



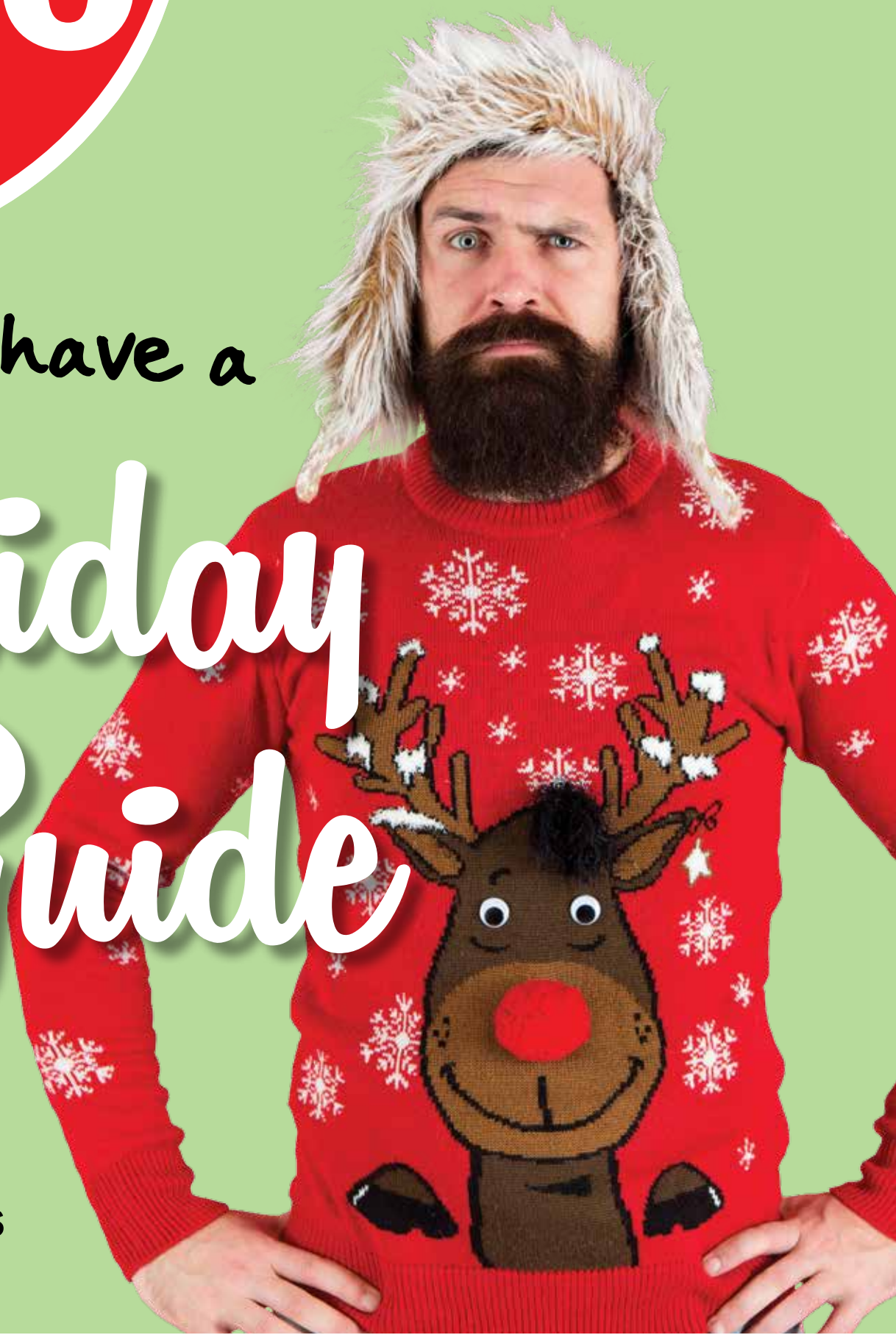
**COCKTAILS & WINE
P. 30 & 31**

**A WEEKEND OF
MUSIC P. 40**

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Holiday Guide



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Thanksgiving 2020



Ready or not, the holidays are here, with Thanksgiving arriving this week. Thanksgiving has been celebrated in various ways since that very first holiday in 1621 between the Pilgrims and the Native Americans, but it was Abraham Lincoln who declared it a national holiday in 1863 during the midst of the Civil War. According to History.com in its "Thanksgiving 2020" article, Lincoln issued a proclamation imploring all Americans to ask God to "commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife" and to "heal the wounds of the nation."

In present time, we are suffering through a worldwide pandemic that has taken more than 250,000 lives in the United States alone. With record high Covid-19 cases, we are being asked to reconsider traditional Thanksgiving gatherings. Local leaders and governors are asking for diligence to stay the course and follow the recommendations from the CDC and health authorities, celebrating in smaller groups or with only household members, celebrating virtually, or even hosting an outside Thanksgiving get-together.

In addition, we have just completed an election that laid bare the division and polarization of our country. Each party is convinced it has the answers to resolving the ongoing "civil strife" of present day, yet there is very little evidence of seeking common ground upon which to develop real solutions. Even post-election, hate and vitriol continue to spread across social media and traditional news outlets.

These events have taken a toll on Americans in 2020. We are weary and yearn for some sense of normalcy. Is it ironic that Lincoln's words from 1863 ring so true in 2020? As we gather for Thanksgiving, may we remember Lincoln's proclamation and commit to doing our part to once again heal the wounds of our divided nation. There is continued hope for a vaccine to help contain a virus that has taken so much. In the meantime, we must not politicize a personal responsibility to do our part in slowing the spread. We may not be able to physically gather this Thanksgiving, but we can certainly find ways to come together as a nation. Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving.

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



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ON THE COVER

10 HOLIDAY GUIDE It might not look the same as years past, but this holiday season still has plenty of fun ways to celebrate, from in-person tree lightings and festive dinners to livestreamed concerts and drive-thru visits with Santa Claus.

ALSO ON THE COVER, whether you want a festive cocktail or a glass of wine (or both) on Thanksgiving Day, our drinks experts have suggestions, p. 30 & 31. If you're looking to get out of the house, there's still live music to be found, p. 40. And if you'd rather stay in, we have plenty of extra puzzles to keep you entertained, starting on p. 43.

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Covid-19 news

On Nov. 19, Gov. Chris Sununu issued Emergency Order No. 74, a statewide mask mandate effective Nov. 20 for everyone over the age of 5 in both indoor and outdoor public spaces where social distancing is not possible. The order came on the same day that 529 people in New Hampshire tested positive for Covid-19, the highest single-day total to date. “[This was] obviously a decision that did not come lightly,” Sununu said in a press conference announcing the order. “Many factors were clearly taken into consideration with regards to the data and the impact, and the effect on our citizens and businesses.” The mandate, which will remain in effect through Jan. 15, has a few exceptions, including anyone with a medical condition or disability preventing them from wearing a mask, anyone engaged in strenuous physical activity, or anyone asked to remove a mask or face-covering to verify his or her identity for lawful purposes. Public spaces where masks are required, as recognized by the mandate, include lobbies, waiting areas, outside plazas or patios, restaurants, retail stores, streets, sidewalks, parks, beaches, elevators, restrooms, stairways and parking garages. According to the Associated Press, at least 100 people protested the mask mandate outside Sununu’s home in Newfields on Nov. 23.

On Nov. 20, Sununu issued Executive Order 2020-23, extending the state of emergency in New Hampshire due to the pandemic for another three weeks through at least Dec. 11. It’s the 12th extension he has issued since originally declaring a state of emergency on March 13.

Details of all of Sununu’s Executive Orders, Emergency Orders and other announcements can be found at governor.nh.gov.

The New Hampshire Hospital Association, the New Hampshire Medical Society and the New Hamp-

shire Nurses Association issued a joint statement Nov. 23 in anticipation of the holiday season, asking residents to continue following the public health guidance. “The Governor’s most recent Executive Order requiring Granite State residents to wear a mask when they are unable to maintain social distance is very important and a signal of just how serious this situation is as we seek to slow the spread of Covid-19 and prevent our health care system from being overwhelmed,” the statement read.

Many hospitals have also tightened up their visitor restrictions as case numbers have increased. Catholic Medical Center, for example, announced that as of last week no visitors will be allowed, with the exception of some caregivers in certain circumstances, and it has also put stronger mask requirements in place.

Homeless encampment

On Nov. 20, the state Departments of Health and Human Services, Justice and Safety issued a joint statement regarding the homeless encampment located on state property at the Hillsborough County North Courthouse in Manchester. Signs were posted at the encampment earlier this month ordering everyone to leave by Nov. 16, or they would face penalties. According to the statement, the state had received multiple requests in the past few months from the City, the court system, businesses, legislators and the County Attorney’s Office to remove the encampment. Since then, the statement said, the state has “repeatedly” offered alternative housing and other supportive services to each person living there, including for several days beyond the Nov. 16 deadline. “On Nov. 19, officials from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services and local providers approached each one of individuals in the encampment and [offered] housing with accompanying transportation offered by several providers

across the state, transportation to stay with family or friends, or relocation to another encampment [as well as] mental health and substance use disorder services,” the statement said. On that day, 27 individuals accepted services and left the encampment; on Nov. 20, individuals were again offered services and were told that if they did not accept, they could either leave the property or would be removed, according to the statement. Six more people accepted services, while three people who chose not to leave were issued summonses for illegal camping. One then left the property while the other two were arrested and charged with criminal trespass, according to the statement. The property has since been cleared and a fence will be put up.

Following these actions, Manchester Mayor Joyce Craig issued a statement saying that she had contacted local services, including the Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester, Families in Transition - New Horizons and the City Welfare Department. “As a result, Families in Transition - New Horizons already filled all of their available beds with people being forcibly removed from the courthouse lawn, and we’re working to find any other options available,” she said in her statement. She said the eviction will disconnect individuals from the services they’ve been receiving for months and noted that “this action from the State is inhumane, causing trauma to individuals with nowhere else to go.”

According to the statement from the Departments of Health and Human Services, Justice and Safety, the services offered to people at the encampment on Nov. 19 “were provided by the State of New Hampshire and not the City of Manchester, despite it being the City’s legal obligation under RSA chapter 165 to provide welfare services for those within the City.”

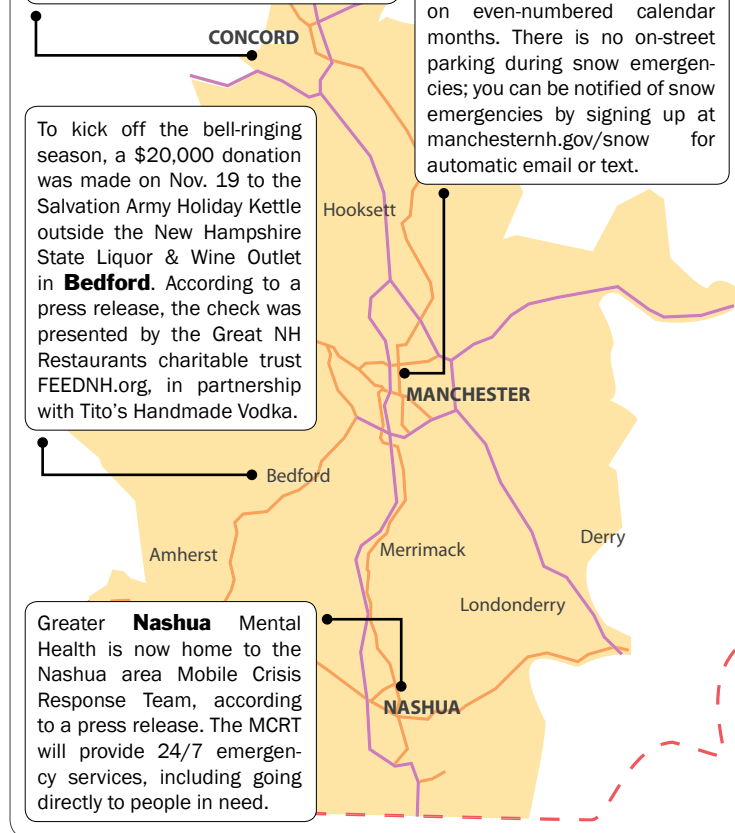
Previously, on Nov. 18, Gov. Chris

More than a dozen nonprofit organizations in **Concord** and its surrounding communities received more than 3.5 tons of nonperishable food items from the Capital Region Food Program. According to a press release, the distribution last week included the traditional Year Round Distribution Project foods, plus chickens and turkeys for Thanksgiving.

To kick off the bell-ringing season, a \$20,000 donation was made on Nov. 19 to the Salvation Army Holiday Kettle outside the New Hampshire State Liquor & Wine Outlet in **Bedford**. According to a press release, the check was presented by the Great NH Restaurants charitable trust FEEDNH.org, in partnership with Tito’s Handmade Vodka.

Greater **Nashua** Mental Health is now home to the Nashua area Mobile Crisis Response Team, according to a press release. The MCRT will provide 24/7 emergency services, including going directly to people in need.

Manchester’s overnight winter parking ban will go into effect Dec. 1 at 1 a.m., according to a press release. Between 1 and 6 a.m., parking will be allowed only on the odd-numbered side of a street on odd-numbered calendar months and only on the even-numbered side of a street on even-numbered calendar months. There is no on-street parking during snow emergencies; you can be notified of snow emergencies by signing up at manchesternh.gov/snow for automatic email or text.



Sununu sent a letter to New Hampshire’s mayors detailing steps the State has taken to combat homelessness; he also signed an Executive Order to expand the scope and membership of the State’s Interagency Council on Homelessness and renamed it to the Council on Housing Stability, which will update the state’s homelessness plan, with a preliminary report that includes legislative recommendations for the 2021 legislative session due by Dec. 14. “Our focus on homelessness is not new and our philosophy is consistent: housing is not an optional lifestyle commodity, but rather, is an irreplaceable requirement for any form of humane human condition,” Sununu wrote in the letter.

“prevent the clawing back of benefits paid under the emergency orders,” but that legislation was vetoed. “If they are not at fault in causing the overpayment, then they will not be required to repay the benefits,” Rich Lavers, deputy commissioner at Employment Security, told the Union Leader. “However, if they misstated the circumstances of their separation to make themselves eligible or overstated their earnings from self-employment and were paid at a higher benefit amount than is supported by the information in their federal tax return, then they will and should be expected to repay those benefits.”

Mobile classroom

As part of its campaign to promote career and technical education, the New Hampshire Department of Education will be bringing its 35-foot RV, named MAPs (Mobile Access to Possibilities), to the Tanger Outlet in Tilton on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. According to a press release, the mobile classroom will be making stops at shopping areas around the state during the holiday season, offering information about CTE offerings at local high schools and community colleges. 📍

Benefits paybacks

Senate Majority Leader Dan Feltes (D-Concord) issued a statement last week after a Union Leader article reported that the New Hampshire Department of Employment Security is seeking to reclaim nearly \$25 million from 10,773 people who received unemployment benefits during the pandemic because it says they were overpaid by the state. Feltes said in his statement that the Senate had tried back in March to create legislation to

Covid-19 update	As of November 16	As of November 22
Total cases statewide	15,029	17,598
Total current infections statewide	3,344	4,199
Total deaths statewide	500	512
New cases	2,330 (Nov. 10 to Nov. 16)	2,569 (Nov. 17 to Nov. 22)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	1,168	1,656
Current infections: Merrimack County	320	350
Current infections: Rockingham County	690	889

Information from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services



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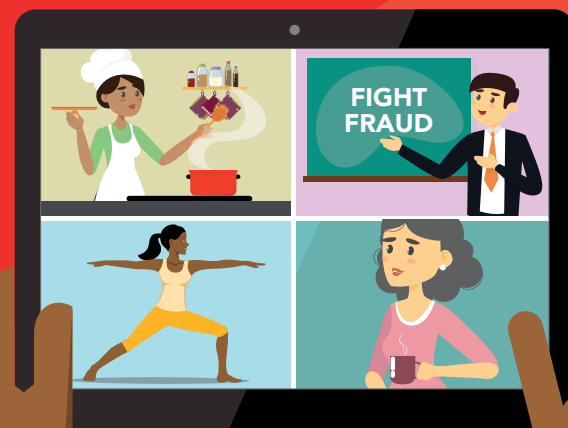
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Gather together?

Zoom dinners, outdoor meet-ups and more holiday tips

Nicole Chute, Health Promotion and Communication Specialist for the Nashua Division of Public Health and Community Services, shares some guidance on how to celebrate the holidays as safely as possible.

Q: *How risky is it to be traveling and/or gathering this holiday season? Should people even be considering it?*

We're strongly encouraging folks to just stay home this holiday season, if possible, and celebrate with the people who live in their own household. ... With the substantial community spread in the state of New Hampshire and in Hillsborough County, we really don't want anyone, especially anyone who is older or has underlying conditions, to do any in-person activities this year. ... If you can video chat with family members and friends, that's always safer than getting together with them and spending time [in contact] with them.

Got any fun ideas or tips for virtual gatherings?

Think about the things you would do together and how you would usually celebrate if you were together and try to do a virtual version of it. Cooking meals together over video chat is a great one. Also, I just heard that Zoom is going to be offering free calls without the 40-minute cap for the whole day on Thanksgiving, so that's one way that people will be able to gather virtually.

If someone is hosting an in-person gathering, what can they do to make it as safe as possible for their guests?

Keep it small, and limit your time together. The more time you spend with people, the greater the risk is of contracting Covid from somebody who has it. Also, stay outdoors. I know it's going to be cold, but if it's a nice day on Thanksgiving, try to have people outside. ... Make sure you have hand sanitizer available, encourage mask use for anyone coming in, and space out any chairs to allow people to practice social distancing while they're at your home. ... You want to be practicing general food safety and good handwashing while you're preparing any food. We're encouraging people to do more of a buffet-style meal with prepared plates that people can grab and go, versus everyone grabbing their food out of the same food dishes and touching the same serving utensils. ... Something else I'd recommend to a host of any gathering is to talk to the people who are planning on coming over beforehand and remind them to practice social distancing, mask wearing and handwashing [during the days leading up to the gathering].

If you're a guest, what additional steps can you take to protect yourself?

First, if you're sick — and that means any new symptoms, whether it's just a throat tickle or any



Nicole Chute

little thing — you need to stay home. ... Any time you're spending time with people who don't live in your house, it's so important to keep that social distance, wear that face covering and wash your hands often, even if no one has symptoms, because we know that this virus can spread asymptotically. ... Try to stay outside, and keep your time there short.

What's the safest way to travel?

It's definitely safer to drive [than to fly] as long as you're driving with members from your household, but if you're driving long distances, you're probably going to need to stop for gas or at a rest area, so just make sure you're practicing healthy behaviors there, too, like using hand sanitizer after you're done pumping gas, and washing your hands at the rest stops. If you're in an airport, make sure you're washing your hands, wearing your mask, keeping your distance from others and avoiding touching your face.

What's the safest way to go about lodging?

There isn't too big of a difference between staying at someone's house versus staying at a hotel. ... I'd recommend bringing some [disinfectant] wipes and wiping down the room when you get there. If you're staying at a hotel, make sure you're wearing a mask while checking in, and find out what all of their Covid protocols are.

Should people be quarantining post-gathering/traveling?

In New Hampshire, we tell any travelers, visitors and residents who leave New England that they must quarantine for 14 days upon their return to the state, even if they feel OK. They can end their quarantine early at seven days if, on the seventh day, they get a PCR Covid test that comes back negative.

What's happening with students? Do you have any special guidance for them?

A lot of school districts are looking at remote learning for at least two weeks after the holidays, just to make sure that kids don't come back to school and spread anything. I know there are going to be a lot of college kids traveling home, and if they're traveling from out of state to come home to New Hampshire, they need to quarantine. Just plan on staying home with your family and the people who live in your house.

What about holiday shopping?

Online shopping is the best way to avoid any contact with anybody, so if you can do your shopping online I would definitely recommend that.

— Angie Sykeny



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Sports thanks giving



Today is Thanksgiving and we traditionally give thanks to things big, small and less important we sports fans have enjoyed over the year. But during a year of worry, uncertainty and total disruption of the sports calendar we'll focus this Thanksgiving

Day column on some recent stories of greater importance than we usually do.

News Item: Thanks for Cracking That Glass Ceiling

The glass ceiling wasn't only broken in politics with the election of **Kamala Harris** to be Vice President of the United States in November. It also happened in baseball, where **Kim Ng** became baseball's first ever female general manager. Her resume includes being senior VP of baseball operations for MLB and stints as assistant GM for the Dodgers and Yanks, where a professional relationship was developed with current Marlins owner **Derek Jeter**. And with never-played stat geeks running teams all over baseball, the folks who say she shouldn't get it because she didn't play at a high level have no leg to stand on. So thanks for her well-earned progress, because it might help Concord's **Becky Bonner**, the Orlando Magic VP of Player Development, get the same chance someday.

News Item: Thanks For No Harden Days and Nights at the Garden

This isn't a 100-percent thing just yet, so it's said with crossed fingers. But yeah-hoo news reports of the Celtics trying to trade disgruntled Houston Rocket **James Harden** didn't pan out. Don't take it to mean I don't know how talented the beard is. He's the most effortless scorer I've ever seen. But he is also the anti-**Larry Bird** in that no one gets better playing with him because he only gives it up when all avenues to get his own shot are exhausted, usually with little time left on the shot clock. Plus, we'd be hearing green teamers defending the constant whining for calls, flopping on almost every shot, and that he doesn't even try on defense by saying look at the stats he puts up. I say look at all the rings those stats have produced. Biggest of all is it would've turned me off the Celtics, because it would show **Danny Ainge** and the brass learned nothing from the **Kyrie Irving** experience, which showed you don't win with ball hogs and selfish people. So thanks to the basketball gods for this averted catastrophe.

News Item: Thanks To Mr. Celtic

The late **Tommy Heinsohn** was an acquired taste for me. My first encounters with him came when this (then) Knicks fan moved behind enemy lines to go to college when he was Celtics coach, during the only time those teams were ever equal competitive rivals. And if you think he was rough on officials broadcasting games, you should have seen him on the sidelines.

Also, he did too much cheerleading broadcasting Celtics games for me even after I'd become

a fan. But then I kinda sorta worked with him at Fox Sports Net while doing a TV show on the C's, where I kiddingly told him I sports hated him when he was the Celtics coach. Predictably that didn't go over too well and I'm not sure why I thought it would. But it started to change while doing a story with him to promote an upcoming showing and sale of his paintings. He explained he did it every day, which was obvious as the pond with the weeping willow tree I saw amazingly morphed into a mirror image on his canvas. But what stuck with me from that day was the story he told about how he became a painter. It happened after his parents gave him a kit while growing up in New Jersey during World War II because no kids would play with him because he was German. The gruff Tommy started to fade as he told his poignant story and a different one emerged. After another story followed, this time on onetime teammate **Bill Russell**, showed how genuine his love for the Celtics was, my appreciation of him grew. The result was getting a growing kick out of the antics during games to finally missing him on broadcasts as his health held him out in recent years. So thanks to Tommy because after an unbroken 64-year string of devotion as a player, coach, broadcaster and team cheerleader he earned the title of Mr. Celtic. RIP.

News Item: Thanks for the Memories

It seemed like the baseball deaths just kept coming in 2020. With 91 down as I wrote this, there are far too many to name. Among them was all-name teamer **Biff Pocoroba** and maligned symbol of the Yankees dynasty decline **Horace Clarke**. There was also non-Famer Yankee **Don Larsen**, who delivered a Hall-worthy performance by hurling the only World Series perfect game in 1956 vs. Brooklyn. First among the baseball elites migrating to Mt. Olympus was the great Tiger **Al Kaline**, always a favorite because my first baseball mitt was a Kaline signature model. There was also **Tom Seaver**, the symbol of the Miracle 1969 Mets and eternal youth for New York baseball fans. **Bob Gibson**, the fiery competitor who didn't need closers to finish games because he knew how to battle and win, especially in the World Series. Cardinals teammate **Lou Brock** – 3,000 hits, all those stolen bases and a World Series spark plug with nine hits vs. the Yanks in 1964 and 12 more against the Sox in '67. **Joe Morgan** left us after always playing bigger than his pint-sized build said he should. Lastly was my guy **Whitey Ford**, the crafty Yankees lefty with the highest winning percentage ever, who passed **Babe Ruth's** record for consecutive scoreless World Series innings in 1961 vs. Cincy, two weeks after teammate **Roger Maris** broke his single-season record of 60 homers – to which he said, "It was a tough year for the Babe." RIP to all those greats from my youth and thanks for the memories.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Drought is a disaster

All of New Hampshire is now in a "drought disaster," the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced last week. According to a Nov. 20 report from NHPR, the drought has gotten worse, particularly in southeastern New Hampshire, with about 30 percent of the state now in severe or extreme drought, compared to 23 percent in the previous few weeks. The rest of the state is in moderate drought, according to the release, and the conditions could last until the beginning of 2021.

Score: -2

Comment: At least the declaration from the USDA will make emergency funding available to farmers who have lost crops due to the drought, according to the report.

Happy(ish) holidays

Not being able to celebrate the holidays in our own traditional ways is going to be hard for many of us. Sure, we can appreciate the fact that maybe we don't need to stress about making a big holiday meal, or eating Aunt Sally's lumpy mashed potatoes or listening to debates about the recent polarizing election results. But many of us are missing out on the good stuff too: the chance to meet a new member of the family (QOL has yet to meet a nephew who was born in August), the taste of Mom's amazing green bean casserole and the chance to catch up with friends and family we haven't seen in months other than, perhaps, via a frustratingly glitchy Zoom session.

Score: -2

Comment: QOL agrees with taking any and all safety precautions during these holidays (check out some hints in our Q&A on p. 6), but there's no denying that it's kind of a bummer.

Transforming lives

As part of the launch of its annual fundraiser, the Front Door Agency in Nashua is sharing one of its success stories. Through its Transformational Housing Program for single mothers and their children, single mother Danielle and her young daughter now live in one of Front Door Agency's affordable apartments, and she has used the program's supportive services to improve her finances and earning potential, according to a press release. She has also earned her associate's and bachelor's degrees and is starting to take classes to earn her master's. "This is not a place where things get handed to you," Danielle said in the release. "But, if you're motivated and truly focused on doing better for yourself and your children, you can do it."

Score: +1

Comment: Eighty-five percent of the single mothers in Transformational Housing have participated in or graduated from an educational program, and 70 percent saw increases in benefits and income, according to the release. "We hope Danielle's story inspires individuals, businesses and other organizations to give back in a meaningful way," Agency CEO Maryse Wirbal said in the release.

No. 1 for economic freedom

Last week, the Fraser Institute (an independent nonpartisan research and educational organization based in Canada, according to its website) released its 2020 Economic Freedom Report, ranking New Hampshire as the No. 1 state for economic freedom, according to a press release from the Josiah Bartlett Center for Public Policy. This is the second year in a row that the Granite State has earned that designation. The Fraser Institute's report measures "the extent to which ... the policies of individual provinces and states were supportive of economic freedom..." according to the release. "This study reaffirms that New Hampshire remains the best state in the nation to live, work, and raise a family — and we're just getting started," Gov. Chris Sununu said in a statement.

Score: +1

Comment: Our New England neighbors ranked as follows: Massachusetts (18), Connecticut (25), Maine (37), Rhode Island (43) and Vermont (46).

QOL score: 67

Net change: -2

QOL this week: 65

What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at news@hippypress.com.

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Holiday Guide

Celebrate the season 2020 style



If nothing else, 2020 seems to have inspired a lot of event innovation. Virtual tree-lightings, drive-thru holiday displays and socially distanced performances — New Hampshire is finding ways to celebrate even if those celebrations look a little different this year.

Fresh air festive

Holiday fun downtown and outdoors

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com

Celebrate the holidays safely outside (or from your car) with these downtown strolls, light displays, modified parades and other social distance-conscious activities.

- **Vintage Christmas in Portsmouth** is an ongoing citywide celebration of the holidays featuring a number of shows at The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., themusichall.org, 436-2400); shopping in Market Square; Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars, happening weekends from Dec. 11 through Dec. 20 at Strawberry Banke Museum (14 Hancock St., 433-1100, strawberrybanke.org); Labrie Family Skate at Strawberry Banke's Puddle Dock Pond; the 30th annual Gingerbread House Contest and Exhibit at the Portsmouth Historical Society (10 Middle St., 436-8433, portsmouthhistory.org) now through Dec. 22, and more throughout the holiday season. Visit vintagechristmasnh.org.

- The **Gift of Lights** opens on Thanksgiving Day and continues through Jan. 3 at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway (1122 Route 106 North, Loudon). The drive-thru Christmas light park spans 2.5 miles and features 80 holiday scenes and 520 light displays. It's open Sunday through Thursday from 4:30 to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 4:30 to 10 p.m. Purchase tickets online or at the gate. The cost is \$25 per car. Visit nhms.com/events/gift-of-lights.

- The Town of Pelham and Pelham Community Spirit are presenting the first annual **Festival of Lights** on the town's Village Green, where you can enjoy a spectacle of tree lighting displays from your car to ensure social distancing. The lights will be up from Thanksgiving until after the New

Year. Visit pelhamcommunityspirit.org.

- Downtown Nashua hosts **Plaid Friday**, a shopping event alternative to Black Friday, on Nov. 27. Wear plaid to be eligible for giveaways, discounts and more at participating businesses. Stop at 201 Main St. first to pick up a swag bag with a map, coupons, discounts and offers. Registration is required. Visit downtownnashua.org.

- Great American Downtown is hosting a **holiday lights contest** for Nashua families and business owners. Now through Dec. 3, photo submissions will be accepted for residential and downtown Nashua businesses with the best festive decorations. Online voting will take place between Dec. 5 and Jan. 3. To enter, email a jpg image of your festive lights, along with your home or business address, to dazzlingdecember@downtownnashua.org. A printable map of the contenders will be available online. Visit downtownnashua.org for details.

- The **Celebrate Laconia Lights Festival** is an ongoing citywide celebration of the holidays featuring special events throughout the season. It kicks off on Sunday, Nov. 29, with a downtown holiday parade led by Santa starting at 4:30 p.m. The parade will move through Lakeport and Weirs Beach before returning to downtown, where there will be a City on the Lakes Holiday Walk. There will be trees for sale to decorate and display in Rotary and Stewart parks, and Santa will light the trees around 6:30 p.m. The trees will remain up through the end of the year. Also starting on Sunday, Nov. 29, will be the Lights Festival Coloring Contest, with submissions accepted through Friday, Dec. 11, and the Light-Up Laconia Holiday Decorating Competition, which will run through Dec. 18. An online interactive map of Laconia homes and businesses with

Here's a look at holiday activities from Thanksgiving through the end of the year (all events are subject to change, of course). Whether it's enjoying a light display from the comfort of your car (or from your house) or watching a performance in a reduced-capacity venue, find the holiday fun that fits your comfort level.

holiday displays will be available, and the public is invited to vote for their favorites online. Visit celebratelaconia.org.

- Concord's **Midnight Merriment** has been reworked this year as a month-long celebration with holiday decorations, special promotions and refreshments at downtown shops and restaurants throughout December. Visit intownconcord.org.

- The Beaver Brook Association (Brown Lane Barn, 52 Brown Lane, Hollis) will host a **greens gathering and wreath making event** on Wednesday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to noon, and 1 to 3:30 p.m. Participants will go on a hike to gather mountain laurel, hemlock and white pine, pine cones and berries, then create a holiday wreath with those materials. The cost is \$25, and registration is required. Visit beaverbrook.org.

- Fright Kingdom (12 Simon St., Nashua) presents its holiday event, "**The Fright Before Christmas**," on Friday, Dec. 4, from 7 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 5, and Sunday, Dec. 6, from 6 to 10 p.m. It features a scary winter wonderland, a creepy Christmas costume contest and food trucks on site. Tickets cost \$29 and must be purchased in advance. Visit frightkingdom.com or call 809-1173.

- In place of its holiday parade, Salem is having a "**Christmas in Whoville**" **holiday display competition** from Friday, Dec. 4, through Sunday, Dec. 6. All participating homes, schools, community centers and businesses will have their displays illuminated from 4:30 to 11 p.m. A list of addresses will be shared with the public, and residents can vote online for their favorite displays. Visit salemnhparade.org.

- This year's **Salem Night of Lights** will be a drive-thru holiday experience happening on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 5 to 8 p.m. at



The Gift of Lights at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. Courtesy photo.

Salem High School (44 Geremonty Drive, Salem). Visit townofsalemnh.org.

- In place of its holiday parade, Exeter will host a **Drive-Thru Holiday Celebration** on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Exeter High School (1 Blue Hawk Drive, Exeter). The school will be decorated with holiday lights, displays, inflatables and scenes, and Santa will greet drivers from a safe distance. Visit exeterholidayparade.org.

- Milford presents "**Miracle on Elm Street**," a holiday drive-thru event, on Saturday, Dec. 5, with half-hour time slots from 9 to 10:30 a.m. The drive starts at the Keyes Memorial Park west entrance (127 Elm St.) and will have stops along the way with treats for kids. The cost is \$5 per car. Registration is required. Visit milford.nh.gov.

- **Santa's Merrimack Holiday Tour** will take place on Sunday, Dec. 6. Santa and Mrs. Claus will ride through town in a Fire Department vehicle, stopping at seven different locations between 2:45 and 3:45 p.m., to greet people at a safe distance. Visit merrimackparksandrec.org/holiday-happenings or call 882-1046.

- Canterbury Shaker Village (228 Shaker Road, Canterbury) will host **A Magic Journey through the North Shop Barn** from Dec. 11 through Dec. 23, and from Dec. 27 through Dec. 30, daily, from 1 to 5 p.m. The North Shop Barn, which has been transformed into a winter wonderland, will

FESTIVE CONTINUED ON PG 19 ▶

Family-friendly holiday fun

Kids' storytimes, Santa visits and more

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

From storytimes and holiday movie screenings to visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus, check out these events to get into the holiday spirit this season.

- The Pelham Parks & Recreation Department is inviting kids ages 10 and under to receive a special **letter from Santa** this holiday season. Forms can be picked up at the department's office (6 Village Green, Pelham) and filled out and submitted by Friday, Dec. 4. Completing the forms with as much detail as possible is encouraged to further contribute to the personalization of the letters. Visit pelhamweb.com/recreation or call 635-2721.

- Now through Friday, Dec. 18, **kids can mail their "wishlist" to Santa Claus** by dropping it off in the "North Pole" express mailbox at the Bedford Town Office building (24 N. Amherst Road). All kids dropping off a letter will receive a return letter addressed to them. Visit bedfordreonline.com for more details. • Visit Santa Claus at **Bass Pro Shops** (2 Commerce Drive, Hooksett) now through Dec. 24. Santa will have an acrylic "magic shield" barrier in place between families at all times this year. Free online reservations are required, as spots are limited to allow social distancing. Visit basspro.com/santa.

- The Hudson Lions Club will present a **drive-thru visit with Santa Claus**, who will arrive by fire truck in the parking lot of Alvirne High School (200 Derry Road, Hudson) on Friday, Nov. 27, at 2 p.m. "Elves" will also be giving out goodie bags for kids. Visit nhlions.org/hudson.

- Tickets are still available for a **Frozen** viewing party at select Chunky's Cinema & Pub locations, including on Friday, Nov. 27, at 12:30 p.m. at the Manchester theater (707 Huse Road), and on Sunday, Nov. 29, at either 12:30 p.m. or 6 p.m., at the Pelham theater (150 Bridge St.). Tickets are \$6.99 per person. Visit chunkys.com.

- See a screening of the classic film **The Wizard of Oz** on either Friday, Nov. 27, or Saturday, Nov. 28, at The Flying Monkey Movie House & Performance Center (39 Main St., Plymouth). The doors open at 6 p.m., and the film begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$7 for seniors and students. Visit flyingmonkeynh.com.

- The Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover) is offering **holiday gift making kits** that include five projects kids can make to give as gifts to loved ones. Kits cost \$45 per child (\$40 for members) and can be ordered online and picked up at the museum the week of Dec. 1. You'll be emailed a list of pick-up time slots to choose from, which will be in the early evening. Projects include painting and arranging a centerpiece, making a static electricity ornament, designing a shrink art keychain or necklace, making a hanging barrier and more. Kits are best suitable for kids ages 3 1/2 to 12. If

any are remaining after Dec. 3, they will be available to purchase in the museum shop during its regular operating hours (Thursday to Saturday, 9 to 11:30 a.m., or 1 to 3:30 p.m.). Visit childrens-museum.org.

- Take an **online art class** via Zoom with the Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center (30 Ash St., Hollis). The next available classes include painting with wool on Tuesday, Dec. 1, at 5:45 p.m. (ages 11 and up; register by Nov. 27); felting a snowy owl on Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 5:30 p.m. (ages 8 and up; register by Nov. 27); and felting holiday gnomes on Thursday, Dec. 3, at either 3:30 or 5:30 p.m. (ages 8 and up; register by Nov. 27). Visit wildsalamander.com.

- Join The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth) for a screening of the classic holiday film **A Christmas Story** on Tuesday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$12 to \$15 per person. Visit themusichall.org.

- Now through Dec. 3, you can see a **showing of The Santa Clause** at any of the three Cinemagic locations in the Granite State (38 Cinemagic Way, Hooksett; 11 Executive Park Drive, Merrimack; 2454 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth). Tickets are \$5 per person. Visit cinemagicmovies.com for showtimes.

- Charmingfare Farm (774 High St., Candia) has combined its Santa's Big Party and Lighted Winter Wonderland events into one celebration, **Santa's Christmas**. Individual tickets are not being sold; only packages are available, for \$249 (one package is good for up to 10 people), with various times available to visit the farm on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 4 through Dec. 6, Dec. 11 through Dec. 13 or Dec. 18 through Dec. 20. Horse-drawn wagons are divided into two sections of 10 passengers each. Attractions include a live animal nativity, visits with Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus and live "reindeer," s'mores kits, hot cocoa and complimentary cookies. Visit visitthefarm.com to check available times.

- The Milford Recreation Department is hosting **Miracle on Elm Street**, a holiday drive-thru event happening on Saturday, Dec. 5, with multiple time slots beginning at 9 a.m. Starting at the west entrance of Keyes Memorial Park (127 Elm St., Milford), participants will drive through the event, and kids will receive free treats at several booths along the way. The cost is \$5 per car and pre-registration is required (only 20 cars will be allowed for each time slot). Visit milfordrec.com.

- Join the Millyard Museum (200 Bedford St., Manchester) for a **holiday open house** on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., which will feature children's holiday crafts, raffles, locally made products for sale and more. All are welcome free with museum admission. Visit manchesterhistoric.org.

- Legacy Lane Farm (217 Portsmouth Ave., Stratham) will host **Christmas on the Farm** on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 10 a.m. featuring visits with Santa Claus, holiday crafts, hot cocoa, Christmas

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Tree traditions

Virtual tree-lightings, festivals of trees and more

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

From virtual tree lightings to community-wide light displays, cities and towns all across New Hampshire are still finding ways to get you into the holiday spirit. Check out this list of places and times to enjoy a lit up holiday spectacle and find one near you.

• This year, the **Festival of Trees at Bektash Shrine Center** in Concord is going virtual.

While there will be no in-person attendance during the tree raffle show, you can enter in the raffle online to win now through Dec. 4 at noon. The winners will then be drawn that same day at 1 p.m. To enforce social distancing, winners can book a time slot from Dec. 4 through Dec. 6 to pick up their trees. Visit nhshriners.org for more details.

• This year's **Exeter Festival of Trees** has been reimagined as an online fundraiser for the Community Children's Fund. Now through Thursday, Dec. 3, at noon, you can donate \$25 to be entered to win a beautifully decorated artificial tree. Drawings will be conducted that evening. You can also stop in to Shooter's Pub (6 Columbus Ave., Exeter) and Arjay Ace Hardware (55 Lincoln St., Exeter) to see the trees that are up for grabs. Visit exeterareacharitablefoundation.org.

• **Concord's annual Christmas tree lighting celebration** will be held at the Statehouse Plaza (North Main Street) on Friday, Nov. 27, at 4 p.m. Visit concordnh.gov.

• The 12th annual **Southern New Hampshire Festival of Trees**, hosted by Pelham Community Spirit, is happening at Sherburne Hall in the municipal building (6 Village Green, Pelham), from Friday, Nov. 27, through Saturday, Dec. 5, at varying times, when participants will have a chance to win a decorated tree. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for kids ages 12 and under (multiple-day passes are also available). Raffle tickets are \$5 per sheet of 25 tickets. Visit snhfestivaloftrees.pelhamcommunityspirit.org.

• Get your tickets now for a **holiday tree lighting and family dinner** at LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst) on Sunday, Nov. 29, starting with a multi-course meal served at 5:30 p.m., and the lighting at 6:45 p.m., snow or shine. There will also be live holiday music and a full bar with beer, wine and cocktails available for purchase. After dinner, guests will be invited

to get hot cocoa and cookies while walking over to the vineyard overlook for the tree lighting. The cost for the dinner is by table only (price breakdown is \$49 for adults and \$24 for kids ages 12 and under). Reservations are required. Visit labellewineryevents.com.



• **Auburn's Tree Lighting** will be held on Sunday, Nov. 29, at 6 p.m. in the parking lot of the Auburn Village School (11 Eaton Hill Road, Auburn). Masks or face-coverings are required if you're attending in person, or you can stream it on the town's

Parks & Recreation department Facebook page @aubbnnhparksandrec.

• Rivier University in Nashua will hold its **campus Christmas tree lighting** virtually this year, on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 6 p.m. The lighting will be shared live on the Rivier University Alumni Facebook page. Visit rivier.edu.

• **Rochester's holiday tree lighting** will be held virtually this year, airing on Friday, Dec. 4, at 5 p.m. on the City and Chamber of Commerce's websites and Facebook pages. The event will feature special holiday dance performances from the Studio 109 dance school, and a reading of "The Night Before Christmas" by Rochester Mayor Caroline McCarley. Visit rochesternh.org.

• Bethany Church's Greenland campus (500 Breakfast Hill Road) will hold a **Christmas tree lighting** on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 5:30 p.m. Participants can enjoy a live Nativity scene, sing festive Christmas carols and indulge in Christmas cookies and warm drinks. Visit bethanychurch.com.

• **Windham's annual tree lighting** will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 5 p.m. on the Windham Town Common. Attendees are invited to socially distance with masks or enjoy the lighting from the warmth of their cars. Visit windhamnh.gov.

• There will be a brief **tree lighting at Abbie Griffin Park** (6 Baboosic Lake Road, Merrimack) on Sunday, Dec. 6, at 4 p.m. featuring Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, who will be travelling throughout town with the Merrimack Fire Department beginning at 2:45 p.m. Visit merrimackparksandrec.org.

• The annual **Amherst Tree Lighting Festival** will be held virtually on Friday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m. You can also visit LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst) on Sunday, Dec. 13, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and receive a complimentary mimosa if you mention the virtual tree lighting festival (be sure to make a reservation in advance). Visit labellewineryevents.com.

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Get out and run

Virtual races and a couple of in-person events

It wouldn't be the holiday season without a chance to trot off your turkey or shuffle down the street dressed as Santa. Check out a few runs that are still happening — most virtually, or with a virtual option.

- Registration has closed to participate in person in the **Fisher Cats Thanksgiving 5K**, but you can still join virtually. Run wherever you are on Thanksgiving morning — or whatever day and time works for you before Nov. 30 — and submit your results online. Virtual registration will be open until 9 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 29. The cost is \$30 for adults and \$15 for kids 11 and younger. Adults will get a medal and a T-shirt with their registration. Visit millenniumrunning.com/thanksgiving.

- The Greater Derry Track Club is hosting its 47th annual **Turkey Trot 5K Road Race** on Thanksgiving morning at Galliens Town Beach on Beaver Lake, with staggered start times beginning at 7:30 a.m. There will not be any race-day registrations, but a virtual option lets you run any time, anywhere, between Nov. 26 and Nov. 29. The cost for the in-person run is \$25 for adults and \$10 for kids 12 and under. The virtual run is \$10 for everyone. Visit gdctc.org/run/index.php/turkey-trot.

- The 22nd annual **Galloping Gobbler 4-Miler** will be held in person on Thanksgiving morning starting at 9 a.m. at Bishop Brady High School in Concord. Race-day registration starts at 7 a.m., and masks need to be worn at all times until after crossing the start line, if you can maintain a distance of six feet from other runners. Other safety precautions include staying in your car until warm-up is announced. There is also a virtual option this year (if the in-person race is canceled, your registration will automatically be switched to virtual). Virtual runners can run any time, anywhere, from now until the end of the day on Friday, Nov. 27. The cost is \$30 for either race. Visit gsrcs.com/content/galloping-gobbler-4-miler-2020.

- The Amherst Junior Women's Club 20th annual **Trot Off Your Turkey 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run** will be held virtual-

ly this year. Run any day in November and post times and photos when you've completed your race. The online registration deadline is Friday, Nov. 27, at 11:59 p.m. The cost for the 5K is \$25, and the fun run is \$10. Visit trotoffyourturkey.wordpress.com.

- The **Hampstead Turkey Trot 5K** will be in person on Thanksgiving morning, starting at 8:30 a.m. at St. Anne's Church in Hampstead. Online registration ends Nov. 25; race-day registration will take place between 7:30 and 8:15 a.m., but you will not get a T-shirt and the cost is the same. The cost is \$20 for adults, \$15 for ages 62 and older, and \$12 for ages 17 and under. Non-perishable food for the St. Anne's Food Bank will be collected. Pets on leashes are welcome. Visit runsignup.com/Race/Events/NH/Hampstead/HampsteadTurkeyTrot.

- The sixth annual **Penmen for Patriots 5K** will be virtual this year, which means you get to run or walk at any time and in any location. Registration is open until 6:59 p.m. on Nov. 30. The cost is \$30, which gets you a Penmen for Patriots 5K runner's bib in the mail; then, on Dec. 22, you'll be able to pick up a race packet at Runner's Alley in Manchester, which will include a long-sleeved Penmen for Patriots 5K shirt, a gift card from Able Ebenezer Brewing in Merrimack and other swag. After Nov. 22, the race packets will go out in the mail. All proceeds benefit Easterseals Veterans Count. Visit vetscount.org/nh/events/penmen-patriots-5k.

- Walk, jog or run the **Santa Claus Shuffle** in Manchester on Saturday, Dec. 5, and get samples at four sweet stops (chocolate, milk & cookies, candy and maple!) along the three-mile Elm Street route, which begins and ends at Veterans Park. The run will have a time trial start format, with start times staggered between 1 and 3 p.m. Early bib pickup will be available at Millennium Running in Bedford on Thursday, Dec. 3, and Friday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Race-day pickup will be available from 1 to 3 p.m. Masks are required at check-in, in the staging zone and corral zone, in the post-race area, and any time a distance of six feet cannot be maintained. Two runners will start every 10 seconds to allow for distancing. There's also a virtual option that lets you run whatever day and time you want between Nov. 30 and Dec. 6. All runners will get a Santa suit with their registration. The cost is \$25 for the virtual run. The in-person run is \$30 for ages 21 and up, \$25 for ages 12 to 20 and \$10 for ages 11 and younger. If race-day registration is available, the cost is \$5 more for ages 12 and up. Visit millenniumrunning.com/santa.



Shows for the season

Where to see holiday theater, music and dance

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com

There are all kinds of holiday shows coming up — both live in-person and virtually from home — including traditional favorites like *A Christmas Carol* and *The Nutcracker* and festive music performed in a variety of styles.

- The Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester) presents a youth production of *A Christmas Carol Jr.* from Friday, Nov. 27, through Sunday, Nov. 29, with showtimes at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$12 for kids. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

- The **Winter Wonderettes** will perform iconic '60s versions of classic holiday tunes live at the Seacoast Repertory Theatre (125 Bow St., Portsmouth) from Nov. 27 through Dec. 19, with showtimes on Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sundays, Nov. 29 and Dec. 6, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$30 to \$48. Select performances will also be livestreamed for \$20 per viewer. Call 433-4472 or visit seacoastrep.org.

- The Players' Ring presents a one-man adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*, performed by Christopher Savage, live at The Players' Ring Theatre (105 Marcy St., Portsmouth) and virtually from Nov. 27 through Dec. 20. Live showtimes are on Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Tickets cost the same for the live and virtual shows: \$24 for adults, \$20 for students and seniors and \$15 for kids under age 12. Visit playersring.org or call 436-8123.

- LaBelle Winery & Event Center (345 Route 101, Amherst) presents "**A Very Merry Sinatra Christmas**," a three-course dinner featuring Boston jazz singer Rich Dimare, on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Dimare will perform Frank Sinatra songs as well as holiday favorites. Tickets cost \$75 per person. Call 672-9898 or visit labellewinery.com.

- The Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester) presents a concert, "**Joyful Christmas**" with fiddler Eileen Ivers, live on Friday, Dec. 4, at 5 and 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$40. Call 641-7700 or visit anselm.edu/dana-center-humanities.

- The Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester) presents its **Holiday Spectacular** concert from Dec. 4 through Dec. 20, with showtimes on Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at noon. Inspired by the golden age of television variety shows, the concert features more than 30 classic Christmas songs and a visit from Santa Claus. Tickets cost \$39 to \$46 for adults and \$25 for kids. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

- LaBelle Winery & Event Center (345 Route 101, Amherst) will host **A Dickens' Christmas Wine Dinner featuring Piccola Opera** on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 6 to 8 p.m. The opera company will perform Christmas carols throughout the three-course meal. Tickets are sold by table



Ballet Misha performs *The Nutcracker*. Photo by Matthew Lomanno.

only; it's \$387.20 to reserve a table for four and \$580.80 to reserve a table for six. Visit labellewineryevents.com or call 672-9898.

- The Manchester Community Music School will host an **Outdoor Holiday Stroll** in place of its annual Holiday Pops Concert on Saturday, Dec. 5, and Sunday, Dec. 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. Attendees will be escorted in small groups around the holiday-lighted school grounds, where students and faculty will perform live. Tickets cost \$25 per person or \$225 for groups of 10 and include holiday treats. Registration is required. Call 644-4548 or visit mcmuschool.org.

- The New Hampshire School of Ballet presents "**Songs for the Holidays**" at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester) on Sunday, Dec. 6, with performances at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$18. Call 641-7700 or visit anselm.edu/dana-center-humanities.

- Guitarist Gary Hoey performs a **Ho Ho Hoey 25th Anniversary** holiday concert at the Tupelo Music Hall (10 A St., Derry) on Sunday, Dec. 6, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$50. Call 437-5100 or visit tupelomusichall.com.

- Symphony New Hampshire will perform its **Holiday Pops** concert on Friday, Dec. 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester); Saturday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary and Archangel Michael Coptic Orthodox Church (39 Chandler St., Nashua); and Sunday, Dec. 13, at 3 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord). Tickets cost \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, \$10 for students and free for youth under age 18 accompanied by a ticket-buyer. Visit symphony-nh.org or call 595-9156.

- The Music Hall will show a filming of *Clara's Dream: A Jazz Nutcracker*, performed there by Mad Theatricals in 2004, at its Historic Theater (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth) on Wednesday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors, students, military and first responders. Visit themusichall.org or call 436-2400.

- The Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord presents "**Have Yourself a Rockin' Little Christmas with Lucinda**," a livestreamed holiday concert by singer-songwriter Lucinda Williams, on Thursday, Dec. 17, at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$20. Call 225-1111 or visit ccanh.com.

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SHOWS CONTINUED ON PG 16 ▶

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• Family Continued from PG 11

• Ballet Misha performs *The Nutcracker* at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester) on Saturday, Dec. 19, at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$28. Call 641-7700 or visit anselm.edu/dana-center-humanities.

• Boston jazz singer Rich Dimare performs "A Sinatra Christmas" at the Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St., Manchester) on Saturday, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$29 in advance and \$39 at the door. Call 668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org/rex-theatre.

• The Music Hall presents *A Very Ida Christmas*, a holiday show written and performed by Susan Poulin, at its Historic Theater (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth) on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$35. Visit themusichall.org or call 436-2400.

• The Bank of New Hampshire Stage (16 S. Main St., Concord) will show a rebroadcast of the Bolshoi Ballet's performance of *The Nutcracker* on Sunday, Dec. 20, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$12 for students, plus a \$3.75 per-ticket fee. Visit banknhstage.com or call 225-1111.

• The Boston Camerata presents "An American Christmas," on Tuesday, Dec. 22, at 7 p.m. at The Music Hall Historic Theater (28 Chestnut



Susan Poulin stars in *A Very Ida Christmas* at The Music Hall. Courtesy photo.

St., Portsmouth). Tickets cost \$45. Visit themusichall.org or call 436-2400.

• The New Hampshire School of Ballet will perform *The Nutcracker* at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester, palacetheatre.org, 668-5588) on Saturday, Dec. 26, at 6 p.m., and at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana-center-humanities) on Sunday, Dec. 27, at 2 and 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$25.

• Safe Haven Ballet presents *The Nutcracker* at The Music Hall Historic Theater (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth) on Saturday, Jan. 2, at 2 and 6 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 3, at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$50 for adults and \$45 for seniors and children. Visit themusichall.org or call 436-2400. 🍷

• FAMILY CONTINUED FROM PG 11

carolers, a petting zoo and more. The cost is \$10 per person. Visit legacylanefarm.com.

• See **Santa Claus at Greeley Park** (100 Concord St., Nashua) for a socially distanced visit on Saturday, Dec. 5, from noon to 2 p.m., featuring photo opportunities, free gifts and more. Visit nashuanh.gov.

• Join the YMCA of Greater Londonderry (206 Rockingham Road, Londonderry) for its annual **Great Candy Cane Hunt** on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Santa Claus will hide hundreds of candy canes around the YMCA for you to look for during the event. Start by receiving your candy cane hunt bag at the check-in table, then venture to the field for the hunt. Santa will also be there for socially distanced photo opportunities. This year there will be groups of 32 people per 30-minute time slot to help with social distancing (bring your own flashlight). Masks or face coverings are required for all participants. Visit graniteymca.org.

• Chunky's Cinema & Pub's Manchester location (708 Huse Road) will convert a theater to an evening of **family-friendly candy Bingo** on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 6 p.m., featuring movie theater-sized candy boxes as prizes and the big screen as a bingo board. Tickets of \$4.99 per person will get you a box of Chunky's theater candy that you'll turn in to get your bingo cards. Once all the candy is collected, Chunky's staff will divide it up and start playing the rounds. Visit chunkys.com for more details.

• Enjoy **Christmas at the Farm**, reimagined, at Forgotten Farm (23 Goffstown Road, Hooksett). Families can visit from 10 a.m. to noon on the first three Saturdays in December (Dec. 5, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19) for cookies, cocoa, vis-

its with the farm animals, and a free take-home craft. Visit forgottenfarm.weebly.com.

• The Derry Public Library will host a **virtual holiday gift making workshop** on Tuesday, Dec. 8, from 4 to 5 p.m. The library will post tutorials for Sharpie mugs, hot chocolate kits and gift bags on its Facebook and YouTube pages. Register in advance to pick up a Take It and Make It bag in the library's lobby. If registration is full, you can still complete the projects with materials at home. Visit derrypl.org.

• Join the Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) for a **virtual Polar Express bedtime event** on Wednesday, Dec. 9, from 6 to 7 p.m. Goodie bags with treats and crafts will be available for curbside pickup beginning Dec. 1. The virtual program will include Christmas carol sing-alongs and demonstrations on how to make the crafts. Visit manchester.lib.nh.us.

• See a showing of the 2013 animated children's film *Frozen* at any one of the Cinemagic theatres in the Granite State (38 Cinemagic Way, Hooksett; 11 Executive Park Drive, Merrimack; 2454 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth) now through Thursday, Dec. 10. Tickets are \$5 per person. Visit cinemagicmovies.com for available times.

• **Santa Claus** will arrive by helicopter at the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (27 Navigator Road, Londonderry) on Saturday, Dec. 12, at 11 a.m., where he'll greet families and take gift requests until 1 p.m. The outdoor event is free and open to the public. Hot chocolate will also be provided courtesy of the Airport Diner in Manchester. Visit aviationmuseumofnh.org.

• Chunky's Cinema & Pub (707 Huse Road, Manchester, 206-3888; 151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua, 880-8055; 150 Bridge St., Pelham, 635-7499) will host multiple **Polar Express golden**

FAMILY CONTINUED ON PG 20 ▶

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Festive eats

Deliciously fun events for your holiday

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

From plated dinners to virtual tastings, there's still tons of foodie fun to be had in New Hampshire this holiday season. Check out these tasty events going on this year.



- The New Hampshire Liquor Commission's **90 Days Around the World** virtual wine and spirit tasting series continues now through Jan. 30, featuring free Q&As, tastings and other interactive events with many of the world's most esteemed winemakers and spirit purveyors. Visit facebook.com/nhliquorwine to access them. Throughout the 90-day series you can also earn points toward a chance to win multiple prizes and giveaways. Start earning by downloading the free Scavify app.

- Enjoy **holiday foods around the world** at The Hills Restaurant (Hampshire Hills Athletic Club, 50 Emerson Road, Milford), featuring themed specials inspired by different countries each week, including Greece (Nov. 27 and Nov. 28), Spain (Dec. 3, Dec. 4 and Dec. 5), England (Dec. 10, Dec. 11 and Dec. 12) and Italy, with a Feast of the Seven Fishes (Dec. 17, Dec. 18 and Dec. 19). Visit hampshirehills.com/the-hills-restaurant or call 673-7123 to make a reservation.

- The Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Derry) is hosting its annual **parent-child gingerbread house decorating workshops** on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 10 to 11 a.m. or from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Sunday, Nov. 29, from 1 to 2 p.m. or from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 13, from 10 to 11 a.m. or from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 19, from 4 to 5 p.m. or from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Adults and kids will work together with royal icing and all types of colorful treats and edible decorations to design their own houses. The cost is \$45 per parent-child team and registration is required (houses and treats are provided). Visit culinary-playground.com.

- The next **Winemaker's Kitchen cooking with wine class** at LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst) is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 2, from 6 to 7:15 p.m., and will cover holiday recipes like eggnog cocktails, cranberry brie bites and cheesecake bites. The cost is \$25 per person. Visit labellewineryevents.com.

- Join Averill House Vineyard (21 Averill Road, Brookline) for **felted snowman making and a holiday wine tasting** on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 6 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$39.99 per person. Your purchase includes a felted snowman kit, along with a tasting of four Averill wines and a berry, nut and cheese snack pack with chocolate. Visit averillhousevineyard.com.

- The Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) will host a **Prisoner wine dinner** on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 6 p.m. Sous chef Erik Lourens will prepare this five-course din-

ner, each of which will feature a selection from the Prisoner Wine Co. The cost is \$125 per person and tickets must be purchased in advance (21+ only). Visit bedfordvillageinn.com.

- LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst) will host **A Very Sinatra Christmas** on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., featuring a three-course dinner, wines and a performance by Boston jazz singer Rich DiMare. Tickets to the plated dinner are by the table only, and there is a six guest limit per table (price breakdowns are \$75 per person). Visit labellewineryevents.com.

- This year's **Homeward Bound festival** will be held virtually on Thursday, Dec. 3, from 7 to 8 p.m. The event, organized by Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire, will include a livestreamed auction with a variety of items to bid on, including food and wine baskets, holiday decorations and more. Visit familypromisenh.org.

- Join LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst) for **A Very Dickens Christmas wine dinner** on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 6 to 8 p.m., featuring Piccola Opera's Christmas carolers. The three-course dinner will include wine pairings plus a full bar with beer, wine and cocktails available for purchase. Tickets to the dinner are by the table only, and there is a six guest limit per table (price breakdowns are \$80 per person). Visit labellewineryevents.com.

- Stella Blu (70 E. Pearl St., Nashua) will host a **Cakebread Cellars wine dinner** on Tuesday, Dec. 8, with a Champagne reception from 6 to 6:30 p.m. and a five-course dinner with wine pairings from 6:30 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$95 per person and reservations are required. Visit stellablu-nh.com.

- The Amherst Town Library is holding two **virtual family gingerbread house workshops** via Zoom on Thursday, Dec. 10, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The library will provide a take-home kit for you to make graham cracker gingerbread houses at home. Registration is required, as space is limited. Visit amherstlibrary.org.

- Great New England Craft & Artisan Shows will present a socially distanced **holiday shopping extravaganza** on Friday, Dec.

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EATS CONTINUED ON PG 19 ▶

11, from 5 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Hampshire Hills Athletic Club (50 Emerson Road, Milford). The event will feature more than 75 artisan and specialty food vendors selling all types of items for the holiday season, plus a cash bar that will serve up specialty holiday cocktails. Admission and parking are free. Visit gncraftartisanshows.com.

- Enjoy **holiday afternoon tea** with The Cozy Tea Cart at the Gatherings at the Colonel Shepard House (29 Mont Vernon St., Milford) on Sunday, Dec. 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. The cost is \$39.95 per person and reservations are required. Visit thecozyteacart.com.

- Join the Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) for one of two **Champagne brunches** on either Sunday, Dec. 13, or Sunday, Dec. 20, with seatings beginning at 11 a.m. on both days. Each event will include a breakfast buffet, a chef-attended carving station, and unlimited mimosas. Tickets are \$75 per person and reservations are required. Visit bedfordvillageinn.com.

- LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst)



will host a **Snackcracker ballet family tea** event on Sunday, Dec. 13, with two sessions available, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Each will feature hot tea, sandwiches and sweet treats, as well as choreographed reenactments from Southern New Hampshire Dance Theater performers. Tickets are \$25 per person. Visit labellewineryevents.com.

- The Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) will host a **Feast of the Seven Fishes** dinner on Thursday, Dec. 17, at 6 p.m. In addition to multiple types of fish dishes on the menu, the dinner will include a chef-attended pasta station and an Italian desserts station. The cost is \$85 per person and reservations are required (21+ only). Visit bedfordvillageinn.com.

- The Culinary Playground's (16 Manning St., Derry) next available **couples cooking class** is scheduled for Friday, Dec.

18, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and will cover how to make a steakhouse supper, complete with pan seared flank steak and herbed butter, Dijon roasted potatoes, bacon and maple roasted Brussels sprouts and molten lava cakes. The cost is \$160 per couple. Visit culinary-playground.com.

◀ FESTIVE CONTINUED FROM PG 10

feature art vignettes like a Shaker Christmas, a dollhouse, a skating panorama and snowy forest scenes; a Find-the-Elf treasure hunt; hot cocoa and cider; and shopping at the Village Store. Additionally, there will be a Christkindlmarkt-inspired artisan market of handcrafted holiday gifts on weekends; food trucks with sweet treats on Saturdays, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19, and a live musical performance by Massimo Paparello and his Brass Quartet on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 3 to 4 p.m. Admission costs \$10 for adults and is free for youth. Visit shakers.org or call 783-9511.

- The **Southern New Hampshire Tour of Lights** will run from Dec. 11 through Dec. 27. A list of addresses will soon be released for the public to visit holiday light displays

at homes throughout Amherst, Antrim, Fitzwilliam, Jaffrey, Merrimack, Milford, Peterborough and Rindge. Visit merrimack-parksandrec.org/holiday-happenings or call 882-1046.

- A modified **Hampstead Christmas Parade** will take place on Sunday, Dec. 13, starting at 2 p.m. at St. Anne Catholic Church (26 Emerson Ave.). Instead of its traditional march down Main Street, the parade will split into different parts of town, covering 19 miles of road. Visit hampstead.nhlions.org.

- Enjoy a **Winter Solstice Luminary Walk** at Beaver Brook Association (117 Ridge Road, Hollis) on Sunday, Dec. 20, with time slots from 2 to 4 p.m. There will be a self-guided marked trail with a nature story about the origins of the Winter Solstice and fun facts about New England wildlife and the tradition of the Yule log. The cost is \$12. Visit beaverbrook.org.

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Handmade holidays

Where to see and shop for art throughout the season

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com

Find all kinds of unique handmade items by local artists and craftspeople at these holiday-inspired art shows and events, some offered in-person, some offered virtually and some with both options.

- The Warner Historical Society has a **virtual holiday shop** online now at warnerhistorical.org/store, with curbside pickup on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Upton Chandler House Museum (10 W. Main St., Warner). The shop features hand-painted holiday ornaments, calendars, mugs and drinking glasses, T-shirts, books, jigsaw puzzles and more, plus a holiday raffle. Call 456-2437 or email info@warnerhistorical.org.

- Twigg's Gallery (254 King St., Boscawen) presents its annual "**Sleighbell Studio**" exhibit now through Dec. 12. It features a curated collection of fine art and crafts affordably priced for holiday gift giving. Gallery hours are Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Visit twiggsgallery.wordpress.com or call 975-0015.

- Two Villages Art Society and the Hopkinton Historical Society present "**Home for the Holidays: an Art Show & Sale**" now through Dec. 20 in Contoocook and online. The show will feature all kinds of art, including oil and watercolor paintings, ceramics, tapestry, woodworking, wearable art, book making and more, created by local artists and artisans. The show will be held in person at the Bates Building (846 Main St.; masks required) on a drop-in and by-appointment basis and virtually at shop.twovillagesart.org. Show hours at the Bates Building are Tuesday through Friday from noon to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with extended hours, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Friday, Nov. 27, and Saturday, Nov. 28. Visit twovillagesart.org.

- The Seacoast Artist Association presents its holiday exhibit, "**Big Gifts in Small Packages**," now through Dec. 26, at 130 Water St.

in Exeter. The exhibit features a variety of artwork priced under \$100 for gift buying. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and by appointment. Visit seacoastartist.org or call 778-8856.



Hand-painted ornaments for sale in the Warner Historical Society's virtual holiday shop. Courtesy photo.

- Creative Ventures Gallery in Milford presents its annual holiday exhibit, "**Small Works — Big Impact**," virtually now through Dec. 31. The exhibit features small works of art in various media, priced affordably for gift buying. Visit creativeventuresfineart.com or call 672-2500.

- **The Craftworkers' Guild's**

Holiday Fair will be held virtually from Friday, Nov. 27, through Tuesday, Dec. 22, with curbside pickup at the historic Kendall House (3A Meetinghouse Road, Bedford) daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The fair will feature seasonal decor, photography, fine art and prints, cards, gourmet treats, woodworking, fiber and fabric, stained and fused glass, mixed media, jewelry and more by more than 40 juried artisans and craftspeople. Visit craftworkersguild.org.

- Wrong Brain (55 Third St., Dover) will have its ninth annual "**Holidaze Bizaare**" **alternative craft fair** from Nov. 27 through Dec. 30, with fair hours Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 7 p.m. There will be art, apparel, jewelry, ceramics, stuffies, candles, candy and more by dozens of emerging local artists. Virtual shopping with curbside pickup will also be available. Call 834-9454 or visit wrongbrain.net.

- The New Hampshire Art Association hosts its holiday exhibition, "**This Merry Moment**," online and at the NHAA's Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth) from Dec. 2 through Jan. 2. The exhibit and sale will feature a variety of artwork and greeting cards created by NHAA members. Gallery hours are Monday and Tuesday by appointment; Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. An opening reception will be held virtually on Zoom on Friday, Dec. 4, at 6 p.m. Call 431-4230 or visit nhartassociation.org.

◀ FAMILY CONTINUED FROM PG 16

ticket screenings on Saturday, Dec. 12, and Sunday, Dec. 13. Showtimes vary depending on the location, but there are several each day at each theater. Kids will be given a special "golden ticket" to hole-punch prior to entering the theater. Visit chunkys.com.

- The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth) will screen the family holiday film **Elf** on Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$12 to \$15. Visit themusichall.org.

- Enjoy a **Polar Express family brunch** with LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst) on either Sunday, Dec. 20, or Thursday, Dec. 24, from 10 a.m. to noon. The event will feature a multi-course brunch menu accompanied by a screening of the family holiday film *The Polar Express*. Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will be stopping by for a live reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Tickets to the brunch are by the table only, and there is a six guest limit per table (price breakdowns are \$22.99 per person). Visit labellewineryevents.com.

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ARTS — THE — ROUNDUP

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

• **Virtual art shop:** The Picker Artists, an artist co-op in Nashua, is having a virtual holiday sale now through Nov. 30. The online shop features a wide variety of art and crafts, including jewelry, photography, quilting, pottery, stained glass, paintings, collage, prints, 3D art and more. There's a 20-percent discount on most items priced above \$50 with the use of a promo code, according to the website. Orders can be picked up at the Picker Artists building (3 Pine St.), either by going inside (masks required) or by calling to request that they be brought out to your car. Hours are Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Monday by appointment or by chance. Visit shoppickerartists.com or call 930-5080.

• **A final look at Manchester's ponds:** Catch "Manchester's Urban Ponds: Past, Present, and Future: A Celebration of the Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program's 20th Anniversary," on display in the Millyard Museum's (200 Bedford St., Manchester) State Theater Gallery, before it closes on Nov. 28. Through its cleanup efforts, the Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program has helped restore the city's ponds to their historic uses. "Although

ponds may not be the first thing one thinks about in Manchester, the Queen City has several ponds that have played an important role in the area's history," program coordinator Jen Drociak said in an email. The exhibit provides a look at the history of some of those ponds, including Crystal Lake, Dorrs Pond, Maxwell Pond, Nutts Pond, Pine Island Pond and Stevens Pond. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission costs \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors age 62 and up and college students, \$4 for youth ages 12 through 18, and is free for kids under age 12. Call 622-7531 or visit manchesterhistoric.org/millyard-museum.

• **Beatles animation:** Ron Campbell, animator of *Yellow Submarine* and director of *Saturday Morning Beatles Cartoon*, is coming to Creative Framing Solutions (89 Hanover St., Manchester) to exhibit, sell and discuss his original cartoon paintings of The Beatles and other works from his 50-year career in animation, including *Scooby-Doo*, *Smurfs*, *Rugrats* and more. He'll be there on Friday, Dec. 4, from 4 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 5, from noon to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 6, from noon to 4 p.m. Campbell will also paint original remarks of any one of his cartoon characters onsite for customers who purchase his artwork. The event is free and open to the public. According to a press release, RSVPs are "strongly recommended" as "the demand for meeting Ron Campbell is expected to be great." Private viewings are available by appointment. Masks are required. Call 320-5988 or visit creativeframingsolutions.com.

• **An unlikely angel:** Manchester author Nathan Graziano just released a new novella, his ninth full-length book of prose and poetry. *Fly Like The Seagull* follows *The Seagull*, a polymorph and modern angel modeled after actor Steven Seagal, who is sent to bring a new mythology and revive faith in the faithless fictional town of Northboro. "*Fly Like The Seagull* peels back the good, the bad and the ugly and takes a big, juicy bite along the way as [Graziano] navigates the reader through the underbelly of a modern life," Rob Azevedo, fellow local author and host of the radio show *Granite State of Mind*, said of the book in a press release. Visit nathangraziano.com.

• **Prestigious exhibit winners announced:** The New Hampshire Art Association has announced the Award Winners of its 21st annual Joan L. Dunfey Exhibition, titled "Intrinsic Moments." First place was awarded to Jacqueline Harrington for her art piece "Dreaming of My Roots," created using pressed flowers. "The medium surprised and delighted me, leaving me wanting to know more about the artist's process," a juror commented, according to a press release. "The work's composition and colors are as interesting as its materiality, creating a strong visceral and joyful response." Second place went to Kathryn Terwilliger-Smith for her oil painting "The Game," and third place went to Lee Gordon for his glass piece "Hem and Haw." The exhibit, which features juried artwork in a variety of media by regional NHAA members and non-members, is on display now through Nov. 29 at NHAA's Robert Lincoln



Beatles animator Ron Campbell. Photo by Alex Lowy Photography.

Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth) and in a virtual gallery on the NHAA website. One of the NHAA's most prestigious exhibits of the year, according to the NHAA website, it is held in honor of Joan L. Dunfey, who was a resident of the New Hampshire Seacoast and a steadfast patron of the arts. Gallery hours are Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday from noon to 5 p.m., and Tuesday by appointment. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **Art school improvements:** The Institute of Art and Design at New England College in Manchester has expanded its offerings for art students, according to a press release. Three additional majors have been added: 3D Studies, Animation, and Game and Digital Media Design. The Institute has also brought on new renowned faculty and redesigned student spaces around campus to create a new photography lab and studio and a new gathering space in the library. Visit nec.edu or call 623-0313.

— Angie Sykeny

Art

Exhibits

• **"MOMENTS IN NATURE"** The New Hampshire Art Association presents oil paintings by BJ Eckardt. Concord Chamber of Commerce Gallery, 49 S. Main St., Concord. On display now through Dec. 17. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **"UNSEEN LIGHT"** The New Hampshire Art Association presents infrared photography by Mark Giulucci. 2 Pillsbury St., Concord. On display now through

Dec. 17. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **"AN EXTRAPOLATION OF CLOSE OBSERVATION"** The New Hampshire Art Association presents prints and paintings by Kate Higley. 2 Pillsbury St., Concord. On display now through Dec. 17. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **"BIG GIFTS IN SMALL PACKAGES"** Artwork priced under \$100. Presented by the Seacoast Artist Association. On display now through Dec. 26. 130

Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and by appointment. Visit seacoastartist.org or call 778-8856.

• **"SMALL WORKS - BIG IMPACT"** Creative Ventures Gallery's annual holiday exhibit featuring small works of art in various media, priced affordably for gift buying. Virtual. On display now through Dec. 31. Visit creativeventuresfineart.com or call 672-2500.

Special events

• **NHAA 80TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY** New Hampshire Art Association hosts a silent art auction fundraiser. Bidding runs through Dec. 11. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **PAINT NITE** a 21+ event featuring the creation of a "Starstruck Snowman" light-up wine bottle at Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester, chunkys.com) on Sat., Dec. 5, 7 p.m. On Sat., Dec. 12, at 7 p.m., Chunky's Nashua (151 Coliseum Ave.) will feature a

"Birch Buddies Wine Bottle with Lights" project. Tickets \$37 for the Manchester event and \$35 for the Nashua event (follow link through Chunky's website to buy ticket).

Theater

Shows

• **THE ADVENTURES OF SLEEPYHEAD** New Hampshire Theatre Project presents its 2020 - 2021 MainStage Season Opener. Fri., Nov. 27, and Sat., Nov. 28, 7 p.m., and Sun., Nov. 29, 2 p.m. Live in person at 959 Islington

Classical

Events

• **UTE GFRERER** Concert soloist performs. Sat., Nov. 28, 6 and 8 p.m. The Music Hall Historic Theater, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. \$130 for a table of two, \$260 for a table of four and \$390 for a table of six. Visit themusichall.org.

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Dealing with deer

Fences, repellent and other deer deterrents

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

— THE GARDENING GUY —

Winter is near, and for most of us so are the deer. They need extra food now, to get ready for winter, and some of what they eat — green leaves and grasses — is not readily available. So they are eating evergreen plants like yew, arborvitae and rhododendrons in our yards. There are steps you can take to help save your shrubs.

What can you do? You've probably heard the solution, but might not like it: an eight-foot deer fence around the perimeter of your property. Even then you might get an occasional Olympic deer that can sail over it. But generally deer are kept out by such a fence.

You don't have to have a steel fence — lightweight plastic fencing will work, too. And you can use poles to support the fencing, straight young tree trunks you cut yourself from the back forty. And you don't have to fence your entire property. You could put up temporary fencing just for the winter around a tree or shrub that is particularly attractive to deer that has been browsed in the past.

Recently I helped set up barriers around a pair of large yew shrubs. The shrubs are about six feet tall and wide, and in the past they have been stripped bare by deer. I got four eight-foot hardwood stakes and drove them into the ground around each shrub. I needed a stepladder and a three-pound sledge to do it.

The widest burlap we could buy was 44 inches wide, so my wife Cindy sewed two strips together to make an extra-wide band. We draped the cloth over the stakes, and stapled the cloth to the stakes all the way to the ground. We did not cover the top of the shrub, just the sides, so snow will fall through and not weigh down the cloth. It worked well last year — the poor deer went hungry.

What else? There are numerous repellents

that work to a greater or lesser degree. I've had great luck using little garlic clips that I get from Gardener's Supply Co. Each has a clothespin type clip to attach it to a shrub, and has a little cylinder filled with garlic oil. When you poke the device with a tool they provide, it releases the odors for up to six months. I use two per shrub, or more for bigger things or more attractive deer food.

Coyote urine is sold as a deer repellent, too. It is sold with one-ounce plastic bottles that have holes in the sides, a hanger on top and a cotton ball in the bottom. Dribble a little of their magic potion on the cotton, and hang it in a tree. Of course, you can also just bring your dog around the property and let him mark trees and shrubs. Some people hang bars of Irish Spring soap to discourage deer.

There are numerous sprays, too. Bobbex, Deer Away, Liquid Fence and Plantskydd are some of the most commonly sold varieties. Most use rotten eggs, garlic, or fish oils. You might not want to spray your plants the day of a garden party, but most odors disappear to us after a few days. If deer pressure is high, you might want to alternate which one you use.

Deer are creatures of habit. If they know you have good browse, they will come. If they think you have a pet coyote, they will stay away. No dog? Get dog hair from your local pet groomer. Some people hang sachets containing human hair or bars of Irish Spring soap out in their yard to repel the deer.

There are ways to scare deer away, too, but most take some effort to set up. You could install a motion detector attached to a radio with an all-talk radio format. When the deer arrive, Rush Limbaugh comes on and scares them away, I suppose. I've seen motion detectors that attach to a hose and send out spray when deer are detected. That only works in summer, obviously.

In areas of high deer population, gardeners sometimes choose their plants based on their appeal to deer. People, Places and Plants magazine (now, sadly, out of business) asked

its readers to rate plants eaten by deer. They published the results in Issue No. 45 (2004). Here is some of what they said: Seldom eaten shrubs include boxwood, dogwoods, forsythia and spirea. Occasionally eaten shrubs include blueberry, hydrangeas, lilacs, summersweet clethra and viburnums.

Trees rarely pruned by deer include birch and ginkgo. Their survey listed occasionally eaten trees as Japanese maple, pear, pine, magnolia, spruce, willow and crabapple. I raised an eyebrow when I saw crabapple, as I frequently see apple trees that have been browsed by deer. Crabapples, I assume, would be the same, but please let me know if I'm wrong.

In areas with lots of deer, it makes sense to plant perennials that deer love near the house, and those eschewed by deer farther away. So hostas and tulips, loved by deer, should be right near the house. The survey found flowers usually eaten include lilies, daylilies, hollyhocks, black-eyed Susans, and asters. Scented things like lavender, artemisia and oregano are generally of little interest, and those seldom nibbled include balloon flower, bleeding heart, astilbe, foxgloves, columbine, peonies, Russian sage, yarrow and monkshood.



Burlap can be used to keep deer away from tasty shrubs. Courtesy photo.

For a more complete list of deer preferences, you may want to consult a book on the issue. One I like is *Outwitting Deer* by Bill Adler Jr. But remember, if you have a plant that is dear to you, put a fence around it — there is almost nothing a hungry deer won't eat.

Henry is the author of four gardening books. He is an organic gardener and long time UNH Master Gardener. You may reach him by email at henry.homeyer@comcast.net.

TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,
Can you help with any information on this sweet little token? My parents used this with us as long as I can remember. One side says Santa Caught You Being Naughty and the other says Santa Caught You Being Nice.



though they are still being made today it's the antique or collectible older ones that are sought after by collectors. Your wooden nickel seems to be in the 1960s+ range for age, and its value is somewhere around \$10.

Carole

Dear Carole,
What a sweet token. It is a wooden nickel. There were lots of them made through time (from the 1800s to present) and for many different reasons. This one is for a good reason I think — your parents must have had fun using this during the holiday season!

Wooden nickels go from a minimal value to a few having extremely high values. Even

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

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Light-duty use of Toyota means tweaking oil-change algorithm



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:

I bought my Toyota iM in February 2017 as a second car to our family RAV4. As of this morning, it has only 10,800 miles on it, with an average speed over that time of about 30 mph.

Essentially, I drive it to Kroger's (one stoplight), CVS (two stoplights) and the golf course (5 miles on the highway).

At my dealer's suggestion, I have them change the oil every six months, which means I average about 1,600 miles between oil changes. Under my circumstances, should I really change the oil every six months? Or should I do it every 5,000 miles?

The dealer says that in six months the oil gets stale, i.e. some moisture gets in there, blah, blah, blah. Is he spot on, or is he just blah, blah, blahing me? Thanks. — Terry

Hey, blah, blah, blahing people is my job. Tell this guy to butt out.

I think I'd land somewhere in between, Terry. Lots of modern cars now use their computer to calculate when it's time for an oil change. It factors in not only how many miles you drive but how hard you drive and under what temperatures and engine operat-

ing conditions.

If your car had that capacity, Terry, I'd advise you to simply abide by that. Those algorithms are pretty good. Unfortunately, your little iM doesn't have anything that sophisticated. It just has a "Maintenance Required" light that comes on, mechanically, every time the odometer racks up 5,000 miles.

So you'll have to do your own estimating. And it's not an exact science. Like those modern oil-change algorithms, I believe the degradation of your oil is based less on the calendar and more on how much work, and what kind of work, you're asking the engine oil to do.

If you were driving a cab or towing a team of Clydesdales, you'd want to change your oil more frequently. But by any measure, you're putting very-light-duty use on this car. Even if you're carrying a set of golf clubs and a gross of extra balls to hide in your pockets, you're babying this thing.

If I were you, once I got outside of the warranty period, I'd change the oil and filter once a year. That seems like a reasonable compromise. That'd be every 3,000 miles or so, which is more than good enough. Especially if you're using synthetic oil, which I'd recommend.

You're not doing any harm by changing

the oil too frequently. But you're wasting oil, oil filters, your time and your money. And you're putting more waste oil into the world, and nobody needs that.

Dear Car Talk:

Ever since I purchased my Chevrolet Traverse LT, I've noticed that the transmission temperature gauge regularly reads around 212 degrees at highway speeds. The engine temperature gauge reads normal or even a little cooler than normal — even when it's hot outside.

I checked with the dealership and was told that this is normal operating temperature for this transmission. I worry that as soon as my warranty runs out, the transmission will expire.

Does this sound normal to you? I am constantly worried, while on long trips, that the transmission will give out in the middle of nowhere. — Ramiro

Don't worry, Ramiro. It's much more likely that something other than the transmission will give out in the middle of nowhere.

Actually, your dealer is right. This sounds perfectly normal. Here's how your transmission stays cool: Whenever your engine is running, the transmission fluid gets pumped into the transmission cooler, which lives

inside your car's radiator. As the transmission fluid passes through the radiator (inside those transmission cooler lines), it essentially gets bathed in coolant. Once it's cooled down, the fluid is sent back to the transmission to keep doing its job.

And do you know the temperature of that coolant that cools the transmission fluid? It's about 220 degrees. It's the same as your normal engine operating temperature, which is in the range of 210-230 degrees. Since the stuff that's cooling the transmission fluid is 220 degrees, there's no way the transmission fluid can end up cooler than that.

Think about it this way: If you had the air conditioner in your house set to 68 degrees, and you left a pitcher of beer out on your kitchen table all day, there's no way it's going to ever get any cooler than 68 degrees, right? Though I'm sure you'd drink it anyway.

If your transmission fluid wasn't running through that 220-degree coolant in the radiator, it could heat up to 350 or 400 degrees or more. And then it would cook itself and your transmission.

But it sounds like your transmission cooling system is doing exactly what it's supposed to do, Ramiro. Hope that knowledge helps you cool off a bit, too.

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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

FOOD

When life gives you lemons, bake cookies

Salem's Fabrizia Spirits launches line of limoncello-infused baked goods



Fabrizia Spirits Baking Co. Photos by Mark Feldman.

By Matt Ingersoll
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When Fabrizia Spirits co-owner Phil Mastroianni started to look ahead to what is normally a quiet winter season for the Salem limoncello producer, he turned to his younger brother Nick with an ambitious idea.

"We've been cooking and baking with our limoncello for years," he said. "When we first started Fabrizia 11 years ago, we would do tastings at some of the liquor stores ... and I would bake a limoncello cake and give out samples of it. So I said to Nick that we should start a baking company with our limoncello, and from there it didn't take too much convincing for him."

The Fabrizia Lemon Baking Co., which launched on Nov. 5, will feature a full selection of baked goods infused with Fabrizia limoncello that will be introduced over time. The company started with Italian limoncello cookies made from a family recipe, followed by limoncello whoopie pies. More lemon-flavored goodies like cakes and biscotti are expected to be added soon.

Utilizing space the company had recently acquired during a production expansion, Fabrizia added a commercial oven and received a food service license from the Town of Salem.

The cookies are baked fresh every day with all-natural ingredients, including real cane sugar, butter, eggs and lemon zest from freshly squeezed Sicilian lemons. The alcohol from the limoncello that's used is baked off, making the cookies suitable for consumption of all ages, according to Mastroianni. They come in packages of six, each one weighing individually just over three ounces, and are available for online ordering and shipping.

"We wanted it to be kind of a luxury treat item and not just another run-of-the-mill cookie," he said. "People really like the crispy exterior and the soft inside. ... The lemon zest also makes it unique. When you're able to use fresh lemon zest, it makes a great difference."

Shortly after debuting the cookies, Fabrizia introduced lemon whoopie pies. Those feature a lemon cake with the limoncello

worked right into the batter, while the cream filling is made from a combination of confectioner's sugar, marshmallow and finely chopped lemon zest. Each ¼-pound whoopie pie is wrapped individually and can last frozen for up to a year.

By early December, Mastroianni said, the company expects to roll out limoncello biscotti integrated with almonds, a recipe inspired by the two brothers' grandmother. The baked goods add to Fabrizia's growing product line, which includes multiple types of limoncello flavors and ready-to-drink canned limoncello-infused cocktails.

From each order placed on Fabrizia's new baking website, \$1 will be donated to Feeding America, a nationwide network of more than 200 food banks across the country.

Fabrizia Lemon Baking Co.

Visit fabrizialemonbakingcompany.com, find them on Facebook and Instagram @fabrizialemonbakingco or call 458-1745 to purchase products, which include limoncello cookies, whoopie pies and other infused baked goods.

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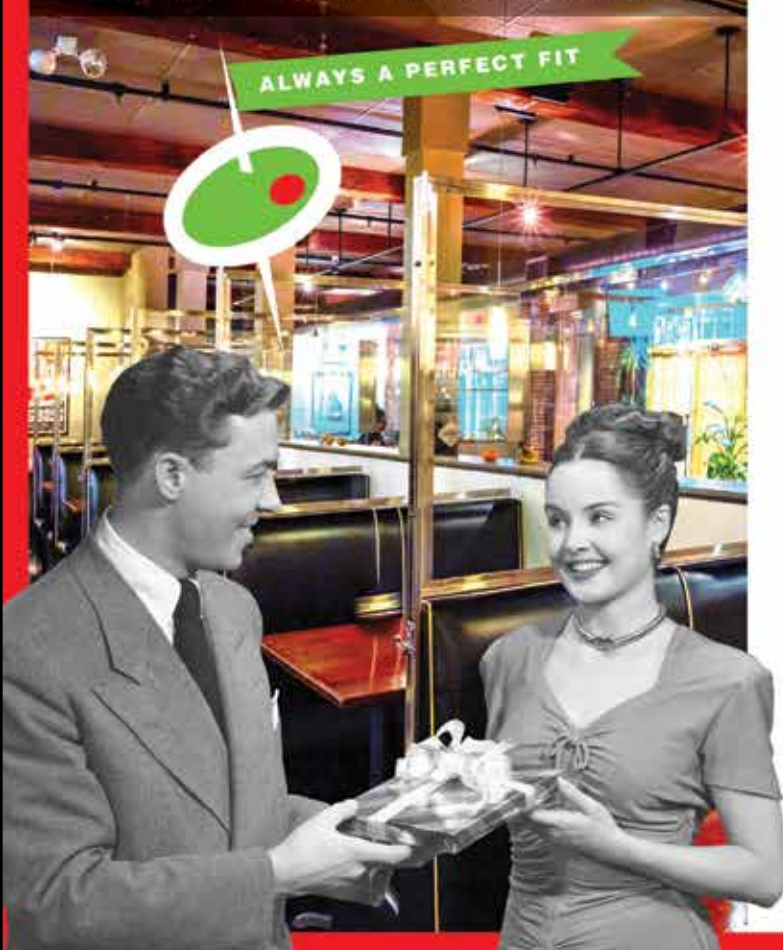
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IN THE KITCHEN

WITH **MELINDA SERGI**



Melinda Sergi of Concord is the owner of The Cannoli Stop Cafe & Bakery (239 Loudon Road, Concord, 224-9706, find them on Facebook), which opened in its current location in January after being in business for nearly two years a mile down the road. In addition to featuring a full pastry case of cheesecakes, cupcakes, chocolate-dipped Oreos and more than 30 types of homemade cannoli fillings, the shop has expanded its offerings since reopening to include subs, calzone turnovers, soups, pastas and other homemade dinners to go. All cannolis are made fresh to order — you can simply choose a small or large-sized shell, then pick your fillings and toppings. Fillings run the gamut from traditional and chocolate chip to caramel, blueberry, pumpkin and cotton candy.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

I use rubber spatulas for everything. We have piles of them.

What would you have for your last meal?

I'd probably say just a slice of pizza. I love pizza with sausage and onions.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

Vinnie's Pizza in Concord.

What celebrity would you like to see ordering from your shop?

Sandra Bullock.

What is your favorite thing on your menu?

The cannolis top everything. I love the orange zest flavor and the chocolate-dipped shell. We've had orange zest from the beginning.

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

Takeout is the big thing right now, [like] subs, sandwiches, pizza, that kind of stuff.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

I love to make a full meal for the family, like a shepherd's pie or a turkey dinner.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

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Chocolate-dipped Oreos

From the kitchen of Melinda Sergi of The Cannoli Stop Cafe & Bakery

1½ pounds chocolate of choice (milk, dark or white)

1 bag of Oreos (any flavor)

Toppings like sprinkles, coconut shavings or chopped candies (optional)

Melt chocolate using a double boiler and dip in Oreo flavor of choice. While chocolate is still wet, add any optional toppings. One and a half pounds of chocolate yields about 30 Oreos, which make great dessert trays for events.



Photo courtesy of the Cannoli Stop Cafe & Bakery.

Food & Drink Farmers markets

- **Cole Gardens Winter Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at Cole Gardens (430 Loudon Road, Concord), now through mid-April. Visit colegardens.com.
- **Danbury Winter Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Blazing Star Grange Hall

(15 North Road, Danbury), now through April. Visit blazingstar-grange.org.

- **Deering Winter Market** is Fridays, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the Deerish Fish & Game Club (Fish & Game Road, Deering). Find them on Facebook @deeringwintermarket.
- **Peterborough Farmers Market** is Wednesdays, from 3 to 5 p.m., at Peterborough Communi-

ty Center (25 Elm St., Peterborough). Find them on Facebook @peterboroughnhfarmersmarket.

- **Rolling Green Winter Farmers Market** is on most Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Rolling Green Nursery (64 Breakfast Hill Road, Greenland). Upcoming market dates are Dec. 12, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, Jan. 16, Jan. 30, Feb. 13 and Feb. 27. Visit rollinggreennursery.com.



TRY THIS AT HOME

Pomegranate & pistachio bruschetta

We are in the midst of the holiday season. In a typical year we'd be getting ready for a number of cocktail parties, family gatherings and other social events. This year things are different.

However, even if you're staying home, you still can celebrate with special foods, like this pomegranate & pistachio bruschetta, also known as holiday bruschetta.

There are many things to like about this bruschetta recipe. First of all, it's incredibly simple to make. From start to finish it takes about 15 minutes to make a batch. Second, the pomegranate arils add both a nice literal pop of flavor and a bit of sweetness. Third, you can make these in advance and then store them in your refrigerator for an hour or so before serving them.

A couple notes on the ingredients: You can buy a whole pomegranate and remove the arils from it. That will add another 10 or so minutes to your prep time. If you want to keep preparations to 15 minutes or less, find a package of arils in the produce department of your grocery store. Also, look for shelled pistachios. My local store only had pistachios in shells, so I spent some extra time removing nuts from shells. It wasn't a horrible task, but it added some time.

Now, with ingredients in hand, you have



Pomegranate & pistachio bruschetta. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

an appetizer that is simple and delicious and festively colored for a fine holiday appetizer, whether it's eaten alone at home or shared among friends.

P.S. You most likely will have leftover pomegranate. Save it. Next week's recipe features the arils as well.

Michele Pesula Kuegler has been thinking about food her entire life. Since 2007, the New Hampshire native has been sharing these food thoughts and recipes at her blog, Think Tasty. Visit thinktasty.com to find more of her recipes.

Pomegranate & Pistachio Bruschetta

Makes 20

- 20 baguette slices
- 4 ounces goat cheese, room temperature
- 1/4 cup salted pistachios
- 1/2 cup pomegranate arils
- Honey
- Flaked sea salt

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
Place baguette slices directly on rack in the

middle of the oven.
Bake for 5-6 minutes or until crisp.
While the baguette slices toast, chop pistachios until fine.
Take baguette slices out of oven.
Spread a thin layer of goat cheese on each.
Drizzle each slice with honey, and sprinkle with salt.
Divide pomegranate and pistachios among the 20 slices.
Serve.
Can be prepared an hour in advance and stored in refrigerator.

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 26

• **Turkey Drive fundraiser:** The Bedford Knights of Columbus, along with members of St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church in Bedford, joined forces to raise \$10,808 during their annual **Turkey Drive** to benefit the New Hampshire Food Bank, a program of Catholic Charities New Hampshire, according to a press release. Since donating a few turkeys more than 10 years ago, the Bedford Knights of Columbus's initiative to support the food

bank has grown immensely, raising more than \$123,000 over the last decade to help meet holiday food needs in the state. "Partnerships like this are critical in helping us feed our neighbors experiencing hunger," New Hampshire Food Bank executive director Eileen Groll Liponis said in a statement. As a result of increased demand, the Food Bank expects to continue increasing its food distribution statewide, according to the release.



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Cocktails as a holiday family avoidance strategy

Holidays are traditionally the time for extended families to gather together. Amid all the hastening and chastening, they are also a time for avoiding family. Hiding in the bathroom or the garage is a time-honored Thanksgiving activity.

But this year — as with all aspects of our lives — things are different. The family we might be the most eager to avoid may also be the same people we've been with 24 hours a day for the last nine months. At this point most of us have used up pretty much every viable excuse to leave a room.

Except perhaps one: a cocktail. Please notice that I have specified "A" cocktail. Aside from flirting with dangerous habits or an outraged liver, heavy drinking rarely produces the outcome you might be looking for. Before you get to the Comfortably Numb stage, you will probably pass through the Karaoke stage, and even the "Let Me Text the Relatives and Tell Them What I Really Think Of Them" stage — neither of which are likely to give you the sense of peace you are looking for.

Leaving the room to make a drink, however, especially at the holidays, is a culturally sanctioned escape from playing Pictionary. "I'm just going to make a drink; go ahead and start without me," is a tacitly accepted Holiday Get Out of Jail Free Card.

There are two approaches to the Escape Cocktail:

Fast and Easy: Get into the kitchen, make a simple drink, drink it, and get back out to the living room without spending too much of your rapidly diminishing social capital.

Slow and Complicated: Make something that will involve so much time and effort that nobody will be tempted to help you, and at the same time everyone will pretty much avoid and then forget about you altogether.

Thanksgiving Cocktail No. 1 – Fast and Easy: The Jack-In-The-Box

2 oz. Calvados, AppleJack or other apple brandy
2 oz. Pineapple juice
2 dashes bitters (I measured this out and two dashes = about 25 drops)

Combine ingredients over ice and shake thoughtfully. Don't smash the ice up this time.

Strain into a martini glass.

The Jack-In-The-Box is a classic cocktail from the 1970s. It is different enough from what you are used to drinking to be interesting, but not so different as to be threatening.



The Jack-In-The-Box. Photo by John Fladd.

You don't need threatening. Not right now.

Your experience drinking a Jack-In-The-Box will be highly subjective, depending on what you've been snacking on. If you've been eating something sweet, this will taste a little ... off. If you've been eating something salty on the other hand, you will need one hand free to make a chef's kiss gesture upon drinking it.

For those of us who are also from the '70s, the JIB goes spectacularly well with homemade Chex Mix, or as we called it in my youth, Nuts & Bolts (see box).

Thanksgiving Cocktail No. 2 – Slow and Complicated: The Cranberry Cobra

½ oz. lemon juice
¾ oz. jalapeño rum (see below)
1½ blisteringly cold vodka
1 oz. cranberry syrup (see below)
½ oz. 100 percent cranberry juice
1 bottle Fever Tree Aromatic Tonic

Shake everything but the tonic over ice, as vigorously as you see fit.

Pour into a tall Collins glass, over more ice.

Top with tonic and stir gently.

This is a Thanksgiving riff on a cocktail called a Cobra Verde, which is frankly delicious, but pretty summery. The Midori that gives the original drink its verde has been replaced with cranberry syrup and cranberry juice. Tasty-But-Pricey Mexican pepper liqueur has been replaced with homemade jalapeño rum.

Is it delicious? Yes. Is it Thanksgiving-colored? Yup. How long will it keep you in the kitchen? Anywhere from 20 minutes to four days.



The Cranberry Cobra. Photo by John Fladd.

Cranberry Syrup

1 part sugar
1 part 100-percent cranberry juice – NOT cranberry juice cocktail

Bring both ingredients to a boil in a small saucepan and cook until the sugar dissolves completely — about two minutes.

Actually that's it. You will probably want to let it cool before actually using it in a cocktail.

So, right now, if you are a thoughtful reader, you are asking why you can't just use cranberry juice and simple syrup in the Cranberry Cobra and skip the syrup making altogether.

Seven words for you — Apple. Pie. Ala. Mode. With. Cranberry. Syrup.

Jalapeño Rum

1 liter bottom-shelf white rum
4-5 jalapeños, roughly chopped.



Jalapeño Rum. Photo by John Fladd.

Combine peppers and rum in a wide-mouthed airtight jar. Store someplace cool and dry.

Let it macerate for up to a week, but taste it after three days.

Shake twice a day, which gives you a convenient week-long excuse to leave a room. "Oh, sorry — I have to go shake the rum."

When the rum is at the right level of flavor and heat for you, filter it through a coffee filter, bottle and label.

According to the website for the Tasty-But-Pricey Mexican pepper liqueur, they combine specially grown-in-the-moonlight ancho peppers and "pure cane spirits," which sounds like white rum to me. Why bottom-shelf? Any subtle rum flavors will be blown out by the Angry Jalapeño Brothers.

This rum is absolutely delightful and will revolutionize your bloody marys.

John Fladd is a veteran Hippo writer, a father, writer and cocktail enthusiast, living in New Hampshire.

1970s Era Nuts & Bolts

½ cup salted butter (1 stick)
2 Tablespoons full-sodium soy sauce
1¼ teaspoons seasoned salt
¼ teaspoon garlic salt (If there was any way to cram more salt into this, we didn't know about it in the '70s.)
2¾ cups Corn Chex
2¾ cups Rice Chex
2¾ cups Wheat Chex
1½ cups cocktail peanuts (Oh, wait — apparently there is a way.)
1½ cups sesame sticks

Preheat oven to 275 degrees F.
Melt butter in a shallow pan. Stir in soy sauce, seasoned salt and garlic salt.
Add cereal, peanuts and sesame sticks. Mix

until all pieces are coated.

Place on a shallow baking pan with sides. Bake for 40 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes.

"Wait," I hear you saying, "what about the pretzels?"

Funny you should ask.

I have a theory about pretzels; it's part of my Grand Unified Snack Theory. Take a handful of pretzels. They're fine. They aren't exciting, but there's nothing particularly wrong with them, either. Now, put them in a snack mix. They immediately become the worst thing in that snack mix. Sesame sticks, on the other hand, immediately become the best part of a snack mix. It's a mystery of science.

Wines for giving thanks

Wines to consider for your Thanksgiving menu

By Fred Matuszewski
food@hippopress.com

“This Thanksgiving will be unlike all other Thanksgivings!”

We have heard that expression far too many times, haven't we? We will all be hunkered down, safe in our households, seated for our traditional feast, but there will be differences around us, some subtle, some not-so-subtle. Crazy Uncle Larry who begins his Thanksgiving Day cocktail hour at 10 a.m. will be (thankfully) absent and the a.m. may be a bit simpler, a bit smaller. For the early afternoon, we plan to have another couple over for hors d'oeuvres in the driveway, surrounded by patio heaters! For our dinner, instead of a large turkey, we will have a roast duck. It will be smaller and simpler but still very enjoyable!

We still need to celebrate with our friends and family, and with wine paired to the extended courses. The possibilities are endless.

Chic Barcelona Brut Cava (originally priced at \$14.99, on sale at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets at \$7.99) is a bargain not to be passed up. A blend of 35 percent macabeu, 35 percent xarello and 30 percent parellada grapes, this wine hails from the Penedès region of Catalonia, Spain, south of Barcelona, where the climate is Mediterranean with continental influences meaning that it tends to have cold winters and slightly milder summers than the interior countryside produces full and fresh wines resulting in a slower maturation of the grapes. Cava is the chief wine of this region and it is made in the traditional, or Champagne, method, which means it has a second fermentation in the bottle. The color of this wine is a light straw. The tiny bubbles that rise from the bottom of the glass are not as intense as with Champagne and the nose is bright and fresh, lacking in the yeasty brioche nose one identifies with a Champagne. To the tongue, the taste is fresh and citric but lacking in length. This is an excellent accompaniment to hors d'oeuvres, and a great way to start the meal. Alcoholic content is 11½ percent.

Höpler Grüner Veltliner, 2019 (originally priced at \$16.99, on sale at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets at \$14.99) is an Austrian wine from the eastern part of the country, from vines planted along the Danube River and on the banks of Lake Neusiedl. The Höpler winery is located in Burgenland, just 45 minutes from Vienna. The soils range from gravel with some clay to rich, fertile well-draining silt. Cold winters allow the vines to go dormant, but hot summers with substantial sunshine and humidity rising from the nearby lake allow the grapes to develop a balance between fruit, flavor and great acidity. The color is



straw with a strong overtone of green. The green results from the selection of greener grapes, producing a wine that is more aromatic than the wine made from grapes that are more yellow. To the nose the wine has notes of lime and minerality, along with some white pepper spice. This wine falls between sauvignon blanc (acid and green grassy notes) and riesling (tropical and mineral notes). To the taste, this wine has tropical fruit — pineapple with lemon-lime acidity. This is an ideal wine to cool and just sip, alongside the cava, to enjoy along with oysters, or to transition to the main course, the bird.

Schug 2017 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir (originally priced at \$32.99, on sale at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets at \$14.99) is a blend of pinot noir grapes from select vineyards located in the western portion of Carneros, a region on the coast of the San Pablo Bay. A cool, breezy climate allows the grapes to mature slowly and retain their natural acidity, with bright flavors of red cherries, raspberries and spice. There is also a touch of tart pomegranate on the tongue. The wine is aged in large neutral oak casks and older French oak barrels to keep new oak flavors to a minimum. The finish is long and reminds me of cranberry, and therefore perfect to pair with that bird! It will nicely cut through the buttery fat of the bird's side dishes.

So, while the Thanksgiving celebration may be small and ever so intimate, it should be savored. The pandemic will pass; the memories will live on. Happy Thanksgiving.

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

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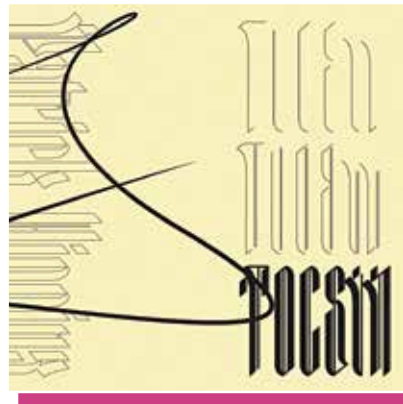
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Just before the election, there was a pretty good meme making the rounds, in which God scolds Gabriel for filling the year 2020 with all the events that were supposed to happen during the entire decade instead of spacing them out. This New York based noise/classical composer is perfect for this apocalyptic period, focusing his efforts on creating “crisis music” with his combo of overeducated, over-Manhattan-ed music nerds. After serving in bands both rock and classical, Higgins’ goal these days is creeping you out, or at least bringing the listen-

er awareness of how creepy everything is these days, this by making his music act as an organic, brain-bending x-factor. In the beginning (“SQ3 (I) Aletheia”), it’s a cross between maximum-crazy Jim Thirlwell and the hope-destroying soundtrack to *There Will Be Blood*. But there are other things too, of course, such as angry piano-bonking, slasher-movie string assaults (“SQ3 (III) Passagio”), chime concertos (“Tocsin 01”), etc., all of it washed off most elegantly in the end with a stab at Bach’s *Contrapunctus XIV*. World-renowned contributors include Wet Ink Ensemble, pianist Vicky Chow and the Mivos Quartet. **A+** — *Eric W. Saeger*

Suuns, *Fiction EP* (Joyful Noise Recordings)



This Canadian band has been around since 2007, making an artsy mix of neo-psychedelic art-punk. They’re arguably most famous for their 2013 tune “2020,” a wub-wubbing freak-electro joint that sounds pretty much exactly like what you’d expect to hear from a band of Martians trying to sound like Clinic, which I, at least, am fine with. This shorty EP is the product of Covid-enforced isolation and sounds it; the basic tracks for these songs come from older recordings that have been micro-analyzed and reworked with their trademark

futuristic mindset as tempered by the sense of doom that pervades human life these days. Opener “Look” is a bizarre noise essay combining the smooth EDM of The Orb with the reverent nonsense-sampling of The Books, but that’s just the warm-up. “Breathe” features guest Jerusalem In My Heart adding a buzzy Albanian chordophone line to a couple of pretty neat loops; “Pray” bounces along nicely with some bloopy goth soundtracking. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

• Here we go, the holidays are here, as evidenced by all the new CDs slated for release on Friday, Nov. 27! For our first inspection of the week, let’s look at the new **Miley Cyrus** album, *Plastic Hearts*, because it’ll probably be interesting if nothing else. Miley has stated that her influences for this record were Britney Spears and Metallica, meaning she’s still officially insane, but let’s not rush to judgment, shall we? I mean, if she can do this, maybe Bruno Mars will do a cover of a Death Grips tune, you know? Wouldn’t that be awesome, guys? But no, I’m kidding, Miley legitimized herself as a metal queen when she did the cover of Nine Inch Nails’ “Head Like a Hole” at the Glastonbury festival last year, but even before that, her appearance on the Worst Episode Ever of *Black Mirror* Krazy-glued her spurious new image into the public consciousness: She’s basically a hilariously overprivileged, 27-year-old version of Keith Richards, but with Auto-Tune. So this album (by the way, she’s also threatening to make an album of Metallica cover songs) is basically a Kinder Egg for critics, like, I know that when I check out “Midnight Sky,” the single I’ve successfully avoided for two months now, it’s going to turn out to be cheap and dumb, but will its Kinder Surprise be a toy car or a xenophobic Smurf? Whatever, the video is OK, if your brain doesn’t glitch out from being exposed to her usual overacting; it’s like ’80s post-disco, think mellow-mode Taylor Dayne as sung by Britney Spears. It’s survivable, is what I say.

• Ho ho ho, anyone notice that Billy Corgan from **Smashing Pumpkins** is looking more and more like a clown version of Uncle Fester these days? I mean, there’s nothing inherently wrong with that, per se, I was just making an ... oh just drop it, the ’Kins are back, with a new double-album, called *Cyr*, this week! The only thing that’s ever stuck out to me about the ‘Pumps is that they have a real knack for making headlines, in rock ‘n’ roll magazines, while only ever delivering room-temperature grunge-pop made even more inedible by Corgan’s Steve Urkel singing voice. But that’s just me, and you may disagree, which is fine, and I will simply agree to listen to the title track. Hmm, it’s like Kraftwerk, but with a catchy chorus. Does it seem weird to anyone else that the good old ‘Smashies are a ’90s band, and the ’90s were supposed to be an improvement over ’80s music, but here they are doing phoned-in krautrock? No? Never mind then.

• **Billie Joe Armstrong** is that little fake punk guy from whatever-their-name, Green Day. Since Green Day’s music hasn’t made enough money to buy all the Twizzlers he could ever eat, he’s solo now, with a new album, *No Fun Mondays!* The album consists of all cover songs, including Kim Wilde’s “Kids in America,” which was a finalist in the 1981 “Worst Songs Ever Made” competition as selected by the legions of Beelzebub.

• We’ll end the week with holiday cheer, as spread by Nova Scotia-born folk-popper **Jenn Grant** on her new album, *Forever On Christmas Eve!* It includes “White Christmas,” blah blah blah, and an original, called “Downtown Christmas Eve,” a sexytime chill-out with binking piano and an aimless but pleasant melody. — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

CDs

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• Patrick Higgins,

Tocsin A+

• Suuns, *Fiction A*

BOOKS

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• *The Arrest C*

• Book Notes

Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers’ workshops and other literary events.

To let us know about your book or event, email asykeny@hippopress.com.

To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

FILM

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• *The Lego Star Wars*

Holiday Special A

Retro Playlist

At this point there’s really not much else to do other than commiserate with others on the internet. The other day I got into it on Facebook with a couple of my old alpha-troll friends, a couple of European chaps who, like me, used to chase bad people off the internet for fun. It all started when the British guy posted a



that the Englishman was actually playing his “axe” over a rip of a Miles Davis jazz tune. Miles is the most famous trumpet player in history, which you should know if it ever comes up on a test, so the other guy and I felt kind of stupid, which meant that we all had to start throwing mindless insults at each other. Being I’m

not a “Miles-ophile,” I led with the defense that I believe “anyone who pretends to like everything Miles has ever done should be dipped in murder hornets.” Things devolved from there, as always, but I think I successfully made the point that I’m a casual jazz fan, not a Miles wonk, mostly familiar with his work with Sonny Rollins.

I’ve gotten a lot of pleasure and serenity out of all these years of reviewing jazz albums, the

bonus being that unlike my British friend I didn’t spend many thousands of dollars building my collection, since public relations people send me new ones nearly every day. And the jazz world isn’t just composed of a bunch of bands huddling in unheated recording studios trying to get a good take of “My Echo My Shadow And Me”;

there’s always a new angle. I don’t know if any of you remember this — OK, you don’t, but who would — but in 2011 I tried to get you to listen to **Mocean Worker**’s *Candygram For Mowo!* You should still check it out; it’s a jazz album but with a ton of hip-hop and house-techno influences.

In 2014 I mentioned **Zara McFarlane**’s *If You Knew Her*, which included a cover of **Kitty White**’s “Plain Gold Ring,” but other than that it



was expressionism colored in her African roots, accentuated with such things as bird noises and steel drum bits.

Great stuff, but as always, all jazz is eclectic stuff, so it’s best to sample jazz albums before buying the vinyl versions. Unless it’s the **Yellowjackets**. If you see a Yellowjackets album, just buy it.

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. 🍷



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POP CULTURE BOOKS

The Arrest, by Jonathan Lethem (Ecco, 307 pages)

Despite a vague discomfort with what it says about me, there's never been an apocalypse I didn't like. In 1998, when everyone was asking why America needed two asteroid disaster movies released within two months of each other (*Deep Impact* and *Armageddon*), I was wondering why we couldn't have three.

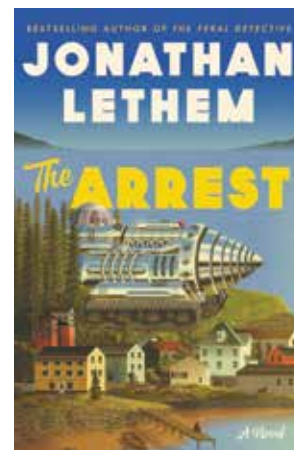
So I was stoked for Jonathan Lethem's latest, *The Arrest*, even more because it's set in New England. Its premise seems the perfect antidote to 2020: a world in which all modern technology has stopped working. No more planes, trains and automobiles, no laptops, no electric blankets, no Googling, no doomscrolling. The doom is already here, and it's not as bad as predicted. In fact, if you are the type who thinks wistfully about living off the grid on an organic farm one day, this is not the apocalypse, but paradise.

The disappearance of technology, which unfolded slowly, as opposed to one catastrophic event, has been dubbed "The Arrest." The citizens aren't sure what happened, but it appears the apex event in a long line of losses to include biodiversity, the melting of polar ice and the drowning of Miami. There were apparently no riots and mass human deaths, however, just a pervasive sadness at the loss of our cellphones. Some built shrines to them; others "needed eventually to be given a mug of herbal tea while someone else hid their inert former playthings."

Our escort through this world is one Sandy Duplessis, a Hollywood screenwriter whose primary job, pre-Arrest, was to rewrite the work of others, and to enjoy whatever scrapwork was tossed to him by a longtime friend who has been much more successful than he was.

Sandy's world is much different now. For one thing, he goes by the quaint moniker Journeyman, and his job is to deliver food and other necessities of life around the town in rural Maine where he has settled. He also assists the local butcher and has acquired an unsettling amount of knowledge about how to slaughter ducks.

He has settled in this town because it's where his sister, Maddy, lives on an organic farm; he had come to visit her when the Arrest occurred. Now, for reasons that are unclear, New England has dealt with its collective loss of smartphones by organizing itself into *Walking Dead*-esque communities, taking care of their own but keeping their distance from other, threatening communities. Mostly, this works; life has essentially reverted to the 19th century, where all communities need is one everything: one butcher, one fisherman, one seamstress, one mediocre former screenwriter who ferries around



homemade sausage.

People may miss their former lives; they certainly miss coffee. They nurse deep sorrow about the relationships they have lost. But they still have hot mulled cider and there's currently no trauma, no drama, until Journeyman's old friend, the smooth-talking mogul, shows up in a monstrous, futuristic rocket-ship of a car: a supercar that could decapitate intruders, run on nuclear fuel and make

espresso.

The friend, Peter Todbaum, said he'd spent 10 months driving across what was left of the country to find Journeyman, and Journeyman's sister, with whom he had a complicated history. (When Maddy visited the two men when they were newbies in Hollywood, she and Todbaum shared a weekend together that had apparently shattered her, although he doesn't know the details. She only told her brother, cryptically, "He didn't do anything to me that he doesn't do to you.")

Todbaum's arrival sets up the mystery: What is he doing here? Is the supercar real? Is any of this real? In Malibu the friends had been working on a script called *Yet Another World*, with Maddy's help. And when Todbaum arrives and Journeyman hoists himself into the vehicle, Lethem writes, "He climbed into surely that most abhorrent of things, a mixed metaphor."

The unspooling of the answers provides only limited satisfaction, in part because the novel is so strange, and no single character endearing. There is also the matter of Lethem's self-indulgent musings, which seem like observations he's jotted in his journal over a lifetime and wants to put to use. Example: his recurring mention of "time averaging," which he defines as the mental gymnastics in which we reconcile the younger version of people we know with the aged version confronting us today.

Another example: his introductory aside into a quirk of the wintry Northeast, frost heaves, which Lethem describes as "a verb itself frozen."

"Maybe Frost is in fact a person, that poet we studied in high school. Frost heaves into the mind. His road diverged; ours doesn't. Thought, really, isn't any road you could follow in either of two directions divergent enough to begin with?" he writes, losing a third of potential readers from the get-go.

But Lethem, the author of 11 well-regarded novels including *Motherless Brooklyn* and several collections of short stories, is at the stage of his career where he can write what he wants, unmolested. His latest is not a bad book, just a meandering one that ultimately fails to, well, arrest. **C** — Jennifer Graham



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Books

Author events

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• **ALKA JOSHI & SARAH MCCRAW** Joshi presents *The Henna Artist* and McCraw presents *The Wrong Kind of Woman*. Hosted by Bookery in Manches-

ter. Online. Tues., Dec. 8, 6 p.m. Visit bookerymht.com or call 836-6600.

• **THERESA CAPUTO** the star of TLC's *Long Island Medium* will present "Theresa Caputo: The Experience Live" at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St. Concord, ccanh.com) on Wed., April 7, 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$39.75 (with option for a VIP Photo Op for an additional \$49.95).

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• **GIBSON'S BOOKSTORE** Online, via Zoom. Monthly. First Monday, 5:30 p.m. Bookstore based in Concord. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com/gibsons-book-club-2020-2021 or call 224-0562.

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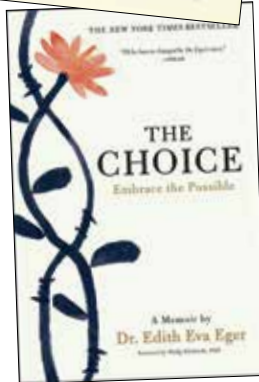
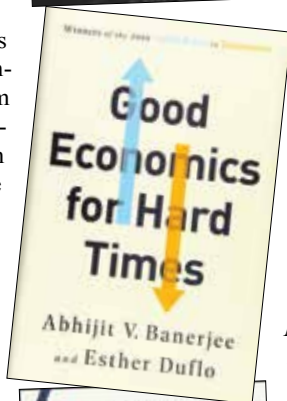
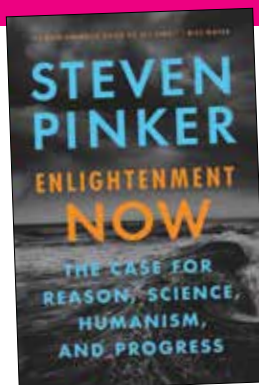
If the No.1 measure of success in America is the amount of money you make, No. 2 might be that people want to know what you read. Consider Oprah. A longstanding feature of her magazine (which ends next month, at least in paper form) is what she's reading.

But after Oprah, Americans care passionately about what Bill Gates reads.

It seems there's always some new breathless recommendation emanating from the Microsoft founder, the latest of which I came across on Medium under the headline "Bill Gates Just Declared This Optimistic Read His New Favorite Book of All Time."

Gates declared this his "new" favorite book of all time in 2018. But if you are wondering, it was Harvard psychologist Steven Pinker's *Enlightenment Now* (Penguin, 576 pages), which replaced Gates' previous favorite book, also by Pinker, *The Better Angels of Our Nature* (Penguin, 832 pages).

For something more recent, Gates recommended a handful of other books on his blog earlier this year. (Why has no one started Bill's Book Club?



He is said to read 50 books a year, by reading a minimum of an hour at a sitting.) A sampling of his recommendations this year:

Good Economics for Hard Times, by Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee (Public Affairs, 432 pages), the case for "intelligent interventionism" in public policy to solve inequality.

The Ride of a Lifetime, Lessons Learned from 15 years as CEO of the Walt Disney Company, by Robert Iger (Random House, 272 pages). "One of the best business books I've read in several years," Gates says.

The Headspace Guide to Meditation and Mindfulness, by Andy Puddicombe (St. Martin's Griffin, 224 pages). Gates says he started to meditate after reading this book.

The Choice, by Dr. Edith Eva Eger, a memoir and guide to processing trauma (Scribner, 320 pages). Added bonus for this title: It's also endorsed by Winfrey, who has said, "I'll be forever changed by Dr. Eger's story."

— Jennifer Graham

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The Lego Star Wars Holiday Special (TV-G)

Rey learns a valuable lesson about friendship on Life Day in *The Lego Star Wars Holiday Special*, a gleefully goofy Lego tour through the *Star Wars* universe.

It's also 47 minutes long, which is the perfect "movie" length for something that I think is fairly kindergarten-and-up appropriate. (Even the scariest moments are cut with levity.)

In what I'm pretty sure is a post-*Rise of Skywalker* world, Rey (voice of Helen Sadler) is trying to teach Finn (voice of Omar Miller) the ways of the Force, all shield helmets and drone lasers in the Millennium Falcon, just like Luke and Obi-Wan. Despite reading all the Jedi texts (nice callback!), she can't seem to get the teaching right and decides to set off to an ancient cave on the Whatever planet where it is prophesied that Jedi can find answers to their questions once a year on Life Day — and, luckily, it happens to be Life Day.

A brief "Life Day" aside: So this is a Wookiee holiday that originated in the infamous 1978 *Star Wars Holiday Special*, a TV thing that featured the likes of Bea Arthur and Harvey Korman as well as many of the original *Star Wars* movie actors and was so notoriously bad that it never saw the light of day after its initial airing. I have never seen the whole thing, though the full special and clips are available on the internet. A few years back, David T. Cole of the *Extra Hot Great* podcast did a delightful short-run podcast series called *Now That's What We're Tarkin About* that



The Lego Star Wars Holiday Special

examined in depth this thoroughly bizarre-sounding special, which is where most of my knowledge about the special comes from. (In a brief search, I couldn't figure out if the podcast was still available anywhere; there is an *Honest Trailer* about some early *Star Wars* spinoffs, including the holiday special, and that also gives you the gist of what this cultural artifact was like.) This 2020 special seems to offer a general acknowledgment of the place in pop culture that "Star Wars holiday special" as a concept holds without winking too hard about it or requiring you to have deep canonical knowledge to get it. Just for tone and how it deals with this element of its subject, I give this movie points.

Back to the plot: Finn, Poe (voice of Jake

Green) and Rose Tico (voice of Kelly Marie Tran, who also played Rose in the most recent trilogy) are bummed that Rey is leaving on Life Day. The plan was for the whole gang to be together to help Chewbacca celebrate and welcome his family. Scenes of them preparing, with varying degrees of success, for a big party are intercut with scenes of Rey finding the special Jedi cave and stumbling upon a crystal that opens portals through time. Since she is looking for help training Finn, she specifically goes back to previous scenes of teachers and students: Luke (voice of Eric Bauza) and Yoda (voice of Tom Kane), Luke and Obi-Wan (voice of James Arnold Taylor), Anakin (voice of Matt Lanter) and Obi-Wan, Obi-Wan and Qui-Gon Jinn (also Kane) — a particularly

delightful scene because it highlights how boring trade talks are.

But, of course, there is another master-and-apprentice duo in the *Star Wars* universe: Emperor Palpatine (voice of Trevor Devall) and Darth Vader (voice of Matt Sloan). When this pair catches a glimpse of Rey portaling through time, they decide that maybe her time-travel-enabling crystal would be a good thing to have.

As Rey jumps through the *Star Wars* timeline, occasionally pulling a character or two along with her, we get some fun sight gags — young and old Han Solo both shooting first, a Darth Maul sighting, a shirtless Kylo Ren, a moment of *The Mandalorian's* The Child. This element of the movie has a very *Avengers: Endgame* feel, with a kind of affectionate and playfully ribbing reference to characters and situations across a franchise. It's all done with enough general silliness that you don't have to know every corner of every entry to enjoy it. And we also get nice Lego-physicality gags — my favorite is one involving the *Return of the Jedi*-era Death Star. Through it all, there is even some nice messaging about friendship and believing in yourself — but don't worry, the bits of sentiment don't get in the way of a good blue milk mustache.

This holiday special really does seem made for the whole family — with Lego people doing lightsaber battles for the kids and *Empire Strikes Back* callbacks for the adult fans. **A**

Rated TV-G. Directed by Ken Cunningham with a screenplay by David Shayne, Lego Star Wars Holiday Special is 47 minutes long and available on Disney+. 🍷

AT THE SOFAPLEX

* *Once Upon a Snowman* (TV-G)

Voice of Josh Gad, Chris Williams.

Sure, this is a short, but I'm still counting this eight-minute movie about Olaf of the *Frozen* universe as a fair movie game. Here, we see the little journey Olaf (voice of Gad) went on between the time that Elsa, mid-"Let It Go," conjured him and when he met up with Anna and Kristoff. Maybe you remember, back a million years ago in 2013, how some complained that early trailers had set *Frozen* up as a slapsticky adventure with a snowman but then the movie wasn't really that (ha, to have such concerns; were we ever so young?).

Well, here's your slapsticky snowman movie, which gives us Olaf's proto-nose and explains where the snowman in *Frozen* came from. It also cracked my slapstick-loving kid up with a "where's my butt" joke. This is a sweet, probably all-ages-friendly new bit of *Frozen*-ness. **B+** Available on Disney+.

* *Phineas and Ferb The Movie: Candace Against the Universe* (TV-G)

Voices of Ashley Tisdale, Ali Wong.

While I was aware of the existence of *Phineas and Ferb*, neither I nor my children had seen an episode of the Disney series before we watched the movie, which I think all of us enjoyed. Maybe me the most. This visual- and verbal-joke-dense world features young teen Candace (voice of Tisdale) and her younger brothers Phineas (voice of Vincent Martella) and Ferb (voice of David Errigo Jr.) in that age-old sibling battle between the kids always doing crazy stuff (Phineas and Ferb) and the kid (Candace) who can't convince anybody that they are really the ones causing trouble and mess. There's also a secret agent platypus and a mad scientist and his too-cool daughter (Vanessa, voiced by Olivia Olsen, Candace's chill friend) and a bunch of *Phineas and Ferb's* friends, all with their own weird quirks. But in this adventure, Candace is central to the action; she is kidnapped by a spaceship and taken to a planet where she is told by leader Super Super Big Doctor (voice of Wong) that she is the Chosen One, and what put-upon older sister doesn't like that? Meanwhile,

Phineas and Ferb and their friends try to save her — and convince her that she needs saving. There are also songs, all of which are great.

My younger kids loved the pratfall humor, my older kid liked some of the "little brothers, ugh" bits and I liked the classic *The Simpsons* mix of pop culture references, smart use of cartoonery and general smart alecky-ness. And, the message is ultimately that families love each other and should stick together, but said with way less sappiness and plenty of kid appeal. **A** Available on Disney+.

Secret Society of Second Born Royals (TV-PG)

Peyton Elizabeth Lee, Elodie Yung.

And Skylar Austin, of *Pitch Perfect* fame, who is 33 and playing, essentially, the professorial Giles-from-*Buff*-like mentor to the kids in this movie, which is one of many things about this cute adventure movie that will make parents feel old. Lee plays Sam, a second-born royal whose older sister Eleanor (Ashley Liao) is about to become queen of Illyria, their tiny European country. Sam is all about her band with her best friend Mike (Noah Lomax) and being all



Phineas and Ferb The Movie: Candace Against the Universe

"the monarchy and rules are lame," behavior that she thinks is the reason she's sent to summer school. Really it's because she, like fellow royals Tuma (Niles Fitch), January (Isabella Blake-Thomas), Matteo (Faly Rakotahavana) and Roxana (Olivia Deeble) (and, it's suggested, the late Princess Margaret and Prince Harry — ooo, does America have a new superhero?), are second-borns gifted with special abilities that will help them protect and serve their countries. If they pass rigorous training, they will join a secret society of second-borns — and their skills may be even more

important now that a dangerous prisoner (Greg Bryk) has escaped an Illyrian prison. Who is this baddie and what does he want? Will the second-borns figure out how to use their powers? Will Sam's mom (Yung) get off her back about being perfect? This teen superhero movie makes up for what it lacks in story innovation and special effects (there is one special effect in particular that is pretty "yikes") with likeable characters and pacing that mostly moves the action along (even if my eight-year-old did get bored by some of the emotional drama stuff). **B** Available on Disney+.

Film

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- **Red River Virtual Cinema**
Red River Theatres is currently offering indie, foreign language and documentary films via a virtual cinema experience. Recent additions include *City Hall*, a documentary about Boston city government. See the ever-changing lineup on the website.
- **Santa Clause** (PG, 1994) will screen at Cinemagic theaters in Merrimack, Hooksett and Portsmouth through Thursday, Dec. 3, with three to four screening times per day. Tickets cost \$5.
- **Frozen** (PG, 2013) will screen at Cinemagic theaters in Merrimack, Hooksett and Portsmouth Wednesday, Nov. 25, through Thursday, Dec. 10 with three to four screening times per day. Tickets \$5.
- **The Wizard of Oz** (1939) will screen on Friday, Nov. 27, and Saturday, Nov. 28, at the Flying Monkey. Doors open at 6 p.m., the film begins at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors and students
- **Variete** (1925) silent film featuring live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis on Sunday, Nov. 29, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre. Admission is free but a \$10 donation is encouraged.
- **A Christmas Story** (PG, 1983) at the Music Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15

- for adults, \$12 for seniors/students/military/first responders.
- **Moonstruck** (PG, 1987) movie plus packaged dinner from Ristorante Massimo at the Music Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 2, 5:30 p.m. RSVP by Nov. 25. Tickets cost \$30 per person with dinner.
 - **Lucinda Williams in studio concert series** livestreamed event offered by the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord. Tickets start at \$20 per event (with add-on options). Remaining shows include "Funny How Time Slips Away: A Night of '60s Country Classics" on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 8 p.m.; "Have Yourself a Rockin' Little Christmas with Lucinda" on Thursday, Dec. 17, at 8 p.m., and "It's Only Rock and Roll: Tribute to the Rolling Stones" on Thursday, Dec. 31, at 8 p.m.
 - **21+ "Fra-gee-lay" A Christmas Story Viewing** at Chunky's in Manchester, Nashua and Pelham on Thursday, Dec. 3, 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$4.99.
 - **Elf Trivia Night 21+** for teams of up to six players on Thursday, Dec. 3, and Sunday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the Chunky's in Manchester as well as Thursday, Dec. 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the Chunky's in Nashua. Reserve a team spot by purchasing a \$5 food voucher.

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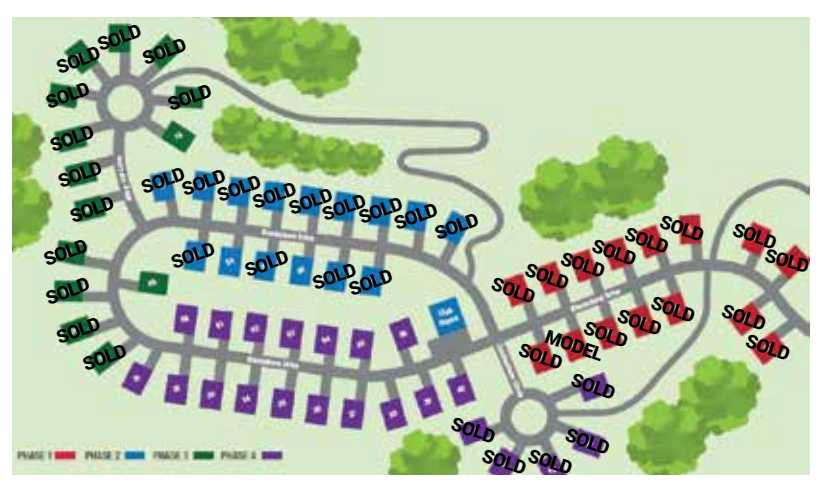
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THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

NITE Bountiful sound

Americana band Raid the Larder performs

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com



Raid the Larder. Courtesy photo.

• **Leading in:** Enjoy a variety of musical genres with **Tim Hazelton**, a singer-songwriter based in Holderness who moves from guitar to ukulele and covers songs across the spectrum — his “Folsom Prison Blues” is a good one — along with some tasty originals. He made an album a while back with David Young as the Tim & Dave Show. Hazelton can also rock out and dig deep into the blues. Wednesday, Nov. 25, 6 p.m., Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, 11 Hills Ave., Concord, facebook.com/Tim-Hazelton-Music.

• **Dining out:** Small plates and country music are on the menu as **Nicole Knox Murphy** performs. The Candia-based singer-songwriter used her spring lockdown time to finish and release “I’m So Done” and “The 802” — the latter tune is an ode to Murphy’s Vermont roots. She was a working musician and a beauty show contestant in her teenage years. Friday, Nov. 27, 7 p.m., Granite Tapas & Cocktail Lounge, 1461 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, nkmsings4u.com.

• **Laughing up:** Ending an 11-year run as a comedian, according to an announcement on his Facebook page, **Jay Grove** and his sharp observational style of standup will be missed. Along with being a talented storyteller, he helped the scene grow, hosting Monday night open mic shows at Penuche’s in Concord and opening a few clubs of his own. The most recent was Curly’s, in his hometown of Rochester. See him one last time Friday, Nov. 27, 8 p.m. Chunky’s Cinema Pub, 151 Coliseum Ave, Nashua, tickets are \$15 at headlinerscomedyclub.com.

• **Working it:** Acoustic singer and guitarist Christopher Perkins performs as **The Lone Wolf Project**. His set list includes everything from Queensryche to Cyndi Lauper, with sweet tunes like John Denver’s “Annie’s Song” offered as well; he even covers “Cum On Feel The Noize.” He has some nice originals as well, “Today” is a family-centered song written during lockdown. Saturday, Nov. 28, 8 p.m., South Side Tavern, 1279 Willow St., Manchester, facebook.com/ASoloAcousticExperience.

Raid the Larder perfectly illustrates the intersectionality of Concord’s music scene. At its core are Taylor Pearson and Brian Peasley, two friends who started playing punk rock together 10 years ago in high school. When Pearson introduced Peasley to the Grateful Dead and its all-acoustic cousin Old & In the Way, he picked up a mandolin and the two morphed into a younger version of Jerry Garcia and David Grisman.

They called themselves Hometown Eulogy. The moniker came from a song by Tristan Omand, a local rocker turned folkie who inspired their rustic turn.

“His albums seem to come to me in certain places in my life where I need it the most,” Peasley said in a recent phone interview. “Me and Taylor were really loving that first album of his. We’re like, ‘Hometown Eulogy just sounds like a badass name.’”

A couple of years ago Peasley heard Ryan Nicholson playing with a band called Oddfellows Way at a craft beer festival. Learning the guitarist also played banjo, he suggested an impromptu jam session; the two clicked immediately. Later he discovered that Nicholson would soon be moving to Concord.

Peasley connected with guitarist Mac Holmes after watching him play in Plymouth, where he lived.

“I was like, ‘This guy’s amazing — I need him. I wanted a full bluegrass band,’” he said.

Holmes ended up traveling to Concord so frequently that he eventually relocated to the city.

“The bass player was the hard part,” Peasley said.

He knew Scott Heron and his wife, fiddler Betsey Green, from their time jamming with singer-songwriter Will Hatch.

“Will was starting to get a band together when he moved back up here from Virginia and he found Scott and Betsy.”

As the two grew occupied with their own project, Green Heron, Hatch cast about for new players.

“Me and Taylor were playing in a band called the Graniteers with our friend Nick Ferrero from high school. ... We ended up playing shows with Will,” Peasley said.

He suggested a jam session with Hatch.

“Will’s like, ‘Oh yeah, that’d be fun,’ and it ended up being a *Pizza Tapes* kind of thing,” he said.

They became friends with Heron and Green in the process. So, when an upright bassist was needed, Heron agreed to join.

Raid the Larder played its first show in December 2018, with Green guesting on fiddle. Travel to and from Kingston made it too much for the couple. Heron left, and Nicholson recruited Adam Martin, who’d just left Oddfellows Way to take his place. The band’s lineup now consists of Peasley on mandolin, guitarists Pearson and Holmes, Nicholson playing banjo and Martin on bass.

For now they’re all about playing together whenever they can, and haven’t made a record — yet.

“I want to get together and play these songs that I’ve been covering for years, but with a full band,” Peasley said. “We do

everything from old Carter Family tunes to Modest Mouse to Jimmy Buffett. I would love to do a recording because we all bring originals from the different bands we’ve come from; it’s a big collaboration. I think Mac doesn’t care if we recorded or anything. He just wants to play.”

Peasley also hosts the weekly open mic at Penuche’s, where Raid the Larder will perform two days after Thanksgiving. He and Pearson also appear regularly at another Concord hub for local music, Area 23. They two co-lead a weekly songwriters night a while back, inviting local performers over to play their originals.

Pearson and Peasley always join in, and the evenings often provide a full flavor of one of the state’s most burgeoning and enjoyable scenes.

“Me and Taylor, learning people’s songs,” Peasley said. “It’s just what we do.”

Raid the Larder

When: Saturday, Nov. 28, 8 p.m.

Where: Penuche’s Ale House, 16 Bicentennial Square, Concord

More: facebook.com/raidthelarder

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MUSIC THIS WEEK

Amherst LaBelle Winery 345 Route 101 672-9898	Concord Area 23 State Street 881-9060	Exeter Sawbely Brewing 156 Epping Road 583-5080	Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954	Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210	Penuche's Music Hall 1087 Elm St. 932-2868	Nashua American Social Club 166 Daniel Webster Hwy. 255-8272	The Gas Light 64 Market St. 430-9122
Bedford Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677	Cheers 17 Depot St. 228-0180	Sea Dog Brewery 9 Water St.	WHYM Craft Pub & Brewery 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801	Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545	Salona Bar & Grill 128 Maple St. 624-4020	Fratello's Italian Grille 194 Main St. 889-2022	The Goat 142 Congress St. 590-4628
Bow Cheng Yang Li 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508	Concord Craft Brewing 117 Storrs St. 856-7625	Gilford Patrick's 18 Weirs Road 293-0841	Hooksett Granite Tapas & Cocktail Lounge 1461 Hooksett Road 232-1421	Bonfire 950 Elm St. 663-7678	South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947	Liquid Therapy 14 Court St. 402-9391	The Statey Bar & Grill 238 Deer St. 431-4357
Brookline The Alamo Texas Barbecue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000	Hermanos Cocina Mexicana 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669	Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230	Hudson The Bar 2B Burnham Road	CJ's 782 S. Willow St. 627-8600	Strange Brew 88 Market St. 666-4292	Millyard Brewery 25 E Otterson St. 722-0104	Rye Atlantic Grill 5 Pioneer Road 433-3000
Candia Town Cabin Deli & Pub 285 Old Candia Road 483-4888	Epping The Community Oven 24 Calef Hwy. 734-4543	Hampton Community Oven 845 Lafayette Road 601-6311	Luk's Bar & Grill 142 Lowell Road 889-9900	Cercle National Club 550 Rockland Ave. 623-8243	Meredith Hart's Turkey Farm 223 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-6212	New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362	Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway 458-2033
Chichester Flannel Tavern 345 Suncook Valley Road 406-1196	Holy Grail 64 Main St. 679-9559	CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972	Fat Katz 76 Derry St. 298-5900	Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880	Twin Barns Brewing 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876	Newmarket Stone Church 5 Granite St. 659-7700	Jocelyn's Lounge 355 South Broadway 870-0045
	Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225	The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928	Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022	The Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925	Merrimack Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022	Pittsfield Main Street Grill & Bar 32 Main St. 435-0005	Tuscan Kitchen 67 Main St. 952-4875
		Shane's BBQ 61 High St. 601-7091	603 Brewery & Beer Hall 42 Main St. 404-6123	Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022	Milford The Hills 50 Emerson Road 673-7123	Portsmouth Dolphin Striker 15 Bow St. 431-5222	Seabrook Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706
				KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St. 627-RIBS	Moultonborough Buckey's 240 Governor Wentworth Hwy. 476-5485		

Tuesday, Nov. 24

Concord
Hermanos: Zeb Cruikshank, 6:30 p.m.

Hampton
Wally's: Musical Bingo Nation, 7:30 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Brad Bosse, 5:30 p.m.
KC's: Steve Archambault, 7 p.m.; open mic with Paul Costley and Nate Comp at 8 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Andrew Geano, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
Fratello's: Max Sullivan, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

Stratham
Tailgate Tavern: Musical Nation Bingo, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 25

Bedford
Copper Door: Chad LaMarsh, 2 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: Brian Weeks, 4:30 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: open mic night, 6:23 p.m.
Hermanos: Tim Hazelton, 6:30 p.m.
Penuche's: Senie Hunt, 8 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbely: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.

Hampton
Wally's: Chris Toler, 7 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: D-Comp Trio, 6 p.m.

Manchester
Bonfire: FatBunny, 9 p.m.
Cercle National Club: Lewis Goodwin, 5:30 p.m.

Derryfield: Jonny Friday Duo, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Matt Luneau, 5:30 p.m.
Strange Brew: David Rousseau

Merrimack
Homestead: Chris Cavanaugh, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
American Social Club: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.
Fratello's: Phil Jakes, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Friendsgiving with Slack Tide, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gaslight: Ben Lyons, 8:30 p.m.
The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.

Rye
Atlantic Grill: Brad Bosse, 5:30 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Pete Peterson, 3 p.m.

Epping
The Community Oven: Brad Bosse, 6 p.m.
Holy Grail: David Amato, 7 p.m.
Telly's: Max Sullivan, 8 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbely: John Irish, 5 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Ross Arnold, 6 p.m.

Hampton
CR's: Don Severance, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.
Wally's: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.

Hooksett
Granite Tapas: Nicole Knox Murphy, 7 p.m.

Hudson
Luk's: Chad Verbeck, 6 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Jeff Mrozek, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Jodee Frawlee Duo, 7 p.m.

Fratello's: Malcolm Salls, 5:30 p.m.
South Side Tavern: Jonny Friday, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: Brian Wall of Sippin Whiskey

Meredith
Hart's Turkey Farm: Henry Laliberte, 6 p.m.
Twin Barns: Eric Grant, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Dave Zangri, 5:30 p.m.

Moultonborough
Buckey's: Rick Clogston, 6 p.m.

Nashua
American Social Club: Emily Rae Shively, 7 p.m.
Fratello's: Andrew Geano, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Thanksgiving Show Truffle, 1 p.m.

Salem
Jocelyn's: Brian Walker, 6 p.m.

Stratham
Tailgate Tavern: Alan Roux, 7 p.m.

Find live music

These listings for live music are compiled from press releases, restaurants' websites and social media and artists' websites and social media. Some events may be weather dependent. Call venue to check on special rules and reservation instructions. Get your gigs listed by sending information to music@hippopress.com.

Friday, Nov. 27

Brookline
Alamo: Mike Preston, 4:30 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: Friendsgiving, 4 p.m.
Cheers: Team trivia, 9 p.m.

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: April Cushman, 6 p.m.
Bonfire: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.
Derryfield: Chad LaMarsh, 9 p.m. (solo acoustic)
Foundry: Alex Cohen, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gaslight: Matt Luenau, 7:30 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
The Statey: Woodland Protocol, 8 p.m.
The Striker: Mitch Alden (solo acoustic), 7 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Johnny Angel, 8 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbely: Double Shotz, 1 p.m.; David Corson, 5 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Dan Morgan, 6 p.m.

Compton
The Goat: Emily Rae, 9 p.m.
Wally's: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
WHYM: Eric Grant, 5 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Joe McDonald, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Another Shot, 6:30 p.m.; Tami Stewart, 10 p.m. (karaoke)

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Mikey G, 6 p.m.
Bonfire: Martin and Kelly, 9 p.m.
Derryfield: Jonny Friday, 9 p.m.
Foundry: Dwayne Haggins, 6 p.m.

Fratello's: Amanda Cote, 5:30 p.m.
Salona: Family Feud Trivia, 8 p.m. with DJ Davey K
South Side Tavern: Chris Perkins, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: David Rousseau p.m.
Meredith
Twin Barns: Musical bingo, 6 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
American Social Club: April Cushman, 8 p.m.

Fratello's: Dave Zangri, 5:30 p.m.
Newmarket
Stone Church: Heavens to Murgatroid, 3 and 6 p.m.
Portsmouth
Gaslight: Dave Gerard, 7:30 p.m.
The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.
The Striker: Max Sullivan, 9 p.m.

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Inner Child, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 29
Bedford
Copper Door: Jim Zaroulis, 11 a.m.; Justin Jordan, 4 p.m.



ELF TRIVIA

Test your knowledge of the comedy *Elf*, starring Will Ferrell, at 21+ Live Trivia Night on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's Cinema Pubs in Manchester and Nashua (707 Huse Road in Manchester and 151 Coliseum Ave. in Nashua, chunkys.com). Reserve a spot for a team of up to six people by purchasing a \$5 food voucher online in advance. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: Ryan Hood, 4:30 p.m.

Concord
Hercorn: Paul Donahue, 6:30 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbely: Sunday Blues & Brews with Alan Roux, 1 p.m.

Concerts

Ticketed shows; schedule subject to change.

Venues
Dana Center
 Saint Anselm College
 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, anselm.edu

The Flying Monkey
 39 Main St., Plymouth
 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com

LaBelle Winery
 345 Route 101, Amherst
 672-9898, labellewinery.com

The Music Hall
 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth
 436-2400, themusichall.org

Pasta Loft
 241 Union Square, Milford

Rex Theatre
 23 Amherst St., Manchester
 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

Stone Church
 5 Granite St., Newmarket
 659-7700, stonechurchrocks.com

Tupelo Music Hall
 10 A St., Derry
 437-5100, tupelomusichall.com

Shows
• Friendsgiving with Slack Tide Wednesday, Nov. 25, 6 p.m., Stone Church
• Annual Thanksgiving Truffle Show Friday, Nov. 27, 1 p.m., Stone Church
• Heavens to Murgatroid Saturday, Nov. 28, 3 and 6 p.m., Stone Church
• Ute Gfrerer Saturday, Nov. 28, 6 and 8 p.m., Music Hall
• A Couple of Fools (Mike and Rich of The Fools) Saturday, Nov. 28, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre
• The British Invasion Years Sunday, Nov. 29, 5 and 8 p.m., Tupelo

• A Very Merry Sinatra Christmas with Rich Dimare Thursday, Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m., LaBelle
• Joyful Christmas with Eileen Ivers Friday, Dec. 4, at 5 and 8 p.m., Virtual Front Row performance via Dana Center
• Gary Hoey's Ho Ho Hoey 25th Anniversary, Friday, Dec. 4; Saturday, Dec. 5, and Sunday, Dec. 6, at 8 p.m., Tupelo (indoors)
• Marble Eyes matinee Saturday, Dec. 5, and Sunday, Dec. 6, at 2 p.m., Stone Church
• Taylor O'Donnell Quartet Saturday, Dec. 5, at 6 and 8 p.m., Music Hall

• Geoff Tate Wednesday, Dec. 9, and Thursday, Dec. 10, at 5 and 8 p.m., Tupelo
• Matt Nakoa Friday, Dec. 11, at 6 and 8 p.m., Music Hall
• Brandon "Taz" Niederauer Saturday, Dec. 12, 5 and 8 p.m., Tupelo
• Celia Woodsmith & Jason Anick Trio Saturday, Dec. 12, 6 and 8 p.m., Music Hall
• Jimmy Lehoux Band Saturday, Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre
• Elton John Tribute Saturday, Dec. 12, 8 p.m., at Pasta Loft Milford presented by Headliners

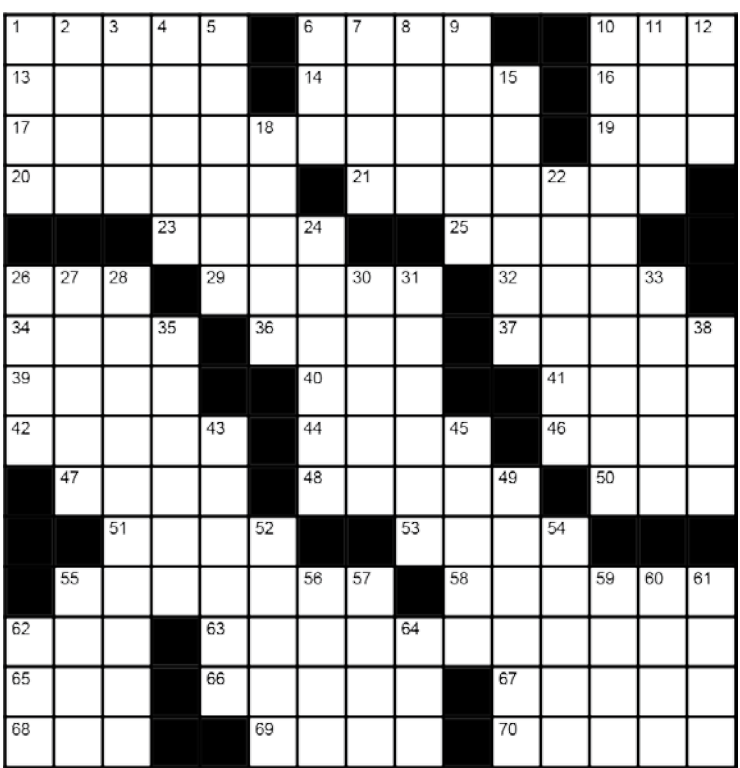
• Treason Quartet featuring Stuart Dias of Soggy Po' Boys Thursday, Dec. 17, at 6 and 8 p.m., Music Hall
• Masters of the Telecaster Friday, Dec. 18, 5 and 8 p.m., Tupelo
• Kashmir: The Live Led Zeppelin Show (Led Zeppelin tribute) Saturday, Dec. 19, at 5 and 8 p.m., Tupelo
• Sharon Jones Quartet Saturday, Dec. 19, 6 and 8 p.m., Music Hall
• A Sinatra Christmas Saturday, Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre
• Alex 1930's Holiday Show Sunday, Dec. 20, 7 p.m., Rex Theatre

ROCKANDROLLCROSSWORDS.com BY TODD SANTOS

LIKE I NEED A HOLE IN MY HEAD

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

- Across**
- Bob Dylan 'Masters ___' (2,3)
 - 'Dune Buggy' band (abbr)
 - Repeated word in Stones 'Steel



- Wheels' opener
- Green Day '___ The Waiting' (3,2)
- Bette Midler "I want ___ and a souvenir" (1,4)
- Sick Puppies 'You're Going Down' album '___-Polar'
- '93 Cracker album (8,3)
- Elderly Machine Head hit off 'Burn My Eyes'?
- The Who 'The ___'
- Kind of sax James Gandolfini plays?
- Musicians' needs, slang
- Like ballad, compared to rocker
- Member of The Replacements
- Tour bus goes through them on highway
- Neil Diamond 'September ___'
- What Massive Attack will be 'Splitting'
- Record label group (abbr)
- Bruce Springsteen 'Living ___'
- What journalist will do to you "over the coals"
- Boston rockers ___ De Sac
- 80s 'Sole Survivor' band
- Scale the charts
- 'I Shot The Sheriff' Clapton
- Alt-band that likes to subtract?
- 'I'd Love You To Want Me' singer
- Cracker frontman Lowery
- Snow Patrol '___ The Fire To The Third Bar'
- 3 French ___
- Christian metalcore band War Of ___

- Country's 'You Ain't Woman Enough' Lynn
- Drummer Carmine or Vinny
- "You've got a #1 ___!"
- '92 Morrissey album for enemies ammo? (4,7)
- Rapper that had her own UPN sitcom
- Tegan & Sara 'One ___'
- Units of power
- Boston 80s garage rockers ___ Fuegos
- What ousted member will do in the press
- Elvis Costello 'Mighty Like ___' (1,4)

- Down**
- Trees 'Elvira' singers get shade under?
 - Edgar Winter '___ Ride'
 - Pink Floyd 'Wish You ___ Here'
 - Phish "And I ___, and faintly bouncing round the room"
 - What security will do to sneaker-upper
 - Criticize harshly
 - What Bill Withers' girl does to him
 - Rancid 'Ruby ___'
 - What labels must do with pop culture
 - 'Love Spreads' rockers (5,5)
 - 'Precious Friend' Guthrie
 - '___ It In A Minute' Hall And Oates
 - The Lady Is ___ (1,5)
 - Men At Work's big hit 'It's A Mistake' wasn't one
 - Finnish metal band
 - What Pete Townshend's hand did

- through the air
- 'Home' Broussard
- Air Supply 'Making Love Out Of Nothing ___' (2,3)
- German 'Ready, Set, Go!' band (5,5)
- 'Gloria' Branigan
- Memphis 'Click Click Boom' altrockers
- Kinks song that creates a racket?
- Someone that's in the band
- Motley Crue 'Too ___ For Love'
- 70s disco 'Rasputin' band (5,1)
- Boston "He smoked a big ___ and drove a Cadillac car"
- 'This Time' Ozzfest rockers
- Marianne Faithfull 'Conversation On A Bar ___'
- 'Slaverry Days' Burning ___
- Not prerecorded
- REO's 'You Can Tune A Piano, But You Can't ___ Fish'
- Destroyer 'The Bad ___'
- Cracker "Get outta my head or ___ my bed"
- Feline musical
- Godhead 'Anybody ___'
- Punk hoppers ___ PE
- Right after "Ooh"

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Hoffstown
Village Trestle: Bob Pratte, 3 p.m. (acoustic sessions)

Hampton
CR's: Steve Sibulkin, 11 a.m.
WHYM: Brad Bosse, 1 p.m.

Manchester
Foundry: NH Music Collective, 9:30 a.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.
The Striker: George & Louise Belli, 7 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Steve Aubert, 11 a.m.; Matt Luneau, 4 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 30
Concord
Hermanos: Brian Booth, 6:30 p.m.

Gilford
Patrick's: team trivia, 6:30 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Phil Jakes, 5:30 p.m.
Salona: Music Bingo, 6 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Amanda Cote, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
American Social Club: Bar Bingo, 7 p.m.
Fratello's: Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Musical Bingo Nation, 7 p.m.; Alex Anthony Band, 9 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 1
Hampton
Wally's: Musical Bingo Nation, 7:30 p.m.
Manchester
Fratello's: Chris Cavanaugh, 5:30 p.m.
KC's: Lewis Goodwin, 7 p.m.; open mic with Paul Costley and Nate Comp at 8 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
Fratello's: Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.

Stratham
Tailgate Tavern: Musical Bingo Nation, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 2
Concord
Area 23: open mic night, 6:23 p.m.

Hampton
Wally's: Chris Toler, 7 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Amanda Cote, 5:30 p.m.

Strange Brew: Jesse's Open Mic Extravaganza

Meredith
Twin Barns: trivia night, 6 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Phil Jakes, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
Fratello's: Ted Solo, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 3
Amherst
LaBelle: Rich DiMare (A Very Merry Sinatra Christmas), 6:30 p.m.

Bedford
Copper Door: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Gabby Martin, 7 p.m.

Exeter
Sea Dog: Max Sullivan, 5 p.m.

Hampton
Wally's: DJ Provo, 5 p.m.
Manchester
Fratello's: Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.

Meredith
Hart's Turkey Farm: Game Time Trivia, 7 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
American Social Club: Ryan Dillon, 7 p.m.
Fratello's: Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Striker: Mitch Alden (solo acoustic), 7 p.m.

Rye
Atlantic Grill: Lewis Goodwin, 5:30 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: April Cushman, 7 p.m.



VENUE NEWS

Due to a rise in Covid-19 cases, two large New Hampshire venues announced plans to scale back live shows recently, while two others will continue.

Capitol Center for the Arts recently announced a suspension of events through Jan. 14. Executive Director Nikki Clarke wrote in an email, "After careful consideration of the changing conditions in the area and the latest CDC guidance, the CCA will follow its safety-first policy by taking a pause,"

resuming with Matt Nakoa on Jan. 15.

Tupelo Music Hall will also limit its calendar, said owner Scott Hayward. "We will definitely be closed for part of December and all of January," he wrote to concert fans. "I can't believe I actually have to put that in writing. This country should have got this virus under control by now."

Manchester's Palace Theatre will press on. "Our plans as of today are to remain open at our present reduced and safely distanced capacity," wrote Director of Sales and Marketing David Rousseau. "We are monitoring the Covid numbers on a daily basis and continue cleaning and sanitation procedures after every show and rehearsal."

In Portsmouth, shows at The Music Hall continue, with a new HVAC system and a modified floor plan in its Historic Theatre in place. The Stage Door Cabaret series, "featuring world-renowned artists in a speakeasy, martini bar atmosphere," presents Ute Gfrerer on Nov. 28, Taylor O'Donnell on Dec. 5 and Matt Nakoa on Dec. 11.

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Some shows are ticketed and schedules are subject to change.

Venues
Chunky's
 707 Huse Road, Manchester; 151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua; 150 Bridge St., Pelham, chunkys.com

The Flying Monkey
 39 Main St., Plymouth 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com

Hatbox Theatre
 Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord 715-2315, hatboxnh.com

Pasta Loft
 241 Union Square, Milford

Rex Theatre
 23 Amherst St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

Tupelo Music Hall
 10 A St., Derry, 437-5100, tupelomusic.com

Zinger's
 29 Mont Vernon St., Milford, zingers.biz

Shows
Friday Night Comedy at the Rex with Tony V. Rex Theatre, Friday, Nov. 27, 7:30 p.m.

Jay Grove (three comics), Chunky's Nashua, Friday, Nov. 27, 8 p.m.

Juston McKinney, Flying Monkey, Saturday, Nov. 28, 7:30 p.m.

Mark Scalia (headlining three comics), Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, Nov. 28, 8 p.m.

Night of Comedy with Robbie Printz and Jason Merril, Tupelo, Saturday, Nov. 28, 8 p.m.

Queen City Improv Hatbox Theatre, Thursday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m.

Corey Rodrigues Rex Theatre, Friday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.

Brad Mastrangelo Chunky's Manchester,

Friday, Dec. 4, 8 p.m.

Kelly Macfarland Zinger's, Friday, Dec. 4, 8 p.m. (livestream available)

Drew Dunn Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, Dec. 5, 8 p.m.

Comedy Night (with Paul Landwehr, Rob Steen and Jason Merrill) Pasta Loft, presented by Headliners, Saturday, Dec. 5, 8 p.m.

Dave Russo Chunky's Manchester, Friday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m.

Amy Tee Chunky's Nashua, Friday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m.

Dave Russo Chunky's Pelham, Saturday, Dec. 12, 8 p.m.

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

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

Difficulty Level ★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle B By Dave Green

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

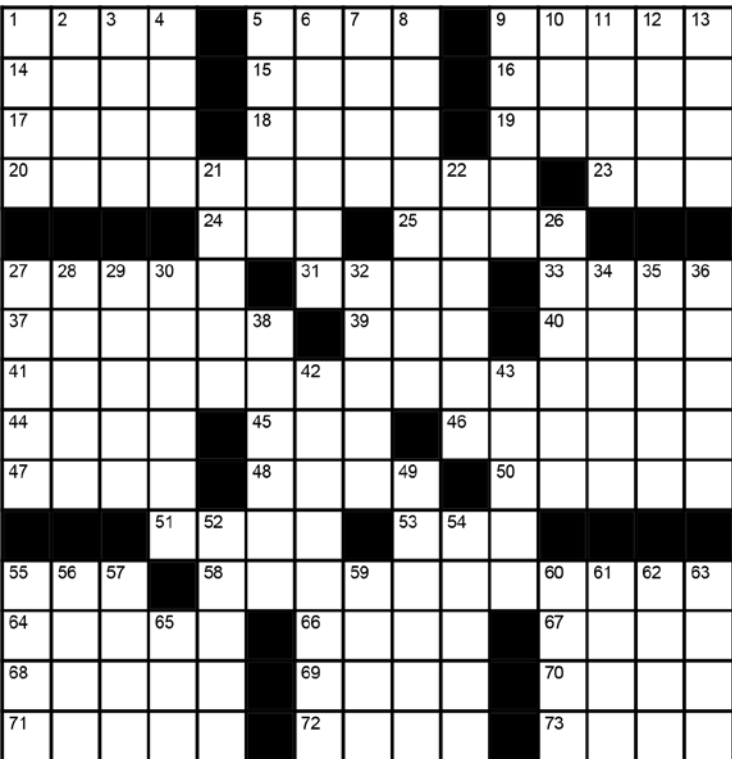
Difficulty Level ★★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle C By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

YOU KNOW THAT I COULD USE A PUZZLE



Across

- 1. '83 Kiss album '___ It Up'
- 5. Contract trick is also called this
- 9. What you do to online lyrics to hold them while singing
- 14. Default didn't want to 'Live ___', so finally confessed (1,3)
- 15. R&B Singer Braxton
- 16. Kings Of Leon rode a bucking bronco for 'King Of The ___'
- 17. Show locale is called this
- 18. '10 Soulfly album that foreshadows?
- 19. Ancient Roman musical building
- 20. Steely Dan "Please take me along when you slide on down" numerical classic (3,8)
- 23. Journey '___ Way You Want It'
- 24. "I ___ knocked down but I get up again!"
- 25. Melodic mode in Indian classical music
- 27. Harry Nilsson left shore with only a 'Blanket For ___' (1,4)
- 31. Martha & The Vandellas album got hot with '___ Wave'
- 33. 'Tom Sawyer' band
- 37. Guitarist Reid of Living Colour
- 39. Alternative rock, for short
- 40. Cornershop 'Brimful Of ___'
- 41. #1 Album Rock Tracks '95 Brother Cane hit (3,5,5,2)
- 44. Kings Of Leon "I've been roaming around, always looking down at all ___" (1,3)
- 45. Don McLean's bakes an 'American' one
- 46. '04 Avril Lavigne hit 'My Happy ___'
- 47. A photographer will have a wide angle this
- 48. Matchbox Twenty '___ Need' (3,1)
- 50. These calendar markings are on the back of concert tees
- 51. 'Something/Anything' Rundgren
- 53. Arctic Monkeys '___ Wanna Know' (2,1)
- 55. Filmmaker Brooks of The Producers
- 58. Song title for 44. Across (3,8)

- 64. Like over-21 show
- 66. Hives hit album '___ Vidi Vicious'
- 67. Irish softrock 'Shepard Moons' singer
- 68. Kings Of Leon "Just say I want you, just exactly ___ used to" (4,1)
- 69. Bob Dylan "___ the dark side of the road" (2,2)
- 70. What Green Day made out of their 'Brain'
- 71. Country singer Rimes
- 72. 'Groove Is In The Heart' Dee-__

73. Creed & Natalie Imbruglia hits w/ same title

Down

- 1. Dee Snider put his mascara on one
- 2. '82 Loretta Lynn album for a fish story? (1,3)
- 3. Nick Gilder 'Hot Child In The ___'
- 4. 'Farm Fresh Onions' Robert Earl
- 5. Pearl Jam's Gossard
- 6. '97 Ozzy Osbourne comp 'The Ozzman ___'
- 7. Tours want to turn ___ profit (1,3)
- 8. Slut song w/vitamins also?
- 9. 'Rude Awakening' band named after antler point
- 10. 'You're In My Heart (The Final Acclaim)' Stewart
- 11. LCD Soundsystem might think up a 'Big' one
- 12. Like brightly colored lights Kings Of Leon sang of on 'Tonight'
- 13. Crooning icon Bennett
- 21. Arctic Karen O hut?
- 22. Aerosmith got hungry on '___ Rich' (3,3)
- 26. 'Still In The Dark' Oklahoma rockers
- 27. 'One Wrench' Richmond band
- 28. Darren Hayes has a great '___ Of Humor'
- 29. 'Insensitive' Jann
- 30. '00 Papa Roach album that overran us?
- 32. Paul Stanley uses this artist's stand on down time
- 34. Odyssey '___ Up & Wear It Out' (3,2)
- 35. Excelled in performance or did this
- 36. What 'Sloopy' does, to The McCroys
- 38. Simple Plan '___, No Helmets...Just Balls' (2,4)
- 42. The Cult song off 'Electric' about demonic tiny one (3,5)

- 43. Like subculture rock free of major producers
- 49. Sinead O'Connor '___ Want What I Haven't Got' (1,2,3)
- 52. Bruce Springsteen classic '___ The Street' (3,2)
- 54. 'Friends ___' Bowling For Soup (1,4)
- 55. '91 Gang Of Four album you hear in an indoor shopping center?
- 56. Sedgwick Velvet Underground's 'Femme Fatale' is about

- 57. Suzanne Vega smash with person's name in title
- 59. Like Third Eye Blind's 'Charmed Life'
- 60. Whitney Houston 'I Learned From The ___'
- 61. Pete Townshend 'Heart To Hang ___'
- 62. Led Zeppelin 'Houses Of The Holy' jam '___ Mak'er'
- 63. Sign of show boredom
- 65. Canadian 'Steal My Sunshine' band

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THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

3-	3	12X	
			7+
2÷		3-	
2-			2

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CHALLENGING

24X			3	1-	5+
2÷	3-		16+		
	1-			6X	1
2-		10X			120X
		2÷		1	
1-		2	5-		

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RULES

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- 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.
- Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

3-	1-		
1	4	3	2
6X	3-		7+
2	1	4	3
	2	2÷	
3	2	1	4
7+			1
4	3	2	1

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WORD★Roundup™
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

Eight words starting with EX (four-letter min.) ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
 Three crustaceans ☐☐☐
 Three common pizza sizes ☐☐☐
 Three chess pieces ☐☐☐
 Individual sheet within a book ☐

Last Week's Answers: SHOWER COWER POWER SCOUR TOWER
 FLOUR HOUR SOUR / GALLON QUART LITER OUNCE PINT / SMILE SNEER
 GRIN / TRICKS / LINE

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6/11

E	L	A	R	G	E	X	T	R	A	Z	X
E	X	Z	E	X	P	E	L	S	M	E	P
X	T	A	S	K	K	P	N	H	E	X	C
A	R	P	M	I	O	A	W	R	D	I	L
C	E	R	A	N	O	G	A	I	S	E	
T	X	Z	L	G	R	E	P	M	U	T	C
Z	E	J	L	C	R	A	B	P	M	Z	X
E	X	I	L	E	Z	P	R	A	W	N	E

"UR Here" — as if it isn't obvious

Across

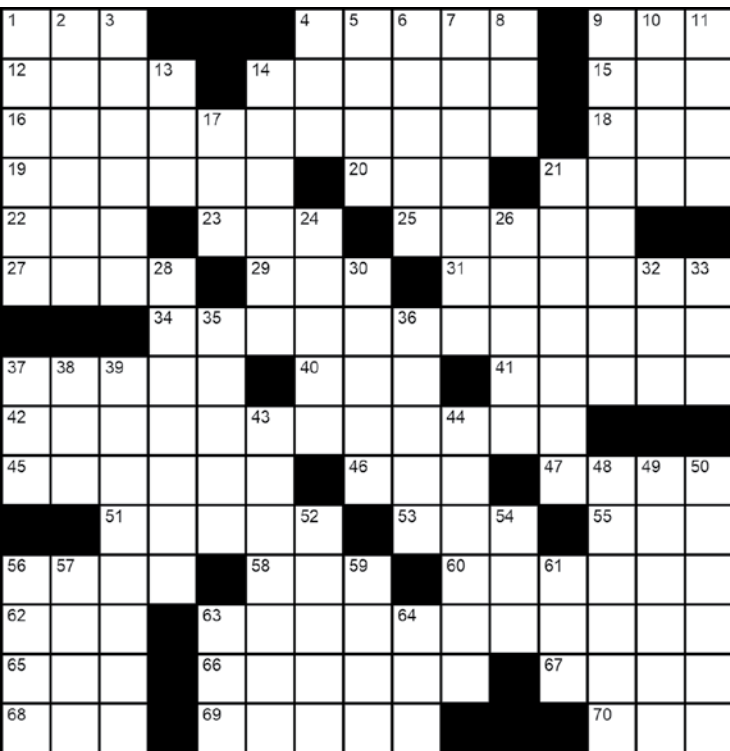
- 1 1 of 100 still being finalized in D.C.
- 4 Company with "counting sheep" ads
- 9 Beginning (of the hour)
- 12 "The Clan of the Cave Bear" author Jean
- 14 It may have a big impact
- 15 "___ Been Thinking About You" (1991 Londonbeat song)
- 16 Greetings from trained bears?
- 18 Shirt marker
- 19 "Can you wait just a freaking minute?!"
- 20 It had a baby face in "Teletubbies"

- 21 Escapes from Pandora's box
- 22 "George of the Jungle" creature
- 23 "___ and Juice"
- 25 California ballplayer
- 27 Burn a little
- 29 Modern, to Merkel
- 31 Annoying
- 34 Deployed with alacrity?
- 37 "The Princess and the Frog" princess
- 40 Heavy metal singer Ronnie James ___
- 41 Pronounce
- 42 Way to keep your spiky sea creatures fastened?

- 45 City that shares Seattle's airport
- 46 "The King and I" actor Brynner
- 47 Chaka who sang "I Feel for You"
- 51 Discharges
- 53 Back-to-school mo.
- 55 Fertility clinic supply
- 56 Disinfectant sheet
- 58 Burj Khalifa's loc.
- 60 Alloy containing tin
- 62 Bug that might bug you in the kitchen
- 63 Tool to help build a city?
- 65 Descend diagonally
- 66 Battleship blasts
- 67 "The Flintstones" pet
- 68 What Portland went back to recently
- 69 Printer's excess
- 70 Animal in "Jack and the Beanstalk"

- 5 HHH, in Greek
- 6 Accelerate
- 7 Polish site
- 8 "___ longa, vita brevis"
- 9 Golf ball brand
- 10 Like the head of a tennis racket
- 11 Lite-Brite bulbs, really
- 13 "Hamilton" creator ___-Manuel Miranda
- 14 Asking for a tiny bit of fish, maybe?
- 17 December cartonful
- 21 Siberia's neighbor on a Risk board
- 24 Lists of basics
- 26 Shrivel
- 28 Hurry back, perhaps
- 30 Cohesiveness
- 32 "Born," in some notices
- 33 E. Berlin was its capital
- 35 "Army of Darkness" director Sam
- 36 Donut, mathematically
- 37 Boy king of Egypt
- 38 Levin who wrote "Rosemary's Baby"
- 39 Be resigned to one's fate

- 43 Quick learner
 - 44 Hebrew alphabet starters
 - 48 It'll pick up the faintest of noises
 - 49 Oat-based skin product brand
 - 50 Like some margins
 - 52 Weasel cousin
 - 54 Shepherd's pie bit
 - 56 Paper nest builder
 - 57 Calligrapher's supply
 - 59 Icicle lights locale
 - 61 2000s Iraq war subject, briefly
 - 63 Charging port, maybe
 - 64 "Mhmm" motion
- © 2020 Matt Jones



Down

- 1 People get steamed there
- 2 One side of "the pond"
- 3 AriZona alternative
- 4 Fix a button

R&R answer from pg 31 of 11/19



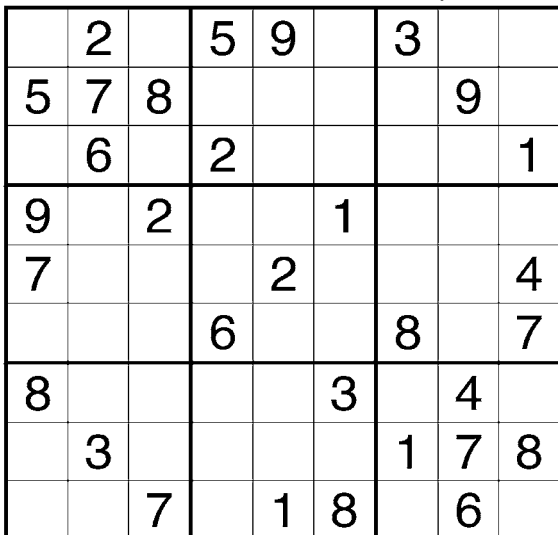
Jonesin' answer from pg 32 of 11/19



NITE SUDOKU

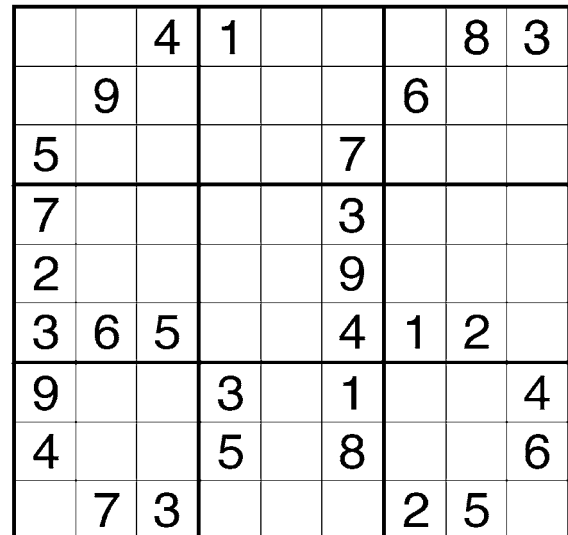
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week's puzzle answers on pg 45.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle D By Dave Green



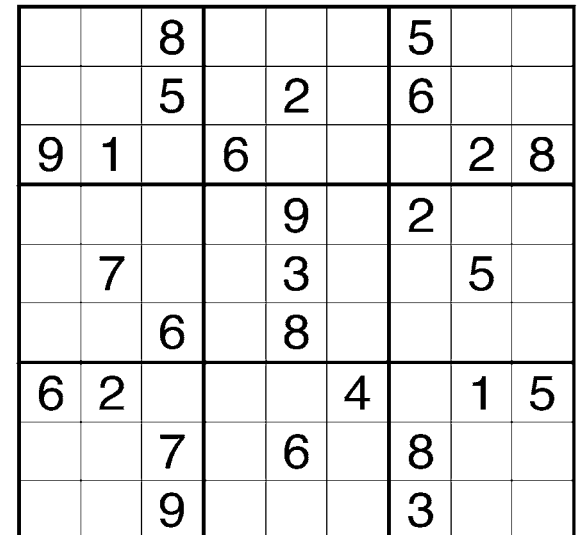
Difficulty Level ★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle E By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle F By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

All quotes are from *Utterly Me, Clarice Bean*, by Lauren Child, born Nov. 29, 1965.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *On Thursday, I have swimming club. I don't really like going — it's a bit cold. I just go because you get snacks afterward. ... My diving is more like falling with my arms stretched up, but it works. Mr. Patterson says my style is technically called a belly flop. You could work on your style.*

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *She says, 'Clarice Bean, you look like you've been dragged through a hedge backward.' I wish someone would drag Mrs. Wilberton through a hedge backward. Insults will not lead to progress.*

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *It turns out that Mrs. Wilberton asked Mr. Skippard to give the cup a bit of a polish to get it ready for parents' night. She said to put it away safely on the trophy shelf, but there was a mix-up because Mr. Skippard thought Mrs. Wilberton meant safely on her closet shelf since she would be needing it on this actual Wednesday, but Mrs. Wilberton meant safely on the glass trophy shelf. There may be more than one trophy shelf.*

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *She says, 'Clarice Bean, you are utterly lacking in the concentration department. A common housefly has got more ability to apply itself!'*

And I want to say, 'You are utterly lacking in the manners department, Mrs. Wilberton, and a rhinoceros has got more politeness than you.' Mind your manners and things should go smoothly.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *Noah and Suzie ... have got an actual wok in their exhibit, which is a bit like a frying pan, but not. ... And they have a display of bananas, which are not bananas but called plantains and are more like a potato pretending to be a banana. It's time to expand your repertoire.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *On the way back to my house, I have to stop off to buy some essentials, which is mainly potato chips. You decide what's essential for you.*

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *... I know the kind of book Mrs. Wilberton would pick.*

Probably something like the secret life of a snail, or ballet, or snails that do ballet. Gotta go with Mrs. Wilberton on this one.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *The other equipment you simply must have if you are going to be a secretive agent is a telephone. A waterproof case wouldn't hurt either.*

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *Mrs. Wilberton doesn't look one bit excited but I think it would take an elephant running into the classroom waving its arms around to get Mrs. Wilberton hopping. Feelings are not always obvious.*

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *You might think it would be a relief to come to school, but if you do, then obviously you don't know some of the people in my class. Don't let the turkeys get you down.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *My family is six people, which is sometimes too many. Not always, just sometimes. Sometimes.*

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *Mrs. Wilberton says I have got utterly not a speck of concentration. I am trying to prove her wrong about this by trying to remember to concentrate. ... I am so desperately trying not to not concentrate and I say to myself, 'Don't drift off like you did yesterday. And then I start thinking about how I drifted off yesterday....' You don't have to think about just one thing to get stuff done.*

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 chimp advocate Jane (7)	_____
2 1950s movie star Jane (7)	_____
3 "Persuasion" author Jane (6)	_____
4 social activist Jane (6)	_____
5 Henry VIII's wife Jane (7)	_____
6 TV actress Jane (9)	_____
7 Pulitzer winner Jane (6)	_____

DA

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11/22
Last Week's Answers: 1. TULIPS 2. DAISIES 3. SUNFLOWERS 4. ROSES 5. CROCUSES 6. PEONIES 7. DAFODILS

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Sudoku Answers from page 32 of 11/19

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty Level ★ 11/16

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty Level ★★ 11/18

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/20

Keep your pets safe this Holiday Season

BE CAREFUL NOT TO LEAVE LIT CANDLES UNATTENDED. PETS MAY BURN THEMSELVES OR CAUSE A FIRE.



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132832

PUBLIC AUCTION

1st Priority Auto & Towing, LLC will be auctioning for non-payment, impounded/abandoned vehicles per NH Law RSA 262 Sec. 36-40. To be liquidated:

- 2017 Subaru Legacy**
4S3BNAC61H3036726
- 2019 Kia Soul**
KNDJN2A25K020529
- 2006 GMC Savana Van 2500**
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Desperate times

Passers-by were reported to be incredulous at signs posted since mid-September outside Trillade elementary school in Avignon, France, asking parents to refrain from throwing their children over the locked gate when they are late to school. "Parents who arrived after the ringtone literally threw their children away," Principal Sanaa Meziane told La Provence with a nervous laugh. "It hasn't happened that many times ... but we preferred to take the lead." While there were no injuries, the practice alarmed school officials enough to create the signs, which feature an adult stick figure tossing a child-sized stick figure over the gate.

Uniform complaints

The BBC reported that Police Constable Simon Read of the Cambridgeshire Police will be the subject of a misconduct hearing on Nov. 25 after being accused of switching prices on a box of doughnuts in February. Read, shopping at a Tesco Extra store while on duty and uniformed, allegedly selected a \$13 box of Krispy Kreme doughnuts and replaced its barcode with one from the produce section that lowered the price to 9 cents, then went through the self-checkout line. In papers filed before the hearing, Read was said to bring "discredit upon the police service ... because a reasonable member of the public ... would be justifiably appalled

that a police officer had acted dishonestly and without integrity."

San Juan, Puerto Rico, police officer Fernando Leon Berdecia, 46, is accused of stealing \$1,300 worth of merchandise from a Home Depot on Nov. 16 while wearing his uniform. The Associated Press reported Puerto Rico Police Chief Henry Escalera said Leon has been suspended from the department, and a court date has been set for Dec. 2.

Fake news

Readers of Radio France Internationale's website were alarmed to learn on Nov. 16 of the passing of dozens of world leaders and celebrities, The New York Times reported. Obituaries for Queen Elizabeth II, Clint Eastwood, soccer legend Pele and about 100 others were posted on the broadcaster's website, and it was several hours before the notices were removed. The station issued a statement apologizing to "those concerned" and noting that the prewritten obituaries were accidentally posted as the website was moved to a new content management system.

Awesome!

Twenty concerned citizens in Norman, Oklahoma, turned out on Nov. 17 to help George Simmons, an arborist from Idaho, continue the search for his missing pet rac-

coon, an effort that had stretched into its second week and included support from the Norman Fire Department, which deployed its thermal imaging technology. The raccoon had accompanied Simmons when he traveled to Oklahoma to help cut trees around power lines after a freak October ice storm, KFOR reported, but the raccoon got loose in Nov. 6, and Simmons says he won't return to Idaho until he locates her. He has been overwhelmed with gratitude for the Norman residents who are helping him look for the raccoon every night: "I've been all over the United States and never seen the hospitality like I have here," Simmons said. At press-time, the raccoon was still missing.

Finders keepers

Douglas Allen Hatley, 71, of Lakeland, Florida, was arrested on Nov. 16 after the Florida Highway Patrol said he found a metal light pole by the side of the road in Tampa and allegedly tried to sell it to Eagle Metals Recycling. The Tampa Bay Times reported the recycling center turned him away because he didn't have documentation for the pole, and officers responding to reports of a 1997 Camry with a pole twice its length strapped to the top pulled him over soon afterward. Hatley allegedly told troopers a highway maintenance worker "gave it to me." He was charged with third-degree grand theft.

Bright idea

Two recent graduates of the Sydney Grammar School in Australia hatched a plan to skirt Covid-19 restrictions on large gatherings to host a graduation party while their parents were out of town. Outdoor gatherings are limited to 30 people, and indoor events are capped at 10, the Daily Mail reported, but up to 150 guests can attend weddings if they follow social distancing protocols. On Nov. 12, the unnamed best friends "married" in a backyard ceremony and planned a 150-person party to follow, until their parents caught wind of the event online and returned to put an end to it: "We shut down the planned private celebratory event as soon as we found out about it, and thankfully, nobody was put at risk," one of the lads' dad said.

Unclear on the concept

Charlene Stanton passes a book donation box in the Roxbury Park neighborhood of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, on her daily walks, and told WTaj on Nov. 18 that lately she's become concerned about the bags of raw meat she regularly sees left hanging on the side of the box. She has seen both fresh and frozen meat left at the box, and someone keeps taking them, which alarms her "because so many ... illnesses could be caused by leaving meat out unrefrigerated." Officials suggest donating food to a food bank, rather than leaving it at a book collection site.

Visit newssoftheweird.com.

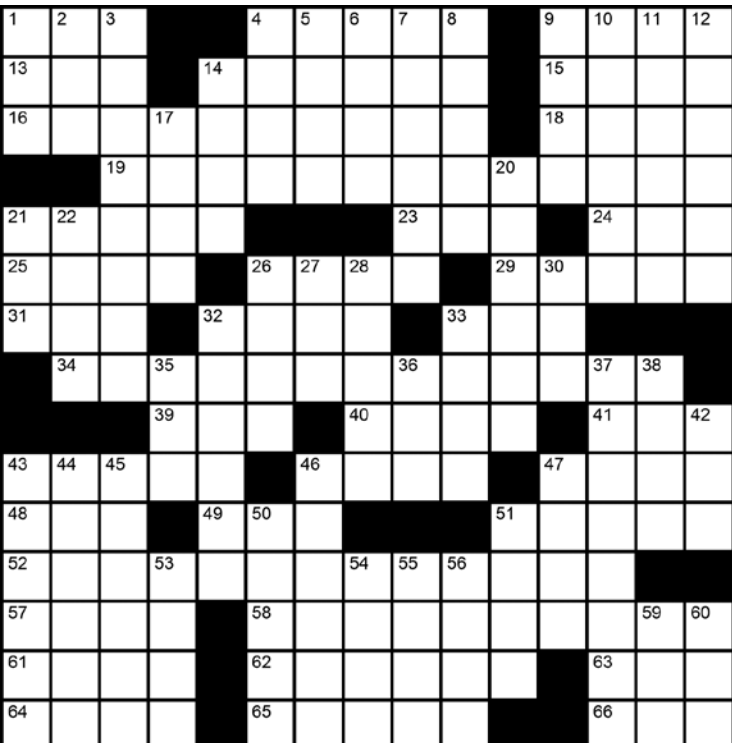
JONESIN' CROSSWORDS BY MATT JONES

"British Invasion" — are you ready?

Enjoy this Jonesin' Crossword, originally printed in 2012!

Across

- 1 "Unbelievable" band of 1991
- 4 Wallflowers lead singer Dylan
- 9 Like much medicine



- 13 DiCaprio, to fans
- 14 Puget Sound city
- 15 Stupor
- 16 Writing assignment that, through complete luck, got an A?
- 18 Vowels that look like an H
- 19 Did away with Homer's neighbor for good?
- 21 He was joined on stage by a Tupac hologram in 2012
- 23 ___ out a living
- 24 Item rolled by gaming geeks
- 25 Axton of "Gremlins"
- 26 Exhale like a dog
- 29 "Bionic ___" (2007 NBC remake)
- 31 ___-Tzu (Chinese philosopher)
- 32 Song played on a sitar
- 33 Detergent brand
- 34 Band of John Wayne-loving computer programmers?
- 39 Come up short
- 40 It's good to hear after a spill
- 41 Freddy's street
- 43 Big bone
- 46 ___-rock
- 47 Popeye's kid ___'Pea
- 48 That, in Spanish
- 49 "Call Me Maybe" singer Carly ___ Jepsen
- 51 Stair part
- 52 Completely fooled one of the

- Beverly Hillbillies?
- 57 Color of un zafiro
- 58 Bumper sticker slogan for Stooges fans?
- 61 ___ and void
- 62 Fixed sock holes
- 63 56, in old Rome
- 64 "___ does that star-spangled banner..."
- 65 ___-Hawley Tariff
- 66 Have some havarti

Down

- 1 "The Santaland Diaries" occupation
- 2 "Spaceballs" director Brooks
- 3 Seeker's cry to the hider
- 4 Mock
- 5 Mil. school
- 6 Head of Germany?
- 7 Folded breakfast dish
- 8 Former Israeli prime minister
- 9 Took way too much
- 10 Warning on video games with lots of gore
- 11 Hank who voices Chief Wiggum
- 12 Take down a notch
- 14 Precocious kid
- 17 MTV mainstay Loder
- 20 City where Whitney Houston's funeral was held
- 21 Rival of UPS and FedEx

- 22 Word before hog or rage
- 26 Rate
- 27 In the past
- 28 Lowest point
- 30 ___-Wan Kenobi
- 32 Wanted poster word
- 33 Leaping creature
- 35 Pond fish
- 36 Pung offshoot
- 37 Song from "Licensed to Ill," with "The"
- 38 Show whose fans are named by adding "ks" to the title
- 42 Debussy's "La ___"
- 43 Selena's music genre
- 44 Rodeos and Troopers, e.g.
- 45 Actor Scott of "Quantum Leap"
- 46 Train in a 1974 movie title, or its 2009 remake
- 47 ___ Spin (classic toy)
- 50 Heartburn causes, maybe
- 51 No longer working: abbr.
- 53 Pocoyo's pachyderm friend
- 54 Prefix before space
- 55 Fighting word that means "hand," not "person"
- 56 ___-à-porter
- 59 Jefferson founded it
- 60 Model maker's need

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