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MAY 28 - JUNE 3, 2020

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GRANITE VIEWS **FRED BRAMANTE**

Education funding



In 1999, the New Hampshire Supreme Court declared the state's tax system to fund education "unconstitutional" and gave the legislature a short window to come up with a plan to fix it.

The legislature, reluctantly, picked a State Wide Education Property Tax (SWEPT) to address the Claremont Education Funding Lawsuit. The original formula passed by the legislature had a \$6.60 SWEPT rate, which brought huge relief to about 80 percent of property owners while raising taxes on the property-richest communities who were/are paying the lowest tax rates in New Hampshire.

But the property-richest towns were not happy with the new formula and hired attorneys to come up with a plan. Their lawyers came up with a clever scheme called "donor towns" and many people bought into it, including many legislators.

So the formula was redone at a lower rate with a cap on how much money SWEPT could raise. Anyone with decent math/spatial reasoning skills could see that this new formula was wholly beneficial to the property-rich/lowest-tax-rate communities, designed to continuously reduce the tax rate and bring us back to the disparities that initially caused the Claremont lawsuit. Shame on New Hampshire for not having the intellectual horsepower and mathematical skills to see that this was a scam. The future was easy to see and is now here. Since the change was made, property-poorer cities and towns all over the state have been cheated out of hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue that had a Supreme Court decision to back it up.

Today, the lawsuits are coming back. The Conval district has already filed and is in the courts. More lawsuits are likely to come. We would not have been in this position had the legislature done the right thing and not kowtowed to the property-richest communities. You see, while they only represent about 20 to 25 percent of our citizens, they have a disproportionate percentage of the political clout among their residents.

So, with education funding once again in the courts, is there a case to be made that the monies lost by the property-poor communities over the years by the redone and unconstitutional formula be owed to the property-poorer communities? Manchester alone would likely be owed over \$100 million. To be clear, if this were a lawsuit between two companies, those lost funds would be on the table.

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



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195 McGregor St., Suite 325,
Manchester, N.H. 03102
P 603-625-1855 F 603-625-2422
hippopress.com
email: news@hippopress.com

EDITORIAL

Executive Editor
Amy Diaz, adiaz@hippopress.com

Managing Editor
Meghan Siegler,
msiegler@hippopress.com, Ext. 113

Editorial Design
Tristan Collins
hippolayout@gmail.com

Copy Editor
Lisa Parsons, lparsons@hippopress.com

Staff Writers
Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com, Ext. 130
Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com, Ext. 152

Contributors Jennifer Graham, Henry Homeyer,
Michele Pesula Kuegler, Dave Long, Jeff
Mucciarone, Eric W. Saeger, Michael Witthaus

Listings
Arts listings: arts@hippopress.com
Inside/Outside listings: listings@hippopress.com
Food & Drink listings: food@hippopress.com
Music listings: music@hippopress.com

BUSINESS

Publisher
Jody Reese, Ext. 121
jreese@hippopress.com

Associate Publisher
Dan Szczesny

Associate Publisher
Jeff Rapsis, Ext. 123
jrapsis@hippopress.com

Production
Tristan Collins, Nicole Reitano-Urquhart,
Rachel Stone

Circulation Manager
Doug Ladd, Ext. 135
dladd@hippopress.com

Advertising Manager
Charlene Nichols, Ext. 126
ccesarini@hippopress.com

Account Executives
Alyse Savage, 603-493-2026
asavage@hippopress.com
Roxanne Macaig, Ext. 127
rmacaig@hippopress.com
Tammie Boucher, support staff, Ext. 150

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Photo by Jerry LoFaro.

ON THE COVER

LIVE SUMMER MUSIC The Tupelo Drive-In Experience got the live outdoor music party started, and local restaurants are joining in on a smaller scale as they start offering shows alongside outdoor dining — so while most big tours and concert series have been canceled or postponed, you can still get your live music fix this summer.

ALSO ON THE COVER, Manchester native Tyler Spindel has a new hit on Netflix, p. 6. Get your next dessert from a food truck in Nashua or your next bottle of wine from a new shop on Main Street in Concord, p. 14. And get your puzzle on with all kinds of options, starting on p. 27 in the nite section.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

NEWS & NOTES

- 4 News in Brief.
- 6 Q&A
- 8 SPORTS
- 9 QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

THE ARTS:

- 10 OFF BROADWAY
NH native returns home while Broadway is shut down.
- 11 ARTS ROUNDUP
The latest arts news.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE:

- 12 GARDENING GUY
Henry Homeyer offers advice on your outdoors.
- 12 TREASURE HUNT
There's gold in your attic.
- 12 KIDDIE POOL
Family fun events this weekend.
- 13 CAR TALK
Automotive advice.

FOOD:

- 14 DESSERT TRUCK Wine on Main; In the Kitchen; Weekly Dish; Wine; Try This At Home.

POP CULTURE:

- 20 BOOK, MUSIC AND FILM REVIEWS Amy Diaz relaxes with Netflix's *The Lovebirds*.

NITE:

- 24 BANDS, CLUBS, NIGHTLIFE
The state of live music, Nite Roundup.
- 27 ROCK AND ROLL CROSSWORD
Puzzles for the music-lover.

ODDS & ENDS:

- 27 KENKEN, WORD ROUNDUP
- 28 SUDOKU
- 28 & 30 CROSSWORD
- 29 SIGNS OF LIFE
- 29 7 LITTLE WORDS
- 30 NEWS OF THE WEIRD

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Covid-19 updates

On May 25, the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services announced 50 new positive test results for Covid-19 and one additional death as a result of the virus, bringing the total number of cases in the Granite State to 4,197 and the total deaths to 210, according to a press release. About 58 percent of all those who contracted the virus, or 2,434 people, have recovered as of May 25. In a May 22 press conference, state epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan announced the first positive identification in New Hampshire of the rare Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) associated with Covid-19. "This was in a child under the age of 20 from Hillsborough County who was hospitalized with this syndrome with symptoms consistent with the national case criteria recently created and put out by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention," Dr. Chan said. According to CDC guidelines, MIS-C is a condition where different body parts can become inflamed, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes or gastrointestinal organs. The cause of the syndrome is unknown, but it has been affecting children who have or were around someone with Covid-19.

Governor's updates

Gov. Chris Sununu made multiple announcements in the past week in the state's ongoing response to Covid-19.

On May 21, Sununu issued Emergency Orders No. 46 and No. 47. Emergency Order No. 46 further expands access to medical providers in the state by reactivating the licenses of those who held a license in the last three years but whose license was no longer active. Medical providers must submit a request on a form adopted by the state's Office of Professional Licensure and Certification. Reactivated licenses are for the duration of the state of emergency only.

Emergency Order No. 47 expands access to Covid-19 testing via licensed pharmacists in the state. Retail and independent community-based pharmacies in New Hampshire can now administer Covid-19 test kits to customers, provided they hold the proper state certifications and create their own policies and procedures for collecting, storing and analyzing samples.

On May 22, Sununu issued Exhibit I to Emergency Order No. 29, which had been issued on April 9. Emergency Order No. 29 requires state agencies, boards and commissions to submit

recommendations to Sununu if any regulatory deadlines should be adjusted in response to the state of emergency. Per Exhibit I, the requirement that a safe boater education course written test be administered by a proctor or other person approved to offer boating safety education courses is suspended. The requirements are also satisfied by any applicant achieving a score of at least 90 percent on an online boating safety course written test.

Also on May 22, during a press conference, Sununu announced the release of new reopening guidelines for a variety of business sectors in the state, as part of his "Stay at Home 2.0" plan. As of May 22, amateur and youth sports are now allowed to conduct limited outdoor small group or team training classes and sessions. No competition or contact sports activities are currently allowed, and youth athletic camps will be considered under separate guidance. Sununu's Economic Reopening Taskforce also provided clarification on child care guidelines, released on May 22. "We want to make sure that child care is available ... and we want to make it flexible for folks while also maintaining a solid sense of public safety for employees and children," Sununu said during the press conference. The guidelines, available for viewing at covidguidance.nh.gov, encourage child care providers and other staff to practice frequent hand hygiene and wear face coverings whenever possible, but advise against children wearing them. Per the Stay at Home 2.0 order, several industries will be able to partially open beginning June 1. Seacoast beaches will reopen for transitory physical activity, including walking, running, swimming, surfing, kayaking and paddle boarding. Sand sports, picnicking, sunbathing and other stationary activities on the beach are not permitted. People must not congregate in groups of more than 10 and must maintain a minimum six-foot distance from others at all times. Additionally, Ocean Boulevard on Hampton Beach will be closed to vehicular traffic from June 1 through Labor Day. All state-owned public parking lots will be limited to 50 percent capacity.

Also beginning June 1, personal care facilities such as acupuncture studios, tattoo parlors, tanning and nail salons will be permitted to reopen in a limited capacity under several guidelines. Fitness centers in areas such as yoga, gymnastics, aerobics, dance and martial arts may also reopen on June 1, for small-group classes only.

Parks & rec

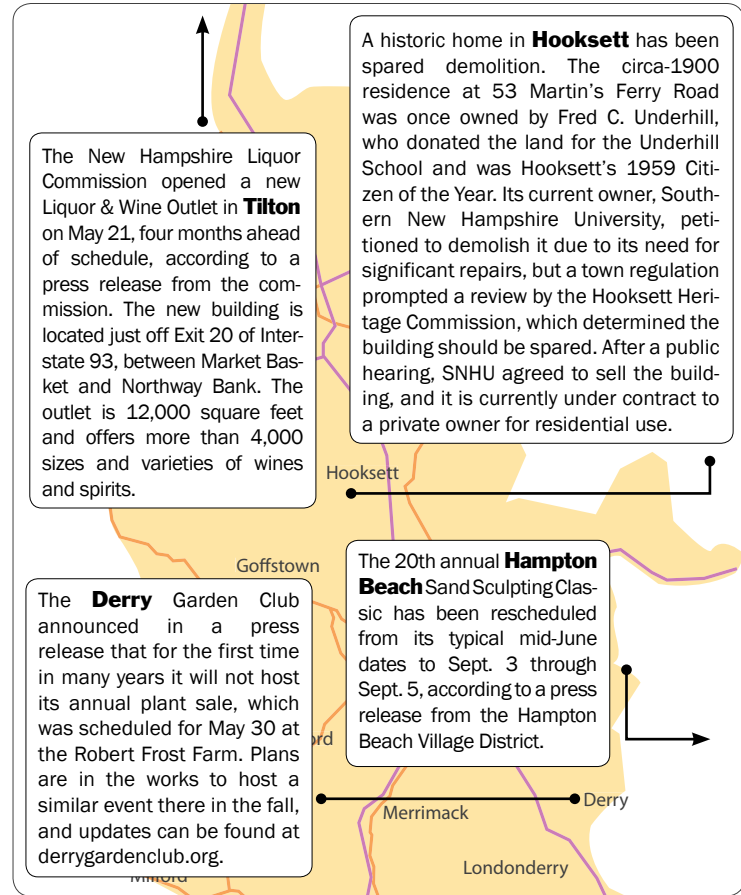
The Manchester Parks and Recreation Department posted an open letter to residents on its website last week after facing backlash from its decision to close several of the city's park facilities, including city pools, tennis and basketball courts, and playground equipment. It also canceled its Fun in the Sun youth camp. "Under Governor Sununu's current Stay at Home 2.0 guidelines, we cannot at this time safely or [practically] operate aquatic facilities or camp activities," Mark Gomez, chief of Parks, Recreation & Cemetery, wrote in the letter. The letter also cited the Board of Mayor and Aldermen's hiring freeze, as it means the department can't hire the seasonal staff needed to operate pool facilities and run the summer camp. Trails and large spaces remain open, as does the golf course at the Derryfield Country Club and the Hollows Disc Golf Complex. "As circumstances and guidance around Covid-19 evolve, we will re-evaluate closures of tennis courts, basketball courts, playground equipment, the Derryfield Fit Lot, and Crystal Lake Beach," Gomez wrote. "We will continue to consult with health professionals regarding the future use of our parks for organized sports and larger events."

Face masks required

On May 21, the Nashua Board of Aldermen approved an ordinance that requires members of the public ages 10 and older to wear face coverings over their mouth and nose when they go into any business, which includes outdoor areas where business is conducted and government buildings, as well as when picking up takeout food orders or while in common areas of residential or commercial buildings that have more than two units, according to a May 22 Nashua Telegraph article. Employees of all businesses must also wear them, both when interacting with the public and whenever they are within six feet of a coworker. Violators can be fined up to \$1,000, according to the article. Though the public could not attend the May 21 meeting in person, numerous letters were sent to the board, with some residents strongly opposed to the adoption of the ordinance and others strongly for it, according to the letters posted with the meeting agenda on the city website.

Lawsuit dismissed

A lawsuit concerning HB 1264, a controversial 2018 voting rights law in New Hampshire, has been dismissed,



according to multiple press releases following a unanimous decision from the New Hampshire Supreme Court to clarify its meaning. In a statement, Gov. Chris Sununu called the dismissal "[welcome] news for New Hampshire voters," going on to say that our state's laws "will now truly guarantee an equal right to vote and align New Hampshire with virtually every other state." Attorney General Gordon J. MacDonald and state Sens. Regina Birdsall and James Gray also issued statements. MacDonald said the plaintiff's agreement to dismiss the lawsuit "conclusively affirms the state's position from the outset of this matter." Birdsall said in a statement that it "... brings transparency and accountability to the election process and ensures every person who votes in New Hampshire is following the laws of our great state." Gray said the legislation makes clear "that requirements to obtain a New Hampshire driver's license or registration is independent of HB 1264."

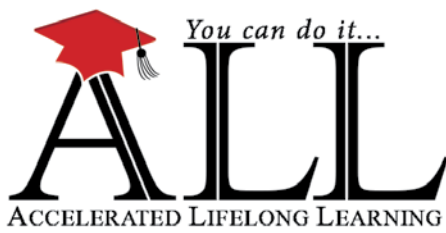
Party affiliation

The deadline for voters to change their party affiliation before the September primary election is Tuesday, June 2, according to a press release from the Secretary of State's Office. Voters will not be able to change their party affiliation on Election Day, which will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 8. Undeclared voters will be able to choose a party on the day of the primary, then change back to undeclared

status after voting, according to the release. To change your party affiliation, visit sos.nh.gov and look for Application to Change Party Affiliation under 2020 Election Information. Complete the form and send it to your town or city clerk's office.

Fisher Cats ownership

Art Solomon, longtime owner of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats (Toronto Blue Jays Double-A affiliate), has announced the expansion of the team's ownership group. The New Hampshire Fisher Cats have added new partners to the team's ownership, according to a press release. The team has been owned solely by Art Solomon for 15 years, and he will continue to be the largest shareholder. Joining him as owners are Rick Brenner of Amherst, who was the Fisher Cats president and general manager for more than a decade, and Tom Silvia, also from Amherst, who is a financial executive with Fidelity Investments and Vinebrook Partners, according to the release. "We are thrilled to welcome Rick back to the Fisher Cats family and to have another New Hampshire native like Tom join us," Solomon said in the release. "Continuing our team's commitment to the people and communities of New Hampshire is incredibly important to me and this organization. Rick, Tom, and our expanded ownership group all share that same commitment, and that's why I'm so excited to bring them in as partners." 🐾



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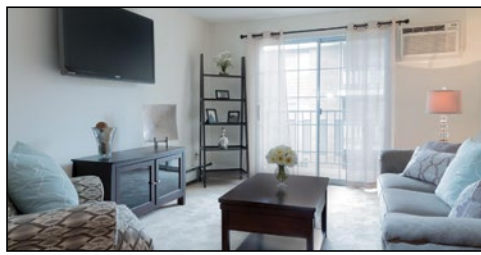
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Next on Netflix

Director Tyler Spindel talks new film, *The Wrong Missy*

Manchester native Tyler Spindel made his Netflix directorial debut in 2018 with *Father of the Year*, a comedy starring David Spade. On May 13, Netflix released *The Wrong Missy*, another comedy directed by Spindel, also starring Spade. At one point it was the No. 1 most-watched film on Netflix, and it was still in the Top 10 at No. 7 as of May 26. While quarantined in his apartment in Los Angeles, Spindel — who graduated from Central High School and is the nephew of Adam Sandler — talked about his latest directorial success.

Q: *What is The Wrong Missy about?*

It's about a guy who goes on this horrible blind date, and then, later, he meets the girl of his dreams. He wants to invite the girl of his dreams [to go] on this corporate retreat with him to Hawaii but [she and the girl from the blind date] have similar names, and he accidentally invites the wrong girl, who is basically a terror. ... There are a lot of ridiculous situations and crazy, zany characters. It's a really silly, outlandish movie that doesn't take itself too seriously.



Tyler Spindel. Courtesy photo.



The Wrong Missy

How did you end up directing it?

Kevin Grady, who produced the movie and is also from Manchester ... found the script and sent it to me, and I really liked it and thought it was funny. We thought David Spade would be really good for the lead guy, Tim. We sent [the script] to him, and he liked it. Everything started to fall into place after that.

What appealed to you about the script?

I thought it was a relatable situation, because I think a lot of people have texted the wrong person, including myself; I've done it many many many times.

Where was the film shot?

We shot it all in Hawaii, in Oahu. It's gorgeous there. Getting to shoot a movie in Hawaii was amazing; it was a dream.

What was it like working with David Spade again?

It's awesome. We have so much fun together and are good friends. Nobody's a nicer guy, and nobody's a sharper comedian. He's a really good actor, too. His instincts are really good, and his innate [acting] ability is really good. If you give him [a directorial] note, he always interprets it perfectly. He's one of the best [actors] I've ever worked with.

Why did you think Spade would be a good fit for the lead role in The Wrong Missy?

It's interesting, because in this movie he's playing the straight man, whereas in *Father of the Year* he's playing the comic foil. ... One of my favorite movies of all time is *Tommy Boy*, which is an old David Spade [and] Chris Farley movie, and in it ... Spade played this sarcastic, straight guy, and I always thought he was really good in

it. That's why I thought he'd fit really well with this character [in *The Wrong Missy*], and it was cool to work with him in a different capacity ... and to see how broad his skill set is.

How did you feel when you heard that The Wrong Missy had become the No. 1 most-watched movie on Netflix?

It's a trip. It's surreal. I've been getting messages from people around the world, and I go online and see videos of people in different countries watching the movie, and it's really amazing. I can't believe it's happening.

How have you grown as a director between Father of the Year and The Wrong Missy?

After [directing] your first movie, you learn so much. You learn how to incorporate more movement into the camera work. You get better at working with the crew and the actors. You get better at knowing what you want and knowing what's possible to do. You only have a limited amount of time [to shoot a film], so you learn a lot about what's important as far as what you want to spend your time on, and what's a waste [of time]. [Directing] is like anything else: you get better with experience.

How have you been spending your time in quarantine?

Mostly, I've just been really excited about the movie, but I've also been reading a ton of scripts, and I've been doing some writing for a couple different projects. There's one script I've been working on a lot. ... It's a comedy, but it's a little more grounded and has a little bit of a different tone [than *Father of the Year* and *The Wrong Missy*].

— Angie Sykeny

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I know, after two long months you're sick of watching re-reruns of games where you already know what happened. And while I feel your pain, it's just the opposite for me because I've been loving it.

Maybe not for every game, but a number have popped up that I really enjoyed. And not just to re-live a favorite memory. Like **Muhammad Ali** shocking the world by upsetting villainous (in those days) **George Foreman** in the Rumble in the Jungle. Which I didn't technically see live since it was fought in Africa in the middle of the night. I did watch it on Wide World of Sports the next weekend and a number of other times over the years. But I've also enjoyed seeing things I totally misremembered, that I was absolutely certain happened a different way. Like **Cedric Maxwell** going into the stands to smack an impolite Philly fanatic. I was sure that happened in the heated 1982 series with the Sixers and right behind the Celtics bench. But I was shocked to see it actually came during 1981's seven-gamer and he didn't step over the bench to drill that guy, he ran a few rows into the stands behind the Celtics basket after a hard foul at the rim. I could have lost big money betting on that because the picture of it all was clear as day in my head.

Then there was last Friday when the first of the Patriots' six Super Bowl wins got a re-airing. It was filled with little things that had faded from memory. Like the distinguished career of the great **Pat Summerall** ending with his call of the game-winning field goal. I've seen that play a million times since, but only with the radio call of **Gil Santos** going nuts edited in. In reflection, it's fitting that the call of **Adam Vinatieri** sending it right down Broadway was made in the rich, understated baritone of the guy who had made the greatest clutch kick in NFL history before Vinatieri's snow bowl kick two weeks earlier. Which Summerall did from 49 yards out off a frozen Yankee Stadium turf against the Browns in 1958 to force a special playoff game with Cleveland the next week. But I digress.

Beyond the ending, this one was actually instructive for how to navigate what may lie ahead in the post TB-12 world. It also may/should put to rest some of the excuses and whining that went on to explain away **Tom Brady's** less than typical 42-year-old season, like these:

The 'weaponless' argument: That game reminded me the Pats' third down back was **JR Redmond**, the tight end was **Jermaine Wiggins**, the wideout **David Patton**, the slot guy **Troy Brown** and there was no extra wideout to speak of because fullback **Marc Edwards** played almost every down. I'm not denigrating those guys when I point out they're probably

less talented than what Brady had last year. Brown, whose 23-yard catch and run on the final drive was the game's biggest play, was still really good. But were his 101 catches for 1,199 yards and five TD's better than **Julian Edelman** 100, 1,117 and six TD's? Call that a draw. The speedy Patton had 50 catches and a couple of huge playoff TD's. But I'll take **James White's** 73 catches over that and while Wiggy had that clutch 10-catch game vs. the Raiders two weeks earlier, he's no Hall of Famer. So can we put the "Tom didn't have enough weapons" spiel to rest? Because he didn't have them in 2001 and still won.

Stidham blueprint: Brady threw for just 145 yards in a solid dinking and dunking game-managing effort that mirrored his entire first season under center. That team relied on the defense for turnovers and keeping it close, along with pounding the running, game which kept drives alive on third and short and punched it in around the goal line. With 1,157 rushing yards and 12 TD's, the physical **Antowain Smith** was the key. While the game is more wide open now, I'd expect the blueprint to be bringing Stidham along in a similar fashion. Which means with the offensive line again healthy (at least for now), the onus is on **Sony Michel** to be more like he was in the 2018 playoffs than in last season's uneven year.

Rules changes could have changed everything: They're still whining about the correctly called Tuck Rule in Oakland, but good thing **Ty Law's** huge second-quarter pick 6 didn't happen in 2020. **Mike Vrabel** clearly smacked **Kurt Warner** in the face on the play after his arm bounced off Warner's arm as he followed through on his throw. Legal then, but if it happened today the vital TD's called back.

Speaking of whining: **Marshall Faulk** has been whining for 20 years about the Patriots bending the rules or worse. I say look in the mirror pal, because he made two costly errors in the game. First he caught a kickoff on the sideline and mind-bendingly carried it out of bounds at the Rams six with 31 seconds left. If he lets it go out, they get it on the 40 with enough time to go the 30 yards needed for a field goal try. Later he badly whiffed on a blitzing **Willie McGinest** before he drilled Warner causing a mis-fire to **Torey Holt** that **Otis (my man) Smith** picked and took back into Adam V's range for an eventual FG that made it 17-3. That cost the Ram six points in a 23-20 loss. No mistakes - Rams win.

The MVP: Sorry, sports fans, yes Brady led the game-winning drive and an even better one culminating in a TD pass to Patton for a 14-3 halftime lead. But he threw for just 145 yards and one TD. Law scored six on his pick and was vital in stifling the Rams' supposedly unstoppable passing game. That makes Ty the law.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Ribfest postponed but giving goes on

The Merrimack Rotary Club, which typically hosts Ribfest each June over Father's Day weekend, has pushed back the date of that event (now tentatively scheduled for Aug. 7 to Aug. 9, according to the event website), but it hasn't let the pandemic stop its fundraising and charitable efforts. According to a press release from the club, it has donated \$5,000 to Meals on Wheels, donated several iPads to Community Health and Hospice to help caregivers provide care and help patients connect with loved ones, provided infrared thermometers to Rose Haven Assisted Living Center after the center requested them to help screen patients and staff for fevers, and continues to raise money for the St. John Neumann and St. James food pantries.

Comment: *According to the press release, "Making financial donations from the club is important, but finding just the right need and filling it with an in-kind donation from members truly fulfills the Rotary tenet 'Service Above Self.'"*

NH talent supports food bank

"Project Community: NH Together From Home," an on-air and online fundraiser hosted by WMUR and iHeartRadio last month, raised more than \$1.8 million for the New Hampshire Food Bank, according to a press release from WMUR. The virtual telethon featured appearances by New Hampshire natives Adam Sandler, Seth Meyers and Tom Bergeron, as well as musical performances by Alex Preston, Godsmack singer Sully Erna and more. Throughout the show, more than half a million dollars was raised, with more checks coming in for weeks after the telethon, according to the release.

Comment: *The monetary donations equate to more than 3.6 million meals to feed people in need in New Hampshire during the pandemic.*

Backyard camping

Nearly 300 Cub Scout families took part in a virtual Cub Scout camporee over Memorial Day weekend, according to a press release. It was based at Camp Carpenter in Manchester, and Scouts from 20 other states joined in for the two-day event, interacting virtually as everyone camped out in their own backyards. The event was "an enormous success," according to the release, and featured activities like campfire dessert challenges, camping bingo, yoga, trivia, cooking and a campsite setup challenge.

Comment: *You don't have to be a Scout to camp out in your backyard!*

Good news, delivered door to door

Students pursuing careers in the automotive industry may get a knock on their door this week, as the New Hampshire Automobile Dealers Association delivers scholarship approvals and a "sign of success" to be placed in recipients' yards. According to a press release from the association, the grants range from \$500 to \$5,000 — \$75,000 in total — and will help cover the costs of training and certification for 32 high school students and 37 community college students for the 2020-2021 school year. Classes will be offered at community colleges, including Manchester and Nashua, and local dealerships and auto manufacturers partner with the schools so students can get experience working on the cars they'll most likely work on as employees.

Comment: *"This year presents a unique challenge in awarding these scholarships to students around New Hampshire, so we are taking our good news on the road and going door to door to deliver the news," Jessica Dade, executive director of the NHADA Education Foundation, said in the release.*

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

50

Pick up a FREE yard sign at Kimball Jenkins School of Art

Decorate the blank side of the sign with your message of encouragement and/or art



"Plant" it outside a senior care facility where it can be seen by residents

Be sure to use water resistant art supplies.

Our neighbors in assisted living facilities across the state are experiencing one of the most vulnerable times of their lives. They are at high risk for contracting the Coronavirus and they are living in unprecedented isolation, unable to be with their loved ones.

Send them artwork, greeting cards or decorate a yard size with messages of hope and appreciation.

Artwork can be dropped off in person at Kimball Jenkins or an electronic image can be shared and included in a slideshow.

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and Assisted and Long Term Healthcare Facilities in NH,
NH Arts Educators Association, NH Arts Learning Network,
NH State Council on the Arts, NH Dept. of Education and hopefully YOU.

131261

Offstage for now

Broadway performer returns home to New Hampshire

By Angie Sykeny
 asykeny@hippopress.com

Manchester native Kaleigh Cronin got her first taste of show business as a youth performer at the Palace Theatre, where she starred in shows like *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *Cats*, *Chicago* and *Annie*. For the past six years she's been performing on Broadway, and she is currently in the ensemble in a musical adaptation of *Mrs. Doubtfire*. On March 12, right before the show's opening night, Broadway canceled all its upcoming performances due to Covid-19. While sheltering in place with her parents in Manchester, Cronin talked about her Broadway career and her return home.

How'd you get into theater?

I started taking dance classes as a two-year-old and was absolutely hooked ... but where I really fell in love with theater was at the Palace Theatre. I started doing shows there at age 5 and continued until I graduated high school. ... I was also on a TV show called *Zoom* as a kid for two years. ... We did one episode where I sang, and that really propelled my [performance career]. I was invited to sing at events all over the country because of that. I sang at the White House, the Capitol building, sports stadiums and Red Sox games, all when I was just 12 years old. ... After graduating from [Manchester] Central High School, I went to college at Carnegie Mellon University for musical theater and acting, and after I graduated from there, I immediately went on the national tour of *Jersey Boys*. I made my Broadway debut in *Cabaret* in 2014, and I've been on Broadway ever since.

What shows have you done on Broadway?

In *Cabaret*, starring ... Emma Stone, I was Emma Stone's understudy, and I got to perform the lead role when she was away accepting an Oscar. That was one of the

coolest moments of my career. I also did *A Bronx Tale*, which was directed by Robert De Niro. ... I did *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical*. Now, I'm in the ensemble in *Mrs. Doubtfire*, which, of course, has been put on hold.

What happened on Broadway when the Covid-19 pandemic started to escalate?

We'd just come from doing ... what we call an "out-of-town tryout" run [of *Mrs. Doubtfire*] in Seattle from October through January, and that went really well. We were so excited to bring it to New York. We started doing preview performances [on Broadway] in early March. At that time, we were aware of Covid-19 being overseas. It was something that was discussed at the theater, and we were slowly taking precautions, but then it escalated so quickly. ... We were gathered for a group meeting and told that, because of the severity of this virus, production would have to be halted for a month. At the time, it was shocking ... and seemed like a drastic measure. ... They told us we'd be back on April 12, but, of course, as time went on, the date for our return was extended more and more.

What are you doing now?

My husband and I realized that New York wasn't the safest place to be [during the pandemic], so we figured it would be best to go back to New Hampshire. We've been sheltering in place at my parents' home in Manchester since then. ... My parents have a piano in their home, so my husband and I — he's a musician for Broadway shows — have been playing and singing music together almost every night for our own enjoyment and putting on little concerts for my parents. ... My husband and I love cooking, so we've been cooking dinner for the four of us every night and having a sit-down meal together, and that has been really lovely. ... My mom



While sheltering in place at her parents' home in Manchester, Kaleigh Cronin dons her high school prom dress for the "fauxpening" night of *Mrs. Doubtfire* held over Zoom. Courtesy photos.



and I have been doing Zumba together daily, which we love. ... I've also done some [online] master classes for dance, and I did [an online] Q&A with [local] music students.

What's it like being back home and having all this free time?

At first, it was jarring to have so much time. I'm used to running around New York City like a mad woman, trying to fit everything in, but I think it's been good to have a moment to reset and be able to appreciate the things that are really important, like spending time with my loved ones. ... Our schedule on Broadway is pretty grueling — we only have one day off a week — so this has actually been the longest time I've been home since I was a child ... and I'm loving it. The only frustrating part is that I want to show my husband all of the cool parts of the city that I love, like the Palace Theatre and the restaurants on Elm Street, but everything has been closed down.

Have you been staying in touch with your friends and castmates from Broadway?

Definitely. On Broadway, the cast and crew become your family. I talk to some of them almost every day ... and we've been getting together as a group over Zoom every

few weeks, just to check in, share stories and [talk about] our highs and lows during this difficult time. ... Because we weren't able to have our real opening night [for *Mrs. Doubtfire*], we decided to do a "fauxpening night" together over Zoom. Over a hundred of us logged on — cast members, musicians, writers, producers, directors, stage hands — and we performed the entire show from top to bottom from our respective living rooms. ... A real opening night on Broadway is a really big, star-studded event ... so we decided to still dress up in formal attire, and since I hadn't brought any of my fancy clothes with me, I had no choice but to raid my childhood closet. ... I ended up wearing a dress from my eighth-grade dance for the first act. During the intermission, with my mom standing by as my dresser, she helped me get into my prom dress for the second act. It was so silly and hilarious, and it had all of us smiling.

What shows are on your performance bucket list?

I'd love to be Louise in *Gypsy* ... or Velma in *Chicago*. ... I'd also love to write my own show to star in, or to star in a show that I had a hand in writing. I'd love to get in on the creative process and create [a show and role] that could be a really great fit for me.

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ARTS NEWS

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

• **Written reflections:** Hobblebush Books, an independent publisher based in Concord, has launched a new literary series that “provides an avenue for sharing in-depth observations about our most important moments and the minutiae of everyday life,” according to a press release. The Hobblebush Reflections Series will feature volumes of short essays or musings on a single topic, written by one author. The first volume is *You & Me*:

Reflections on Becoming Your Dad by Dan Szczesny (who is also a Hippo associate publisher). In it, Szczesny reflects on fatherhood and the passage of time as his young daughter grows up. *You & Me* will come out in June and is available now for preorder on the Hobblebush Books website. Anyone, including non-New Hampshire residents, can submit a volume to be considered for the series. Submissions should contain 100 to 150 pages of short essays and musings on a single topic,



You & Me by Dan Szczesny.

preferably a topic that is not academic. Visit hobblebush.com/reflections-series.

• **Craftsmen's Fair goes online:** The 87th annual Craftsmen's Fair, hosted by the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen, will be held as a virtual fair, the League announced in a press release. Traditionally the nine-day

fair is held outdoors at Mount Sunapee Resort in Newbury in August and features hundreds of craftspeople with vendor booths plus special craft exhibitions, demonstrations, hands-on workshops and more. This year's fair, happening Saturday, Aug. 1, through Sunday, Aug. 9, will replicate those activities and more through a virtual experience that will include crafts for sale as well as interactive visuals, videos, interviews, classes and demonstrations. “The show

must go on, but we are bringing our show into people's homes,” Miriam Carter, League executive director, said in the press release. “We can still ... carry forward this wonderful tradition [and] celebrate our members' extraordinary talent in a safe way. During this time in our lives, this virtual event is more than a celebration of craft; it is a celebration of the human spirit.” A variety of contemporary and traditional crafts will be represented at the fair, such as baskets, blacksmithing,



Metalwork by Tom Burns, participating craftsman in this year's virtual Craftsmen's Fair. Courtesy photo.



Pottery by Shana Brautigam, participating craftsman in this year's virtual Craftsmen's Fair. Courtesy photo.

hand-blown glass, functional and decorative ceramics, framed original prints, metal sculptures, vibrant folk art, modern and traditional furniture, elaborate quilts, wearable art and jewelry. Visit nhcrafts.org.

• **Cue Zero cancels summer theater:** Manchester-based theater company Cue Zero Theatre Co. announced in a press release that it is suspending its summer performances due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. CZT planned an attempt to be recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records for hosting the longest marathon theater performance, with 80 consecutive hours of performances at the Derry Opera House from Aug. 6 through Aug. 9. That event has been postponed to summer 2021. CZT's production of Shake-

speare's *Hamlet*, which was also scheduled to open in August at the Derry Opera House, has been suspended indefinitely. In lieu of these performances, CZT will offer a variety of virtual content this summer, including public readings and discussions of new works, acting classes and workshops and an increased focus on its weekly podcast, *The Cue Zero Theatre Cast*, which features discussions on various theater topics for both theater creators and theater audiences. As of now, CZT's production of *Heathers The Musical*, scheduled to open on Oct. 23 at the Derry Opera House, is still happening, and audition dates in late summer will soon be announced. Visit cztheatre.com.

— Angie Sykeny 🍀

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Less common veggies

Celeriac, tomatillos and more

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

— THE GARDENING GUY —

I don't mean to sound like I'm bragging, but if it will grow in Cornish Flat, New Hampshire, I've probably tried it. Scorzoneria? Sure, once, though I was not enthralled by this long, thin root. Peanuts? Once, didn't get many. Gilfeather turnips? You bet. Many of the things I try I don't continue to grow — they have to taste good and be productive to qualify. Let's look at a few that I do like that you might not grow.

One of my favorites is celeriac, or celery root. This is a close cousin to celery, but less attractive to slugs and snails, and easier to grow. It is a funny-looking root crop with many fat roots. It tastes very much like celery in a soup or stew, though it is not usually eaten raw. I peel the roots and chop the round bulb into chunks for cooking. If stored in the vegetable drawer or a cold cellar with high humidity and cool temperatures, it will store all winter.

Celeriac grows best in rich moist soil. I start it indoors in March and plant it outside in late May, spaced 6 to 8 inches apart. If crowded it will not produce well. It also needs lots of moisture, so don't plant it in dry, sandy soil. It takes a long time to grow to transplant size, so look for it at good garden centers — some will have starts for sale.

Kohlrabi is another funny-looking root vegetable. This has much of the bulbous root above ground, with leaves popping out on stems from the bulb. I've heard it likened to a space alien. But it's delicious! Crisp, with a nice snap, it's in the same family with broccoli and kale. It's good in salads as well as stir-fries. There are purple varieties, and white or green ones, which tend to be slower-growing and good for long-term storage.

Kohlrabi germinates in less than a week and grows fast. Although you can start them indoors, you don't need to. In most places you can start them now. Plant seeds outdoors 3 to 4 inches apart and thin every other one if all grow. They like consistently moist soil, so add compost at planting time.

Artichokes need a long growing season, so you should have planted them indoors back in early March. But more and more good garden centers are growing them, so you might be able to find plants for sale.

They are big plants, up to 2 feet across with nice grey-green leaves. I sometimes plant them in the flower garden. In fact, the vegetable you eat is a flower bud. If you don't pick them, they will open up and be quite pretty. I once saw them as flowers in an ancient abbey on the island of Iona, Scotland, and they were quite striking. They're related to thistles. Your artichokes will be smaller than store-bought.

In California artichoke plants are perennials, but even with mulch I have never had

one survive a winter here. One called Imperial Star is an annual, and is best for growing here. They need rich, dark soil with plenty of compost and some organic fertilizer. Plenty of moisture is needed, too.

Although I once had a bumper sticker that said "Eat More Kale," kale has become mainstream and needs no advertising. But I'd get one that said something like, "Rejoice in Rutabagas!" to put on my truck, if I could. They are easy to grow, mild and tasty, and don't suffer from tnahings that make potatoes problematic (potato beetles and fungal blight). I use them as a substitute for potatoes in stews.

Rutabagas are also relatives of kale and broccoli, members of the Brassica family. I plant them by seed in June, and thin to 8 inches as these are big root crops that will not produce well if crowded. Although flea beetles can bother them, I've never had anything eat mine. Cover with row covers if you have a problem.

The skin of a rutabaga is reddish purple, and the flesh is yellow or orange. They store well — all winter in a cold cellar or spare fridge. Helenor and Laurentian are the varieties I've grown, but I imagine all are fine.

Leeks are some of the easiest veggies I grow. Buy them as small plants at a good garden center, or start them from seed indoors in March. Space them 4 to 6 inches apart in a trench 3 inches deep. Fill in the trench a month later. If you want more of the white part of the leek, you can mound up the soil around them.

In the fall I harvest leeks, wash them and cut off the roots. I chop them and put them right into the freezer. They are then available as an onion substitute, or to make one of my favorite soups, leek and potato.



Celeriac with carrots, leeks and Brussels sprouts.

Tomatillos are not commonly grown, even by me, but they are commonly required for Mexican dishes. They are big plants, like a tomato, but I have read that they do best sprawling on the ground, not in a cage.

The first time I grew them I just planted one and got no fruit: You need two plants or more for cross-pollination. So buy two or more plants, and plant them two weeks or so after you plant your tomatoes. Remember, they would much rather be growing in Mexico!

Think about digging up some of your lawn this spring to increase the size of your garden. Hungry times might be ahead, who knows? The good thing about that is a new garden is much less likely to have tomato blight problems. So grow some tomatoes in your front yard. And since your garden will be visible from the street, you'll do a better job weeding, I bet!

Henry Homeyer started growing vegetables with his Grampy in 1948 or so, and generally eats something he has grown every day of the year. Email him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net.

KIDDIE POOL

Family fun for whenever

Who?

Catch a Q&A with a barred owl (and human Shelby Morelli, a New Hampshire Audubon educator) on Thursday, May 28, at 10 a.m. Go to nhaudubon.org and click on "Things to Do From Home" to find links to the livestream of the barred owl Q&A (the barred owl is known for its "who cooks for you" hoot) and the archived video afterward. Other live animal Q&As are available (with animals including a barn owl, a red eared slider turtle, a painted turtle and more) as are storytime videos (the storytime video scheduled for May 27 at 10 a.m. features *She's Wearing a Dead Bird on Her Head!* by Kathryn Lasky) and videos from outdoor adventures.

On the YouTube page dedicated to the peregrine falcon nest in downtown Manchester, you'll be able to find archived footage of the banding of the four peregrine chicks, which was scheduled for May 26 at 10:30 a.m. Find links to the peregrine falcon cams (there are three views of the nest and perch) on the NH Audubon's website under "Conservation."

Ready, set, skip!

The goal of the **2020 Granite State 90 Day Challenge** is to get New Hampshire residents moving for at least 20 minutes a day — "hike, bike, swim, jump-rope, hopscotch, skip or garden," according to the website. The challenge starts Monday, June 1, and at nhmoves.org/90daychallenge you can find a printable chart to keep track of activity. On

Friday, May 29, to kick off the challenge, NH Moves (the project of the Governor's Council on Physical Activity and Health, which is running the challenge) is promoting a Granite Walk of Ages, encouraging people to get out for a 20-minute walk at noon, the website said. Register for the 90 Day Challenge before June 15 to be entered into a drawing for gift cards.

TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

I have a small collection of older hats and was wondering if they have value to them. I've been given them from my family here in Manchester. I'm sending you a photo of what I think is the best one I have. Any help would be appreciated.

Rita

Dear Rita,

The hat you sent a picture of is a sweet one. In most cases hats are of minimal value. The higher-valued ones would depend on the maker, age and what it's made of. So in order to real-

ly give you an accurate value, I would say you take them to a local antique shop and show them. Your average hat is in the value range of \$10 to \$20, but as I said, have all of them looked at to be sure. Your hat is probably in the \$30 range. If you look inside and there is a maker's name that you can research, you could see if it might be worth more. If not, it still is a great decorative piece; hats make great decorative accents in a home. I hope you display your old hats and enjoy them.



Courtesy photo.

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

Regular oil changes keep an engine sludge-free



By Ray Magliozzi

*Dear Car Talk:
Am I negligent?
I assume so, since I
have not had the oil
changed in my 2011
Hyundai Tucson since
2015.*

*I put lots of short
trips on this car, and it
doesn't even have 40,000 miles on it yet.*

Yikes, I fear. What say you? — Steve

Don't worry, Steve. I'm not going to yell at you or publicly embarrass you. You were right to come forward and 'fess up so we can help you.

Steve, you idiot! Sorry, that slipped out.

As you've correctly surmised, what you did is not great. The reason we change our oil every 5,000 or 7,500 miles (or 10,000 or more if it's synthetic oil) is to keep the engine properly lubricated.

With the metal parts inside your engine rubbing against each other thousands of times per minute, good lubrication is the difference between your engine having a long life and a short life marred by lots of burning oil.

And oil provides more than just lubrication, as crucial as that is. Oil also

picks up contaminants and dirt inside the engine and holds them in suspension.

If the oil gets saturated with dirt, and can't absorb any more, that dirt's going to stay in your engine. And in the worst cases, we've seen more than an inch of sludge in the valve train. Those engines are toast.

You may be lucky, Steve. Maybe the automotive gods were smiling on you, and, despite not changing the oil for the past 20,000 miles or so, there's no sludge in your engine.

That'd be great. Then all you have to worry about is that poor lubrication will lead to oil burning down the road. And you can solve that problem by selling the car to your brother next week. That's what I always did.

But if it were me, I'd want to know. I'd ask my mechanic to take off the valve cover and peek in there.

If there's an inch of sludge in there, you're either looking at an engine rebuild, or a new vehicle as soon as voluminous plumes of blue smoke start billowing out your tailpipe — which won't be long from now.

If the valve train looks reasonably clean, then you should thank your lucky stars, change the oil and set a recurring event in your calendar to change the oil every six months. Then set about 15 or 20 reminders so you can't ignore it.

Dear Car Talk:

I have a 1997 Dodge Dakota V8 with an automatic transmission that was rebuilt about 5,000 miles ago.

Now when I drive it, it shifts fine for the first couple of miles, but once it warms up, it doesn't want to shift into Third unless I put it in Neutral for a couple of seconds and then back into Drive.

I've verified the fluid level is correct and the adjustment on the throttle cable seems right. What else could cause this?
— Rusty

I'm guessing you got a 4,500-mile warranty on this rebuild, right, Rusty?

I would definitely go back to the rebuild first, and ask for some help. It's certainly possible that something went wrong with the rebuild. Or a part failed that got reused instead of replaced. Even if you're outside the meager warranty period, I think you're within your rights to go back and say "Hey, fellas, what gives?"

I can give you a few ideas, but it's not like there was one thing that always went wrong with this particular transmission. Lots of things went wrong with this transmission.

One area of inquiry is mostly electronic. This transmission is partially controlled

by a computer called the Powertrain Control Module (PCM).

But in order to know when to tell the transmission to shift gears, the PCM has to collect data from a bunch of sensors. Any of those sensors could be faulty. And if the PCM is getting bad info, it might not call for shifts correctly.

For instance, there's a transmission speed sensor on the transmission's output shaft. There's a vehicle speed sensor. There's a transmission pressure feedback sensor, and a transmission temperature sensor.

And don't forget about the "time to buy to buy a new truck, Rusty" sensor.

If it's not something electronic, you have to consider the mechanical or electro-mechanical stuff inside the transmission. That's the stuff you hope they had rebuilt or replaced.

There you have various solenoids, pressure activated valves, the governor pressure sensor and don't forget the lieutenant governor pressure sensor.

That's why my first suggestion was to go back to the guy who did the rebuild for you 5,000 miles ago, and hope he's got a kind heart and a good diagnostic mind. And bring fresh brownies. Good luck, Rusty.

Visit Cartalk.com. 🍪



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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Canterbury market begins:** The **Canterbury Community Farmers Market** is scheduled to kick off its summer season on Wednesday, June 3, from 4 to 6:30 p.m. in the parking lot of the Elkins Public Library (9 Center Road, Canterbury). The market usually features more than a dozen local vendors selling fruits and vegetables, meats, baked goods, maple products, select crafts and more. In response to Covid-19, the Canterbury Community Farmers Market Association has released a set of safety guidelines, including encouraging visitors to wear a mask, sanitize their hands before entering the market and practice social distancing whenever possible. No pets are allowed. There will be no special events, and prepared foods will be to-go only. Hand sanitizer will be available at every market table. The market is scheduled to continue every Wednesday through Sept. 30. Visit canterburyfarmersmarket.com for a list of vendors.

• **Smoothie Bus Shoppe coming to Concord:** The **Smoothie Bus Shoppe** is opening a second location at 62 Pleasant St. in Concord, in the former space of Federal's Cafe. Co-owner Josh Philbrick told the Hippo that staff are already being trained, with the goal to have the new location open by the first or second week of June. The shop will offer everything its Manchester predecessor features on its menu, including more than 20 flavors of smoothies and smoothie bowls, fresh-pressed juices, plus some newer items like homemade soups, toasted breads and salads. The Manchester shop, which opened in January 2019, closed for about a month before opening back up in late April, according to Philbrick. They are currently open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays only, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. As for the two mobile buses, Philbrick said those are only being brought out by request. Visit thesmoothiebus.com or call 858-1030.

• **New Hampshire Doughnut Co. returns:** More than two months after temporarily closing its doors, the **New Hampshire Doughnut Co.** (114 Dover Road, Chichester) reopened on May 22 for to-go orders only. The shop is not allowing any orders or payments within its retail space "for the foreseeable future," according to a note on its website. Instead, all orders must be placed online at doughnutorder.com and picked up outside through the shop's window. The shop's new temporary hours are Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Same-day orders can be placed for pickup, but a 24-hour notice is required for orders of two dozen or 17 ▶

FOOD

Sweets on wheels

Dulces Bakery owners debut new dessert truck in Nashua

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

Angela and Jose Mojica of Dulces Bakery in Manchester have found unique ways to expand their business over the years — their newest venture has taken them down to Nashua for the first time in the form of a dessert truck. You can now find their homemade Spanish pastries and baked goods on Main Street in the Gate City every Saturday through at least the end of June.

The bakery, which takes its name from the Spanish word meaning "sweets," features a mix of traditional baked goods from Angela's native Colombia and Jose's native Puerto Rico. The dessert truck made its debut on May 16 near the Santander Bank at 223 Main St. in Nashua. The exact location of the truck may vary each week, depending on parking availability, but Jose Mojica said it will always be on Main Street. He said the decision to travel south of Manchester stemmed from a desire to reach more people in Nashua and just over the state border.

"We still get a lot of people that don't know we exist," he said. "Originally we were thinking of getting more stores, but we decided instead we were going to go

the food truck route."

The Mojicas have gained a following among the Manchester community for their tres leches, of which there are more than two dozen flavors, from vanilla, coconut and strawberry to Reese's, Oreo and salted caramel. The tres leches are cakes soaked in three different types of milk, topped with homemade whipped cream and served in refrigerated single-portion cups.

Those are just some of the offerings being served out of the dessert truck each week, according to Jose Mojica, who stocks up the refrigerated case every Saturday morning before arriving in Nashua around 10 a.m. Dulces Bakery also makes multiple flavors of homemade cheesecake, French macarons, German chocolate cookies, chocolate and vanilla eclairs, Puerto Rican pan sobao (kneaded bread), quesitos (puff pastries filled with sweetened cream cheese) and coquitos (coconut macaroons). He said he'll usually share details on social media about what they'll be bringing that week a few days before.

"Our goal with the truck ... is to have a little bit of everything from the store except probably the savory stuff that we do, like the sandwiches," he said.

Plans were also in the works for the



Angela and Jose Mojica. Photo by Matt Ingersoll.

truck to appear at a few events before they were canceled due to the pandemic. Eventually, the Mojicas would like to increase their Nashua presence by parking the truck on Main Street a few more additional days during the week.

"People are already asking when we're going to be down there again," he said. "We know [we will be there] Saturdays for sure. ... Usually we're there around 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.-ish, or unless we run out of stuff and have to leave." 🍷

Dulces Bakery's dessert truck

When: Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (next date is May 30), now through at least June 27

Where: Main Street, downtown Nashua (exact location to vary)

More info: Visit dulcesbakerynh.com, find them on Facebook @dulcesbakerynh or call 606-2613

Between the wines

Wine on Main opens in Concord

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

For business partners Jenn Conrad and Rich Ruel, wine is about more than just pouring a glass — it's about the lifestyles and stories behind the drink. After owning and operating Cava de Vino near Railroad Square in Nashua for three years, Conrad and Ruel migrated north to open Wine on Main, a new wine shop and tasting room that arrived in Concord on May 11.

Conrad and Ruel had enjoyed success among their clientele at Cava de Vino, a shop they had purchased from its previous owners. But a shared desire to expand their offerings prompted the pair to seek out a larger space.

The new store is near the intersection of North Main and Pleasant streets in the heart of downtown, in a unit that most recently housed a presidential campaign office. A television screen mounted on the backroom wall displays trivia questions about wine, and an adjoining tasting room in the rear of the store will soon host in-store tastings and private

events for rent.

"At Cava de Vino, we had a tasting bar, but it was just one big, open 900-square-foot space. If someone had a party or an event, we had to close the store, because that was all that was there," Ruel said. "Here, it's a lot bigger, more casual and more comfortable. It's more of a retail environment, and we're able to have a separate tasting room ... and still have the store open."

The larger space has allowed them to add three more wine racks, Ruel said. The wines themselves represent varieties from all over the world.

"Our brokers ... have specialty regions," he said "There are a couple of them that might specialize in a wine from the Czech Republic, or they might specialize in a Chilean wine ... but they try to have a very diverse portfolio from around the world."

Part of Wine on Main's business model, he added, is also featuring harder-to-find, limited-production wines from around the world for sale.

"We try to [offer] wines that you can't find



Photo by Matt Ingersoll.

regularly, that are found more in restaurants as opposed to wines that you find in a grocery store or a liquor store," he said. "That's the level of specialty that we go after, are the wines that people like to have with dinner

CONTINUED ON PG 16 ▶

Wine on Main

Where: 9 N. Main St., Concord

Current hours: Monday through Friday, noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (hours subject to change)

More info: Visit wineonmainnh.com, find them on Facebook or Instagram @wineonmainnh or call 897-5828



Local Business Resource Guide



Find out who's open, who's serving takeout and who's taking appointments in one easy to read list. Most businesses have new operations and or hours, be sure to check out their websites or call to get more information.

Listings Key

- Retail Open to the Public
- Reservations/Appointments
- Delivery
- Curbside Pickup
- Takeout
- Order Online
- Outdoor Seating

Greater Concord SERVICES

Equality Health Center | "Compassionate, Client Centered Health Care". By Appointment, 225-2739, 38 S Main St, equalityhc.org

Contoocook Canoe **Dude's Barbershop** **Vianor Tire Center and Auto Repair:** **Pembroke Pines Country Club:**

RETAIL

Concord Farmers Market | Sat 8:30am-noon, Capitol Street Downtown Concord, concordfarmers-market.com

Countryberries | "Whimsies and necessities for your country home and garden", W-S 10am-5pm, S 12am-5pm, 463-7615, 330 North Rd, countryberries.com

Goldsmiths Gallery "20% off most jewelry in May!", T-F 10am-5:30pm, S 10am-4pm, 224-2920, 2 Capital Plaza, goldsmiths-gallery.com

Granite State Naturals "Contact Free Pick Up!", M-S 10am-5pm, 224-9341, 164 N. State St, granitestatenaturals.com

Healthy Buffalo, "Purveyors of Heart Healthy Meats", Th & F 12pm-5pm, S & Su 10am-4:30pm, 369-3611, 258 Dover Rd (Rt 4), healthybuffalo.com

Rocky's Ace Hardware "Your helpful hardware store!", M-S 8am-6pm, Su 9am-5pm, 229-1380, 20 Loudon Rd, rockys.com

Bona Fide **Capitol Craftsman & Romance Jewelers** **Deerfield Leathers** **Gibson's Bookstore**

RETAIL

Gondwana Clothing **Granite State Candy** **Hilltop Consignment** **Viking House**

RESTAURANTS

Area 23 | "Outdoor Live Music Wed & Sat!", T/W/F/S 4pm-9pm, 219-0856, 254 N State St unit H, TheArea23.com/events

Cheers, "Our patio is open!", Su-M 12pm-7pm, W-S 12pm-8pm, 228-0180, 17 Depot St, cheersnh.com

Flying Goose Brew Pub "Handcrafted beer. Food. Picnic with your take out on our lawn.", Su-Th 11:30am-7pm, Fri-S 11:30am-8pm, 526-6899, 40 Andover Rd, flyinggoose.com

Hungry Buffalo, "Now open for outside dining!", M-F 3pm-9pm, S-Su 12pm-9pm, 798-3737, 58 Route 129, hungrybuffalotavern.com

Canterbury Woods Country Club: **Cobblestone Design Co** **Company C**

Crust and Crumb **Daniel's** **Hermanos Mexican Restaurant**

Live Juice **Nona's Place** **Revival** **Siam Orchid**

Tuckers **Vibes Gourmet Burgers:**

Greater Derry/Salem SERVICES

MVC Eye Care

RETAIL

Cyr Lumber **The Happy Hippy**

RESTAURANTS

Copper Door **T-BONES Great American Eatery:**

Greater Manchester SERVICES

Accomando Family Dentistry | M-Th 8am-5pm, 645-8510, 1331 Elm St Suite 300, accomandofamilydentistry.com

SERVICES

The Clock Doc | "Family heirloom need some work?", 603-361-1496, george.garneau@comcast.net

Dr. Pete, Advanced Injury Treatment Center | "Our sports chiropractic specialist can treat your chronic conditions!", By Appointment, 627-6381, St 82 Palomino Ln, visitdrpete.com

ExpressMED | "Urgent Care & Occupational Medicine", M-F 8am-7pm, S 9am-4pm, 627-8053, 35 Kosciuszko St, expressmedboac.com

Hairpocalypse | "We are here for YOU!", T-F til 8pm, 627-4301, 904 Hanover St, Hairpocalypse.com

Laser Inc | "Here and ready to restore your radiant skin.", By appt: Th 6pm-9pm, F 10am-6pm, every other Sat 10am-1pm, 232-7304, 169 South River Rd, Ste 2, laserinkh.com

Renew Medispa 3300 Five Star Reviews!!! Check out our website for Specials, Announcements and More! Ip.renewmedispa.com/specials2020, 932-4808

Superdogs Daycare "Come play with us! Grooming appointments available.", M-F 6:30am-7pm, Walk-In Nail Trim M-F 8am-1pm, 424-1515, 637 Daniel Webster Hwy, superdogsd daycare.com

The Village Eatery "American Home Cooking", M-S 11-8, 262-5196, 583 Daniel Webster Highway, facebook.com/villageeatery583

Evision Eyecare **Eye See Vision Care** **Eye Q Vision Therapy** **Manchester Firing Line** **MVC Eye Care**

RETAIL

Angela's Pasta & Cheese Shop | M-S 10am-5pm, 625-9544, 815 Chestnut St, angelaspastaandcheese.com

Bert's Better Beers "Find us on Facebook and Instagram", Open Daily 10am-7pm, 413-5992, 545 Hooksett Rd, bertsbetterbeers.com

Elliot Pharmacy | Drive Thru Only M-S 8:30am-5:30pm, 175 Queen City Ave, 663-5678, elliotpharmacy.com

RETAIL

FLIGHT Flight Coffee Company "Pick up your coffee at our Roasting Lab", M-S 9am-5pm, 836-6228, 30 Harvey Rd, flightcoffee.com

Music Connection | "NH's Premier Indie Record Store", M-S 11am-5pm, Closed Su, 644-0199, 1711 S Willow St, musicconnection.us

Cats Kingdom **Apotheca** **Metrocity Records** **Statement Boutique** **Van Otis**

RESTAURANTS

900 Degrees Neapolitan Pizza | "Award-Winning Gourmet Pizza", Su-Th 11:30am-9pm, F-S 11:30am-10pm, 641-0900, 50 Dow St, 900degrees.com

The Bakeshop on Kelley "Preorder your weekend donuts by Fri! They sell out!", 624-3500, 171 Kelley St, thebakeshoponkelleystreet.com

Celebrations Catering "Family Meals for 5 for \$30!", M-S 9am-6pm, 598-5177, 1017 Second St, celebrationsmenu.com

Firefly Bistro | "Take out & delivery food; cocktails on our patio!", Open Daily, 935-9740, 22 Concord St, fireflynh.com

Giorgio's Ristorante | "A taste of the Med", M-W 11:30am-9:30pm, Th-S 11:30am-10pm, Su 12pm-9pm, 232-3323, 270 Granite St, giorgiostogo.com

Restoration Cafe #cleanfoodrealpeople, T-S 8am-4pm, 518-7260, 235 Hanover St, restorationcafenh.com

Village Trestle | "Dinner & Decadent desserts. Delivery 5 mile radius, \$20 min.", 4:00pm-8:00pm Closed M, 497-8230, 25 Main St, villagetrestle.com

Belmont Hall **CJ's Great West Grill** **Copper Door** **Granite Tapas and Cocktail Lounge:** **Hop Knot** **Luisa's Italian Pizza**

RESTAURANTS

Mr. Macs **Nuevo Vallarta** **Pizzico** **Puerto Vallarta** **T-BONES Great American Eatery:**

Tuckers **Wild Rover Pub**

Greater Nashua SERVICES

American K9 Country | "Open normal hours for Daycare & Boarding", M-F 6:30am-6:30pm, S-Su 9am-4pm, 672-8448, 336 NH-101, americank9country.com

New England Sharpening | "Full service sharpening for home and industrial tools.", M-S 8:30am-5pm, 880-1776, 28 Charron Ave #14, nesharpening.com

Alpha Mortgage **Creative Ventures Art Studio** **MVC Eye Care**

RETAIL

Incredibrew | "Curbside Wine!", W-F 12-6pm, S9am-5pm, Su 12-5pm, 891-2477, 112 Daniel Webster Hwy, incredibrew.com

M&C Clothing and Gifts, LLC | "A Local way of living, a sustainable way of shopping.", M-T & Th-S 9am-1pm, 886-6727, 135 Route 101-A, mothersays.com

Toadstool | "Enchanting Selections of Wonderful Books", M-S 9am-9pm, Su 10am-4pm, 673-1734, 375 Amherst St, Rte 101A, toadbooks.com

Ben's Sugar Shack **Off the Oval Home Decor** **Myoptic**

RESTAURANTS

The Big One | "Hot dogs, ice cream, parfaits & sundaes to go!", 11am-9pm Daily, 185 Concord St, thebig1icecream.com

Giorgio's Ristorante | "A taste of the Med", M-W 11:30am-9:30pm, Th-S 11:30am-10pm, Su 12pm-9pm, 673-3939, 524 Nashua St, giorgiostogo.com

RESTAURANTS

Giorgio's Ristorante | "A taste of the Med", M-W 11:30am-9:30pm, Th-S 11:30am-10pm, Su 12pm-9pm, 883-7333, 707 Milford Rd, giorgiostogo.com

Haywards Ice Cream "Homemade since 1940!", M-Th 11am-9pm, F-Su 11am-10pm, 888-4663, 7 D.V. Highway, haywardsicecream.com

Haywards Ice Cream "Homemade since 1940!", M-Th 11am-9pm, F-Su 11am-10pm, 424-5915, 364 D.W. Highway, haywardsicecream.com

The Bar **Cruzin Cakes Shop** **Dynamic Sushi** **Lui Lui's** **Luks Restaurant** **Main Street Gyro** **Pizzico** **T-BONES Great American Eatery:** **Tuckers**

Greater Seacoast Region SERVICES

MVC Eye Care

RETAIL

Rocky's Ace Hardware "Your helpful hardware store!", M-S 8am-6pm, Su 9am-5pm, 742-0225, 873 Central Ave #108, rockys.com

The Happy Hippy **Your CBD Store Hampton:**

RESTAURANTS

Clyde's Cupcakes "Mouth Watering Sweet Treats", T-S 10am-5pm, 583-4850, 104 Epping Rd, clydescupcakes.com

Capri Seaside Italian Grille **Hagan's Grill** **Seaglass Restaurant** **Tuckers**

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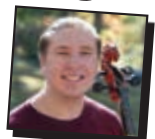
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Not to scale

IN THE KITCHEN

WITH ELIZABETH SILVA



Elizabeth Silva of Newton is the owner and chef of Cafe El Camino (134 Newton Road, Plaistow, 974-1652, cafeelcamino.com), an eatery specializing in authentic Puerto Rican cuisine. She and her husband, David, started El Camino Foods about five years ago, cooking out of Creative Chef Kitchens in Derry and selling at local fairs and farmers markets before opening Cafe El Camino this past December. The Silvas have gained a loyal following over the years for their empanadas and Puerto Rican rice dishes. But since opening a brick-and-mortar location, Silva said, they've been able to expand the menu to include roasted meats like pernil asado (slow-roasted pork shoulder marinated in fresh citrus juices and spices), as well as seafood options like bacalao (salted cod fish stewed in a tomato-garlic sauce). Cafe El Camino gets its name from the Spanish word meaning "road," a reference to the long, steep road between her grandmother's house and her own growing up in Puerto Rico. Many of the dishes on the menu are also her grandmother's recipes. Due to Covid-19, Cafe El Camino is currently open five days a week for pickup and delivery only.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

A big pot to make rice.

ing at your restaurant?

Bobby Flay.

What would you have for your last meal?

Fried red snapper with plantains.

What is your favorite thing on your menu?

Pernil asado [roasted pork] with rice and tostones [plantains].

What is your favorite local restaurant?

The River House in Portsmouth and the Tuckaway Tavern in Raymond.

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

Family Meal Deals from local restaurants. They help alleviate the enormous tasks of

working from home while homeschooling children. That's why we've been running ours during these trying times, [which feature] family-sized rice, a large meat side, a basket of sweet plantains and a combination of six empanadas [or] potato balls.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

[Cooking] meats on the grill.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

Pernil asado (roasted pork)

Courtesy of Elizabeth Silva of Cafe El Camino in Plaistow

- 7 pounds pork shoulder
- 9 garlic cloves (if using powder or ground garlic, 1 teaspoon equals 1 clove)
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- ½ teaspoon crushed oregano
- 1½ tablespoons olive oil
- 1½ teaspoons salt
- ¼ cup lime juice

Crush the whole garlic with the side of a wide knife, then dice the pieces. In a small bowl, mix together the garlic, salt, pepper, oregano and olive oil.

Wash the meat and pat dry. With a sharp knife, cut the fat away from the meat, leaving an edge attached and keeping it all in one piece. Start at the wide end and go to the narrow end, leaving just enough to still be connected so that

you can flip the fat over to the side while seasoning the meat itself. The fat will be placed over the seasoned meat and will cook over the meat, giving it more flavor. Season the side of the fat that goes over the meat — the other side (the top) should only have salt. Make very deep slits all over the meat and season the meat, making sure that seasoning goes into all of the slits. Put the fat back over the meat to look the same as before it was cut, then sprinkle with salt. Refrigerate the shoulder, covered with plastic wrap, for 24 hours.

Let the meat get back into room temperature before cooking (about one hour). Place the meat in a deep pan with the fat side up. There will be a lot of grease, so be sure to use a pan at least two inches deep. The fat side up will make nice crunchy cueritos (pork rinds). Do not cover

with foil. Preheat the oven for at least 30 minutes before placing the meat inside. Cook at 400 degrees for one hour, then reduce the temperature to 300 degrees for about four hours (do not turn meat).

When the meat is done, you can prick it on the side with a fork to see if it shreds (if using a meat thermometer, it will be ready when it reaches 185 degrees). If the cueritos are not crispy enough, you can leave it in the oven and raise the temperature back up to 400 degrees, cooking for another 15 minutes or so. Remove the meat from the oven and let it rest on the counter for about 20 to 30 minutes before carving. Remove the cuerito completely and set aside. Carve the meat and then cut the cuerito into pieces and place over the meat. Cut the cuerito and serve meat with a piece on each plate.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 14
when they go out to a restaurant, but can't get them anywhere other than a store like ours."

Because many of their wine brokers also work with restaurateurs in the area, Conrad said, she and Ruel would like to collaborate with them in the future, by featuring a particular bottle of wine for sale at the same time it's being poured at that restaurant.

In addition to wine bottles, Wine on Main features several novelty items, from specialty foods like chocolates, pretzels and caramels, to cheese boards, Champagne stoppers, glassware, coasters, tote bags and home decor.

Thanks to a downstairs storage area, Ruel and Conrad have the space to build more

gift baskets, featuring wine bottles and snacks to pair them with. Online forms to request a custom-built basket are available on their website.

In response to Covid-19, Wine on Main has opened with limited hours of operation. You can also call or message them to schedule a time to come in and shop before or after hours.

"We've had a few appointments so far, and it's worked out well," Conrad said.

While Wine on Main is currently not able to offer in-store tastings due to virus restrictions, Ruel said he and Conrad are working with the City of Concord's health and licensing officer to pour limited outdoor samples in front of the building.

When sampling does begin inside the store, he said, there will likely be tastings in the back room that are open to the public every Saturday and at least one other day during the week, while the rest of the time it will be open for private event rentals. At that point, more charcuterie-type items such as cheeses, dried meats and olives will start to be available.

Conrad said the store is meant to be a collective space even for the casual wine drinker or the customer purchasing a fun novelty for someone else to enjoy.

"We don't pretend to be big wine experts, and we don't expect anyone walking through the door to be a wine expert either," she said. "This store is for everybody." 🍷

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TRY THIS AT HOME

Pimiento cheese toasts

Pimiento cheese is an item you are not going to find on many New Hampshire restaurant menus. That's fine; it means you need to make your own. If you haven't noticed, I'm all about making food at home.

Having enjoyed delicious versions of it during travels in the southeastern U.S., I wanted to try my hand at it. After reviewing many recipes and remembering the different versions I ate, I arrived at my own recipe.

What you'll note in this recipe is that I include cream cheese and go lighter on mayonnaise. For some pimiento cheese aficionados this may be unforgivable. However, I prefer my pimiento cheese to be thicker and cheesier, which is why the cream cheese is included.

Also, if pimiento cheese is delicious on its own (which it is), isn't even better served warm? The answer is a resounding yes. Taking this homemade pimiento cheese, placing it on a crostini, and heating it under the broiler for a few seconds transforms this snack from yummy to out of this world.

When making this recipe, be forewarned. You need to stay right next to your oven when broiling the cheese. Fifteen seconds was the perfect time. The edges of the bread were dark brown, and the cheese was bubbling. A few seconds more and it went from well-done to burnt. As all ovens operate at



Pimiento cheese toasts. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

different temperatures, I'd start checking after 10 seconds.

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.

Pimiento Cheese Toasts

Serves 6.

- 2 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 1/2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon chili powder
- 2 ounces diced pimientos, drained
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 5 ounces sharp cheddar, shredded
- 24 baguette slices

- Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
- Combine cream cheese and mayonnaise in a mixing bowl; stir until fully incorporated.
- Add garlic and chili powders, stirring well.
- Add pimientos, season with salt and pepper, and stir again.
- Add cheddar cheese and mix to combine.
- Place baguette slices in oven, and bake on

- middle rack until toasted, about 4 minutes
- Remove baguette slices from oven and switch to broil.
- Spread about a tablespoon of pimiento cheese on each slice.
- Place coated baguette slices on a baking tray.
- Place oven rack in highest position.
- Broil pimiento cheese-covered baguette slices for 15 seconds.
- Remove from oven, and eat at once.
- There should be leftover pimiento cheese, which can be served on crackers or used for another round of pimiento cheese toast.
- Refrigerate leftover pimiento cheese.
- When using leftover pimiento cheese, be sure to set it on the counter for 15 minutes before using leftovers to make it more spreadable.

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 14

more doughnuts. The new online ordering system allows you to pick your own doughnut glazes and toppings — the shop's full coffee and drink menu is also available, as well as gluten-free options to order by the half-dozen.

The New Hampshire Doughnut Co. had been closed since mid-March due to the pandemic. A second shop is also on the way in Concord, but its progress has been delayed indefinitely.

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MEATS

Wagyu Center-Cut NY Strip	14 oz.	\$43
Filet Mignon Center Cut	8 oz.	\$30
Filet Mignon Center Cut	6 oz.	\$40 (2 pk)
Prime Delmonico	12 oz.	\$25
Center-Cut Prime NY	10 oz.	\$25
Common Wealth Whole Chicken	3.5 lbs.	\$18
Chicken Breast Statler	9 oz.	\$22 (4 pk)
Famous Crown Burger	6 oz.	\$16 (4 pk)
Chicken Drumsticks	3 lbs.	\$12
Kurobuta Pork Chop Frenched	12 oz.	\$17
Shaller & Weber Bratwurst	2.5 lb.	\$21
Pearl All-Beef Hot Dogs	12 oz.	\$6
Bianco Sweet Italian Sausage (Frozen)	5 lb.	\$23
Colossal Crabmeat	1 lb.	\$35

GROCERIES

North Country Bacon	1 lb.	\$10
Local Kielbasa	12 oz.	\$10
Local Eggs	1 dz.	\$5
Flour	1 lb.	\$1
Cheese (Cheddar, Swiss or Monterey Jack)	1/2 lb.	\$5 each
Freshly Baked Buns	4 pack.	\$3
Hot Dog Rolls		\$4
Sub Rolls		\$4

WINE		
<i>White</i>	Arena Rose	\$25
	Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc	\$25
	Paul Hobbs Crossbarn Chardonnay	\$35
	Flowers Chardonnay	\$60
	Sonoma-Cutrer Chardonnay	\$35
	The Seeker Pinot Grigio	\$25
<i>Red</i>	Caymus Cabernet	Liter \$85
	Sequoia Grove Cabernet Sauvignon	\$60
	Arrowood Cabernet Sauvignon	\$30
	Seghesio Zinfandel	\$30
	Catena Malbec	\$30
	Unshackled Red Blend	\$35
	The Prisoner	\$75
	Cakebread Cabernet	\$90
	Shafer Cabernet Sauvignon	\$100
	Black Stallion Cabernet Sauvignon	\$35
	Neal Cabernet Sauvignon	\$65
	Tenuta Di Arceno Chianti	\$35
	Alexana Pinot Noir	\$35
	Sinskey POV Red Blend	\$50

The meat market over the last couple of weeks has been volatile. Thanks in advance for your patience should inventory change due to our supply chains.

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DRINK

Summer breeze wines

Some cool, crisp wines to relax with

By Fred Matuszewski
food@hippopress.com

May is turning to June; we have traveled in time from snow to the scent of flowers in the breezes of summer.

Spring in northern New England seems to last but a week. We have instantly gone from the sound of snow blowers to lawn mowers. Nonetheless, even in these times of warming temperatures, one can't help thinking of that Seals & Croft classic song

"Summer Breeze," as we continue to shelter in place, home school, work remotely and venture out only as necessary. Our day-long summer projects around the house can end and be enriched with a moment of relaxation in the backyard over a salad and grilled seafood or chicken, some fruit or a frozen dessert. What wines are appropriate for such a treat? Something light and bright should be on the table. It should be cool and crisp. The following wines fit those parameters to a "T."

Our first wine comes from the Provence region of France: the 2018 **Miraval Rosé Cotes de Provence** (originally priced at \$21.99 at NH Liquor & Wine Outlets and on sale at \$19.95). As the name implies, this wine heralds from the heart of Provence in the south of France. The soils are lean, composed of clay and limestone; the temperatures swing widely from warm days to cool nights, imparting a crisp minerality to the wine. As Robert Parker said: "Bottled just a few weeks before my visit, Miraval's 2018 Cotes de Provence Rose was in fine form. A blend of 50 percent grenache, 30 percent cinsault, 10 percent syrah and 10 percent rolle, it boasts floral and melon aromas, while on the palate it's medium-bodied, plump and fleshy, with a zesty, tangerine-tinged finish." He gave it 90/100 points. The color is a light pink with slight orange tones. Like its color, I found this wine to be "light." The fruit came through with a touch of minerality, perfect for a summer day.

Our second wine, **Château Greysac 2016 Le Blanc** (originally priced at \$27.99 at NH Liquor & Wine Outlets and on sale at \$13.99), is from the Médoc, or west bank of the Gironde River in Bordeaux. The wine is a blend of 80 percent sauvignon blanc and 20 percent sauvignon gris. It hails from a vineyard whose origins go back to the 1700s. In 2012 Château Greysac was purchased by Jean Guyon, owner of Domaine Rollan de By, a well-known nearby vineyard. The wine has a beauti-



ful golden hue to it. To the nose there are notes of citrus and green apples. These carry through to the palate with an added dimension of minerality. This is a perfect complement to that takeout lobster roll you should treat yourself to.

Our third wine is 2017 **Bonny Doon Vin Gris de Cigare Volant** (originally priced at \$19.99 at NH Liquor & Wine Outlets and on sale at \$9.99). This has a colorful history to it. According to the winemaker notes listed for this wine on wine.com, it is "in appearance, almost Cate Blanchettish in its pale elegance, a beautiful subtle salmon color (the wine, not Cate). On the nose, subtle suggestions of rose hips, linden flower, black currant as well as a slight toastiness (methinks perhaps due to the extended batonnage and lees contact). On the palate, wonderful bracing acidity, good weight, and comforting viscosity. Some discreet floral and fruity suggestions." ... I agree with this assessment. Of the wines profiled, I found this wine to have the highest alcohol content at 14 percent. A rich, soft cheese will temper the "toastiness" mentioned. This wine is a blend of 57 percent grenache, 18 percent grenache blanc, 9 percent mourvedre, 6 percent roussanne, 5 percent carignane and 5 percent cinsault — quite a collection of varietals.

So kick back and enjoy a respite in your backyard after a day of blending working remotely with a lesson in language arts or a venture into Common Core Math. A cooling glass of one of these summer wines, along with a salad and/or that lobster roll that is calling you, should be savored. You deserve it!

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 the annual trip to the wine producing areas of California. 🍷

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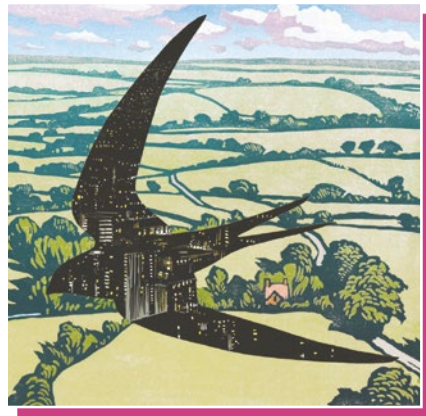
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Biblio, *Sleep on the Wing* (Warp Records)

From Wolverhampton in England comes Stephen Wilkinson, nom de stage Bibio, a folk-electronica experimentalist who argues that electronic tuneage doesn't have to be so "grid-like," and, you know, electronic. The idea was to blend deeply rustic acoustic guitars with some tasteful sampling, and it's largely successful. One constant in the soundscaping is the various recordings of bird calls and the other sounds of the flora and fauna that surround his studio; it's a nice effect that evokes images of a wide-open barn door to the studio, with nature itself

assuming a co-producer role. This album is quite good, but being that it's a Warp Records release, there's obligato patches of dissonance transparently intended to inject hipness, like the unnecessarily woozy effect that makes "Lightspout" a lot less chill than it could have been. But then again, that's an acceptable curveball that does add a little texture, and meanwhile the rest of it, mostly instrumental, is a mix of ren-fair chill and pastel folktronica. Pretty cool overall, really. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

Daniel Hersog Jazz Orchestra, *Night Devoid of Stars* (Cellar Music)

My view has always been that if a writer's going to write about something, he or she needs to just start writing and let it go where it's gonna go. I could introduce this debut big-band release from (so I'd heard) the cream of the crop of jazz players in Vancouver, B.C., by saying something about the legacy Count Basie Band with a Yellowjackets twist, but it's a lot more pleasantly meandering than that, and with good reason. Composer Hersog (whose trumpet doesn't get played here) had to squeeze the writing of this album into his busy schedule of

teaching and such, all while trying to process the sheer insanity that's going on in this end-stage-of-the-American-empire world, and his ability to keep this a mostly upbeat collection of new pieces (save for a rub of "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes) is a testament to his inner positivity. Yeah, there's skronk here and there, but more often Hersog's sax guys, led by Noah Preminger, lay down mature Wayne Shorter-level chill that works fine within the scope. The great thing about it is that it never really comes off like some sort of dreary academic exercise, which is really all that matters when trying to pull off modern big band. Smoother than heck. **A+** — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

CDs pg20

• Bibio, *Sleep on the Wing*

A

• Daniel Hersog Jazz

Orchestra, *Night Devoid*

of Stars **A+**

BOOKS pg21

• *One Hundred Daffodils* **C**

• Book Notes

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FILM pg22

• *The Lovebirds* **B**

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• The next traditional release date is, as always, a Friday, in this case May 29, when *Italian Ice*, the fifth album from sort-of-throwback-crooner **Nicole Atkins**, will hit all the coronavirus-abandoned Dawn of The Dead malls! After much horror and disappointment with her past record companies, she appears to have finally settled on releasing her tunes through the Single Lock record label, which is owned by Ben Tanner of the Alabama Shakes; this is the followup album to 2017's *Goodnight Rhonda Lee*, which made it to No. 18 on the U.S. independent charts, and that should about do it for the "inside baseball" part of our show for the next six months, because there's nothing more boring than talking about what record companies have released whatever album. When last we left this singing lady in 2017, she had gone back to her 1950s/1960s fetishizing, tabling a bunch of surprisingly powerful stuff that was rooted in Roy Orbison-tinted downer-blues-rock and whatnot, and I'd assume that all means she's done the same thing with this album, which we're about to find out after a quick trip to YouTube to see if I can stomach the new single, "Domino." So as usual it's really old-sounding, but there's nothing wrong with that when you have old session musicians Spooner Oldham and David Hood hanging around, like the authenticity is terrific if you like chilly 1970s radio soul. Definitely music to take off someone's clothes by, if you ever indulge in such heathen activities.

• I threw a wild dart at the board and it looks like we'll have to put on our cowboy hats and talk about the new LP from Atlanta-born former surfer dude **Kip Moore**, *Wild World!* Like his three other albums, this one will probably peak near No. 1 on the U.S. Country charts — wait, I promised no more boring inside baseball; I have no idea why I seem to be stuck in that mode. So whatever, it took him eight years to put out a record, and now he is considered awesome in the awful country music world of today, but we shall nevertheless do a quick CSI on his hot new country song, the title track from this new album. Huh, this is pretty cool, if you don't mind a little hip-hop-bling beat sounds with your downtempo cowboy-hat Americana. Really sweet little hook, mellow, totally non-toxic, no one can hate this, so I won't even try, forget it.

• Steven Ellison, a.k.a. **Flying Lotus**, is a Los Angeles-based producer who specializes in the "wonky" subgenre, a post-grime/dubstep space that combines woozy beats with whatever spare lo-fi/IDM/glitch samples are lying around not earning their keep. In other words, it's weird and gently noisy, and maybe it's fun to listen to when you're on the subway heading to one of those parties where everyone's basically playing with their smartphones and trying not to reveal too much about how damaged they are, but whatever, this guy's got a good handle on the genre. His new album *Flamagra (Instrumentals)* is a limited-edition vinyl two-record set that explores his 2019 *Flamagra* album in depth, with a bunch of random dealer's-choice beats, some of them pretty good in a trip-hop way, at least what I heard. It's on Warp Records, so it's important. Moving on.

• Finally, unapologetic Canadian **Noah Reid** is now a regular cast member on *Schitt's Creek*, which was funny for about five minutes but sort of lost my interest entirely after I realized Eugene Levy was going to be in every episode. Reid's new album *Gemini* includes a smarmy but un-sucky piano ballad, "Neverending December," which goes nowhere, for you fans of uneventful music. — *Eric W. Saeger*

Retro Playlist

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

With any luck, we'll be back congregating en masse at fun places by July. It'll take no small amount of will on the part of the people, most of whom will still be appropriately hesitant to immerse themselves in the thick of humanity at the beach or the lake or whatever.

If the gods are truly smiling, maybe we'll get to a goth or sci-fi convention, preferably one that's outdoors. We have friends who are really into that stuff, like one guy brews his own absinthe and has



his own forge, as in a flaming, roasting, sword-making forge. I got him into the *Best Of* album from a band we talked about here however-many years ago, **Corvus Corax**. I don't know if they named the band after the character in the nerdy war-game *Warhammer 40,000*, but that would definitely fit, because these guys are as convention-weird as it gets, their sound steeped in Medieval minstrel music-producing using crazy junk like bagpipes and oddball droning things. Here, you know the really freaky parts of that super-weird J-Lo movie *The Cell*? That's what these guys are about, like, all the time. My "con" friends love it; I just thought it was funny

for about 10 minutes, but regardless, if the coronavirus can be destroyed, hopefully some of you will get to see these German weirdos at some weird place over the summer.

Of course, no article on con-centric music would be complete without mentioning steampunk bands. No one argued with me about it at the time, but in December 2010, I dumped *Woebegone*, an album from former Chumbawamba keyboardist **Danbert Nobacon**, into that category. They're not **Abney Park**, but come on, this dude is an utter kook. "Grungy, unplugged, old-world fun," I pronounced back then, "sea shanties, banjo-plucked dustbowl gloom, things like that."



I still stick by that assessment, even if the band has never, to my knowledge, really capitalized on their sound by invading steampunk-or-whatnot cons and taking their rightful place alongside **Rasputina** and such. But they should. Change my mind.

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. 🍷

One Hundred Daffodils, by Rebecca Winn
(Grand Central Publishing, 320 pages)

With a cheerful bouquet of daffodils on the cover, and a simpering subtitle that evokes random acts of kindness, *One Hundred Daffodils* looks like a Chicken Soup title related to gardening.

Its author, famous for a Facebook blog called “Whimsical Gardening,” promises to reveal how to find “beauty, grace and meaning when things fall apart.”

That would be nice.

But in fact, *One Hundred Daffodils* is only half about gardening and meaning and grace. The rest is tone-deaf whining from a hot tub in Dallas, ill-advised at any time, but truly insufferable in a pandemic.

Rebecca Winn was born in Texas but spent her childhood in Europe, so there was already something vaguely gilded about her life before she became an adult. A good Texas girl who taught at a “modeling and finishing school” in college, she married a lawyer and stayed home with their son because she is a “care-giver at heart.” Somewhere along the way, she won a suspiciously large number of gardening awards. (More than 300, she says.)

Then her husband of two decades said he wanted a divorce, and Winn didn’t take it well, even though she got a pretty impressive house with a pool and a hot tub and apparently a nice budget for landscaping with towering roses, Chinese pistachio trees and six-foot-tall cherry laurels. So she had to reinvent herself and figure out who she was, like myriad women who have written divorce memoirs. (Fair disclosure, I’m one of them.)

Unfortunately, Winn didn’t get the memo that to be a sympathetic character, you have to evoke sympathy. And she discloses too much that, instead, makes us wince.

For example, there’s the time when she permanently ghosted her closest friend of 11 years for jealous behavior that is never clearly explained. Just stopped communicating, with no explanation, to her friend or to the readers. That seemed a little, well, harsh, and apropos of nothing.

Then she starts dating — before she’s divorced — a significantly younger man who

lives far away but “admires” and “adores” her, even though it turns out he’s been regularly cheating on her.

For this she blames the boyfriend’s girlfriend in the meanest of mean-girl terms, labeling her the Anaconda. Later, she writes demeaningly of another friend to whom she had lent “a sizable amount of money.”

As the saying goes, with friends like these, who needs enemies? The world, it seems, does Winn wrong at every corner, and like an elephant, she never forgets, which is why you should never give an elephant a book contract.

The tragedy of *One Hundred Daffodils*, however, is not its oft-angry narrator, nor Winn’s privileged Euro-Texan weeping in the hot tub when her cherished roses are dying. The tragedy is that some good writing is concealed under the book’s thorny weeds. All it needed was an editor with a machete.

Winn, it turns out, has some sort of weird spirit-animal vibes going on, in which animals are always showing up in her times of need. A duck follows her around. A bird flies into her window and, injured, stares soulfully in her eyes. Raccoons and a bobcat enter open doors to her house. And in an especially touching scene, Winn watches a rat move a litter of newborns, one by one, from a soon-to-be-submerged nest during a downpour.

In telling these stories, Winn comes alive as a writer, detaching from her own misery and longing, and finally thinking outside her own beautifully feathered nest.

Did these things actually happen? Who knows? A disclaimer to the book says that events are true, but “may not be entirely factual,” a ridiculous line that appeases lawyers but not readers who would like to know if any parts of a nonfiction memoir are, in fact, made up or misremembered.

But there are, indeed, some lovely stories in here, and when Winn waxes melodically about the meaning of certain animals coming into her life at certain times, her writing is tender and hopeful: “Well, you know what they say. The Universe will whisper to you. Then it will call to you. Then it will shout to you. Then it will send in the raccoons.” She writes movingly of grappling with an addiction to “external validation” and healing from wounds inflicted by a

venomous grandmother who constantly derided her about her weight.

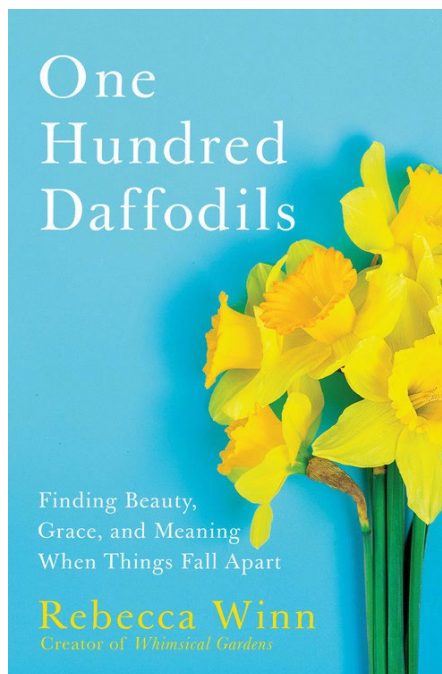
And then the story will suddenly go all “Carrie at Homecoming,” as Winn once describes herself.

The high point of derangement occurs when Winn has a formal “ceremony of release” with the much-younger, unfaithful man. This consists of several days of lovemaking and then sitting before an “altar” of mementos from their relationship while saying nice things about each other.

Not surprisingly, the young man in question begs to stay in the relationship after all these days of delirious pleasure.

Speaking for myself and the rest of reading America, we could have done without this information, and Winn, gifted as she may be as a gardener, could use some special glasses in which she can perceive a field of frantically waving red flags. C

—Jennifer Graham



BOOK NOTES

Your desk calendar probably says summer begins June 21. But meteorological summer starts June 1 and with Memorial Day gone, we can wear white, so for all practical purposes, summer is here.

Bring out the beach reads.

The idea of “summer reading” has been around for more than a century and, not surprisingly, it was conceived as a way to sell more books. (Even in the 1800s, it turns out, publishers were sweating over sales.)

In 2019’s *Books for Idle Hours*, Donna Harrington-Lueker, a professor in Rhode Island, examined how summer books came to be considered something frothy, like sea foam. She found that 19th-century publishers sought to energize a slow sales season by promoting escapist fiction and novels set at resorts.

One of the first summer reads to emerge was John Greenleaf Whittier’s *The Tent on the Beach*, poetry about a beach camping trip. Magazines such as the Atlantic and Harper’s Monthly soon joined in with summer stories, and by the end of the 19th century many popular writers issued summer- or vacation-themed books as the temperatures rose.

Summer reads may be profitable, but to an author the label may seem denigrating. When her 2019 novel *Fleishman Is in Trouble* was described as a beach read, Taffy Brodesser-Akner primly wrote on Twitter, “I am confused as to why our taste for what we like would change in the location we read it, or the season.”

Proving there’s a God and He reads, *Fleishman* is being released in paperback on — wait for it — July 7. (Random House, 400 pages.)

As for the best beach reads for 2020, these are the No. 1 picks from five different sources:

The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes, Suzanne Collins (Scholastic, 528 pages) — *Today*

Amboy, Alvin Cailan with Alexandra Cuerdo (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 352 pages) — Publishers Weekly

All Adults Here, Emma Straub (Riverhead, 368 pages) — *Vogue*

Summer Darlings, Brooke Lea Foster (Gallery, 368 pages) — Parade

Saint X, Alexis Schaitkin (Celadon, 352 pages) — Harper’s Bazaar

— Jennifer Graham

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The Lovebirds (R)

Issa Rae and Kumail Nanjiani bicker and also run for their lives in *The Lovebirds*, an action-y romantic comedy giving you exactly the frothy distraction you need.

After a few scenes of watching Leilani (Rae) and Jibrán (Nanjiani) fall in love, we jump to four years later in their relationship, when they are living together and fighting about whether or not they could win *The Amazing Race*, whether a guy at the party they're going to is a jerk and other stand-in stuff because both fear that their relationship isn't working. Which is what they both say, almost simultaneously, basically breaking up in the car on the way to a dinner party. Perhaps this is why Jibrán isn't watching the road and collides with a bicyclist.

Bloody, the guy nonetheless hops up, says he's fine and quickly pedals off (and drops his phone in the process). Stunned, Leilani and Jibrán haven't decided what to do about this happening when a man they eventually call Mustache (Paul Sparks) says he's a police officer and commandeers their car with them in it. He drives after the bicyclist, eventually catching him. It's as he's running over the man multiple times that Leilani and Jibrán start to wonder whether he really is a good guy hunting down a criminal, a question they ponder when Mustache gets out to inspect Bicycle's



The Lovebirds

lifeless body.

Gun in hand, Mustache turns toward them but is scared off. Another couple sees Leilani and Jibrán, the banged-up car and the dead body and calls 911. The truth, Leilani and Jibrán both agree, sounds crazy so rather than risk arrest they run.

Because they have the bicyclist's phone, Leilani suggests they try to find clues to who he was, hoping he will lead them to Mustache's

identity, which might help them convince the police they are not the real murderers. And, sure, they've witnessed a murder and are potentially marked as criminals themselves but that doesn't make the issue of their break-up and who has done what to whom less of an issue.

My initial and strongest reaction to this movie is that I should probably give 2018's *Game Night* another chance. I found that mov-

ie very much "shrug, it's fine" when I saw it but I think now I would find that blend of relationship-comedy and action (available for rent) very "ah, a big glass of rosé" enjoyable — cliché, sure, but in a relaxing and reassuring way. This also describes *The Lovebirds*. It's funny enough, sweet enough and with the right amount of action to keep me from looking for something else to do while I'm watching it (or nod off). Rae is solid; she is for me one of those actresses who is just entertaining no matter what level of the material she's given. Likewise, Nanjiani does what the movie needs him to do. I mean, he was good in the middling *Stuber* from last year and this is much better than *Stuber* (which I called forgettable but not objectionable and it's currently available on HBO so there's your triple feature).

Back, you know, Before, I was looking forward to seeing *The Lovebirds* in theaters (it had an April 3 release date), but I think Netflix, which is where you can find the film now, is exactly the right speed for this movie. Need something light and fun for your at-home date night? *The Lovebirds* feels made for it. **B**

Rated R for sexual content, language throughout and some violence, according to the MPA. Directed by Michael Showalter with a screenplay by Aaron Abrams and Brendan Gall, *The Lovebirds* is an hour and 27 minutes long and available on Netflix. 🍷

AT THE SOFAPLEX

Summer at the movies

Once upon a time (early March), summer movies were supposed to kick off with the *Black Widow* movie in early May. So far, *Tenet*, the new movie from director Christopher Nolan, is the first big movie on the at-the-theaters summer schedule (July 17 is still the release date) with Disney's live-action *Mulan*, originally scheduled for a March release, now scheduled to hit theaters on July 24. But there are other movies on the

schedule between now and then:

• **We Are One Film Festival:** Several film festivals from across the world — including Cannes Film Festival, Tribeca Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival and more — are collaborating on a film festival that will screen via YouTube Friday, May 29, through Sunday, June 7. Details, including a schedule, will be posted on youtube.com/weareone.

• **The High Note** (PG-13) Tracee Ellis Ross and Dakota Johnson star in this movie about a singer who wants more control in her own career and her assistant who really wants to produce. The movie will be released via video on demand on Friday, May 29.

• **Shirley** (R) This biopic of author

Shirley Jackson stars Elisabeth Moss and Michael Stuhlbarg and will be released by Neon via virtual cinema (you can rent a movie through an independent cinema; Red River Theatres in Concord has several films available in this way) on Friday, June 5.

• **The King of Staten Island** (R) Judd Apatow directs and co-writes this movie, which stars Pete Davidson in this semi-autobiographical-ish movie about Davidson's life (you can see a little "about the movie" video along with the trailer at thekingofstatenland.com). The movie will be released via video on demand on Friday, June 12.

• **Da 5 Bloods** (R) Spike Lee directs and co-writes this movie, which will stream on Netflix starting June 12, that

looks like part Vietnam War film, part quest movie and has an impressive cast including Chadwick Boseman, Delroy Lindo, Jean Reno, Clarke Peters, Isiah Whitlock Jr. and Norm Lewis.

• **The Old Guard** Netflix doesn't yet have a date for this action movie about super-soldiers, based on a graphic novel, but IMDb and other sources say it will be released on Friday, July 10. (IMDb also lists it as having an R rating.) The cast includes Charlize Theron (doing the action hero thing pretty well in the trailer) and Chiwetel Ejiofor.

Reviewlets

Several movies that were in theaters at the time they closed are now

available for home viewing (with a * indicating a movie worth checking out).

*Portrait of a Lady on Fire (R)

Noémie Merlant, Adèle Haenel.

Two women on an isolated but beautiful estate on a French island are drawn to each other even though they know circumstances will soon push them apart forever in this swoony, beautiful romance. Solid performances from this mostly female cast offer a study of the lives and choices of women. gorgeously shot, well-crafted and smartly directed, this movie definitely should have been a bigger part of the recent award season. *A Available for rent or purchase and with a Hulu subscription.*

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By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Naturally powered:** The music is outdoors and unplugged as **The Dirty Double Crossers** play bluegrass at Area 23 in Concord. Owner Kirk McNeil knows not everyone's unquarantined yet. "Come out if you're comfortable, stay home with no hard feelings if you aren't," he said. "I'm not here to tell you how to behave, just to provide a little beer and musical oasis when you're ready for it." Thursday, May 28, 6 p.m., Area 23, 254 N. State St, Unit H (Smokestack Center), Concord. 219-0856.

• **Daily double:** Weather permitting, there's live music every day in downtown Manchester. **Amanda McCarthy** is in the middle of a six-day run, with alternating second sets from **Brad Bosse** or **Joe McDonald**. Bosse was the busiest musician in the state before the pandemic hit, playing more gigs than there are days in the calendar most months, and McDonald is another veteran of the regional scene. Thursday, May 28, 6 p.m., Penuche's Music Hall, 1087 Elm St. Manchester; 928-2868.

• **Country girl:** While she was sheltering in place, **Nicole Knox Murphy** stayed active, completing a new single called "I'm So Done With It" at NH Tunes in Manchester, with finishing touches provided by Nashville cat Jerry Webb. The song is not about Covid-19, but she's got one of those almost completed. Her first appearance since the lockdown was lifted is at one of her favorite haunts. Friday, May 29, 5 p.m., Auburn Pitts, 167 Rockingham Road, Auburn. See facebook.com/NKMsings4u.

• **Beatle-esque:** Though there are a few Fab Four songs in their set, **The Weeklings** are not a tribute band in the strictest sense of the word. They sound like what might have happened if *Revolver* had been followed by another *Rubber Soul* instead of *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*; The Rutles without comedic intent. Definitely a tonic for troubled times. Sunday, May 31, noon and 3 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In Experience, 10 A St., Derry. Tickets are \$75 per carload at tupelohall.com.

• **Streaming out:** When their sold-out St. Patrick's Day show was canceled, **Dropkick Murphys** played for free from a secret stage and gave hope to a nation of music fans. They'll do it again, this time from an empty Fenway Park, with **Bruce Springsteen** beamed in from Jersey. It's the first time anyone's played on Fenway's field; the show benefits Boston Resiliency Fund, Habitat For Humanity and Feeding America. Friday, May 29, 6 p.m. More at dropkickmurphys.com. 🍷

NITE

At the drive-in

Tupelo Music Hall resumes events in novel way

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Though the entire economy was rocked, the Covid-19 pandemic hit the live entertainment industry like a hurricane. It was the first to close and will likely wait the longest for a return. Tupelo Music Hall owner Scott Hayward met the coming storm as he stepped off a plane on March 12 and immediately began to cancel and reschedule shows, wondering what things would look like on the other side of the crisis.

To keep his employees working, Hayward pivoted to food service and making his excess inventory of critical supplies like toilet paper and hand sanitizer available to those who needed it. With social distancing rules in place, indoor concerts at his 600-plus-seat Derry venue were a long way off, but the self-described "entrepreneurial realist" began to think of another way to bring music and comedy to the region. If he couldn't welcome crowds inside, why not do it outside, in the parking lot?

With cars occupying every other spot and patrons sitting in lawn chairs, the Tupelo Drive-In Experience opened May 16. It was, according to a reporter from the Washington Post who traveled to Derry for the opening, the first live concert event since the pandemic shutdown began in mid-March. The drive-in was also featured prominently in a recent Rolling Stone article.

Singer-guitarist Tim Theriault, a familiar figure on the local nightclub scene and a veteran of tours with Godsmack frontman Sully Erna, played two sets. Every day more shows are announced. The calendar is filling up, even as the near-term future of Tupelo Music Hall's main room remains uncertain. Hayward talked about the "new" venue and the challenging road ahead, in a recent phone interview.

You're staying busy?

Yeah, I've never been so busy to make so little money, but at least we're doing something.

Well, good on you for doing enough to keep your employees working and keep live music out there for people to enjoy. How did the first show go?

It went great, it was a home run. ... It was a little bit of a Herculean effort between everyone who worked with and for me to get all the systems in place and make it work. But everything went fine, it all came together and we opened [May 16] and said, well, let's see how it goes. Honestly, we're gonna change a couple of things, but they're so minor. People were great; they all stayed in their spots and were enjoying themselves, and it was a fantastic day. You couldn't ask for better weather.

The sound was a real trick with the delay and FM — your reputation has always been great



Photo by Jerry LoFaro.

sound, so you must be your own worst critic. How did you feel listening back?

We couldn't take our sound system ... outside because the boxes are too small. We need a sound system that you don't hear in Londonderry but everybody in the parking lot can hear it when it's really windy. That's where it gets a little crazy. So we worked with Ultrasound. They're a West Coast company, but they've always had an East Coast presence with the guy who does my PA stuff. That was dialed in, they had the plans, and they literally made a system for my parking lot. When we were tuning it up the Thursday before the show we knew it was going to sound good, but it sounded better than we had anticipated.

You had a guy come in and weld some special mounts?

Yeah, the infrastructure we had to do just for the sound system, we built the whole stage over the entrance, we put a back curtain on that had custom graphics, we had to install the correct bracket, everything was cut and welded and then had to be painted and everything for the show. So it was a busy week before the first show, we were putting a lot of things together. I couldn't be happier with how the sound system came out. Also, we're streaming things to the Derry radio station, broadcasting through that, and I sat in my son's car during the show on Saturday, and I had the radio on and rolled down the windows — I wanted to see if there was a disconnect [or] delay with the timing, and there really was none. [For] people that want to stay in their cars, it's great. It's a really good broadcast.

What other shows are on the horizon?

We do a lot of tributes that always sell out for us, so we're going to do them with an entire weekend. So in June, Tusk the Fleetwood Mac band, we're doing them for two days; Kashmir, which is Led Zeppelin; EagleMania, and we're currently working on a lot of stuff. After

that Washington Post article I'm getting contacted from people all over the country, it's crazy. ... My plan is to do five to six shows a week. We're not going to do multiple bands in a day, just for safety. But we have performers who will do three in one day, [at] noon, three and six o'clock.

Having comedy is great too.

Yeah, I think that's going to be cool. You know, I think that we can do almost everything we do inside, outside. We really have to keep bands to a five- or six-piece to meet the distancing guidelines for them, but besides that, I don't see a lot of limitations. The only limitation we really have is weather.

Yeah, but the stage is covered and people can listen in their cars if it rains.

But there are no sides — it's an open roof and the stage will get wet. So we need to put some temporary roll-down sides for bad weather. One thing at a time.

The Washington Post story said Tupelo Drive In was the first of its kind in the country. Is that true?

Well, the writer was talking to me about that ... and he said there was supposed to be some show on Friday that was canceled by the governor [Travis McCready's appearance in a Fort Smith, Arkansas, church was moved from May 15 to May 18] and another one that was going to happen at 6 in Missouri. So he said since yours started at noon, I can confirm that you're the first in the country.

I know some are going to be happening, like Pat Green in the parking lot of the Texas Rangers stadium.

Definitely this outdoor thing is going to catch on. ... I mean, I don't think we're the first ones to have the idea, but we are the first to implement it.

How would you describe your time leading up to this moment when the pandemic shut everything down, doing other things in lieu of music?

Well, the knee-jerk reaction was it was all about essential business. Since our food and beverage business is a completely separate entity, that allowed us to stay open. So I thought, we need to pay some people here so let's do whatever we can, and people gave us a lot of donations and it worked out great, you know? It was eight weeks of doing that, a lot of work for a little bit of money, but it paid my kitchen staff. To me that's time well spent, and while we're doing that we're researching all the systems. It took a month just to figure out how to deal with working with the town for the broadcast and that we didn't have any issues with delay, all these little things that we had to do, we had all these projects that had to come together at the same time. Then we're doing what every other venue is — rescheduling shows and trying to answer the question, how is this going to go? We don't really know, obviously, but we're doing what we can to find out.

Main room shows are still listed on the Tupelo website. Will some of them happen in the Drive-In?

We're not moving any shows to the drive-in. The shows we have inside are based on contracts that were negotiated months and months ago. Some a year ago. ... What we're able to do [outside] right now is get people who are willing to say, hey, I live three hours away and I can come and play. We're lucky because we have nationally touring artists who live around here. Johnny A, Gary Hoey, Adam Ezra — they can go all over the United States and get gigs. Those are the easy ones, the people who live close and they want to work and we work with them anyway and it's fantastic to get them. We're not going off a show we already booked — it's a brand new model.

There are indoor shows scheduled at Tupelo from July to November and beyond. What's your hope for them?

We opened the outdoor venue because I plan on needing to do outdoor shows until fall. We're moving indoor shows week by week — my goal is to reschedule everything.

The notion that the government can tell everyone to reopen — I heard you say in an interview that just because you're told it's OK,

that doesn't mean you will.

Luckily, they're not going to do that, but if the State of New Hampshire said, hey, you can put 500 people in a room, I'm not doing it. Even if they open venues this summer, we're not going to be able to, for two reasons. One, if it's not safe, I'm not going to do it. The other is all the tours are gone — they've all been canceled. Down the road, I see possibly — it depends on the second wave — but if things go well this summer I can conceivably see venues [opening], I can see that happening. I don't see people going to shows and lifting up a mask to drink a beer. I wouldn't do that, though I'm sure some people will. I personally don't think that is the future of this. I might be wrong. That's why we did the outdoor thing. It's limited on how many people we can put outside, but that's OK. People weren't wearing masks in my parking lot, but they were outside and 20 feet from each other with a car between them.

It sounds like there's a lot of upside even if there's uncertainty stretching out to the end of the year. Would you call yourself an optimist in terms of what the coming months offer for you and your business?

I would categorize myself as an entrepreneurial realist. Necessity is the mother of invention. People are going to have to think of ways for people to have entertainment that are safe and also meet the state guidelines so you don't get shut down. It's kind of that simple. I think a lot more people are going to do the outdoor venue thing. I think if they do, that's great. I can't possibly meet all the entertainment needs of New Hampshire. I would like to see other venues do what we're doing. We're in the business of providing entertainment for people and people are missing it something horrible. I think as things open up a little bit we'll be able have small outdoor

CONTINUED ON PG 26 ▶

Tupelo Drive-In Experience - upcoming shows

Where: Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry
Tickets: \$75 per car at tupelohall.com
 Saturday, May 30: Jimmy Lehoux (noon & 3 p.m.)
 Sunday, May 31: The Weeklings, Beatles Tribute (noon & 3 p.m.)
 Saturday, June 6, and Sunday, June 7: Foreigners Journey (noon & 3 p.m.)
 Sunday, June 14: Johnny A. (noon & 3 p.m.)

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Concerts

All shows are subject to change. Check with the venue before heading to any show.

Venues

Bank of NH Stage
 16 Main St., Concord
 225-1111 banknhstage.com
Bank of NH Pavilion
 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford
 293-4700, bankhnpavilion.com
Hampton Beach Ballroom Casino
 169 Ocean Blvd, Hampton
 929-4100, casinoballroom.com

Tupelo Music Hall

10 A St., Derry
 437-5100, tupelomusichall.com

Shows

- **Jimmy Lehoux** Saturday, May 30, 12 & 3 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In
- **The Weeklings Beatles Tribute** Sunday, May 31, 12 & 3 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In
- **Foreigners Journey** Saturday, June 6, 12 & 3 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In
- **Foreigners Journey** Sunday, June 7, 12 & 3 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In
- **Starset** Saturday, June 13, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom

- **Steve Blunt & Friends** Saturday, June 13, 11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In
- **Johnny A** Sunday, June 14, 12 & 3 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In
- **Badfish** Friday, July 3, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
- **Adam Ezra Group** Saturday, July 4, 12 & 3 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In
- **Arrival from Sweden: Music of ABBA** Wednesday, July 8, 8 p.m. Tupelo
- **Joss Stone** Thursday, July 9, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom

CONTINUED ON PG 26 ▶



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▶ CONTINUED FROM PG 25

concerts where there are people and not so many cars. It would be great if this summer we could have concerts in parks where people spaced out blankets 20 feet from each other. Space the blankets out. Spray paint lines in the grass and tell people to plop down in the square. I think that's where we'll end up, but who knows? No one has definitive information on this virus and what it's going to look like in four months.

Well, hopefully someone will open Checkerboard Field.

It would be easy to do. To me, I think that could be something to open up places like Prescott Park, that whole series. The problem is if people have already canceled shows for the summer, what do you do? It's a hell of a position to be in. Whether you agree if we should be open or closed, you still need access to artists.

Yes, but as you say, we have a rich regional scene. One woman at the show said she didn't

even know Tim Theriault, she just wanted to see a concert.

That was my original thought. Tim's no slouch, he's one of the better musicians in this whole area, but that doesn't make him well-known. What I knew was if I put him on the stage, they'd come because they want to do something and I also know they'd become Tim Theriault fans because he's so good. As a promoter, you just have to have confidence that the artist is going to be good.

The most promising thing is it will develop the regional music scene because even if tours are canceled, people that are here that want to play, can.

That's exactly what I think. There are a lot of great musicians out there that are local. Being an artist and getting on stage is as much luck as it is talent. This might open up an opportunity for a lot of those local people to get on smaller stages and it will actually be enjoyable to be out there sitting in the sun and listening to some music.

In other summer music news...

Local musicians may be the only game in town this summer. Places like Area 23 in Concord, Broken Spoke Saloon in Laconia, Penuche's Music Hall in Manchester, the two Copper Doors (Bedford and Salem), Bedford Village Inn, Stumble Inn in Londonderry and Whym Brewery in Hampton are all offering local music with the al fresco dining now permitted by the state, with others on the way.

The schedules vary, as all venues are adopting a wait and see attitude. Penuche's Music Hall, for example, plans daily entertainment weather permitting (through Sunday, it's Amanda McCarthy as the first half of a double bill alternating with Brad Bosse and Joe MacDonald), while Area 23 has two per weekend (May 28, Dirty Double Crossers, May 29, Mikey G and Becca Santacroce, June 5, Don Bartenstein and Paul Hubert, June 6, West Plymouth Street Band). Friday and Saturday is also the plan for Stumble Inn, though the Londonderry restaurant bar has yet to firm up who's playing. Chad LaMarsh played on the deck at Manchester's Derryfield Restaurant on May 24, and Derryfield's Jackie DiPietro said by phone that they will book more music, "but things are kind of crazy now since we just reopened."

Bank of NH Pavilion in Gilford has four shows for the 2020 season left on its website, but buying tickets for Luke Bryan in August or Toby Keith on Labor Day may be magical thinking. "If they are still on sale, they are still happening," a spokesperson wrote in response to a query on the venue's Facebook page, but then

quickly noted the reality of the Lost Summer of 2020. "You will see that most have cancelled or moved already. Some others are in discussions about moving and canceling. It is possible that we do not have any shows this summer."

That said, here are the surviving dates, as of May 26, at the former Meadowbrook:

Luke Bryan, Aug. 5
 Darryl Hall & John Oates, Sept. 2
 5 Seconds of Summer, Sept. 3
 Toby Keith, Sept. 4

Regarding how a 7,000-seat amphitheater will enforce social distancing regulations, the spokesperson wrote, "We're still working through logistics and scenarios. It will depend on the municipality guidelines that are being enforced by the time the date(s) occur. It looks like almost all of the tours are moving to 2021 which means we expect to be back to full capacity."

The two other big regional outdoor venues, Prescott Park in Portsmouth and Boarding House Park in Lowell, Mass., canceled their entire seasons weeks ago.

Some indoor venues are keeping a brave face: the Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom is still selling tickets for summer concerts starting as early as the Starset show on June 13, and Bank of NH Stage has Unlikely Candidates set to reopen its Concord room on July 11, but rescheduling and cancellations are happening almost daily. The Palace Theatre in Manchester, and its affiliate venues The Spotlight Room and Rex Theatre, have bumped all shows until late September at the earliest.

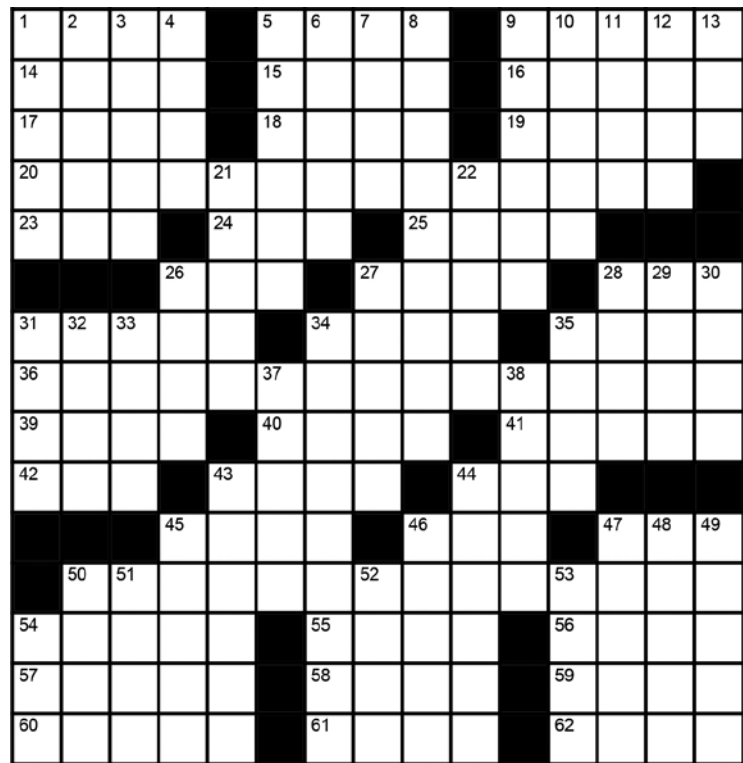
▶ CONTINUED FROM PG 25

• **Three Dog Night** Thursday, July 9, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **Blues Project 2020** Friday, July 10, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **Unlikely Candidates** Saturday, July 11, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
 • **Old Crow Medicine Show** Saturday, July 11, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
 • **Tusk (Fleetwood Mac tribute)** Saturday, July 11, 8 p.m. Tupelo

• **Musical Box (Genesis Tribute)** Sunday, July 12, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **33 1/3 Live Killer Queen Experience** Friday, July 17, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **Crystal Bowersox** Saturday, July 18, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **Verve Pipe** Thursday, July 23, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **Michelle Wolf & Dan Soder** Saturday, July 25, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
 • **The Stranger (Billy Joel tribute)**

Saturday, July 25, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **Buddy Guy & Jonny Lang** Sunday, July 26, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
 • **Zach Deputy** Thursday, July 30, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
 • **Nikki Glaser** Thursday, July 30, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom
 • **Soulsha** Friday, July 31, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage
 • **Kevin Nealon** Friday, July 31, 8 p.m. Music Hall

SOMETIMES IS SEEN A STRANGE SPOT IN THE SKY



Across

1. Actor/musician Sandler
5. Tesla said it's just 'The Way ____' (2,2)
9. Joan Jett puts them in the jukebox
14. Rob Thomas was no different and felt 'Ever The ____'
15. Might do it post-party before MTV Cribs shows up
16. Sleater-Kinney pushed us and said 'Step ____'
17. Green self-producing might be working without ____ (1,3)
18. What even the youngest star does this
19. Blondie went to target practice practice at the 'Rifle ____'
20. Genesis 1st charting single '____ (In Your Wardrobe)' (1,4,4,1,4)
23. Taj Mahal sang to big girls 'Ain't That A ____ Of Love'
24. Weird Al sat us at the dinner table and sang '____ It'
25. Barenaked Ladies song named after Camelot lady?
26. Otis Redding was sitting on the dock of the this
27. Lenny Kravitz "When you want to talk ____ the phone" (2,2)
28. Pearl Jam "____ ride the wave where it takes me"
31. Slow bus driver?
34. Kyp Malone band ____ The Radio (2,2)
35. 'Alpha' band named after a continent
36. Jimmy Buffett band (5,6,4)
39. What hanger-on does to rocker, for their fame
40. Irish ethereal queen
41. 'Cat' Elton John told to "get back"
42. 'Moodring' R&B
43. Lets member go
44. Self-reliant bands (abbr)
45. She warned us about a 'Smooth Operator'
46. to outlaw band from venue is to this
47. Pearl Jam song about an American white male (abbr)
50. '13 Grammy-winning Daft Punk

- album 'Random ____' (6,8)
54. Repeated word in Bowie '80 hit
55. Danish popsters that use a bar in the shower?
56. Beatles 'To Know Her ____ Love Her' (2,2)
57. Doobie Brothers classic '____ Grove'
58. 'Ex's & Oh's' King
59. 'Groove Me' Kinney
60. Someone that records shows with a mic in the 90s

61. 10,000 Maniac 'Our Time In ____'
62. 'All Right Now' band

Down

1. A ocean-bound Harry Nilsson is using a makeshift 'Blanket For ____' (1,4)
2. The Band's Rick
3. Jeff that wrote Pearl Jam's 'Jeremy' music
4. Evanescence 'Bring ____ Life' (2,2)
5. Pearl Jam "I got myself a mansion, then I gave ____" (2,4)
6. ELO "Hold on ____ to your dream"
7. Orson "Here's my bright ____"
8. 'BYOB' Armenian metalers ____ Down (6,2,1)
9. '81 Tom Jones album named for his sweetheart?
10. Killers 'Day & Age' bonus track 'Forget About What ____' (1,4)
11. Fur coat a rich star might wear
12. '04 Saliva song was walking on the 'Razor's ____'
13. Living Colour "Look in my eyes, what do you ____?"
21. Pearl Jam "We're faithfull, ____ believe" (2,3)
22. Cage The Elephant "____ ear and right out the other" (2,3)
26. Fear Factory 'Self ____ Resistor'
27. Pre-Badfinger band that crawls up castle walls?
28. Irish rockers God ____ Astronaut (2,2)
29. You give someone this to click on for your song
30. Kenny Rogers #1 hit not called "woman"
31. Norwegian black metal band of lowlifes?
32. Like gossip-hungry fans
33. What touring bands cover in a region
34. Arrested Development's #1 about a US state

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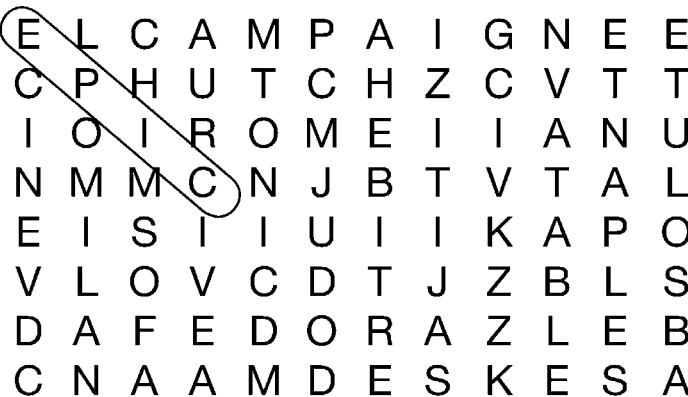
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four words ending in IC
- Four eight-letter words
- Four pieces of furniture
- Four Italian cities
- Six-letter hat

Answers to Monday's puzzle: PINEAPPLE PLUM PEAR / ELEPHANT ANTEATER ANTELOPE / HYDROGEN HELIUM OXYGEN / WINTER SPRING SUMMER / RINGO JOHN PAUL

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5/12

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3+	2	12X
	4+	
1-	2÷	

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CHALLENGING

2÷	2	20X		7+
	9+	3÷	5	2-
			6+	9+
4-	5-	8+		2-
			2÷	2
4	6+		6X	

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RULES

1 Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.

2 The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

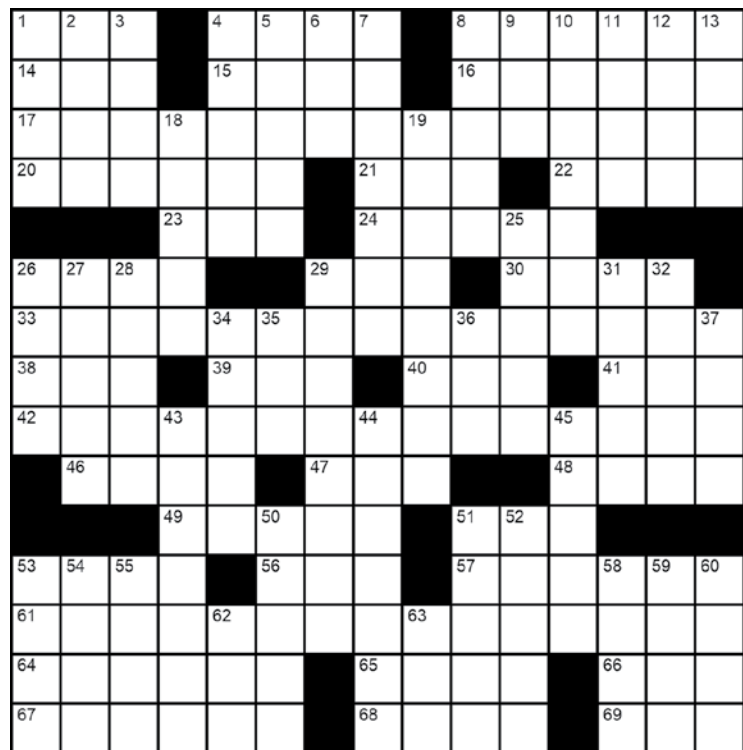
3 Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

2	3-	4	1-
2	1	4	3
5+	1	4	3
1-	3	2	1
12X	4	3	2

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"Books I Didn't Finish" — it's OK, you get the idea



Across

- 1 Raised-eyebrow remarks
- 4 From Bangkok
- 8 Loud two-year-old, maybe
- 14 Kabuki relative
- 15 Fair share, between two
- 16 Baltimore player
- 17 Start of a best-selling 2003 Mark Haddon title
- 20 Remote button
- 21 Meas. for really fast rotations
- 22 Band supposedly doing their final concert in 2021
- 23 Pellets found in some old pocket puzzles
- 24 Catches
- 26 100 centesimi, once
- 29 Sargasso, for one
- 30 Scandinavian native properly called Sámi
- 33 Start of a time-traveling Mark Twain title
- 38 Like the Beatles
- 39 Some time ____
- 40 Colin, to Tom Hanks
- 41 Wildebeest

- 42 Start of a Fannie Flag title (the movie title being shorter than the book)
- 46 New Age vocalist from County Donegal
- 47 Chicago trains
- 48 Closed facilities (work out at home!)
- 49 Run off to get married (wait, how would that work these days?)
- 51 "On the Road" narrator Paradise
- 53 See 12-Down
- 56 Aries symbol
- 57 December garnish
- 61 Start of a classic 1972 Judith Viorst kids' book title
- 64 1998 Olympics city in Japan
- 65 Japanese seaweed
- 66 Metal container?
- 67 Wallace's canine sidekick
- 68 Big thick book
- 69 It gets caked on

- 12 53-Across students
- 13 Tasting party options
- 18 Like the mojito's origin
- 19 Lifts
- 25 Actress Emily
- 26 "___-A-Lympics" (1970s Hanna-Barbera cartoon)
- 27 Words of support
- 28 One of the Bee Gees
- 29 Paper packaged with a board game, perhaps
- 31 Variety of owl, hippo, or seahorse
- 32 Airline that went bankrupt in 1991
- 34 Winner of the most French Open singles titles
- 35 Pad see ew ingredient
- 36 Opposing argument
- 37 "May contain ____"
- 43 Procedure where you may be asked to select numbers
- 44 Terbium or erbium, e.g.
- 45 Looked the wrong way?
- 50 "Ready ____"
- 51 Band of murder hornets, e.g.
- 52 The Governator, familiarly
- 53 Candidate who dropped out in February 2020
- 54 Fruit spray banned by the EPA
- 55 Blocks that inspired an animated Batman movie
- 58 Chemistry 101 model
- 59 Drive-___ window
- 60 Pay attention to
- 62 "Fuel" singer DiFranco
- 63 Kanga's kid

Down

- 1 Where "I'm not a doctor" spokespeople usually "play one"
- 2 Hostess snack cake
- 3 "Falling Up" poet Silverstein
- 4 Part of a "hang loose" sign
- 5 Long-eared hoppers
- 6 Sports Illustrated's Sportsman of the Century (1999)
- 7 Befuddled comment
- 8 ___ nova
- 9 "Entourage" agent Gold
- 10 Shares a secret with, maybe
- 11 Focal points

R&R answer from pg 27 of 5/21



Jonesin' answer from 28 of 5/21



Jonesin' Classic answer from pg 30 of 5/21



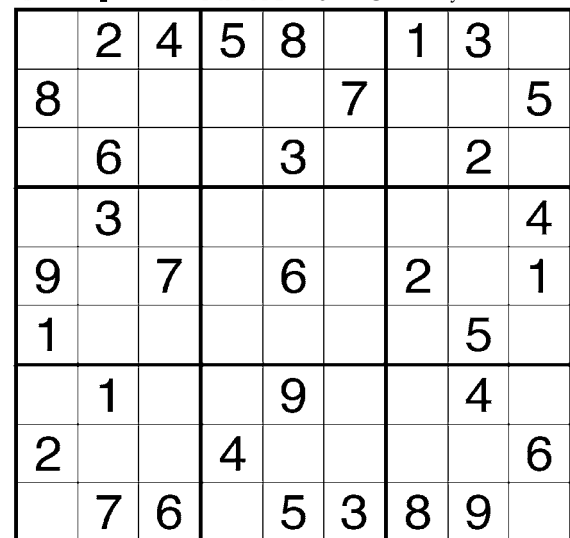
New puzzles?

We're trying out a few new puzzles; let us know what you think! Do you love them all or enjoy just one? Let us know at adiatz@hippopress.com.

NITE SUDOKU

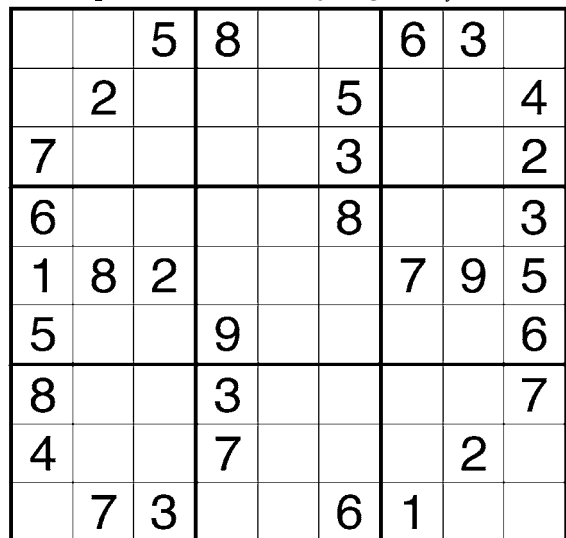
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week's puzzle answers on pg 29.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A By Dave Green



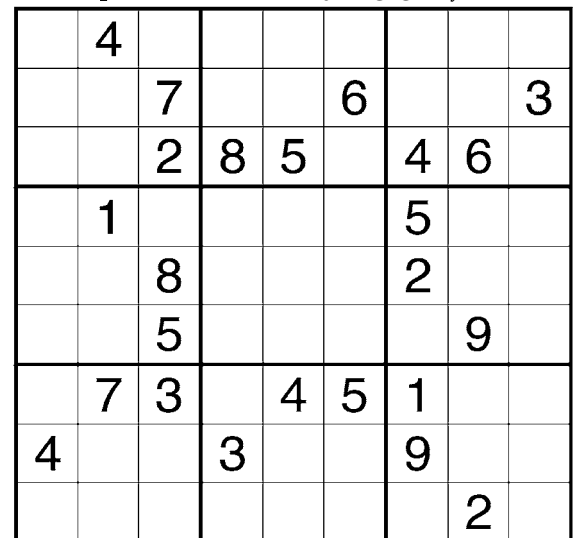
Difficulty Level ★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle B By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle C By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *Wolfpack*, by Abby Wambach, born June 2, 1980.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) Veterans began to learn from newbies, starters began to learn from bench players. Captains began to learn from the strength and conditioning coaches. Every single person — from players to support staff — began to think of themselves as a leader. Lead on.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) During every ninety-minute soccer game there are a few magical moments when the ball actually hits the back of the net and a goal is scored. ... Everything has come together perfectly — the perfect pass, the perfectly timed run, every player in the precise place at exactly the right time — culminating in a moment in which one player scores that goal. It's all about coordination.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) Like most little girls, I was taught to keep my head down, stay on the path, and get my job done. I was freakin' Little Red Riding Hood. Either way, there are adventures.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) The question of my childhood was: Why can't I wear what I want to wear? This week you can!

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) Pia brought music to us because Pia loves music. By showing us who she was and what she loved, she taught us that real leaders know who they are and bring every bit of themselves to whomever they lead. It's a good time to share.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) Eventually, I decided that I had two options. I could use this public failure as a career-ending excuse or I could use it as helpful information. ... That commenting failure didn't end my career — it helped me find my career. It's there, maybe just hiding a little.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) I knew how to lead from the field. Now I needed to learn how to lead from the bench. You can lead from anywhere.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) By the way, the fiercest leaders I've ever seen have been parents. This may be due to lack of sleep.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) Seriously, though, others not knowing who I was didn't bother me. What scared me to

death was that after retiring, I didn't know who I was. When I took off my jersey for the last time, I lost the identity that I'd proudly worn since I was five years old: Abby Wambach, soccer player. Without soccer, who was I? Still you, doing something else.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) I kept water ready for players coming off the field. I celebrated when goals were scored, and I kept believing in us even when mistakes were made. I knew the women on the field like sisters, so I could predict, in every moment, exactly what each needed from me. Whatever it was — comfort, encouragement, tough love, instruction — I offered it. At the end of that game, I was so exhausted, it was like I'd played all ninety minutes. The starters had left it all on the field; I'd left it all on the bench. Leave it all on the bench.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) When I was on the field, what inspired and motivated me most was not the millions of strangers cheering but when my teammates paid attention, saw me, and believed in me. Be a good teammate.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) I know from my career that when you're new at anything — when you don't know what to do or how to begin — all you can do is show up, awkwardly and nervously sometimes, and try. Do what you can do.

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 athlete that splits uprights (11)	_____
2 process of splitting atoms (7)	_____
3 split one's sides (5)	_____
4 fruit used in a split (6)	_____
5 split up (6)	_____
6 those hating 7-10 splits (7)	_____
7 split second (7)	_____

CEK	FI	IDE	ER	BOW
SS	NA	NA	LA	TA
PLA	ION	DIV	RS	BA
ICK	INS	NT	UGH	LE

Today's Answers: 1. PLACEKICKER 2. FISSION 3. LAUGH 4. BANANA 5. DIVIDE 6. BOWLERS 7. INSTANT

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Sudoku Answers from 5/21, pg 28

Puzzle A

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

Puzzle B

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

Puzzle C

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

Fun with mannequins

Dinner at the renowned three-Miche-
lin-star Inn at Little Washington in Virginia
can set diners back a pretty penny — unless
they're not eating. When the Inn opens on
May 29, some of its patrons will be manne-
quins, reported the Associated Press, attired
in fancy 1940s clothing and placed strategi-
cally at tables to help with social distancing.
“We're all craving to gather and see other
people right now,” said Patrick O’Connell,
the Inn’s proprietor and chef. “They don’t all
necessarily need to be real people.”

Rebellion served cold

An unnamed ice cream shop in Hong
Kong is offering tear gas-flavored ice
cream in support of the region’s pro-de-
mocracy movement, reports the Associated
Press. The shop’s owner explained he want-
ed “to make a flavor that reminds people
that they still have to persist in the protest
movement and don’t lose their passion.”
“It tastes like tear gas,” said customer Ani-
ta Wong. “It feels difficult to breathe at
first, and it’s really pungent and irritating.
It makes me want to drink a lot of water
immediately.” The owner tried several dif-
ferent combinations to achieve the flavor
and found that black pepper came the clos-
est. Before coronavirus restrictions, he
said the store was selling 20 to 30 scoops
per day.

Just funny

University of Arizona wildlife biology
professor Michael Bogan caught Saturday
morning cartoons as they came to life in a
video he recorded of a coyote chasing a road-
runner May 9 in downtown Tucson. Bogan
could be heard on his recording saying,
“There is literally a coyote chasing a road-
runner. I can’t believe it. That is a straight-up
cartoon.” The reenactment of the classic
setup between Wile E. Coyote and the Road-
runner caught Bogan’s attention near the
Santa Cruz River, Fox News reported. And,
as life often imitates art, the real roadrunner
escaped unharmed from the wily coyote.

The passing parade

Police responding to a reported shooting
in Poughkeepsie, New York, early on May
17, arrived to find a very drunk 35-year-
old man from the Bronx who claimed he’d
been shot in the buttocks, which caused him
to fall and hit his head. The Hudson Valley
Post reported the unnamed victim was tak-
en to a hospital, where he was treated for his
head injury, but doctors could find no evi-
dence he’d been shot. There was no bullet
hole in his buttocks, X-rays showed no bul-
let lodged inside his buttocks, and his pants
had no holes in them, police said. Witness-
es nearby were also intoxicated and unable
to provide any clarification. When officers
pressed the victim about his story, he became
uncooperative and said, “I didn’t pull a gun.”

Why not?

In Japan, people are enlisting the help
of a long-forgotten mythical creature
believed to ward off plagues in their battle
against the coronavirus. Amabie, a mer-
maidlike being, first appeared in Japanese
folklore in 1846, when she was reported
to have appeared to a government official
and predicted a rich harvest and a pande-
mic. She told the man the pandemic could
be thwarted by drawing her likeness and
sharing it with as many people as possible,
BBC reported on April 23. Now, images
of the spirit are appearing over five conti-
nents, and in Japan, face masks and hand
sanitizer with her image are popular. One
long-haul driver painted her on the side
of his truck, saying, “I travel all over the
country with my [goods] and Amabie to
pray for the disease to go away.” Even the
country’s Ministry of Health, Labor and
Welfare has joined in, tweeting an image
of Amabie and encouraging people to
“prevent the spread of the virus.”

Oops

On May 15, staff at a Hamilton, Ontario,
retirement home transferred all of its resi-
dents to a hospital because of an outbreak
of Covid-19. That is, except for one. The
following evening, after repeated alerts
from the man’s family, he was discovered
in his room at the Rosslyn Retirement Res-
idence by a security officer who had been

dispatched to look for him. He was “alert”
and was subsequently transferred to the
hospital, the CBC reported. “This was
clearly not something anybody would have
intended to do,” and the lack of a master
list of residents contributed to the snafu,
said Winnie Doyle, executive vice presi-
dent of clinical operations at the hospital
where most of the residents were sent.
“This was ... extremely distressing.”

Inexplicable

A Facebook group called “A group
where we all pretend to be ants in an ant
colony” began March with around 100,000
members, reported NBC. Then the world
locked down, and membership soared to
more than 1.7 million. Started by Tyrese
Childs, 20, of Fargo, North Dakota, the
group’s purpose is to serve their fiction-
al queen and search out food for her, and
it is one of roughly 70 role-playing groups
on Facebook. Members of the ant colony
can post photos about being ants and oth-
ers join in by commenting with terms such
as “munch” and “lift.” One post featuring
a photo of ice cream with ants crawling on
it invited members to deliver some of the
sweet treat to the queen and got more than
18,000 replies. “I think people are search-
ing for something to do right now,” Childs
said. “You can only scroll so much on
social media.”

Visit newsftheweird.com.

JONESIN’ CROSSWORDS BY MATT JONES

“Cutting in Line” — hey, no fair!

Enjoy this Jonesin’ Crossword,
originally printed in 2012!

Across

1 “The Alienist” author Carr

- 6 Stitch’s friend, in a Disney movie
- 10 Vegetable in Cajun cuisine
- 14 By itself
- 15 With 60-down, “The Price is
Right” prize worth freaking out over
- 16 Lousy
- 17 End up winning and coming sec-
ond at the same time?
- 20 One of a biblical 150
- 21 “___ the loneliest number...”
- 22 Start
- 26 “Yo, ___!”
- 28 AKC winner plus a mini
Shetland?
- 31 Actress Skye of “Say Anything”
- 32 ___ bran muffins
- 33 It may be obtained in a bed
- 34 Blind followers
- 36 Honey ___ (KFC sauce)
- 38 Belgian city of WWI battles
- 42 Mai ___ (drink)
- 44 Lawyers’ gp.
- 46 Dinghy need
- 47 Soldier’s comment akin to “It’s
time to join the line, dear”?
- 51 How some meds are taken
- 52 Wedding dress fabrics
- 53 Participate in a bee
- 54 Qatari leaders
- 57 Narrator’s goal to maximally

- project his voice?
- 63 Effortlessness
- 64 Insurance variety
- 65 Ex who gave “The Donald” his
nickname
- 66 “South Park” co-creator Parker
- 67 Word in many Scottish place
names
- 68 Spine-tingling

Down

- 1 Tube top?
- 2 Every last bit
- 3 Mauna ___ (macadamia nut brand)
- 4 End-of-letter abbr.
- 5 Went off like a microwave
- 6 Singer ___ Del Rey
- 7 Part of IHOP
- 8 “Brothers” in the 2008 market
collapse
- 9 Come up short
- 10 It may include an “undecided”
option
- 11 From Pyeongchang
- 12 Like violin bowstrings
- 13 Sciences’ counterpart
- 18 Defensive schoolyard retort
- 19 Unlike volunteer work
- 22 Suffix for an illness
- 23 “That’s not good...”

- 24 Fine-tune muscles
- 25 High school in a 1980s-90s fic-
tion series
- 27 “Silent Spring” pesticide
- 29 Shoot the breeze
- 30 Facing the pitcher
- 35 Seafood-and-rice dish
- 37 Most Super Bowl MVPs
- 39 Political cartoonist Ted
- 40 The shallowest Great Lake
- 41 Tax return nos.
- 43 Beastie Boys album “Licensed
to ___”
- 45 Union for voice-over artists
(FAR AT anagram)
- 47 Adorable bunny feature
- 48 Open-ended ultimatum
- 49 Sight to take in
- 50 Down Under native
- 53 “Leave it in,” to a proofreader
- 55 Chess goal
- 56 Token in an old Monopoly set
- 58 Become droopy
- 59 “___ Been Everywhere” (Johnny
Cash song)
- 60 See 15-across
- 61 Punk/folk singer DiFranco
- 62 No, in Robert Burns poems

©2012 Jonesin’ Crosswords

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
				20							21			
22	23	24	25						26	27				
28						29	30							
31						32				33				
34				35		36		37		38		39	40	41
				42		43		44		45		46		
	47	48				49				50				
	51									52				
53						54	55	56						
57						58					59	60	61	62
63						64					65			
66						67					68			

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