

# the Hippo

JUNE 4 - 10, 2020

FOOD &  
GAMES P. 18

COMEDY COMES  
BACK P. 30

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

FREE



*Socially distanced*  
**SUMMER  
CAMP**

**How summer camps  
are trying to find a way  
to keep fun in the season**

**INSIDE: BEERS BY THE FIRE**

GRANITE VIEWS **ROBIN MILNES**  
**Fly Manchester**



One of the many advantages of living in New Hampshire is the accessibility of Manchester-Boston Regional Airport. Would anyone disagree that flying out of Manchester is much more convenient than flying out of Boston? There is no traffic, and the airport is modern, clean and well-maintained, with four major carriers. Then why did the airport experience its 14<sup>th</sup> straight year of declining passenger levels? In fact, the passenger levels in Manchester have dropped from a peak of 4.3 million passengers in 2005 to 1.7 million passengers in 2019.

If you ask the typical consumer, the quick response is that people choose to fly out of Boston for better flight options and/or a better price. While Boston offers more options, why is there frequently such a cost differential? Aside from Southwest, Manchester offers no other low-cost airlines. Jet Blue, Frontier and Spirit all serve Boston. Allegiant Air flies out of Pease Air Force Base. And, in 2009, Southwest decided to serve Boston as well as Manchester, causing Manchester to lose many of its daily flights. These low-cost carriers have taken a pass on Manchester because data tells them the passenger count is not there, and the Cost Per Enplanement (CPE) fees are high in Manchester.

In 2019, Airport Director Ted Kitchens received city approval to restructure three bond obligations with the intention of attracting more airlines to Manchester. The debt restructure would allow for a reduction in the CPE fees over the next few years. Fast forward to March 2020 when the pandemic started to impact the United States. Mirroring trends nationally, passenger levels were down 95 percent in April and 81 percent in May, year over year. Fortunately, Manchester received \$12.1 million in federal funds to ensure the continued operation of the airport during this crisis.

Given the strength of New Hampshire's economy prior to Covid-19, the continued declining passenger rates are a worrisome trend. While passengers are willing to pay at a certain level for the convenience of flying out of Manchester, there is a point where price trumps convenience. The airport is a critical component of our state's economic engine. As we begin to ease out of isolation, it's important for consumers to "Fly Manchester" when possible, and equally important for the airport to make it feasible for them to do so.

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## ON THE COVER

**SOCIALLY DISTANCED SUMMER CAMP** Camps have been given the green light to open on June 22, but they won't look the same as years past, with some going virtual and others making modifications to meet safety guidelines — and some not opening at all.

**ALSO ON THE COVER**, Game Changer Sports Bar and Grill opens in Londonderry, p. 18. Fire pits are better with beer, p. 24. And stand-up comedy comes out of quarantine, p. 30.

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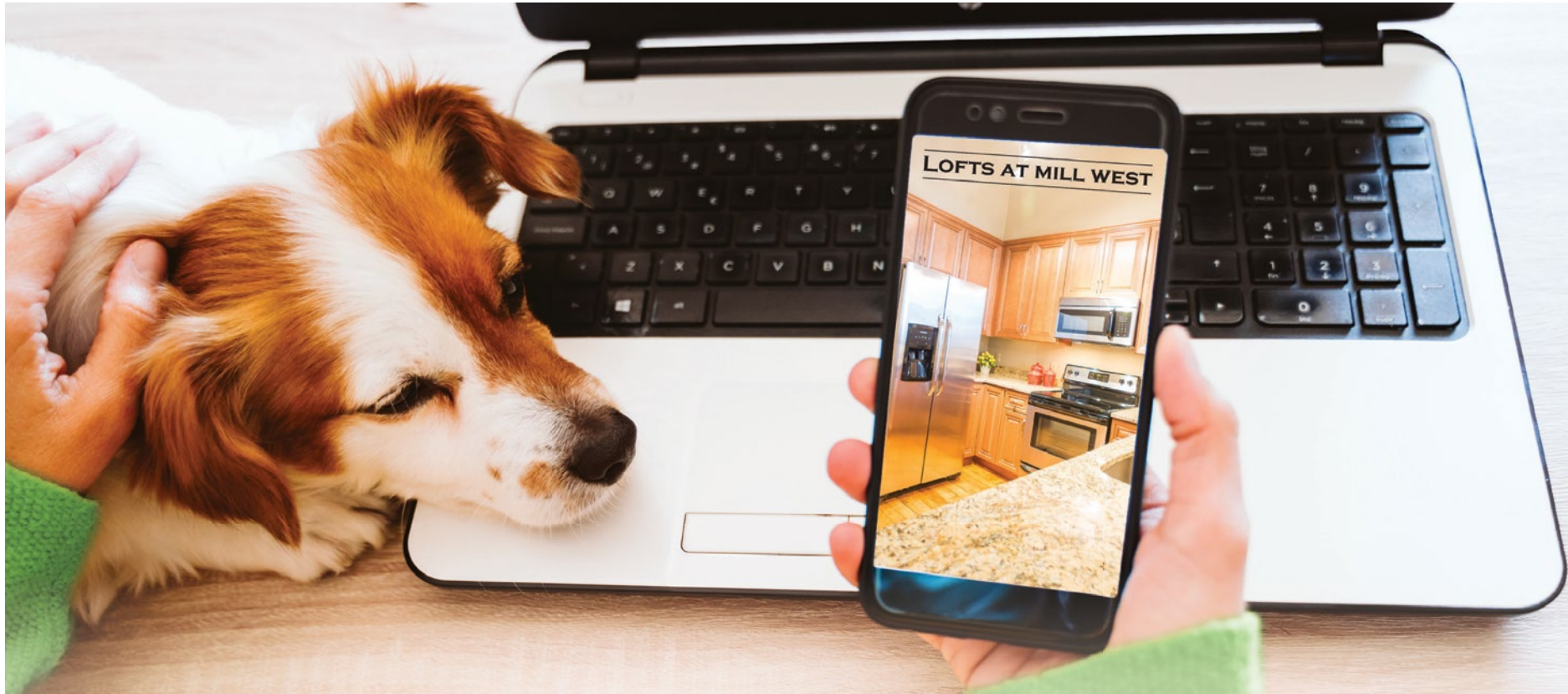
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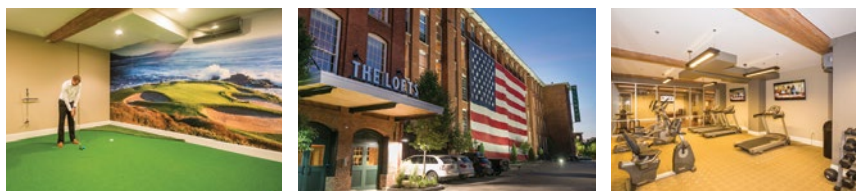
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## Covid-19 updates

On June 1, state health officials announced that the total number of positive test results for Covid-19 in the Granite State has reached 4,685. Three additional deaths as a result of the coronavirus were reported on May 31, for a total of 245, or roughly 5 percent of all cases. Around 63 percent of all people in New Hampshire who have contracted the virus have since recovered, data from the Department of Health and Human Services shows. The number of new positive test results for the virus in New Hampshire continues to fluctuate daily, from just 34 new cases on May 26, to 101 on May 28 and back down to 39 on June 1.

## Governor's updates

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

On May 26, Sununu issued Emergency Order No. 48, which provides new special education requirements to support remote learning in New Hampshire. Under the order, each school district is required to hold Individualized Education Plan team meetings to consider extended school year services for every child by June 30 at the latest. Each school district must also ensure that it holds IEP team meetings for every student identified for special education services no later than 30 calendar days before the first day of that district's 2020-2021 school year.

On May 28, Sununu announced the establishment of the Governor's Covid-19 Equity Response Team to address the disproportionate impacts of the pandemic on the Granite State. The team, composed of state leaders in racial and ethnic disparities and health equity, will work on the collection and release of demographic data, as well as the analysis of social, cultural and systemic factors related to Covid-19. The team began meeting immediately and is expected to present recommendations within 30 days of May 28, according to a press release.

Also on May 28, Sununu, in a joint statement with Department of Health and Human Services Commissioner Lori Shibinette and Adjutant General David Mikoliaties, announced the state's plans to break down most clinical surge

flex facilities across the state, starting this week. The state does plan to keep four facilities operationalized in Manchester, Plymouth, Durham and Littleton. The National Guard will help hospitals, towns and the state DHHS pack up the locations. "We have ensured we have the ability to reopen four of the flexible surge sites within 48 hours if the need arises," Shibinette said in the statement.

Also on May 28, Sununu issued a statement following President Trump's announcement via Twitter that day that he will extend the National Guard's Title 32 status through mid-August. Sununu said, in part, that this will "allow our National Guard to continue to provide critical services." Sununu had written a letter to the president on May 22, urging him to extend the Title 32 status of up to 450 New Hampshire National Guard personnel from June 24 through Sept. 30.

On May 29, Sununu issued Emergency Order No. 49, extending Emergency Orders No. 2 (no dine-in restaurant services), No. 6 (temporary authorization of take-out beer and wine at restaurants with liquor licenses), No. 16 (public gatherings limited to no more than 10 people) and No. 27 (restriction of hotel services to all but essential workers) from May 31 to June 15.

Also on May 29, during a press conference, Sununu announced the release of reopening guidelines for more business sectors in the state, as part of his "Stay at Home 2.0" plan. As of May 29, behind-the-wheel driver's education instruction was allowed to resume, as long as classroom instruction continues remotely and instructors and students wear a face mask at all times when behind the wheel. In-car time is also limited to a maximum of 60 minutes and door handles and other in-car surfaces must be disinfected before and after each drive.

In-person religious services were also able to resume on May 29, both indoors and outdoors and including weddings and funeral services. Places of worship, however, are encouraged to continue conducting services online or through means that allow participants to remain in their homes. All places of worship should limit building occupancy to 40 percent of capacity at all times.

Beginning June 5, lodging facilities such as hotels, motels, cabins, bed and breakfasts and inns will be allowed to resume services, including accepting overnight reservations from New Hampshire residents or out-of-state visitors who have met the 14-day quarantine requirement. Smaller hotels and inns can rent at full capacity, while those with 20 or more rooms must remain limited at 50 percent capacity.

Day camps in the Granite State will be allowed to open June 22, with several guidelines in place. Staff members must be state residents or out-of-staters who have met the 14-day quarantine requirement. Day camp attendees are also restricted to children who are state residents or out-of-staters who have met the 14-day quarantine requirement.

Details of all of Sununu's announcements and orders can be found at [governor.nh.gov](http://governor.nh.gov).

## Hospital clusters

Manchester hospitals Catholic Medical Center and Elliot Hospital, in conjunction with the state's Department of Health and Human Services, are each investigating a cluster of patients and staff who have tested positive for Covid-19, according to a press release. Last week, two asymptomatic patients from the same unit at Catholic Medical Center were discovered to be positive after being tested for placement in long-term care facilities. At the same time, a staff member on that unit also tested positive. CMC tested all patients on that unit out of an abundance of caution and seven patients and seven staff came back positive. None of the seven patients had shown symptoms at the time of testing. Similarly, at Elliot Hospital, five patients on the geriatric psychiatric unit have tested positive. The hospital is currently testing the remaining patients and all staff on the unit. Both hospitals remain prepared for a surge in Covid-19 patients, according to the release.

## Covid-19 dashboard

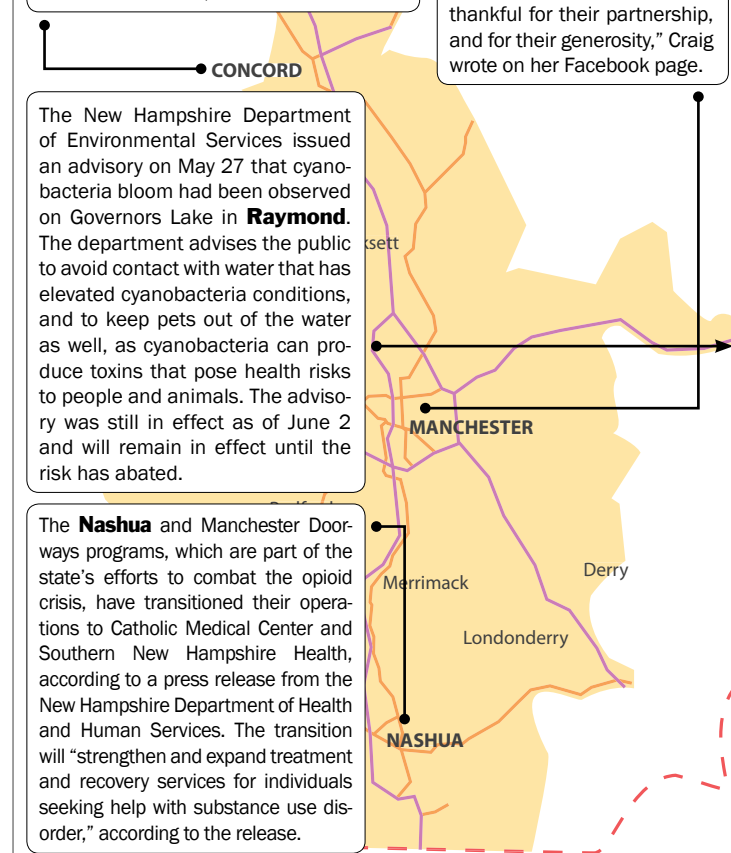
State health officials have launched a new Covid-19 dashboard to help people track the impact of the coronavirus in their communities, according to a press release. The dashboard is updated daily, displaying data on virus

**Concord** Hospital Otolaryngology is a new practice set to open on June 8 for patients with ear, nose and throat diseases and disorders. The office will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is located at the Concord Hospital Medical Offices at Horseshoe Pond, 60 Commercial St., Suite 401 in Concord.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services issued an advisory on May 27 that cyanobacteria bloom had been observed on Governors Lake in **Raymond**. The department advises the public to avoid contact with water that has elevated cyanobacteria conditions, and to keep pets out of the water as well, as cyanobacteria can produce toxins that pose health risks to people and animals. The advisory was still in effect as of June 2 and will remain in effect until the risk has abated.

The **Nashua** and Manchester Doorways programs, which are part of the state's efforts to combat the opioid crisis, have transitioned their operations to Catholic Medical Center and Southern New Hampshire Health, according to a press release from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. The transition will "strengthen and expand treatment and recovery services for individuals seeking help with substance use disorder," according to the release.

On May 29, **Manchester** Mayor Joyce Craig, along with members of the Manchester Emergency Operations Center, received 10,500 masks donated by Taichung City, which is the Queen City's sister city in Taiwan. "We're so thankful for their partnership, and for their generosity," Craig wrote on her Facebook page.



cases, related hospitalizations and deaths, as well as additional demographic detail and county of residence. The dashboard replaces the Covid-19 Weekly Summary Report, giving residents access to the weekly report's data on a daily basis instead of weekly. The data can be viewed on any devices, including computers, tablets and smartphones. "It is easy to access and navigate ... with meaningful information about the spread of the virus," DHHS Commissioner Lori Shibinette said in a statement. The dashboard can be viewed at [nh.gov/covid19/dashboard/index.htm](http://nh.gov/covid19/dashboard/index.htm).

## DMV road tests

The New Hampshire Division of Motor Vehicles resumed road tests for eligible applicants on June 1, according to a May 29 press release. Prior to scheduling a road test, applicants must complete all driver licensing requirements, including successfully passing a knowledge test. Applicants who need to complete one can request an appointment at any one of the locations currently open, including in Concord, Dover, Keene, Manchester, Nashua, Newport, Salem

and Twin Mountain. For licenses expiring by July 31, in-person driver's license renewal appointments are available, although customers are encouraged to renew online if eligible.

## Manchester protest

On May 30, about 800 people participated in an organized Black Lives Matter protest in downtown Manchester. The group gathered at Veterans Park around 10 a.m. and marched peacefully throughout the city before returning to the park. No arrests were made during the protest, according to a press release from the Manchester Police Department. After the protest, a group of more than 100 people marched to the Department headquarters at 405 Valley St. At around 1:30 p.m., a truck drove up and there was a verbal altercation between its occupants and the protestors. One of the occupants got out and displayed a gun. Manchester police took that person and one other into custody. They were later identified as Scott Kimball and Mark Kimball, who were both charged with felony riot and felony criminal threatening. 🌊

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# The state of summer camps

## How day camps are adapting to new rules

By Angie Sykeny  
asykeny@hippopress.com

Gov. Chris Sununu recently gave the green light for summer day camps to open on Monday, June 22, and summer overnight camps to open on Sunday, June 28, stating that summer camps are an “essential” service for New Hampshire families.

Many camps have shifted to a virtual format or canceled their programs altogether. Some will move forward with their traditional camps starting on or after June 22, but with new guidelines about face coverings, social distancing, handwashing, sanitizing, health checks and pick-up and drop-off procedures, even the “traditional” summer camp experience will look a little different than what camp staff, families and campers are used to.

“We are looking at a lot of modifications or adaptations of our regular camp activities so that we can continue to meet the needs of the families while also following the CDC and governor’s guidelines,” said Lisa Bernard, executive director for the Granite YMCA Greater Londonderry branch.

### A difficult decision

Rob Dionne, artistic director and CEO of The Majestic Theatre in Manchester, said making a decision about Majestic’s summer theater camp has been “an agonizing process.” He and his staff ultimately decided to offer virtual programming only.

“We tried to hang on as long as we could,” he said. “We didn’t want to cancel too far in advance because things seem to be changing daily, but looking at how the governor has been reopening things, we [came to the conclusion that] having our camps the way we normally do just wasn’t realistic anymore.”

Majestic will offer two virtual camps. One will consist of three week-long sessions for children ages five through seven, with 45-minute interactive workshops on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The other will consist of four week-long sessions for children ages eight through 14, with one-hour interactive workshops held twice a day, Monday through Friday, exploring theater skills like acting, improv, music, choreography, character development, audition preparation and more.

The Kimball Jenkins School of Art in Concord, which traditionally holds six weeks of summer camps focused on painting, sculpting, drawing, ceramics and other artistic media, was going to start with virtual programming and consider offering in-person camps the week of July 6, but the board ultimately elected not to offer any in-person camps this summer.

“This was an incredibly difficult decision that weighed on us just about every minute of the past several months,” executive director

Julianne Gadoury said. “Some of children’s best learning and joyful experiences come from summer camp. ... Lasting friendships are developed. ... We understand and value this. Ultimately, however, we decided that, no matter how good our [health and safety] protocols were, ... there is still a risk ... [and] that risk will be present in all of our lives for a long time. ... For now, we decided to take a pause.”

Kimball Jenkins will have a variety of week-long virtual camps, including ones focused on theater, dance, studio arts, comic making and clay, for kids ages five through 16. Campers will have art supplies delivered to their house each week and will take part in three hour-long interactive sessions online each day providing instruction on different activities they can do with those supplies.

“For parents, this will provide some daily structure for those who are working from home or need to leave their kids at home,” Gadoury said.

The Nature of Things, a Nashua-based educational institution and child care center, is the host of three summer camps: an outdoor adventure camp called Camp Lovewell, a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics) camp called Brainwave and an art camp called The Painted Turtle. President Kerry Gleeson said she believes the benefits that summer camp has for children



*This was an incredibly difficult decision that weighed on us just about every minute of the past several months. Some of children’s best learning and joyful experiences come from summer camp. ... Lasting friendships are developed.* ”

**JULIANNE GADOURY,  
KIMBALL JENKINS  
SCHOOL OF ART**



Camp Lovewell. Courtesy photo.



Painted Turtle Art. Courtesy photo.

outweigh the risks associated with the coronavirus. All three camps will run in person, with some modifications.

“We ... understand the importance of children being outside and making social connections, especially at a time like this,” Gleeson said. “The public health crisis is certainly serious, but the other possible impacts on childhood development, such as psychological and emotional damages, are just as critical. It is always one of our foremost goals to ensure that we are addressing the needs of the whole child, and this is true now more than ever.”

Challenger Sports, a national soccer camp program, announced that it will offer both virtual and in-person camps, but because the in-person camps are run in partnership with community centers and organizations, they will be more limited this year than in years past.

“We have our own Covid-19 plan and restrictions, but our camps are a collaborative effort, and every organization we work with has different guidelines based on its local government,” vice president David Rush said. “Some have already told us they need to cancel camp this year, and there’s some that still have furloughed [staff], so there isn’t even anyone to talk to about camp.”

As of now, in-person Challenger soccer camps are being offered in Londonderry, Weare, Windham, New Boston, Hopkinton, Pelham and other towns and cities throughout New Hampshire, but Rush said plans are changing “on a regular basis.”

“There’s still so much uncertainty at this point,” he said. “One day we get a call saying, ‘Great news — we want to run the camp,’ and the next day we get a call saying, ‘We’re going to have to cancel.’ It’s a fluid, moving situation, but we should be able to say within the next few weeks with confidence what camps we’ll be running.”

Unfortunately, for camps like Camp Allen, a day and overnight outdoor adventure camp for children and adults with disabilities, a modified or virtual camp isn’t a viable alternative.

“When Covid-19 began to appear in the news, we started to worry,” executive director Michael Constance said. “We began to

craft [health and safety] policies. ... As the virus progressed, I started setting barometers as to events that would lead us to cancellation. What really made the decision was the outbreaks at two facilities that serve a similar population. I created a binder of research I collected over 30 days and presented this to the board, and the decision [to cancel] was unanimous.”

### Health and safety

In-person summer camps will look very different to campers and parents this year as the camps have made significant modifications and implemented numerous health and safety measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19. One of the biggest modifications is separating campers into small, isolated groups.

“Campers and staff will be divided into groups of 10 that will serve as their cohort for the summer,” said Emily O’Rourke, communications director for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central New Hampshire, which serves the greater Concord area and Lakes Region. “We will be spreading cohorts throughout our facilities and may be using additional facilities. Interaction with others will be limited.”

The Challenger soccer camps will follow a similar model.

“Kids will be split into groups of ten, each with their own coach, and will be spread out on different sides of the field,” Rush said. “They won’t come together for opening or closing ceremonies; they won’t have lunch together; they will never interact with the other groups at camp.”

Camps that have a spacious facility or multiple facilities, like the Boys & Girls Clubs and The Merrimack Parks & Recreation Department’s Camp Naticook, are at an advantage because they can accommodate more groups of campers while keeping them at a safe distance from each other.

“We are fortunate here that we have such a large facility with a lot of buildings to operate out of,” Merrimack Parks & Recreation director Matthew Casparius said. “Some of my counterparts in other communities aren’t able to provide camp this summer because they simply don’t have the space that they would need to meet the guidelines.”



Enrichment Brainwave. Courtesy photo.

Even with smaller group sizes, camps have eliminated field trips to reduce the risk of community transmission of Covid-19, and they have modified their activities to include those that are more conducive to social distancing, like hands-on projects that campers can do independently and outdoor recreation. Camp Naticook, for example, has terminated activities like archery, playground time, contact sports and boating activities, which would involve campers being close to other campers and staff members, or sharing the same equipment and surfaces.

“We’re looking at non-contact ... games and nontraditional camp activities,” Casparius said. “We are still hoping to have a

complement of sports and games, nature exploration, arts and crafts and drama games.”

Parents and campers will also need to familiarize themselves with long lists of new health and safety precautions. Universal guidelines require camp staff to wear face masks, wash their hands frequently and sanitize common areas and items after every use. There will be a zero-tolerance policy for campers or staff showing any symptoms of illness. Most camps have also added additional protocols of their own. Boys & Girls Clubs camps, for example, will conduct health checks at the door every day and sanitize all personal items that the campers bring with them; and Challenger soccer

““ We are doing it because we know that families do need child care in order to go back to work themselves and kids need a sense of normalcy throughout all of this. They need to see their friends after being cooped up at home for the last few months... ””

**MATTHEW CASPARIUS OF CAMP NATICOOK**

campers will stagger drop-off and pick-up times in 15-minute intervals to prevent large groups of parents and campers congregating in one area.

**A devastating impact**

For some summer camps and families seeking summer camps, the challenges created by Covid-19 are insurmountable.

“[Summer camp] is one of our most popular offerings of the year and brings in a lot of income for the theater,” Dionne said. “We’re losing a lot of money, and the longer this [pandemic] goes on, the scarier it gets, and the harder it gets just to maintain the bare essential [business costs].”

LetGoYourMind, a STEM program that

planned to host camps in Amherst, Bedford, Concord, Londonderry, Manchester, Windham, Salem, Nashua, Pelham and other towns and cities throughout New Hampshire, had more than 700 families registered before it decided to cancel its traditional camps and go the virtual route. According to owner Jim Harvey, the cancellation has resulted in the program losing 90 percent of its revenue and put the program in a very difficult position:

“To get [the camp] up and running, throughout the year we ... budget funds for insurance, rentals and staff ... [and] purchasing new Legos, robots, computers, software and other such equipment,” Harvey said. “This is all paid for in advance.

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... Thank goodness we were able to secure a SBA [Small Business Association] loan to return the funds to the [registered] families.”

Most camps offering virtual programs as an alternative to their traditional summer camps are doing it not for the money — the mitigation of financial loss that the virtual programs provide is negligible — but as a way to stay connected with campers and families.

“We’re still looking at a 75 to 85 percent loss of income, even with the virtual programs, so it’s not like money is what’s driving us.” Dionne said. “This is a service to our families. Our No. 1 goal right now is making sure kids still have an opportunity to do music and theater this summer.”

In-person camps are suffering a significant loss of revenue as well, since social distancing restrictions have made it harder for them to accommodate their usual number of campers.

“Due to space limitations and increased staff-to-child ratio, we do not have as many openings as usual,” O’Rourke said. “Having fewer campers definitely impacts the bottom line and, for one thing means we can’t hire as many part-time staff as we usually do.”

With camps like the Boys & Girls Clubs and YMCA camps, which are primarily used as a means of summer-long child care, the space limitations affect not only the camp, but the families seeking child care, as well.



Boys & Girls Clubs of Central New Hampshire summer camp. Courtesy photo.

“All our camps currently are on waitlists,” O’Rourke said. “This makes it difficult for caregivers who need to get back to work, as their options may be more limited now.”

“We will be functioning at a smaller capacity because of having to split the campers into groups,” Bernard added. “We are attempting to get creative by looking for offsite locations and other spaces so that we are able to serve as many kids as we can.”

Some camp officials report that families might not yet feel comfortable sending their children to camp.

“Since the pandemic hit, people have been more cautious, and rightly so,” Rush said, “We’ve had very few new registrations since then.”

Pre-Covid-19, Challenger Sports averaged around 60,000 campers throughout the U.S. every summer, and around 2,500 in New Hampshire. This year, the program is looking at around 10,000 campers nationwide, with only 300 registered in New Hampshire so far.

“You don’t need to be a wizard with a calculator to see ... that [Covid-19] had decimated us,” Rush said. “We’ve been able to weather [the financial loss] up until now because we received government aid, but the harsh reality is, that money is about the run out, and we will have to start borrowing money from the banks. It will take us, and every other camp company, two to three years to recover, because we aren’t making

money this year, and next year we’ll be paying down our debt.”

Casparius noted that not only will Camp Naticook have fewer campers this summer but it will also need to hire and pay more staff since the campers will be divided into numerous small groups.

“The camp will probably lose money this summer,” he said.

Camp Naticook’s motivation for hosting summer camp this year is the same as that of The Majestic Theatre: to provide a service for campers and families.

“We are doing it because we know that families do need child care in order to go back to work themselves and kids need a sense of normalcy throughout all of this,” Casparius said. “They need to see their friends after being cooped up at home for the last few months, which they can only get at camp.”

Many camp directors said that if there is a silver lining to be found within the crippling impact Covid-19 has had on the summer camp business it’s the encouragement felt from the outpouring of support they have received from the community.

“We got a big reminder of how important camp is in people’s lives,” Constance said, “The letters and calls we have received have moved me to tears. Some families have even donated the tuition they paid to insure that we can continue what we do. I have always talked about camp being a family, and this situation has certainly reminded me of this fact.”

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# QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

## Hooray for history

The Hopkinton Historical Society's Putney Hill Cemetery Walk has been honored by the American Association for State and Local History with an Award of Excellence, "the most prestigious recognition for achievement in the preservation and interpretation of state and local history," according to a press release from the association. The Putney Hill Cemetery Walk, performed last October, is a theatrical production about the people who were — and were not — buried in the town's earliest cemetery. It featured local actors who portrayed 26 former Hopkinton residents, telling a story of Hopkinton's past. DVD copies of the cemetery walk are available from the society.

**Comment:** *In more good news for the Hopkinton Historical Society, it has received a \$10,000 grant as part of the CARES Act. "Given the pandemic, .... we have been unable to open our summer exhibit and hold its associated programs, or hold our regular fundraisers," Executive Director Heather Mitchell said in a press release. "This grant will help us rework our traditional summer exhibit into a driving tour and also help mitigate some of the losses from our fundraisers."*

## All aboard for even more history!

Seven railroad depots in Warner will be featured in the first online presentation in a new series called All Aboard! Economic, Social and Environmental Change During New Hampshire's Railroad Era, according to a press release from the Warner Historical Society. The discussion will focus on the politics behind the depots' locations, as well as the people who laid the tracks and worked at the stations. The free presentation will be held on Zoom on Thursday, June 11, at 7 p.m. and will offer the opportunity to ask questions and chat with the presenters, who are from the Warner Historical Society. To register and receive instructions for how to join the presentation, email [info@warnerhistorica.org](mailto:info@warnerhistorica.org).

**Comment:** *All Aboard! Economic, Social and Environmental Change During New Hampshire's Railroad Era is a free series that explores the impact of the railroad on rural New Hampshire towns, with support from the New Hampshire Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Visit [nhmuse.org](http://nhmuse.org).*

## Just plane fun

The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire's Around the World Flight Adventure received national recognition recently when it was featured in Newsweek magazine, according to a press release from the museum. The online education program is a virtual flight that took off from New Hampshire on May 1 and is circling the globe, flying over landmarks like Stonehenge, Buckingham Palace and the Eiffel Tower. Newsweek featured the flight as one of five ways to celebrate Memorial Day via livestream, as the C-47 transport plane simulator — a vintage 1930s aircraft — flew over the beaches at Normandy, where the D-Day landings took place in 1944. The program was recently awarded a \$5,000 CARES grant from New Hampshire Humanities, which will help it continue the flight into the summer. According to the release, the museum is expected to open later this summer, at which time the plane will return. Visit [aviationmuseumofnh.org](http://aviationmuseumofnh.org) for all archived and future flights.

**Comment:** *Nearly 1,000 people watched the Memorial Day livestream; according to the press release, one viewer commented that it was "the best way to honor the men and women on Memorial Day that I have ever spent. I am privileged to fly along."*

## Staying safe

New Hampshire has been named the eighth safest state in America in 2020, according to a WalletHub study. The rankings were released June 2 as part of National Safety Month. The study looked at data that ranged from assaults per capita to coronavirus support. The Granite State ranked second in assaults per capita, third in murders and non-negligent manslaughters per capita, eighth in loss amounts from climate disasters per capita, 13th in share of uninsured population and 19th in job security, according to the study.

**Comment:** *All six New England states made it into the Top 10, with Maine and Vermont at No. 1 and No. 2, respectively.*

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

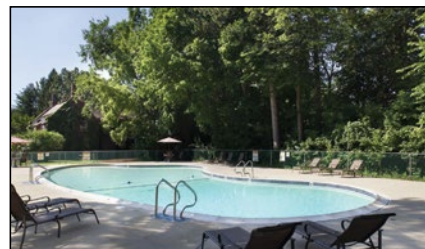
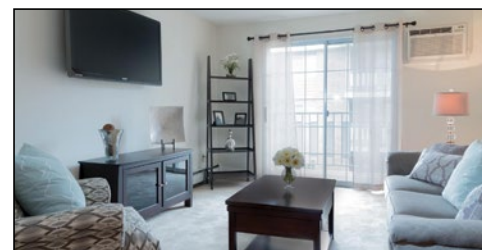
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## Good, bad and ugly



With the arrival of June a bit of normalcy is returning to everyday life. Not totally, of course; that's still a long way off. But while the pandemic hasn't abated, sports is talking about getting back to work sooner than later, though to start it will be in arenas that are more like TV studios with no fans in the stands. At least until football season, which is messing with plans for having crowds of 25,000 or so socially-distanced fans on hand. We'll leave that for a future discussion as plans become clearer in the next few weeks.

In the meantime, let's take a look at some of the good, bad and ugly things that happened in and to sports while most of us had our heads down.

So what'd you do during the pandemic? For **Bob Kraft** it was raising \$1 million to help folks affected adversely by the Covid-19 via auctioning off his Super Bowl ring from the Atlanta comeback, along with sending his plane to China to deliver medical supplies to NYC. For **Tom Brady** it was his TB-12 company capitalizing on it by pushing 30-day supplies of "immunity supplements" for \$45.

Ex-Patriot **Chad Johnson** also dropped a \$1,000 tip for a \$37 tab at a Cooper City, Florida, restaurant with this note written on the receipt: "Sorry about the pandemic, hope this helps."

Loved the great **Red Auerbach** line **Dan Shaughnessy** mentioned in his column on her Celtics connections upon the passing of sportscasting pioneer **Phyllis George**. She was married to one-time Celtics owner **John Y. Brown**, whom Red hated, and when John Y. was running for governor of Kentucky not too long after selling his interest in the C's he advised bluegrass voters, "you better watch out because he'll probably try and trade the Kentucky Derby for the Indianapolis 500."

Also dying during the siege, though not all from the coronavirus, were:

**Tom Dempsey** – the New Orleans kicker whose miraculous record-setting 63-yard FG to beat Detroit as the gun sounded in 1970 happened despite a birth defect that cost him half his kicking foot.

**Bobby Mitchell** – the Hall of Famer RB/WR was the first African American to play for the Redskins when the NFL's most southern city became its last team to integrate in 1962. He was traded there by Cleveland for reigning Heisman Trophy winner **Ernie Davis** to form a spectacular all-Syracuse backfield with **Jimmy Brown**. Sadly the doomed Davis died of leukemia before ever playing a down for Cleveland.

**Bob Watson** – A solid .295 lifetime hitter who hit .334 for the Sox in 1979, four years after scoring baseball's millionth run. He later hired the then-maligned **Joe Torre** to manage the Yanks during a short stint as GM.

Best local back-in-the-day Twitter line goes to political gadfly **Grant Bosse**, who wrote after the Pats got ripped off in the **Rob Gronkowski** trade, "if we can only get a fourth for Gronk, what can we get for **John Hannah**?"

The best pandemic Twitter video was the "you get what you deserve for not social distancing" moment of a guy drilling his just-two-feet-behind-him nitwit friend in the head with his backswing while hitting off a batting tee.

On the bright side the likely cancellation of the rest of the regular NBA season probably gives us an extra year of **LeBron James**, which based on his 25.7 scoring average cost him 514 points. That leaves him exactly 4,300 (34,087) behind **Kareem Abdul Jabbar's** all-time high 38,387 points. That means instead of being in range to pass Jabbar near the end of 2021-2022, it's now more likely he'll have to play in 2022-2023 for the record to fall.

The Patriots unveiled new uniforms. While I do really like the new/old home blue on blue uniforms they've worn on Sunday and Monday night games, my only reaction is, would the Yankees go away from the pinstripes for the sake of merchandising? Classic, iconic teams like the Pats have to stick with tradition; otherwise they're just like everyone else. So booooo!

I can't wait for the games, any games, to start just so talk radio, the newspapers and pundits will stop blathering on about everything Tom Brady, and I mean everything — Belichick, golf, TB-12 and the 97 "real" reasons various experts are saying for why he left. Ditto for exhausting and redundantly rapid chatter on **Jarrett Stidham**. Get over it. Brady's now one of them and Stidham's the guy.

Finally, to those who think Coach B can't win with a fourth-round choice as his QB: Forget the "Brady was taken 199th" argument. In 2008 he won 11 games with a guy taken 230th overall who hadn't started or played meaningful time in any game since high school. By year's end **Matt Cassel** had put four 40-plus-point games on the board, including 49 and 47 in Weeks 15 and 16. They did miss the playoffs, but after tying Miami for best record in the AFC, it was on, like the 58th tie breaker, which made them the only 11-win team this century to not make the playoffs.

So relax, people.

Email Dave Long at [dlong@hippopress.com](mailto:dlong@hippopress.com).

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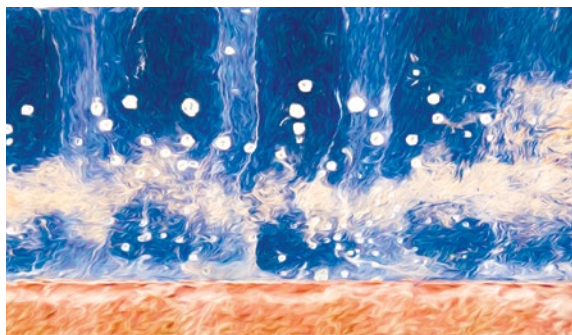
# ARTS

## THE ROUNDUP

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

• **Submit your photography:** The New Hampshire Art Association is accepting online submissions for its 41st annual Parfitt Juried Photography Exhibition now through June 22, by 5 p.m. Both NHAA members and non-member area artists are invited to submit one to two pieces for the exhibition, which will be on display at the NHAA's Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth) from Aug. 5 through Aug. 29. This year's juror is Don Toothaker, photographer, photography instructor and director of Photographer Adventures at Hunt's Photo and Video in Manchester. The exhibition honors photographer Jack Parfitt, now deceased, who was a board member of the NHAA. Parfitt spent his last 12 years travelling abroad, taking photographs in Russia, China, Afghanistan, Morocco, Iceland and Africa, and was given rare permission to photograph the Great Wall of China. An opening and award ceremony is tentatively scheduled for Friday, Aug. 7, from 5 to 7 p.m., where first-, second- and third-place winners and honorable mentions will be announced. If NHAA is unable to hold the ceremony due to Covid-19 concerns, the ceremony will be held online. Visit [nhartassociation.org](http://nhartassociation.org).

• **Seeking inexperienced or aspiring directors:** Manchester-based theater company Cue Zero Theatre Co. announced in a press release that it is looking for an early-career director to work on a production for the 2021 season. The chosen director will work with company staff, fundraise and promote and produce the show, and will have full access to all of the company's resources for the show, including sets, costumes, props, lighting and sound



"Boiling Point" by Renee Giffroy, 2nd place winner in the 2019 Parfitt exhibition. Courtesy photo.



Winds of Fear by Gledé Kabongo



The Seacoast Repertory Theatre presents a livestream of *The Marvelous Wonderettes: Caps & Gowns*. Courtesy photo.

equipment, social media, artist database, base-funding and more. Rehearsals and performances will be held in the greater Manchester area. If interested, email your resume and a short letter of introduction that includes a statement about the piece you'd like to pitch to [cztheatre@gmail.com](mailto:cztheatre@gmail.com). Video chat interviews will begin on June 15. Cue Zero Theatre Co. is focused on creating professional opportunities for playwrights, directors, designers and actors in the early stages of their careers. Preference will be given to directors with limited experience who are looking to jumpstart their career. Visit [cztheatre.com](http://cztheatre.com).

• **Fearless author wins more literary awards:** New Hampshire Writers Project author Gledé Kabongo received multiple awards for her psychological thriller *Winds of Fear*, according to a press release from NHWP. *Winds of Fear* is the third book in Kabongo's *Fearless* series. In the first book, *Game of Fear*, the series protagonist, Abbie, is a high school student with dreams of getting into the Ivy League, but she has a dirty secret. One day, Abbie receives a package containing photos that would reveal her secret, and the anonymous sender is willing to keep the evidence safe — for a price. The book was a No. 1 Amazon Bestseller. In its sequel, *Autumn of Fear*, Abbie is a college student studying to become a surgeon when she wakes up in a hospital after a violent attack with no recollection of what happened. Once again, Abbie must confront a

series of secrets and lies to find her assailant and find out why he tried to kill her. The book won a National Indie Excellence Award. In *Winds of Fear*, Abbie is a grown adult with a family of her own, but when she meets her neighbors, who seem to have a fascination with her oldest son, she becomes suspicious. When her son turns up missing, Abbie must solve the mystery and uncover what secrets her neighbors are hiding to save her family before it's too late. *Winds of Fear* was recently named an Eric Hoffer Award Grand Prize Finalist and category winner and an IPPY (Independent Publisher Book Award) Silver medalist. "I'm elated that *Winds of Fear* has struck a chord with readers and judges alike," Kabongo said in the press release. "I wanted each story in the series to be told with gripping suspense and powerful emotional resonance. It's humbling that the judges of multiple literary award programs have validated that desire." Find the *Fearless* books on Amazon, and visit [gledekabongo.com](http://gledekabongo.com) for more information about the author.

• **Authors on Zoom:** Gibson's Bookstore, based in Concord, has two virtual author events coming up. On Wednesday, June 10, at 7 p.m., Concord Monitor alum Meg Heckman, in conversation with fellow Concord Monitor alum Pamela Walsh, will present her new book, *Political Godmother: Nackey Scripps Loeb and the Newspaper that Shook the Republican Party*. The book looks at the political

life of the former Union Leader newspaper publisher against the backdrop of the right-wing media landscape of the late 20th century. On Thursday, June 11, at 6 p.m., Juliet Grames, author of *The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna*, will be in conversation with Erika Swyler, author of *Light from Other Stars* and *The Book of Speculation*. The events are free and will be streamed live via the video conferencing platform Zoom. They will not be recorded. The links to access the virtual events are posted on their respective event pages on [gibsonsbookstore.com](http://gibsonsbookstore.com).

• **Musical from home:** The Seacoast Repertory Theatre presents a livestream of *The Marvelous Wonderettes: Caps & Gowns* on Saturday, June 6, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, June 7, at 7:30 p.m. The musical comedy is a sequel to the Off-Broadway hit *The Marvelous Wonderettes*. Set in 1958, the musical follows four high school girls — Betty Jean, Cindy Lou, Missy and Suzy — as they sing about their senior year, celebrate with their fellow classmates and teachers and prepare for their future. The second act takes place 10 years later, when the girls get together once again to celebrate Missy's marriage. Songs include "Rock Around the Clock," "At the Hop," "Dancing in the Street," "River Deep, Mountain High" and 25 more hits. Livestream performances are performed live and not recorded. Tickets cost \$20 per person. Visit [seacoastrep.org](http://seacoastrep.org).

— Angie Sykeny

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# INSIDE/OUTSIDE

## Home puzzling

Escape rooms go virtual — for free

By Angie Sykeny  
asykeny@hippopress.com

Escape rooms have been hit hard by the Covid-19 pandemic, but some have come up with creative ways to keep players engaged while their doors are closed.

Five New Hampshire escape rooms — NH Granite State Escape in Manchester, Break Free 603 in Amherst, Monkey Mind Escape Rooms in Portsmouth, Mystery NH in North Conway and Time Quest NH in Littleton — are among 25 escape rooms from around New England that have come together to develop a free, at-home virtual escape room experience for players.

“We have to remind people that we’re still here and, ideally, will still be here at the end of [the pandemic],” Beth Scrimger of Mystery NH Escape Rooms said. “Hopefully, it will give people a glimpse into an escape room they weren’t familiar with before so they [think], ‘I can’t wait until it opens again.’”

The escape room concept originated as a subgenre of point-and-click video games in which the player is locked in a room and must find his way out using only the objects

within the room. Real-life escape rooms have various types of objectives, based on a theme or backstory, that involve finding clues and solving puzzles around the room.

The theme for the virtual escape room experience is “Everyday Superheroes: Always Saving Our Butts.” As the story goes, an evil villain named Dr. T.P. Rolls has snuck into town in the middle of the night and stolen every last roll of toilet paper.

“He’s cleared out every bathroom, linen closet, and store shelf and brought the stash to his hidden toilet paper warehouse,” reads the story description on the New England Room Escapes website. “Your help is desperately needed! Assemble a team of everyday superheroes — from doctors to police officers to teachers — to find the secret lair and Save Our Butts!”

“There are so many people out there keeping our world turning right now,” Scrimger said. “Teachers, farmers, [mail delivery] drivers, grocery store [workers] — they are our everyday superheroes, so we decided to come up with a story that honors them.”

To play, visit the NERE website, where you’ll find links to each virtual escape room

**EVERYDAY SUPERHEROES**  
Always Saving Our Butts

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**ESCAPE ROOMS**  
OF NEW ENGLAND

The evil villain Dr. T.P. Rolls has crept into town in the middle of the night and stolen every last square of toilet paper.

He's cleared out every bathroom, linen closet, and store shelf and brought the stash to his hidden toilet paper warehouse.

Your help is desperately needed! Assemble a team of everyday superheroes—from doctors to police officers to teachers—to find the secret lair and Save Our Butts!

Graphic courtesy of neroomescapes.com

on the participating escape rooms’ respective websites. Each virtual escape room is unique and features different objectives and puzzles.

“The escape rooms have all developed their own concepts with their own flair,” Scrimger said. “Some are really challenging; some are super simple. Some require you to write things down on a piece of paper to solve the puzzle, or you have to complete a certain task to make something else happen.”

Upon completing an escape room, you’ll be given the name of an occupation of an everyday hero. That occupation

is your “key.” Return to the NERE website and input the key for that escape room to receive credit. Players who complete all 25 escape rooms by June 30 will receive discount codes to use at those escape rooms once they reopen for business and will be entered for a chance to win the grand prize: two tickets for one free game at each of those escape rooms. 🍌

### “Everyday Superheroes: Always Saving Our Butts”

Visit [neroomescapes.com](http://neroomescapes.com) to start your virtual escape room adventure, going on now through June 30.

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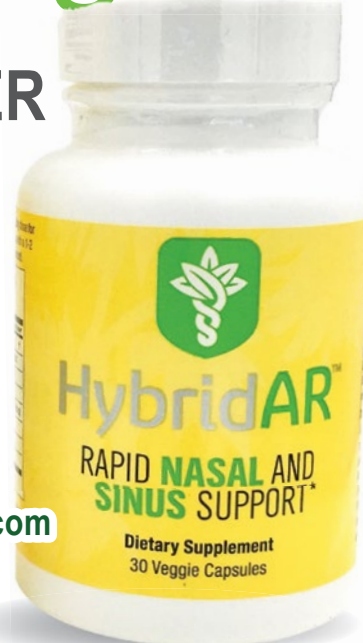
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INSIDE/OUTSIDE  
**KIDDIE**  
— POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

**Ocean celebration**

The Seacoast Science Center (seacoast-sciencecenter.org) is celebrating **World Oceans Day** (Monday, June 8) with programming that started June 1 and will run through Monday. Catch up on previous days' presentations (including a Q&A scheduled with marine mammal rescue experts and environmental storytelling). Presentations on the schedule for the rest of the week include a discussion about plastic-eating bacteria (Thursday, June 4, at 11 a.m.), a creature feature with a baby octopus (Friday, June 5, at 11 a.m.), a virtual 5K on Saturday (June 6) and a World Ocean Day Family trivia challenge on Monday, June 8, at 6 p.m. (register in advance). Find a full schedule and links to all the programming on their website.

**Camps, virtually**

The **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center in Concord** (starhop.com) will host week-long virtual camps starting the week of June 22. The camps will feature live Zoom sessions in the mornings and afternoons with activities for kids to do on their own in between, according to the website. The materials needed for each camp will be sent to campers and are included in the price of registration, the website said. The first two camps are geared toward younger kids — "Discover the Dinosaurs" for ages 5 to 8 years old and "Science Explorers" for ages 5 to 7 years old — and adult supervision will be required, the website said. Other camps include "Tech for

Ecology" (July 13 to July 17 for ages 10 to 14 years) and "Astronomy 101" (Aug. 3 to Aug. 7, for ages 8 to 12; the final week). The cost is \$90 to \$110, depending on the camp, with discounts for members and for second campers from the same family. Find the full list of camps and registration forms on the website.

The **Currier Art Center in Manchester** (currier.org) has several camps and online classes scheduled for the summer to include week-long classes (meeting Monday, Wednesday and Friday) for ages 6 to 10 and middle schoolers (with a daily week-long camp, Comics Camp, in mid-July) and weekly classes for kids, middle schoolers, teens and adults. Week-long camps cost \$105, weekly classes start at \$110 (with discounts for members and people taking multiple classes), according to the website.

At the New Hampshire Audubon, they're calling their online camp a **Backyard Summer Camp** (nhaudubon.org), with eight week-long sessions planned with programs for ages 4 to 5, 6 to 9 and 10 to 12. The programs will feature a virtual circle, live animal presentations, activities campers can do at their own pace and more. The cost is \$70 or \$100 per week (depending on camper age) with discounts for members, according to the website. Themes include "Feathered Friends," "It's a Buggy World," "Be a Scientist" and more.

**Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center** in Hollis (wildsalamander.com) has one-off online classes (in addition to its lineup of in-person summer camps). Felting classes, most open to grade 3 through adults, are scheduled starting June 16; they cost \$27 and felting kits with materials for one project will be available for pickup the day before the classes, which will be held on Zoom, the website said. Projects include butterflies, ladybugs and cactus. 🐸

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,  
I have this sign from The Concord Dairy. I'm not sure what to do with it and am wondering if you could help with a value. It's a big one, 8'x4', and it could be a plywood. I'm not sure of the age.



Courtesy photo.

like it for wall coverage. And it's a good piece of history within the state.

Carl, I would advertise that you are looking for a home for it. I think I would start off with a value at \$200 and see where that goes. Thanks for sharing and I hope you find

it a new home.

*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. 🐸*

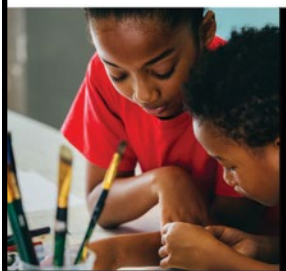
Carl

Dear Carl,  
My first thought for you is if you market it in Concord, I think you might find collectors. The size is an issue, but it appears to be in good shape.

The Concord Dairy was around from the early 1900s till the 1970s, when it was bought out by Weeks. I hope you can find a buyer within the state. As I said, size is an issue for some collectors who prefer smaller items, but a restaurant or business might

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131385

INSIDE/OUTSIDE THE GARDENING GUY

## Plants for free

### How to divide your flowers

By Henry Homeyer  
[listings@hippopress.com](mailto:listings@hippopress.com)



Barerooting with a hose will ensure you have no weed roots. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

I spend a lot in plant nurseries. At \$10 or more a pop, it is easy to spend a hundred dollars quick as a blink. But I'm also a firm believer in dividing my perennials so that I don't have to spend so much. Once you have established a good plant palette, you can increase numbers by dividing plants. Don't be afraid to give it a try.

You need to learn a little about each plant in order to know if the roots can easily be separated, allowing you to divide plants. And although horticulturists may tell you that the time of year is important, in my experience you can divide most things anytime. Peonies are supposed to be moved or divided only in the fall after they have gone dormant, but I once moved 50 peonies for a client in June and they thrived.

One way to learn about propagation is by using a good text. My bible is *Manual of Herbaceous Ornamental Plants* by Steven M. Stills. Although the publisher sells new copies at \$58.80, used copies are readily available for a fraction of the price.

The book tells when to divide (spring or fall) and whether plants spread easily by seed. It also gives cultural tips about where and how to plant each flower. Most common and many unusual plants are included, one or two pages on each. There are drawings for each, with a few color photos in the back.

Another way to learn about dividing plants is to just do it. Dig up a plant and examine the roots. I use a drain spade to do this. A drain spade is a pointed shovel with a long, narrow blade (commonly 6 inches wide and 16 inches long). I plunge it into the soil and pry back a little. Then I repeat the procedure on all sides. When the plant is loose, I lift it out.

Some plants have long, deep roots. Others, such as peonies, have roots that look like tubers. Most have lots of string-like roots going in all directions. If the bed you are working in is full of weeds, it is important to distinguish between grass or weed roots and those of your plant. Observe the color and texture of the plant roots and remove any roots that are different. Daylily roots, for example, are very distinctive in both color and shape.

When dividing a plant, you may wish to actually bare-root it. Do this by shaking off any soil attached, or washing the root system with a hose to remove the soil. Weed or grass roots will be obvious when you do that. I normally do that for any gifted plant because I want to avoid getting any invasive weeds that might come with the plant. I learned that lesson the hard way, having accepted some nice iris plants that had goutweed roots embedded that then have plagued

me for 30 years.

If all the roots are attached to a single stem, you cannot divide the plant. But most plants are not like that. You can usually tease the roots apart, taking sections of the clump apart. Each chunk will give you a nice plant.

Hostas are common shade plants with lovely foliage. They do produce white flowers in mid-summer, but most people grow them for the foliage. Big clumps commonly are created as the plant expands, roots sending up new plants. Dig up a big clump and you might get a dozen plants — or more.

I was dividing some hostas recently and found some clumps hard to pull apart. So I used a curved, serrated knife to cut through some roots, allowing me to separate them. If you don't have a garden knife, buy a steak knife at a yard sale or junk shop — or sneak one out of the kitchen — and it will work just fine.

And then I wanted to move some common orange daylilies. These send out long roots, which then send up new plants, so one plant can become many just in the time it takes to get a bottle of orange pop from the kitchen. Or a year to two.

With the daylilies, I used a shovel to cut through the roots between plants to get them into clumps of a manageable size. Don't worry about damaging roots or leaves; these puppies are indestructible. Just dig up, cut apart and move.

For spring-blooming plants, digging now may hinder flowering this year. For fall-blooming plants, that is less of a problem. Some plants benefit by digging, dividing and fertilizing. Steven Stills' book mentions how often to do that: for purple coneflower, for example, it is every four years. For Shasta daisies, every other spring is best. And so on.

Always choose a cool, cloudy day for dividing plants. Even a drizzly day. Plants can go into shock if divided at noon on a hot day. I like to do it in the evening when rain is in the forecast.

The great thing about digging up a big perennial is not only that you have more plants, but your friends will, too!

*Henry is now teaching Zoom classes to gardening clubs and libraries. Contact him at [henry.homeyer@comcast.net](mailto:henry.homeyer@comcast.net). He is the author of four gardening books.*

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# 5 great reasons to take your car for a weekly ride



By Ray Magliozzi

*Dear Car Talk: Of all the "how to deal with the pandemic" advice I've read so far, no one has recommended that we periodically start our cars. I'm afraid that if people aren't going out at all, the first time they try to start their cars, there will be a lot of dead batteries — and no one to jump them. I plan to take my car for a ride once a week until the COVID-19 crisis is over. Is that a good idea and, if so, how long or far or fast should I drive? — Cecily*

I do recommend you take your car out for a ride once a week. There are several good reasons for this. First, running your car for 15 or 20 minutes will keep the battery charged up. That way the car is ready for use should you ever need it. If you drive for 15-30 minutes at moderate speeds once a week, that ought to be enough to keep your battery in good shape.

Second, when you drive the car, you'll keep your moving parts lubricated. Not just the stuff under the hood, but even things like your shifter linkage and parking brake cable.

Third, by moving the car occasionally, you'll avoid creating flat spots on your tires. Even if you just move it 1 foot in either direction, you'd address that. But certainly, taking a ride once a week will do the trick.

Fourth, when you take the car out, you disturb any rodents or Murder Hornets who've been taking up residence in your engine compartment, reading Dwell magazine and working on their midcentury modern air filter decor. Rodent damage can be significant. And expensive. So, actually, if you live in an area where you're particularly susceptible to that, you might even consider using some rodent traps around the tires. We prefer the humane variety, but to each his own.

Finally, taking a ride once a week is good for your mental health when you're otherwise stuck at home. It changes the scenery a little bit, and reminds you that there's more to life than your four walls and *Better Call Saul*.

*Dear Car Talk:*

*How much of a refund does a garage owe when they screw up? My 2006 Honda Civic's wipers would stop after 30 minutes. A local garage replaced an electronic control box for \$750, parts and labor. The next time it rained, the wipers failed again. I then took it to the Honda dealer, who found several problems with the wiper motor, replaced it and the car is fine now. I don't think the local garage was dishonest, just incompetent. I feel they owe me the labor charges, plus whatever markup they took on the new part. They don't think they owe me anything since they did their best. — Robert*

I can tell you what we'd do in a case like this. We'd give the customer their money back. Then we'd put the part back on our shelf. And it would sit there, glaring at us every day, as a reminder not to guess — but to actually figure out what's wrong. Then we'd pray another '06 Civic would come in needing a body control module, so the part would stop mocking us.

These days, every shop has access to all kinds of online diagnostic tools and mechanics forums to help eliminate a lot of guesswork. And shame on any shop that doesn't avail themselves of those resources. When you come across something unusual, it's often possible to find a post from another mechanic who had a car with the same problem, and can tell you what fixed it. Or what he tried that didn't fix it. If you'd come into our shop, I probably would have suspected your wiper motor first, because I know from experience that they tend to overheat and conk out like that due to an open circuit. But let's assume I didn't know, and I was stumped. And I couldn't find anything definitive online to help me.

The first thing I'd do is let you know that I didn't know the answer, so you could make an informed decision about whether you wanted me to take an educated guess. Maybe you wanted to go to the dealer instead, or to someone smarter than me. Then, with your knowledge and assent, if there were several options, I'd guess the cheapest part first. So I would have proposed

that we get a rebuilt wiper motor from my regular auto parts supplier for about \$150. Since I do a ton of business with him every day, I know he'd take the motor back and put it back on his shelf if need be. I would have installed the wiper motor, and told you to report back after the next rainstorm. If that fixed it, great. If not, I would have put your old wiper motor back and refunded the money, or applied it to our next guess.

The next guess might have been that body control module, depending on what information I found. But I might have looked for a used one first, instead of a new one. Why? On a 2006 car, everything's used. So why not save you some money, especially if it might not work, and we can't return it? Unfortunately, the mechanic you went to guessed, and guessed wrong. That happens. But unless you gave your consent to that, knowing it was a guess, he really should take responsibility for the error.

Giving back a customer's money and eating your diagnostic time and labor hurts. But we tend to assume that any business we lose with a refund gets more than made up for over time by having repeat, loyal customers.

So you might try him one more time and see if he'll compromise and give you half your money back. If he says no, never go back there again. If he says yes, take it, and then never go back.

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# 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 River Canoe** **Dude's Barbershop** **Pembroke Pines Country Club** **Scenic Railriders** **Vianor Tire Center and Auto Repair**

## RETAIL

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

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

**Goldsmiths Gallery** | "20% off most jewelry in May!", W-S 10am-5pm, 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** **Cole Gardens** **Deerfield Leathers** **Gibson's Bookstore**

## RETAIL

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

## RESTAURANTS

**Area 23** | "Outdoor Live Music Wed & Sat!", TW/FS 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** **Joe King**

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

**Smokeshow** **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 Viteritti Sports Chiropractor** | By Appointment: 627.6381 Advanced Injury Treatment Center, 82 Palomino Ln, Bedford 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 Ink** | "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, laserinknh.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, superdogsdayscare.com

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

## RETAIL

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

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

## RETAIL

**GREAT NORTH** | Beer pickup W/Th/F 3-6pm, S/Su 1-4pm, Delivery M/W/F, 1050 Holt Ave #14, online ordering & details at greatnorthaleworks.com

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

**Apotheca** **Bookery**

**Cats Kingdom** **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, restorationcafeh.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

**Asian Breeze** **Belmont Hall** **Bookery Cafe**

**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** **Camp Lovewell**

**Creative Ventures Art Studio** **The Enrichment Center at 2nd Nature Academy**

**MVC Eye Care** **Nature's Pathways at 2nd Nature Academy**

## RETAIL

**IncredibREW** | "Curbside Wine!", W-F 12-6pm, S 9am-5pm, Su 12-5pm, 891-2477, 112 Daniel Webster Hwy, incredibrew.com

**M&C Clothing and Gifts** | "A Local way of living. A sustainable way of shopping", M Tu Th F Sa 9-5, 886-6727, 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**

**Just off the Oval** **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 Village Eatery** | "American Home Cooking", M-S 11-8, 262-5196, 583 Daniel Webster Highway, facebook.com/villageeatery583

**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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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll  
food@hippopress.com

• **Nashua approves expanded outdoor dining:** Restaurants on Main Street in downtown Nashua now have added space for outdoor dining, thanks to legislation passed by the city’s Board of Aldermen on May 21, according to a press release. Main Street is still open to vehicular traffic but has now been narrowed down to one lane in either direction, along with turn lanes and electronic signage to inform drivers of the changes. Some on-street parking has been eliminated to accommodate outdoor dining space for restaurants. Spaces still in use have been approved by the city to be used as 15-minute parking spaces from noon to 9 p.m. daily, except for handicap spaces. According to the release, these regulations will remain in place until Nov. 15.

• **A&E reopens Manchester cafe:** A&E Coffee & Tea reopened its Manchester location (1000 Elm St.) on May 30 for takeout, on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. only, according to a press release. The company is testing a new online ordering app that it hopes to roll out at all three locations in the coming weeks. Once orders are placed online and completed, they will be available for pickup outside on a table under the awning. The full drink menu is available at A&E’s Manchester cafe, with a limited bean selection. Visit [ordering.app/aecoffeee](http://ordering.app/aecoffeee).

• **More markets return:** Two more local farmers markets are scheduled to begin their summer seasons this week. The opening date of the **New Boston Farmers Market** will be Saturday, June 6, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the town common (corner of Route 13 and Meetinghouse Road). The market is expected to continue every Saturday through mid-October, except on July 4. On Wednesday, June 10, the **Merrimack Farmers Market** will kick off its season from 3 to 6 p.m. at Vault Motor Storage (526 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack); that market will continue every Wednesday through Oct. 7. Both markets feature a variety of local farms and other vendors selling fruits, vegetables, baked goods, meats, eggs and more. Visit [newbostonfarmersmarket.webs.com](http://newbostonfarmersmarket.webs.com) or [merrimacknh.gov/farmers-market](http://merrimacknh.gov/farmers-market).

• **Sunny days ahead:** Owners Alli and Bill Seney of the Manchvegas Brew Bus are now booking private events using a four-tap mobile draft system built from a renovated vintage 1979 Sunline camper. Known as **Lil’ Sunny the Camper**, it features taps that can pour anything from craft beer to wine, prosecco, draft mead or kombucha — you provide what drinks you want served at your event, and 22 ▶

# FOOD

## Game-changing eats and more

New sports bar and cornhole court opens in Londonderry



Photo by Matt Ingersoll.

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingsoll@hippopress.com

Bob Carrier and his younger brother Rodney are both avid players of cornhole, a game they said has consistently grown in popularity and has spawned multiple competitive leagues in New Hampshire and beyond. As the Carriers got to know fellow players, Bob realized there weren’t many communal spaces for them to enjoy food and drinks that could also accommodate cornhole leagues. Some members were even driving long distances — an hour and a half or longer — on weeknights to compete in tournaments.

Enter the Game Changer Sports Bar & Grill in Londonderry, which officially opened for outdoor dining and cornhole games on May 22. The new sports bar features a full menu of original appetizers, burgers, sandwiches, wraps and salads, plus more than two dozen beers and wines.

Named after one of the popular brand names of cornhole bean bags, Game Changer has an outdoor patio that can seat up to 26 diners. There are currently three outdoor cornhole boards out in front of the parking lot for anyone to pick up and play while they wait for a table.

Being open for outdoor dining only, Carrier said, has been effective at helping his servers and cooks get used to the new menu. So far the reception has been very positive.

“Our concept was to have not your everyday pub food ... or fried food that makes you not feel very good after,” he said. “We’ve got really great salads, wraps [and] grilled foods ... and a lot of the names are based off of sports [terms].”

Of particular note are the burgers, which Carrier said have been Game Changer’s best-selling items thus far. The Game Changer burger features an 8-ounce beef patty, topped with braised pork carnitas,

cheddar jack cheese and jalapenos on a brioche roll. It’s then served with pico de gallo and lime. Others include the Buckaroo Burger, which has American cheese, bacon, a barbecue sauce drizzle, lettuce, tomato and onion rings; and a black bean veggie burger with American cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion and guacamole.

On the appetizer menu, popular sellers have included the Illegal Touch of the Hand Nachos, (loaded up with cheddar jack, pico de gallo, guacamole, sour cream, scallions, jalapenos and the option to add chicken or pork carnitas); the Playoff Pot Stickers, featuring pork-filled dumplings seasoned with authentic Asian spices and served with scallion soy sauce; and the Last Kid Picked Pretzels (Bavarian pretzel soft sticks served with an artisan beer cheese sauce).

Wraps, like the Changeup Chicken Caesar, the Gridiron Guac BCLT or the Play Action Pulled Pork, are available on white or wheat tortillas, and are served with regular or sweet potato fries. There are also multiple flatbread options, like the Powerplay Pepperoni (with marinara sauce, mozzarella cheese and smoked pepperoni); the Changeup Cheeseburger (with Angus beef, marinara, red onion, mozzarella and fries); and the Hat Trick Hawaiian (with marinara, mozzarella, Canadian bacon, sweet pineapple and bacon crumbles).

The bar features 16 taps of domestic beers and a rotating selection of local craft brews, as well as bottled and canned beers, some wines and cocktails, like the Game Changer house margarita, which has Hornitos Reposado tequila, triple sec liqueur, agave syrup and fresh lime juice.

The dessert is the only section of the food menu not currently available, according to Carrier, but you can expect several sweet treats soon, like fudge brownie sundaes with vanilla ice cream, hot fudge and



Gridiron Guacamole BCLT Wrap. Courtesy photo.

whipped cream; cinnamon sugar-covered churros; and multi-layered dark chocolate cakes topped with white chocolate mousse.

When the bar opens indoors, a large designated section will have eight lanes for cornhole, each with high-top chairs and tables, for either competitive or recreational games. For now, Carrier said he’s thinking of having each lane open on a first-come, first-served basis, with rentals for larger groups and leagues. Sanitized bean bags will be available for a small charge.

Behind each cornhole board is an iPad that will keep score of your game. During tournaments, the iPads will be synced up to each 75-inch television screen on the opposite wall that will keep track of the brackets.

Carrier said the concept of Game Changer was not to attract cornhole league members or competitive players, but also to create a spot for anyone to play the game while enjoying a shared appetizer, a burger and fries or a beer.

“Everybody can play cornhole. ... It doesn’t matter what age you are. You can throw the bean bag,” he said. “We also like the family atmosphere of just coming to hang out, playing cornhole and maybe watching sports on our TVs. ... There have already been a lot of people that have reached out to us to hold tournaments and games to raise money for school sports, fundraisers and stuff like that. So once we get open inside, we’ll start booking those.” 🍷

### Game Changer Sports Bar & Grill

**Where:** 4 Orchard View Drive, Londonderry  
**Hours:** Sunday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday until 11:30 p.m. (subject to change; kitchen closes an hour earlier)  
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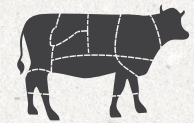
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**FOOD**

## Comfort classics

Flannel Tavern opens in Chichester

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingersoll@hippopress.com

For Carrie Williams of Contoocook, flannel is reminiscent of the comforts of her childhood home. So it seemed only fitting that she would call her new restaurant, which features a menu of scratch-made comfort items, the Flannel Tavern. The eatery opened for takeout last month on Route 28 in Chichester, in the former space of Parker's Roast Beef & Seafood.

"Flannel was big in my family when I was growing up. I grew up in a log cabin, [and] we would get flannel for Christmas, we had flannel sheets when it was cold, things like that," Williams said. "So flannel to me is comfort, it's family ... and the menu is just that. The menu is really based on a lot of comfort foods I grew up with."

Williams and her partner, Steve Reddy, took over the space and began renovations in mid-January. According to Reddy, the couple's original target date for opening was the week of St. Patrick's Day — the same week that Gov. Chris Sununu announced restaurants in New Hampshire would only be allowed to operate via takeout, curbside and drive-thru services. Once that happened, Reddy said, the decision was made to get the kitchen ready first so the Flannel Tavern can at least open for takeout. Within the last couple of weeks, they received their liquor license and added a few tables for outdoor dining.

The tavern's current menu features a variety of options with their own unique twists on local ingredients. The soft pretzels on its appetizer menu, for example, feature a side of mustard from the Blackwater Mustard Co. of Contoocook. Other appetizers include hand-cut french fries, nachos with added options of pulled pork or chicken, and hand-battered chicken tenders, which come either plain with ranch sauce or Buffalo style with blue cheese dressing.

The burgers and sandwiches, Williams said, have been among the top sellers since the Flannel Tavern introduced its menu to the community. There's the house Flannel burger, which is topped with pickles, mustard and four ounces of corned beef; the Ma'am-a-Ja'am burger, which has pulled pork and slaw; and a multi-layered sandwich simply dubbed "The Samich" that has ham, turkey and salami, American, Swiss and provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, purple onion, mayonnaise and Blackwater Mustard Co.'s sweet hot mustard.



"The Samich" (ham, turkey and salami, with American, provolone and Swiss cheese, tomato, purple onion, mayonnaise and sweet hot mustard on a ciabatta roll). Courtesy photo.

Entrees are available too, one of which — the "MacDaddy" macaroni and cheese — is made to order every time, Williams said. That comes with garlic toast and a house or Caesar salad.

There are a few specials Williams has featured on the takeout menu. Recent options include the deep-fried macaroni and cheese balls, and a Sweet Italian sausage, pepper and onion sandwich that actually began as a customer request.

The beer and wine menu has a rotating selection of domestic and local craft options. Williams said more dinner entrees and desserts are expected to be added to the menu when the tavern is able to open to full capacity. Eventually, a breakfast menu will get added to the mix too.

Williams, who worked as a caterer for more than a decade, said things have gone very well so far, despite the occasional supply hiccup. She's had to make some adjustments to the menu when items like prime rib become unavailable — and has even had to bring in her own home freezer for extra storage when they needed more room but couldn't purchase one — but she said the community has responded to the new eatery fondly.

"We were unsure of what it was going to be like, but people have been very understanding of the changes and everybody's been very supportive," she said. "Everybody's been flocking out too. ... The phone doesn't stop ringing." 🍷

### Flannel Tavern

**Where:** 345 Suncook Valley Road, Chichester  
**Hours:** Thursday, noon to 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday, noon to 8 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 7 p.m. (subject to change)

**More info:** Visit flanneltavern.com, find them on Facebook @flanneltavern or call 406-1196

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# IN THE KITCHEN WITH EDDIE SAKTANASET



Eddie Saktanaset of Londonderry is the owner of Muse Thai Bistro (581 Second St., Suite C, Manchester, 647-5547, musethaibistro.com) and Arincha (80 Constitutional Blvd., Merrimack, 420-8235, arincha.com), two Asian restaurants with entirely different concepts. Muse Thai Bistro features authentic Japanese sushi and Thai options, while Arincha has more of a simplified fast casual approach, offering items like boba tea and Hawaiian-style poke bowls in addition to Thai street food. Born in Thailand, Saktanaset came to the United States when he was 6 years old. His parents own Siam Orchid Thai Bistro in Concord, which has been open for more than two decades. Due to Covid-19, limited menu offerings are currently available for pickup or delivery from both Muse Thai Bistro and Arincha.

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

The one tool I must have in my hands is a yanagiba [Japanese chef's knife], primarily used to slice boneless fish fillets for sushi.

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

Sushi ... and a cup of bubble tea that my wife makes for me on a daily basis.

### What is your favorite local restaurant?

Siam Orchid [Thai Bistro in Concord]. Most of the recipes come right from my mom.

### What celebrity would you like to see ordering from one of your restaurants?

Chef Masaharu Morimoto ... [from the television show] *Iron Chef*.

### What is your favorite thing on either of your menus?

There are a few but my personal favorite for Thai food would be [the] pad Thai, drunken

noodles, Bangkok noodles and massaman curry. For sushi, the Arincha poke bowl, shrimp tempura maki and spicy tuna. For boba tea, it would be the black milk tea and the honey dew milk tea.

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

Thai [food], sushi and boba tea. That was why we opened Arincha. We wanted [the menu] to be geared more toward street food, which is how you will find it when you go to Thailand.

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

[My wife and I] usually just like to sit and relax and spend time with our son at home. But if we wanted to cook, our favorite would be to bake cookies or make Rice Krispies treats.

— Matt Ingersoll

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### Homemade pad Thai

Courtesy of Eddie Saktanaset of Muse Thai Bistro in Manchester and Arincha in Merrimack

- Flat rice noodles
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- Protein (your choice of chicken, shrimp or tofu), cut into small pieces
- 2 eggs, beaten
- Chopped green scallions
- ½ cup roasted peanuts
- Handful of fresh bean sprouts

2 tablespoons rice vinegar

### For the sauce:

- 3 tablespoons fish sauce
- 1 tablespoon gluten-free soy sauce
- 5 tablespoons light brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter (optional)

Cook noodles and rinse under cold water. Mix fish sauce, soy sauce, light brown sugar, peanut butter and rice vinegar to make the sauce, then set aside. In a large saucepan or wok, heat oil over medium to high heat. Add protein and any of your favorite vegetables. Cooking time will vary, depending on the type of protein you choose. Push your ingredients to the side of the pan and add a little more oil. Add the eggs, then add noodles, bean sprouts, peanuts and sauce, mixing and combining all ingredients. Top with peanuts and green onions.

## Weekly Dish

Continued from page 18

the Seney's will include glassware, napkins, paper straws, mixers and other items you may need in their pricing. The camper can be booked for any kind of event, according to Alli Seney, including outdoor

weddings, birthdays, baby showers, graduations, backyard family gatherings or other special occasions. Visit lilsunnythecamper.com, email lilsunnythecamper@gmail.com or call 513-9628.



# TRY THIS AT HOME

## Caramelized peaches with bacon & blue cheese

There is nothing quite like a perfectly ripe peach as an afternoon snack. When a peach is tender and so juicy that you need to have a napkin nearby, it should be enjoyed on its own. There is nothing else this peach needs to evoke all of its flavors.

Sometimes, though, you have peaches that aren't perfectly ripe. Then it is time to transform those peaches into an entirely different snack. Allow me to introduce you to a ridiculously simple recipe that turns ho-hum peaches into something much more spectacular.

You need only four ingredients and less than 30 minutes to create a dish that could be an appetizer or a side dish. It could even be your lunch if you wanted. Even better, slightly underripe peaches work well in this dish because the roasting time brings forth tenderness and sweetness. Topped with salty bacon and savory blue cheese, this makes an amazing mix of flavors and textures. Oh yes, this simple recipe produces a show-stopping dish.



Caramelized peaches with bacon & blue cheese. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

A few notes on this recipe:

1. You don't want to use thick-cut bacon, as you want the bacon to be really crispy after cooking so that it will crumble nicely.

2. I found it easier to cut through the pit, as opposed to trying to pull the peach flesh off the pit. Pulling resulted in squishing the fruit.

3. Be very watchful when broiling the final product. It takes mere seconds and will go from caramelized to burnt in the blink of an eye.

Although peaches are lovely on their own, after making this recipe you may be hard pressed to think about peaches without also considering blue cheese and bacon.

*Michele Pesula Kuegler has been thinking about food her entire life. Since 2007, the Manchester resident has been sharing these food thoughts and recipes at her blog, Think Tasty. Please visit [thinktasty.com](http://thinktasty.com) to find more of her recipes.*

**Caramelized Peaches with Bacon & Blue Cheese**  
Serves 2-4

3 slices regular-cut bacon  
2 peaches  
3 tablespoons blue cheese  
1 tablespoon brown sugar

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.  
Heat large frying pan over medium heat.  
Add bacon and cook until crisp.  
Transfer fully cooked bacon to a paper towel-lined plate.  
Cut peaches in half (using the crease as a guide) and remove pit.  
Place peaches, cut side down, on a greased, rimmed baking dish.  
Roast for 8-10 minutes or until tender.  
While peaches bake, place blue cheese in a small bowl.  
Crumble bacon into small pieces, adding it to the cheese.  
Use a fork to combine the cheese and bacon.  
Remove peaches from oven, and flip so that they are cut side up.  
Change oven from bake to broil.  
Move a rack to the highest shelf in the oven.  
Fill peach centers with blue cheese and bacon.  
Sprinkle sugar over peaches.  
Place under broiler for 15-30 seconds.\*  
\*Instead of broiling the peaches, you can caramelize them with a kitchen torch.

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**DRINK**

# Beer and fire pits

## Fire pits are having their moment

By Jeff Mucciarone  
 food@hippypress.com

“Want to walk over and have a beer by the fire? The kids can have some s’mores. We’ll keep our distance.”

My wife and I texted our neighbors with a version of this invitation a few weeks ago. The answer was, “yes,” so, no big deal, I have friends, but we were more than a little hesitant about the offer. Was it appropriate? Was it safe? Were we putting our friends in a tough spot where they would have to say, “No, thank you, duh, we’re in the middle of a pandemic that requires social distancing.”

I’m not trying to make light of a very real, very scary global situation, but as I walk up and down my neighborhood in the evenings, it’s very clear that if I’d somehow invested in backyard fire pits, I’d be very wealthy right now.

It makes sense. The ability to get together inside is pretty limited these days, so why not get together around the fire? I do think the current circumstances have reminded all of us of some simple pleasures we might otherwise take for granted. And there is nothing quite so simple, yet satisfying, as letting your mind go while the flames lick at a few seasoned logs.

It’s a campfire, except that when you’re ready to go to bed you can just walk into your own house.

And there is absolutely no reason why you can’t enjoy a beer with a friend sitting on the opposite side of the fire — or maybe even a couple friends, but let’s not get carried away.

The best news of all is that beer has always been perhaps the single greatest accompaniment to a fire. I don’t know that I ever appreciate a beer as much as I do alongside a fire. There is something about the flames and the smoke and the cool evening air that just pairs perfectly with a can or a bottle or a plastic cup of ice-cold beer.

Any beer that suits you works in this instance. You want a rich, dark coffee stout? Perfect fit! What about something light, like a simple Pilsner? Excellent choice! Thinking about trying out that bottle of raspberry wheat ale? You don’t need to bring me one but by all means go for it.

Unless it’s a blazing hot summer night, in which case I might be likely to decline the fire altogether, I tend to lean toward beers with a bit more substance, like a brown ale, such as Kelsen Brewing Co.’s Paradigm Brown Ale, or perhaps something like Throwback Brewery’s Oma’s



131307

Any beer pairs well with a fire, including Henninger Brewing Company’s Kolsch Style Ale. Courtesy photo.

Tribute, which is a black lager boasting big roasted malt flavor.

Able Ebenezer Brewing Co.’s Burn the Ships smoked IPA would be an obvious and perfect fireside brew.

I think the fire is the time to bust out, and presumably share, some barrel-aged brews, like Stoneface Brewing Co.’s barrel-aged Mistadoppelina, which is a “malt-forward lager with notes of toffee, caramel and dates,” according to the brewery, or Stoneface’s 2020 bourbon barrel-aged Russian imperial stout that “is dominated by bourbon and barrel characteristics like sweet oak and vanilla.” Maybe you wouldn’t normally go to a big stout in summer, but the fire helps you relax and appreciate the nuances and complexities of barrel-aged brews.

The point is, there’s a lot we can’t or maybe shouldn’t do right now, but one thing we can do is enjoy a beer by the fire, so go do it, and consider setting up a couple chairs for friends — six feet apart.

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

**What’s in My Fridge**

**Juliette by Amherst Brewing Co. (Amherst, Mass.)** Wow. I’ve come to love this brewery over the past few months. This IPA, in particular, might be my favorite. It’s brewed with flaked oats and “local Valley Malt Warthog Wheat,” and brewed with Summit, Eureka! and Citra hops. This is a brewery and a beer you should seek out. Cheers!



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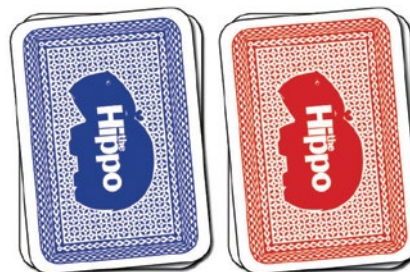
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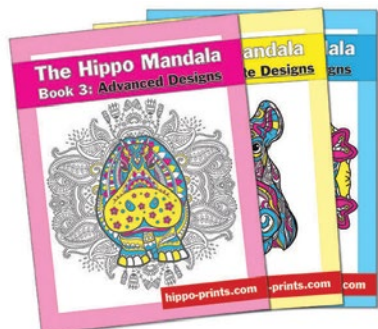
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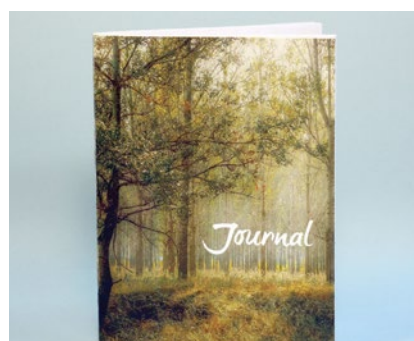
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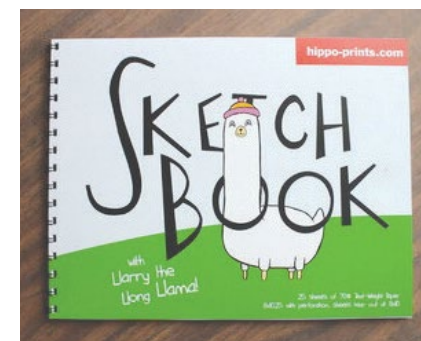
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## CDs pg26

• OTR, *Lost at Midnight*

A+

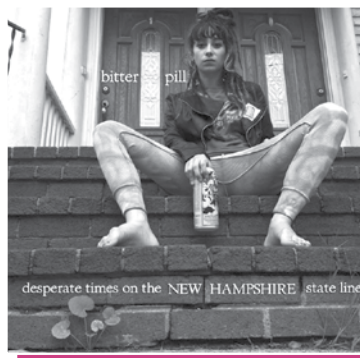
• Bitter Pill, *Desperate*

*Times on the New Hampshire State Line* A



Well wow, I got back into the Astralwerks system just in the nick of time, because I've found your go-to summer-drive-to-the-beach album, right here. OTR is the producer-nom of Ryan Chadwick, who was studying aerospace engineering at the University of Cincinnati, where, just as he was about to write his master's thesis, the department sort of imploded, and he dumped the whole thing to sit and chill to the sounds of two-guy soundsystem Odesza. That led to his futzing around on his own answer to that style of beauty-dripping, trance-tinged techno, which eventually led to this absolutely hypnotic debut LP. We've seen the way-overdue rise of prog-house and trance being incorporated into pop, starting way back with Madonna's "Ray of Light" and then on to Britney et al, but this is the closest thing you'll find to Above & Beyond served as a pop venture. That means that it's less caustic than Odesza can tend to get; it's more like a mutant hybrid of Bon Iver and mellow-mode Tiest. You will love this record. A+ — *Eric W. Saeger*

**Bitter Pill, *Desperate Times on the New Hampshire State Line* (self-released)**



We talked about this New Hampshire-based band a few weeks ago, relative to the tire-kicker single from this full-length. Turns out they're from Somersworth, or at least Billy, the dad, is. He's the prime mover for this quintet, which also features his daughter Emily on ukulele and the Billie Holiday and Patsy Cline imitations that are found randomly shuffled into the tracklist here. These are old souls, these people; I don't know if they're ever tasted real poverty, but the raw, half-joke tunes that Billy sings bespeak a life in which broken-mirror-level stretches of luck were probably commonplace, which means they're pretty cool as far as I can tell. I suppose I'll have to see for myself at one of their shows if the timing is right. Their trip ranges from punkabilly to Zappa-meets-Amy Winehouse at its most alluring; to give you an idea, I expected their "Land of the Lost" to be a chill cover of the kids' show from the 1970s, but it's actually like Patsy jamming with Hank Williams Sr. in a perfect storm of fearless bluegrass. They've got a studious banjo player in Michael McKay, who gets a solo turn at one point. Listen — no, don't be cheap, buy the full-length at [bitterpill.bandcamp.com/album/desperate-times-on-the-new-hampshire-state-line](http://bitterpill.bandcamp.com/album/desperate-times-on-the-new-hampshire-state-line). A — *Eric W. Saeger*

## BOOKS pg27

• *The Language of*

*Butterflies* A

## • Book Notes

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

To get author events, library events and more

listed, send information to [listings@hippopress.com](mailto:listings@hippopress.com).

## FILM pg28

• *The High Note* B

## PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Here comes the next general-release Friday, June 5, when your rock 'n' roll dreams will come true and so on and so forth, with the help of new albums! The first new LP we'll chat about is from **Dion**, whose new album, *Blues with Friends*, is on the way! I know, he's super old, but come on, that's what makes him awesome! All those old tunes your grandmother dances to at the hot dogs and beans supper, like "Run-around Sue" and "The Wanderer" and "Come Go With Me"? Yeah, that's Dion DiMucci, and after he did those songs he did a cover of Hendrix's "Purple Haze," just to bum out all the straights who thought he was safe to be around, but then he got so disgusted with blotter-acid-hippies and whatnot that he started doing Christian rock, but he got sick of that, and now he has a new album, which would definitely get an automatic A+ grade in my award-winning review column if I had received the album from his PR guys. But whatever, I could probably just extrapolate and make up something, because as we've discussed, it's titled *Blues with Friends*, which means it's a bunch of blues songs with guest singers like the barking Bowser dog-man from Sha Na Na and whatnot, whoever's still alive, let's go see! Wait, whoa, this isn't just a bunch of dead guys, Bruce Springsteen and his wife are guests on the song "Hymn to Him," and look, guys, it's loony bearded loon Billy Gibbons, from ZZ Top, on the song "Bam Bang Boom!" That song's wicked cool, if you like old 12-bar blues, beards and hot chicks! This is AWESOME.

• The 10th album from Norwegian indie-folk dude **Sondre Lerche** is titled *Patience*. Maybe you know him from his quiet-loud-quiet Brooklyn-hipster song "Bad Law," which was adamantly "eh," but it's a new year, and he's no longer a tedious Brooklyn hipster; now he's in Los Angeles, doing shots with all the sleazy L.A. promoters who laugh behind his back. The new single is "Why Would I Let You Go," a sucky, pointless unplugged guitar tune that comes off like Bon Iver without the reverb cranked to 11. There's no loud part, so I might use it to deal with my insomnia.

• **LA Priest** is the stage name of Samuel Eastgate, an Englishman who is in the band Late of the Pier, a ska/prog/dance-punk-style Strokes-wannabe band that managed to put out an entire one album in 12 years of existence. His new album, *GENE*, is in your pirate radio and includes the single "What Moves," a mildly funky quirk-chill trip that's a little bit Jamie Lidell and a little bit Gorillaz. You might like it if you've recently undergone a lobotomy, and stuff.

• Lastly, it's Australian indie-rock band **Rolling Blackouts Coastal Fever**, whose sound has been compared to fellow Australians The Go-Betweens. The new album, *Sideways to New Italy*, includes a song called "She's There," which sounds like Smashing Pumpkins trying to be a boyband. It's OK for what it is, as far as meatless sports-bar-rock goes; at least it's not Kaiser Chiefs. — *Eric W. Saeger*

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

## Retro Playlist

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

Though live music is starting to reemerge in outdoor spaces, one of the many dreadful things about the coronavirus shutdown has been the absence of live music shows. They were replaced by remote "concerts" performed online, where band members, dutifully staying in place in their respective homes, jam together while streaming over Zoom or FaceTime or whatnot.

What I wondered about was some of the older bands, particularly the hair-metal bands, largely composed of guys whose careers had peaked way before the digital age. You may have noticed that once in a while I like to

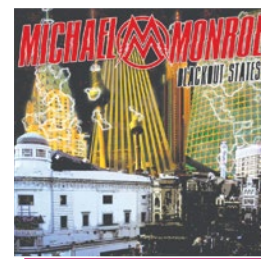


give them some love here in this space, especially the bands that have had recent albums put out by such record labels as Nuclear Blast (Accept, Agnostic Front and Anthrax, just to cover the ones beginning with the letter A) and of course SPV, which I often refer to lovingly as "SPV Mercy Hospital" or "The SPV Home For Retired Metal Acts." Those

record companies will put out basically anything as long as the band had some modicum of fame during the 1970s or 1980s. In April of last year we chatted about **Suzi Quatro**'s then-new album *Mettavolution*, and I realized then that I hadn't heard her name in exactly 4,189 years. A bassist, she not only ran her own band but touched TV stardom, playing Fonzie's tough-chick female-bro Pinky Tuscedero on *Happy*

*Days*. Anyway, *Mettavolution* is full of your typical '80s bar-rock dross, but she added a real brass section in the tunes "Strings," which made the album interesting enough. Poor Suzi, I couldn't find any streaming shows in her schedule, but she does have a few German shows in queue.

The other person I was worried about was former Hanoi Rocks singer **Michael Monroe**, who recently revealed his softer but totally metal side in a streaming chat video by holding and smooching his horrifying but beloved hairless cat while speaking to fans in his native Finnish. We last left Monroe in 2015, when he had released his solo album *Blackout States*, which I pronounced "a rowdy but slightly corporatized amalgam of Lords of the New Church meets Dropkick



Murphys throwbacking that gets plenty of style points." If you like New York Dolls, and who couldn't, you won't hate this album, and he did demonstrate an ability to go with the flow of this awful new reality by streaming an acoustic show on April 23 through the Finnish music platform Ruutu.

You see, I worry about these people, I really do.

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

**The Language of Butterflies**, by Wendy Williams (Simon & Schuster, 240 pages)

The next time you think one of your relatives is weird, breathe deeply and think of Miriam Rothschild. Her father collected fleas.

“A flea lover since childhood,” he amassed more than 260,000 of them, writes Wendy Williams in *The Language of Butterflies*, explaining how Miriam Rothschild, a self-educated scientist and butterfly enthusiast, came naturally to the study of entomology.

Or consider Herman Strecker, a 19th-century stone carver who collected 50,000 butterflies. “He had a long face and a long neck and an even longer, out-of-control beard. He looked like Moses. He had deep-sunken grief-filled eyes. He lived the unkempt life of a zealot, going so far as to crawl in between his bedsheets with his pants and boots on,” Williams writes.

These unusual men, however, are peripheral characters in the story of butterflies, which Williams, a New England science writer, tells with aplomb. You may not care about butterflies. Don’t let that keep you from this book, which is more interesting than anything you will see on TV this week.

Even the most butterfly-illiterate people are vaguely aware of the monarch butterfly’s astonishing migration from Canada to Mexico, which Williams explains compellingly, having witnessed their arrival on a mountaintop, an experience that she calls “otherworldly.”

“The migration of the monarchs from points as far north as Canada all the way south to these particular mountaintops is a world phenomenon that belongs to everyone on the planet,” she writes. “It’s a source of global joy, like the migration of the wildebeest on the Serengeti Plain or the migration of gray whales off the west coast of North America.

“They are all following the sun, just as we would if we could.”

The monarch is the most famous of butterflies, and the most brutal — the males rape the females. You’d think they

wouldn’t have the physiology for violence, but butterflies, Williams writes, are surprisingly sturdy. They look fragile yet have “robust” exoskeletons built for endurance.

But when it comes to interesting life stories, the monarchs have serious competition from a butterfly variety called Fender’s blue, which pupates underground, cared for by ants. When the butterfly emerges, the ants carry it to freedom above ground, as if the insect’s triumph is their own.

It’s an almost unbelievable story of a symbiotic relationship between creatures that we scarcely notice exist. The ants are motivated by the “invisible hand” described by 18th-century economist Adam Smith. Their reward is the sweet fluid that the caterpillar secretes, the ant equivalent of candy; in exchange for the treat, the ants provide protection from predators that the butterfly-to-be needs.

But it’s not the strange circumstances of butterfly existence that cause humans to be fascinated by them, Williams says. It’s their colors. “Your brain processes color information much, much more quickly than the information about movement. ... What that means is that the color of an apple — or, in a spillover effect, the color of a butterfly — hits us fast and hard, in the gut.”

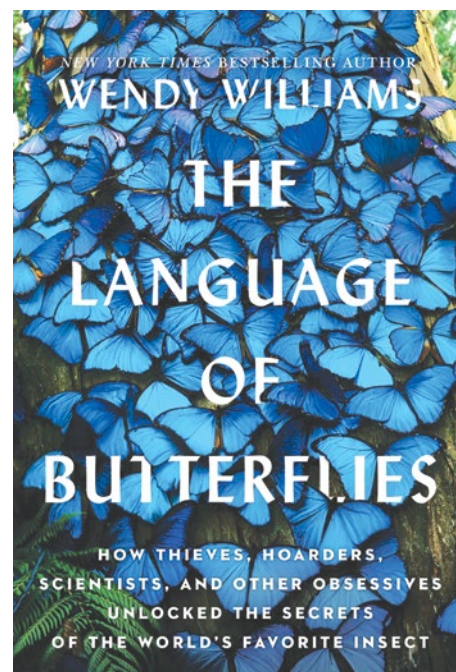
As flying insects with scales on their wings, moths and butterflies are cut from the same cloth, so to speak. Both belong to the second-largest category of insects, lepidoptera. But the drab moth repels us while the colorful butterfly entrances. Williams believes butterflies satisfy an innate craving for color in the human brain. In her 60s she set out to discover why the insect inspires biologists, hoarders and thieves — yes, there is a “international underground Lepidoptera market,” in case you were wondering.

*The Language of Butterflies* equally entrances, thanks to its author. This is not the Wendy Williams, radio host and lifestyle columnist, whose titles include *Is the Bitch Dead or What?* but the Wendy Williams who wrote a thoughtful history of the horse and is the co-author of 2007’s

*Cape Wind*, a sympathetic examination of wind farming proposed off Cape Cod. Her voice is engaging and friendly; her enthusiasm for exploration, infectious. (This is a woman who keeps in her car a wide variety of footwear — hiking boots, riding boots, water shoes and so forth — just in case.)

Unlike wind farming, the subject of butterflies, approached deftly, can be apolitical. Williams worries about climate change and its effect on butterflies, wondering if one day their migration might be the stuff of lore, like the migration of passenger pigeons and North American bison. But she is neither a scold nor a Cassandra, and her tone is ebullient and hopeful. The only question she doesn’t answer adequately is what, exactly, one does with the corpses of 260,000 fleas. **A**

— Jennifer Graham



## BOOK NOTES

Recent events in Minnesota and New York City’s Central Park invite a reflection on the experience of being black in America. For people who haven’t had that experience, there are books.

A fine place to start is *A Particular Kind of Black Man*, which we reviewed here last year. (Simon & Schuster hardcover, paperback coming in August.) It’s a novel, but Tope Folarin draws on his experiences as a Nigerian-American growing up in Utah to craft a deeply moving, and sometimes painful, story.

In the opening pages the protagonist remembers an experience from his childhood: An elderly woman would sometimes appear by his side while he walked to school, often patting his head affectionately. One day she said to him sweetly, “If you’re a good boy here on earth, you can serve me in heaven.”

The child was just 5 and saw the promise as generous and magical, not the punch in the gut that it is to the reader. Folarin has said this exchange happened to him. This wasn’t 100 years ago. Folarin is 38.

On Twitter, some readers are asking for advice on books that can help them better understand the American-American experience. One title that keeps coming up is *The New Jim Crow, Mass Incarceration in the Age of Color-*

*blindness*. Michelle Alexander’s book came out in 2010, but a 10th-anniversary paperback edition was released in January by The New Press.

Also new in paperback is Mitchell S. Jackson’s *Survival Math*, an acclaimed memoir of growing up black in predominantly white Oregon. The prologue is a poignant letter to the first of the family to come from Cape Verde to America, in the 1700s. “This ain’t our Eden,” it concludes.

Two years old but No. 1 on Amazon for a while last week is Robin DiAngelo’s *White Fragility, Why It’s So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* (Beacon Press). “I have never met a white person without an opinion on racism,” she writes. “... And white people’s opinions on racism tend to be strong. Yet race relations are profoundly complex. We must be willing to consider that unless we have devoted intentional and ongoing study, our opinions are necessarily uninformed, even ignorant.”

Also suddenly a bestseller is 2019’s *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi, and another title co-written by Kendi, *Stamped, Racism, Anti Racism, and You*, co-author Jason Reynolds (Little, Brown).

To America’s credit, many of these titles are now on backorder. There will be more.

— Jennifer Graham

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**The High Note (PG-13)**

**A singer looking to keep her career going and her assistant looking to start her career as a producer get tangled up in each other's ambitions in *The High Note*, a basically enjoyable movie that has a lot of good ideas.**

Grace Davis (Tracee Ellis Ross, real-life daughter of Diana Ross, so she knows where-of she acts) is a music superstar; Maggie Sherwoode (Dakota Johnson) is her personal assistant. Grace has worked hard to reach her status in the industry; as she explains, it's not the norm for a middle-aged female musician to still be selling out arenas and raking in money from album sales. But as her longtime manager Jack Robertson (Ice Cube) pushes her to do a Las Vegas residency (which would have her playing the same set of greatest hits night after night), Grace wants to stretch herself artistically, put out a new album, keep touring. Her record company is less than excited about this desire.

Maggie is harried but basically happy to spend her days buying Grace's strange green smoothies and picking up her dry cleaning. After all, it puts her in proximity to recording studios and artists and the music that is her life. In her spare time, Maggie takes a stab at remixing one of Grace's live songs, hoping to show her boss that she can do more than just run errands. When Grace finds out, she likes Maggie's cut of the song but Grace is less keen on Maggie's many unsolicited opinions. Jack



*The High Note*

gives her what feels like very good advice: instead of trying to start her career by mucking up his plans with his superstar artist, find her own musician to produce. Enter David Cliff (Kelvin Harrison Jr.), handsome dude singer with a great voice.

*The High Note* isn't completely smooth, particularly in how the plot unfolds. I said it has a lot of good ideas, and it does, but it doesn't seem to always know how to play out the ideas. The first two thirds of the movie is stronger than the last third, which contains a plot point that feels unnecessary. I wish the movie had found less conventional, more interesting

ways to wrap up its various relationships.

For me, though, this bumpy ending didn't diminish my enjoyment of the movie overall.

I like the way the movie seems to argue for taking big chances in your career and going for opportunities that seem beyond your reach but also sees value in experience and slogging it out in the trenches to earn a shot. Likewise, *The High Note* seems to take a very realistic view of Grace's career — it's not the "wrong" choice for her to do the residency or make the new album. The movie also has a nice mutual respect of and admiration for skills between these women. Grace is demanding and Maggie

is overeager but there is no *All About Eve*-ing here, no *The Devil Wears Prada*-like judgment that somebody is doing life wrong.

Ross and Johnson probably get a lot of the credit for making these characters feel like believable women in their circumstances (they also get mostly good material to work with). I've always liked both of these actresses and their ability to balance comedy and deeper emotion.

And the movie has some solid supporting performances. There is the exact right amount of Ice Cube. Kelvin Harrison Jr. might be overshadowed by Johnson and Ross but he is very charming. Zoe Chao, who plays Maggie's roommate, is delightful. She is a young surgeon primarily interested in getting sleep and, at a party Maggie brings her to, stuffing as much appetizer cheese as she can into her purse. She helps add moments of comedy that put this movie into, I guess, dramedy territory from a more straightforward drama. Or maybe the movie isn't so much a drama as a romance but where the most interesting romances are between the characters and their careers and industry. **B**

*Rated PG-13 for some strong language, and suggestive references, according to the MPA. Directed by Nisha Ganatra with a screenplay by Flora Greeson, The High Note is an hour and 53 minutes long and is distributed by Focus Features. Like a lot of recent Focus Features releases, The High Note is available for \$19.99 for a 48-hour rental.* 🍷

## AT THE SOFAPLEX

### HBO Max edition

I'm a sucker for a discount so I signed up for HBO Max, which officially launched last week. It's not the series (HBO stuff, *Friends* and other previously aired TV series, and a few new originals) that interested me so much as the vast movie library. Some of the offerings include:

- All eight *Harry Potter* films and *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald*.

- Many of the recent DC Comics movies (though not the Christopher Nolan Batman movies or 2013's *Man of Steel*) including some of the 1990s era Batman movies, *Suicide Squad*, *Wonder Woman*, *Justice League*, *Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice*, *Aquaman* and *Shazam!*, plus last year's *Joker* if for some reason the news isn't bumming you out enough.

- A "Classics Curated by TCM" section that includes what I think of as "the classic classics" like *Casablanca*, *Gone with the Wind*, *Rebel Without a Cause*, *Ben-Hur*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *North by Northwest*, *Once Upon a*

*Time in the West* and a bunch of Charlie Chaplin movies. There are also musicals (*The Wizard of Oz*, *A Hard Day's Night*, the 1976 Barbra Streisand *A Star Is Born*) and movies like 1992's *The Player* and 1971's *Harold and Maude* presented as "Comedies for Cinephiles."

- Recent/recent-ish releases, HBO-style, like *Detective Pikachu*, some of the *Fast & Furious* movies, and 2019's very fun horror movie *Ready or Not*.

- *John Wick: Chapter 3 — Parabellum*. Yes, I talk about this movie a lot, but it is absolutely great; when you want a fun action movie, I can think of no better option with its byzantine world of assassins and its highly choreographed fight scenes and its absolutely excellent use of Keanu Reeves.

A few more worth checking out:

***Contagion* (PG-13, 2011)**

Matt Damon, Laurence Fishburne. Also, Jude Law, Kate Winslet, Jennifer Ehle, Marion Cotillard and, of course, Gwyneth Paltrow. I had resisted the pull renting this movie back in March but when I saw it was among my HBO options I dove in. In 2011, I gave this Steven Soderbergh-directed movie a B+ and I definitely stand by that

assessment. It does a good job of holding together all the stories of scientists working to battle a pandemic (that is presented as deadlier than our current real-life one, if that makes it easier to watch; it's still extremely scary). The movie is very smart about how it handles "show not tell" about the spread of the illness and the competence of the people working to create a vaccine. Still a **B+**, maybe even an **A**.

***Bad Education* (TV-MA)**

Hugh Jackman, Allison Janney. This HBO movie, released a few months ago, is based on the true story of embezzlement at the Roslyn Union Free School District in New York. In the movie, what turns into the discovery of massive embezzlement over the course of years by at least two district leaders is reported out by a high school student (Geraldne Viswanathan) for her school newspaper. A case for local journalism, the movie is also a fun character study of Jackman's Frank Tassone, a man obsessed with the personal glory that comes with improving his district's college acceptance stats. **A**

***The Aftermath* (R, 2019)**

Keira Knightley, Alexander Sarsgård.



*Bad Education*

Nominally, *The Aftermath* is about two families trying to move forward in the bombed out city of Hamburg months after the end of World War II. Knightley is the wife of a British officer (Jason Clarke). They live in the mansion of a wealthy German (Sarsgård) and his teenage daughter (Flora Thiemann), who have been moved into the attic. Mostly, though, this movie is about super attractive Sarsgård and Knightley being super attracted to each other. Though the movie brings in elements of the story of post-war Germany, *The Aftermath* feels thin and Sarsgård and Knightley, who are aces at being super attractive, don't generate a whole lot

of heat. That said, the movie is very prettily shot and sometimes a pretty movie with pretty people doing an OK job of pretending to be in love is enough. **B-**

***In A World...* (R, 2013)**

Lake Bell, Rob Cordry. I'm so glad I finally got to see this sweet comedy written and directed by Bell who plays a vocal coach and aspiring trailer narrator. She finds herself in a competition with her father and a one-night fling for a job in a trailer that will be the first to use the "in a world" since the death of Don LaFontaine (the real life voice actor best known for the phrase). **B+**

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131367

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Green re-do:** For those who mourned the loss of St. Patrick's Day to the pandemic, **Jim Gallant** performs Irish music as corned beef and cabbage are served at a "St. Patty's Day in June" event, held outdoors at a golf course restaurant and bar. Gallant is a singer, songwriter and finger-picking guitarist based in Maine, with a long history of performing in the region. Thursday, June 4, 5 p.m., Grill 28, 200 Grafton Dr. (Pease Golf Course), Portsmouth. More at facebook.com/grill28.

• **Al fresco:** One good sign that things are getting back to normal is that **Brad Bosse** is busy again. The singer and guitarist, a mainstay at area watering holes, performs at a pop-up Italian restaurant dubbed Il Giardino that sits next to one of the better food markets in the region. Bosse is a personable and talented performer with a vast songbook of favorites, from pop to rock, country and alternative, and he plays requests. Thursday, June 4, 6 p.m., Tuscan Kitchen, 67 Main St., Salem. Call 952-4875.

• **Month long:** A pair of doppelganger restaurants is back with live music. **Chad Lamarsh** begins a Friday night residency that lasts through June in Bedford, while a variety of local musicians share performing duties at their Salem location. Lamarsh is beloved in the area for his Bundle of Books charity effort and his annual boat cruise party, which is typically sold out months in advance during better times. Friday, June 5, 8 p.m., Copper Door, 15 Leavy Dr., Bedford. See copperdoor.com.

• **All together:** It's a reservations-only affair when **Bite The Bullet** plays an evening set in Kingston. The Top 40, funk, rock and country cover combo, whose members include singer Eric Lord, guitarist Brian Culleton, Mike Vai on bass and drummer Tony Silva, promises a full band show. That's a rarity in these post-lockdown days, as most places are hosting only solo acoustic players. Saturday, June 6, 7 p.m., Saddle Up Saloon, 92 Route 125, Kingston. For reservations, call 369-6962

• **Capital fun:** Another deck that's back in business offers **Dwayne Haggins**, a performer described as a hybrid of Hank Williams and Otis Redding, who was inspired to play music after seeing Sturgill Simpson do "Living the Dream" on Conan O'Brien's late night show. He got busy — Haggins has made three albums since he began playing out in 2017, *Heavenly Rose*, *Pleasant Street* and *China Ruby*. Sunday, June 7, 4 p.m., Cheers, 17 Depot St., Concord. More at dwaynehaggins.com.

## NITE

# Laughing again

### Stand-up comedy comes out of quarantine

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

As live entertainment gradually returns, the challenges for comedians are twofold. First, there's the practical aspect of how to present a show. This is, after all, a discipline that relies on an audience. While on lockdown, Juston McKinney played to his wife, two sons and dog on the couch of his Newmarket home, with his mother-in-law and dad watching on iPads, and posted it to his Facebook page. That's the kind of performance withdrawal he experienced.

McKinney is accustomed to packed opera house shows, but said in a recent phone interview that he'll be glad to hit open mic nights when they return. Such events have smaller audiences that are easier to socially distance. They're also key to working up new material.

"I'm kind of jonesing because I was doing an open mic every week ... a new seven to eight minutes," he said. "I'll tell you this: I never thought I would look forward to having four people in an audience so much in my life. I would kill for four people right now."

As for the prospect of doing his still-scheduled fall shows at Blue Ocean Music Hall in Salisbury and Manchester's Palace Theatre under the current safety rules, McKinney is concerned. He expects, though, that even working with a spaced out crowd will improve over webcasts in quarantine.

"Comedy is an art form that should be done in a controlled environment — sound, lights, crowd — and we've lost all control of that now," he said. "My biggest fear is someone's never seen me ever before and the only time they see me is on one of these Zoom things and they're like, 'I don't know.' You've gotta see me live, not in my home office."

Fortunately, the clouds are slowly parting for stage-hungry standups like McKinney.

Live efforts have launched, beginning May 22 with a parking lot show at Tupelo Music Hall Drive-In in Derry. Tupelo own-

er Scott Hayward hopes to do them every Thursday in June and beyond. Kathleen's Irish Pub in Bristol will hold *Cottage Comedy Al Fresco* with JJ Jones and four other comics on June 6 in its patio area. Curlie's Comedy Club in Rochester offers a hybrid, with pay-per-view livestreams and tickets to watch through the window from their outside deck.

The second part is equally tricky: what's funny in a post-pandemic world?

At Tupelo, host Mike Smith joked about home schooling and masks ("everyone looks like they're going to rob a 7-Eleven"). He then handed off to opener Paul Landwehr, who complained about having to watch decades-old Celtics games on ESPN, then closed by proposing marriage to his long-time girlfriend from the stage (she said yes). *That* was a novel way to avoid the elephant in the parking lot.

Mike Koutrobis followed with a set not much different from what he'd been doing in February. "I'm a little rusty," he texted just prior to the show. Boston comic Graig Murphy offered a mixture of pre- and post-pandemic humor, quipping about drive-by birthday parties and trying his best to do crowd work, while telling jokes that would be funny crisis or not.

The latter is a path urged by Nick Lavallee, who along with Dave Carter has booked weekly comedy at Shaskeen Pub in Manchester since 2013.

"The last thing people want to hear right now is untested content about the thing that they're bombarded with day in and day out," he said in a recent phone interview. "If a comic who hasn't worked in three months goes up in front of a paying audience and tries riffing on material that hasn't been done yet ... they're going to struggle."

On the other hand, Lavallee continued, the hunger for live standup means comics could get some leeway as they return to form.

"You're going to have to just throw some



Juston McKinney. Courtesy photo.

spaghetti on the wall, see what sticks, and it's a good time to do it because you can also do things you might be embarrassed about, like, 'I tried something during the pandemic and it didn't work.' You can own it. You can blame your bombs on this. We all have thick skin, we've been doing this for so freaking long."

More than a few are poised to make comedy hay from the coronavirus. Curlie's owner Joshua Guptel, who does comedy as Jay Grove, talked about it on stage recently: "This is not funny," he said. "But there's a lot of funny in it." 🍷

#### Upcoming comedy shows

**Where:** Kathleen's Irish Pub, 99 Lake St., Bristol

**When:** Saturday, June 6, 6 p.m.

**Reservations:** call 744-6336

**Performing:** JJ Jones, Al Christakis, Paul Landwehr, Randy Williams and Mona Forgione

**Where:** Curlie's Comedy Club, 12 Union St., Rochester

**When:** Saturday, June 6, and Saturday, June 13

**Tickets:** \$20 per table at Eventbrite.com

**Performing:** Steve Scarfo (June 6) and Amy Tee (June 13)

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

**When:** Thursdays, 6 p.m. (tentative)

**Tickets:** \$75 per car at tupelohall.com; \$20 per person for restaurant seating (starts June 12)

#### Concerts

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

• **James Montgomery & Bruce Marshall** Friday, June 5, 6 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

• **Popa Chubby** Friday, June 12, 6 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In

• **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

• **Captain Fantastic** Friday, June 19, 6 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In

• **Tusk (Fleetwood Mac)** Saturday & Sunday, June 20 & 21, 12 & 3 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In

• **John Butcher** Friday, June 26, 6 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In

• **Kashmir (Led Zeppelin)** Saturday & Sunday, June 27 & 28, 12 & 3 p.m. Tupelo

Drive-In

• **Badfish** Friday, July 3, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom

• **Joss Stone** Thursday, July 9, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom

• **Best Not Broken** Thursday, July 9, 6 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In

• **Unlikely Candidates** Saturday, July 11, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage

• **Old Crow Medicine Show** Saturday, July 11, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom

• **Eaglemania** Saturday, July 11, 8 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In

• **Livingston Taylor** Sunday, July 18, 12 & 3 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In

• **Michelle Wolf & Dan Soder** Saturday, July 25, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom

• **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

• **Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio** Saturday, Aug. 1, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Stage

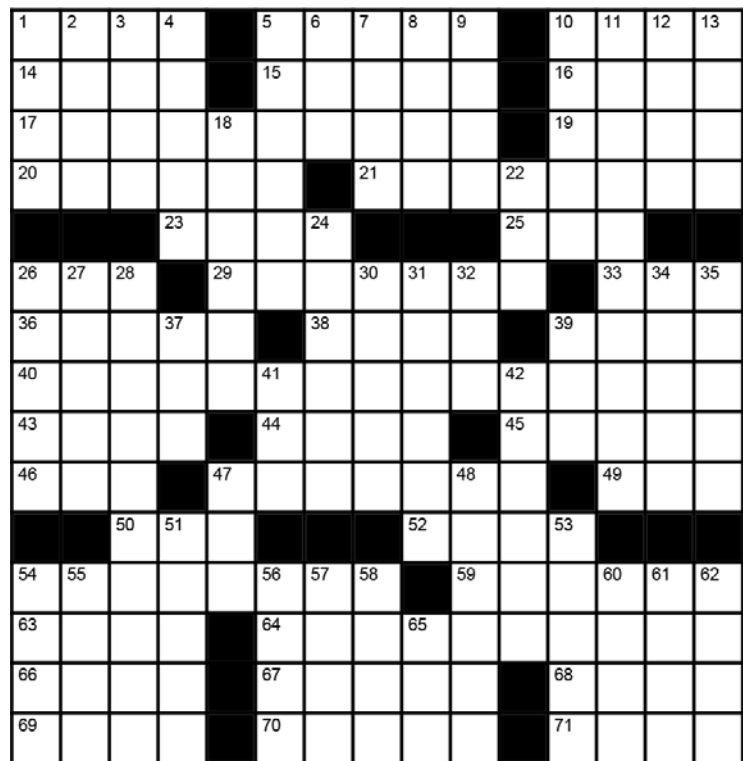
• **Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters** Saturday Aug. 1, 3 & 6 p.m. Tupelo Drive-In

• **Nelfish Mountain** Saturday, Aug. 1, 8 p.m. Music Hall Loft

• **Luke Bryan** Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m. Bank of NH Pavilion

• **Brothers Osborne** Thursday, Aug. 6, 8 p.m. Casino Ballroom

# I DON'T CARE ABOUT INDECISION



down with no one around  
 70. Daniel Ash band \_\_\_ On Tail  
 71. Music-prompted finger action you do on the beat

**Down**

1. Like dateless Grammy-goer  
 2. Faces 'Ooh \_\_\_' (2,2)  
 3. McBeal that used to watch Vonda Shepard  
 4. Van Halen 'Humans \_\_\_'  
 5. Canada's Harem \_\_\_  
 6. 'Can't Wait One Minute More' NY band  
 7. George Jones 'I've \_\_\_ Twenty Years In Five'  
 8. 'Third \_\_\_ Romance' Sammy Kershaw  
 9. '\_\_\_ Yesterday' 30 Seconds To Mars  
 10. Large venue  
 11. Nirvana 'From The \_\_\_ Of The Wishkah' (5,5)  
 12. 'I Just Can't Live \_\_\_' Carrie Underwood (1,3)  
 13. A desperate Boston sang 'I \_\_\_ Your Love'  
 18. Radiohead EP 'Airbag/\_\_\_ Driving?' (3,2,1)

**Across**

1. 'Don't Dog Me' Raging \_\_\_  
 5. Carly Simon wears an apricot one, perhaps  
 10. Boston '\_\_\_ I'll Never Be' (1,3)  
 14. Primus might tell one 'From The Punchbowl' around a campfire  
 15. Boston "He smoked a big \_\_\_ and drove a Cadillac car"  
 16. What your very favorite band does, to your world, slang  
 17. Everly Brothers '\_\_\_ Do Is Dream' (3,1,4,2)  
 19. Cult hit off 'Sonic Temple'  
 20. 'I Will Survive' Gloria  
 21. What cutthroat manager did with band's requests for dressing room  
 23. 'Crash' Stefani  
 25. Bassist Bentley of Bad Religion  
 26. Radio Corp Of America label  
 29. Black Crowes third '94 release  
 33. Tom Petty had a pretty this 'Weekend'  
 36. A compact disc would have a full this on it  
 38. 'Falta Amor' Mexican band  
 39. 'Misirlou' Dick on Pulp Fiction soundtrack  
 40. 1961 Bobby Lewis classic about not being able to get to sleep (6,3,6)  
 43. Care Bears On Fire 'Barbie \_\_\_ Sandwich' (3,1)  
 44. '04 Saliva song 'Razor's \_\_\_'  
 45. Sixx:AM namesake  
 46. What Alison Moyet will do on the slopes  
 47. Kiss scoffed and sang it's 'Easy As \_\_\_' (2,5)  
 49. Babyface 'When Can I \_\_\_ You'  
 50. K's Choice 'I'm \_\_\_ an addict, baby that's a lie'  
 52. Boston "But in my mind, \_\_\_ in my mind, I can't forget about you"

54. 'Lost Souls' UK band (3,5)  
 59. Boston album output would be slow as these ground creepers  
 63. UB40 'Two In \_\_\_' (1,3)  
 64. In guitar-speak, not electrical but this  
 66. Colbie Caillat 'The Little Things' album named after designer Chanel, perhaps  
 67. Film composer Howard  
 68. "Life is just a fantasy" Aldo  
 69. Kind of 'Road' Eve 6 likes to rock

## WORD★Roundup™

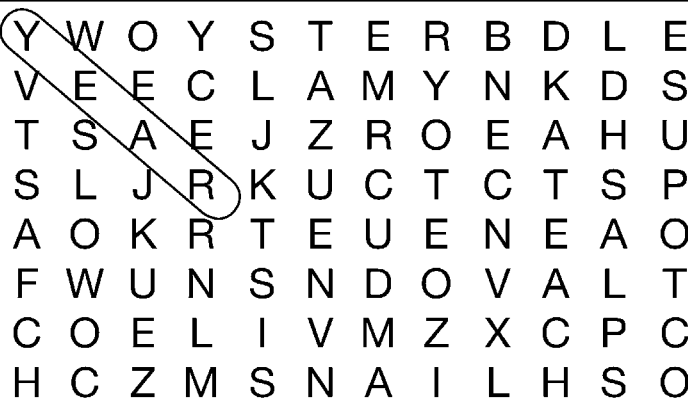
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

**Find and Circle...**

- Eight units of time
- Four mollusks
- Two speed-related antonyms
- 1984 Tom Hanks movie
- Educate

Answers to Tuesday's puzzle: COMIC CUBIC TONIC EPIC / ADDITIVE  
 MOTIVATE ABSOLUTE CAMPAIGN / HUTCH TABLE SOFA DESK / VENICE  
 NAPLES MILAN ROME / FEDORA

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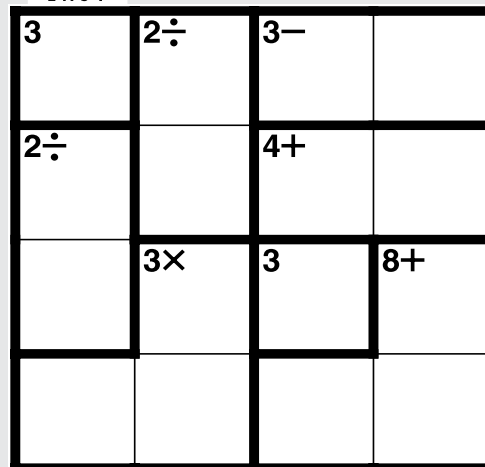


32. Elton John 'They Call Her The \_\_\_'  
 34. Foxy Shazam said heck yes '\_\_\_ It' (1,4)  
 35. Christina Aguilera was one 'In A Bottle'  
 37. 'Miss Teen \_\_\_' Best Kissers In The World  
 39. 'Suit And Tie Guy' thrash band  
 41. Tour take-home monies  
 42. Alanis Morissette single she never mailed?  
 47. Statler Bros 'Who Am \_\_\_ Say' (1,2)  
 48. Screws with, to the new bandmate  
 51. Ancient Greek theater  
 53. Feel them in your gut when fav band goes disco  
 54. Mexican food 'Satan Gave' Beck  
 55. What Kurtis Blow liked to shoot, slang  
 56. 'Touched' band that was huge?  
 57. Bunnymen's leader  
 58. Coldplay said don't worry we'll 'See You \_\_\_'  
 60. Household name is considered this  
 61. Ministry song about what comes out of a volcano, perhaps  
 62. James Taylor '\_\_\_ Leather'  
 65. Ultravox leader Midge  
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# KENKEN

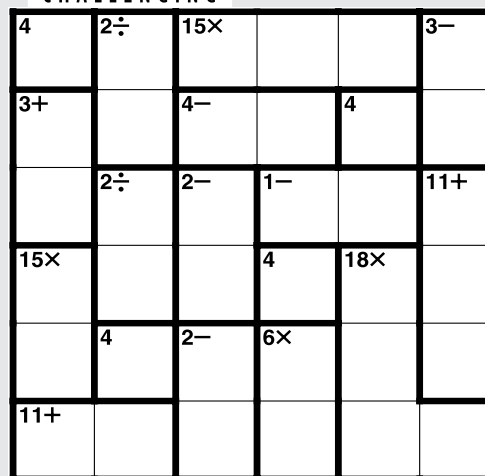
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**CHALLENGING**

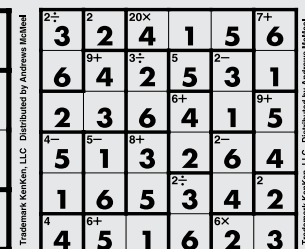
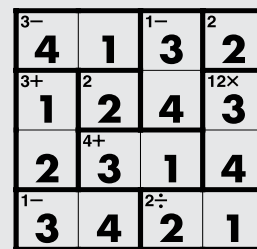


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**RULES**

- 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**

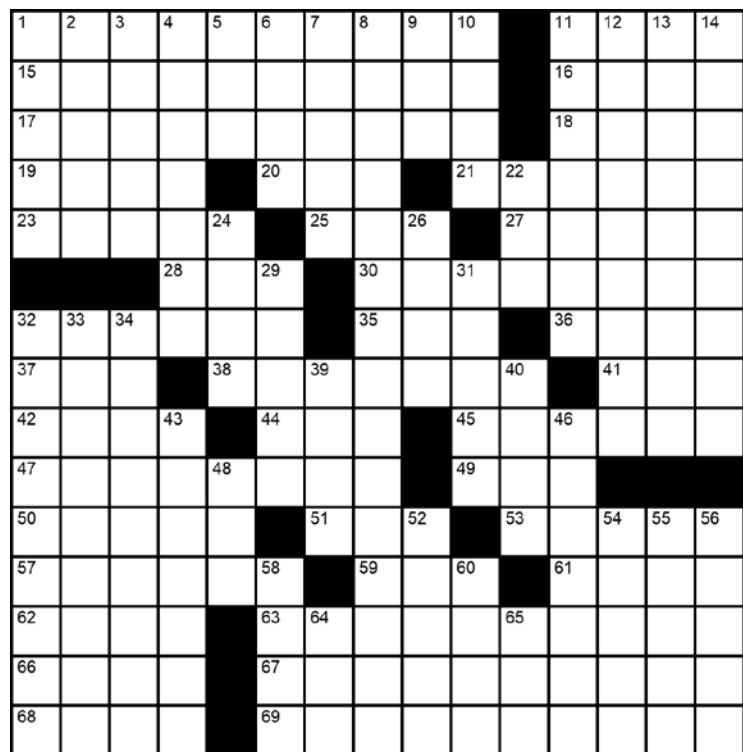


5-18-20

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# “Free Is a Very Good Price” — last themeless till the big one



**Across**

- 1 Cocktail “invented” in 2020 that can include vodka, gin, honey, Emergen-C, or whatever you feel like drinking
- 11 Items in a self-checkout station question
- 15 Out of uniform
- 16 Model Nordegren once married to Tiger Woods
- 17 How long USPS bulk mail takes to get across the country
- 18 Only
- 19 Tennessee team, for short
- 20 Part of some fire extinguisher instructions
- 21 Sink to the bottom
- 23 Yellow bloomer with a bovine name
- 25 Key beside Q
- 27 Bishop’s hat
- 28 Wee drink
- 30 Intimidating, unhelpful advice from a coach
- 32 “A cartoon by Robert \_\_\_” (com-

- mon “SNL” credit in the ‘90s)
- 35 Part of BCE
- 36 Org. in TV’s “The Rookie”
- 37 Hither’s counterpart
- 38 Sidekick and Samurai, for two
- 41 “Chandelier” singer
- 42 Some hosp. scans
- 44 Exceed
- 45 Memento accessory
- 47 Word before mirror or humor
- 49 Abbr. for some Spanish teachers
- 50 Hokkaido city known for its beer (and headquarters of Hokkaido Brewing Company)
- 51 2001 “Lady Marmalade” contributor
- 53 Over
- 57 Actress Davidovich of “Gods and Monsters”
- 59 Advanced deg.
- 61 Library penalty
- 62 Pleasant feeling, to reggae fans
- 63 Figure not found in an appellate court
- 66 Kind of pay or day
- 67 Only state capital without a McDonald’s
- 68 Part of an Einsteinian equation
- 69 Extra income source, informally

- Cassatt
- 6 Org. whose March Madness was cancelled in 2020
- 7 Namely
- 8 “It’s settled”
- 9 Society page notation
- 10 Bugs
- 11 Request to one’s heart?
- 12 Like huge favors
- 13 Legendary bebop trumpeter
- 14 Showed disdain for
- 22 CPR administrator
- 24 Slapstick projectiles
- 26 Syllable for the Swedish Chef
- 29 Body officially demoted on August 24, 2006
- 31 Subject of TNT’s “Claws”
- 32 Movement with a lot of representation?
- 33 Halts
- 34 How book titles should appear when cited, per APA style
- 39 Video chat company based in San Jose
- 40 Kinda miffed
- 43 Blood-curdling cries
- 46 Water measures, when mixing condensed soup
- 48 Wagon wheel track
- 52 Subside
- 54 Was guilty
- 55 “Mary Tyler Moore Show” actress Georgia
- 56 Manufacturer with a green and yellow logo
- 58 Dispensers with Braille options
- 60 Coleridge’s “sacred river”
- 64 “Vive le \_\_\_!”
- 65 Game, in French (the plural is heard in “Games Without Frontiers”)

**R&R answer from pg 27 of 5/28**



**Jonesin’ answer from pg 28 of 5/28**



**Jonesin’ Classic answer from pg 30 of 5/28**



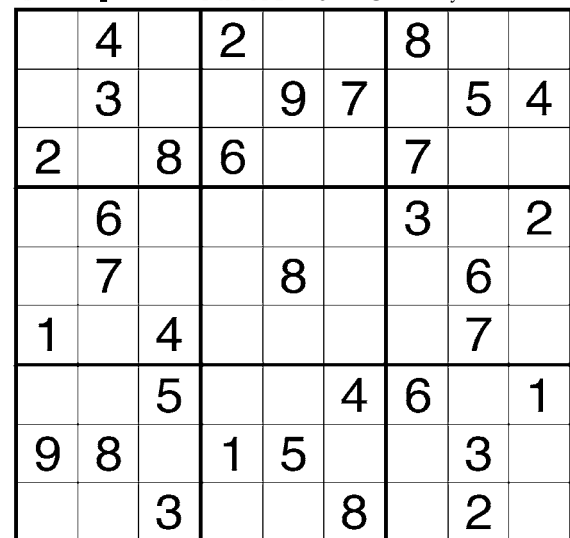
**Down**

- 1 Migos rapper who received his high school diploma in 2020 (at age 29)
- 2 Remove from packaging, a la YouTube videos
- 3 “I don’t want the issue of Hobbes’s reality settled by \_\_\_ manufacturer”: Bill Watterson
- 4 Being green, in a way
- 5 Output from Frida Kahlo or Mary

**NITE SUDOKU**

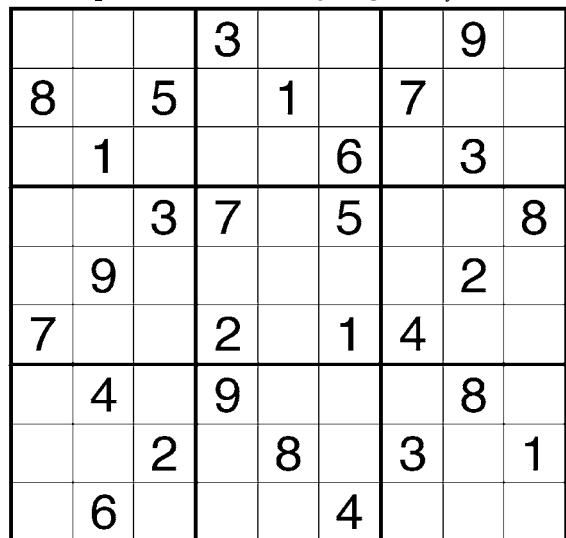
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week’s puzzle answers on pg 29.

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A** By Dave Green



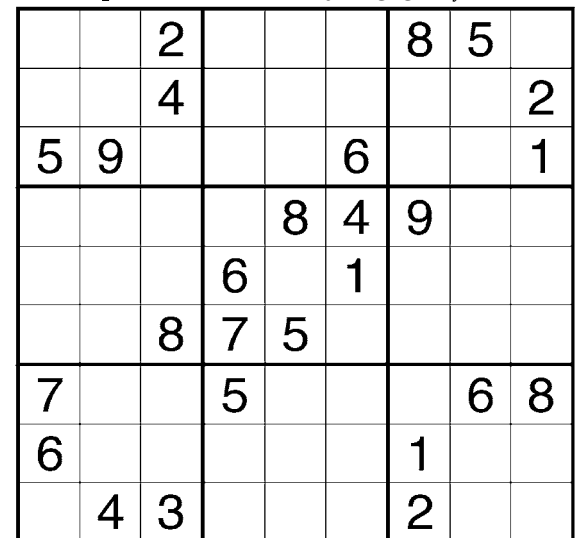
Difficulty Level ★

**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 *Windy City Blues*, by Sara Paretsky, born June 8, 1947.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** Only fifty years ago much of this area, including the eight-lane highway that connects the south side with the Loop, was still under water. The marsh has been filled in with everything from cyanide to slag, with a lot of garbage to give it body. Don't use garbage for body.

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** A southsider, I am often sharply criticized at south side events for being a Cubs fan. I have to explain that my allegiance dates from that summer of 1966, when I helped run an inner-city program for children. The Cubs ... were then in such desperate need of an audience that they gave free tickets to our kids on Thursdays. The Sox didn't, so I became a Cubs fan. Play ball! No spitting.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** Sitting at the piano, I crashed out chords, as if the sound could bury the wildness of my feelings. If you bury wildness you might get weeds.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** I stared into my wineglass, as though the claret could reveal the secrets of my family. Stop staring and get to work.

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** This runaround was starting to irritate me. 'You're a heck of a poker player, Mr. Ranier. But you know as well as I that you're lying like a rug.' Rugs don't play poker.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** I tap-danced around the dog in my excitement. You should invite the dog to join in.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** He was a soft round man ... with gray eyes that lay like pebbles above an apparently jovial smile. Weird imagery will get you nowhere.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** The woman who answered the phone assured me that she was Mr. Ranier's assistant and conversant with all his files. Mr. Ranier couldn't speak with me himself now, because he was in conference. Or court. Or the John. Unavailable is unavailable.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** The vastness of the city at night was overwhelming. Red flares glowed against a yellow sky, followed by mile on mile of unbending lights ... lights that didn't illuminate but threw shadows.... What you really want to see are the lights that bend.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** It was ludicrous to spin my mind with conjectures when all I had to do was phone.... And try to verify sources.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** A lone heron spreads its wings and rises from the marsh. It circles briefly, then heads south, disappearing in the shrouding mist. A handful of purple-necked ducks continues to nibble at delicacies in the fetid water. Their families have come here for millennia, breaking the journey from Canada to the Amazon at what we newcomers think of as the south side of Chicago. You may want to broaden your perspective.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** It had been a long time since I'd spoken Italian, and it took time for my mind to adjust. It's like riding a bicicletta.

**New puzzles?**

We're trying out a few new puzzles; let us know what you think, puzzle fans! Do you love them all or enjoy just one? Let us know at [adiatz@hippopress.com](mailto:adiatz@hippopress.com)

**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 ancient Mediterranean ship (6)	_____
2 have in one's hand (4)	_____
3 bridal runways (6)	_____
4 stairs alternative (8)	_____
5 what the ship's wheel turns (6)	_____
6 improvise, with "it" (4)	_____
7 hydroelectricity generators (8)	_____

RU	HO	EL	OR	GAL
ES	DD	LEY	ES	EV
SL	WI	ER	LD	AT
TU	AI	IN	NG	RB

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

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**Sudoku Answers from May 28th, page 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

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**Government in action**

In 2013, Chad Dearth of Overland Park, Kansas, purchased his dream car, a 1964 Chevy Impala, and got an “antique” license plate for it. Since then, he has sold the car and moved to a new neighborhood, but earlier this year he received word that seven to 10 collection letters a day were arriving at his old address from state turnpike authorities up and down the East Coast. That’s when Dearth learned that Kansas is one of a few states that assign identical numbers to different categories of specialty license plates, and his old antique plate number matched the number on a commercial semi truck — the one photographed by one of the authorities demanding payment for toll violations. Lee Ann Phelps, vehicle services manager for the Kansas Department of Revenue, told Fox4 she doesn’t know why the state uses identical numbers, but there are about 625,000 plates in the state that share a number. Kansas has issued a new license for the truck, but in the meantime, the bills continue. Dearth most recently got a letter from the Delaware Turnpike Authority seeking \$479.

**Green eggs, no ham**

A.K. Shihabudheen of Malappuram, India, and his wife cracked an egg from one of their chickens about nine months ago and were surprised to see a dark green yolk, rather than the standard yellow. “All the eggs which the hen laid ... were this kind,” Shihabudheen told The News Minute, “and so we started to incubate the eggs. Out of the six chicks which hatched

from these eggs, a few have started to lay eggs and those yolks are also green in color.” The eggs taste like other eggs and cause no health problems, the family said. Experts from Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University suspect the feed given to the birds may be behind the phenomenon, according to Dr. S. Sankaralingam, but Shihabudheen says he gives all his birds the same feed.

**Monkey business**

Egyptian talk show host Lobna Asal abruptly fled the studio mid-interview on May 27 after being attacked by the monkey brought to the set by her interview subject, actor Ibrahim El-Samman, United Press International reported. Appearing on Egyptian channel Al Hayat, the monkey co-starred with El-Samman on his latest project, and at first settled in Asal’s lap for several minutes, calmly listening to the conversation, but then jumped down and attacked her legs. As she ran off, another person arrived to wrangle the primate.

**Another job threatened**

Massachusetts-based Boston Dynamics has partnered with the New Zealand robotics company Rocos to develop a robotic dog, Spot, to herd sheep. “The age of autonomous robots is upon us,” Rocos chief executive David Inggs told United Press International. The dog can be controlled remotely as it guides sheep through mountainous and difficult terrain, according to the company. “It just needs to walk with intent

toward the sheep and they seem to respond,” said Richard Stinear, Rocos chief technology officer.

**Bird brain**

Security agencies in India thought they may have captured a Pakistani spy after villagers in Manyari, a border town in the disputed region of Kashmir, delivered the courier to police, but the mole wasn’t a mole at all; it was a pigeon. According to Sky News, Kathua Police Superintendent Shailendra Mishra said the bird flew into a home on May 24 and a “ring was seen attached to one of its legs with some numbers on it. ... Some called it a coded message.” Authorities are trying to decipher the message, as pigeons have been used for espionage in the disputed region in the past. Meanwhile, the BBC reports that a Pakistani man named Habibullah is claiming the pigeon is his, and the number on the ring is his mobile phone number. Habibullah, who lives just a few miles from the India/Pakistan border, has asked for the pigeon’s return and told local media India should “refrain from victimizing innocent birds.”

**Junk food**

• San Diego police responding to a burglar alarm at a Wells Fargo bank in Chollas View, California, around 3:30 a.m. on May 27, found a broken window by the bank’s drive-thru. Alarm company personnel told officers surveillance cameras showed a man inside the bank’s break room, using the microwave. Police gained entry to the bank and arrested the unnamed man, who

told KGTV he had gone into the bank only to warm up his Hot Pockets. Asked if the Hot Pockets were worth the arrest, the man said, “Hell yeah it was worth it.”

• City Parks and Recreation employee Zach Morris was cleaning up storm damage in Wynne, Arkansas, at the city’s sports complex on May 24 when he noticed that someone had broken into the concession stand. “The whole place was just looted,” Morris told WREG. The stand had been fully stocked for games scheduled before Covid-19 lockdowns began, and thieves helped themselves to drinks and candy, even taking the time to prepare nachos and popcorn before they left. Police are hoping the culprits will confess. “The right thing to do is take responsibility for the mistakes you made,” Morris said.

**Latest sightings**

UFO hunter Scott Waring discovered what he believes to be the “entrance to an alien base” on Earth on May 13 by studying Google Earth. According to the Mirror, Waring said the base doesn’t fit in with its surroundings on a “small and uninhabited island in Indonesia” and “aliens would love to have a hidden base” in such a secluded location. Using a Google Earth tool, he measured the opening, which is about 66 feet across — big enough, he said, to “get a lot of alien ships in there.” One commenter on Waring’s YouTube channel praised his finding: “My gut tells me this is 100% legit. Good job man!”

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**JONESIN’ CROSSWORDS BY MATT JONES**

**“Turn! Turn! Turn!” — prepare to get dizzy**

Enjoy this Jonesin’ Crossword, originally printed in 2012!

- Across**  
 1 CD section?  
 5 Former Anaheim Stadium football

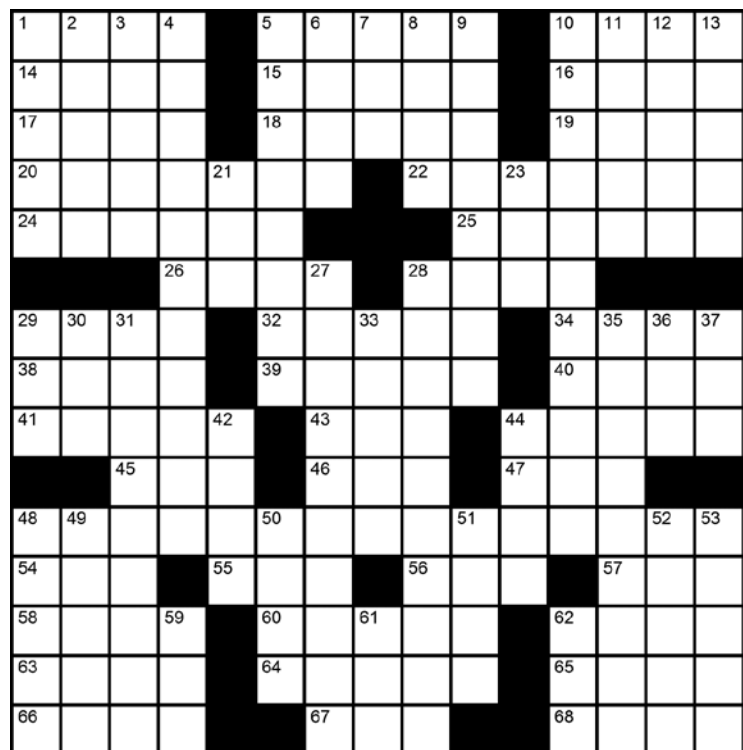
- player  
 10 “Leave it in,” in proofreading  
 14 Show opener  
 15 It may wait  
 16 No-no: var.  
 17 Withdraw (off)  
 18 Exorcist’s target  
 19 Gave the go-ahead  
 20 Medical carriers  
 22 Metallic gray  
 24 Jumped (out)  
 25 Tommy Lee Jones, in “Men in Black”  
 26 Utah city near Arches National Park  
 28 Scrape reminder  
 29 Clown name  
 32 “Never \_\_\_ Give You Up”  
 34 Stratford-\_\_\_-Avon  
 38 Scary spot in “Hansel and Gretel”  
 39 Part of CAT  
 40 Pretty pink  
 41 “She Blinded Me With Science” singer Thomas  
 43 Poli \_\_\_  
 44 Ignores socially  
 45 Kenyan ethnic group that Barack Obama, Sr. was part of  
 46 Good buddy  
 47 Sinuous swimmer

- 48 What the four longest entries in this puzzle (except this one) are examples of  
 54 Get it and you’re fired  
 55 \_\_\_ Lankan  
 56 That dude’s  
 57 “Hi and Lois” cartoonist Browne  
 58 Russian war planes  
 60 Brave way to solve crosswords  
 62 Actress Ward  
 63 2007 #1 NBA draft pick Greg  
 64 Like contortionists  
 65 Attention from the cops  
 66 Infamous fiddler  
 67 Show with Stefon, the City Correspondent for New York City  
 68 Twice less than thrice

**Down**

- 1 University of Georgia sports fans  
 2 Put on a winter coat?  
 3 The shortest Beatle  
 4 Sweet breakfast  
 5 Billboard’s 2010 Artist of the Year  
 6 God who sounds like a zodiac sign  
 7 Preferred term instead of “Gypsy”  
 8 “Famous” cookie guy  
 9 Like a bat out of hell  
 10 Surface for a pot of boiling water  
 11 Occupied

- 12 Guest commenter Roger on the 70th Anniversary DVD edition of “Casablanca”  
 13 Alan of “Suburgatory”  
 21 Favorite Brian of crossword writers  
 23 JFK alternative  
 27 They support sleepers  
 28 Slowpoke’s home  
 29 Muscleman’s asset  
 30 Cirque du Soleil show with eggs  
 31 Pouty actress Renee  
 33 Rechargeable battery type  
 35 Savannah-based TV chef  
 36 Planetoid  
 37 “The Legend of Zelda” console, for short  
 42 Shriill cries  
 44 Dos times tres  
 48 Matt stuck to Greg Kinnear in a Farrelly Brothers movie  
 49 Word after zinc or iron  
 50 Song for a diva  
 51 Car deodorizer scent  
 52 Light purple shade  
 53 Glide on a pond  
 59 \_\_\_-cone  
 61 Code at an ATM  
 62 “\_\_\_ Nuff” (Black Crowes set)  
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