mass. — it’s been a different story for many of the other ingredients he needs. In addition to serving ice cream, Triple Elm features a menu of hot and cold drinks, breakfast sandwiches, paninis and baked goods.

“The hardest thing for me is when I go to the grocery store for stuff we need on the food side of the business,” he said. “We do coffee, and every now and then, milk will be out of stock. Things like peanut butter [or] strawberries . . . might be out of stock. It just depends.”

Lang’s Ice Cream in Pembroke, which opened about two weeks later than usual, has been able to get most of its product with the exception of shortcakes, according to co-owner Monica Holt.

“It’s just one of those things where we’re trying to limit the amount of times we’re going to the grocery store,” she said, “so we decided we weren’t going to make those for now.”

But for shops that make their own ice cream, even getting the most essential ingredients can be challenging. LaRocca at Moo’s Place said product supply has been “very erratic” as of late.

“Just the other day, we only received maybe four cases of cream when we were supposed to have 40. Our suppliers hadn’t actually even made and packaged the cream yet because they don’t want to overproduce it,” he said. “With everything all pre-packaged and covered now, it’s been tough getting enough paper bags, cups, lids, things like that.”

Padfield said certain items in particular have been hard to come by, like brown sugar and bread flour for the homemade cookies at Memories — or even certain types of chocolate for some of the ice creams.

At Blake’s, a majority of the 80 or so flavors of ice cream are being produced for wholesale accounts, located all over New Hampshire,

Maine and some parts of Massachusetts. According to Mirageas, some wholesale customers that traditionally open for the season in April or even May have already delayed operations. But the fate of the season, she said, remains to be seen going forward into the summer.

“We start producing ice cream in February, so we had quite a bit of ice cream made and ready to go for the season. We’ve slowed that down for a little bit until the demand catches up,” she said. “There are some [wholesale accounts] that are not as optimistic about this season, but I don’t think it’s going to be all doom and gloom either. Ice cream is still a feel-good treat, and we’re still hoping it can be a good season. It’s not going to be the best one, but hopefully a good one.”

Padfield at Memories in Kingston also said she is unsure about what wholesale inquiries will look like in the coming months. Sales of Memories Ice Cream are booming at some convenience stores, but whether that will be the case at summer destinations like Hampton Beach is a big unknown.

“We have one client on the boardwalk in Hampton ... and I haven’t heard anything from him,” she said.

Roni Vetter of Jake’s Old Fashioned Ice Cream & Jake’s Cakes in Nashua said she’s experienced all kinds of supply chain and distribution hiccups over the past month. She offers custom order ice cream cakes for birthdays, weddings and other special occasions,

as well as homemade ice cream for wholesale, normally to both restaurants and retail stores. But ever since restaurants have been limited to takeout, the stores have been her primary focus.

For the most part, she said, she’s been receiving all of the product from her suppliers that she needs, though it has sometimes dictated what flavors she can make.

“It all comes back to milk, cream and sugar, and if I can’t get those, I can’t make ice cream,” Vetter said. “Luckily, those all still seem to be available. There have been things I can’t get ... [but] there’s usually something within my flavor realm that I can do instead. So for instance if I can’t get walnuts then I’ll make pistachio.”

In order to limit surface contact as much as possible, Vetter said she made the decision to ask her few staff members not to come in, at least for now. As a result, she’s been doing everything herself, from placing the labels on containers to performing all the deliveries — in addition to actually making all the ice cream.

“I struggled with the mentality of whether or not my business would be considered ‘essential,’” she said, “but happiness is essential. No matter what people are going through in their lives right now, everybody still has a birthday. Everybody still can say, ‘You know what, let’s have some ice cream.’ There has to be some little glimmer of happiness every day.”



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IN THE KITCHEN 
WITH MARC BENEDETTI



Marc Benedetti is the owner and head chef of Marc's Pizza & Subs (704 Milford Road, No. 5, Merrimack, 883-7000, eataroman.com), which has offered specialty hot and cold subs, Italian-style pizzas, calzones, soups and salads for about four years. Benedetti's flagship sub is the Roman, featuring five types of Italian cold cuts with provolone cheese, while other popular options include roast beef, chicken finger, Italian sausage and meatballs using his grandmother's recipe. Before coming to New Hampshire, he ran Benedetti's Deli in Haverhill, Mass., which his father opened in 1961 and his brother and sister continue to operate more than 50 years later. In 2013, Benedetti's Deli was featured on the Steve Harvey show, receiving the award for Best Deli as part of the show's inaugural Neighborhood Awards. Marc's Pizza & Subs is currently open five days a week, Tuesday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., for takeout only.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

A good bread knife.

What is your favorite thing on your menu?

I would have to say our homemade meatballs are fantastic. We make them every day. We do meatball subs, or people can come in and buy a bunch of them to go home and cook with.

What would you have for your last meal?

Just a good hamburger, nothing fancy. I like them with mayonnaise, mustard, ketchup, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickles and American cheese.

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

Everyone's crazy about the steak and cheese. [At Benedetti's Deli], we didn't have a grill. It was basically just cold subs. But up here, everyone loves the steak and cheese. I always run out of steak.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

To tell you the truth, I don't really go out to eat that much.

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

Gronk [former Patriots player Rob Gronkowski]. I actually have a sub called The Gronk, [which has] roast beef, turkey breast, ham and provolone, and then I have another one called The Brady, which has everything on The Gronk plus bacon, because the bacon steps things up a bit.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

I like to cook steak on the grill, something nice and tender like a filet or a New York sirloin.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

Italian wedding soup

Courtesy of Marc Benedetti of Marc's Pizza & Subs in Merrimack

- 1 pound ground beef
- ½ pound ground pork
- 2 cups Romano cheese, grated
- 2 cups spinach, chopped
- 5 quarts chicken broth
- 1 pound acini di pepe pasta

Combine beef and pork in a bowl to form the meatballs. Make small meatballs out of the mixture with your hands, place on a baking sheet and bake until cooked through. Boil the chicken broth, then add pasta, baked meatballs, spinach and cheese.



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TRY THIS AT HOME

Cheese spread

Over the past few weeks, the way I think about cooking has changed. Typically at this time of year I'd be anticipating fresh produce that will arrive soon, much as I did with last week's Roasted Rhubarb & Ricotta Flatbread recipe. However, with stay at home orders it seems better to look to my kitchen and see what I have on hand.



Make it from your pantry cheese spread. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

That's what brought us to today's recipe: a quick peek at my refrigerator and pantry. I had both cream and goat cheese in my dairy drawer and dried figs in my pantry. Now, you may be looking in your kitchen and not seeing all of these ingredients, and that's where this recipe shines. It's all about flexibility.

Cheese: You definitely need a cheese that's creamy, but there's wiggle room. If you only have goat cheese, you can use that on its own with a tablespoon of milk to help make

it creamier. If you only have cream cheese, you can use that on its own and add half a teaspoon of salt to make it more savory.

Fruit: I used figs because I had them on hand. I also made a sample batch with dates that worked well. If you have raisins (golden or regular), dried cranberries, dried blueberries or any other dried fruit, they'll work well.

Your goal here is to take your plain, creamy cheese and elevate it with some sweetness. If you have nuts on hand, they'll add a delightful amount of crunch. If you don't, no worries. This cheese spread will please just as is.

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 to find more of her recipes. 🍷

Cheese spread

4 appetizer-sized servings

2 ounces goat cheese
2 ounces cream cheese
6 dried figs or 10 dates
1/2 cup walnuts or pecans, optional
An hour before you're ready to make this topping, set both cheeses on the counter.

Food processor version:

Remove stems from figs. (If using dates, remove the pits.)
Cut figs (or dates) into quarters, which should amount to 1/3 cup,
Place goat and cream cheese in food processor. Add figs (or dates) to cheese, and blend on high. Scrape sides of bowl, and blend again.
It may take several rounds of scraping and blending to get the figs and cheese fully blended.

Hand-stirred version:

Place goat and cream cheese in a medium-sized bowl.
Chop figs into a small dice. (This may take several minutes of chopping.)
Add figs to cheeses, and stir well.

Finishing the recipe:

Prepare your delivery vehicles — make crostini, toast flatbread, grab some crackers.
Spread a hearty teaspoon of cheese mixture on cracker.
Optional: Top with nuts, whether plain or seasoned. Note: You can quickly glaze walnuts, pecans, etc. with honey or maple syrup. Place 1/2 cup chopped nuts in microwave-safe bowl, drizzle with 1 tablespoon of honey or maple syrup. Microwave in 15-second increments, stirring after each, until liquid is absorbed and nuts are not sticky.

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DRINK

Soaring in Sonoma

A look at two top flight northern California wines

By Fred Matuszewski
food@hippopress.com

You have seen them while walking in your backyard or driving to the grocery store: raptors, eagles, hawks soaring, seemingly riding the thermal air currents. They seem to be above it all, detached, while we are anchored to the earth. We are stuck here at home, while these birds glide along effortlessly.

In fact, they are large birds who have learned to harness these thermals. They need the thermals to carry them throughout their range as they look for food. In my columns I have spoken about microclimates and how they influence all agriculture, and in our case the growing of grapes and production of wine.

In California, north of San Francisco, the Mayacamas Mountains stretch for 52 miles, through four counties, Mendocino, Lake, Napa and Sonoma, in a line that runs parallel to the Pacific coastline. This is a magnificent mountain range that heavily influences the climates of these counties, known for the wineries that populate the region. This spine of mountains separates Napa Valley from Sonoma. Vineyards can be found along the sides of these mountains, some with grades as steep as 30 degrees. Only a handful of roads traverse these mountains, but to the brave driver there are views, too numerous to count, extending to both Napa and Sonoma. These mountains are home to red tail hawks and eagles who have mastered the thermals, the same thermals that contribute to the complexities of the wines from this region.

Adler Fels (German for "Eagle Rock") is a winery based in Santa Rosa, Sonoma County. Founded in 1979 by David and Ayn Coleman, today the winery is home to Wine Hooligans, LLC, a wine company dedicated to making wines of artisanal quality with real stories at affordable prices. In the spirit of what the Colemans set out to do, Adam Lazarre, one of California's most accoladed winemakers, now crafts these wines predominantly sourced from Sonoma's famed Russian River sub-appellation.

Adler Fels' The Eagle Rock 2018 Sonoma Coast Chardonnay is available at the New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Outlets at \$19.99. The Adler Fels website recounts the 2018 growing season as, "a winemaker's dream. A mild and temperate growing season with suf-



Courtesy photos.

ficient rain and no major heat spikes kept the vines healthy and hydrated. A near-perfect fruit set in the spring resulted in an impressive yield without sacrificing quality." For the 2018 vintage, Adler Fels was able to source 65 percent of their chardonnay from vineyards in the Russian River Valley of the Sonoma Coast AVA. This chardonnay opens with fragrant floral notes. It is rich to the taste of apple and pear, with a bit of citrus. The taste is rounded-out with a hint of vanilla and a long, sweetened leather feel to the full mouth.

Adler Fels The Eagle Rock 2017 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir is also available at the NH Liquor and Wine Outlets at \$19.99. Suffering from drought the year before, the heavy winter rains brought new life to the vines of the Sonoma Coast region. The coastal breezes kept the vines cool during the overly hot month of September, keeping the fruit from over-ripening. Eighty-six percent of Adler Fels Pinot Noir comes from the Russian River Valley of the Sonoma Coast AVA, producing a wine that is balanced with good acidity and lush fruit flavors. This pinot noir has an earthiness to the nose, mingled with plum and dark cherries. The fruit carries through to the mouth, again exceptionally light and dry, with soft tannins of leather, creating a smooth and long finish.

So take a break from working remotely and tutoring in distance learning, and pour a glass of the chardonnay or pinot noir. Then go outside and look up. You might just find another raptor floating effortlessly above you, tempting you to join in just a bit of airborne tranquility. Namaste to the divine in nature and what it gives us.

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.

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 16

state Commissioner of Agriculture and the City of Concord's health inspector to reschedule to an appropriate date. When the market does resume operations, Hall said specific safety measures will likely be taken, like requiring visitors to stay at least six feet apart

from each other. The Concord Farmers Market usually runs every Saturday morning from May through October, featuring about 40 local vendors selling meat, eggs, dairy products, produce and more. Visit concordfarmersmarket.com for updates.

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• Warlocks, *The Chain* A+

• The Harmed Brothers,

Across the Waves A

• *Some Assembly Required*

B-

• **Book Notes**

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• *The Willoughbys* A-

• *Extraction* B-



My first exposure to this Los Angeles psychedelic rock crew couldn't have come at a worse time to clue into them, or so the indie tastemakers of the day wanted newcomers like me to think. I speak of their *Surgery* album, which was sent here by someone from major label Mute Records back in 2005, just in time for Pitchfork to tear the album a new one just because it wasn't on an indie label. Whatever, I liked what I heard, and in fact that was probably the day I decided that no one was going to bully me into dissing or praising a record just because a few 98-pound nerds thought I was supposed to (it's been lonely

ever since, heh heh). Hence Warlocks still have a special place in my heart, not that I didn't long ago outgrow Black Rebel Motorcycle Club and all the other components of my neopsych phase (does anyone remember Gliss? Anyone in the universe?). Whatever, if you like that stuff, these guys still rule, as it were. My favorite here is "The Robbery," a solemn but driven example of top-drawer drone-rock, with Bobby Hecksher mumbling his usual unintelligible morphine-drip nonsense over just the right sort of buzzy guitars, but there's Raveonettes-flavored spaghetti Western stuff ("Mr. Boogie Man"), Wire-inspired art-rock ("You Stooze You"), and Spacemen 3-style Pink Floyd-ness (most everywhere else). Ten or 12 years ago I'd have had this one on heavy rotation, but it's still awesome regardless. A+ — *Eric W. Saeger*

The Harmed Brothers, *Across the Waves* (Fluff & Gravy Records)



This isn't a pair of brothers in name or bloodline but a couple of long-time songwriting partners who have a pleasant way with adult-oriented rock. The band leaders come from different places, one from wind-swept Missouri (Ray Vietti), the other from Los Angeles (Alex Salcido), and they somehow settled in Ludlow, Kentucky, all of which foretells the scenic, gentle sloping of their vibe. The most obvious references are Los Lobos, heavy on the mellow, and Guster, sans any obvious indie leanings, but the songwriting itself has a subtlety to it that's more sophisticated and melodically intricate than

that — think Eagles doing yacht rock. Vietti's voice is a cross between Gordon Lightfoot and David Hidalgo, tentative but geekily defiant, delivering tales of personal and economic despair while maintaining the facades necessary to keep pressing on in the broken America of today. In that it's timely, even if the overall sound is most often reminiscent of something one would expect to hear wafting out of the tape deck of a 1973 El Camino. A — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

• The horrible, groundbreakingly awful month of April 2020 is finally over, if you can believe it, and to celebrate, new albums are scheduled to hit the streets on May 1! I suppose we can start with professional annoying granola-gobbler **Alanis Morissette's** new album, *Such Pretty Forks in the Road*, which — wait, OK, calm down, let me state that she's not annoying to *everyone*, probably just me. She was a hero to boomer and Gen-X women 25 years ago, with her album *Jagged Little Pill*, which is now a Broadway musical, so why don't I just shut up and simply say that "Smiling," one of the songs from this new album, is overwrought, whiny, and a bit tuneless really? See, I'm not saying that *she* necessarily bugs me, like, maybe it's just me, because my body lacks some particular vitamin or whatever, or maybe I have some other physiological defect that prevents me from being able to pretend that the new tune "Reasons I Drink" isn't just a mostly empty bucket of the same sort of hilariously superficial platitudes as *Jagged*, but laser-aimed at the soccer moms of today, who grew up loving her old song "Ironic" because it was so, you know, *deep* in its examination of random first world problems, you know, like hey, if you already paid for a ticket to someplace, wouldn't it be, like, totally *ironic* if you won a free ticket to the same thing? I mean, what is my *damage*, man, that I can't just get on board the Alanis train and worry about *real* problems, like wedding invitations and whatever, instead of icky boring junk like Yemen and blah blah blah? Does anyone have a Tamagotchi I could hold for like a minute, to get in touch with my inner zen warrior? Seriously, I need help, folks.

• The very mention of '80s synthpop superstars **Psychadelic Furs'** name stirs up rosy memories in the heads of Gen Xers, of growing up in the '80s with Molly Ringwald reigning over them as the supreme goddess of stoic awkwardness. They are releasing *Made of Rain*, their first album since 1991's *World Outside*, so that's cause for celebration, isn't it? Let's go see if they've started experimenting with all those cool new computer-music thingies that have been invented over the past 30 years, or if the record is just a way for them to augment their Social Security checks. So here's the single, "Don't Believe," and I don't know, there are no computers here, it just sounds like Echo and the Bunnymen and whatnot, kind of dark and totally '80s, with a disco beat and, well, a horn section. It's awesome if you didn't want the band to ever evolve, because they haven't.

• **Man Man**, from the horrible city of Philadelphia, has its own brand of experimental rock, which has been known to include such elements as toy noisemakers, Chinese funeral horns, fireworks and completely unlistenable music. Their new LP, *Dream Hunting in the Valley of the In-Between*, has a single, called "Cloud Nein," and it's pretty awesome, a cabaret-rock sort of thing, like if Nick Cave were fun again.

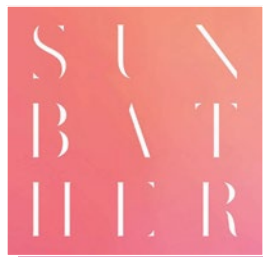
• Closing out this week is alt-country long-timers **Dixie Chicks**, with their new album, *Gaslighter*, their first in 14 years. The title track is a sturdy, basic country-rocker about a dirty rotten lying boyfriend whom the girls all dumped because he is an idiot. It is decent. — *Eric W. Saeger*

Local 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 albums worth a second look.

Black metal — more often referred to as "extreme metal" nowadays — has been around for a very long time now. At its peak the genre was dominated by bands from Norway, Finland, etc., countries with lots of snow and histories of being surrender-bot tackling dummies for bored German and Russian armies. Mostly it was/is focused on an unintentionally hilarious level of "devil worship" and all that happy stuff, but with a punk rock twist. Unlike death metal, which has a more technically muscular formula to it, black metal can be as stupid as it wants, as long as it's crazily fast



and chaotic. Truth is, as much of a music snob as I can be, if I were stuck on a desert island with only one album, I'd prefer it to be one that's black metal rather than death metal. It's more fun.

I know: who cares? Why does black metal even factor into polite music discussion these days? OK, so, the only reason is that around 2013, suddenly, out of nowhere, the tastemaking skinny-jeans-hipster crowd in Brooklyn decided that *Sunbather*, the second album from San Francisco band **Deafheaven**, was an essential listen. This bizarre turn of events did make sense in a way; although the band's first album was pretty standard American black metal fare, the fact was — OK, the truth is that Deaf-

heaven refused to be identified as a black metal band, and everyone fell for the troll, including Rolling Stone magazine. And that's it. In the final analysis, *Sunbather* may have some out-of-the-norm indie- and post-rock elements, and some innovative wall-of-sound bliss, but it's mostly just an awesome black metal album. The singer sounds like a crazed puma kitty, one that's all-the-way-angry but nevertheless still kind of cute in a way.

And its core sound is as old as the hills, to be real with you. If you've read this page a lot, you've noticed I refer to the Swedish band **Bathory** regularly. To me, that band (actually a one-man operation) was the gold standard for black met-



al, as opposed to Venom, a group most people consider to be the kings of the genre. Bathory's 1987 LP *Under the Sign of the Black Mark* is like listening to a puma-kitty-monster-wrought apocalypse, if you'd be attracted to that for some reason.

Dumb as it is, I love the thing; it's the black metal album that's genuinely essential.

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 for fastest response. 🍷

***Some Assembly Required*, by Neil Shubin** (Pantheon, 253 pages)

“Nothing ever begins when you think it does,” writes Neil Shubin, who, according to his Twitter bio, has been “telling people they are fish since 2008.”

That’s when the pop-scientist, who now teaches at the University of Chicago, published the widely acclaimed *Your Inner Fish*, which six years later became a PBS series and threatened to turn the mermaid movie *Splash* into a documentary. (Tom Hanks as Allen Bauer: “All my life, I’ve been waiting for someone, and when I find her, she’s a fish!”)

Your Inner Fish deserved the acclaim. The book was accessible, quirky and witty, sometimes unintentionally so. (One memorable line: “The moment when I first saw the wrist of a fish was as meaningful as the first time I unwrapped the fingers of the cadaver back in the human anatomy lab.”)

And as an engaging narrator of the PBS series, Shubin seemed poised to be the paleontologist-in-chief we never knew we needed. He followed up with 2013’s *The Universe Within* and now returns with *Some Assembly Required*, which promises to “decode 4 billion years of life, from ancient fossils to DNA.”

That sounds exhausting, even for those of us currently spending 16 hours a day on the couch. Most people will pass.

The people who will most like this book are those whose hearts beat a little faster thinking about simultaneous incremental mutations throughout a genome. For the rest of us, even those with an earnest desire to be smarter about science, it requires a willful attention, caffeine and good posture.

Shubin begins, not surprisingly, with fish, and introduces the quote by playwright Lillian Hellman that will be a theme of the book: “Nothing, of course, begins at the time you think it did.” He then introduces Sir George Jackson Mivart, a contemporary of Charles Darwin, who wrote *On the Genesis of Species* to counter Darwin’s seminal work. (Mivart also later deemed the virgin birth implausible, managing to get excom-

municated from both the Roman Catholic Church and science in one lifetime.)

In his own rebuttal, Darwin dismissed Mivart’s key charges, saying that structural changes that occur in creatures are also accompanied “by a change in function.”

“It is hard to overestimate how deeply important those last five words have been to science,” Shubin writes. “They contain the seeds for a new way of seeing major transitions in the history of life.”

He then takes the reader on a four-billion-year journey populated by interesting (and sometimes looney, and sometimes mistaken) figures of science and their relevant discoveries about salamanders, shrews, flies, shrimp and the like.

In one chapter, he introduces Hemingway cats, also known as mitten cats, which famously live in Key West, Florida, at Ernest Hemingway’s estate. The cats, which have six toes, were once thought by sailors to bring good luck; the author was given one by a friend, and its descendants roam the place still, thrilling tourists.

It’s an anecdote that leads Shubin into a larger, more complex discussion of anomalies in other species (there was, in India in 2010, a child born with 34 fingers and toes) which, of course, leads into scientists playing with chicken embryos and observing how removing or moving cells during development can change how many digits form.

Later, in London, scientists studying brain formation by inserting snippets of DNA into genomes of mice created the mice with extra digits and outsized paws: Hemingway mice, basically.

What has come to be known as the “Sonic hedgehog” gene, which makes the protein that determines digit development, is more evidence that human beings have a disturbing amount of genetic likeness to frogs, lizards and threespine sticklebacks, fish you probably didn’t even know existed.

It’s all more evidence that, as posited in *Your Inner Fish*, the genes that build hands in primates are the same that build fins in fish. “Genetic recipes do not need to arise from scratch to make new organs in bodies.

Existing genes and networks of them can be pulled off the shelf and modified to make remarkably new things,” Shubin writes.

And so it goes. For every fascinating anecdote and fun fact about Hemingway cats and threespine sticklebacks, there is a complex discussion that makes you yawn or wish you’d paid more attention in science class.

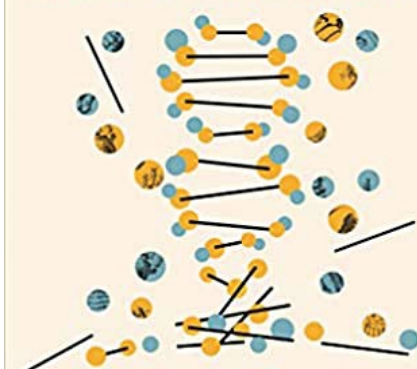
It’s mystifying how Shubin signed off on an uninspiring title that has been used by at least six other authors, including Anne Lamott.

But the biggest indictment of *Some Assembly Required* is an online review in which a high-school teacher says she is eager to use it in her Advanced Placement science class in the fall. Read into that what you will.

B- — *Jennifer Graham* 🍷

SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

Decoding Four Billion Years of
Life, from Ancient Fossils to DNA



NEIL SHUBIN
Author of *Your Inner Fish*

BOOK NOTES

Unless you’ve sworn off the internet for the duration, you’ve probably come across a poem called “In the Time of the Pandemic,” which, depending on your source, was written by either Wisconsin resident Kitty O’Meara in 2020 or someone named Kathleen O’Mara in 1919.

It begins, “And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still.”

It’s been widely shared on social media, read by wellness guru Deepak Chopra and praised in Oprah Winfrey’s magazine. And it was, in fact, composed last month by Kitty O’Meara, who posted it on Facebook, where it took on an unruly life of its own.

O’Meara, who has been blogging since 2011 at the-daily-round.com, told me that she composed the idyllic description of quarantine life in about 20 minutes and believes it came from a higher power. As is often the case when something goes viral, it will enjoy a new life as a book. A publisher reached out to O’Meara, and “In the Time of Pandemic” will be released as a children’s book in the fall.

Meanwhile, O’Meara’s vision of everyone staying home and reading books is actually happening in some circles. New England blogger Christopher Fountain recently wrote that he’s intentionally staying off the internet, and reading novels, “as many as two a day.”

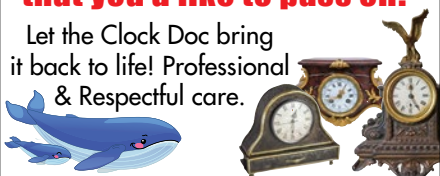
The New Yorker reports that readers are indulging in Virginia Woolf’s *Mrs Dalloway*, set five years after the 1918 pandemic. (Clarissa Dalloway herself, you might recall, “had grown very white since her illness.”)

And in Quartz, Ephrat Livn interviewed booksellers about what amounts to “literary panic buying,” to include long books, apocalyptic novels (*Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel is mentioned specifically) and — good news for O’Meara — children’s books.

Finally, if you’re ordering any of these, please consider purchasing from a local bookstore. The American Booksellers Association, the Authors Guild and American Publishers warned in a joint statement last week that independent bookstores face “a moment of monumental crisis” during the pandemic. To support them, search for local shops at Indiebound.org.

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The Willoughbys (PG)

Four children with lousy parents try to make themselves into the plucky orphans they've read about in books in *The Willoughbys*, a new animated movie from Netflix.

Mother (voice of Jane Krakowski) and Father (voice of Martin Short) Willoughby are not great parents. They love each other but don't have much love or concern or interest left for their four children: oldest child Tim (voice of Will Forte), Jane (voice of Alessia Cara) and twins both named Barnaby (voice of Sean Cullen). Tim is obsessed with returning the Willoughbys to the greatness of their forefathers, who were all adventurers and creators with spectacular mustaches. He is also obsessed with creating a family, one where the parents love and care for their children and even eat meals with the children, instead of just giving them their day-old leftovers.

When that seems unlikely, the kids decide to do the next best thing, which is get rid of their parents entirely and become orphans. They don't want to directly murder their parents so instead they design a way to get them to do a little sight-seeing in all of the most dangerous spots in the world in hopes that, well, acid pits and unclimbable mountains will take care of things.

What they don't count on is their parents' hiring a nanny (voice of Maya Rudolph). Nanny is loving and caring and impressed by these odd children and their surprising talents (and horrified by their stories about their parents). Even Tim very slightly warms to Nanny, especially when she helps him with his plan to prevent his parents from selling their strange old-fashioned house.

This movie is based on a Lois Lowry book (which Common Sense Media pegs as for ages 9 and up, which seems right for the movie as well). Like a good twisty middle-grade book, the movie has lots of little plot detours — there's an orphan and a candy factory (at which we get a Terry Crews-voiced character) — and *A Series of Unfortunate Events*-style stagey darkness. While it's definitely scary for younger kids, I feel



The Willoughbys

like for the right kid, the kid reading books about ghostly relatives and plucky orphans, this movie has a nice tone and an overall warm-hearted message about what family really means.

The animated style of this movie is particularly eye-catching. I could best describe it as computer animation of characters who look like angular marionette puppets with hair and other fiber elements that have a yarn-like look to them with occasional other elements that have a paper or crafty, three-dimensional look. It's a neat blend of styles that gives a distinct visual feel to the movie and helps to place it in its own universe, where there is both an internet and a working homemade dirigible.

The other surprising element in this movie is Ricky Gervais, who voices the movie's narrating cat. If you often think that nearly any amount of Ricky Gervais is too much Ricky Gervais, this movie gets the mix just right and helps to make the movie's voice both tart and sincere, wry but earnest. **A-**

Rated PG for rude humor and some thematic elements, according to the MPA. Directed by Kris Pearn, Corey Evans and Rob Lodermeier; The Willoughbys is an hour and 30 minutes long and distributed by Netflix.

Extraction (R)

Chris Hemsworth lays waste to countless henchmen in *Extraction*, a new Netflix movie that is seriously graded on a curve.

Ovi Mahajan (Rudhraksh Jaiswal) is the well-provided-for but not super well-looked-after 14-year-old son of a wealthy, jailed Indian drug dealer (Pankaj Tripathi). When Ovi is kidnapped by the henchmen of Amir Asif (Priyanshu Painyuli), a big-deal Bangladeshi drug dealer, it's Saju's (Randeep Hooda) job to get him back.

Saju, Ovi's dad's right-hand guy and the guy whose job it was to keep Ovi safe, can't go rescue Ovi from Bangladesh himself because Ovi's dad's money is frozen due to his legal difficulties. But, as Ovi's angry dad explains menacingly, if Saju doesn't get Junior back, Senior will come after Saju and his young son. Saju decides to hire mercenaries — whom he can't quite afford — with a plan to skip out on the bill (which feels like a pretty dodgy plan; if you don't have the manpower or money to fight off a rival drug dealer, why create a situation where you have to fight off a rival drug dealer and a bunch of angry mercenaries?).

In any event, "angry mercenaries" is where

our big hunk of grizzled Chris Hemsworth comes in. Australian soldier for hire/guy with sad flashbacks Tyler Rake (Hemsworth) might seem like a bit of a boozy mess when we first meet him but he takes the job.

Tyler is able to, with some minimal assistance, secure Ovi but then Saju's horrible plan throws the rescue mission into disarray and soon Tyler is trapped, with just his handsome gruffness and his two Thor arms, in a Bangladeshi city trying to safely get traumatized teen Ovi to an extraction point.

This movie has a runtime of nearly two hours (though, in fairness, something like 12 minutes of that is credits), which feels like a good 30 minutes too long. Though Tyler has A Past, there isn't a lot of extra plot to this movie beyond "extraction!" and attempts to give more heft to other characters are kind of uneven and slow the action more than adding something to the story. I wish instead the movie, at this runtime, could have made Tyler, Ovi Jr. and Saju more interesting characters or developed their various interactions more instead of just using them as means by which we move from one action set piece to another. Or, forget all that and let's just slice this thing back to its bare bones, just fight, fight, Hemsworth grimace, fight.

But you go to quarantine movie night with the action movie you have, not the polished diamond of a top-flight action movie you'd want. For something that you don't have to shell out extra money for, and if you're looking for gory hand-to-hand combat action, *Extraction* delivers on the trailer's promises of Hemsworth, violence, explosions. **B-**

Rated R for strong bloody violence throughout, language and brief drug use, according to the MPA. Directed by Sam Hargrave with a screenplay by Joe Russo (best known for his co-directing of some of the Marvel Cinematic Universe Movies; the movie is based on a comic called Ciudad de Ande Parks), Extraction is an hour and 56 minutes long and distributed by Netflix.

AT THE SOFAPLEX***Judy (PG-13)**

Renee Zellweger, Rufus Sewell. Miss Zellweger earned her Oscar fair and square for her performance as late-in-life Judy Garland, performing shows in London and wrestling assorted demons as she attempts to make enough money to move near her kids. **B Available for rent or purchase.**

Jumanji: The Next Level (PG-13)

Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart. Also Jack Black, Danniels DeVito and Glover, Karen Gillan, Nick

Jonas and Awkwafina. This movie doesn't quite capture the low-pressure delight of the first movie but as family entertainment goes it's fine, with the various actors "inhabited" by the Danny DeVito character having the most fun at any given moment. **B- Available for rent or purchase.**

***Just Mercy (PG-13)**

Michael B. Jordan, Jaime Foxx. Jordan plays real-life attorney Bryan Stevenson, who starts the Equal Justice Initiative in Alabama and takes on the case of an innocent man (Foxx) convicted of murder and put on death row with some extremely shoddy "evidence." Foxx and Jordan do top-notch work in this rather straightforward biopic. **B+ Available**

for purchase and rent.

***Knives Out (PG-13)**

Daniel Craig, Chris Evans. Plus Jaime Lee Curtis, Michael Shannon, Toni Collette, Don Johnson, LaKeith Stanfield, Katherine Langford and Ana de Armas — all having a total blast in this Clue-like whodunit that is funny and twisty and an absolute great time at the theaters. **A Available for rent or purchase.**

Last Christmas (PG-13)

Emilia Clarke, Henry Golding. Also Emma Thompson and Michelle Yeoh in this not-really-a-rom-com directed by Paul Feig. Clarke plays a Christmas shop elf who falls for too-perfect Golding as a means of,

I don't know, working through her personal problems? Or something? The movie is a bit of a mess but has moments of genuine charm. **B- Available for rent or purchase.**

***The Lighthouse (R)**

Willem Dafoe, Robert Pattinson. This utterly strange horror (I think?) movie features a very classic look (shot in black and white and using visuals that call to mind 1930s horror movies) and a setup (two men tend a lighthouse and go bonkers) that quickly seems to leave reality behind. This is the kind of movie that sticks with you; I've found myself thinking about its "what's reality and what is a dream" plot and striking visuals. **B Available for rent or purchase.**

***Little Women (PG)**

Saoirse Ronan, Florence Pugh. Both of whom received Oscar nominations as Jo and Amy respectively. Other Marches include Emma Watson and Eliza Scalen and Laura Dern as Marmee; Timothee Chalamet is Laurie. Director and screenwriter Greta Gerwig has crafted a perfect movie in this adaptation of the beloved story of sisters coming of age in Massachusetts during and after the Civil War. The movie starts the story in the middle of the book, giving us a portrait of each sister separately before we see them fully together, which makes this well-known story feel fresh. **A Available for rent or purchase.**

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AND/OR			
MATH125C Finite Mathematics	4	\$ 960	7/6 / 8 weeks online

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AND/OR			
MATH 251C Statistics	4	\$ 960	7/6 / 8 weeks online

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Course Number & Name	Credits	Cost	Start Date / Duration
ADCL 120C Survey of Addictive Behavior	3	\$ 720	5/11 / 8 weeks online
ADCL 235C Physiology and Pharmacology of Addiction	3	\$ 720	7/6 / 8 weeks online

The Four Domains of the Certified Recovery Support Worker (CRSW)

Ideal for individuals starting a career in the addiction profession who want to help individuals suffering from the disease of addiction who are on the recovery aspect of the continuum of care.

Course Number & Name	Credits	Cost	Start Date / Duration
ADCL 230C Four Domains of Certified Recovery Support Worker (CRSW)	3	\$ 720	10/31 / 8 weeks online

THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Venue change:** Had the season gone forward as planned, **KT Tunstall** would be performing at Manchester's Rex Theatre on this night, but instead the raucous singer-songwriter known for her hit "Black Horse and the Cherry Tree" and the follow-up "Suddenly I See" will play a virtual concert. Dubbed *Royal Albert Home*, it's a nod to her U.K. roots — she now lives in L.A. Her latest album, *Starlight & Gold*, is a collaboration with Modella. Thursday, April 30, 3:15 p.m., bandsintown.com.

• **Cutting edge:** When the pandemic struck, agitated Boston band **Seepeoples**, known for its controversial Facebook-banned video "New American Dream," was readying a new album. *Field Guide for Survival in This Dying World* is a prescient title, it turns out, and a tour in support of the release will have to wait. A new single, "Blink," drops May 8, and bandleader Will Bradford hosts a livestream with Brooke Binion of The Worst on Friday, May 1, 7 p.m. on Facebook Live, facebook.com/seepeoples.

• **Irish spring:** On what should have been his most lucrative day of the year, **Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki** performed on St. Patrick's Day from his home studio, with his wife and two children providing adorable support. He's back with a May Day themed show planned. "Songs about Spring, rebirth, renewal," he wrote on his Facebook page, "and whatever else I feel like playing in the moment." Wear a flower crown and enjoy one of New Hampshire's greatest talents. Friday, May 1, 3 p.m., facebook.com/jordan.tirrellwysocki.

• **Good folk:** Though her May 1 Concord show got corona-ed, **Susan Werner** is doing weekly *Susie on Sundays* sessions. An upcoming one includes friend and fellow songwriter Dar Williams; the two will play together and apart for the event. Werner released the Rodney Crowell-produced *Kicking the Beehive* in 2011, with Vince Gill and Keb' Mo' guesting. Traveling to Cuba inspired her 2017 EP, *An American in Havana*. Sunday, May 3, 7 p.m., bandsintown.com/a/27276-susan-werner.

• **Celtic crush:** Quarantined couple **Ciaran Nagle and Tara Novak** perform from their living room. Nagle is a founding member of Three Irish Tenors, Novak a celebrated fiddle player; both are in the contemporary Irish folk band Ishna. The duo's debut album, *Live from Boston and Ireland*, was released in late February. A show originally set for The Birchwood Inn in Temple happens online, to benefit the Monadnock Region Restaurant Industry. Monday, May 4, 7 p.m. facebook.com/events/228609305082256. 🍷

NITE

Morning fun time

Concord children's musician hosts daily show

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Aaron Jones is known by youngsters and their parents simply as Mr. Aaron. From his combination classroom and studio space in Concord, he hosts regular classes and appears in concert around the region at events geared to kids 5 and younger (some as young as six months). He teaches Mommy and Me music classes, offers art instruction for kids, and teaches a few private lessons. Lately he's moved his ebullient efforts online, hosting livestream shows daily at 9:30 a.m. as Covid-19 shuts down person-to-person work. If that weren't enough, he and his wife recently welcomed their third child, a baby girl.

Mr. Aaron talked about his work in a recent phone interview.

What is your background in music and child education?

I went to college for an undergraduate degree in music with a focus on music technology and composition — composition and songwriting have been my musical specialty. Then I did graduate school at NYU, a composition degree focused on writing music for theater and opera. That's kind of my musical background, writing music for theater works, and I started playing saxophone in middle school and had a band in high school — we played in people's garages, stuff like that. So I've always had that serious music composition side plus the rock 'n' roll side. When we were living in New York after grad school I was looking for jobs in music and came across a listing on Craigslist from a place that was looking for a Mommy and Me music teacher, to teach classes for real young kids and their parents. It was something I'd never heard of before. I applied for the job, auditioned and got it. That was my first taste of doing music for kids. I took over another program in Brooklyn called Jitterbugs a few years later. When we moved to Concord I decided to do my own thing with these skills I developed. ... The thing that was great about doing these kids' classes is it was a steady gig during the day and then at night I could still play in the bands. I was in a band called Luscious Jackson that I toured with for a while and I still had my musical theater projects that we were doing in New York. So it's like a steady foundation and I still had some time in the schedule for other projects that were harder to depend on.

How has the quarantine ... changed what you do?

Until March 15th or 16th everything I was doing was in-person classes and concerts. Everything was about — and I thought a real-

ly important part of my business, a socially important part — the fact that people were coming together to sing and enjoy music and creativity and expression with their kids. Suddenly it's like, 'Oh, we're not allowed to do that anymore, right?' But in the meantime I'd been doing YouTube videos and live-streaming events every now and then. So it's kind of set up for that, and I quickly realized I've got to take this online. It was actually a way to stay connected to people. Even though it's sort of virtual, there are parents talking to each other on the chat, and me responding in the video, and it's still a way of gathering together. But the dynamic of how I do my concerts on a livestream video when it's just me and a camera in a room versus having an actual audience in front of you — it's definitely different. But in my business, I'm constantly looking forward and adapting and figuring out what's next. So it was just sort of like, 'Alright, this is what we're doing now.' It's been a fun way to experiment with taking it more in the direction of a kids' TV show, but very interactive.

You have viewers from all over; that must be surprising.

Yeah, that's been really interesting. People are tuning in from all over the country, watching and sending me stuff, which is something I've been sort of working on, the online side of things, for a little while. But this definitely gave it a jump start as the whole world is stuck inside looking for something to do. That's been really cool. The mail thing has been a great way for kids to have something to do. Send it to me [and] I show it on the program and sort of react to it. It's a delayed but real-world connection that we can maintain. That's been a really fun element. People are sending me puppets and drawings. ... I like that.

How does what you do help families in this difficult time?

So many people have responded and are so grateful for what I'm doing because it's a regular activity. And because it's interactive, or at least as interactive as I can be on the screen, it keeps the kids engaged, and it's educational. Plus, a lot of the kids watching know me so there's that personal connection. Not only is it a positive educational experience for the kids; it's a daily routine providing some structure to a day that could otherwise be totally amorphous. On top of that it gives the parents a chance to do something [that they have to get done] — a professor was able to film his online class, someone else cleaned the bathroom. I can virtually babysit, and it's not passive. I think it's a fairly active experience. They grab their drums, ukuleles and shakers and sing along. Parents send me videos of their kids at home doing all of that. What's



Mr. Aaron. Courtesy photo.

been really interesting is kids are in their own space, their own environment, [with] their own stuff. Some of those who are sort of shy in class or concerts are totally in their element. So that's been an interesting positive part of it to see this other side where kids feel really free to go all out at home. Kids who are quiet in class, I see videos of them jamming out. ... The social togetherness element is an important part of class but in lieu of that, this is the highlight.

You welcomed a brand new family member in the midst of all this. How's that affected what you do?

We'll see — we literally just got home. We'll roll with it. It's number three for us, three girls. Their lives continue, and we'll just add to the daily routine. In some ways, being able to do the show and come back adds a little flexibility that my usual routine doesn't have.

What will you keep when you get back to normal?

I'll go back to having my in-person classes and concerts, but I'm gonna keep the online Mister Aaron show — we'll see with what regularity. It's a great way for me to connect with people outside the local area and it's a new dimension to what I can do with children's music and how I can reach people. I'd like to keep exploring that. Artistically, I can bring in elements to the show that are harder in a classroom situation when attention spans and logistics come in. So I want to keep the show going for that. It's kickstarted something I've wanted to do for a long time and showed me how feasible it is.

How can people support you financially?

With every video there's a link to PayPal and Venmo, and other people mail me checks. ... Sharing and liking too. I have a digital membership program for access to more exclusive content, members-only videos, which I'll amp up as this moves on. Like Patreon, but based on my website. 🍷

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When: Daily at 9:30 a.m.

Where: facebook.com/mraaronmusic

PRINCESS ON THE STEEPLE & ALL THE PRETTY PEOPLE

Across

- 1. Get Outta My Dreams, Get ___ My Car
- 5. Musical staff symbol
- 9. 'Pepper's' title, to Beatles
- 12. Haircut 100 is going to meet you for the gunfight at 'High ___'
- 13. Airbourne song about the flames of Hades
- 15. The Who classic '___ Again' (4,3,6)
- 17. Jeff Healey was a 'Confidence ___'
- 18. Of A Revolution band (abbr)
- 19. A Wallflower has a 'Heartache' on a 10th one (abbr)
- 20. Prince 'The Greatest Romance ___ Sold'
- 22. Slipknot 'Vol 3 (The ___ Verses)'
- 28. Kansas City Powerpoppers The ___ Kids (3,2)
- 30. Guitarist Delson of Linkin Park
- 31. When their car hits the next 3k miles Corb Lund sings 'The ___

Back In Town'

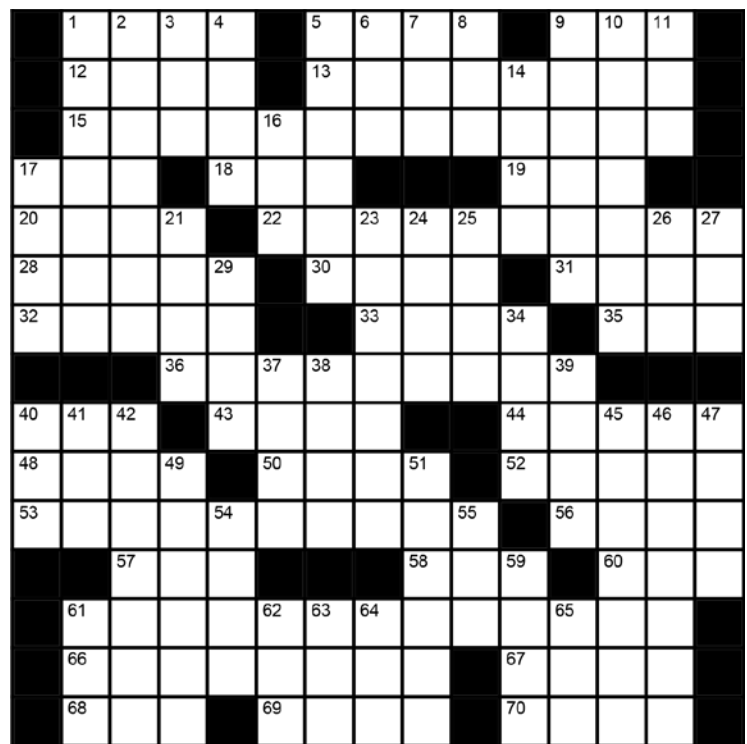
- 32. Paul Stanley 'Take Me Away (Together ___)' (2,3)
- 33. Bob Dylan '___ And Ends'
- 35. Vicious of Sex Pistols
- 36. Gloria Estefan smash '___ Feet' (3,2,4)
- 40. Sammy Hagar 'I Can't Drive 55' album, short for "voice of America"
- 43. Louis Armstrong nickname that wasn't "Moms"
- 44. Lou Bega 'A Little Bit Of ___'
- 48. Bob Dylan 'Full Moon And Empty ___'
- 50. Alt-country singer Case
- 52. Shock jock Howard that did 'Tortured Man' w/Dust Brothers
- 53. '14 Imagine Dragons single they'd lay it all on the line for? (1,3,2,4)
- 56. Joe Lynn Turner album about a basketball dunk?
- 57. Rod Stewart 'Maggie ___'
- 58. Kid Rock's ex Anderson, for short
- 60. Outfield '___ Time Now'
- 61. Duke Ellington classic '___ Much Anymore' (4,3,6)
- 66. Like concert footage from the old school vaults
- 67. Cream, ELP, or The Police is this type of band
- 68. Half of hippie t-shirt name
- 69. 'The Motion Of Love' ___ Loves Jezebel
- 70. Kind of 13-19 year old idol

tions that dolphins surf? (2,5)

- 2. Santana classic hit '___ Depend On' (2,3,2)
- 3. Tour freight weight you'll see on scale for large load
- 4. Default 'Hold ___ You'
- 5. Smashing Pumpkins 'Siamese Dream opener '___ Rock'
- 6. Bob Dylan '___ It Be Me'
- 7. Ronnie James Dio's 1st band inspired by Lord Of The Rings?
- 8. 'Low' ___ Rida
- 9. '88 Bob Dylan song with popular Italian name title
- 10. Pink Floyd '___ The Colour' (5,2)
- 11. 'Intensity In 10 Cities' Nugent
- 14. Phish song about a frothy cappuccino?
- 16. What The Postal Service's 'Angel' was pumping at the service station
- 17. Like huge, worldwide star
- 21. Roadies put a foot on one when climbing a ladder
- 23. UK 'Smalltown Boy' synth poppers ___ Beat
- 24. Bob Dylan 'Lay ___ Lay'
- 25. Simple Plan '___ Anything' (2,2)
- 26. 'Bitter Honey' singer that likes boxer Muhammed?
- 27. Used by fans at psychedelic 60s shows
- 29. Can't hear one, when audience is gripped by mindblowing performance
- 34. Silversun Pickups "The ___ don't add up at all"
- 37. ___ Orlando & Dawn

- 38. Syd Barrett compilation album about European auto?
- 39. Pearl Jam "They don't scurry when something bigger comes their way" song about these rodents
- 40. G3 guitar virtuoso Steve
- 41. Trippy UK pioneers that came in a UFO?
- 42. '88 Smithereens hit 'Only ___' (1,6)
- 45. Sporty Spice Girl C
- 46. Incubus lead singer Boyd
- 47. Days Of The New "I've got this time ___ hands, you are the one to abuse" (2,2)
- 49. Rock star position on political issue is their this
- 51. Procol Harum 'Whiter Shade ___' (2,4)
- 54. Michael Penn hit 'No ___'
- 55. Bob Dylan "So don't fear if you hear, a foreign sound to your ___"
- 59. 'Roll Away The Stone' ___ The Hoople
- 61. Ricky, to Gunnar Nelson
- 62. Band booking
- 63. Bob Dylan "Somebody got murdered on New Year's ___"
- 64. The Clash doesn't use sunscreen when they get an 'Atom ___'
- 65. 'Do They Know It's Christmas' cowriter Midge

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Down

- 1. '11 Trivium album for loca-

NITE 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 29.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A By Dave Green

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

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle B By Dave Green

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

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

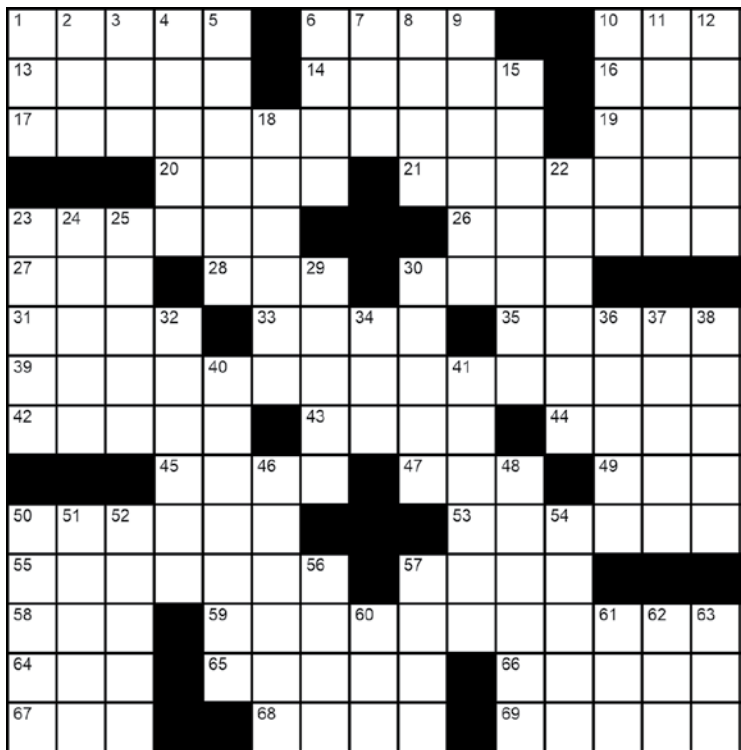
Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle C By Dave Green

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

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Difficulty Level ★

"Around the World in 1000 Steps" — a world tour of the home



Across

- 1 Door frame parts
- 6 Some laptops
- 10 Ring decoration
- 13 Fish tank buildup
- 14 Heart chambers
- 16 "Ceci n'est pas ___ pipe" (Magritte caption)
- 17 *Largest city in Somerset, known for Roman-built spas
- 19 Tajikistan, once (abbr.)
- 20 "Abnormally Attracted to Sin" singer Tori
- 21 *Brooklyn neighborhood, colloquially
- 23 Hulu show starring Aidy Bryant
- 26 Big figure in pop?
- 27 "Whatever"
- 28 Cry of pain
- 30 Bobcat's cousin
- 31 Soccer stadium shouts
- 33 Be changeable
- 35 Actress Day of Hitchcock's "The Man Who Knew Too Much"
- 39 *City in southern Ontario, a little over an hour from Toronto

- 42 Superfluous
- 43 Spider monkey's feature
- 44 Breeze
- 45 Greek vowels
- 47 Internet address ender
- 49 ___-Magnon
- 50 On the train
- 53 Nut and bolt spacer
- 55 *Country home to Legoland
- 57 Part of SVU
- 58 Word before Palmas or Cruces
- 59 *Portland thoroughfare often mispronounced by visitors (it's an "oo" as in "boot")
- 64 Land in a rivière
- 65 Friendly, gender-neutral address for a child
- 66 Pakistani money
- 67 Make a wager
- 68 Backside
- 69 Writer Zola

- 3 People in charge, briefly
- 4 Believer in spiritual unity
- 5 Respectable
- 6 GQ and EW, e.g.
- 7 Hartsfield-Jackson airport code
- 8 Item on a seafood menu
- 9 Tough and stringy
- 10 Blasts of wind
- 11 Follow logically
- 12 Strep of "Florence Foster Jenkins"
- 15 Back-of-the-book material
- 18 2010 Eminem song featuring Lil Wayne
- 22 Battle of Hastings combatants
- 23 Light up
- 24 Shape of a DNA strand
- 25 Scarlett's Butler
- 29 Hopes to get
- 30 Sheet music line
- 32 Roller coaster reaction
- 34 "Prêt-à-Porter" actor Stephen
- 36 Dressing named for the type of location where it was created
- 37 "Go ahead, ___ you!"
- 38 Flavor quality
- 40 Place to put your fedora
- 41 Circus performers
- 46 Cleverly skillful
- 48 ___ d'hotel
- 50 Extemporaneous response
- 51 Fictional anchorman Howard of "Network"
- 52 Beginning stage
- 54 Play the banjo
- 56 African antelope with curvy horns
- 57 "That ain't good"
- 60 Inserts in some car changers
- 61 ___ Pen (injection for allergic reactions)
- 62 Fish that goes into some British pies
- 63 Concert wear

Down

- 1 Boxer's move
- 2 "Blue Rondo ___ Turk" (Brubeck song)

R&R answer from pg 27 of 04/23



Jonesin' answer from pg 28 of 04/23



R&R Classic answer from pg 29 of 04/23



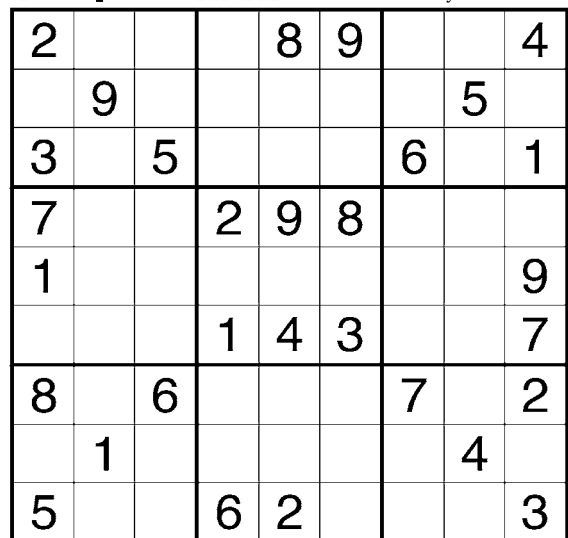
Jonesin' Classic answer from pg 30 of 04/23



NITE SUDOKU

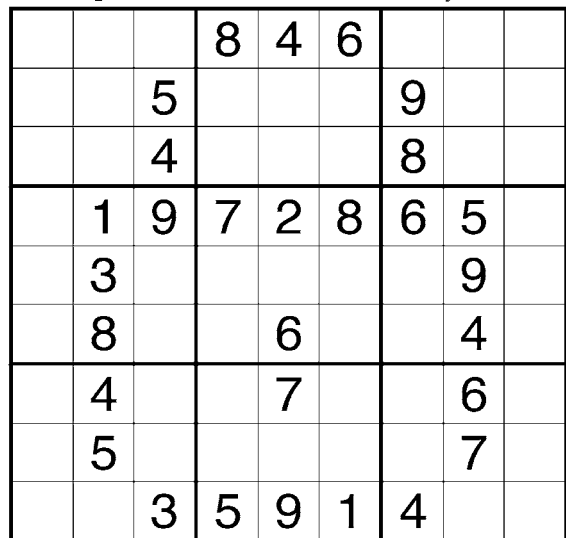
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week's puzzle answers on pg 29.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle D By Dave Green



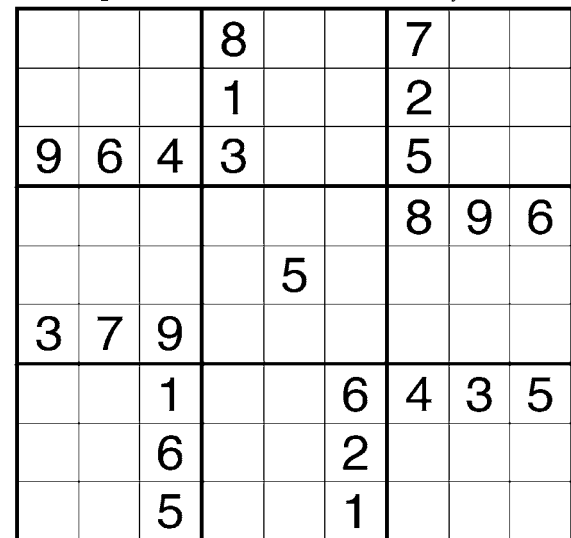
Difficulty Level ★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle E By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle F By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

"Dishing on Celebrities" — you'll eat this up

Enjoy this Jonesin' Crossword, originally printed in 2012!

Across

- 1 Dickensian outburst
- 4 Jeremy Lin's arena, for short
- 7 If ___ (when necessary)

- 13 Tina's "30 Rock" co-star
- 15 "Baudolino" author Umberto
- 16 Not liabilities
- 17 Bank (on)
- 18 Lousy, at the Louvre
- 19 State capital home to the Xcel Energy Center
- 20 Baked dish made of eggs, cheese, cigarette butts and cocktails?
- 23 Vodka brand, for short
- 24 Former Shanghai Shark ___ Ming
- 25 1,000 times a "mil"
- 26 Multipurpose doc, for short
- 28 Active chemical in cannabis
- 30 Slip of paper?
- 33 Seafood dish with butter, served in a bed of NBC News dispatches?
- 38 Huge ride
- 39 Masi of "Heroes"
- 40 From ___ Z (the whole ball of wax)
- 41 Stadium cheer
- 42 Ending for author or weather
- 43 Sphere in a scepter
- 44 Fish dish served with lemon and pepper, simmered in pretty hate and dissonant synthesizer lines?
- 47 Awards, like a slot machine
- 49 Mountain Dew energy drink
- 50 Org. with a "100 Years..." series
- 51 Bone Thugs-n-Harmony's "___

Crossroads"

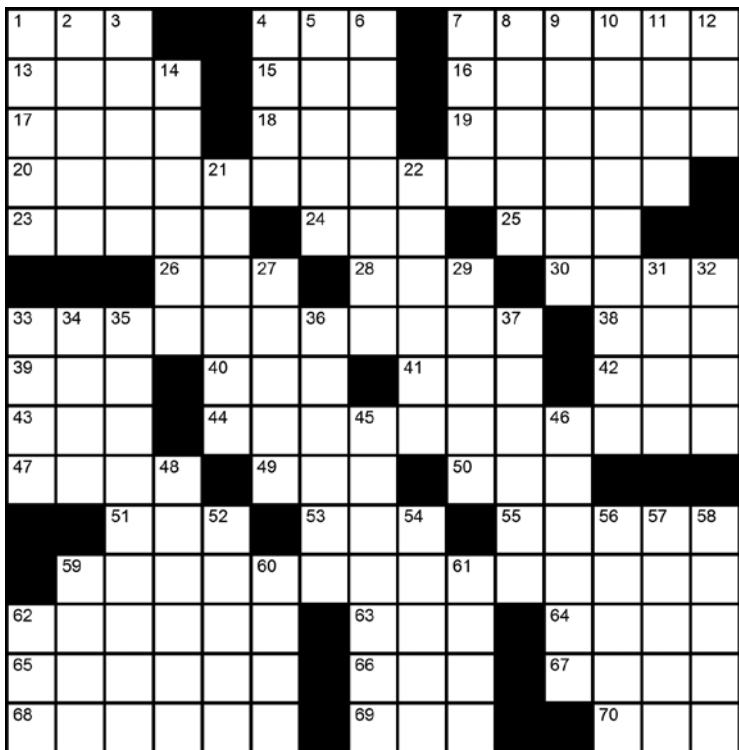
- 53 Facebook event of 2012
- 55 Former Illinois governor, in headlines
- 59 Dessert served a la mode, while the waiter jabbers about winning a million dollars?
- 62 1970s Mocedades hit that translates to "It's You"
- 63 "You ___ Here" (mall map phrase)
- 64 Permeate
- 65 Keister
- 66 On the ___ (fleeing)
- 67 Chicken
- 68 Key that's really C
- 69 Yellowfin tuna variety
- 70 Herbert of the "Pink Panther" series

Down

- 1 Root beer brand
- 2 Native Alaskan
- 3 Prefix before trope
- 4 Internet version of a bandwagon fad
- 5 One of the Spice Girls
- 6 Foe that looks impossible to defeat
- 7 Part of CSNY
- 8 Abbr. on a cornerstone
- 9 Apparel brand name big in the 1980s

- 10 Sloth, for example
- 11 AC measurements
- 12 Course for intl. students
- 14 Tidal patterns, e.g.
- 21 Talk about in an indirect way
- 22 Partner
- 27 Neon aquarium fish
- 29 Peller of the 1980s "Where's the Beef?" ads
- 31 Author Mario
- 32 Finito
- 33 Fingerprint pattern
- 34 Gumbo ingredient
- 35 Fallout victims?
- 36 Rent splitter
- 37 They put up a Ten Most Wanted Fugitives list
- 45 University city north of Stockholm
- 46 Realty database site
- 48 California peak
- 52 James Lipton interviewee
- 54 Host with a 276-car stunt
- 56 Bubbling, like hot water
- 57 Doohickey
- 58 Naptime, perhaps
- 59 Upsides
- 60 Wednesday, figuratively
- 61 Prefix before sphere
- 62 Low point

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SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *Challenge Accepted! 253 Steps to Becoming an Anti-It Girl*, by Celeste Barber, born May 6, 1982.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) If you like handball, get a tennis ball, find a brick wall in the quiet part of the school, and play until the bell goes. If you like chess, focus on whatever it is that chess players focus on. If spelling is your thing, then GET SPELLING, YOU AWESOME LITTLE NERD! Boredom is not an option.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) Ideally, I'd like to 'Hemsworth' it. I want to live in Australia and fly first class to America to work work work, then come back and watch my husband do sit-ups on the beach. Keep dreaming.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) Growing up, Olivia ... was cool and independent and ... even though she was clumsier than a newborn trying to ride a unicycle, she was fearless. ... She recently tested out her agility by trying to ride a skateboard, an obvious choice for a thirty-six-year-old who trips over uneven grass. A new project may feel like trying to ride a uni-skateboard on uneven grass, but you can get the hang of it.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) I danced ... at shopping centers, at school fairs, the Ekka (the Royal Queensland Show), conferences, football grand finals ... in my nana's shower, in my shower, and given the chance I'd dance in your shower too. Dance!

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) After working in

the clothing store for six months, I got an audition for All Saints as paramedic Bree Matthews. My audition consisted of dramatic looks off camera and made-up medical jargon. It was a guest role, just one episode, and I nailed it. You will nail it.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) A few things they don't tell you about drama school. If you cry, you pass. If you know famous people, you pass. You will not learn ANYTHING about the industry. But you'll learn something.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) It wasn't until I saw Jim Carrey that I discovered what I wanted to do. ... I had thought comedy was just a bit of fun and a bit stupid, but I realized in that moment ... that I could be on TV and in movies being funny, and not just as an extra on Friends. So I hung up my tap shoes and got focused. You will find your focus.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) My mum said that I could dance even before I could walk, but as I have said one billion times, my mum exaggerates a bit. Did you know one billion seconds is more than 31 years?

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) ... we weren't the best of friends growing up, as I didn't understand the Keanu obsession (I was more of a Jonathan Taylor Thomas kind of gal)... Friendships thrive despite differences.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) I fleshed [the guest role] out to a four-year, semiregular gig. Not because I'm a magical unicorn actor who can turn dust into an Oscars speech (we all

know that only Marion Cotillard can do that), but because I can hustle. It's time to work.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) A few things they don't tell you about drama school. ... Everyone is tortured and misunderstood. Deodorant and toothpaste are kryptonite. ... Whatever you experience in your childhood, no matter how traumatic, will be brought up and you will be

forced to deal with it while surrounded by non-professionals with bruised egos. And that will not be helpful.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) Thomas was always wanting to be out meeting with the boys, while I wanted to skip around the city hand in hand singing 'New York, New York.' You can combine disparate interests. 🍷

Sudoku Answers from April 2

Puzzle A pg 27

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

Difficulty Level: ★★★★★ 4:18

Puzzle B pg 27

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

Difficulty Level: ★★★★★ 4:19

Puzzle C pg 27

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

Difficulty Level: ★ 4:20

Puzzle D pg 28

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

Difficulty Level: ★★ 4:21

Puzzle E pg 28

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

Difficulty Level: ★★★ 4:22

Puzzle F pg 28

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

Difficulty Level: ★★★★★ 4:23

Legal Notice

THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF ALEXANDER
IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE, DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

File No: 20 CVD 40

Cielo Patino, Demandante Vs. Natanael Ramirez Flores, Demandado

POR FAVOR TOME EN CUENTA que se esta levantando una demanda encontra de usted. El motivo de la demanda es para lo siguiente: El Demandante desea el Divorcio.

Usted debe responder a la demanda a mas tardar el dia 5 de Julio del 2020, a partir de loe 40 dias de la primera publicacion de esta noticia. Si usted no responde para la fecha indicada, el Demandante en contra de usted solicitara al Tribunal que se le otorgue la Demanda deaseada.

File No: 20 CVD 40

Cielo Patino, Plaintiff Vs. Natanael Ramirez Flores, Defendant

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above action. the nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Plaintiff is seeking of Divorce.

You are required to make defense to such a pleading no later than the 5th day of June 2020, which is 40 days from the first publication of this notice. Upon your failure to file a pleading by the above date, party seeking service against you will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

SMITH IMMIGRATION LAW OFFICE



By: Brian D. Smith
Bar No.: 31801
530 4th St SW
Hickory, NC 28602
Telephone: 828-855-0544
Fax: 828-322-4444
brian@smithimmigration.com

THIS THE 16TH DAY OF APRIL, 2020

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION

Police report

Early on the morning of April 15, an unidentified driver smashed his yellow Mustang into a fence in unincorporated Marin County, California, KPIX reported. California Highway Patrol Officer Andrew Barclay later recounted what followed: The driver tried to back out of the fence, but failed to realize he was in drive and crashed through a home instead. The homeowner came out to investigate and, noting the driver's impaired state, removed the keys from the Mustang and returned inside to call police. The driver then discovered the keys inside the homeowner's Toyota and tried to make his getaway, Barclay said, but he shifted the car into drive and barreled through the house once more, coming to rest alongside his Mustang. When the homeowner again tried to take the keys away, the driver allegedly hit him repeatedly, causing major injuries. CHP arrested the driver for suspicion of DUI involving drugs, battery and theft of a vehicle.

Bright idea

Many hospital workers are self-isolating to keep their families safe from Covid-19 exposure, but Corpus Christi, Texas, emergency room doctor Jason Barnes, 39, is taking a novel approach: He's moved into his kids' treehouse in his backyard. Barnes told the Caller Times on April 20 that he's lived in the treehouse for about three weeks. If he needs something, he'll shout down to the kids or call the house. "[T]he Wi-Fi reaches the treehouse, so I have my laptop and my own little command center here," Barnes said. He uses a camping toilet with disposable bags, and he either showers at the hospital or "my oldest son will rig up a water hose. ... Luckily, my fence is pretty tall." As for when he can re-enter the house, Barnes said, "We're always looking at the CDC and Gov. Greg Abbott's decision, but the final determinant is the wife."

The entrepreneurial spirit

At the Peace N Peas Farm in Indian Trail, North Carolina, owners Francie and Mark Dunlap have launched a new career for their 8-year-old mini donkey, Mambo, and their other horses. For \$50, Mambo, Eddie, Zeus or other animals will make a 10-minute guest appearance to live on your next videoconference, the Charlotte Observer reported. You can even give the four-legged interloper the on-screen name of a regular attendee: For instance, Zeus might become Paul, the guy who asks too many questions. The Dunlaps also arrange for their animals to visit classrooms or happy hours.

Reports of my death

Cancer patient Gladys Rodriguez Duarte, 50, was rushed to a clinic in Coronel Oviedo, Paraguay, on April 11, after her blood pressure shot up, according to the Paraguay

National Police. Two hours later, Dr. Heriberto Vera declared her dead and shared the news with Duarte's family, but her daughter, Sandra, later told local media, "He assumed she was dead and ... they disconnected her and passed her off to the funeral home." The Daily Mail reported that funeral directors told investigators they were shocked to find she was breathing and moving around inside the body bag at the funeral home. Duarte was immediately transferred to another hospital for observation.

The continuing crisis

Geauga County (Ohio) Sheriff Scott Hildenbrand told WJW his office was called to break up a large party of Amish late on April 18 in Huntsburg Township. "When we got there, there was a barn full of people and some of them ran," he said. One partier was arrested for disorderly conduct, two were charged with underage drinking and another was issued a summons for violating the state's stay-at-home order, according to the sheriff. "We won't tolerate this," Hildenbrand said, "and we have to keep everybody safe." Amish people are reportedly continuing to gather in large groups, and the county health commissioner has sent a letter to Amish bishops about an increase in Covid-19 cases in that community.

NOT Covid-19

An unnamed 22-year-old Chinese woman has spent the last 14 years trying to discover the cause of her persistent cough, which started when she suffered a serious fit of coughing as a child, Oddity Central reported on April 22. Over the years, she has been misdiagnosed numerous times, but as she recently prepared for an unrelated surgery, the mystery was solved. Dr. Wang Jiyong at Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine ordered CT scans that revealed a foreign object in her right lung that turned out to be a chicken bone fragment just over half an inch long. Doctors said she had probably inhaled it at 8 years old, when the coughing started.

Numbers game

Doriana Fontanella contacted KDVR in Denver to report that she's been inundated with phone calls recently and she suspects she know why: Her mobile phone number is just one digit off Colorado's fax number for the Department of Labor and Employment, where people are trying to send applications for unemployment claims. "There's a real need out there, and I needed to let people know that I'm not the one they want," Fontanella told the station's Problem Solvers team. "I see on the news they're saying they can't get any response from unemployment, and I think that's because they're not getting the right number."

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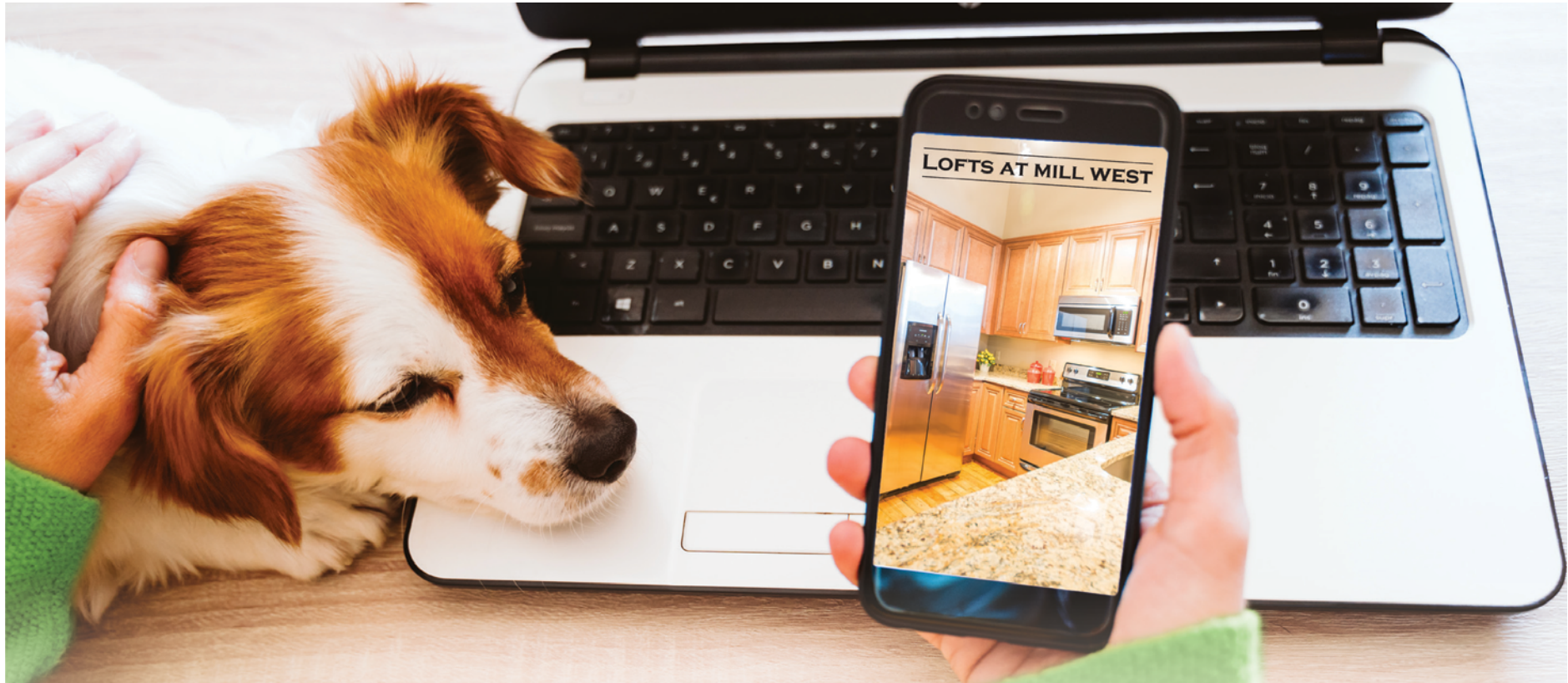
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