

# the Hippo

AUGUST 13 - 19, 2020

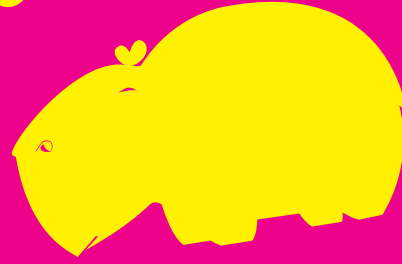
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HIPPO BEST OF 2020



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**Hippo's Best of 2020**



We're very happy and a bit relieved to present Hippo's Best of 2020 in this week's issue. It's been a long time coming.

Readers voted in our annual poll back in February (you know, "BC," Before Covid) and we planned to publish the results in the March 26 issue, but with the shutdown of most businesses, schools and everything else, we worried that the list would be very unhelpful. Here's a list of things you can't do! So we held off until we had a bit more confidence that things would be opening back up. And here we are — opening back up (for the most part).

The Best of has always been a celebration of what makes southern New Hampshire different from other parts of the country. It's the things you like the best about your community — the people, parks, community activities, restaurants, cafes and small businesses. It's been a guide by our readers, for our readers.

The people, places and things that we ask readers to vote on are a part of the arts, entertainment and quality of life here that we strive to cover in each issue. And while we are proud to present those issues to you in this free news-weekly, the Hippo is not free to publish. Since our founding nearly 20 years ago, local advertising support has provided us with the revenue to publish a quality free paper. Not so much anymore. And now, we're asking for your help.

Please consider becoming a sustaining member to help us to continue providing this coverage. We want to continue to give you the information that can help you make the most of living here, and we need you to pitch in. We want to keep offering you live music listings, updates on the comedy scene, a look at new art exhibits, a peek at theatrical productions, interviews with local authors and ideas for your weekend hikes. To do that, we need your financial support. Help us continue our mission of strong local coverage so we can help you make the most of your next meal or your weekend plans.

Please consider supporting us by becoming an annual member. All members will get exclusive access to Hippo's online articles and archives, exclusive content, Hippo deals (when available) and a bumper sticker.

Contributions can be made online at [hippopress.com](http://hippopress.com).

Thank you for voting in the Best of 2020 poll and sharing your favorites, and thank you for continuing to support the Hippo. 🐾



News and culture weekly serving Metro southern New Hampshire  
Published every Thursday  
(1st copy free; 2nd \$1).  
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**ON THE COVER**  
**10 BEST OF 2020** It's finally time to reveal the results from the poll that readers took way back in February, plus results from a quickie poll we created post-quarantine. Find out where your fellow readers go for their favorite dishes, where they bring their kids on rainy days and what events you can look forward to (mostly for next year, probably).

**ALSO ON THE COVER**, the Mahrajan Middle Eastern Food Festival is on, this weekend in Manchester, p. 29. If all the choices in the beer cooler or at the bar overwhelm you, we've got some suggestions, p. 32. And if you're looking for live music, check out our Music This Week listings, starting on p. 38.  
INSIDE: Mahrajan food fest.

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## Covid-19 news

On Aug. 4, Gov. Chris Sununu issued Exhibit O to Emergency Order No. 29, which had been issued on April 9. Emergency Order No. 29 requires state agencies, boards and commissions to submit recommendations to Sununu if any regulatory deadlines should be adjusted in response to the state of emergency. Per Exhibit O, the deadline to complete two hours of continuing education for licensees as pump installers or well water contractors through the New Hampshire Water Well Board has been extended for one year, from June 30, 2020, to June 30, 2021.

On Aug. 5, Sununu issued a statement in response to reports that some states may be improperly taxing New Hampshire residents who are working remotely during the pandemic. “The New Hampshire Department of Justice will conduct a review of ... each state’s Department of Revenue’s actions to determine whether any state is engaging in improper taxation of our citizens,” the statement reads. “We will take immediate steps to stop any attempts to impose income taxes on Granite Staters in a manner that violates the law or the New Hampshire or United States Constitution.”

Also on Aug. 5, Sununu announced the federal government’s approval of New Hampshire’s plan to reduce premium rates in the state’s individual health insurance market. The reinsurance program, according to a press release issued by the Governor’s Office, is estimated to reduce premiums in 2021 by approximately 16 percent over what they would have otherwise been. The individual market’s unsubsidized population is expected to grow by about 8 percent due to lower premium costs resulting from the stabilization of the market.

Also on Aug. 5, Sununu issued Emergency Order No. 62, an order protecting the pre-existing non-conforming use status for summer camps in the state that have been unable to operate, have had their seasons short-

ened or have had their capacities reduced this year as a result of the pandemic.

On Aug. 7, Sununu issued Executive Order 2020-16, extending the state of emergency in New Hampshire due to the pandemic for another three weeks through at least Aug. 28. It’s the seventh extension he has issued since originally declaring a state of emergency on March 13.

Details of all of Sununu’s Emergency and Executive Orders can be found at [governor.nh.gov](http://governor.nh.gov).

## Legislative action

Gov. Chris Sununu vetoed several more bills in the past week, according to press releases from his office. These include:

House Bill 687, also known as the “extreme risk protection” bill. While the New Hampshire Democratic Party said in a statement that the bill would “keep Granite Staters safe by keeping guns out of the hands of people in crisis when there is evidence they pose an extreme risk of harming themselves or others,” Sununu said in his veto statement that while mental health, including suicide prevention and awareness, continues to be one of the state’s top priorities, “the process laid out in House Bill 687 goes too far and would weaken the constitutional rights of law-abiding New Hampshire citizens.”

House Bill 1375, regarding claims for medical monitoring related to exposure to toxic materials. In his veto statement, Sununu said that while the bill was created with good intentions, “this legislation would subject businesses to increased liability by creating a pathway for almost anyone exposed to hazardous or toxic substances to prove a claim for medical monitoring damages, regardless of the level, risk or consequences of exposure.” He also said he is willing to work with proponents to explore a more tailored and responsible approach in the next legislative session.

House Bill 685, the Reproduc-

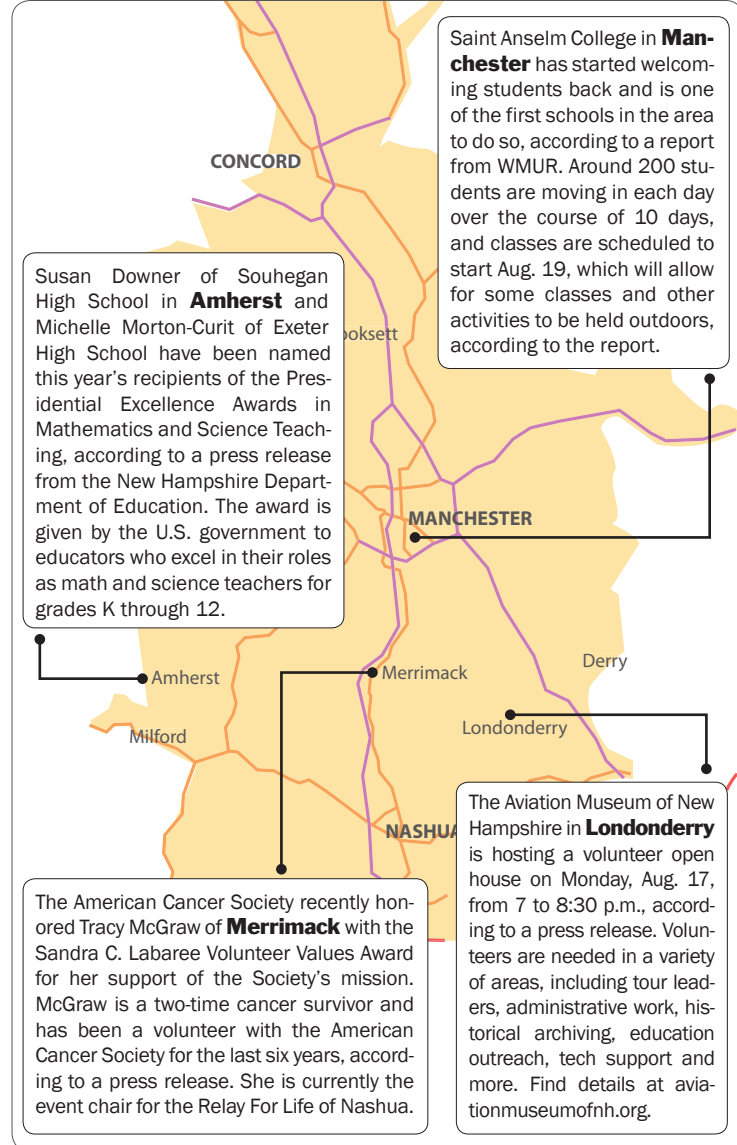
tive Health Parity Act. According to a press release from the New Hampshire Democratic Party, the bill “would have ensured Granite Staters access to a range of affordable reproductive health services, including abortion.” In his veto statement, Sununu called the legislation unnecessary and said it would threaten the state’s ability to get federal funding for health care programs.

House Bill 1494, which would have established benefits for public works employees who die on the job. In his veto statement, Sununu said that while he supports parts of the bill, there are parts that he is unable to support “because of negative policy and financial impacts on the state and municipalities.”

## City school reopenings

With all of New Hampshire’s school districts creating their own plans for reopening, “back to school” is going to look different across the state. Some smaller districts are working toward full in-person reopenings or hybrid learning models, but all three of the state’s biggest cities have approved reopening plans that have most students learning remotely for the start of the 2020-21 school year.

**The Manchester** Board of School Committee voted during a five-hour meeting Monday night to reopen with fully remote learning for grades 2 through 12 for the first quarter of the school year, with students in pre-kindergarten through first grade attending school in person two days a week, according to a report from WMUR. “While a full in-person reopening may work for other communities, it was simply not feasible or responsible for our district to do so. In choosing to slowly bring students back in person — starting with specialized programming and our youngest students — I believe we are striking the right balance for our students, families and staff,” Superintendent Dr. John Goldhardt said in a statement. Mayor Joyce Craig said in a statement that through-



out the first weeks of school, “the school administration, along with stakeholders, including the Manchester Health Department and the City Facilities Division will assess whether a blended model can be implemented by the end of November.”

On Aug. 5, the **Nashua** Board of Education approved a plan that will have students starting the year remotely on Sept. 8. The reopening plan, which is posted on the school district’s website, will start with full remote learning (Model III) until Oct. 5, when a rollout of a hybrid model (Model II) will begin. Based on Nashua’s numbers of Covid-19 cases, public health officials advised that the district eliminate Model I, a return to in-person teaching, from consideration. According to the plan, parents/guardians will be able to choose whether their children will participate in Model II when it is rolled out or stay in Model III. The plan also says that “Flexibility and the ability to pivot between models is key ... as local epidemiology may possibly alter our schedules for teaching and learning at any time during the school year.”

On Aug. 6, the **Concord** School

Board voted to “employ a fully remote learning model for students this fall,” according to a letter to students, families and staff posted on the district’s website, with the first day of remote learning starting Sept. 8. The letter said that pushing back the start date will allow staff to continue to train for best practices for remote learning. “We understand that all of the return to school models will present difficulties for some of our families, and we want to assure you that the Board took into account hundreds of concerns and questions which parents, staff and students have expressed,” Interim Superintendent Kathleen Murphy wrote in the letter.

## Law enforcement

New Hampshire Police Standards and Training will undergo several changes, including the creation of guidelines regarding use of force as well as improvements to diversity training, after the initial recommendations from the New Hampshire Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability, Community, and

CONTINUED ON PG 6 ▶

Covid-19 update	As of August 3	As of August 10
<b>Total cases statewide</b>	6,660	6,840
<b>Total current infections statewide</b>	395	326
<b>Total deaths statewide</b>	417	419
<b>New cases</b>	219 (July 28 to Aug. 3)	180 (Aug. 4 to Aug. 10)
<b>Current infections: Hillsborough County</b>	197	137
<b>Current infections: Merrimack County</b>	19	13
<b>Current infections: Rockingham County</b>	104	103

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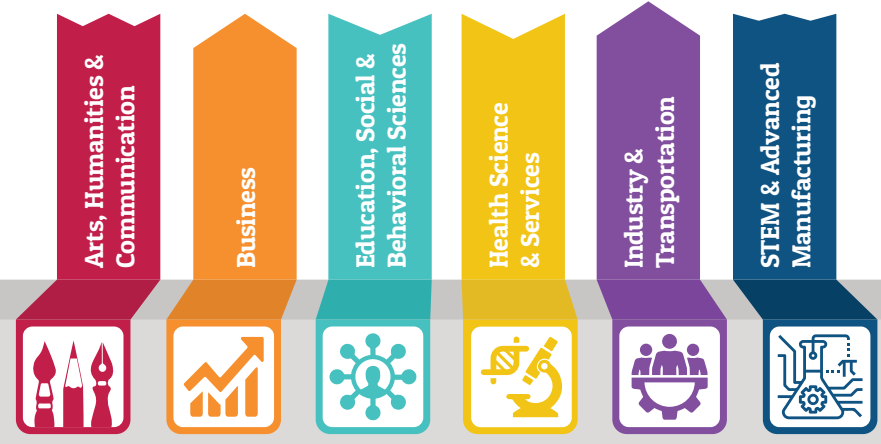


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# Now hiring

## UNH alumni help tech companies find diverse talent with Shtudy

Shtudy (shtudy.co) is a career advancement startup that matches talented tech professionals of color — specifically those who are Black, Latinx and Native American — with leading tech companies looking to increase diversity, equity and inclusion in their workplaces. Founded by UNH alumni Geno Miller and Ravoughn Millings, Shtudy recently moved from Washington, D.C., to Manchester and expanded its services with a new online platform that screens and trains job seekers to provide employers with a selective hiring pool of guaranteed qualified candidates. Miller talked about how Shtudy works, why it's needed and how job seekers and employers can work toward a more inclusive tech industry in New Hampshire and beyond.

**Q:** *What is the mission of Shtudy?*  
Everything we do comes back to bridging the racial wealth gap in America, and we feel like the fastest, most efficient way of doing that is through [the] tech [industry]. The average tech employee's salary is \$135K. The average Black family makes \$60K a year, and the average Latinx family makes \$68K a year, so the average tech worker makes more than both of those families combined. ... The current amount of people of color in tech jobs is nine percent. Our mission is to double that to 18 percent.

### How was Shtudy born?

I was born and raised in Prince George's County, Maryland, which is about five minutes away from D.C. Growing up in a city environment and underrepresented community, there are a lot of trials and tribulations, like drugs and guns. I was fortunate enough to overcome those things, but I had a lot of friends who weren't as fortunate. ... When I got a full football scholarship to go to the University of New Hampshire, I saw a world of opportunity open up to me, and I couldn't help but think, 'Wow. What if the people I grew up with knew there were opportunities out there for

them, as well? How can I help provide opportunities to people who look like me and come from areas similar to where I come from?' ... Then, I met my [Shtudy] co-founder Ravoughn Millings, also a UNH alum, who had a similar experience to me. He was always at the top of his classes, but when it came time to find a job, he was having trouble. That told us there was a huge disconnect between the processes companies use to find top talent, and what job seekers are doing to try to get in front of those employers in a way that they can actually stand out. That's what led to the development of Shtudy. ... We launched toward the end of 2017 ... and moved to New Hampshire about a month and a half ago.

### How does it work?

[Job seekers] sign up and select their desired career path. Then, they take a quiz to prove they can do the thing they say they can do. These quizzes are verified by companies like Google, Facebook and Amazon and are what they use to hire their engineers. Once they pass those quizzes, we introduce them to our "Soft Skills Training Library," where they can watch videos teaching them what they need to know for interviews and how to handle issues that often arise

for people of color in a workplace. The next step is to do a one-on-one mock interview with a corporate recruiter. Then, we enter them into the hiring pool so they can be viewed by employers interested in hiring them.

### Is it effective?

Definitely. We've gotten two [hundred] to three hundred signups [from job seekers] in the last two weeks, alone ... and in the time we've been doing this, somewhere between 30 and 50 [job seekers] have been successfully placed [in tech companies].

### Why is the number of people of color in the tech industry so low?

Based on the research we conducted ... employers want to hire people of color, but they're looking in the wrong places ... and candidates who want to work for these companies don't have the tools in their toolbox to get directly in front of employers in a way that they'll get noticed. There are a multitude of different reasons for that. Implicit bias is definitely a thing. There's also a huge communication barrier to overcome between employers and people who come from different backgrounds than them.

### Why is Shtudy needed now, and in New Hampshire?

There's a lot of social injustice right now, especially racial injustice. In addition to that, we have Covid-19, [which has resulted in] a lot of employers having to change their traditional hiring process of conducting on-site, in-person interviews. Shtudy helps with both of those things. We're providing opportunities for people of color who need them, and we're making it easy for



Geno Miller

employers to tap into a reliable pool of candidates, specifically in New Hampshire, because the goal is always to bring more diverse young talent to the state.

### What would you like tech companies to know about hiring people of color?

This isn't a one-off thing where employers can just check a box and expect the full benefits of hiring people of color who actually enjoy their experience at the company. There has to be a mental shift. The entire company has to buy in, from the executive board down to the junior and associate-level workers. That's what it takes to transform a company and bring people of color into an environment where they can thrive.

### What advice do you have for young people of color who are interested in pursuing a career in tech? How can they set themselves up for success?

The first thing I'd say is that they can do it. I feel like that's something young people of color don't hear enough, especially in the tech world. ... In regards to advancing their careers, I'd say, dress up your LinkedIn [profile], revamp your resumes and build internal networks. Look at the resources out there that can help you get better grades and stand out in competitive workplaces. And, of course, use Shtudy. That's what we're here for. — *Angie Sykeny*

### NEWS SHORTS CONTINUED FROM PG 4

Transparency were endorsed by Gov. Chris Sununu last week, according to a press release. These recommendations include the creation of a Job Task Analysis for entry-level law enforce-

ment officers and entry-level corrections officers, as well as a review of the present Academy curriculum; improving police academy training on diversity; amending administrative rules to mandate that background investigations vet police recruit candidates to see if they

have ever "demonstrated outward bias of a protected group by way of past history, behavior, affiliation with a subversive group, social media posts and other objective sources to help determine the overall fitness for duty the candidate possesses and to consider those findings

in the overall decision to hire the candidate"; and the creation of guidelines relative to: use of force, duty to intervene, code of conduct, duty to report misconduct, prohibition of chokeholds, procedures to guard against positional asphyxia.

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# The week that was



With news coming fast and furious in the restart of three major sports along with more from NFL camps and in college football, we'll try to keep up with it all, through a series of news briefs to look at the headlines from emerging stories.

## Bloom off the Rose at Fenway:

With the Red Sox having the worst pitching staff I've ever seen them have, I'd say **Chaim Bloom's** bargain-basement shopping approach to finding value pitchers is off to a rocky start. Though even more shocking is that six teams in MLB have even worse team earned run averages than the Sox's 4.74. Also, seeing the statistics-driven decision-making forcing **Ron Roenicke** to bat lead-footed **J.D. Martinez** second is not a confidence-inspiring move either. It was done to let them go lefty-righty through the fifth spot in the order to combat late game relief pitching match-ups even though it puts their best RBI guy hitting directly behind the eighth and ninth dead spots in the order 80 percent of his at-bats. Plus the match-up issue is overrated when guys like **Xander Bogaerts** hit .317 against right-handed pitching in 2019 and just .291 vs. lefties, while J.D. hit 17 homers and drove in 65 runs against the righties. The order thing changed fairly quickly, but it's not a good sign that they don't realize batting that guy there probably knocks 30 RBI off his total in a full season. It's early in the development process for Bloom, so the headline is a little unfair. But since I'm a guy who thinks it's smarter to not outsmart yourself as baseball so often does in favor of letting top talent just play, let's just say I'm not really impressed so far.

**The Double Negative and More Thing on Red Sox Pitching Award:** Does **Matt Barnes** never not walk someone when he pitches? I'm just asking 'cause every single time I watch him pitch he's pitching in trouble due to unnecessary walks. As someone who mourns the passing of the three-hour-and-42-minute game I find it beyond annoying.

**Michigan-OSU Rivalry Kicked Up a Notch:** Good to see local lad **Ryan Day** go right back at mouthy Michigan coach/instigator **Jim Harbaugh** at Big 10 media day last week after he made claims about improper coaching going on at *thee* Ohio State. Day basically said you worry about your team and I'll worry about mine. With the game earlier than usual in mid-October Harbaugh might be just getting in some early head games, or, more likely, damage control given the heat he must be feeling for being 0-5 vs. OSU after last year's 56-27 rout. Especially with Big Blue having lost 15 of the last 16 to their bitter rival. As for Day, word was he later told associates he wants to hang 100 on Harbaugh this time, which given last year's thumping might be doable.

**Plymouth State Alumni News Notes:** Of course hanging 100 on Michigan wouldn't be

good news for Plymouth State alumni who still fondly remember the dominant days between 1993 and 1995 when head man **Don Brown's** teams went 25-6. He's now defensive coordinator for Big Blue in Ann Arbor and 100 on the resume is rather unsightly.

**Celtic/NBA Alumni News:** The sad news of the weekend came from Nashua/Bishop Guertin alum **Mike Lupica**. The New York Daily News columnist writing one tweet asked the basketball world to pray for his long-time friend **Paul Westphal** as the one-time Celtic/NBA Hall of Famer has brain cancer.

**Celtics Cement 3-Seed in East:** Friday's not-as-close-as-the-122-100-final score-indicated win over Toronto was arguably their best and most satisfying of the year. It featured a balanced attack with seven guys in double figures, but most notably had the kind of fierce defense by all of its parameter defenders that they have not shown enough of in the regular season. The latter suffocated the Raptors potent 3-ball game and that will be paramount for them to duplicate come playoff time. So take it as a good sign.

**The 2016 Nightmare:** While he didn't have a strong game, seeing Raptors All-Star **Pascal Siakam** Friday again brought reminders from the 2016 draft. **Danny Ainge** had three picks in Round 1 and started by taking **Jaylen Brown** third overall. Given the versatile inside, mid-game and long-range scoring threat he's turned into, that was a great pick. But then (gulp) came **Guerschon Yabusele** at 15. Really? A finesse player being 30 pounds overweight on draft night wasn't a red flag? Next came **Ante Zizic** at 23. An in-the-witness-protection 7-footer after landing in Cleveland in the horrid **Kyrie Irving** trade. Four picks later, the NBA's savviest judge of young talent, **Masai Ujiri**, took Siakam for Toronto. Missing him *twice* gets me every time.

**Groundhog Day – The Football Edition:** Really? They're gonna give the XFL yet another try? Yup. Not even four months after it filed for bankruptcy again, ex-Miami footballer turned mega-movie star **Dwayne Johnson**, better known as the **Rock**, bought the XFL remnants for \$15 million last week with a pledge to try it a third time. That will make it five tries overall for spring football, starting with the USFL in the 1980s. That one at least produced real talent and some eventual big names like Famers **Steve Young**, **Jim Kelly** and **Reggie White**, along with the now on to bigger things owner of the New Jersey Generals, **Donald Trump**.

**Faces in the Non-Crowds:** Best face in the **Sgt. Pepper's**-like virtual sports crowds last week was **Bernie Lomax**. If you don't remember Bernie, he was the dead guy everyone partied around in his Hamptons beach house after the illicit insurance executive was bumped off by his mob boss partner in the 1989 major Hollywood motion picture *Weekend at Bernie's*. He was at the Dodgers game Friday and, if you're wondering, he still looked dead to me.

Email Dave Long at [dlong@hippo-press.com](mailto:dlong@hippo-press.com).

With Diane Davidson

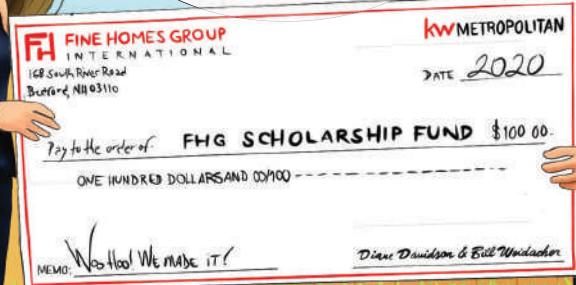
# Good Deeds

And Bill Weidacher

## Real Estate With a Mission

**This Week:  
Tips For Working  
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Ray the Mover who we often recommend suggests that while it's never too early to start, it's to look at packing up your home as an 8 week process.



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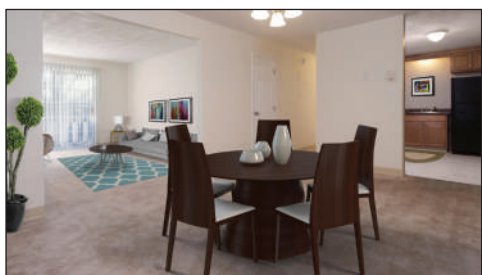
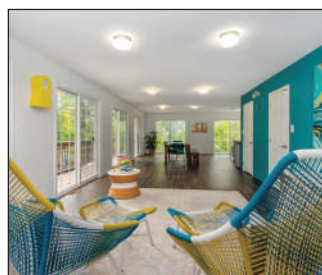
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## QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

### Saving Valley

Efforts to take back and clean up Valley Cemetery in Manchester are being relaunched as a group of volunteers — the Original Friends of Valley Cemetery — pivots its focus to restoring gravestones and the chapel, according to Tanya Frazier Orr, who is leading the efforts. Orr said in an email that on Saturday, Aug. 22, a cleaning and restoration workshop will be held for anyone who wants to learn how to conserve various types of gravestones. In addition, the Manchester Memorial Company will be cleaning the Samuel Bell monument to provide an example of what can be accomplished with simple cleaning.

**Score:** +1

**Comments:** *“Combined forces and fresh energy spell nothing but success for this team and their restoration goals,” Orr said in her email.*

### Pick up trash with Carter

Five-year-old Carter Manson of Manchester was named July’s Granite Stater of the Month by U.S. Senator Maggie Hassan for encouraging people to get outside and help clean up their communities, according to a press release. Carter has wanted to be a garbage collector since he was 3, so it was fitting that during the April stay-at-home orders he asked his mom, Kelly, if he could go outside and pick up trash. Kelly said yes and took pictures of him in the act, then posted them on Facebook. After getting positive feedback from her friends and family, she decided to create a group called Carter’s Clean Up Crew, which now has nearly 800 members from across the United States and Canada, according to the release. The crew has raised \$1,400 to help get members of the group supplies like trash grabbers and gloves.

**Score:** +1

**Comment:** *Carter is asking local residents to join him and his crew on Saturday, Aug. 29, at Pulaski Park in Manchester from 8 to 10 a.m. for a community clean-up, according to a post on wzid.com.*

### Second Jamestown Canyon virus case this year

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services announced last week that an adult from Bow tested positive for Jamestown Canyon virus. According to a press release from the Department, the person experienced fever and mild neurological symptoms but was not hospitalized and is doing well. This is the second case of the mosquito-borne pathogen in New Hampshire this year, and the 11th since the first case was reported in 2013. The arboviral risk level, which indicates the risk of transmission of these infections from mosquitoes, for Bow has been increased to high and is at moderate for the surrounding towns of Goffstown, Dunbarton, Hopkinton, Allenstown, Hooksett, Pembroke and Concord.

**Score:** -2

**Comment:** *DHHS noted in its press release that risk of infection with Jamestown Canyon virus as well as Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus and West Nile virus will continue to increase throughout the summer and into fall.*

### All aboard for Hopkinton history

The Hopkinton Historical Society has created a driving tour that includes seven stops in Hopkinton and Contoocook that feature railroad points of interest. According to a press release, the tour is taking the place of what was supposed to be a summer exhibit: “Given the continued uncertainty regarding opening dates and people’s comfort levels with gathering in groups indoors, we decided the best approach was to take our exhibit on the road!” the release reads. The tour looks at how the railroad impacted farmers, tourism, mills and factories, among other things.

**Score:** +1

**Comment:** *The tour can be found at HopkintonHistory.org, or followed on Clio, a downloadable app for driving tours of historical and cultural sites.*

**QOL score:** 51

**Net change:** +1

**QOL this week:** 52

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



### Friday, Aug. 14



Changes in Latitude. Courtesy photo.

The Fisher Cats kick off their “**Socially Distanced Concert Series at the Stadium**” with David Clark’s Songs in the Attic (the music of Billy Joel) tonight at 7 p.m. (the gates open at 5:30 p.m.) at Delta Dental Stadium in downtown Manchester.

Tomorrow, Saturday, Aug. 15, catch Changes in Latitude (the music of Jimmy Buffett), also at 7 p.m. Tickets to either show cost \$23. See [NHFisherCats.com](http://NHFisherCats.com). The series continues the weekend of Aug. 28 and runs through Sept. 12.

### Thursday, Aug. 13

The **Currier Museum of Art** (150 Ash St. in Manchester; [currier.org](http://currier.org), 669-6144) inches closer to opening by holding a member preview weekend today through Sunday, Aug. 16. Go online to reserve timed tickets for members (memberships currently start at \$50 for an individual, \$80 for a household). The Currier will open to the general public on Thursday, Aug. 20, when it will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., with music from Paul Nelson starting at 5 p.m. The Currier is recommending about two-hour gallery visits and safety protocols include wearing masks, offering hand sanitizer and more.

### Friday, Aug. 14

It’s a tribute-band-lover’s summer! Catch more tribute bands playing this weekend at the Tupelo Music Hall’s Drive-In (10 A St. in Derry; [tupelomusichall.com](http://tupelomusichall.com), 437-5100). **Foreigners Journey** plays Friday, Aug. 14, at 6 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 15, at 3 and 6

p.m. Or, for the music of Tom Petty, see **The Breakers** on Sunday, Aug. 16, at 3 and 6 p.m. Crazy on You, a Heart tribute band, will perform on Aug. 22 at 3 and 6 p.m.

### Wednesday, Aug. 19

Enjoy a mid-week evening of relaxation with a live performance of the band Crossroads at

the Merrimack Parks & Recreation **Summer Concert Series** in Abbie Griffin Park (6 Baboosic Lake Road) tonight from 6 to 8 p.m. Bring blankets and dinner; organizers ask for masks and social distancing, the website said. Crossroads plays classic rock, modern rock, country and pop, according to [merrimackparksandrec.org](http://merrimackparksandrec.org). 🗨️

### Save the Date! Friday, Aug. 21

Add a little sweetness to these final days before school starts with **La Belle Winery’s cupcake frosting and decorating class** for kids on Aug. 21, from noon to 1 p.m. The cost is \$29 per kid and kids will make their own frosting and decorate their cupcake (and then eat it), according to the website, which also recommends that parents can enjoy lunch in the Bistro during the event. The event will take place at the winery (345 Route 101 in Amherst; [labellewinerynh.com](http://labellewinerynh.com)) and is recommended for ages 9 and up; register in advance, the website said.



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**THE RESULTS ARE IN**

## Remember February?

Way way back then, before, well, just, before, you voted for your favorite pizza place, the best garden center and the butt-kicking-est fitness instructor. We counted the votes and were about two weeks away from presenting you with the answers when everything changed. We didn't think it would be particularly helpful to give you a guide to places you couldn't go and food you couldn't eat, so we waited.

Now, finally, here are your picks — your favorite sub spot, the best place to shop for clothes to freshen up your wardrobe and outdoor spots for biking, canoeing or just hanging out.

Every year, what we present with our Best Of is a snapshot — here's what readers loved and were thinking about during February (the voting month) of that year. This year, what we give you here is, like so many things right now, something of a hybrid. Some sections, like the categories that ask about places with a great crowd or spots to hang out after work with coworkers, can feel a little bit like artifacts from another world

## ARTS

### Best Performing Arts Venue

**Best of the best:** Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palaceattheatre.org. The 890-seat theater is home to its own professional, youth and teen performing companies and hosts visiting theater, music, dance and comedy acts. Its next shows are *Peter Pan* on Thursday, Aug. 13, and *Cinderella* on Tuesday, Aug. 18, and Wednesday, Aug. 19, presented by the 2020 Bank of New Hampshire Children's Summer Series, and comedian Bob Marley Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 20 through Aug. 22, and Aug. 27 through Aug. 29.

**Best of Concord:** Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com. The 1,304-seat theater hosts traveling theater shows, dance performances, musical and comedy acts, film screenings and more. Its next event with tickets still available is

An Evening with Chevy Chase on Saturday, Oct. 24.

**Best of Manchester:** Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com. The 700-seat venue presents music and comedy events and occasionally theatrical shows. It's currently hosting a drive-in experience with upcoming shows including tribute bands Foreigners Journey on Friday, Aug. 14, and Saturday, Aug. 15, and The Breakers (Tom Petty tribute) on Sunday, Aug. 16.

**Best of Nashua:** Janice B. Streeter Theatre, 14 Court St., Nashua. The theater is home to Nashua theater companies Actors-ingers and Peacock Players.

### Best Art Gallery

**Best of the best:** Jupiter Hall, 89 Hanover St., Manchester, 289-4661, jupiterhallnh.com. The multi-purpose arts venue features visual art exhibitions, performance art, art classes and other events.

(remember "crowds"?). Some winners have modified operations right now (not all of the great bars for live music, for example, are currently offering live music) or might even be sitting out the season; we allowed businesses and events that are currently closed or canceled but give indication that they will resume in the future to still claim their win. A lot can happen in five months — businesses come and go, people move — but we did our best to track down the status of the winners. As always, this poll and the results are for entertainment purposes only and all results are (finally) final.

Despite all this, Hippo's Best of 2020 still offers lots of places to go and delicious food to eat — and this year it feels especially worth celebrating the things that make southern New Hampshire special. We even came back in July with a new poll asking you to give a little extra love to the shops and takeout spots that helped brighten up those tough shut-down months. So get out (safely) and enjoy (with masks when needed) the unique delights of our piece of the 603. Where should you go? What should you do? Here are some ideas ...

The gallery is closed until further notice, according to an announcement on its Facebook page.

**Best of Concord:** League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Concord Gallery, 36 N. Main St., Concord, 228-8171, concord.nhcrafts.org. The gallery and shop features a variety of traditional and contemporary fine crafts created by New Hampshire craftspeople.

**Best of Manchester:** Art 3 Gallery, 44 W. Brook St., Manchester, 668-6650, art3gallery.com. A fine art retail gallery featuring art in a variety of media and styles by local, regional, national and international artists. It also offers custom framing and corporate and residential art consulting. Its current exhibition, "Freshly Imagined," features works by 70 artists and is on display through Aug. 30.

**Best of Nashua:** ArtHub, 30 Temple St., Nashua, 966-4429, naaa-arthur.org. The collaborative gallery and workspace features art by Nashua Area Artists

Association members and other artists in the greater Nashua area. The current exhibition, "Summertime," is on view now through the end of the year.

### Best Artists Market

**Best:** Concord Arts Market, 1 Bicentennial Square, Concord, concordartsmarket.net. The juried outdoor artisan and fine art market is currently running weekly on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., through September.

**Runner-up:** Craftsmen's Fair, nhcrafts.org. The nine-day craft fair, hosted by the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen, normally takes place at Mount Sunapee Resort starting the first week of August.

**Honorable mention:** Manchester Craft Market, 1500 S. Willow St., Manchester, 716-5520, manchestercraftmarket.com. The shop features handmade gifts, souvenirs, decor, gourmet foods and more by New England artisans.

## Best Live Theatrical Production

**Best of the best:** *A Christmas Carol*, a Palace Theatre professional production. The show ran at the Palace Theatre in Manchester Dec. 6 through Dec. 22, 2019.

**Best of Concord:** *Frozen Jr.*, performed by the Children's Theatre Project of The Community Players of Concord at the Concord City Auditorium on Oct. 18 and Oct. 19, 2019.

**Best of Manchester:** *Piano Men*, a Palace Theatre professional production. The show ran at the Palace Theatre in Manchester Jan. 10 through Feb. 2, 2020.

**Best of Nashua:** *Frozen Jr.*, performed by youth theater company Peacock Players at the Janice B. Streeter Theatre in Nashua Dec. 13 through Dec. 22, 2019.

## Best Dance Performance

**Best of the best:** *The Nutcracker*, performed by Ballet Misha at the Dana Center in Manchester Dec. 21 and Dec. 22, 2019.

**Best of Concord:** In The Field Irish Dancers' performance at the Market Days Festival in Concord on June 22, 2019.

**Best of Manchester:** *The Nutcracker*, performed by the New Hampshire School of Ballet at the Palace Theatre in Manchester on Dec. 26, 2019.

**Best of Nashua:** DanceWorks Movement Design's Recital, held in Milford on June 1 and June 2, 2019.

## BEAUTY & HEALTH

### Best Barber Shop

**Best of the best:** Lucky's Barbershop and Shave Parlor, 50 S. State St., Concord, 715-5470, luckysbarbershop.biz. (Lucky's also has a location in Portsmouth.)

**Best of Concord:** American Barber Studios, 4 Park St., Concord, 225-3052, americanbarberstudios.com

**Best of Manchester:** Dude's Barber Shop, 1311 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 626-0533, dudesbarbershop.us

**Best of Nashua:** The Polished Man, 707 Milford Road, Merrimack, 718-8427, thepolishedman.com. (The Polished Man also has a location in Nashua.)

### Best Salon

**Best of the best:** 5 Diamond Salon, 915 Holt Ave., Suite 4, Manchester, 459-3367, 5diamondsalon.com

**Best of Concord:** Salon K, 18 Pleasant St., Concord, 225-0099, salonkconcord.com

**Best of Manchester:** Blank Canvas Salon, 1F Commons Drive, No. 38, Londonderry, 818-4294, blankcanvassalon.com

**Best of Nashua:** Fancy Nancy's Elite Hair Designers, 295 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-0202, fancynancysalon.com

### Best Spa

**Best of the best:** Renew MediSpa, 23 B

Crystal Ave., Derry, 932-4701, renewmedspa.com

**Best of Concord:** Serendipity Day Spa & Float Studio, 23 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, 229-0400, serendipitydayspa.com

**Best of Manchester:** Pellé Medical Spa, 159 Frontage Road, Manchester, 627-7000, pellemedicalspa.com

**Best of Nashua:** Innovations The Salon & Spa, 228 Naticook Road, Merrimack, 880-7499, innovationsnh.com

### Best Gym

**Best of the best:** Dynamic Strength and Conditioning, 115 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, 882-2348, dynamicsc.com

**Best of Concord:** Get Fit NH, 287 S. Main St., Concord, 344-2651, getfitnh.com

**Best of Manchester:** Executive Health & Sports Center, 1 Highlander Way, Manchester, 668-4753, facebook.com/executivehealthclub

**Best of Nashua:** SPENGA, 493 Amherst St., Nashua, 324-0355, spenganashua.com

### Workout Class That Will Get You to Your Goal Fastest

**Best of the best:** Smart Group Training, Get Fit NH, 287 S. Main St., Concord, 344-2651, getfitnh.com. Classes are held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday on the hour from 5 to 9 a.m., and Monday through Thursday on the half hour from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**Best of Concord:** Strive Ride, Strive Indoor Cycling, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, 513-9464, striveindoorcycling.com. Classes are held on Monday and Wednesday throughout the day, Tuesday and Thursday in the morning and evening, Friday in the morning and afternoon and Saturday and Sunday morning.

**Best of Manchester:** Boot Camp, Inspire Strength & Fitness, 200 Perimeter Road, Unit 3, Manchester, 782-7933, inspirestrengthandfitness.com. Classes are held Monday through Friday throughout the day and Saturday mornings.

**Best of Nashua:** Adult Group Training, Dynamic Strength and Conditioning, 115 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, 882-2348, dynamicsc.com. Classes held Monday through Friday throughout the day, and on Saturday mornings.

### Best Yoga Studio

**Best of the best:** YogaBalance, 135 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 625-4000, yogabalance.info

**Best of Concord:** Sharing Yoga, 64 N. Main St., Concord, 520-8987, sharingyoga.com

**Best of Manchester:** Sol Power Yoga, 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 732-6185, solpoweryoga.com

**Best of Nashua:** New Hampshire Power Yoga, 704 Milford Road, Merrimack, 594-2494, nhpoweryoga.com

### Best Dance Studio

**Best of the best:** Dimensions in Dance, 84 Myrtle St., Manchester, 668-4196, dimension-sindance.com

**Best of Concord:** Concord Dance Academy, 26 Commercial St., Concord, 226-0200, concorddanceacademy.com

**Best of Manchester:** New Hampshire School of Ballet, 183 Londonderry Turnpike, Hooksett, 668-5330, nhschoolofballet.com

**Best of Nashua:** The Dance Company, 130 Route 101A, Amherst, 864-8374, thedancecompanyonline.com

## BEAUTY & HEALTH PERSONALITIES

### Butt-kicking-est Fitness Instructor

**Best of the best:** Erin Constantin, Get Fit NH, 287 S. Main St., Concord, 344-2651, getfitnh.com

**Best of Concord:** Meagan Ferns, Strive Indoor Cycling, 10 Hills Ave., Concord, 513-9464, striveindoorcycling.com

**Best of Manchester:** Ryan Griffin, Inspire Strength & Fitness, 200 Perimeter Road, Unit 3, Manchester, 782-7933, inspirestrengthandfitness.com

**Best of Nashua:** Matt Skeffington, Dynamic Strength and Conditioning, 115 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, 882-2348, dynamicsc.com

### Best Barber

**Best of the best:** Jason Drapeau, 5 Diamond Salon, 915 Holt Ave., Suite 4, Manchester, 459-3367, 5diamondsalon.com

**Best of Concord:** AJ Caron, South Mane Barbershop, 28 S. Main St., Concord, 952-2202, southmanebarbershop.com

**Best of Manchester:** Rafael Robles, Lineup Barbershop, 1271 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 218-3294, lineupbarbershop.com

**Best of Nashua:** Rick Lindof, The Polished Man, 108 Spitbrook Road, Nashua, 718-1468, thepolishedman.com (The Polished Man also has a location in Merrimack.)

### Best Hair Stylist

**Best of the best:** Samantha Courtois, 5 Diamond Salon, 915 Holt Ave., Suite 4, Manchester, 459-3367, 5diamondsalon.com

**Best of Concord:** Kae Mason, Salon K, 18 Pleasant St., Concord, 225-0099, salonkconcord.com

**Best of Manchester:** Lauren Gamache Dockx, Salon North, 102 Bay St., Manchester, 483-3011, 102salonnorth.com

**Best of Nashua:** Erin Crowley, Fancy Nancy's Elite Hair Designers, 295 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-0202, fancynancysalon.com



## THE FINE PRINT

### THE VOTE

The results of Hippo's readers poll are based on readers' answers to a poll conducted online in February. Readers typed in the names of people and locations they voted for. In situations where the vote is tied or otherwise unclear, Hippo editorial staff makes an effort to determine the will of the greatest number of voters. Hippo reserves the right to disqualify individual votes, ballots and/or entries when they are incomplete or unclear, do not meet the letter or the spirit of the question asked or otherwise do not meet the requirements to make them a usable vote. Hippo's editorial staff make the ultimate determination of the winners in the categories. Hippo's advertising staff and its advertisers play no role in the determination of the winners. All results are final.

This survey is for entertainment purposes only and is meant to serve as a snapshot of the people and places in southern New Hampshire. Details about businesses, events and people listed may change between the time of the vote and publication — this year in particular. In some situations, winners may have modified schedules or operations or not yet have reopened since the shutdown. Businesses that have permanently closed or are closed with no indication of plans to reopen were no longer eligible.

### BESTS

The Best of 2020 is a celebration of all things local. Large national and international chains are, for the most part, not included in the count. Smaller chains are eligible. The "Best of the Best" designation goes to the person, place or thing that receives the most votes in the category. "Best of Manchester," "Best of Nashua" and "Best of Concord" are awarded to the next top entries located in those areas. In categories with a "Best," "Runner-up" and "Honorable Mention," those there are the top vote-getters in that category.

### GEOGRAPHY

Here, roughly, is the designation of "Manchester," "Concord" and "Nashua" areas:

- Manchester area includes Manchester, Goffstown, Auburn, Candia, Bedford, Hooksett, Raymond, Litchfield, Derry, Londonderry, Windham, Salem, New Boston, Francestown and towns to the east along Route 101 to include towns on Route 125.

- Concord area includes Concord as well as Bow, Pembroke, Contoocook, Dunbarton, Hopkinton, Loudon, Boscawen, Chichester, Weare, Henniker, Suncook, Lee and some towns in the Lakes Region.

- Nashua area includes Nashua as well as Merrimack, Amherst, Milford, Hollis, Brookline, Hudson, Mason and Wilton.

### QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, CONCERNS

Did we get an address or phone number wrong? Do you have an idea for a new category? Let us know. Contact editor Amy Diaz at [adiaz@hippopress.com](mailto:adiaz@hippopress.com). Corrections will appear on page 4 in future issues. Is your favorite category missing? Categories change regularly with some categories taking a sabbatical and new categories introduced, so please send your suggestions along. And, again, all results are final.

# Best Retail Store With Standout Service During the Shutdown

## Best of the best: Junction 71

By Angie Sykeny  
asykeny@hippopress.com

Modern, vintage, mid-century, bohemian, country, rustic and shabby-chic are just some of the aesthetics you'll find at Junction 71 in Amherst. The home decor, furniture and gift shop consists of three separate units within a plaza, totaling 3,600 square feet with spaces by more than 50 artisans and dealers.

"It's not your typical consignment or thrift shop," said owner and operator Pam Robinson, who opened Junction 71 in June 2019. "We have a more eclectic mix. [The sellers] all have their own look, and we make sure that any new stuff we bring in isn't stuff that we already have."

The shop features handcrafted, locally made, new and antique products, including custom metalwork; framed wall art and paintings; upcycled and hand painted furniture; signs and flags; specialty food items like jellies and dips; and more.

"These are all very unique, one-of-a-kind pieces," Robinson said.

Robinson decided to close Junction 71 in March, a few days before the statewide shut-

down was instated. During the shutdown, she and her team posted pictures of products for sale on social media, interacted with interested buyers online and offered contactless curbside pickup. They processed more than 800 orders during the 10 weeks the shop was closed.

"I am so appreciative of our customers who have been so supportive and continued to shop with us online," Robinson said. "They kept us in business; I don't know that we would have made it through this without them."

Junction 71 has reopened for in-person shopping, requiring customers to wear masks at all times and sanitize their hands at the "sanitation station" upon entry, and providing gloves to customers who want them. There will be a "socially distant social" on Thursday, Aug. 20, from 6 to 8 p.m., with a shop-wide sale, door prizes and complimentary rose wine and appetizers served outside.

**Runner-up:** Manchester Craft Market, 1500 S. Willow St., Manchester, 716-5520, manchestercraftmarket.com. The shop features handmade gifts, souvenirs, decor, gourmet foods and more by New England artisans. During the shutdown, customers were able to

interact with the artisans directly through the "Manchester NH Craft Market Online" shopping group on Facebook, reserve items for pickup and place custom orders. The shop streamed a showing of its inventory on Facebook Live Sales every Wednesday evening (which it continues to do now every other Wednesday evening) and offered curbside pickup times, flat-rate shipping and local deliveries. Shop hours are Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m.

**Honorable mention:** Local Basket, 10 Ferry St., Concord, 219-0882, localbasket.com. The marketplace features all-local meal kits and individual food items like craft beer, wine, frozen meats and fish, specialty cheeses, select produce and more. During the shutdown, Local Basket donated meals to frontline workers; created new meal kits, including a Morning Basics kit (with milk, eggs, coffee and bread), Protein Boxes, Pantry Boxes (included flour and sugar) and Longevity Baskets for older adults with low-sodium and diabetic-friendly options; offered curbside pickup for craft beer; and sponsored the NH Brewers Associa-



Local pride on display at Junction 71. Courtesy photo.

tion's Virtual Beer Festival. Current store hours are Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m., and by appointment for later pickup and beer orders.

### Junction 71

**Location:** 71 Route 101A, Amherst  
**Hours:** Wednesday and Thursday from noon to 6 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**More info:** Call 213-5201 or visit [junction71.business.site](http://junction71.business.site)

## Friendliest Dentist

**Best of the best:** Dr. Elizabeth Spindel, Spindel General and Cosmetic Dentistry, 862 Union St., Manchester, 669-9049, elizabethspindel.com

**Best of Concord:** Dr. Shannon Arndt, 280 Pleasant St., Concord, 228-4456, orzechowskiarndt.com

**Best of Manchester:** Dr. Carlivette Santamaria, Oasis Dental, 1525 S. Willow St., Unit 5, Manchester, 641-5200, oasisdental-nh.com

**Best of Nashua:** Dr. Charles Pipilas, 280 Main St., Suite 311, Nashua, 881-8280

## WHAT TO WEAR

### Best Independent Clothing Store

**Best of the best:** Gondwana & Divine Clothing Co., 13 N. Main St., Concord, 228-1101, clothingnh.com

**Best of Concord:** Indigo Blues & Co., 902 Main St., Contoocook, 660-9290, indigobluesandco.com

**Best of Manchester:** Alapage, 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 622-0550, alapageboutique.com

**Best of Nashua:** Camaraderie Boutique, 175 Main St., Nashua, 402-1908, camaraderiestyle.com

### Best Independent Jewelry Store

**Best of the best:** Capitol Craftsman & Romance Jewelers, 16 & 18 N. Main St., Concord, 224-6166, capitolcraftsman.com

**Best of Concord:** Speer's Fine Jewelry, 24 N. Main St., Concord, 224-1582, speersfinejewelry.com

**Best of Manchester:** Bellman Jewelers, 1650 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4653, bellmans.com

**Best of Nashua:** Scentsas Fine Jewelry & Home Decor, 169-173 Main St., Nashua, 882-3281, scentsas.com

### Best Independent Shoe Store

**Best of the best:** Alec's Shoes, 1617 Southwood Drive, Nashua, 882-6811, alecs-shoes.com

**Best of Concord:** Joe King's Shoe Shop, 45 N. Main St., Concord, 225-6012, joeatings.com

**Best of Manchester:** Red's Shoe Barn, 22 Plaistow Road, Plaistow, 382-7688, redsshoebarn.com. (Red's also has a location in Dover.)

**Best of Nashua:** The Shoebox, 17 Route 101A, Amherst, 672-6570, shoeboxnh.com

### Best Secondhand Store

**Best of the best:** Mother & Child Clothing and Gifts, 135 Route 101A, Amherst, 886-6727, mothersays.shoprw.com

**Best of Concord:** Lilise Designer Resale, 7 N. Main St., Concord, 715-2009, lilisere-sale.com

**Best of Manchester:** OutFITters Thrift Store, 394 Second St., Manchester, 641-6691, outfittersnh.org. (The store also has a location in Concord.)

**Best of Nashua:** Lucky Dog Thrift Shop, 23 Elm St., Nashua, 882-3647, luckydogthriftshop.com

## HOME & SERVICES

### Best Car Repair Shop

**Best of the best:** Pro Image Automotive, 254 Sheffield Road, Manchester, 968-5159, proimageautomotive.com. Shop offers passenger vehicle and small engine automotive repair services with a specialization in snow plows.

**Best of Concord:** Weed Family Automotive, 124 Storrs St., Concord, 225-7988, weedfamilyautomotive.com. Services include New Hampshire state inspections, oil changes, electrical and electronic systems, brakes, air conditioning and repairs for hybrid vehicles.

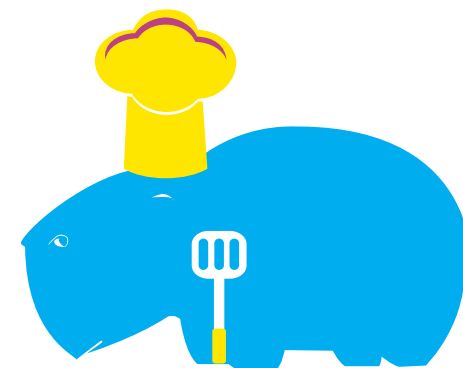
**Best of Manchester:** Henry's Collision Center, 330 March Ave., Manchester, 624-4086, henrysab.com. Shop offers cosmetic services like pinstriping, painting and small dent and scratch repair, as well as mechanical fixes like wheel alignments and frame repair.

**Best of Nashua:** Precision Collision, 234 Amherst St., Nashua, 809-4527, find it on Facebook. Services include repainting and custom paint jobs, scratch and dent repair and suspension work with a specialization in high-end performance cars.

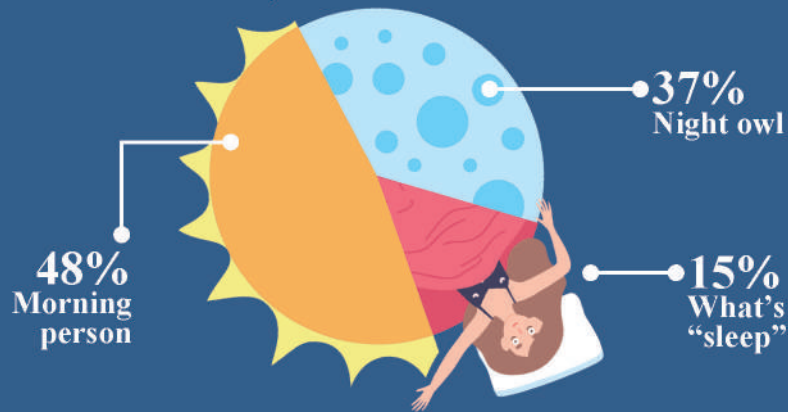
### Best Garden Center or Nursery

**Best of the best:** Demers Garden Center, 656 S. Mammoth Road, Manchester, 625-8298, demersgardencenter.com. Five acres of greenhouses help to keep the center stocked with a wide line of annuals, perennials, trees, herbs and gardening supplies like soil, fertilizer and more.

**Best of Concord:** Cole Gardens, 430 Loudon Road, Concord, 229-0655, colegardens.com. Find annuals, tropicals, perennials, trees and gardening supplies as well as a weekly farmers market.



We asked Hippo readers...  
**MORNING PERSON, NIGHT OWL OR WHAT'S "SLEEP"?**



**Best of Manchester:** Bedford Fields Home and Garden Center, 331 Route 101, Bedford, 472-8880, bedfordfields.com. Garden center offers trees, shrubs and perennials; fruit, berry and vegetable plants; and home decor and pet items.

**Best of Nashua:** House by the Side of the Road, 370 Gibbons Highway, Wilton, 654-9888, housebythesideoftheroad.com. Browse a wide assortment of annuals, perennials, house plants, shrubs, several greenhouses and a wide array of gardening accessories.

### Most Fun Shopping Experience in an Indie Shop

**Best of the best:** Manchester Craft Market, 1500 S. Willow St., Manchester, 716-5520, manchestercraftmarket.com. Shop features crafts, confections, handmade clothing and more by more than 180 local vendors and artisans.

**Best of Concord:** Gondwana & Divine Clothing, 13 N. Main St., Concord, 228-1101, gondwanaclimbing.com. Shop offers designer clothing, jewelry and accessories that rotate with the seasons, as well as in-store styling services.

**Best of Manchester:** Apotheca Flowers and Gifts, 24 Main St., Goffstown, 497-4940, apothecaflowershoppe.com. Shop offers coffee, tea and pastries; a wide selection of flowers and artisan gifts; and on-site craft workshops.

**Best of Nashua:** M&C Clothing and Goods, 135 Route 101A, Amherst, 886-6727, m-c-clothing-and-goods.myshopify.com. Browse handmade local items as well as consigned clothing, accessories, shoes, jewelry and household wares.

## BEST RESTAURANTS

### Best Restaurant

**Best of the best:** The Puritan Backroom, 245 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 669-6890, puritanbackroom.com

**Best of Concord:** Revival Kitchen & Bar, 11 Depot St., Concord, 715-5723, revivalkitchennh.com

**Best of Manchester:** Copper Door Restaurant, 15 Leavy Drive, Bedford, 488-

2677, copperdoor.com (The Copper Door Restaurant also has a location in Salem.)

**Best of Nashua:** Buckley's Great Steaks, 438 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-0995, buckleysgreatsteaks.com

### Best New Eatery

**Best of the best:** Troy's Fresh Kitchen & Juice Bar, 4 Orchard View Drive, No. 6, Londonderry, 965-3411, troysfreshkitchen.com. Londonderry native Troy Ward Jr. opened this quick-service eatery in June 2019 with the help of his father and other family members. Troy's is 100-percent gluten-free and dairy-free, offering smoothies, fresh-pressed juices, grain bowls, grilled wraps, breakfast scrambles and other items with fresh, all-natural and plant-based ingredients, many of which are made in house. The eatery also serves specialty coffee drinks using the Manchester-based Hometown Coffee Roasters.

**Best of Concord:** Georgia's Northside, 394 N. State St., Concord, 715-9189, georgiasnorthside.com. A takeout-only Southern kitchen and craft beer market, Georgia's Northside quietly opened its doors in late June 2019 in the space formerly housing the Korner Kupboard general store. Owner and chef Alan Natkiel posts the ever-changing menu to Facebook each day, which will often include meats from buttermilk fried chicken to barbecue ribs, smoked brisket and pulled pork, plus fresh market sides like Texas caviar, potato salad, tomato cucumber salad, grilled corn on the cob or green beans with bacon and blue cheese. Prior to opening the eatery, the Hill, New Hampshire, native owned Georgia's Eastside BBQ in New York City for more than a decade.

**Best of Manchester:** California Burritos Mexican Grill, 655 S. Willow St., No. 103, Manchester, 722-2084, californiaburritos-nh.com. Its fourth location overall, this fast casual Mexican eatery arrived in the Queen City this past February. Three locations in the Granite State preceded it — the original California Burritos opened at 101 Factory St. in Nashua in late 2014, followed by two more at 35 Lowell Road in Hudson, in 2017, and 2 Cellu Drive in Nashua, in 2018. Each location serves authentic Mexican options

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# Best Eatery Whose Takeout Got You Through the Shutdown

## Best of the best: Presto Craft Kitchen

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingsoll@hippopress.com

Last month Chef Joe Grella and his wife Jessica celebrated the one-year anniversary of Presto Craft Kitchen, a carry-out restaurant on Manchester's West Side specializing in Italian pasta dinners and made-to-order subs known as "sticks." Grella also incorporated his dessert catering business, Custom Eats & Sweets, into the mix by featuring all kinds of unique items out of a refrigerated case, from his wildly popular Oreo cheesecake truffles to other treats like tiramisu, cheesecake and pudding cups, cookies and cannolis.

Already primarily a takeout restaurant, Presto Craft Kitchen has stayed open for business all throughout the shutdown, offering call-ahead ordering and over-the-phone payment options to minimize surface contact. During the onset of the pandemic, the eatery provided discounts for area hospital workers and free lunches for kids who had transitioned to remote learning.

"We didn't just want to be busy. We also wanted to know that the community could count on us," Grella said. "We've remained a part of so many people's day-to-day lives and their dinner plans."

In January, Grella began introducing a specials menu each month of his own unique takes on jumbo arancini, pasta and "stick" sandwiches. He kept it going even as the pandemic arrived in mid-March. The specials for the month of July — chicken Parmesan arancini, roasted garlic chicken florentine pasta, and an Italian cold cut stick — were so well received that he decided to keep them for another month, through the end of August.

Grella said he was very excited about learning he had been recognized in the Hippo's mini Best Of poll, especially since Presto Craft Kitchen is just one year old.

"I think it shows that our goal is paying off, of putting our best foot forward and putting out food for the community that we are proud of," he said.

**Best of Concord:** Revival Kitchen & Bar, 11 Depot St., Concord, 715-5723, [revivalkitchennh.com](http://revivalkitchennh.com). Known more for its in-house fine dining experience than for takeout, Revival Kitchen & Bar had to quickly pivot its daily operations back in March when restaurants in New Hampshire received an executive order by Gov. Chris Sununu

to close for indoor dining. The eatery started with selections like special farm-to-table meals for two and burger and beer combos. When Granite State restaurants received the green light to reopen for outdoor dining in May, Revival had an all new outdoor deck built out in front of the restaurant's doors. Indoor dining is back as of mid-June, but takeout from Revival is still available every Tuesday through Saturday.

**Best of Manchester:** Union Street Takeout, 90 Union St., Manchester, 260-7663. Union Street Takeout quietly opened its doors in January, before the onset of the pandemic. But since then, manager and cook Edwin Ward said that the takeout-only eatery has quickly become a popular spot for its meal deal options, including burgers, chili dogs, subs and more, all of which are served with chips and a drink.

**Best of Nashua:** Papa Joe's Humble Kitchen, 237 South St., Milford, 672-9130, find them on Facebook. When the pandemic hit, Papa Joe's felt its effects early on, spacing out the scheduling of its large volume of orders and choosing not to cook Easter dinners for the first time in more than two decades. The longtime Mil-



Chef Joe Grella of Presto Craft Kitchen in Manchester. Photo by Vinny Marino.

ford staple has always been known for its cooked-to-order gourmet burgers — of which there are countless customizable options — and it's continued to feature specialty burgers every week.

### Presto Craft Kitchen

**Where:** 168 Amory St., Manchester  
**Hours:** Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
**Contact:** Visit [prestocraftkitchen.com](http://prestocraftkitchen.com), find them on Facebook @prestocraftkitchennh or call 606-1252

like tacos, burritos, burrito bowls and quesadillas, plus a few specialty items, like carne asada fries (loaded french fries with steak, guacamole, sour cream, cheese, pico de gallo and salsa verde), Dos Equis-infused fish tacos, and pupusas, or traditional Salvadoran dishes that feature cheese, refried beans and chicharrón (pork) filled inside a thick handmade corn tortilla.

**Best of Nashua:** Greenleaf, 54 Nashua St., Milford, 213-5447, [greenleafmilford.com](http://greenleafmilford.com). Greenleaf is a casual farm-to-table restaurant that arrived in Milford in early May 2019. The space formerly housed the Souhegan Valley National Bank, which was operational all the way back in 1865 — an old bank vault has even been repurposed into a private dining area. Greenleaf's menu changes all the time, and that's because it's based on what the chefs can get for product from the farms they partner with. But you'll always find some type of beef, chicken, pork or vegetarian options; some popular options have included the grass-fed burgers, as well as the risotto. In late May they introduced Greenleaf Grille, an outdoor dining concept offering several backyard barbecue options under a tented space at the rear of the restaurant.

### Best Fine Dining Restaurant

**Best of the best:** Hanover Street Chop-

house, 149 Hanover St., Manchester, 644-2467, [hanoverstreetchophouse.com](http://hanoverstreetchophouse.com)

**Best of Concord:** Angelina's Ristorante Italiano, 11 Depot St., Concord, 228-3313, [angelinasrestaurant.com](http://angelinasrestaurant.com)

**Best of Manchester:** Copper Door Restaurant, 15 Leavy Drive, Bedford, 488-2677, [copperdoor.com](http://copperdoor.com) (The Copper Door Restaurant also has a location in Salem.)

**Best of Nashua:** Buckley's Great Steaks, 438 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-0995, [buckleysgreatsteaks.com](http://buckleysgreatsteaks.com)

### Best Family Restaurant

**Best of the best:** The Puritan Backroom, 245 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 669-6890, [puritanbackroom.com](http://puritanbackroom.com)

**Best of Concord:** The Red Blazer Restaurant and Pub, 72 Manchester St., Concord, 224-4101, [theredblazer.com](http://theredblazer.com)

**Best of Manchester:** T-Bones Great American Eatery, 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 641-6100, [t-bones.com](http://t-bones.com) (T-Bones also has locations in Bedford, Derry, Laconia and Salem, and a sixth one scheduled to open in mid-September in Concord.)

**Best of Nashua:** T-Bones Great American Eatery, 77 Lowell Road, Hudson, 882-6677, [t-bones.com](http://t-bones.com) (T-Bones also has locations in Bedford, Derry, Laconia and Salem, and a sixth one scheduled to open in mid-September in Concord.)

### Best Diner

**Best of the best:** The Red Arrow Diner, 61 Lowell St., Manchester, 626-1118, [redarrowdiner.com](http://redarrowdiner.com) (The Red Arrow Diner also has locations in Concord, Londonderry and Nashua.)

**Best of Concord:** The Red Arrow Diner, 112 Loudon Road, Concord, 415-0444, [redarrowdiner.com](http://redarrowdiner.com) (The Red Arrow Diner also has locations in Londonderry, Manchester and Nashua.)

**Best of Manchester:** Airport Diner, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester, 623-5040, [thecman.com](http://thecman.com)

**Best of Nashua:** The D.W. Diner, 416 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-1116, [thedwdiner.com](http://thedwdiner.com)

## FOOD SHOPPING

### Best Bakery

**Best of the best:** Bread & Chocolate, 29 S. Main St., Concord, 228-3330

**Best of Concord:** The Crust & Crumb Baking Co., 126 N. Main St., Concord, 219-0763, [thecrustandcrumb.com](http://thecrustandcrumb.com)

**Best of Manchester:** Klemm's Bakery, 29 Indian Rock Road, Windham, 437-8810, [klemmsbakery.com](http://klemmsbakery.com)

**Best of Nashua:** Buckley's Bakery & Cafe, 436 Daniel Webster Highway, Merri-

mack, 262-5929, [buckleysbakerycafe.com](http://buckleysbakerycafe.com) (Buckley's Bakery & Cafe also has a location in Hollis.)

### Best Butcher

**Best of the best:** The Tuckaway Tavern & Butchery, 58 Route 27, Raymond, 244-2431, [thetuckaway.com](http://thetuckaway.com)

**Best of Concord:** Concord Beef & Seafood, 75 S. Main St., Concord, 226-3474, find them on Facebook @concordbeefandseafood

**Best of Manchester:** Mr. Steer Meats & More, 27 Buttrick Road, Londonderry, 434-1444, [mrsteermeats.com](http://mrsteermeats.com)

**Best of Nashua:** The Flying Butcher, 124 Route 101A, Amherst, 598-6328, [theflyingbutcher.com](http://theflyingbutcher.com)

### Best Farmers Market

**Best:** Concord Farmers Market, [concordfarmersmarket.com](http://concordfarmersmarket.com); after its opening date was delayed by a week, the market began its 2020 season on May 9. It's expected to continue every Saturday, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, on Capitol Street in Concord (near the Statehouse), through October.

**Runner-up:** Nashua Farmers Market, [downtownnashua.org/local](http://downtownnashua.org/local); this market began its 2020 season on June 21 and will continue every Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., through Oct. 18. Due to several lane closures on either side of Main Street to accommodate out-

or dining space for restaurants, this year's market moved from its normal spot between Temple and Pearl streets down to the area in front of City Hall Plaza (229 Main St.).

**Honorable mention:** Bedford Farmers Market, [bedfordfarmersmarketnh.org](http://bedfordfarmersmarketnh.org); the market began its 2020 season on June 16 and will continue on Tuesdays, from 3 to 6 p.m., through Oct. 13. The market is a new spot this year, in the parking lot of the former Harvest Market (209 Route 101, Bedford), which closed its doors earlier this year.

## DELICIOUS DISHES

### Best Dish or Drink You Had in the Last Year

**Best of the best:** Chicken tenders at The River Casino & Sports Bar, 53 High St., Nashua, 881-9060, [therivercasino.com](http://therivercasino.com). These hand-battered tenders are available with your choice of blue cheese, ranch, honey mustard, honey barbecue, sweet chili, Caribbean jerk sauce or mild, medium or hot inferno sauce.

**Best of Concord:** Garlic chicken nachos at Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, 11 Hills Ave., Concord, 224-5669, [hermanosmexican.com](http://hermanosmexican.com). These nachos feature hand-cut yellow or blue corn tortilla chips with chicken, cheese and jalapenos, topped with garlic dressing.

**Best of Manchester:** Mudslides at The Puritan Backroom Restaurant, 245 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 669-6890, [puritanbackroom.com](http://puritanbackroom.com). Options include the original mudslide with Baileys Irish cream, Kahlua coffee liqueur and vodka, as well as an Almond Joy mudslide, a maple mudslide and a Milky Way mudslide.

**Best of Nashua:** Filet mignon at Buckley's Great Steaks, 438 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-0995, [buckleysgreatsteaks.com](http://buckleysgreatsteaks.com). The filet mignon available at Buckley's features a red wine demi-glace and comes with creamy mashed potatoes and the vegetable of the day.

### Best Barbecue

**Best of the best:** KC's Rib Shack, 837 Second St., Manchester, 627-7427, [ribshack.net](http://ribshack.net)

**Best of Concord:** Smokeshow Barbecue, 89 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, 227-6399, [smokeshowbarbecue.com](http://smokeshowbarbecue.com)

**Best of Manchester:** Goody Cole's Smokehouse and Catering Co., 374 Route 125, Brentwood, 679-8898, [goodycoles.com](http://goodycoles.com)

**Best of Nashua:** Smokehaus Barbecue, 278 Route 101, Amherst, 249-5734, [smokehausbbq.com](http://smokehausbbq.com)

### Best Breakfast

**Best of the best:** Tucker's, 1328 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 206-5757, [tuckersnh.com](http://tuckersnh.com) (Tucker's also has locations in Concord, Dover, Merrimack and New London.)

**Best of Concord:** Tucker's, 80 South St., Concord, 413-5884, [tuckersnh.com](http://tuckersnh.com) (Tucker's also has locations in Dover, Hooksett, Merrimack and New London.)



**Best of Manchester:** Purple Finch Cafe, 124 S. River Road, Bedford, 232-1958, [purplefinchcafe.com](http://purplefinchcafe.com) (The Purple Finch Cafe reopened on Aug. 1.)

**Best of Nashua:** Tucker's, 360 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 413-6477, [tuckersnh.com](http://tuckersnh.com) (Tucker's also has locations in Concord, Dover, Hooksett and New London.)

### Best Restaurant for Weekend Brunch

**Best of the best:** The Foundry Restaurant, 50 Commercial St., Manchester, 836-1925, [foundrynh.com](http://foundrynh.com)

**Best of Concord:** The Red Blazer Restaurant and Pub, 72 Manchester St., Concord, 224-4101, [theredblazer.com](http://theredblazer.com)

**Best of Manchester:** Tucker's, 1328 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 206-5757, [tuckersnh.com](http://tuckersnh.com) (Tucker's also has locations in Concord, Dover, Merrimack and New London.)

**Best of Nashua:** Tucker's, 360 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 413-6477, [tuckersnh.com](http://tuckersnh.com) (Tucker's also has locations in Concord, Dover, Hooksett and New London.)

### Best Burgers

**Best of the best:** The Barley House Restaurant & Tavern, 132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, [thebarleyhouse.com](http://thebarleyhouse.com) (The Barley House also has a location in North Hampton.)

**Best of Concord:** Vibes Gourmet Burgers, 25 S. Main St., Concord, 856-8671, [vibesgourmetburgers.com](http://vibesgourmetburgers.com)

**Best of Manchester:** The Tuckaway Tavern & Butchery, 58 Route 27, Raymond, 244-2431, [thetuckaway.com](http://thetuckaway.com)

**Best of Nashua:** Papa Joe's Humble Kitchen, 237 South St., Milford, 672-9130, find them on Facebook

### Best Fish & Chips

**Best of the best:** The Peddler's Daughter, 48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, [thepeddlersdaughter.com](http://thepeddlersdaughter.com)

**Best of Concord:** Johnson's Seafood and Steak, 1334 First New Hampshire Turnpike, Northwood, 942-7300, find them on Facebook @johnsonsnorthwood

**Best of Manchester:** Goldenrod Restaurant, 1681 Candia Road, Manchester, 623-9469, [goldenrodrestaurant.com](http://goldenrodrestaurant.com)

**Best of Nashua:** The Lobster Boat, 453 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-5221, [lobsterboatrestaurant.com](http://lobsterboatrestaurant.com) (The

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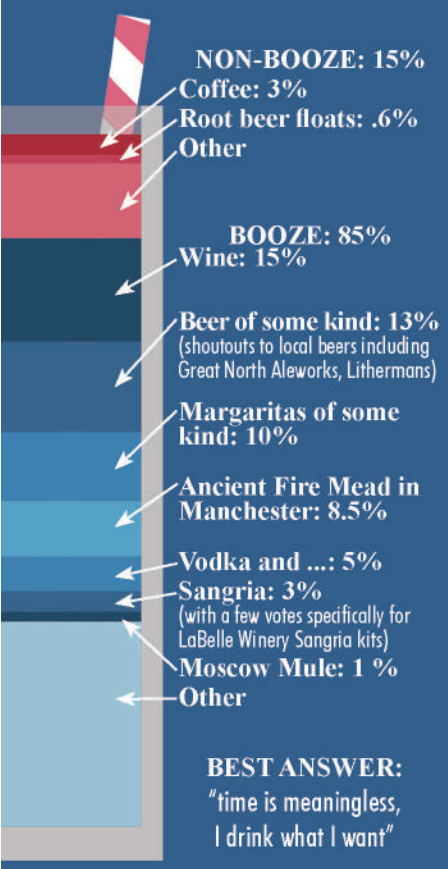
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We asked Hippo readers...  
**YOUR FAVORITE "IT'S FIVE O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE" STAY-AT-HOME BEVERAGE**



Lobster Boat also has locations in Litchfield and Exeter.)

### Best Mac & Cheese

**Best of the best:** Mr. Mac's Macaroni & Cheese, 497 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 606-1760, mr-macs.com (Mr. Mac's also has locations in Portsmouth and Massachusetts)

**Best of Concord:** O Steaks & Seafood, 11 S. Main St., Concord, 856-7925, magic-foodsrestaurantgroup.com (O Steaks & Seafood also has a location in Laconia)

**Best of Manchester:** The Tuckaway Tavern & Butchery, 58 Route 27, Raymond, 244-2431, thetuckaway.com

**Best of Nashua:** Pressed Cafe, 108 Spit Brook Road, Nashua, 718-1250; 3 Cotton Road, Nashua, 402-1003 (this location is drive-thru only); and locations in Massachusetts; pressedcafe.com

### Best Essential New Hampshire Dish

**Best:** Chicken tenders at The Puritan Backroom Restaurant, 245 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 669-6890, puritanbackroom.com

**Runner-up:** Poutine at Chez Vachon, 136 Kelley St., Manchester, 625-9660, find them on Facebook

**Honorable mention:** Lobster roll at The Beach Plum, 3 Brickyard Square, Epping, 679-3200; 2800 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, 433-3339; 16 Ocean Blvd., North Hampton, 964-7451; thebeachplum.net

**Best of the best:** Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, 11 Hills Ave., Concord, 224-5669, hermanosmexican.com

**Best of Concord:** Dos Amigos Burritos, 26 N. Main St., Concord, 410-4161, dosamigosburritos.com (Dos Amigos Burritos also has a location in Portsmouth, and a third location in Dover under the name "Dos Mexican Eats.")

**Best of Manchester:** La Carreta Mexican Restaurant, 545 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 628-6899; 1875 S. Willow St., Manchester, 623-7705; lacarretamex.com (La Carreta also has locations in Derry, Londonderry, Nashua and Portsmouth.)

**Best of Nashua:** La Carreta Mexican Restaurant, 139 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-0055, lacarretamex.com (La Carreta also has locations in Derry, Londonderry, Portsmouth and two locations in Manchester.)

### Best Noodle Bowl

**Best of the best:** Buba Noodle Bar, 36 Lowell St., Manchester, 935-7864, bubanoodle.com

**Best of Concord:** Whiskey & Wine, 148 N. Main St., Concord, 715-8575, whiskey-wine.business.site

**Best of Manchester:** Pho Golden Bowl, 12 Lake Ave., Manchester, 622-2000, phogoldenbowl.com

**Best of Nashua:** You You Japanese Bistro, 150 Broad St., Nashua, 882-8337, youyoubistro.com

### Best Pizza

**Best of the best:** Alley Cat Pizzeria, 486 Chestnut St., Manchester, 669-4533, alleycatpizzeria.com

**Best of Concord:** Constantly Pizza, 39 S. Main St., Concord, 224-9366, constantlypizza.net (Constantly Pizza also has a location in Penacook.)

**Best of Manchester:** The Pizza Man of Hooksett, 254 W. River Road, Hooksett, 626-7499, thepizzamandelivers.com (The Pizza Man also has locations in Manchester, and in Lyndonville, Vt.)

**Best of Nashua:** Nashua House of Pizza, 40 E. Hollis St., Nashua, 883-6177, nashuahouseofpizza.com

### Best Poutine

**Best of the best:** Chez Vachon, 136 Kelley St., Manchester, 625-9660, find them on Facebook

**Best of Concord:** Vibes Gourmet Burgers, 25 S. Main St., Concord, 856-8671, vibesgourmetburgers.com

**Best of Manchester:** New England's Tap House Grille, 1292 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 782-5137, taphouse.com

**Best of Nashua:** Bar One, 40 Nashua St., Milford, 249-5327, find them on Facebook @baronenh

### Best Salad and/or Grain Bowls

**Best of the best:** Pressed Cafe, 108 Spit Brook Road, Nashua, 718-1250; 3 Cotton Road, Nashua, 402-1003 (this location is drive-through only); pressedcafe.com (Pressed Cafe also has locations in Burlington, Mass., and Newton, Mass.)

**Best of Concord:** Live Juice, 5 S. Main St., Concord, 226-3024, livejuicenh.com

**Best of Manchester:** Troy's Fresh Kitchen & Juice Bar, 4 Orchard View Drive, No. 6, Londonderry, 965-3411, troysfreshkitchen.com

**Best of Nashua:** Big Kahunas Cafe & Grill, 380 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 494-4975, nhkahuna.com (Big Kahunas opened a sister restaurant in Hooksett, Big Kahunas Smokehouse, in July)

### Best Sandwich

**Best of the best:** Steak & Cheese sub at Sub Station, 1292 Hooksett Road, Suite H, Hooksett, 625-1800, substationhooksett.com. A shaved steak sandwich with your choice of American or provolone cheese. Subs can also be customized with teriyaki or barbecue sauce.

**Best of Concord:** The Black Russian sandwich at Beefside Restaurant, 106 Manchester St., Concord, 228-0208, beefsidenh.com. A white turkey breast and roast beef sandwich with Thousand Island dressing and Swiss cheese on pumpernickel bread, with hand-cut house fries.

**Best of Manchester:** Steak & Cheese sub at Nadeau's, 776 Mast Road, Manchester, 623-9315; 100 Cahill Ave., Manchester, 669-7827; 805 Canal St., Manchester, 644-8888; 1095 Hanover St., Manchester, 606-4411; nadeaus.com. Steak & cheese subs can be ordered as steak tips or shaved steak. (Nadeau's has a fifth location in Exeter and a sixth location in Concord that is temporarily closed.)

**Best of Nashua:** The Roman sandwich at Marc's Pizza & Subs, 704 Milford Road, No. 5, Merrimack, 883-7000, eataroman.com. The sandwich includes mortadella, cooked salami, Genoa salami, imported ham, capicola and provolone cheese.

### Best Seafood

**Best of the best:** Surf Restaurant, 207 Main St., Nashua, 595-9293, surfseafood.com (Surf also has a location in Portsmouth.)

**Best of Concord:** Makris Lobster & Steak House, 354 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, 225-7665, eatalobster.com

**Best of Manchester:** Hooked Seafood Restaurant, 110 Hanover St., Manchester, 606-1189, hookedonignite.com

**Best of Nashua:** The Lobster Boat, 453 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-5221, lobsterboatrestaurant.com (The Lobster Boat also has locations in Litchfield and Exeter.)

### Best Subs

**Best of the best:** Nadeau's, 776 Mast Road, Manchester, 623-9315; 100 Cahill Ave., Manchester, 669-7827; 805 Canal St., Manchester, 644-8888; 1095 Hanover St., Manchester, 606-4411; nadeaus.com (Nadeau's has a fifth location in Exeter and a sixth location in Concord that is temporarily closed.)

**Best of Concord:** Constantly Pizza, 39 S. Main St., Concord, 224-9366, constantlypizza.net (Constantly Pizza also has a location in Penacook.)

**Best of Manchester:** Sub Station, 1292 Hooksett Road, Suite H, Hooksett, 625-1800, substationhooksett.com

**Best of Nashua:** Bill Cahill's Super Subs, 8 Kimball Hill Road, Hudson, 882-7710, find them on Facebook @billcahills

### Best Tacos

**Best of the best:** Dos Amigos Burritos, 26 N. Main St., Concord, 410-4161, dosamigosburritos.com (Dos Amigos Burritos also has a location in Portsmouth, and a third location in Dover under the name "Dos Mexican Eats.")

**Best of Concord:** Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, 11 Hills Ave., Concord, 224-5669, hermanosmexican.com

**Best of Manchester:** La Carreta Mexican Restaurant, 545 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 628-6899; 1875 S. Willow St., Manchester, 623-7705; lacarretamex.com (La Carreta also has locations in Derry, Londonderry, Nashua and Portsmouth.)

**Best of Nashua:** California Burritos Mexican Grill, 101 Factory St., Nashua, 718-8745; 2 Cellu Drive, Nashua, 417-6151; californiaburritosnh.com (California Burritos Mexican Grill also has locations in Hudson and Manchester.)

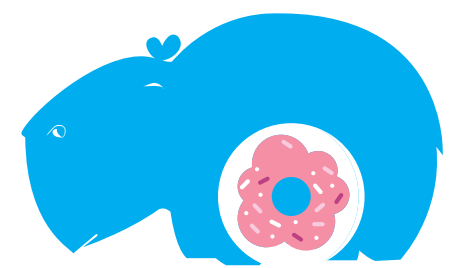
### Best Restaurant for Specialty Diet

**Best of the best:** Troy's Fresh Kitchen & Juice Bar, 4 Orchard View Drive, No. 6, Londonderry, 965-3411, troysfreshkitchen.com

**Best of Concord:** Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, 11 Hills Ave., Concord, 224-5669, hermanosmexican.com

**Best of Manchester:** Republic Cafe, 1069 Elm St., Manchester, 666-3723, republiccafe.com (Republic Cafe is currently operating under the roof of its sister restaurant, Campo Enoteca, at 969 Elm St. in Manchester.)

**Best of Nashua:** Pressed Cafe, 108 Spit Brook Road, Nashua, 718-1250; 3 Cotton





ad, Nashua, 402-1003 (this location is drive-thru only); pressedcafe.com (Pressed Cafe also has locations in Burlington, Mass., and Newton, Mass.)

### Best Guilty Pleasure Food

**Best of the best:** Cheesy bread at Romano's Pizza, 27 Colby Court, Litchfield, 424-0500, romanosnh.com

**Best of Concord:** Drunken mac and cheese at Tandy's Pub & Grille, 1 Eagle Square, Concord, 856-7614, tandyspub.com

**Best of Manchester:** Chicken tenders at The Puritan Backroom Restaurant, 245 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 669-6890, puritanbackroom.com

**Best of Nashua:** Chicken tenders at The River Casino & Sports Bar, 53 High St., Nashua, 881-9060, therivercasino.com

## SWEET TREATS

### Best Baklava

**Best of the best:** Glendi, stgeorge.nh.goarch.org. Glendi is a popular three-day festival celebrating Greek culture through food, music and dancing that's usually held in mid-September at St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Manchester (2020's Glendi celebration has been canceled).

**Best of Concord:** Cookies and Cakes Houray, 585 Union Ave., Laconia, 528-2253, cookiesandcakeshoo.wixsite.com/webside

**Best of Nashua:** JajaBelle's, 143 Main St., Nashua, 769-1873, jajabelles.com (In February, JajaBelle's relocated to its current location from down the street, in the former space of Graffiti Paintbar.)

### Best Candy or Chocolate Shop

**Best of the best:** Granite State Candy Shoppe, 13 Warren St., Concord, 225-2591, granitestatecandyshoppe.com (Granite State Candy Shoppe also has a location in Manchester.)

**Best of Concord:** Kellerhaus, 259 Endicott St. N, Weirs Beach, 366-4466, kellerhaus.com

**Best of Manchester:** Van Otis Chocolates, 341 Elm St., Manchester, 627-1611, vanotis.com

**Best of Nashua:** Nelson's Candy and Music, 65 Main St., Wilton, 654-5030, nelsonscandyandmusic.com

### Most Craveable Cookie

**Best of the best:** Peanut butter cookie (Union Street Takeout, 90 Union St., Manchester, 260-7663)

**Best of Concord:** M&M cookie (Pats Peak Ski Area, 686 Flanders Road, Henniker, 428-3245, patspeak.com)

**Best of Manchester:** Triple chip cookie (The Cake Fairy, 114 Londonderry

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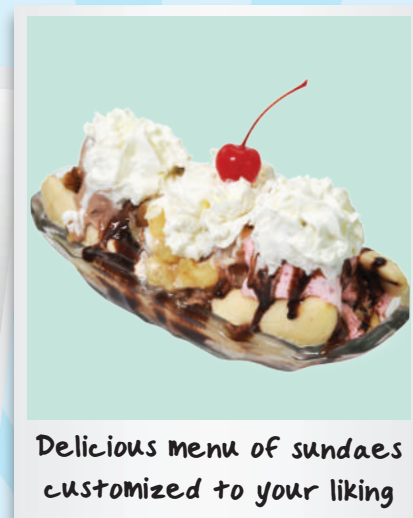
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umpike, Hooksett, 518-8733, cakefairy.com. According to Brianna Lucciano, whose mother Lisa owns The Cake Fairy, the bakery was set to reopen on Aug. 12.)

**Best of Nashua:** Chocolate chip cookie (Buckley's Bakery & Cafe, 436 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 262-5929, buckleysbakerycafe.com. Buckley's Bakery & Cafe also has a location in Hollis.)

### Best Locally Made Doughnuts

**Best of the best:** Klemm's Bakery, 29 Indian Rock Road, Windham, 437-8810, klemmsbakery.com

**Best of Concord:** Brothers Donuts, 426 Central St., Franklin, 934-6678, find them on Facebook @brothersdonuts

**Best of Manchester:** The Local Moose Cafe, 124 Queen City Ave., Manchester, 232-2669, thelocalmoosecafe.com

**Best of Nashua:** Crosby Bakery, 51 E. Pearl St., Nashua, 882-1851, crosbybakerynh.com

### Best Ice Cream

**Best of the best:** Hayward's Homemade Ice Cream, 7 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 888-4663, haywardsicecream.com (Hayward's also has a location in Merrimack.)

**Best of Concord:** Arnie's Place, 164 Loudon Road, Concord, 228-3225, arnies-place.com

**Best of Manchester:** The Puritan Backroom Restaurant, 245 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 669-6890, puritanbackroom.com

**Best of Nashua:** The Big 1, 185 Concord St., Nashua, thebig1icecream.com

## DRINKS

### Best Beer Selection (at bar/restaurant)

**Best of the best:** New England's Tap House Grille, 1292 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 782-5137, taphousenh.com

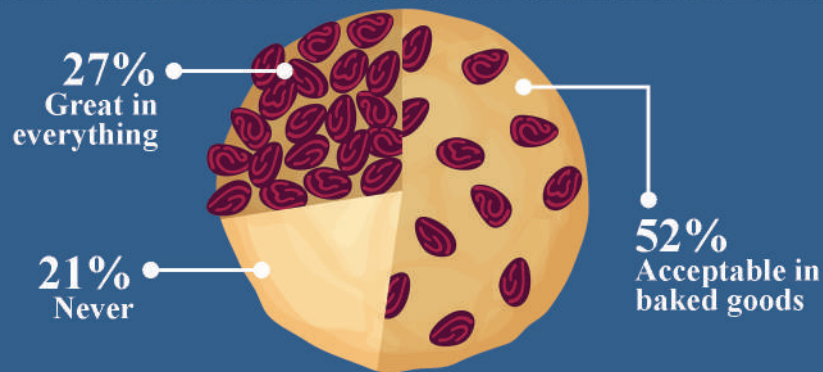
**Best of Concord:** Area 23, 254 N. State St., Concord, 552-0137, thearea23.com

**Best of Manchester:** The Thirsty Moose Taphouse, 795 Elm St., Manchester, 792-2337, thirstymoosetaphouse.com (The Thirsty Moose also has locations in Dover, Exeter, Merrimack and Portsmouth.)

**Best of Nashua:** The Thirsty Moose Taphouse, 360 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 670-0270, thirstymoosetaphouse.com (The Thirsty Moose

We asked Hippo readers...

## RAISINS: GREAT IN EVERYTHING, ACCEPTABLE IN BAKED GOODS AND CEREAL OR NEVER?



also has locations in Dover, Exeter, Manchester and Portsmouth.)

### Best Beer Selection at a Retail Shop

**Best of the best:** Bert's Better Beers, 545 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 413-5992, bertsbetterbeers.com (In mid-December 2019, Bert's Better Beers moved from Hooksett to its current location in Manchester.)

**Best of Concord:** Local Baskit, 10 Ferry St., Suite 120A, Concord, 219-0882, localbaskit.com

**Best of Manchester:** Lazy Dog Beer Shoppe, 27 Buttrick Road, Suite B4, Londonderry, 434-2500, lazydogbeer.com

**Best of Nashua:** The Beer Store, 433 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2242, thebeerstorenh.com

### Best New Hampshire Winery

**Best:** Labelle Winery, 345 Route 101, Amherst, 672-9898, labellewinerynh.com (LaBelle Winery also has a location in Portsmouth.)

**Runner-up:** Zorvino Vineyards, 226 Main St., Sandown, 887-8463, zorvino.com

**Honorable mention:** Flag Hill Distillery & Winery, 297 N. River Road, Lee, 659-2949, flaghill.com

### Best New Hampshire-made Cider or Mead

**Best:** Ancient Fire Mead & Cider, 8030 S. Willow St., Building 1, Unit 7-2, Manchester, 203-4223, ancientfirewines.com

**Runner-up:** Moonlight Meadery, 23 Londonderry Road, No. 17, Londonderry, 216-2162, moonlightmeadery.com

**Honorable mention:** Contoocook Cider Co. (Gould Hill Farm), 656 Gould Hill Road, Contoocook, 746-1175, contoocookcider.com

### Best New Hampshire Brewery

**Best of the best:** 603 Brewery, 42 Main St., Londonderry, 404-6123, 603brewery.com

**Best of Concord:** Lithermans Limited Brewery, 126 Hall St., Unit B, Concord, 219-0784, lithermans.beer

**Best of Manchester:** Pipe Dream Brewing, 49 Harvey Road, Londonderry, 404-0751, pipedreambrewingnh.com

**Best of Nashua:** Able Ebenezer Brewing Co., 31 Columbia Circle, Merrimack, 844-223-2253, ableebenezer.com

### Where They Make Your Coffee Perfect Every Time

**Best of the best:** Revelstoke Coffee, 100 N. Main St., Concord, revelstokecoffee.com

**Best of Concord:** White Mountain Gourmet Coffee, 15 Pleasant St., Concord, 228-3317, wmgconline.com

**Best of Manchester:** Cafe La Reine, 915 Elm St., Manchester, 232-0332, cafe-la-reine.square.site

**Best of Nashua:** A&E Coffee & Tea, 135 Route 101A, Amherst, 578-3338, aeroastery.com (A&E Coffee & Tea also has a cafe location in Manchester and a wholesale roastery in Nashua.)

## FOOD PERSONALITIES

### Most Inventive Chef

**Best of the best:** Chris Viaud, Greenleaf, 54 Nashua St., Milford, 213-5447, greenleafmilford.com

**Best of Concord:** Corey Fletcher, Revival Kitchen & Bar, 11 Depot St., Concord, 715-5723, revivalkitchennh.com

**Best of Manchester:** Nicole Leavitt, Purple Finch Cafe, 124 S. River Road, Bedford, 232-1958, purplefinchcafe.com (The Purple Finch Cafe reopened on Aug. 1.)

**Best of Nashua:** Michael Buckley, Michael Timothy's Dining Group (MT's Local Kitchen & Wine Bar, 212 Main St., Nashua, 595-9334, mtslocal.com; Buckley's Great Steaks, 438 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-0995, buckleysgreatsteaks.com; Surf Restaurant, 207 Main St., Nashua, 595-9293; 99 Bow St., Portsmouth, 334-9855; surfseafood.com; Buckley's Bakery & Cafe, 436 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 262-5929; 9 Market Place, Hollis, 465-5522; buckleysbakerycafe.com)

## Restaurant with the Friendliest Staff

**Best of the best:** Talia's Breakfast and Eatery, 44 Nashua Road, Londonderry, 260-5339, taliaseatery.com

**Best of Concord:** Tucker's, 80 South St., Concord, 413-5884, tuckersnh.com (Tucker's also has locations in Dover, Hooksett, Merrimack and New London.)

**Best of Manchester:** The Pizza Man of Hooksett, 254 W. River Road, Hooksett, 626-7499, thepizzamandelivers.com (The Pizza Man also has locations in Manchester, and in Lyndonville, Vt.)

**Best of Nashua:** T-Bones Great American Eatery, 77 Lowell Road, Hudson, 882-6677, t-bones.com (T-Bones also has locations in Bedford, Derry, Laconia and Salem, and a sixth one scheduled to open in mid-September in Concord.)

## OUTDOORS

### Best Farm for Pick-Your-Own

**Best of the best:** Lull Farm, 65 Broad St., Hollis, 465-7079, livefreeandfarm.com. Pick-your-own opportunities include strawberries, apples and pumpkins. (Lull Farm also has a seasonal farm in Milford.)

**Best of Concord:** Carter Hill Orchard, 73 Carter Hill Road, Concord, 225-2625, carterhillapples.com. Pick-your-own opportunities include peaches, blueberries and apples.

**Best of Manchester:** Mack's Apples, 230 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 434-7619, macksapples.com. Pick-your-own opportunities include apples and pumpkins.

**Best of Nashua:** Brookdale Fruit Farm, 41 Broad St., Hollis, 465-2240, brookdalefruitfarm.com. Pick-your-own opportunities include strawberries, cherries, blueberries, raspberries, black raspberries, blackberries, apples and pumpkins.

### Best City Park

**Best of the best:** White Park, 1 White St., Concord, 225-8690, concordnh.gov/facilities/facility/details/White-Park-21. Amenities include a baseball field, a basketball court, playground equipment, a pool, walking trails, soccer fields, a roller hockey rink, a sledding trail and an ice skating rink.

**Best of Concord:** Rollins Park, 116 Broadway St., and parking at 33 Bow St., Concord, 225-8690, concordnh.gov/facilities/facility/details/Rollins-Park-17. Amenities include paved walking paths, a full-sized playground, picnic tables with shelter, baseball and softball fields, a basketball court, tennis courts, a pool and ice skating.

**Best of Manchester:** Livingston Park, 156 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 624-6444, manchesternh.gov/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks-Trails-and-Facilities/Parks/Livingston-Park. Amenities include a baseball diamond, a soccer field, a running track, a green space, two play-



grounds, walking trails, fishing, ice skating and a pool with a slide.

**Best of Nashua:** Greeley Park, 100 Concord St., Nashua, 589-3370, nashuanh.gov/Facilities/Facility/Details/Greeley-Park-29. Amenities include baseball and softball fields, a playground, picnic areas, horse-shoes, a tennis court, walking trails, a wading pool and sledding.

### Best State Park

**Best:** Pawtuckaway State Park, 7 Pawtuckaway Road, Nottingham, 895-3031, nhstateparks.org/visit/state-parks/pawtuckaway-state-park. The park features more than 5,000 acres of land and trails, overnight camping, a large beach on the lake, boat rentals, a picnic pavilion and a playground.

**Runner-up:** Bear Brook State Park, 61 Deerfield Road, Allenstown, 485-9874, nhstateparks.org/visit/state-parks/bear-brook-state-park. 10,000 acres and 40 miles of trails makes it the largest developed state park in the Granite State. Activities include biking, hiking, camping, archery, swimming and fishing.

**Honorable mention:** Hampton Beach State Park, 160 Ocean Blvd., Hampton, 926-8990, nhstateparks.org/visit/state-parks/hampton-beach-state-park. In addition to the sunny shoreline fit for all beachgoing pleasure, the park offers year-round recreation like swimming, fishing, picnicking and RV camping with full hook-ups in the campground.

### Best Bike Trail or Spot for a Bike Ride

**Best of the best:** Nashua River Rail Trail, Nashua. The 12.3-mile asphalt rail trail connects Nashua to Ayer, Mass.

**Best of Concord:** Bear Brook State Park, 61 Deerfield Road, Allenstown, 485-9874, nhstateparks.org/visit/state-parks/bear-brook-state-park. The park features 40 miles of trails with opportunities for biking on various terrains and inclines.

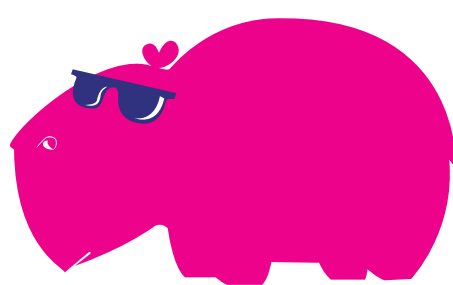
**Best of Manchester:** Goffstown Rail Trail, Goffstown. The Goffstown Rail Trail is unpaved and runs for 7.5 miles from Goffstown to Manchester.

**Best of Nashua:** Mine Falls Park, Whipple Street, Nashua, 589-3370, nashuanh.gov/491/Mine-Falls-Park. The 325-acre park features around eight miles of trails.

### Best Hike in Southern New Hampshire

**Best:** Mount Monadnock, Jaffrey/Dublin, 532-8862, nhstateparks.org/visit/state-parks/monadnock-state-park. The 3,165-foot mountain features more than 35 hiking trails of various levels of difficulty leading to the summit.

**Runner-up:** Mount Major, Alton, blog.nhstateparks.org/mt-major-family-friendly-hike. The main trail is 1.5 miles to the 1,785-foot peak, which offers panoramic views of Lake Winnepesaukee.



**Honorable mention:** Pack Monadnock, 13 Miller Park Road, Peterborough. Three hiking trails and a 1.3-mile paved, driveable road lead to the 2,290-foot summit.

### Best Lake to Canoe or Kayak

**Best:** Lake Massabesic, Manchester, 624-6482, manchesternh.gov/departments/water-works/lake-massabesic-watershed. Three public boat launches allow for canoeing and kayaking over the 2,500-acre lake.

**Runner-up:** Pawtuckaway State Park, 7 Pawtuckaway Road, Nottingham, 895-3031, nhstateparks.org/visit/state-parks/pawtuckaway-state-park. The park offers canoe and kayak rentals and has a public canoe and kayak launch on Pawtuckaway Lake.

**Honorable mention:** Newfound Lake, boat launch at Wellington State Park, 614 W. Shore Road, Bristol, 744-2197, nhstateparks.org/visit/state-parks/wellington-state-park. The 4,106-acre lake is about 2.5 miles wide and seven miles long. Kayak rentals are available at the park.

### Best Route for a Motorcycle Ride

**Best:** Kancamagus Highway, kancamagushighway.com. It offers a 34.5-mile scenic drive from Lincoln to Conway along New Hampshire's Route 112, with views of the White Mountains, the Swift River and Lower Falls.

**Runner-up:** Route 1A on the Seacoast, or the Coastal Byway, visit-newhampshire.com/seacoast/scenic-drives. An 18.4-mile drive along New Hampshire's coastline through Portsmouth, Rye and Seabrook.

**Honorable Mention:** Route 3A, northern segment. The 31-mile drive runs from Franklin to Plymouth and offers scenic views of the Lakes Region.

### Best Road Race

**Best:** Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter Run & Walk for Food & Shelter, Nashua, held in April, 889-7770, nsks.org/run-and-walk-for-food-and-shelter. The race includes a Kids Sprint, 10K Run, 5K Run and 3K walk. All proceeds benefit the programs of the Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter.

**Runner-up:** Payson Center for Cancer Care Rock 'N Race, Concord, held in May, 225-2711., giveto.concordhospital.org/rock-n-race/home. The race includes a five-mile run and a one-mile walk. All proceeds benefit the HOPE Resource Center at Payson Center for Cancer Care at Concord Hospital.

**Honorable mention:** Hollis Fast 5K,

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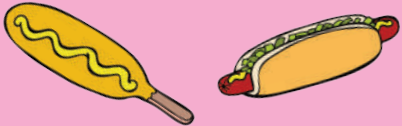
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23%  
Summer only

67%  
All year round



10%  
Why would  
you do that  
to coffee?

Hollis, held in June, [hollisfast5k.com](http://hollisfast5k.com). The unique 5K course drops 224 feet from start to finish, earning the title of the fastest 5K in New England. All proceeds are distributed by the Hollis-Brookline Rotary Club to local charities to be used to fund educational scholarships.

## ENTERTAINMENT

### Best Bowling Alley

**Best of the best:** Leda Lanes, 340 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-4884, [ledalanes.com](http://ledalanes.com)

**Best of Concord:** Boutwell's Bowling Center, 152 N. State St., Concord, 224-0941, [boutwellsbowl.com](http://boutwellsbowl.com)

**Best of Manchester:** Lakeside Lanes, 2171 Candia Road, Manchester, 627-7722, [lakesidelanes.com](http://lakesidelanes.com)

**Best of Nashua:** Merrimack Ten Pin Center, 698 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 429-0989, [merrimacktenpin.com](http://merrimacktenpin.com)

### Best Bookstore or Comic Book Store

**Best of the best:** Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, [gibsonsbookstore.com](http://gibsonsbookstore.com)

**Best of Concord:** MainStreet BookEnds of Warner, 16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, [mainstreetbookends.com](http://mainstreetbookends.com)

**Best of Manchester:** The Bookery, 844 Elm St., Manchester, 836-6600, [bookerymht.com](http://bookerymht.com)

**Best of Nashua:** The Toadstool Bookshop, Somerset Plaza, 375 Amherst St., Nashua, 673-1734, [toadbooks.com](http://toadbooks.com). (The Toadstool also has locations in Peterborough and Keene.)

### Best Game Night

**Best of the best:** Boards & Brews, 941 Elm St., Manchester, 232-5184, [boardsandbrewsnh.com](http://boardsandbrewsnh.com). A board game cafe.

**Best of Concord:** Trivia Night, Area 23, 254 N. State St., Concord, 552-0137, [thearea23.com](http://thearea23.com). Held every Tuesday at 7 p.m.

**Best of Manchester:** Trivia Night, The Farm Bar & Grill, 1181 Elm St., Manchester, 641-3276, [farmbargrille.com](http://farmbargrille.com). Not currently running.

**Best of Nashua:** Trivia Night and Bingo

Night, The Pasta Loft Restaurant, 241 Union Square, Milford, 672-2270, [pastaloft.com](http://pastaloft.com). Not currently running.

### Best Escape Room

**Best of the best:** Granite State Escape, 795 Elm St., Manchester, 935-7455, [escapenh.com](http://escapenh.com)

**Best of Concord:** Escape Room Concord, 240 Airport Road, Concord, 225-2271, [escaperoomconcordnh.com](http://escaperoomconcordnh.com)

**Best of Manchester:** LOK'd Room Escape, Mall of New Hampshire, 1500 S. Willow St., Manchester, 945-3113, [lokdrocks.com](http://lokdrocks.com)

**Best of Nashua:** Key to Escape, 3 Bud Way, Nashua, 809-4018, [keytoescape.com](http://keytoescape.com)

### Best Place to See a Movie

**Best:** Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, [redrivertheatres.org](http://redrivertheatres.org). The theater is not currently open but is screening movies through its virtual cinema program, featuring a line-up of new and older independent films; see the website for details.

**Runner-up:** Chunky's Cinema, 707 Huse Road, Manchester, 206-3888, [chunkys.com](http://chunkys.com). (Chunky's also has locations in Nashua and Pelham.)

**Honorable mention:** Chunky's Cinema, 151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua, 880-8055, [chunkys.com](http://chunkys.com). (Chunky's also has locations in Manchester and Pelham.)

## EVENTS

### Best Community Event

**Best of the best:** Market Days Festival, Concord, [intownconcord.org](http://intownconcord.org). A three-day street festival, hosted by Intown Concord, featuring shopping, games and live entertainment on Main Street. Typically held in June, this year's event has been reimagined as Market Month, with "Mini Market Days" going on every weekend in August.

**Best of Concord:** Midnight Merriment, Concord, [intownconcord.org](http://intownconcord.org). A holiday event, put on by Intown Concord, featuring food, shopping, entertainment and more. This year's event is tentatively scheduled for Friday, Dec. 4.

**Best of Manchester:** Intown Taco Tour, Manchester, [intownmanchester.com](http://intownmanchester.com). An annual street festival organized by Intown

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Mancheater in May. Restaurants create and sell their own unique tacos, and attendees vote on their favorites. Intown stated that this year's event has been postponed, with a new date TBD.

**Best of Nashua:** Winter Holiday Stroll, Nashua, downtownnashua.org. A holiday event, presented by Great American Downtown, featuring live music, food, holiday shopping, a candlelight stroll and a tree-lighting ceremony downtown. It's normally held the Saturday after Thanksgiving, but Great American Downtown stated that the status of this year's event is TBD.

### Best Food or Drink Event

**Best of the best:** Glendi, Manchester, stgeorge.nh.goarch.org. A three-day festival hosted by St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral celebrating Greek culture through food, music and dancing. The festival is usually held in mid-September but has been canceled this year.

**Best of Concord:** New Hampshire Brewers Festival, Concord, granitestatebrewersassociation.org. The annual festival, presented by the New Hampshire Brewers Association in July, invites craft breweries from all over the state to pour their original brews for beer-lovers.

**Best of Manchester:** Intown Taco Tour, Manchester, intownmanchester.com. An annual street festival organized by Intown Manchester in May. Restaurants create and sell their own unique tacos, and attendees vote on their favorites. Intown stated that this year's event has been postponed, with a new date TBD.

**Best of Nashua:** Great American Ribfest, Merrimack, greatamericanribfest.com. The three-day event at Anheuser-Busch features professional barbecue vendors from across the country as well as other food vendors, a beer experience, live entertainment, kids activities and more. It's typically held on Father's Day weekend but was canceled this year.

### Best Event to Show Off Your Cosplay

**Best:** Granite State Comic Con, Manchester, granitecon.com. A two-day comic and pop culture convention produced by Double Midnight Comics, featuring guest celebrities and comic artists, educational panels and workshops, costume contests, gaming, vendors and more. It's normally held in September, but this year's event has been canceled.

**Runner-up:** Queen City Kamikaze, Manchester, facebook.com/queencitykamikaze. A one-day comic and pop culture convention

held in March, featuring a cosplay contest, video game and tabletop game tournaments, live game shows, panels, vendors, artists and more.

**Honorable mention:** Free Comic Book Day, freecomicbookday.com, at Double Midnight Comics (245 Maple St., Manchester, 669-9636; 67 S. Main St., Concord, 669-9636, dmcomics.com) and Jetpack Comics (37 N. Main St., Rochester, 330-9636, jetpackcomics.com). The annual worldwide event, held the first Saturday in May, encourages comic book shops to hand out free comic books created specially for that day. The largest FCBD celebration in the state is the Rochester Free Comic Book Day Festival, a partnership between the City of Rochester and Jetpack Comics, featuring local comic creators, vendors, live entertainment, food, a cosplay contest and more throughout downtown. Double Midnight Comics in Manchester hosts a popular cosplay contest at its Manchester store. This year's FCBD has been reworked as Free Comic Book Summer. Every Wednesday, now through Sept. 9, participating local comic book shops will put out five or six different free comics.

### Best Parade

**Best:** Manchester St. Patrick's Parade, saintpatsnh.com.

**Runner-up:** Litchfield Memorial Day Parade

**Honorable mention:** Manchester Christmas Parade, intownmanchester.com. Typically held in early December.

## FUN — WITH PEOPLE!

### Best After-Work Hang-Out Spot

**Best of the best:** The River Casino & Sports Bar, 52 High St., Nashua, 881-9060, therivercasino.com

**Best of Concord:** Area 23, 254 N. State St., Concord, 552-0137, thearea23.com

**Best of Manchester:** Strange Brew, 88 Market St., Manchester, 666-4292, strangebrewtavern.net

**Best of Nashua:** The Thirsty Moose Taphouse, 360 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 670-0270, thirstymoosetaphouse.com. (The Thirsty Moose also has locations in Manchester, Dover, Exeter and Portsmouth.)

### Best First Date Place

**Best of best:** Boards & Brews, 941 Elm St., Manchester, 232-5184, boardsandbrewsnh.com. A board game cafe.

**Best of Concord:** Angelina's Ristorante Italiano, 11 Depot St., Concord, 228-3313, angelinasrestaurant.com

**Best of Manchester:** Mint Bistro, 1105 Elm St., Manchester, 625-6468, mintbistronh.com

**Best of Nashua:** Buckley's Great Steaks, 438 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-0995, buckleysgreatsteaks.com

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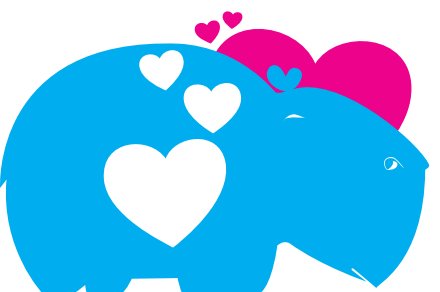
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## Most Impressive Date Spot

**Best of the best:** Hanover Street Chop-house, 149 Hanover St., Manchester, 644-2467,

hanoverstreetchophouse.com

**Best of Concord:** Angelina's Ristorante Italiano, 11 Depot St., Concord, 228-3313, angelinasrestaurant.com

**Best of Manchester:** Bedford Village Inn, 2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com

**Best of Nashua:** Buckley's Great Steaks, 438 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 424-0995, buckleysgreatsteaks.com

## Best Crowd at Whatever

**Best:** Get Fit NH, 287 S. Main St., Concord, 344-2651, getfitnh.com

**Runner-up:** The River Casino & Sports Bar, 52 High St., Nashua, 881-9060, therivercasino.com

**Honorable mention:** Area 23, 254 N. State St., Concord, 552-0137, thearea23.com

## FAMILY FUN

### Best Family or Kids Event

**Best of the best:** Market Days Festival, Concord, intownconcord.org. A three-day street festival, hosted by Intown Concord, featuring shopping, games and live entertainment on Main Street. Typically held in June, the event has been reimagined this year as Market Month, with "Mini Market Days" going on every weekend in August.

**Best of Concord:** Deerfield Fair, deerfieldfair.com. One of the largest agricultural fairs in the state, featuring rides, entertainment, food and more. It's usually held for four days in September, but this year's event has been canceled.

**Best of Manchester:** Glendi, Manchester, stgeorge.nh.goarch.org. A three-day festival hosted by St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral celebrating Greek culture through food, music and dancing. The festival is usually held in mid-September but has been canceled this year.

**Best of Nashua:** Kids Con New England, Nashua, kidsconne.com. The first and largest comic convention in New England created just for kids. Held in June, the one-day event features comic-centric activities, workshops and panels, gaming, family-friendly comic book creators and children's book authors and artists.

We asked Hippo readers...

## BEST SKI HILL ACTIVITY: SKIING, SNOWBOARDING, TUBING OR DRINKING IN THE LODGE?

11%  
Snowboarding

18%  
Tubing

26%  
Drinking in the lodge



### Best Place to Take Your Kids

**Best of the best:** Fun City Trampoline Park, 553 Mast Road, Goffstown, 606-8807, funcitygoffstown.com. Closed until further notice, according to its Facebook page.

**Best of Concord:** Crazy Kids, 60 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, 228-7529, gokrazykids.com. An indoor playground and party venue. Currently running summer camps, but the indoor play area is closed to the public until further notice, according to the website.

**Best of Manchester:** Aviation Museum of New Hampshire, 27 Navigator Road, Londonderry, 669-4820, nhahs.org. Open only on select dates until further notice. Upcoming dates are Saturdays, Aug. 15 and Aug. 29.

**Best of Nashua:** Nuthin' but Good Times, 746 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 429-2200, nuthinbutgoodtimes.com. An indoor playground and party venue.

### Best Indoor Play Area

**Best of the best:** Fun City Trampoline Park, 553 Mast Road, Goffstown, 606-8807, funcitygoffstown.com. Closed until further notice, according to its Facebook page.

**Best of Concord:** Crazy Kids, 60 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, 228-7529, gokrazykids.com. An indoor playground and party venue. Currently running summer camps, but the indoor play area is closed to the public until further notice, according to the website.

**Best of Manchester:** Cowabunga's, 725 Huse Road, Manchester, 935-9659, mycowabungas.com. An indoor inflatable playground and party venue. Currently closed, but plans to reopen this month.

**Best of Nashua:** Nuthin' but Good Times,

746 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 429-2200, nuthinbutgoodtimes.com. An indoor playground and party venue.

### Best Kids Summer Day Camp

**Best of the best:** Melody Pines Day Camp, 510 Corning Road, Manchester, 669-9414, melodypines.com

**Best of Concord:** New Hampshire Audubon Nature Day Camp, McLane Audubon Center, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, nhaudubon.org. (Camp is also held at the Massabesic Audubon Center in Auburn.)

**Best of Manchester:** Boys & Girls Club of Manchester's Camp Foster, 36 Camp Allen Road, Bedford, 625-5031, begreatmanchester.org

**Best of Nashua:** YMCA of Greater Nashua's Camp Sargent, 141 Camp Sargent Road, Merrimack, 880-4845, campsargent.org

### Best Place to Hold a Kids Birthday Party

**Best of the best:** Cowabunga's, 725 Huse Road, Manchester, 935-9659, mycowabungas.com. An indoor inflatable playground and party venue. Currently closed, but plans to reopen this month.

**Best of Concord:** Crazy Kids, 60 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, 228-7529, gokrazykids.com. An indoor playground and party venue. Currently running summer camps, but the indoor play area is closed to the public until further notice, according to the website.

**Best of Manchester:** Fun City Trampoline Park, 553 Mast Road, Goffstown, 606-8807, funcitygoffstown.com. Closed until further notice, according to its Facebook page.

**Best of Nashua:** Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center, 30 Ash St., Hollis, 465-9453, wildsalamander.com.

## PETS

### Best Doggie Day Care

**Best of the best:** American K9 Country, 336 Route 101, Amherst, 672-8448, americank9country.com. Day care and boarding for dogs and cats and training classes in dock jumping, obedience, agility and more for dogs.

**Best of Concord:** Paws on Pine, 913 Pine St., Contoocook, 568-4022, pawsonpinen.com. A small boarding and day care center for dogs that specializes in Flower Essence aromatherapy for dogs.

**Best of Manchester:** All Dogs Gym & Inn, 505 Sheffield Road, Manchester, 669-4644, alldogsgym.com. Training, boarding and day care services for dogs as well as classes in various dog sports.

**Best of Nashua:** Cloud K9, 29 Columbia Circle, Merrimack, 424-6166, cloudk9.net. Day care and boarding for dogs with an enclosed turfgrass play area.

### Best Dog Groomer

**Best of the best:** Sarah's Paw Spa, 16 Manning St., Derry, 512-4539, sarahspawspa.com. A certified grooming service with a custom tub and full spa experience that includes tooth brushing, nail painting and aloe facial cleanses.

**Best of Concord:** Bark Now, 237 S. Main St., Concord, 229-3700, barknow.com. Full grooming treatments available as well as facials, luxury baths, paw pedicures and Reiki energy therapy.

**Best of Manchester:** Hollywood Hounds Pet Spa, 250 Wallace Road, Bedford, 472-7387, hollywoodhoundsnh.com. A full-service pet spa using only all-natural, hypoallergenic materials and offering basic grooming, flea and tick removal and emergency de-skunking.

**Best of Nashua:** Cloud K9, 29 Columbia Circle, Merrimack, 424-6166, cloudk9.net. Grooming services include blow-outs, brush-outs, ear cleaning and plucking and nail trims and cuts. Package deals with half-day day care and grooming are available.

### Best Place to Let Your Dog Off Leash

**Best of the best:** Hudson Dog Park at Benson Park, 19 Kimball Hill Road, Hudson, 886-6000, hudsonnh.gov/bensonpark/page/dog-park. A fenced-in public dog park that includes two separate areas for large and small dogs. Dog waste bags are available.

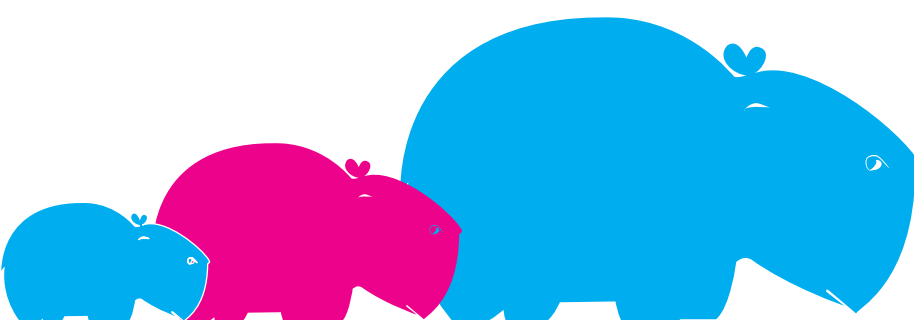
**Best of Concord:** Terrill Park, Old Turnpike Road, Concord, 225-8690, concordnh.gov/facilities/facility/details/Terrill-Park-28. The 21-acre park features a fenced-in dog park for both large and small dogs.

**Best of Manchester:** Hooksett Dog Park, 101 Merrimack St., Hooksett, 668-8019, hooksett.org/parks-recreation-cemeteries-division/pages/dog-park. Two off-leash fenced-in play areas for small and large dogs. Dog waste bags are available.

**Best of Nashua:** American K9 Country, 336 Route 101, Amherst, 672-8448, americank9country.com. Fenced-in dog park available at the doggie day care, free of charge.

### Best On-Leash Dog Outing

**Best of the best:** Mine Falls Park, Whipple Street, Nashua, 589-3370, nashuanh.gov/491/



me-Falls-Park. A 325-acre park with forest, wetlands, open fields and around eight miles of trails.

**Best of Concord:** Downtown Concord, North Main Street, Concord. The open lawn green space of the Statehouse lawn, the weekly Farmers Market and Market Days offer a great chance for humans and dogs alike to get out and about in the Capital City.

**Best of Manchester:** Livingston Park, Hooksett Road, Manchester, 624-6444, manchesternh.gov/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks-Trails-and-Facilities/Parks/Livingston-Park. Includes a loop walking trail that circles Dorr's Pond.

**Best of Nashua:** Benson Park, 19 Kimball Hill Road, Hudson, 886-6000, hudsonnh.gov/bensonpark. A 166-acre recreational spot with plenty of walking trails.

## NIGHTLIFE

### Best Bar for Live Music

**Best of the best:** The Shaskeen Pub and Restaurant, 909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, theshaskeenpub.com. Regular live music has not yet resumed, but there will be a trial run performance by Marty Quirk on the patio on Sunday, Aug. 16, at 3 p.m.

**Best of Concord:** Area 23, 254 N. State St., Concord, 552-0137, thearea23.com. Live music every Friday and Saturday night and Saturday afternoon.

**Best of Manchester:** Strange Brew, 88 Market St., Manchester, 666-4292, strangebrewtavern.net. The bar stated that it will not be having any live music in the near future due to Covid-19 regulations.

**Best of Nashua:** The Pasta Loft Restaurant, 241 Union Square, Milford, 672-2270, pastaloft.com. The bar stated that it does not have live music at this time.

### Best Bar with an Outdoor Deck

**Best of the best:** The Derryfield Restaurant, 625 Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-2880, thederryfield.com

**Best of Concord:** Downtown Cheers Grille & Bar, 17 Depot St., Concord, 228-0181, cheersnh.com

**Best of Manchester:** Murphy's Taproom, 494 Elm St., Manchester, 644-3535, murphystaproom.com

**Best of Nashua:** The Pasta Loft Restaurant, 241 Union Square, Milford, 672-2270, pastaloft.com.

### Best Pub

**Best of the best:** The Shaskeen Pub and Restaurant, 909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, theshaskeenpub.com

**Best of Concord:** The Barley House Restaurant & Tavern, 132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, thebarleyhouse.com. (The Barley House also has a location in North Hampton.)

**Best of Manchester:** Strange Brew, 88



Market St., Manchester, 666-4292, strangebrewtavern.net

**Best of Nashua:** The Peddler's Daughter, 48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlersdaughter.com

### Best Sports Bar

**Best of the best:** Billy's Sports Bar & Grill, 34 Tarrytown Road, Manchester, 622-3644, billyssportsbar.com

**Best of Concord:** The Draft Sports Bar and Grill, 67 S. Main St., Concord, 227-1175, draftsportsbar.com

**Best of Manchester:** The Thirsty Moose Taphouse, 795 Elm St., Manchester, 792-2337, thirstymoosetaphouse.com. (The Thirsty Moose also has locations in Merrimack, Dover, Exeter and Portsmouth.)

**Best of Nashua:** The Thirsty Moose Taphouse, 360 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 670-0270, thirstymoosetaphouse.com. (The Thirsty Moose also has locations in Manchester, Dover, Exeter and Portsmouth.)

### Best Regular Event at a Bar

**Best of the best:** Famous Friday Rubber Chicken Toss at The River Casino & Sports Bar, 52 High St., Nashua, 881-9060, therivercasino.com. Held every Friday at 7 p.m. Players get three rubber chickens. Sink one rubber chicken into the pot and win a six-piece chicken tenders dinner; sink two, win a 12-piece chicken tenders dinner; sink all three, win \$200.

**Best of Concord:** Open Mic Night at Area 23, 254 N. State St., Concord, 552-0137, thearea23.com. Every Wednesday at 5 p.m.

**Best of Manchester:** Queen City Improv at Stark Brewing Co., 500 Commercial St., Manchester, 625-4444, starkbrewingcompany.com. The Manchester-based improvisational theater troupe typically performs at the bar monthly, but shows have been put on hold until further notice.

**Best of Nashua:** Open Mic at Fody's Tavern, 9 Clinton St., Nashua, 577-9015, fodystavern.com. Fody's is planning to resume open mic soon.

### Where to Go when you want to See and be Seen

**Best of the best:** The Shaskeen Pub and Restaurant, 909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, theshaskeenpub.com

**Best of Concord:** Tandy's Pub & Grille,

1 Eagle Square, Concord, 856-7614, tandyspub.com

**Best of Manchester:** The Derryfield Restaurant, 625 Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-2880, thederryfield.com

**Best of Nashua:** The River Casino & Sports Bar, 52 High St., Nashua, 881-9060, therivercasino.com

## NOTABLE LOCALS

### Friendliest Mechanic

**Best of the best:** Mike Alton, Pro-Image Automotive, 254 Sheffield Road, Manchester, 644-8480, proimageautomotive.com

**Best of Concord:** Gunnar Wicklund, Wicklund's Automotive Center, 240 N. State St., Concord, 224-2102, wicklundsauto.com

**Best of Manchester:** Ralph Brutus, Brutus Auto Repair & Service, 148 Merrimack St., Manchester, 624-8881, brutusauto.com

**Best of Nashua:** Chad Tanguay, Merrimack Auto Center, 9 Webb Drive, Merrimack, 216-9596; 150 Amherst St., Nashua, 546-0157; merrimackautocenterllc.com

### Best Local Music Act

**Best:** Alli Beaudry, allibeaudry.com

**Runner-up:** Matt the Sax, find him on Facebook @matthesax

**Honorable mention:** Songs With Molly, find them on Facebook @songswithmolly

### Friendliest Librarians

**Best:** Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord, 225-8670, concordpubliclibrary.net (The Concord Public Library reopened to the public on July 13, operating under limited hours.)

**Runner-up:** Bedford Public Library, 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-2300, bedfordnhlibrary.org (The Bedford Public Library is currently closed to the public, but contact-free curbside pickups are available every Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m.)

**Honorable mention:** Aaron Cutler Memorial Library, 269 Charles Bancroft Highway, Litchfield, 424-4044, cutlerlibrary.blogspot.com (The Aaron Cutler Memorial Library is currently closed to the public, but porch pickups are available every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

### New Hampshire-based Celebrity Who Seems Like They'd Be the Most Fun at a Party

**Best:** Pete Psaledas, Director of Distributor Relations at Presence Marketing and a Litchfield resident

**Runner-up:** Fred "Fritz" Wetherbee, "Fritz Wetherbee's New Hampshire," as seen on WMUR's *New Hampshire Chronicle*

**Honorable mention:** Steven Tyler, frontman of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame band Aerosmith

## Favorite Fictional Granite State

**Best:** The Old Man of the Mountain (a series of cliff ledges resembling the profile of a man's face, The Old Man of the Mountain was a popular tourist attraction at Franconia Notch State Park until its collapse in May 2003.)

**Runner-up:** President Josiah "Jed" Bartlett (who is portrayed by Martin Sheen in the critically acclaimed political drama series *The West Wing*.)

**Honorable mention:** Binky Sears (a fictional character often featured in Fritz Wetherbee's stories in "Fritz Wetherbee's New Hampshire," as seen on WMUR's *New Hampshire Chronicle*.)

## LIVING HERE

### Happiest Place in NH

**Best:** Get Fit NH (287 S. Main St. in Concord; getfitnh.com, 344-2651). Get Fit NH is currently offering both in-person and virtual fitness classes.

**Runner-up:** The White Mountains (The Forest Service's website, fs.usda.gov/whitemountain, sells day-use passes online to the White Mountain National Forest as well as maps and more. At visitwhitemountains.com, you can find more about visiting the area, including advice on alternative hiking and parking sites when popular locations are crowded.)

**Honorable mention:** Hampton Beach (Though many of the regular Hampton Beach events have been canceled for this summer, you can still find outdoor movies on Monday nights and nightly live music starting at 7 p.m. See hamptonbeach.org.)

### Best Thing About Living in NH in the Winter

**Best:** Skiing (As one reader said "Skiing is Awesome.")

**Runner-up:** Snow

**Honorable mention:** Snowshoeing

### Best Thing We Forgot to Ask About

**Best:** Best New Hampshire Product/Best Jams and Jellies made in NH: Laurel Hill Jams & Jellies (laurelhilljams.com). Find them at stores throughout the area including Bedford Hannaford and Christmas Tree Shops in Nashua and Salem; see a list on the website.

**Runner-up:** Best Tattoos: Arrows and Embers Tattoo (117 Manchester St. in Concord; arrowsandemberstattoo.com, 988-6067)

**Honorable mention:** Best Massage Therapist: Bethany Chabot, LMT 444 Hands, Innately Integrative Massage & Energy Therapy, located in The Wellness Center at Family Chiropractic of Merrimack, 36 Baboosic Lake Road, Merrimack, 834-2758, 444hands.com. 🍷

# ARTS

## THE ROUNDUP

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

- **Visit the Currier:** The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) announced on its website that it will reopen on Thursday, Aug. 20, with two new exhibitions, "Open World: Video Games and Contemporary Art" and "Richard Haynes: Whispering Quilts." Guided tours of museum exhibitions, Frank Lloyd Wright houses tours, in-person art classes and the museum gift shop and cafe will be suspended until further notice. Visitors must wear face masks, and the number of visitors in each gallery will be regulated to allow for social distancing. Museum hours are Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and closed Monday through Wednesday. This month, the hour of 10 to 11 a.m. will be reserved for seniors and museum members. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, \$10 for students, \$5 for youth ages 13 through 17 and free for children under age 13 and must be purchased in advance online. Call 669-6144 or visit [currier.org](http://currier.org).

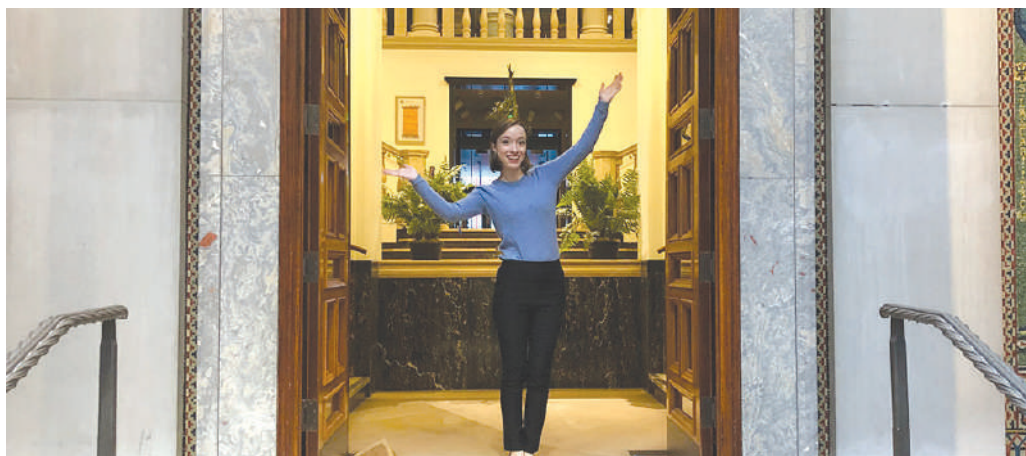
- **Sculpture symposium begins:** The 13th annual Nashua International Sculpture Symposium opening reception will be held on Thursday, Aug. 20, at 5:30 p.m. at The Picker Artists (3 Pine St., Nashua). During the symposium, three renowned sculptors will spend three weeks creating three new sculptures that will be permanently placed in various spots around the city. This year's sculptors, all from the U.S., are Taylor Apostol from Massachusetts, Elijah Ober from Maine and Kelly Cave from Pennsylvania. The sculptors will work outside The Picker Artists studios Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., from Aug. 24 through Sept. 4, and will then work at their sculpture sites from Sept. 5 through Sept. 12. During those times, the public will be able to watch the sculptors work and interact with them during their breaks. The closing ceremony will be held on Saturday, Sept. 12. Both the opening reception and the closing ceremony will be livestreamed. "Now, more than ever, we need the arts and artists," organizers stated on the Symposium's Facebook page. "During this challenging time, we will continue to serve our mission of enriching the quality of life in Nashua with amazing sculptures for all to see, touch and enjoy." A map of the 36



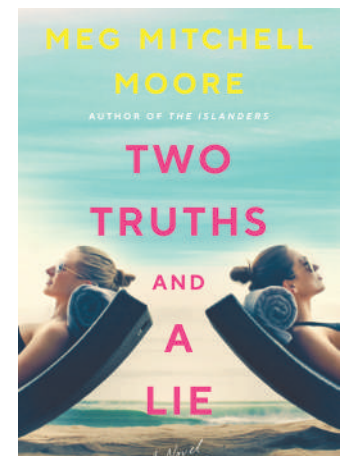
Market Month is going on now in downtown Concord. Courtesy photo.



The Nashua International Sculpture Symposium begins on Thursday, Aug. 20. Courtesy photo.



The Currier Museum of Art reopens on Thursday, Aug. 20. Courtesy photo.



Meg Mitchell Moore will present her book *Two Truths and a Lie* at The Music Hall on Thursday, Aug. 20. Courtesy photo.

existing sculpture sites along with suggested walking and biking tour routes is available on the symposium website. Visit [nashuasculpturesymposium.org](http://nashuasculpturesymposium.org).

- **Last chance for children's theater:** The 2020 Bank of New Hampshire Children's Summer Series at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester) comes to a close with *Peter Pan* on Thursday, Aug. 13, and *Cinderella* on Tuesday, Aug. 18, and Wednesday, Aug. 19. Shows are at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$10. Visit [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org) or call 668-5588.

- **Market Month continues:** Intown Concord's annual Market Days Festival, reimagined this year as Market Month, continues in Concord with a series of "Mini Market Days" being held every weekend in August. Thursday, Aug. 13, through Sunday, Aug. 16, is Restaurant Week, when Market Month will highlight downtown restaurants. Then, from Thursday, Aug. 20, through Sunday, Aug. 23, Concord will celebrate its diverse cultures with International Arts Week. That Saturday will include a full schedule of multicultural music and dance performances, arts and activities. Market Month will conclude with a Sidewalk Sale from Thursday, Aug. 27,

through Sunday, Aug. 30. "People will be able to get outside with their families and enjoy games and activities, live entertainment and shopping — all the things they haven't been able to do for a while," Intown Concord event coordinator Haylie Stoddard told the Hippo earlier this month. Admission is free. Visit [facebook.com/intownconcord](http://facebook.com/intownconcord).

- **Photography on display:** The New Hampshire Art Association presents its 41st annual Parfitt Juried Photography Exhibition now through Aug. 29 at the NHAA's Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth). The exhibition features photography from both NHAA members and non-member area artists, juried by Don Toothaker, photographer, photography instructor and director of Photographer Adventures at Hunt's Photo and Video in Manchester. The exhibition honors photographer and NHAA board member Jack Parfitt, now deceased, who 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. Visit [nhartassociation.org](http://nhartassociation.org).

- **Authors outside:** The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth) presents

two author events this month, to be held outdoors by the theater. Meg Mitchell Moore will discuss her book *Two Truths and a Lie* on Thursday, Aug. 20, at 6 and 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$44.75. Then, Acadia Tucker will discuss her book *Growing Good Food* on Thursday, Aug. 27, at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$38.75. Tickets for both events include a signed copy of the featured book. Visit [themusicHall.org](http://themusicHall.org).

- **Financial relief for New Hampshire arts:** Sixty-eight nonprofit arts and cultural organizations from all over New Hampshire have been awarded grants through the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts's CARES grant program, according to a press release from the Council. The grants are intended to provide financial assistance with salary and facility costs to organizations impacted by Covid-19. Thirty-seven organizations were awarded \$7,500, 18 were awarded \$3,000 and 13 were awarded \$1,000. "These funds recognize that cultural organizations are an important sector of the economy, that additional financial support is currently necessary to keep their operations functioning, and that these organizations add creative life to communities," the press release said. Visit [nh.gov/nharts](http://nh.gov/nharts).

— Angie Sykeny 🍀



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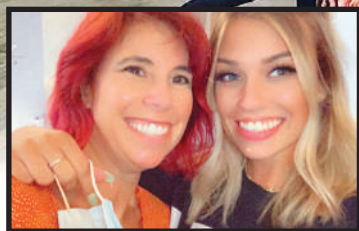
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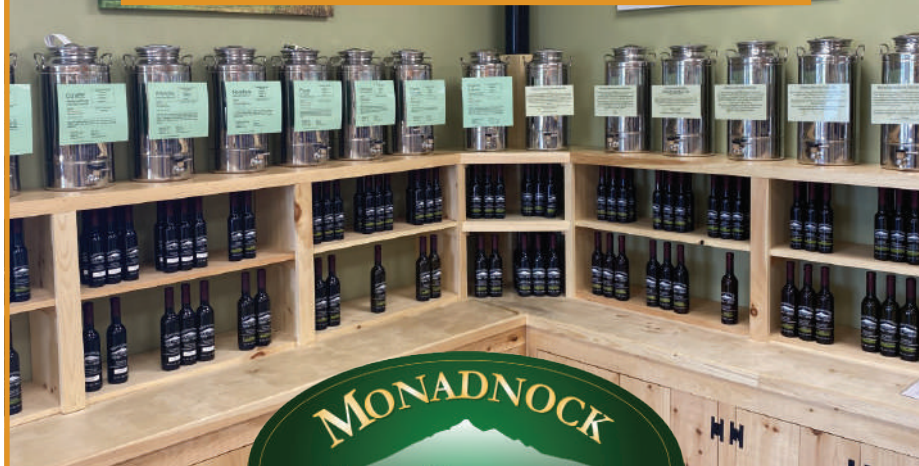
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# INSIDE/OUTSIDE

## Queen of the garden

Why tomatoes rule

By Henry Homeyer  
listings@hippopress.com

### — THE GARDENING GUY —

If I could only bring the seeds of one plant with me when exiled to a distant island, I would bring tomato seeds. Tomatoes are the center of much of my cuisine from soups and stews to sandwiches and salads. They are tasty raw or cooked, are healthy to eat, and are relatively easy to grow and propagate. My tomatoes are ripening up now, and I'm not only eating them two or three times a day, I'm putting them up for winter use.

My mother and grandmother slaved over a hot stove in August and September to can whole tomatoes or to make sauce and store it in jars. I rarely do. Mainly I freeze tomatoes whole. I call them my "red rocks" and store them in zipper bags for use in soups and stews.

To prepare red rocks I simply rinse them off, allow them to dry, and slip them into gallon freezer-grade plastic bags. I use a straw to suck the air out of the bag after I have the zipper closed 99 percent of the way. That minimizes frost on the tomatoes in the freezer.

To use frozen tomatoes, I just run hot water from the faucet over them. The skin thaws quick-

ly, and rubs right off. Or I'll drop a few in a pan of hot water. That helps to thaw the tomatoes and makes them easier to chop up for use. If I freeze cherry tomatoes, I don't bother removing the skins before cooking with them.

I have a couple of food dehydrators that I use to dry tomatoes, too. The Cadillac of dehydrators is the Excalibur. Mine is a \$300 deluxe model that blows hot air sideways equally over all nine trays. My other is the NESCO American Harvester, a serviceable machine that pushes air up or down through a stack of trays.

The downside to the NESCO model is that you must rotate the trays to get equal drying. And it uses 1,000 watts of energy per hour, while the Excalibur uses only 660 watts. Still, at about \$125 for the basic machine, it is more affordable. You can stack up to 30 round 15-inch trays over the fan and heating element, but the more trays you add, the longer it takes to dry all the food. I find about eight trays is as many as I want to stack.

Most summers I grow eight to 12 Sun Gold cherry tomato plants, and each is prolific. Most of the fruit I dry in my dehydrators. I cut them in half and dry, cut side up. I store them in zipper bags in the fridge or freezer, and use them in soups and stews. Dried tomatoes can be stored in the pantry, too.

I cut them about 3/8 of an inch thick. They tend to stick to the trays, so be sure to buy the special no-stick screens to put on the trays. That makes cleanup much easier.

A sandwich is not really a sandwich, for me, without slices of tomato. One way to save slices of tomato for winter use is to roast them. I do so in the oven at low heat until they are caramelized and soft, not tough and dry. Then I place them in zipper bags and freeze them — but just one layer of tomatoes per bag. When I crave a tomato in my sandwich, I pull out a few slices and heat in my toaster oven until warm. Not a fresh tomato, but better than most sold in the grocery store in January.

I also make tomato paste. Lots of paste. I store it by freezing it in ice cube trays, and then putting it in zipper bags when frozen. No more half-used cans of purchased paste going fuzzy in the fridge for me. To make paste I use imperfect tomatoes — and I usually have plenty. I cut out the bad spots, then core them. I squeeze the cored tomatoes in the sink, which gets rid of most seeds and lots of juice. Then I quarter them, place them in a food processor, puree, and then add to a large enameled iron pot and cook them slowly for hours. I know they are done when I can literally stand up a spoon in the pot. I let it sit all night, uncovered, to cool and lose some more water. In the morning I spoon the paste in the ice cube trays. When it's frozen, I empty the trays and put cubes in zipper bags.

Canning tomato sauce the old-fashioned way is hard work and takes hours of work. Part of that work is blending the tomatoes and herbs, salt and



NESCO Dehydrator. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

pepper to get the flavor and consistency just right. In addition to pureed tomatoes I use onions, garlic, basil, oregano, parsley and thyme. I cook it for 45 minutes or so, as I like it nice and thick.

But then there is the canning itself. First you have to boil the jars and lids to sterilize them. Once they're filled with cooked sauce, one needs to boil the sauce in sealed jars to kill the bacteria that causes botulism, a potentially fatal disease. Forty minutes at a rolling boil is recommended. All in all, making seven jars of sauce — which is what a canning pot can hold — takes an evening.

The Lazy Guy technique for making sauce is to freeze it, not can it. I have an aversion to using plastic for storing food, but make an exception for tomato sauce. I have quart plastic containers with screw tops, though one can also use zipper bags. Since I have two large freezers, I have plenty of space for garden produce.

People raise their eyebrows when I tell them I grow between 35 and 50 tomato plants each year. But since I eat my own stored tomatoes all year, I can barely grow enough of the Queen of the Garden.

Email [henry.homeyer@comcast.net](mailto:henry.homeyer@comcast.net)

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# KIDDIE

— POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

## Tinker Bell & the Fairy Godmother

The 2020 Bank of New Hampshire Children's Summer Series wraps up next week at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palace-theatre.org, 668-5588). Catch *Peter Pan* on Thursday, Aug. 13, and *Cinderella* on Tuesday, Aug. 18, or Wednesday, Aug. 19. The kid-friendly shows are at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and are about 45 minutes long. Tickets cost \$10 and are only being sold over the phone.

## Back to SEE

**SEE Science Center** (200 Bedford St. in Manchester; see-sciencecenter.org, 669-0400) opens to the general public for weekends starting this weekend, Saturday, Aug. 15, and Sunday, Aug. 16. Buy tickets and register a time in advance (you can call from the parking lot but openings are not guaranteed), according to the website. Some exhibits and demonstrations will not be open; the rules for visiting (including wearing masks, temperature checks, etc.) are on the website.

## Play ball

Sign up for the **Fisher Cats baseball or softball camp**, which runs next Monday, Aug. 17, through Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and 8:30 a.m. to noon on Tuesday. Get baseball instruction from Fisher Cats staff, according to nhfishercats.com, where you can sign up for \$125 per child (with discounts for additional children; get a T-shirt for \$10 per shirt). The camp is open for kids ages 6 to 15, the website said.

## Movie nights

*Finding Nemo* (G, 2003) will screen Friday,

Aug. 14, at 8:30 p.m. (or so, depending on darkness) at Fieldhouse Sports Drive-In (12 Tallwood Dr. in Bow; fieldhousesports.com, 226-4646). Tickets cost \$25 per vehicle (for up to four people, \$5 for each additional person) and can be purchased online. Tickets may also be available at the gate (cash only).

Catch *Back to the Future* (a 1985 PG; Common Sense Media gives it an age 10+ rating) on Sunday, Aug. 16, via O'neil Cinemas' drive-in at The Ridge shopping plaza in Rochester (92 Farmington Road). The screening is one of four held in August by O'neil. Tickets to the Rochester presentation cost \$30 per car with up to five occupants (additional people cost \$6) and can be purchased in advance at [drivedinerewind.com](http://drivedinerewind.com), as can concessions. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the screening starts at 8:30 p.m.

Head to Hampton Beach on Monday, Aug. 17, for **Movie Night Mondays on the Beach** featuring *Frozen II* (PG, 2019) starting at dusk, projected to be about 7:42 p.m., according to [hamptonbeach.org](http://hamptonbeach.org). Admission is free; social distancing and mask wearing are required, the website said.

Out in Dover, the Dover Public Library (73 Locust St.; [library.dover.nh.gov](http://library.dover.nh.gov), 516-6050) is kicking off **Movies on the Lawn** Monday, Aug. 17, at 8:30 p.m. with the movie *Labyrinth* (PG, 1986; Common Sense Media rates it at age 8+), according to the library website. Showings will be limited to the first 50 people, the website said.

Red River Theatres in Concord (with the Concord Parks & Recreation department and Endicott Furniture) is presenting *Toy Story* (G, 1995) on Wednesday, Aug. 19, at dusk in Memorial Field. The event is free but preregistration for a spot (with a maximum of six family members per spot) is required. See [redrivertheatres.org](http://redrivertheatres.org) for the details.

And for a family movie night at home, check out Red River Theatres' Virtual Cinema's presentation of *One Small Step*, a collection of family-friendly short films, according to the website. The collection runs a total of 84 minutes long and costs \$8 to rent. Find it at [redrivertheatres.org/film/one-small-step-family-friendly-short-films](http://redrivertheatres.org/film/one-small-step-family-friendly-short-films). 🍿

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## TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,  
This is a hanging ceramic plaque that belonged to my grandmother and I have always loved looking at it, especially when I was a little girl growing up in Texas. Can you tell me anything about this art? I have been to antique stores and can't find one as pretty or similar to this one.



Crystal

Dear Crystal,

From your photo, it looks more like earthenware than ceramic. You can almost see the clay from the broken chip. This leads me to think it was a piece of majolica.

Majolica was pottery in Italy, Spain and Mexico. Some of the work is crude and some very detailed. Later stuff from Mexico seems to be

less detailed and the glazes not so cleanly done.

It's tough because not all pieces are marked by the makers. In some cases the piece is signed but the artist is not known. To give a value I think you have to look at the fine detailing and quality of this piece; if it is majolica it would help, but that's not the total picture. I recommend you have someone look at it in person. For now, I think we are safe to say it is most likely in the \$40 range just for the subject and quality of the plaque.

Donna Welch is a member of The New Hampshire Antiques Dealer Association. If you have questions about an antique or collectible send a clear photo and info to Donna at [footwdw@aol.com](mailto:footwdw@aol.com), or call her at 391-6550 or 624-8668. 🍿

# Don't give up on your car



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:

*I'm losing sleep over my reliable 2012 Chrysler 200 and its gas mileage. It's got more than 80,000 miles on it, and usually gets between 20 and 23 miles per gallon on my regular drives.*

*I think it's gotten worse over the past couple years, but I can't be sure.*

*I'm becoming more of an environmentalist by the day, so not getting good mileage really irks me. I'm at a place in my life where I could buy a new-to-me car, but my budget would not be high. And my Chrysler was inherited, so it's got sentimental value and no payments.*

*The gas mileage is the main reason to look elsewhere. Is there something I can do to improve it? Am I crazy to give up on it over guilt? — Chandler*

I don't know if you're crazy, Chandler. I would ask a friend or neighbor. They were all quick with a "yes" when I asked that question. But I do think you should probably hang on to your Chrysler.

First of all, your mileage isn't bad. Twenty-three mpg is about what the EPA says you should expect from this car. And their estimates often run a bit high, so you're doing fine.

Second, if your primary concern is environmental, keeping your old car running in good condition is a pretty green thing to do. Think about all of the natural resources it takes to create a new car: the metal ores, chemicals, plastics and rubber. All of that stuff has to be removed from the earth, processed, refined, transported, molded and assembled. All of those steps use energy and create pollution. So by getting a few more years out of your existing car (unless it's a gross polluter, which yours is not), you're actually helping the environment.

Third, there are other things you can do to be more environmental without throwing away a perfectly good car. First, make sure your car is running well and not polluting any more than it's supposed to. Do that by getting it serviced regularly and making sure it passes your state's emissions test.

If there's something wrong with it, like a bad sensor, a stuck thermostat or a sticky brake caliper, get it fixed, because things like that can lower your mileage and create more pollution. Make sure your tires are properly inflated, too, because that also effects your mileage.

And finally, you can try to drive less. Combine errands. Carpool. Walk (heaven forbid, I know!). But there's a lot you can do to be "greener" without immediately trading in your car.

Then start saving for a serious environmen-

tal upgrade. And in a couple of years, when the Chrysler's transmission falls out in the middle of the road, buy an electric car. Even if you can't buy a new one, by then there will be more used EVs on the road, and you'll have more choices.

Then add a few solar panels on your roof and charge your new car for free every day. You can even drive your neighbors around and save their gas. Good luck, Chandler.

Dear Car Talk:

*I bought a 2009 Hyundai Accent new back in the day. Today it has 77,000 miles on it. I always keep up with my maintenance schedule, and I even have a spreadsheet with dates and mileage when I perform maintenance.*

*Well, I knew it was time to change the timing belt, but that's not cheap, so I put it off thinking I could wait. I was driving it the other day and the motor just quit on me. Guess what? The motor is destroyed because the timing belt broke and ruined the head and other parts.*

*I've learned a lesson. I won't buy another car with a timing belt. But why would a car manufacture make such an important part out of rubber? I can't be the only one who this has happened to. I'm looking forward to your response. — David*

You're hardly the only one. And my IRA is grateful for that, David. But your question is a fair one. Why use a rubber part when its failure can be so catastrophic? Manufacturers have asked themselves that question, too. And in many cases, they've switched back from rub-

ber timing belts to metal timing chains. In fact, if you buy a new Hyundai Accent to replace the one that you just lunched, it'll have a metal timing chain in it.

The reason car makers switched from chains to rubber timings decades ago is because they're cheap, lightweight and simple. Obviously, a rubber belt weighs a lot less and costs a helluva lot less than a metal chain. It's also a lot simpler.

When you add a chain, you have to encase it, lubricate it, add a tensioner, an idler pulley and guides. So you're basically replacing a simple rubber belt with an entire chain "system."

That added complexity also applies to repairs, and repair costs, if you ever need them. And, in fact, that was one of the reasons that rubber belts became popular for several decades — because older chain systems broke down a lot and they were expensive to fix.

But modern chain systems are pretty good, as is modern engine lubrication. So most manufacturers have decided that the extra cost, weight and complexity is worth it for the extra durability and disaster prevention. And I'm guessing you would agree, David.

And modern timing chains generally last the life of the engine. Although I guess that's not a very reassuring statement, David, since your timing belt also lasted the life of your engine. When the belt went, the engine went with it.

So let's put it this way: In most cases, a broken timing chain won't be what sends your next car to the boneyard.

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# Mahrajan in Manchester

Annual Middle Eastern food festival returns



News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll  
food@hippopress.com



Scenes from past Mahrajan festivals. Courtesy photos.



By Matt Ingersoll  
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The Mahrajan Middle Eastern Food Festival might look and feel different this year, but organizers promise it will taste just as delicious. The annual three-day festival featuring authentic Lebanese foods will return to Our Lady of the Cedars Melkite Catholic Church in Manchester from Friday, Aug. 14, through Sunday, Aug. 16.

According to Rev. Thomas Steinmetz, this year's festival has been significantly scaled back to comply with guidelines from the city's health department. Most of the attractions that have been added to the festival over the years — such as dance performances, a petting zoo and bounce houses — have been eliminated.

“We decided to just concentrate all of our efforts on the food this year,” he said.

For the first time in Mahrajan's history, advance online ordering will be available. In addition to takeout there will be socially distant outdoor seating options at the church.

“The way it's essentially going to work ... is people will pull into the parking lot, and as they come in we'll ask them if they plan to sit and eat or order their food to

go,” Steinmetz said.

Face masks are required for all who enter the church grounds, and seats will be spaced out to allow for social distancing.

Festival co-chair Marylou Ashooh Lazos said this year's menu is slightly limited compared to those from previous events, but it features many of the same favorites.

The beef skewers are most notably absent from the menu, but marinated chicken and lamb will still be available, served with rice pilaf, lubyeh (green beans cooked and served in a tomato sauce) and bread.

In addition to the lamb and chicken skewer dinners, there is a lubyeh dinner of green beans served over rice pilaf; and a kibbee dinner (Lebanese meatloaf) featuring lamb, beef, pine nuts and spices with a side of yogurt. You can also order items like warak arish (stuffed grape leaves) with lamb and rice, cooked in a lemon broth; lamb or chicken shawarma; fatayar (meat or spinach pie); bread with fresh hummus; and tabbouleh salad with cracked wheat, parsley, tomato, red onion, lemon and spices.

“We still have a pretty big spread of desserts,” Lazos said, adding that one of the most popular, the baklava, will be returning. She described it as being a bit lighter in flavor and texture than the type of baklava that is more commonplace at local Greek festivals. Several versions of it will be available, including with walnuts, with pistachios, and a chocolate baklava with hazelnuts.

Other returning dessert options are the coosa pita (a custard made with a light-skinned summer squash, similar to zucchini); the ghrybe (almond butter cookies with powdered sugar); and the maamoul (date or nut-filled cookies).

In past years, there has also been a small menu of hamburgers, cheeseburgers and hot dogs for kids and those not interested in sampling the Lebanese options — that too has been removed.

Starting on Friday, Aug. 14, you can go to the festival's newly redesigned website, [bestfestnh.com](http://bestfestnh.com), and place orders to be picked up or enjoyed at the church on your day of choice. 🍷

• **Assumption's Greekfest canceled:** Greekfest, a popular two-day Greek food festival normally held in late August at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in Manchester, has been canceled for this year, event chairman Costas Georgopoulos confirmed. “We plan on the event to take place next year at the end of August,” Georgopoulos told the Hippo in an email. Greekfest has been around for nearly three decades, usually featuring authentic homemade dishes a la carte or as dinners, in addition to music and dancing.

• **Sushi and more:** A new eatery offering various Chinese, Thai and Japanese items, including dozens of sushi options, is now open in Manchester. **Golden Karma Asian Fusion & Bar** opened late last month at 6 Willow St. in the Queen City, in the former space of the Brothers Restaurant and Lounge, and now has dine-in and takeout service available. The menu features more than two dozen maki plates to choose from, in addition to specialty sushi entrees, fried rice dishes and noodle options like stir-fried udon, pad Thai and lo mein with chicken, pork, beef, shrimp or vegetables. There are also hot appetizers like peking dumplings, duck bao buns, edamame with sea salt or chili sauce, and shrimp and vegetable tempura; cold appetizers like citrus-marinated salmon ceviche; several soups and salads; hibachi or teriyaki chicken, sirloin steak, shrimp or filet mignon; and authentic Szechuan-style hot platters, like chicken, beef, seafood or tofu with a spicy chili sauce and white rice. Golden Karma is open Monday through Thursday, from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, from 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; and Sunday, from noon to 10 p.m. Call 206-5780.

• **Umami to close:** **Umami Farm Fresh Cafe** in Northwood will close its doors on Aug. 22. “Although the pandemic has presented its challenges, this is not a Covid-19-related closing,” read an Aug. 4 post on Umami's Facebook page, which goes on to cite “other ongoing issues in the background” that weren't able to be resolved. “We welcome your suggestions if you know of a potential location for Umami's new home.” Two members of Umami's culinary team, meanwhile, have recently launched a food truck known as The Food Abides. Patrick Harris and Max G. Dowling have taken the truck to several locations across the state, but you'll next be able to find them at Henniker Brewing Co. (129 Centerville Road) on Saturday, Aug. 15, 30 ▶

**Mahrajan Middle Eastern Food Festival**

**When:** Friday, Aug. 14, 5 to 9 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 15, noon to 9 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 16, 1 to 5 p.m.

**Where:** Our Lady of the Cedars Church, 140 Mitchell St., Manchester

**Cost:** Free admission; food is priced per item

**Visit:** [bestfestnh.com](http://bestfestnh.com)  
Advanced online ordering is available. Masks are required when entering the church parking lot.



Mahrajan festival of a previous year. Courtesy photo.



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# IN THE KITCHEN WITH EDWIN WARD



Edwin Ward of Candia is a manager and cook at the Union Street Takeout (90 Union St., Manchester, 260-7663), a takeout-only eatery that quietly opened in January in the space long occupied by Willie B's. Union Street Takeout is open Monday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., offering a menu of burgers, hot dogs and sub options like steak and cheese, ham and cheese and roast beef. Ward said the eatery has also quickly become a spot known for its \$5 lunches — the chili dogs, which also have the option of adding cheese and bacon, are among the most popular.



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

A loaded spice rack.

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

Spaghetti and meatballs.

### What is your favorite local restaurant?

Steve's [House] Restaurant, or ... Athens, both in Manchester.

### What celebrity would you like to see ordering from your restaurant?

Martha Stewart and Snoop Dogg! I would like to see what they would order.

### What's your favorite thing on your menu?

The Breakfast Package is a real favorite of mine. It's two hash browns, two grilled dogs, a nice amount of bacon, chili, a fried egg, cheese and onions.

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

Chili dogs are becoming a huge trend. Sometimes we have a line out the door for them.

### What's your favorite thing to cook at home?

Slow-cooked lamb.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

### Shepherd's pie

From the kitchen of Edwin Ward of Union Street Takeout in Manchester

1 pound ground beef (80 percent lean)  
½ medium onion  
2 cobs corn  
4 large potatoes  
½ stick butter  
Salt and pepper to taste  
Cook ground beef and onion in a pan until brown. Husk the two cobs of corn and boil

for four minutes (or grill for eight minutes). Boil the potatoes. Mash with butter, salt and pepper. Combine in layers (meat on the bottom, corn in the middle and potatoes on the top). Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Sprinkle cheese of your choice on top and broil for four minutes. Sprinkle paprika on the top (optional) and serve.

## Weekly Dish

Continued from page 29

from 1 to 6 p.m. Find them on Facebook @ thefoodabidestruck.

• **Golden Corral to open in Manchester:** New Hampshire's first **Golden Corral Buffet & Grill** will hold its grand opening on Aug. 17, at 655 S. Willow St. in Manchester, according to a press release from M&M Construction Services of Bedford. The new

cafeteria-style eatery is one of around 500 in the country, offering a variety of menu items like USDA sirloin steaks, pork, seafood and shrimp, along with traditional favorites like pot roast and fried chicken. The location will also have its own butchers, a salad bar and fresh baked goods and desserts prepared daily. Visit [goldencorral.com](http://goldencorral.com) or call 232-4896. 🍷

### Food & Drink Summer farmers markets

• **Bedford Farmers Market** is Tuesdays, from 3 to 6 p.m., in the parking lot of the former Harvest Market (209 Route 101), now through Oct. 13. Visit [bedfordfarmersmarketnh.org](http://bedfordfarmersmarketnh.org).

• **Canterbury Community Farmers Market** is Wednesdays, from 4 to 6:30 p.m., in the parking lot of the Elkins Public Library (9 Center Road), now through Sept. 30. Visit [canterburyfarmersmarket.com](http://canterburyfarmersmarket.com).

• **Cole Gardens Farmers Market** is Sundays, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Cole Gardens (430 Loudon Road, Concord), now through October. Visit [colegardens.com](http://colegardens.com).

• **Concord Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, on Capitol Street in Concord (near the Statehouse), now through October. Visit [concordfarmersmarket.com](http://concordfarmersmarket.com).

• **Contoocook Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, at 896 Main St. in Contoocook.

The year-round market usually moves indoors to Maple Street Elementary School (194 Main St.) beginning in early November. Find them on Facebook @ [contoocookfarmersmarket.com](http://contoocookfarmersmarket.com).

• **Henniker Community Market** is Thursdays, from 4 to 7 p.m., at Henniker Community Center (57 Main St.), now through October. Find them on Facebook @ [hennikercommunitymarket.com](http://hennikercommunitymarket.com).

• **Intown Manchester's Farmstand** is Thursdays, from 3 to 6 p.m., at Victory Park (Concord



# TRY THIS AT HOME

## Fresh caprese cups

This is a “make now” recipe, as tomatoes are in their prime. In fact, I would 100 percent understand if you skip this recipe because you would rather eat your tomatoes as they are. If you are lucky enough to grow your own tomatoes, I would highly encourage you to eat them warm, straight off the vine. If you happen to have a few left, this is a great recipe to try.

When I think of working with tomatoes at this time of year, my goal is to make the tomatoes the star of the dish. Let their flavor and color be the center of the stage. Because once tomatoes aren't locally grown, they lose almost all of their excitement. Now is the time to cook with tomatoes without letting them lose any of their beautiful flavor.

Thus, this recipe is simple: an easy-to-make shell, a quick batch of light pesto, a bit of gooey cheese, and then a hearty topping of tomato. What this combination produces is a crispy, cheesy, savory delivery vehicle for tomatoes. With no baking time for the tomato layer, they keep the snappy texture of their skin, as well as the bright sweetness of their pulp.

There are two important items to note when making these cups. First, they should be eaten soon after baking. They are absolutely delicious when served warm. (They are still delicious when cold but slightly



Fresh caprese cups. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

less so.) Second, be sure to serve them on plates. They are filled with a good amount of moisture, which will absolutely drip from the cup the moment you take your first bite. But these cups are worth every bit of mess they make.

*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.*

### Fresh Caprese Cups

Makes 12 cups

- 12 wonton wrappers
- 1 cup basil leaves
- 1 garlic clove
- 1/4 cup walnuts
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 1/2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- Salt & pepper
- 12 small slices fresh mozzarella
- 1 cup diced tomatoes

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.

Combine basil, garlic, walnuts, olive oil and balsamic vinegar in a food processor.

Process on high, scraping sides as needed,

until you have a slightly chunky paste.

Season with a sprinkle of salt and pepper and mix; set aside.

Spray muffin tin with nonstick cooking spray. Press one wrap in each cup. (Be sure to push them against the bottom and sides of each wrapper to form cups.)

Lightly spray wontons with nonstick cooking spray.

Bake for 3 minutes.

Remove from oven, and fill each cup with 1 teaspoon pesto and a slice of mozzarella.

Bake for 5 more minutes.

Remove from oven, and top with diced tomatoes.

Serve at once.

and Chestnut streets, Manchester), now through Aug. 27. Find them on Facebook @manchesterfood.

• **Merrimack Farmers Market** is Wednesdays, from 3 to 6 p.m., at Vault Motor Storage (526 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack), now through Oct. 7. Visit [merrimacknh.gov/farmers-market](http://merrimacknh.gov/farmers-market).

• **Milford Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at 300 Elm St. in Milford

(across the street from the New Hampshire Antique Co-op), now through Oct. 10. Visit [milfordnhfarmersmarket.com](http://milfordnhfarmersmarket.com).

• **Nashua Farmers Market** is Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at City Hall Plaza (229 Main St.), now through Oct. 18. Visit [downtownnashua.org/local](http://downtownnashua.org/local).

• **New Boston Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., on the corner of Route 13 and Meetinghouse Hill Road,

now through October. Visit [new-bostonfarmersmarket.webs.com](http://new-bostonfarmersmarket.webs.com).

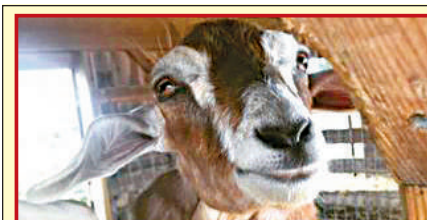
• **Salem Farmers Market** is Sundays, from 10 a.m. to noon, at Salem Marketplace (224 N. Broadway). Visit [salemnhfarmersmarket.org](http://salemnhfarmersmarket.org).

• **Warner Area Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on the lawn of Warner Town Hall (5 E. Main St.), now through October. Visit [warnerfarmersmarket.org](http://warnerfarmersmarket.org).



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DRINK

## A sour ale, an IPA and a Pilsner walk into a bar

Drink these beers now

By Jeff Mucciarone  
food@hippopress.com

When it comes to beer, sometimes you just need someone to steer the ship for you, a trustworthy friend who can serve as your guide when it comes to choosing a brew — because let's be honest, there are just so many to choose from. Even if you can narrow down your style, that's just the tip of the iceberg.

Look, I don't mean to suggest you can't make a decision for yourself, but you already have to make so many decisions each and every day. Should you shower before your first Zoom call of the day? Which shirt should you wear for that Zoom call? And, then, once the Zoom call starts, should you even keep your camera on?

It's stressful.

Obviously, if you can navigate that battlefield, you can surely pick out a beer. But your brain might appreciate it if I do it for you just this once.

So here goes. Here are three beers I've had recently that I have thoroughly enjoyed and that I think you will too.

### Rainbow Dome by Grimm Artisanal Ales (Brooklyn, N.Y.)

I don't want to be too dramatic but this one kind of blew me away. Sours, as I've said many times, can be hit or miss for me personally, but this was a resounding hit. This is a dry-hopped sour ale "brewed with apricots and conditioned on oak," and the result is a bright, fresh, tart, juicy sour ale that absolutely delighted my taste buds.

This brew, which pours pretty close to the color of an orange creamsicle, features a pronounced hop character, making this an excellent choice for the IPA lover who has thus far steered away from sour ales. There is some light oakiness and some lingering, pleasing bitterness. Just a wonderful brew for a hot summer day.

Your only problem might be tracking this one down. I found this one in a Craft Beer Cellar in Westford, Mass. Good luck in your quest.

### Baby Seal Pool Party IPA by Shebeen Brewing Co. (Wolcott, Conn.)

The label features baby seals enjoying a pool party with a puffin serving as lifeguard — absolutely zero chance I wasn't giving this one a shot. And I'm glad I did.

Shebeen dubs itself "Connecticut's only Irish brewery," and, hey, that may be true but by my count only one of the 20 beers listed on their website was in any way Irish,



Courtesy photo.

but who cares? Not me. Literally all of their beers sound amazing with very creative labels and names, such as "Puffin Puffin Pass" and "Alpaca Blanca."

Baby Seal Pool Party is a New England-style IPA brewed with lactose, which might sound a little scary, but really, the resulting brew is hazy, juicy, and also kind of sweet and creamy, and that's kind of the point of the lactose. You get the big citrus hop character you'd expect, alongside an extra sweet and juicy package.

Is my stomach still trying to digest the lactose nearly two weeks later? Yes. But was it worth it? Yes.

### Mountain Time Premium Lager by New Belgium Brewing Co. (Fort Collins, Colo.)

It's just a beer — a crisp, refreshing, flavorful beer that makes your taste buds say thank you as you drink it way too fast on a hot day. But seriously, this was light and refreshing but also really satisfying and when I say that, I mean it has a lot of flavor. It has more sweetness than you normally get from a Pilsner but it's still in that same light, bright package you expect.

I would want a few of these by my side when I'm sitting at the beach.

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

**Citra Brau by Jack's Abby Craft Lagers. (Framingham, Mass.)** Nice and hoppy but extremely light, this is just an excellent all-around, anytime brew that you will probably want to keep a steady supply of. Cheers!

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## CDs pg33

• My Morning Jacket, *The Waterfall II B*

• VOS, *Rise A*

## BOOKS pg34

• *Midnight Sun D*

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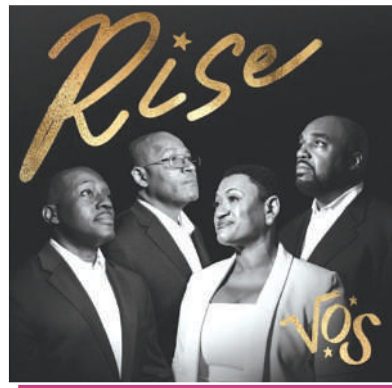
## FILM pg35

• *An American Pickle B*

• Sofaplex



I tend to associate this Louisville band with their neighbors to their southern border, Tennessee's Kings Of Leon, who've similarly carved a lucrative niche for themselves by tossing depleted-soil mystery-meat 1970s-rock into a blender, hipstering it up a little, and trying not to come off too rock-star-ry lest they're abandoned en masse by the last few millennial-pandering blogs that might be interested in them. Where Kings are more like a rebooted, radio-centered Allman Brothers, MMJ are more blatantly Lynyrd Skynyrd-like, which won't mean much to most of you, not that you should believe *Last.FM's* assessment that they're similar to Wilco and Spoon (good grief already). Whatever, MMJ is at this point just a very good rock band, as we heard in 2015's *The Waterfall*, from whose sessions these new songs sprang. "Tropics" had its Blue Oyster Cult side to it but was still uniquely epic, while here, album opener "Spinning My Wheels" flirts with early Yes throughout its breezy, windswept duration; it's pure yacht-rock really. "Still Thinkin'" touches on Beach Boys, then we get some twee ("Climbing the Ladder"), some faux-Jamie Liddell soul interpolating a monster guitar interlude ("Magic Bullet") and a bunch of similar things, the biggest departure being "Wasted," the token Flaming Lips-ish jam-out. Harmless vacation listening, not that they should be doing that, but it's their career. **B** — *Eric W. Saeger*

VOS, *Rise EP (Cammo Music)*

Woman than it does with any shabby awards-show tribute to Aretha Franklin; it's not horrifically overdone, and does have a lot of melody to it. "Choke" is the ballad, such as it is, unplugged guitar accompanying refried but boldly delivered breakup sentiments that spotlight each singer's strengths. All the best of luck to these folks. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

Not big on mawkish, wildly overacted gospel-pop myself, but hey, plenty of people love them some network talent-show bombast, and this is as good as any, I guess. VOS stands for "Voices Of Service," a foursome (a woman and three guys) of African American singers who placed fifth in Season 14 of *America's Got Talent*; all of them are military, two active, two not. You can easily picture Howie Mandel or whoever bowing and mugging it up with "I worship you as music gods" in the face of this angst-racking four-song effort, but that's fine with me. After all, "Brother" has more in common with Ten Tenors/Celtic

## PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• The coronavirus marches on, and so I must fill this page with music news and snark, so that I can hopefully elicit a little half weep-giggle from you, as you sit sniffing back all the tears you're shedding over having nothing left to watch on Netflix other than gross, badly over-dubbed police dramas from Norway. Maybe you've even given up all hope and actually watched *Tiger King*, like, it's gotten that bad. But for now, shut up, it's time for your bowl of snark-berry cereal, this time focused on the music nonsense-albums that will hit the SoundClouds and your little brother's totally hacked dark web laptop on Aug. 14, starting with *Motherhood*, the new album from Canadian shoegaze band **No Joy**. They hit the big time when they opened for Grant Hart of Husker Du, and he was like, "wow, two hot blonde chicks totally shredding it," and that's the whole story! I'm listening to "Birthmark," the rollout track from this new album, and it's got a lot of semi-interesting syncopation, and gentle sexless shoegaze singing. It's kind of like a cross between Kylie Minogue and Goldfrapp but more interesting. The video has a UFO flying around in interstellar space, interspersed with some hipster doing a 1990s breakdance, but other than that, awesomeness does abound, and I approve.

• Yikes, it's Scottish metrosexual-metal whatever **Biffy Clyro**, with *A Celebration Of Endings*, their new album! I guess they're sort of emo now, judging by the new single "End Of." Wait, the guitars have been cool for a few seconds. Nope, forget it, it's just boyband rawk wearing a scary Halloween mask. Seriously, do people buy albums like these, or do they take the advice of their older brothers and broaden their horizons away from this kind of recycled Weezer-meets-Papa Roach garbage? I need *answers*, fam.

• Dum de dum, oh look, someone I've never even heard of, **Kathleen Edwards**. Isn't she the weather lady who replaced Al Kaprielian on local cable? I'm almost interested to find out. Nope, she's a Canadian alternative-folkie who plays guitar, bass and violin. She once wrote a song called "Hockey Skates," in case you didn't believe she's Canadian. Who cares, her new album, *Total Freedom*, is on the way right this minute, led by the single "Options Open," whose opening chords were ripped off from the fadeout to Natalie Imbruglia's "Torn," a.k.a. the national anthem of Hannaford Supermarket. Yadda yadda, boring verse, two-note chorus that was probably written by a bot. We'll do one more and bag it, guys.

• To close out, we have somehow-still-relevant Doors guitarist **Robby Krieger**, whose resume includes the lame solo to "L.A. Woman," a song I detest with the power of a thousand suns. *The Ritual Begins At Sundown* is his new "platter," and it includes a tune called "The Drift" that sounds like Pat Metheny, which means it's awesome. I forgot he's into jazz now, sue me. This isn't bad. — *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 of albums worth a second look.*

Last night, with literally nothing else on TV, I wound up watching the last two-thirds of *Bohemian Rhapsody*, the movie about the 1970s superstar rock band **Queen**. It's a fairly forgettable biopic, not all that believable at times (trust me, no band has ever stopped in the middle of a high-drama fight to go "Say, that's a cool bass line!" and suddenly start jamming out). That sort of thing aside, Rami Malek (playing Freddie Mercury) did a good job of convincing me that he was experiencing genuine distress over coming out as gay and upending his entire life.

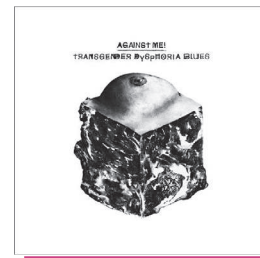
Maybe I'm "too online," but in my view, the LGBTQIA community hasn't benefited all



that much from the "Social Justice Warrior" (SJW) craze that's swept over Twitter and such for the last decade or so. Instead of helping to spread real understanding and empathy between gays and repressed types who can't get over their generalized fear of things that weren't *de rigueur* in 1950s culture, it's served as a popularity (and, let's face it, money)-generating machine for B-list celebrities, self-obsessed nobodies and wannabe philosophers. The only online personality I trust (and have learned a lot from) is American trans woman **Natalie Wynn**, a philosophy major whose YouTube channel **Contrapoints** is must-see stuff. The short of it is that she's actually had more support from conservative types (many of whom she's taught to adjust their worldviews) than from certain rigid SJW

As a music critic and cis male, I tend to view gay-made and/or gay-centered music as simply another form of world music, a glimpse into a different culture. For the record, I don't lump Queen as a "gay band" and never really thought much of them; aside from "Bohemian Rhapsody," that tune's rather uninteresting follow-up "Millionaire Waltz," and a few sections of certain songs (they were/are annoyingly modular in their song structures), I don't like them, really. I do like New York glam-disco band **Scissor Sisters**, whose album *Night Work* I talked about here in reverent tones way back in 2010. I was thrilled by it, a fun, jubilant set of really great songs.

I admire trans singer (for the band **Against Me!**) Laura Jane Grace's courage, if not her music so much. In 2014 I may have been a little



too enthusiastic with my praise for the band's album *Transgender Dysphoria Blues*, which was pretty disposable. But she's a hero to many, and I'd never detract from that.

Before I toddle off to read your hate mail, does anyone remember the local Nashua band **Billie Dare**, the punk band that used to play all the gay clubs in Boston?

The girl singer used to wear a giant "diamond" on her ring finger? No? I loved those guys.

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

**Midnight Sun**, by Stephenie Meyer  
(Little, Brown and Co., 658 pages)

*Twilight* aficionados read the first pages of *Midnight Sun* 12 years ago. They just now found out how it ended.

That's because when Stephenie Meyer learned that the beginning of *Twilight 2.0* — the same vampire love story, told from another perspective — had been leaked on the internet, she fell into a foul funk and stopped writing. "If I tried to write *Midnight Sun* now, in my current frame of mind, James would probably win and all the Cullens would die," Meyer wrote on her website in 2008.

At some point, however, Meyer's state of mind improved, or maybe the contents of her bank account dwindled, and she was able to find the will to finish the story, providing a sparkly bit of happiness for *Twilight* fans in a dreary Forks kind of year.

I have suffered through it, and here is what happens: The vampire gets the girl, and she lives to tell the story in four best-selling books and five movies. Sorry if that spoiled anything.

It is a testament to American capitalism that Meyer has pulled a 658-page rabbit out of this tattered and blood-stained hat. Not that the franchise has aged poorly; the bones of the original story — "the lion fell in love with the lamb" — were always strong, and the excellent casting and memorable soundtrack of the first movie propelled *Twilight* from the "young reader" shelves to the stratosphere of publishing. It's not the "modern classic" that the *Midnight Sun* book jacket boasts but something more commercially valuable: a cultural phenomenon.

That's what makes *Midnight Sun* so

disappointing.

There is little new in this interminable navel-gazing of an angsty vampire newly in love, other than the opportunity to reflect on plot holes. My puzzler grew sore trying to figure out why, if Edward Cullen has two medical degrees, he stands by so helplessly in the climactic scene where the dying Bella Swan convulses violently on the floor of a dance studio, leaving his father, the good doctor Carlisle, to do most of the work.

As Edward moans about the boredom of going to high school for the 30th — or is it the 50th? — time, the perpetual matriculation explained as necessary to keep the myth of the perfect family intact, something inside me curdles, and I switch movies and go from Robert Pattinson to Cher, and want to slap him and yell, "Snap out it."

Why are you in high school at all? You have two medical degrees! Go to work with your dad and contribute something meaningful to the world!

But no. Edward Cullen's eternal purpose seems to be to stalk, as Bella Swan's is to pout, and they do this for nearly 700 pages, with brief interludes for scintillating first-love conversations that are as interesting to behold as paint in the process of drying. As it turns out, we waited 12 years to find out Bella's candy (black licorice and Sour Patch Kids) and soda pop (Dr Pepper), and the stream-of-consciousness drivel that goes through the mind of everyone in Cullen's orbit. (You will recall that he can read the minds of everyone but for Bella. Pity the reader.)

The biggest plot hole of all, however, is how someone with such an interesting existence can have such banal thoughts, too often delivered huskily with lowered

eyelids. (Note to vampires: Don't turn anyone immortal as a teenager, lest they be trapped in adolescent angst for all of eternity. Wait until they're at least 30.)

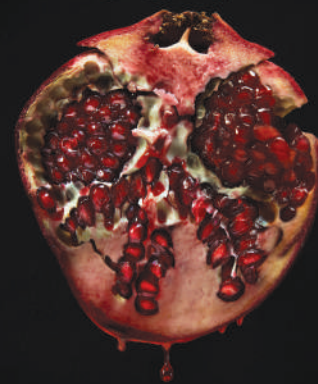
That said, there are a few mildly interesting scenes, all having to do with Edward's pre-Bella existence, such as Edward's first Christmas as a vampire. But this made me long all the more for another book — not a companion novel, but a prequel. *Midnight Sun* would have been much more compelling as a novel that gave us Edward from Carlisle's bite to the day he first saw Bella.

As it is, this is warmed over hash — the taste a bit different the next day, but overall the same dish.

Twihards will protest, and there will be some who can encounter the 18th worshipful reference to Bella's liquid chocolate-brown eyes without perpetuating violence in a physical book. Which is good, because there is sufficient violence in *Midnight Sun* already.

In the first intoxicating hours of exposure to Bella, Edward mapped out a plan to slaughter a roomful of students so there would be no witnesses when he killed Bella. ("I wouldn't have to worry about the windows, too high up and small to provide an escape for anyone. Just the door — block that and they were trapped.")

# midnight sun



STEPHENIE MEYER  
AUTHOR OF THE #1 BESTSELLING TWILIGHT SAGA

However much this fantasy might align with vampire thought, it's deeply unsettling to read in post-Newtown America, particularly in a franchise that targets adolescents. Even for Twi-Moms like me, it's a step beyond the pale, so to speak.

I could have done without that information, and the bulk of what accompanies it. I prefer my vampires mysterious and brooding. But sure, sign me up for the prequel. **D** — Jennifer Graham 🍷

## BOOK NOTES

Is there a bigger fan of reading than Oprah Winfrey, who has said that "nothing, not one thing or activity, can replace the experience of a good read — being transported to a different land, a different realm, through words and language"?

Well, yes, as it turns out, there is Bella Swan, who is revealed in *Midnight Sun* (reviewed above) to be a more voracious reader than fans of the *Twilight* series might have inferred from her presence in Stephenie Meyer's earlier books.

The Bella Swan Book Club, should you wish to join it, is heavy on classics, mysteries and dragons, causing her vampire boyfriend to swoon, "There was a bit of *Jane Eyre* in her, a portion of Scout Finch and Jo March, a measure of Elinor Dashwood, and Lucy Pevensie."

If you want to read like Bella, here's what that entails:

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott. And everything by Jane Austen, except for *Emma*. *Jane Eyre* and everything else by Charlotte Bronte.

*To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee.

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury.

*The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis, "especially *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*."

*Tooth and Claw* by Jo Walton, which appears to be about a family of dragons that eat each other's bodies after death.

And, odd for a girl who grew up in the Southwest, *Gone With the Wind* by Margaret Mitchell. (She hasn't gotten the memo that GWTW has been canceled.)

If you would rather read like Oprah, that's still possible, too, even though Winfrey has announced that her 20-year-old magazine will print its last edition in December.

Oprah's Book Club is still going strong, and her latest pick is *Caste, the Origins of Our Discontents*, by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Isabel Wilkerson. It's the 86th title that Winfrey has kissed and consequently No. 1 in "historical study" on Amazon. (But please buy from a local bookstore.)

— Jennifer Graham



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**An American Pickle (PG-13)**

Seth Rogen is a turn-of-the-last-century immigrant to America and a modern app-developer in *An American Pickle*, a surprisingly sweet New York fairy tale.

Back in the old country, Herschel Greenbaum (Rogen) dreamed of drinking seltzer water, digging holes with shovels that didn't split in half, not having to dig holes and other elements of a Better Life. His wife Sarah (Sarah Snook) shared this dream and, after Cossacks burned their town, they decided to look for a better life in America. Herschel's job killing rats at a pickle factory in Brooklyn helped them save enough to buy their own burial plots (Sarah's particular dream) and might have even afforded the occasional glass of seltzer but one day after being overrun with rats Herschel fell into a pickle vat that was then sealed up in a factory that was then condemned and left to fall apart for the next hundred years. One day in modern Brooklyn, that vat is opened again by kids chasing a drone and out sputters Herschel, well preserved but alive.

After rather delightfully yada-yada-ing the science, the movie gives Herschel, whose beloved Sarah and the child she was carrying when he hit the vat are both long gone, a



*An American Pickle*

relative in Ben Greenbaum (also Rogen), Herschel's great-grandson. Ben picks Herschel up from the hospital and takes him to his Brooklyn apartment. Herschel is at first amazed with Ben's life — his 25 pairs of socks, his seltzer making machine, his many shoes. But Ben's career (freelance work on an app called Boop Bop), Ben's lack of family photos hanging on the wall and his seeming lack of interest in

visiting the family burial plot have Herschel wondering what Ben's life purpose is.

*An American Pickle* makes a lot of the jokes you expect — the similarity of Herschel's hat and vest to your modern-day Brooklyn hipster, the Instagrammable nature of the pickles he makes using bottles and cucumbers found in the trash (which he first sells for \$4 and later for \$14) and the pushcart he sells them from,

the way conservative media applauds Herschel when he appears to be speaking his mind. But these are kind of garnish on the actual story, which is sort of a melancholy-tinged rumination on family and legacy and what connects us to our roots. This is the second movie (the other being *The Sunlit Night*) I've seen recently that seems to consider religion and how it helps with expressions of grief. What does religion mean to a modern-day Ben who doesn't have the societal structure (and Cossacks) that are part of Herschel's specific experience with being Jewish? It's not a huge part of the movie but it's a nice, thoughtful element to show up in a movie with riffs on silly internet company names and jokes about the vast variety of nut and grain milks.

I liked this oddball movie, which I can't picture doing great in theaters but seems perfectly suited to the relaxed home viewing experience. Rogen's performance seems to come from a heartfelt place; he and the movie seem to have empathy for both characters, which makes them feel like multi-dimensional people. **B**

*Rated PG-13 for some language and rude humor; according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Directed by Brandon Trost with a screenplay by Simon Rich, An American Pickle is an hour and 30 minutes and distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures. It is available on HBO Max.*

## AT THE SOFAPLEX

### \*Black Is King (TV-14)

Beyoncé writes, co-directs and stars in this visual album whose music and story are based on 2019's photorealistically animated *The Lion King*, to which she lent her voice, and which inspired the album *The Lion King: The Gift* (the songs from which appear here).

Not surprisingly, *Black Is King* is vastly superior to the 2019 movie that served as its creative prompt. Even the song "Spirit," which felt flat to me in the 2019 movie, feels fresh and cinematic and joyous as used here. The visuals of this movie blend images of Africa (the people, the culture, the land, the flora and fauna), with eyeball-grabbing high fashion and, just, like, Beyoncé awesomeness. Each song fits into the overall narrative, which is sort of *Lion King*-ish in its examination of children and parents and ancestors and duty. Some songs are more literally connected to the throughline than others, but each also offers up its own set of ideas. In particular, the song "Brown Skin Girl" and its accompanying visuals and presentation are so sweet and lovely I feel like I'll be thinking about its ideas and message long after I've stopped thinking about the over-



*Black Is King*

all project's *Lion King* comparisons. (There are graduate theses to be written on that video's use of the female point of view in praise and honor of Black and brown beauty.) It's so cool that this much artistry exists in such a mainstream-accessible way. *A Available on Disney+.*

### Radioactive (PG-13)

Rosamund Pike, Sam Riley

Marie Curie gets the biopic treatment in this movie directed by Marjane Satrapi, author of the graphic novels *Persepolis* and *Chicken with Plums*, among others. Her background (she also directed the movie adaptations of those books) makes sense here because this story is specifically adapted from the graphic novel *Radioactive* and it has an overall graphic novel feel. In between more straightforward depictions of

Curie's life, we get scenes from Hiroshima in 1945, Chernobyl in 1986, a nuclear testing ground in the American West, a hospital in the 1950s where a boy is getting cancer treatment. This narrative choice doesn't always work great but it also doesn't not work — it shows the wider ripples of Curie's work, along with the things she saw in her lifetime (like the use of X-ray technology to help treat soldiers injured during World War I).

Of the more conventional parts of Curie's life, I liked how Pike shows us how Curie is desperately in love with her husband and fellow scientist Pierre Curie (Riley) but also struggles with the way her field is more comfortable with lauding him for their work than praising them together. We also, delightfully, get a fair amount of that "great scientist, less than great co-worker/boss/parent" element of

Curie, which is so common in stories of Great Men. Curie is, at times, an awkward, single-minded person uninterested in the squishy emotional or career-diplomacy side of things. **B Available on Amazon Prime.**

### Animal Crackers (PG)

Voice of John Krasinski, Emily Blunt

Circus family drama and a box of magical animal crackers are at the center of this very plot-stuffed animated movie that I first heard about on a Cinema Sins *Sincast* podcast episode ("The Curious Case of *Animal Crackers*") a few years ago. That podcast, with this movie's co-director Scott Christan Sava (who returned to a recent *Sincast* episode), delved into not only the making of the movie but also the strange and at the time ongoing process of trying to get it distributed. It was an interesting tale and I went into this movie pulling for it.

But...

Owen (Krasinski) grows up loving the circus run by his uncle Bob (voice of James Arnold Taylor) and aunt Talia (voice of Tara Strong). Regular circus goer Zoe (Blunt) grew up loving the circus too — and Owen. When he proposes, she blissfully accepts but her father (voice of Wallace Shawn) wants her to follow in his footsteps at the dog biscuit factory. He bullies Owen into leaving circus stuff behind and coming to work for him. Years later, Owen, an

official dog biscuit taster, is miserable in his job. And yet, when offered a chance to run the circus after the death of Bob and Talia, he doesn't jump at it — Zoe does. On the way home from the funeral, Owen eats one of the strange animal crackers left to him by Bob and Talia and, poof, turns into the hamster whose cookie form he just ate. While his young daughter, Mackenzie (voice of Lydia Taylor) is delighted with her animal-daddy, Owen is at first reluctant to assume the role of "animal performer" that is the true secret to Bob's successful circus.

There are a lot of other subplots: a dog-biscuit-factory inventor (voice of Raven-Simone) looking to create biscuits that taste like people food who is constantly undermined by a suck-up ladder-climber (voice of Patrick Warburton); Bob's jealous bad-guy brother Horatio (voice of Ian McKellen), who still thinks the animal crackers and Talia should have been his, and the various exploits of Horatio's not totally competent henchman Zucchini (voice of Gilbert Gottfried). It's all a lot, and a serious streamlining of story would have benefited this movie that does have a lot of good elements. There is also a bit of adult "what am I doing with my life" stuff in here that felt like it would just be a lot of action-slowing blah-blah-blah to the kids who should be this circus and funny animal movie's core audience. **B- Available on Netflix.**

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

## NITE Just laugh

Will Noonan on doing comedy post-quarantine

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Perspective is one big thing that comic Will Noonan took from his time in lockdown. In the new normal, he realized, an edgy bit won't bring groans like it once might have, and it shouldn't. "We've all stared death in the face just to go to Stop & Shop," Noonan said recently. "Why not laugh at a joke that makes us feel slightly uncomfortable in our bellies?"

Noonan was back on stage the moment live comedy returned to New Hampshire. Like more than a few standups, though, he took a few tries to find his old form.

"Everyone started getting it back at different levels and paces," he said, "so that was one weird handicap."

To his surprise, audiences had to adjust as well.

"A comedian would say something like, 'Me and my wife have been married for 25 years,' and normally the crowd would just clap automatically," Noonan said. "But there would be these weird pauses. It was like, 'Oh yeah, they're rusty too; they don't even remember how to clap when the guy said he's been married a long time.'"

For Noonan, this was better than a recent corporate Zoom gig. His half-hour set lasted 17 minutes, when a miffed manager pulled the plug.

"It was like an episode of *Black Mirror*. ... I've done shows like that where you can kind of hear them laughing, or even see their faces. But this one was just me and the cam-

eraman, doing jokes to an empty space," he said.

It ended in the middle of a long bit, when the guy who hired him walked into the room and said Noonan was done and could bring in the next comic. But there were no hard feelings.

"You're like a birthday clown — they paid you, so they can send you home after five minutes if they want, or they can get the whole hour. It's really up to them," he said.

Another realization for Noonan as he returned to performing live was that audiences craved *regular* comedy.

"We all came in thinking everyone's gonna want to hear these crazy thoughts I have about the coronavirus," he said. "You can talk about it, but it's not necessarily the only thing. ... They want jokes to be about things they've always wanted them to be about — relationships, families and the stuff that drives you crazy. That material is hitting the hardest because it's just kind of nice, like watching baseball or the NBA. It's nice to just forget about it for a time."

In early August, Noonan went to New Hampshire Motor Speedway for his first NASCAR race.

"It truly was awesome," he said. "All the things that NASCAR fans say are true. ... On TV it's kinda cool, but it doesn't feel much like a sport, but when you're there you kind of understand it has a rhythm to it, a pace. There are times you can tell they're just going around in circles bidding time, and other times they're fighting to win. ... it's



Will Noonan. Courtesy photo.

long but it kind of just flies by. The sound is incredible; I could still hear it in my head when I was coming home. It made me want to drive faster."

Seeing the race with a socially distanced crowd was a bit surreal, but it was still "extra special," Noonan said.

"It kinda had a *Children of the Corn*, Rob Zombie vibe to it," he said. "That was something I never experienced before. ... like *Woodstock* and a Trump rally mixed together." 🍷

### Will Noonan

**When:** Friday, Aug. 21, 8 p.m.

**Where:** Riverside Pavilion, Amherst Country Club, 72 Ponemah Road, Amherst

**Tickets:** \$20 at [playamherst.com](http://playamherst.com)

### Concerts

*Ticketed shows; schedule subject to change. See venues for safety procedures and information about rescheduled shows.*

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**Alpine Grove**  
19 S. Depot Road, Hollis  
[alpinegrove.com](http://alpinegrove.com)

#### Bank of NH Stage

16 S. Main St., Concord  
225-1111, [banknhstage.com](http://banknhstage.com)  
Outdoor venue: Fletcher-Murphy Park (28 Fayette St. in Concord)

#### Capitol Center for the Arts

44 S. Main St., Concord  
225-1111, [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com)

#### Cheshire Drive-In Live

Cheshire Fairground  
247 Monadnock Hwy,  
Swanzey, [drive-in-live.com](http://drive-in-live.com)

#### Fisher Cats Delta Dental Stadium

1 Line Drive, Manchester  
[nhfishercats.com](http://nhfishercats.com)

#### The Music Hall

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth  
436-2400, [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org)

#### Palace Theatre

80 Hanover St., Manchester  
668-5588, [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org)

#### Pitman's Freight Room

94 New Salem St., 527-0043,  
[pitmansfreightroom.com](http://pitmansfreightroom.com)

#### Rex Theatre

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668-5588, [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org)

#### The Spotlight Room

96 Hanover St., Manchester  
668-5588, [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org)

#### Stone Church

5 Granite St., Newmarket  
659-7700, [stonechurchrocks.com](http://stonechurchrocks.com)

#### Tupelo Music Hall

10 A St., Derry, 437-5100,  
[tupelomusichall.com](http://tupelomusichall.com)

#### Zinger's

29 Mont Vernon, Milford  
[zingers.biz](http://zingers.biz)

#### Shows

• **Zero Gravity** Thursday, Aug. 13, 6 & 8 p.m., Music Hall (out on Chestnut Street)

• **Foreigners Journey** Friday, Aug. 14, at 6 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 15, at & 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

• **David Clark's Songs in the Attic** (the music of Billy Joel) Friday, Aug. 14, 7 p.m., Fisher Cat's Delta Dental Stadium

• **GA-20** Friday, Aug. 14, 7:30 p.m., Zinger's

• **G. Love and Special Sauce** Friday, Aug. 14, at 8 p.m., Cheshire Drive-In Live

• **Guster** Saturday, Aug. 15, 3 & 8 p.m., Cheshire Drive-In Live

• **Darlin' Corey with special guests Dave Talmage** Saturday, Aug. 15, 6 p.m., Stone Church

• **Senie Hunt** Saturday, Aug. 15, 6 p.m., Bank of NH Stage in Concord (outdoors)

• **Dreadnaught** Saturday, Aug. 15, 6 & 8 p.m., Music Hall (out on Chestnut Street)

• **Changes in Latitude** (music of Jimmy Buffet) Saturday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m., Fisher Cat's Delta Dental Stadium

• **Shelf Life & The Incidentals** Saturday, Aug. 15, 8 p.m., Zingers

• **The Breakers** (Tom Petty Tribute) Sunday, Aug. 16, 3 & 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

• **Badfish** (A tribute to Sublime) Friday, Aug. 21, 8 p.m., Cheshire Drive-In Live

• **Crazy on You** (Heart Tribute) Saturday, Aug. 22, 3 & 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

• **The Allman Betts Band** Saturday, Aug. 22, 3 & 8 p.m.,

#### Cheshire Drive-In Live

• **Jordan TW w/ Matt Jensen** Saturday, Aug. 22, at 6 p.m., Bank of NH Stage in Concord (outdoors)

• **Not Fade Away** (music of the Grateful Dead) Saturday, Aug. 22, 6 p.m., Stone Church

• **The Big Note Trio** Saturday, Aug. 22, 6 & 8 p.m., Music Hall (out on Chestnut Street)

• **A Celebration of the Women of Classic Country** Saturday, Aug. 22, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre

• **Danny Klein's Full House** (celebrating the music of the J Geils Band) Sunday, Aug. 23, 1:30 p.m., Alpine Grove

• **Gary Hoey's 60th Birthday Bash** Sunday, Aug. 23, 3 & 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

• **Will Dailey** Thursday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

• **Entrain** Friday, Aug. 28, 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

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**PORTSMOUTH** Portsmouth Traffic Circle, 500 Woodbury **ROCHESTER** Ridge Market Place, 170-1 Marketplace Blvd. **SALEM** Rockingham Mall, 92 Cluff Crossing Rd.  
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# MUSIC THIS WEEK

<b>Amherst</b> <b>LaBelle Winery</b> 345 Route 101 672-9898	<b>Concord</b> <b>Area 23</b> State Street 881-9060	<b>Goffstown</b> <b>Village Trestle</b> 25 Main St. 497-8230	<b>Smuttynose Brewing</b> 105 Towle Farm Road	<b>Laconia</b> <b>Boardwalk Grill and Bar</b> 45 Endicott St. 366-7799	<b>Bonfire</b> 950 Elm St. 663-7678	<b>Town Docks</b> 289 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-3445	<b>Portsmouth</b> <b>The Gas Light</b> 64 Market St. 430-9122
<b>Auburn</b> <b>Auburn Tavern</b> 346 Hooksett Road 587-2057	<b>Cheers</b> 17 Depot St. 228-0180	<b>Greenfield</b> <b>The Hungry Goats Eatery</b> 4 Slip Road 547-3240	<b>Wally's Pub</b> 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954	<b>Broken Spoke Saloon</b> 1072 Watson Road 866-754-2526	<b>CJ's</b> 782 S. Willow St. 627-8600	<b>Twin Barns Brewing</b> 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876	<b>The Goat</b> 142 Congress St. 590-4628
<b>Bedford</b> <b>Copper Door</b> 15 Leavy Drive 488-2677	<b>Concord Craft Brewing</b> 117 Storrs St. 856-7625	<b>Hampton</b> <b>Ashworth by the Sea</b> 295 Ocean Blvd. 926-6762	<b>WHYM Craft Pub &amp; Brewery</b> 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801	<b>Cactus Jack's</b> 1182 Union Ave. 528-7800	<b>Derryfield Country Club</b> 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880	<b>Merrimack Homestead</b> 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022	<b>The Striker</b> 15 Bow St. 431-5222
<b>Murphy's Carriage House</b> 393 Route 101 488-5875	<b>Derry T-Bones</b> 39 Crystal Ave. 434-3200	<b>Bernie's Beach Bar</b> 73 Ocean Blvd. 926-5050	<b>Henniker Pats Peak Sled Pub</b> 24 Flanders Road 888-728-7732	<b>Fratello's</b> 799 Union Ave. 528-2022	<b>Firefly</b> 21 Concord St. 935-9740	<b>Milford The Riverhouse Cafe</b> 167 Union Square 249-5556	<b>Rochester Governors Inn</b> 78 Wakefield St. 332-0107
<b>T-Bones</b> 169 South River Road 623-7699	<b>Epping The Community Oven</b> 24 Calef Hwy. 734-4543	<b>Bogie's</b> 32 Depot Square 601-2319	<b>Hollis Alpine Grove</b> 19 S. Depot Road 882-9051 alpinegrove.com	<b>Naswa Resort</b> 1086 Weirs Blvd. 366-4341	<b>The Foundry</b> 50 Commercial St. 836-1925	<b>Moultonborough Buckey's</b> 240 Governor Wentworth Hwy. 476-5485	<b>Salem Copper Door</b> 41 S. Broadway 458-2033
<b>Bristol Homestead</b> 1567 Summer St. 744-2022	<b>Holy Grail</b> 64 Main St. 679-9559	<b>Community Oven</b> 845 Lafayette Road 601-6311	<b>Hooksett Big Kahunas Smokehouse</b> 1158 Hooksett Road 935-7500	<b>T-Bones</b> 1182 Union Ave. 528-7800	<b>Fratello's</b> 155 Dow St. 624-2022	<b>Nashua American Social Club</b> 166 Daniel Webster Hwy. 255-8272	<b>Salisbury Black Bear Vineyard &amp; Winery</b> 289 New Road 648-2811
<b>Candia Candia Woods Golf Course</b> 313 South Road 483-2307	<b>Popovers at Brickyard Square</b> 11 Brickyard Square 734-4724	<b>Hampton Beach Sea Shell Stage</b> Events are on southern stage	<b>Hudson The Bar</b> 2B Burnham Road	<b>Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant &amp; Tavern</b> 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022	<b>KC's Rib Shack</b> 837 Second St. 627-RIBS	<b>Meredith Hart's Turkey Farm</b> 223 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-6212	<b>Seabrook Chop Shop Pub</b> 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706
<b>Canterbury Canterbury Shaker Village</b> 288 Shaker Road 783-9511	<b>Telly's</b> 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225	<b>Instabar</b> 61 High St. @instabar.nh	<b>Fat Katz</b> 76 Derry St. 298-5900	<b>Moonlight Meadery</b> 23 Londonderry Road, No. 17 216-2162	<b>McIntyre Ski Area</b> 50 Chalet Ct. 622-6159	<b>Murphy's Taproom</b> 494 Elm St. 644-3535	<b>Stratham Tailgate Tavern</b> 28 Portsmouth Ave. 580-2294
<b>Chichester Flannel Tavern</b> 345 Suncook Valley Road 406-1196	<b>Exeter Sawbelly Brewing</b> 156 Epping Road 583-5080	<b>McGuirk's Ocean View Restaurant &amp; Lounge</b> 95 Ocean Blvd.	<b>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon</b> 92 Route 125 369-6962	<b>603 Brewery &amp; Beer Hall</b> 42 Main St. 404-6123	<b>Mason Marty's Driving Range</b> 96 Old Turnpike Road 878-1324	<b>New Boston Molly's Tavern &amp; Restaurant</b> 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362	<b>Windham Castleton</b> 92 Indian Rock Road 800-688-5644
	<b>Gilford Patrick's</b> 18 Weirs Road 293-0841	<b>Sea Ketch</b> 127 Ocean Blvd. 926-0324		<b>7-20-4 Lounge at Twins Smokeshop</b> 80 Perkins Road 421-0242	<b>Meredith Hart's Turkey Farm</b> 223 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-6212	<b>Peddler's Daughter</b> 48 Main St. 821-7535	<b>Old School Bar &amp; Grill</b> 49 Range Road 458-6051
				<b>Stumble Inn</b> 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210	<b>Mills Falls Marketplace</b> 312 Daniel Webster Hwy.	<b>Newmarket Stone Church</b> 5 Granite St. 659-7700	
				<b>Manchester Backyard Brewery</b> 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545			

## Thursday, Aug. 13

<b>Amherst LaBelle:</b> Derek Fimble, 6 p.m.	<b>Epping Telly's:</b> Joe McDonald, 7 p.m.	<b>CR's:</b> Don Severance, 6 p.m.	<b>Manchester CJ's:</b> Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.	<b>Salem Copper Door:</b> Bob Pratte, 6 p.m.	<b>Concord Area 23:</b> Queen City Soul, 5:30 p.m.
<b>Bedford Copper Door:</b> Chad LaMarsh, 6 p.m. (solo acoustic)	<b>Exeter Sawbelly Brewing:</b> Steven Scott, 5 p.m.	<b>Sea Ketch:</b> Matt Luneau, 1 p.m.	<b>Derryfield:</b> Swipe Right, 7 p.m. (deck)	<b>T-Bones:</b> Phil Jakes, 6 p.m.	<b>Lithermans:</b> DJ Shamblez, 4 p.m.
<b>Murphy's:</b> Malcolm Salls, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Goffstown Village Trestle:</b> Stoned Wasp Duo, 6 p.m. (acoustic)	<b>Smuttynose:</b> open mic with Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.	<b>Firefly:</b> Austin McCarthy, 5 p.m.	<b>Windham Castleton:</b> Senie Hunt, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Derry T-Bones:</b> Dave Zangri, 6 p.m.
<b>T-Bones:</b> Corinna Salven, 6 p.m.	<b>Hampton Ashworth:</b> Dean Harlem, 4 p.m. (Sandbar)	<b>Wally's:</b> Chris Toler, 7 p.m.	<b>KC's:</b> D-Comp, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Old School:</b> Triple Pay, 6 p.m.	
<b>Concord Cheers:</b> Nicole Knox Murphy, 4 p.m. (country)	<b>Bernie's:</b> Over the Bridge, 7 p.m. (main stage); Sheldon Benton, 2 p.m. (patio); Joe Sambo, 7 p.m. (patio)	<b>Henniker Pats Peak:</b> Becca Myari, 5 p.m.	<b>Murphy's:</b> Chris Powers, 8 p.m.		
<b>Derry T-Bones:</b> Paul Lussier, 6 p.m.		<b>Hudson Fat Katz:</b> Karaoke Social Distance Style, 7 p.m.			
		<b>T-Bones:</b> Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.			
		<b>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon:</b> Karaoke with DJ Jason Whitney, 7 p.m.			
			<b>Merrimack Homestead:</b> Henry LaLiberte, 6 p.m.		
			<b>Nashua Fratello's:</b> Chris Lester, 6 p.m.		
			<b>Newmarket Stone Church:</b> George Brown, 6 p.m.		
			<b>Portsmouth Gas Light:</b> Jonny Friday, 8 p.m. (on the deck)		
			<b>Rochester Governor's Inn:</b> Red Sky Mary, 6 p.m. (rock & roll)		
				<b>Friday, Aug. 14</b>	
				<b>Auburn Auburn Tavern:</b> Nicole Knox Murphy, 7 p.m.	<b>Epping Community Oven:</b> Brad Bosse, 6 p.m.
				<b>Bedford Copper Door:</b> Phil Jakes, 6 p.m.	<b>Holy Grail:</b> Max Sullivan, 8 p.m.
				<b>Murphy's:</b> Rebecca Turmel, 7:30 p.m.	<b>Popovers:</b> Erinn Brown, 5 p.m. (a mix of folk, blues, rock & funk)
				<b>T-Bones:</b> Chris Lester, 6 p.m.	<b>Telly's:</b> Austin & Justin, 8 p.m.
				<b>Bristol Homestead:</b> Jim Conners, 5 p.m.	<b>Exeter Sawbelly Brewing:</b> Max Sullivan, 2 p.m.; Todd Hearon, 5 p.m.
				<b>Candia Candia Woods Golf:</b> Maddi Ryan, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Gilford Patrick's:</b> Don Severance, 4 p.m.

## The music returns

These listings for live music are compiled from press releases, restaurants' websites and social media and artists' websites and social media. Events may be weather dependent. Call venue to check on special rules and reservation instructions. Send your gigs to [music@hippopress.com](mailto:music@hippopress.com).

**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** Lichen Duo, 6 p.m. (acoustic)

**Greenfield**  
**The Hungry Goats:** Ebenezer Stone along with Carl Beverly, 7 p.m.

**Hampton**  
**Ashworth:** Mike Dunbar, 4 p.m. (Sandbar Rooftop Lounge)  
**Bernie's:** Chris Toler, 1 p.m. (main stage); Legends of Summer, 8 p.m. (main stage); Sheldon Benton, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. (patio)  
**CR's:** Rico Barr Duo, 6 p.m.  
**Sea Shell:** Mark 209, 7 p.m. (Christian country)  
**Smuttynose:** 603's, 6:30 p.m.  
**Wally's:** Mike Spaulding, 8 p.m.  
**WHYM:** Ryan Williamson, 4 p.m.

**Henniker**  
**Pats Peak:** Eric Lindberg and Brad Myrick, 5 p.m.

**Hollis**  
**Alpine Grove:** Joe Birch, 5:30 p.m. (acoustic)

**Hooksett**  
**Big Kahunas:** Pete Peterson, 5 p.m.

**Hudson**  
**Fat Katz:** Karaoke Social Distance Style, 7 p.m.  
**T-Bones:** Joanie Cicutelli, 6 p.m.

**Laconia**  
**Cactus Jack's/T-Bones:** Matt Langley, 6 p.m.  
**Fratello's:** Paul Warnick, 6 p.m.

**Londonderry**  
**Coach Stop:** Joe Winslow, 6 p.m.  
**Stumble Inn:** Brad Bosse, 1 p.m.; BassTastic Duo, 6 p.m.

**Manchester**  
**Backyard Brewery:** Senie Hunt, 5 p.m.  
**Bonfire:** Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.  
**CJ's:** Corinna Salven, 6 p.m.  
**Derryfield:** Triple Play, 7 p.m.  
**Firefly:** Chris Powers, 6 p.m.  
**Foundry:** Dean Harlem, 6 p.m.  
**Fratello's:** Doug Thompson, 6 p.m.

**Manchester**  
**KC's:** Jonny Friday, 6 p.m.  
**McIntyre:** Caroline Portu, 5:30 p.m.  
**Murphy's:** Mica's Groove Train, 9:30 p.m.

**Meredith**  
**Hart's Turkey Farm:** Henry Laliberte, 6 p.m.  
**Mills Falls Marketplace:** Fagan/O'Neil Honey Bees Duo, 5:30 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Justin Cohn, 6 p.m.

**Moultonborough**  
**Buckey's:** Karaoke, 6 p.m. (front porch)

**Nashua**  
**American Social Club:** Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m. (solo acoustic)  
**Fratello's:** Andrew Geano, 6 p.m.  
**Peddler's Daughter:** Munk Duane, 8 p.m.

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Chris Cyrus, 6 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
**Gas Light:** Jodee Frawlee, 12:30 p.m. (deck)

**Rochester**  
**Governor's Inn:** Dancing Madly Backwards, 7 p.m. (classic rock)

**Salem**  
**Copper Door:** Ray Zerkle, 6 p.m.  
**T-Bones:** Bob Pratte, 6 p.m.

**Stratham**  
**Tailgate:** Double Shotz, 7 p.m.

**Windham**  
**Old School:** Bite the Bullet, 6 p.m.

**Saturday, Aug. 15**  
**Bedford**  
**Copper Door:** Music from J-Z, 6 p.m.  
**Murphy's:** Andrew Geano, 7:30 p.m.  
**T-Bones:** Rebecca Turmel, 6 p.m.

**Bristol**  
**Homestead:** Jim Connors, 5 p.m.

**Concord**  
**Area 23:** Saturday jam with Ross Arnold, 2 p.m.; Berry Gardner and the One Dan Band, 5:30 p.m.  
**Concord Craft Brewing:** Green Heron, 4 p.m.

**Derry**  
**T-Bones:** Bob Pratte, 6 p.m.

**Epping**  
**Telly's:** Paul Lussier, 8 p.m.

**Exeter**  
**Sawbely Brewing:** Marc Apostolides, 2 p.m.; Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.

**Gilford**  
**Patrick's:** Kevin & Josh, 4 p.m.

**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** Beechwood, 6 p.m. (acoustic)

**Greenfield**  
**The Hungry Goats:** Richard Sheppard, 7 p.m.

**Hampton**  
**Ashworth:** DJ, 8 p.m. (Breakers)  
**Bernie's:** MB Padfield, 1 p.m. (main stage); Fighting Friday, 8 p.m. (main stage); Sheldon Benton, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. (patio)  
**Bogie's:** Max Sullivan, 2 p.m.  
**Community Oven:** Brad Bosse, 6 p.m.

**Sea Ketch:** Justin Jordan, 1 p.m.  
**Sea Shell:** Brass Attack of Springfield, 7 p.m.  
**Smuttynose:** April Cushman, 1 p.m.; Mica Peterson Duo, 6:30 p.m.  
**Wally's:** Chris Toler, 3 p.m. & 8 p.m.  
**WHYM:** April Cushman, 4 p.m.

**Hooksett**  
**Big Kahunas:** Joe Winslow, 5 p.m.

**Hudson**  
**Fat Katz:** Off the Record, 7 p.m.  
**T-Bones:** Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.

**Kingston**  
**Saddle Up Saloon:** Eddie & Ellen of Joppa Flats with special guest Caitle Kelley, 7 p.m.

**Laconia**  
**Broken Spoke Saloon:** Paden Full Music, noon (acoustic electric rock)  
**Cactus Jack's/T-Bones:** Paul Warnick, 6 p.m.  
**Fratello's:** Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.  
**Naswa:** Jodie Cunningham Band, 4 p.m.

**Londonderry**  
**603 Brewery:** Max Sullivan Group, 5 p.m.  
**7-20-4:** Frank Alcaraz, 4 p.m. (rock/pop/acoustic covers)  
**Coach Stop:** Chris Cavanaugh, 6 p.m.  
**Moonlight Meadery:** Midnight Americans, 6 p.m.  
**Stumble Inn:** Jonny Friday Duo, 6 p.m.

**Manchester**  
**Backyard Brewery:** Mikey G, 5 p.m.  
**Bonfire:** Haywire, 9 p.m.  
**Cactus Jack's:** Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.  
**Derryfield:** D-Comp, 7 p.m.  
**Firefly:** Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.  
**Foundry:** Walker Smith, 6 p.m.  
**Fratello's:** Paul Luff, 6:30 p.m.  
**KC's:** Jeff Mrozek, 6 p.m.  
**McIntyre:** Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.  
**Murphy's:** Erika Van Pelt Duo, 9:30 p.m.

**Meredith**  
**Twin Barns Brewing:** White Steer, 3 p.m. (cornhole tournament at noon)

**Milford**  
**Riverhouse:** Ryan Bossie

**Nashua**  
**American Social Club:** Joanie Cicutelli, 7 p.m.  
**Fratello's:** Tim Keirstead, 6 p.m.

**New Boston**  
**Molly's:** Tyler Allgood, 6 p.m.

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Darlin' Corey with special guest Dave Talmage, 6 p.m.

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**HAMPTON** I-95S 73 | I-95N 76 **HOOKSETT** 530 West River Rd. | 25 Springer Rd. | 1271 Hooksett Rd. **KEENE** 6 Ash Brook Court **LEE** 60 Galef Hwy.  
**LITTLETON** Globe Plaza Route 302, 568 Meadow St. **LONDONDERRY** 16 Michell's Way **MANCHESTER** 68 Elm St. | North Side Plaza, 1100 Bicentennial Dr.  
**MILFORD** Market Basket Plaza, 21 Jones Rd. **NASHUA** Willow Spring Plaza, 294 DW Hwy. | 40 Northwest Blvd. | 25 Coliseum Ave. **NEW HAMPTON** 325 NH Route 104  
**NORTH HAMPTON** Village Shopping Ctr, 69 Lafayette Rd. **NORTH LONDONDERRY** 137 Rockingham Rd. **PEMBROKE** Pembroke Crossing Place, 619 Sand Rd.  
**PETERBOROUGH** Peterboro Plaza #1, 19 Wilton Rd. **PLAISTOW** Market Basket Plaza, 32 Plaistow Rd. **PLYMOUTH** 494 Tenney Mountain Hwy.  
**PORTSMOUTH** Portsmouth Traffic Circle, 500 Woodbury **ROCHESTER** Ridge Market Place, 170-1 Marketplace Blvd. **SALEM** Rockingham Mall, 92 Cluff Crossing Rd.  
**SEABROOK** Southgate Plaza, 380 Lafayette Rd. **SOMERSWORTH** 481 High St. **WARNER** 14 Nichols Mills Lane **WEST CHESTERFIELD** 100 NH-9 **WEST LEBANON** 265 N Plainfield Rd.

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13194

### NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

**Rochester**  
**Governor's Inn:** Bad Penny, 7 p.m. ('80s Rock)

**Salem**  
**Copper Door:** Lewis Goodwin, 6 p.m.  
**T-Bones:** Chris Lester, 6 p.m.

**Salisbury**  
**Black Bear Vineyards:** Chris Perkins, 6 p.m.

**Seabrook**  
**Chop Shop:** AD/HD (AC/DC Tribute), 8 p.m.

**Stratham**  
**Tailgate:** Bria Ansara, 7 p.m.

**Windham**  
**Old School:** Bulk Headz, 6 p.m.

**Sunday, Aug. 16**  
**Bedford**  
**Murphy's:** Jonny Friday, 4 p.m.

**Canterbury**  
**Shaker Village:** Kathy Lowe, 4 p.m. (acoustic guitar & dulcimer)

**Chichester**  
**Flannel Tavern:** Joe Pero of FuzzBoxx, 4 p.m. (solo)

**Concord**  
**Litherman's:** Tequila Jim, 1 p.m. (on the patio)

**Epping**  
**Railpenny Tavern:** Artty Francoeur, 10 a.m. (Blues brunch with a side of bluegrass)

**Exeter**  
**Sawbelly Brewing:** Alan Roux, noon; Qwill, 3 p.m.

**Gilford**  
**Patrick's:** Cody James, 4 p.m.

**Hampton**  
**Ashworth:** Bob Pratte Band, 4 p.m.  
**Bernie's:** Joe Sambo, 1 p.m. (main stage); Soul Rebel Project, 7 p.m. (main stage); Sheldon Benton, 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. (patio)  
**CR's:** Steve Swartz (Joy of Sax), 4 p.m.  
**Instabar:** Brad Bosse, 5 p.m.  
**Sea Shell:** The Crab, 7 p.m.

**Smuttynose:** Justin Jordan, 5:30 p.m.  
**Wally's:** MB Padfield, 2 p.m.; Mike Spaulding, 7 p.m.  
**WHYM:** Austin McCarthy, 1 p.m.

**Hudson**  
**Fat Katz:** Norman Bishop & Baked Naked, 2 p.m.

**Kingston**  
**Saddle Up Saloon:** Bite the Bullet for Neil's Ride, 11 p.m.

**Laconia**  
**Boardwalk:** Nicole Knox Murphy, 1 p.m.  
**Naswa:** Eric Grant Band, 4 p.m.

**Londonderry**  
**Stumble Inn:** Max Sullivan Duo, 5 p.m.

**Manchester**  
**Derryfield:** Austin & Justin, 6 p.m.  
**Firefly:** Jodee Frawlee, 4 p.m.  
**KC's:** Ryan Williamson, 3 p.m.

**Nashua**  
**Liquid Therapy:** Kelsie Hinds, 6 p.m.

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** open mic with Dave Ogden, 5 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
**Gas Light:** Pete Peterson, 6 p.m.  
**The Striker:** George Belli & The Retroactivists, 8 p.m.

**Windham**  
**Old School:** Terminal Velocity, 3 p.m.

**Monday, Aug. 17**  
**Bedford**  
**Murphy's:** April Cushman, 5:30 p.m.

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## COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

*Some are ticketed shows; schedule subject to change. See venues for safety procedures, ticket information and information about rescheduled shows.*

### Venues

**Alpine Grove**  
 19 S. Depot Road, Hollis  
[alpinegrove.com](http://alpinegrove.com)

**Amherst Country Club**  
 72 Ponemah Rd, Amherst, playamherst.com, 673-9908

**Averill House Winery**  
 21 Averill Rd, Brookline  
 371-2296, [averillhouse-vineyard.com](http://averillhouse-vineyard.com)

**Bank of NH Stage**  
 16 S. Main St., Concord  
 225-1111, [banknhstage.com](http://banknhstage.com)

Outdoor venue: Fletcher-Murphy Park (28 Fayette St. in Concord)

**Cheshire Drive-In Live**  
 Cheshire Fairground  
 247 Monadnock Hwy, Swanzey  
[drive-in-live.com](http://drive-in-live.com)

**Chunky's**  
 707 Huse Road, Manchester; 151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua; 150 Bridge St., Pelham, [chunkys.com](http://chunkys.com)

**The Community Oven**  
 24 Calef Hwy, Epping  
 734-4543, [thecommunityoven.com](http://thecommunityoven.com)

**Curlies Comedy Club**  
 61 N. Main St., Rochester, 224-3022, [revolutiontaproomandgrill.com](http://revolutiontaproomandgrill.com)

**Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom**  
 169 Ocean Blvd, Hampton Beach, 929-4100, [casinoballroom.com](http://casinoballroom.com)

**LaBelle Winery**  
 345 Route 101, Amherst  
 672-9898, [labellewineryevents.com](http://labellewineryevents.com)

**The Loft**  
 131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org)

**Palace Theatre**  
 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org)

**Pitman's Freight Room**  
 94 New Salem St., 527-0043, [pitmans-freightroom.com](http://pitmans-freightroom.com)

**Rex Theatre**  
 23 Amherst St., Manchester, 668-5588, [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org)

**Tupelo Music Hall**  
 10 A St., Derry, 437-5100, [tupelomusichall.com](http://tupelomusichall.com)

### Shows

• **Will Noonan**, Alpine Grove, Thursday, Aug. 13, 7 p.m.

• **Lenny Clarke**, LaBelle Winery, Friday, Aug. 14, 7:30 p.m.

• **Justin McKinney**, Rex Theatre, Friday, Aug. 14, 7:30 p.m.

• **Robbie Printz**, Chunky's Nashua, Friday, Aug. 14, 8 p.m.

• **Kyle Crawford**, Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, Aug. 15, 8 p.m.

• **Bob Marley**, Palace Theatre, Thursday, Aug. 20, 6 & 8:30 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 21, 6 & 8:30 p.m., and Saturday, Aug. 22, 4, 6:15 & 8:30 p.m.

• **Jim Colliton**, Amherst Country Club, Friday, Aug. 21, 8 p.m.

• **Mark Scalia**, Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, Aug. 22, 8 p.m.

• **Mike'd Up Comedy Showcase**, Community Oven in Epping, Wednesday, Aug. 26, 7 p.m.

• **Kelly McFarland**, Alpine Grove, Thursday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m.

• **Bob Marley**, Palace Theatre, Friday, Aug. 28, 7 & 9 p.m.; Saturday, Aug. 29, 3, 5, 7 & 9 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 30, 4, 6:15 & 8:30 p.m.

• **Bill Simas**, Chunky's Nashua, Friday, Aug. 28, 8 p.m.

• **Roy Wood Jr.**, The Loft in Portsmouth, Saturday, Aug. 29, 7 & 9 p.m.

• **Jim Colliton**, Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, Aug. 29, 8 p.m.

• **Stand Up Comedy Graduation Showcase**, Zinger's, Sunday, Aug. 30, 7 p.m.

• **Justin McKinney**, The Loft in Portsmouth, Thursday, Sept. 3, 6 & 8 p.m.



**Hampton**  
**Bernie's:** MB Padfield, 7 p.m. (main stage); Reggae Nights with Green Lion Crew, 7 p.m. (patio)  
**Sea Shell:** Apathetic, 7 p.m.  
**Wally's:** Adam Lufkin, 7 p.m.

**Londonderry**  
**Stumble Inn:** Pete Peterson, 5 p.m.

**Manchester**  
**Fratello's:** Austin McCarthy, 6 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.

**Nashua**  
**Fratello's:** Chris Gardner, 6 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
**Gas Light:** Tim T, 8 p.m.  
**The Goat:** Musical Bongo Nation, 7 p.m.; Alex Anthony Band, 9 p.m.

**Tuesday, Aug. 18**  
**Bedford**  
**Murphy's:** Lewis Goodwin, 5:30 p.m.

**Hampton**  
**Bernie's:** Mike Forgette, 7 p.m. (main stage); Sheldon Benton, 2 p.m. (patio); Ivory Tickling Tuesdays with Paul Wolstencroft of Slightly Stoopid, 7 p.m. (patio)  
**McGuirk's:** Brad Bosse, 7 p.m.  
**Sea Shell:** Little Big Shots, 7 p.m.  
**Wally's:** Chris Toler, 7 p.m.

**Hudson**  
**Fat Katz:** Open mic, 7 p.m.

**Londonderry**  
**Stumble Inn:** Chris Powers, 5 p.m.

**Manchester**  
**Fratello's:** Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.  
**KC's:** Alizon Lissace (featured artist) at 7 p.m., open mic with Paul Costley and Nate Comp at 8 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.

**Nashua**  
**Fratello's:** Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Darien Castro, 6 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
**Gas Light:** Clint Lapointe, 8 p.m. (deck)

**Wednesday, Aug. 19**  
**Bedford**  
**Murphy's:** Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.

**Concord**  
**Lithermans:** Andrew North and The Rangers, 4 p.m.

**Exeter**  
**Sawbelly Brewing:** David Drouin, 5 p.m.

**Hampton**  
**Ashworth:** Grim Brothers Band, 4 p.m. (Sandbar Rooftop Lounge); Max Sullivan Duo, 8 p.m. (Breakers)  
**Bernie's:** Adam Lufkin, 7 p.m. (main stage); Sheldon Benton, 2 p.m. (patio); Mike Francis of "Soul Rebel Project," 7 p.m. (patio)  
**Sea Shell:** The Continentals, 7 p.m.  
**Wally's:** Chris Toler, 7 p.m.

**Kingston**  
**Saddle Up Saloon:** Waterman Wednesday with Adam Fithian, 7 p.m. (live acoustic performance of classic rock, modern hits, '90s throwbacks)

**Laconia**  
**Naswa:** Ted Solo, 4 p.m.

**Londonderry**  
**Stumble Inn:** Chris Taylor, 5 p.m.

**Manchester**  
**Fratello's:** Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.  
**Murphy's:** MB Padfield, 6:30 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Ralph Alen, 6 p.m.

**Nashua**  
**Fratello's:** Jeff Mrozek, 6 p.m.

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Saxe/Cahill Jazz Duo, 6 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
**Gas Light:** Amanda Cote, 8 p.m. (deck)  
**The Striker:** Max Sullivan, 9 p.m.

**Rochester**  
**Governor's Inn:** Aches & Pains, 6 p.m. (rock)

**Thursday, Aug. 20**  
**Amherst**  
**La Belle:** Robert Allwarden, 6 p.m.

**Bedford**  
**Copper Door:** Grace Rapetti, 6 p.m.  
**Murphy's:** Justin Cohn, 5:30 p.m.  
**T-Bones:** Pete Peterson, 6 p.m.

**Concord**  
**Cheers:** Lisa Guyer, 5 p.m.

**Derry**  
**T-Bones:** Joanie Ciatelli, 6 p.m.

**Epping**  
**Telly's:** Matt Luneau, 7 p.m.

**Exeter**  
**Sawbelly Brewing:** Borscht, 5 p.m. (blend of bluegrass, classic folk and originals)

**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** Karen Grenier, 6 p.m. (acoustic)

**Hampton**  
**Bernie's:** Zach Deputy, 7 p.m. (main stage); Sheldon Benton, 2 p.m. (patio); Joe Sambo, 7 p.m. (patio)  
**CR's:** Ross McGuinness, 6 p.m.  
**Sea Ketch:** Paul Lussier, 1 p.m.  
**Sea Shell:** Houston Bernard, 7 p.m.  
**Smuttynose:** open mic with Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.  
**Wally's:** Chris Toler, 7 p.m.

**Henniker**  
**Pat's Peak:** Alex Cohen, 5 p.m.

**Hudson**  
**Fat Katz:** Karaoke Social Distancing Style, 7 p.m.  
**T-Bones:** Chris Gardner, 6 p.m.

**Kingston**  
**Saddle Up Saloon:** Karaoke with DJ Jason Whitney, 7 p.m.

**Laconia**  
**Cactus Jack's/T-Bones:** Matt Langley, 6 p.m.

**Londonderry**  
**Stumble Inn:** MB Padfield, 6 p.m.

**Manchester**  
**CJ's:** Chris Powers, 6 p.m.  
**Derryfield:** D-Comp, 6 p.m.  
**Firefly:** Ryan Williamson, 5 p.m.  
**KC's:** Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.  
**Murphy's:** BassTastic Duo, 8 p.m.

**Meredith**  
**Town Docks:** Mitch Alden, 5 p.m. (solo)

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Andrew Geano, 6 p.m.

**Nashua**  
**Fratello's:** Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Jarred Garneau, 6 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
**Gas Light:** Corinna Savlen, 8 p.m.

**Rochester**  
**Governor's Inn:** Mica's Groove Train, 6 p.m. (soul & groove)

**Salem**  
**Copper Door:** Chad LaMarsh, 6 p.m. (solo acoustic)  
**T-Bones:** Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.

**Windham**  
**Old School:** Vere Hill, 6 p.m.

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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.**

## Greater Concord SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

 **Equality Health Center |**  
*"Compassionate, Client Centered Health Care"*, By Appointment, 275-2739, 38 S Main St, equalityhc.org 


## Greater Manchester SERVICES

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 82 Palomino Ln, Bedford visitdrpete.com 









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## RETAIL

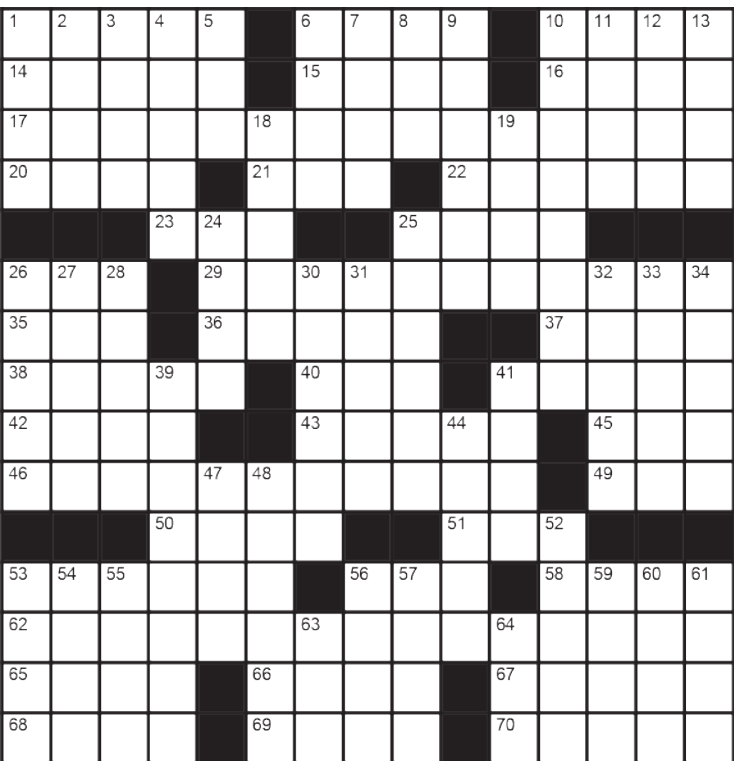
 **Celebrations Catering**  
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## Listings Key

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

# GHOSTS APPEAR AND FADE AWAY



**Across**

- 1. Leader of Men At Work Hay
- 6. Country's 'When Love Finds You' Vince
- 10. Manowar took 'The \_\_\_' and never broke their word
- 14. Jazz singer O'Day
- 15. Nicks/Henley 'Leather And \_\_\_'
- 16. Red Hot Chili Peppers bassman
- 17. All-American Rejects hit about the world's clocks being frozen? (4,6,5)
- 20. Part of wine glass held at backstage toast
- 21. Sick Puppies saw a strange guy and sang that he's an '\_\_\_ One'
- 22. '05 Darkness album 'One Way Ticket \_\_\_...And Back' (2,4)
- 23. Johnny Cash is going to pull up a rocking chair on 'The Porch' and do this
- 25. Tori Amos used this Brazilian soccer great's name in album title 'Boys For \_\_\_'
- 26. Might run up a big bar one when band is rocking
- 29. Temple Of The Dog 'Pushin' \_\_\_' (7,4)
- 35. Little Big Town will sleep all day because they are a 'Night \_\_\_'
- 36. Christian metalcore band The Devil \_\_\_ Prada
- 37. Men At Work "\_\_\_ wish is to be alone. Stay away, don't you invade my home" (3,1)
- 38. Ian of Deep Purple
- 40. Repeated chorus word in Aimee Mann's 'I Should've Known'
- 41. Dee Snider's hose material
- 42. 'This Too Shall Pass' Chicago band (2,2)
- 43. Elvis Presley '\_\_\_ Ghetto' (2,3)
- 45. Men At Work "Don't \_\_\_ me to love my neighbor, cause I don't love the man"
- 46. 'OU812' Van Halen hit they were over the moon elated about (5,2,4)
- 49. Gin Blossoms smash '\_\_\_ Jealousy'
- 50. Tour masseuses use them on backs
- 51. Used at some 60s psychedelic shows for enhancement
- 53. Led Zep's 'Houses Of The Holy' funk number 'The \_\_\_'

- 56. Tina Turner's sidekick that died from a fast life
- 58. Model Macpherson that dated Billy Joel in the 80s
- 62. Early 80s Men At Work classic 'Down Under' album (8,2,5)
- 65. Soundtrack to Fox musical comedy-drama
- 66. Style
- 67. Roger Miller 'It Takes All \_\_\_ To Make A World'

- 68. These things we sleep in were 'Burning' to Midnight Oil
  - 69. MJ/Diana Ross "'\_\_\_ on down the road'"
  - 70. All That Remains song they deleted?
- Down**
- 1. Musical that has a Fancy Feast rider?
  - 2. Kool And The Gang classic 'Get Down \_\_\_' (2,2)
  - 3. Shwayze will order a 'Corona And \_\_\_'
  - 4. Auctioned things or these, post-bankruptcy
  - 5. Jazz musician Olu Dara's rapper son
  - 6. Traffic instrumental off 'John Barleycorn Must Die' they were happy about
  - 7. '09 Avett Bros album '\_\_\_ Love And You' (1,3)
  - 8. 'Losing My Edge' \_\_\_ Soundsystem
  - 9. Harp player Lazy \_\_\_
  - 10. Sittin' On The Dock \_\_\_ (2,3,3)
  - 11. An untrusting Triumph sang "You're on your own now, but you're living out \_\_\_..." (1,3)
  - 12. Men At Work 'It's A Mistake' lyrics: "\_\_\_ us general, is it party time?"
  - 13. \_\_\_ And Oates
  - 18. Smokey Robinson 'From Head \_\_\_' (2,3)
  - 19. The Alarm '\_\_\_ Me Down The River'
  - 24. "We can dance \_\_\_ want to, we can leave your friends behind" (2,2)
  - 25. Wish For Wings 'From The \_\_\_ The Grave' (4,2)
  - 26. Drifters "I climb way up to the \_\_\_ the stairs" (3,2)
  - 27. Letters To Cleo song about insomnia?
  - 28. Multi Grammy-winner Mary J
  - 30. We grew up listening to them in boom-box form
  - 31. Dr John 'Right Place \_\_\_ Time'
  - 32. '75 Grateful Dead album 'Blues For \_\_\_'
  - 33. Babyface 'Everytime I \_\_\_ My Eyes'
  - 34. \_\_\_ Boots: Music & Lyrics By Cyndi

- Lauper
- 39. Buskers may form makeshift ones at night
- 41. 'Leg End In His Own Boots' \_\_\_ Atomic Dustbin
- 44. Stereophonics were not tired, just going to 'Check My Eyelids For \_\_\_'
- 47. Queensryche saw a '\_\_\_ Of The Times'
- 48. Record holder inside the record cover
- 52. Frenchies Noir \_\_\_
- 53. Iconic New York venue that helped The Talking Heads get going
- 54. What 'Everybody Wants'

- to do to the world, to Tears For Fears
  - 55. 'Dwight's \_\_\_ Records' singer Yoakam
  - 56. Egyptian goddess-inspired Dylan song?
  - 57. Americana band with limp that needs something to lean on?
  - 59. Dean Wareham's post- Galaxie 500 band
  - 60. Libertines asked 'What Became Of The Likely \_\_\_'
  - 61. Ratt "Always saying someone \_\_\_ is to blame"
  - 63. An underwater OceanLab hears 'Sirens Of The \_\_\_'
  - 64. 'Hey, Soul Sister' instrument, for short
- © 2020 Todd Santos

- 56. Tina Turner's sidekick that died from a fast life
- 58. Model Macpherson that dated Billy Joel in the 80s
- 62. Early 80s Men At Work classic 'Down Under' album (8,2,5)
- 65. Soundtrack to Fox musical comedy-drama
- 66. Style
- 67. Roger Miller 'It Takes All \_\_\_ To Make A World'

## WORD ★ Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Krueck

**Find and Circle...**

- The Beatles (first names)
- Four words starting and ending with G
- Three large Texas cities
- Movie: "The \_\_\_ Wears \_\_\_"
- Two things worn on the foot

Last Week's Answers: NEPTUNE MERCURY VENUS MARS / BASEBALL HOCKEY TENNIS RUGBY / ROCKIES ANDES ALPS / MOOSE MOUSE MOLE / SIXTEEN

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5/25

J	G	Z	A	U	S	T	I	N	K	H	T
G	O	A	V	O	S	O	C	K	G	O	G
L	D	H	I	G	P	Z	X	N	O	U	N
I	A	L	N	N	C	A	I	B	P	S	I
D	L	I	J	I	T	U	L	R	T	W	
I	L	V	J	R	T	N	R	L	A	O	O
N	A	E	Z	E	V	M	G	Z	D	N	L
G	S	D	G	E	O	R	G	E	A	J	G

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			2÷
3	3-		

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WORKSPACE:

CHALLENGING

2÷		2-		4-	
3+	12×		30×		1
	3+	20×	5	216×	
4			3÷		
1-	15×		3÷	2	
		6		2÷	

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- 1 Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- 2 The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
- 3 Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

2÷	7+	3	1-
2	4	3	1
4	24×	3	1
4	3	1	2
4+	1	2	4
1	2	4	3
3	1	2	4

1	11+	24×	3-	5
1	6	4	3	2
2÷	6	5	1	2
3	30×	3÷	1	5
5	3	2	4	1
2-	4	1	3	5
4	1	3	5	6
2	4	5	6	3

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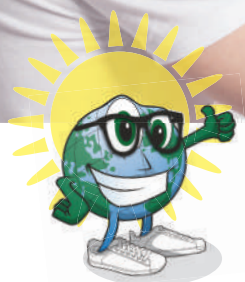
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**Across**

- 1 They're out to pasture
- 10 Words before "your mother" or "your father"
- 15 Prepared statement
- 16 Slip
- 17 Verdi opera originally titled "La maledizione" ("The Curse")
- 18 \_\_\_ Selänne, highest-scoring Finn in NHL history
- 19 Short gamut
- 20 Measures of loudness
- 21 Change direction sharply
- 23 Does a dairy duty

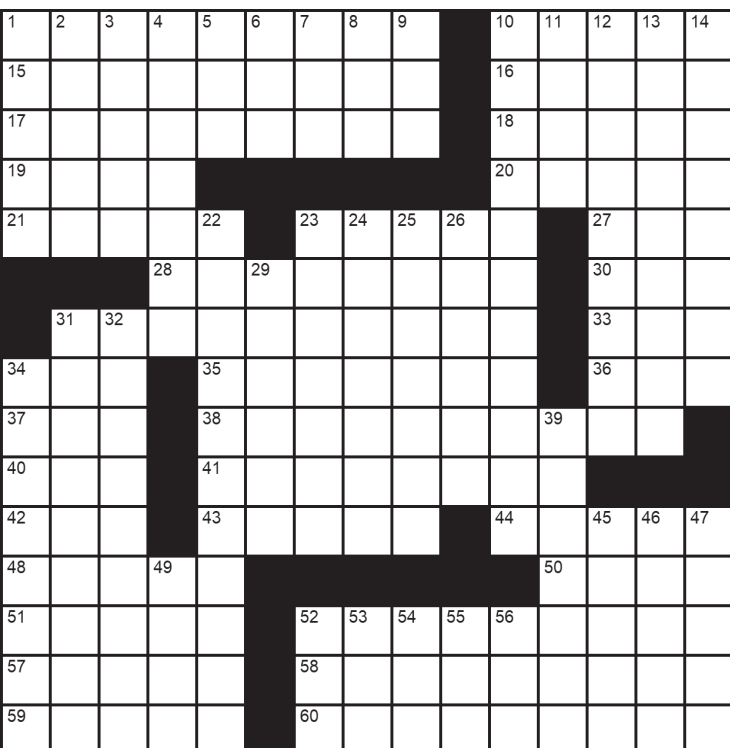
- 27 "Them!" creature
- 28 Cry of accomplishment
- 30 WWE wrestler \_\_\_ Mysterio
- 31 Iconic "Lady and the Tramp" song whose title means "Beautiful Night"
- 33 Elemento numero 79
- 34 CLE player
- 35 Middle of a French Revolution motto
- 36 Pharmacy chain with unusually long receipts
- 37 Card seen in skat
- 38 Risky purchase

- 40 Places for Whoppers, briefly
- 41 Frigid ocean areas that can be seasonal or permanent
- 42 Site for mil. planes
- 43 Record producer Mike \_\_\_, or actress \_\_\_ Kaye
- 44 Go with the flow, maybe?
- 48 Minimal
- 50 Hull backbone
- 51 Rod Stewart's "Lost \_\_\_"
- 52 Extended
- 57 Make grime pay?
- 58 Moved forward, perhaps
- 59 River through France and Belgium
- 60 Vacation purchase with a possibly aggressive sales pitch

- 6 One of the saisons
- 7 Dirty groove?
- 8 "The 5,000 Fingers of \_\_\_" (1953 Dr. Seuss film)
- 9 \_\_\_-Caps (movie candy brand)
- 10 Increases in difficulty, like a hike
- 11 Vowel-rich cookie
- 12 Category for Styx and (arguably) the Stones
- 13 "Wow, that was rude!"
- 14 Cereal on "The Simpsons" where Bart ingested some jagged metal
- 22 Small-screen movie, quaintly
- 23 One in charge
- 24 Admire excessively
- 25 Told, as a secret
- 26 \_\_\_ Bachika ("Gurren Lagann" anime character who I just found out is a human and not a cat)
- 29 \_\_\_ De Spell ("DuckTales" character voiced by Catherine Tate in the 2017 reboot)

- 31 Place for neighborly gossip
- 32 Samuel L. Jackson movie that Roger Ebert called the best film of 1997
- 34 Adherence to mystic doctrines
- 39 Wisconsin city known for kids' overalls
- 45 Yiddish gossip
- 46 "I gotta go feed the \_\_\_"
- 47 Hitch in haste
- 49 \_\_\_-chef
- 52 1-800-CALL-\_\_\_ (bygone collect call service)
- 53 "What \_\_\_ know?"
- 54 DeLuise in many outtakes with Burt Reynolds
- 55 Get by, with "out"
- 56 \_\_\_ EFX ("Mic Checka" hip-hop group)

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**Down**

- 1 Harness part
- 2 Nation where kreyòl ayisyen is spoken
- 3 Bush or Clinton, informally
- 4 Game for NFL all-stars
- 5 Daughter of Loki

**R&R answer from pg 31 of 8/6**



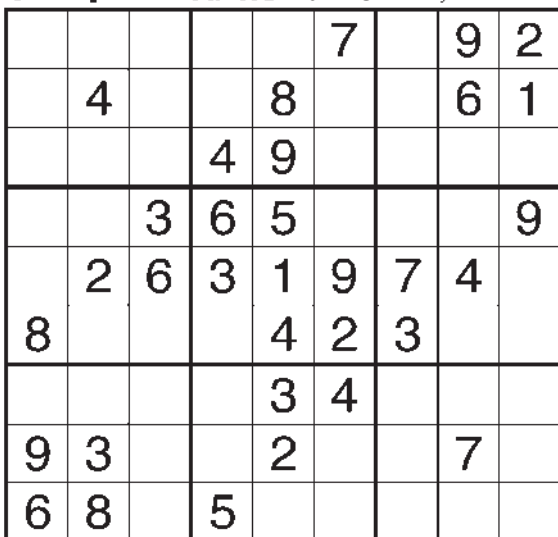
**Jonesin' answer from pg 32 of 8/6**



**NITE SUDOKU**

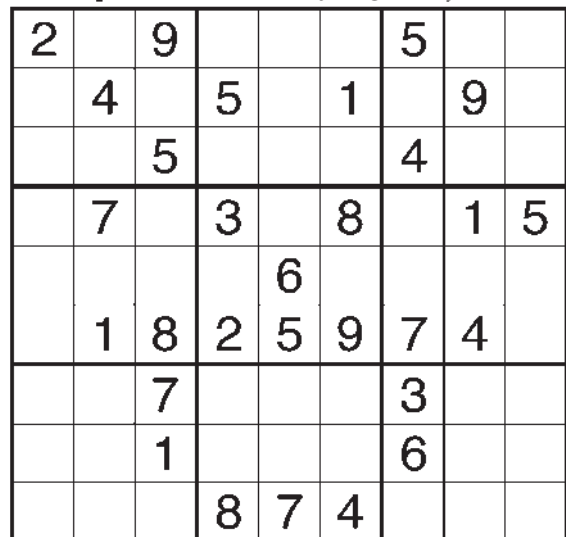
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week's puzzle answers on pg 45.

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A** By Dave Green



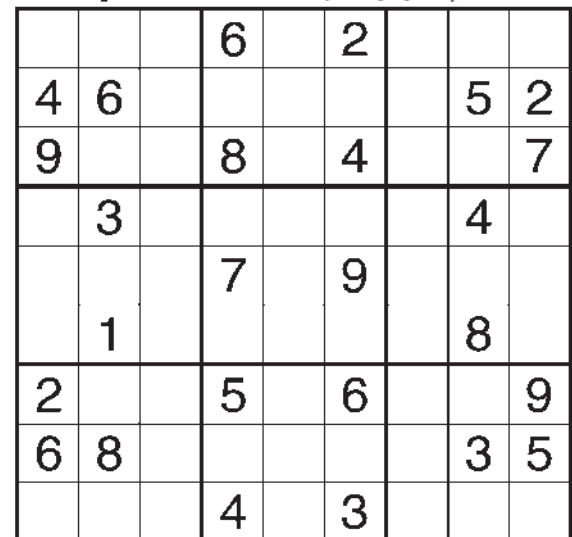
Difficulty Level ★

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle B** By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle C** By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

All quotes are from *Climbing the Mango Trees*, by Madhur Jaffrey, born Aug. 13, 1933.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** *It just so happened that some American tap-dancers were staying with us at the same time. ... [A] system of open hospitality was the norm. Welcome the tap-dancers.*

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** *There were actually two types of family history. There was the documented version that sat properly in my grandfather's office. But there was also the ... fables, family customs, and hearsay passed along by my grandmother Bari Bauwa and the other women of the house. A combination of perspectives is best.*

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** *The summer seemed endless. ... Mangoes that could be eaten out of hand came and went, as did cherries from Kashmir and litchees from Dehradun. ... After lunch we all tried sleeping through the long hot afternoons. Head for the shade trees.*

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** *I would then rush to observe the daily churning of butter. ... Much better than watching paint dry.*

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** *My older sisters had sweet voices and could carry a tune and so had been cast in every concert musical, whereas I, after a stint at the age of five as the Brown Mouse in The Pied Piper of Hamelin, had given up on the theater. If it's not your thing, it's not your thing.*

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** *All I know is that nothing tasted more heavenly than that simple combination: grainy whole-wheat roti, raw onion, and green chili. Synergy works in your favor.*

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** *It was an uncommon pickle. We knew of no other community that pickled dumplings. But we did, and delicious they were, too. You will enjoy an uncommon pickle.*

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** *Mrs. McKelvie was my history teacher. She didn't just teach me Indian history and British history, which were part of the set curriculum; I also learned from her that any subject could*

*be fascinating if I delved into it deeply enough. She showed me how history, for example, could be researched from a hundred angles.... Any angle you want.*

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** *My mother ... had already taught me knitting at the age of five. By now I was knitting the most complicated designs.... Sewing was another matter. The fact that you can knit doesn't mean you can sew.*

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** *Until then, I had never been to an exhibition of paintings and did not apply the lessons I might have learned from my art books to myself. New insights await.*

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** *Lower mathematics, on the other hand, was a startling composite. It consisted of arithmetic, which I could just about manage, and domestic science, a catchall subject that must have drawn its inspiration directly from Mrs. Beeton's Book of Household Management. Math may come in handy.*

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** *There was one other way at school of sharing ... that was at lunch, which we ate together; as far away from the stone school building as possible. We all brought our lunches from home. If you're going to bring a whoopie pie, bring enough to share.*

## 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 cleaning appliances (11)	_____
2 positive emotion (9)	_____
3 where to hang up your coat (9)	_____
4 feisty person (8)	_____
5 observer (10)	_____
6 illogical nonsense (10)	_____
7 floods with emotion (10)	_____

AK	ERDA	ROOM	ERWH	PINE
SS	SPIT	WITN	EYE	BALD
WAS	HAP	ESS	DISH	OV
ELMS	HERS	FIRE	CLO	SH

Last Week's Answers: 1. BRANGELINA 2. CHUNNEL 3. JEGGINGS 4. GLAMPING 5. CHOCOLIC 6. FREEMY 7. MANSPLAIN

### Sudoku Answers from page 32 of August 6th

#### Puzzle A

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

#### Puzzle B

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

#### Puzzle C

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

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## Recent alarming headline

A July 29 headline in the Ken-Ton Bee in Kenmore, New York, caught the attention of The Buffalo News: "Leprechaun spotted looting cars on Hamilton Boulevard." Kenmore Police Capt. A.J. Kiefer told The News a white male with orange hair and wearing a green shirt (and "possibly plaid pants") was reported to be looting vehicles on the street July 23. Police arrested the 36-year-old, who measured 5 feet 11 inches and had someone else's debit card, but no pot of gold, according to Kiefer. He was charged with petit larceny.

## Government in action

About 176 Rhode Island taxpayers waiting for their refund checks got a surprise when the checks they received in late July arrived bearing the signatures of "Mickey Mouse" and "Walt Disney" instead of state officials. State Department of Revenue chief of staff Jade Borgeson told WPRI that the division of taxation uses the signatures on dummy checks for internal testing, and the test image files were mistakenly added to real checks. "Corrected checks will be reissued to impacted taxpayers within one week," Borgeson said.

## Karen not Karen

Domino's pizza restaurants in New Zealand were forced to end a promotion to

give free pizza to women named Karen "that aren't, well, Karens," the promotion announcement read. United Press International reported that customers named Karen were invited to fill out an application for one of 100 free pizzas, but people objected online, suggesting the chain offer food to minorities or people who have been impacted by Covid-19. "We wanted to bring a smile to customers who are doing the right thing — Karen the nurse, Karen the teacher," the company posted on Facebook, but "people interpreted this in a different way."

## Least competent criminals

• Edward Thomas Schinzing, 32, was charged July 28 with arson for allegedly setting fires inside the Justice Center in Portland, Oregon, on May 29, beginning two months of protest in that city. The Oregonian reported the shirtless Schinzing stood out among about 30 people who broke into the building around 10:59 p.m., vandalizing offices and setting fires, because of the large tattoo of his last name clearly visible across his shoulders on surveillance images, according to court documents. Schinzing, who was on probation at the time for domestic violence assault, is being held at the Justice Center.

• Pueblo, Colorado, police were intrigued to find a young man sleeping in a car parked behind a motel on Aug. 2, "since motels have rooms, with beds, that you can sleep in," said

Capt. Tom Rummel in a tweet. Upon running the car's license plate, he continued, the officers found it had been stolen in an armed carjacking, and "there on the front seat was a sawed-off shotgun, just like the victim said was used yesterday!" KKTU reported the sleepy thief, a juvenile, was taken into custody and the car was returned to its owner.

## Police report

A 26-year-old man in Plymouth, England, was detained on July 9 after officers working nearby heard a commotion and looked up to see the man struggling with a seagull and biting it. "He sunk his teeth into it before throwing it to the floor," a police spokesperson told Plymouth Live. The man told police the seagull had attacked him, trying to get his McDonald's meal, and also "volunteered ... that he was under the influence of drugs ... The seagull was clearly injured by the incident but flew off before we were able to check on its welfare," police said. The man was taken to a hospital for treatment.

## Can't take a joke

After pub owner Steve Cotten jokingly announced in July that the beer garden at the Poltimore Arms in Devon, England, would become the Yarde Down International Airport for the summer, offering sightseeing flights, he was surprised to receive an official letter from Exmoor National Park

Authority's planning officer expressing concern about the change: "We have a duty to look into such matters to understand if there is a breach, and if so, whether any action is necessary." Devon Live reported Cotten responded promptly in a social media post, saying, "All long haul flights have been suspended forthwith ... We apologise for any delays, and remind you that the departure lounge facilities are still open." The park authority replied with good humor, and the taps remain open.

## Awesome!

For her birthday, 5-year-old Macey Clements of Parker, Colorado, went on her first horseback ride and was hooked, so she wrote her wish for a pet horse on a balloon, signed her name and let it soar. On Aug. 2, Jennifer Houghton, who owns seven horses and lives about an hour away, found the balloon stuck in a fence, and it wasn't long before the two found each other through social media. "I feel like every little girl should get to enjoy the horse world," Houghton told KOAA. "I couldn't get her a pet horse, but at least try and help her ride and make somewhat of a dream come true." She's working with Macey's family to find a horse close to home that the family can lease. "Hopefully, one day we'll be able to meet up and go for a ride together."

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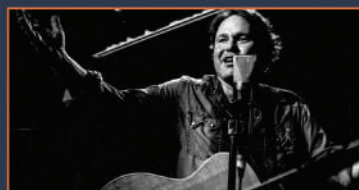
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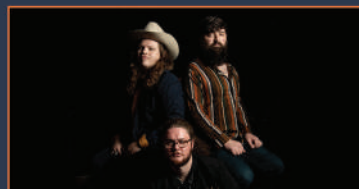
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Martin  
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