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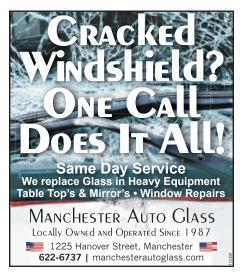
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GRANITE VIEWS TRINIDAD TELLEZ

We are connected



I've been hearing and thinking about annual cycles lately including Black History Month, the Lunar New Year, Mardi Gras, and the last day we worked in person — or the

day our lives changed dramatically — due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

At our house, this one-year mark coincides with my 89-year-old mother getting her second Covid vaccine and that's a really big deal for us. For the last year, we have been working so hard to keep her safe in the midst of this pandemic. Her health has been our primary motivator to keep wearing masks and physically distance when our longing for social connection was pulling us to congregate with friends – she is the reason we've been so cautious. We're really grateful that she was able to get the vaccine.

Many people who are vulnerable and at risk are waiting eagerly for their turn; others are more hesitant for a variety of reasons. We know that this virus has disproportionately affected some populations at higher rates because of the unique combination of factors that make certain groups more vulnerable — being older, having multiple chronic medical conditions, or being a member of certain racial/ethnic groups. These differences, known as health disparities, arise not because of any biological differences between groups as we are all part of the same human family. Rather, it is for reasons such as being more likely to be employed in essential work settings and thus at greater risk of being exposed to the virus, and more likely to be uninsured and have less access to health care with more chronic medical conditions. These factors are called the social determinants of health, where longstanding underlying inequities have been revealed by the pandemic. That is why some of us say that everything contributes to health, and health contributes to everything — because good health is requisite for our ability to be successful in school, to be productive workers, to enjoy time with our families, and to live long, fulfilling lives.

As a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel begins to shine with increasing numbers of people vaccinated, and hospitalizations and deaths finally beginning to decline, we can dare to look forward to resuming the in-person celebrations we had to cancel or put off. And I imagine that even the mundane activities of our daily lives will seem celebratory — going to work and chatting around the water-cooler, convening in person, exchanging handshakes and hugs.

The infectious nature of this pandemic has illuminated how we are all connected, that any one of us is only as healthy as others in our community, that we are all in this together — and that at heart, we all want the same thing.

Dr. Trinidad Tellez is a family physician and health equity strategist, community advocate, and consultant.



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ON THE COVER

14 THE YEAR OF PETS With more time at home in the past year, many people took the opportunity to welcome new pets — and it wasn't just cats and dogs (though there were plenty of those too). Check out stories of owners who brought home canines and felines, sugar gliders, a bearded dragon, a parakeet and even a potbellied pig.

ALSO ON THE COVER, the Hippo's Best of readers' poll closes Feb. 28, so don't forget to vote for your favorite people, places and events in southern New Hampshire. See details on p. 39. And find local music, in-person or virtually, starting on p. 31.

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NEWS & NOTES

Covid-19 news

On Feb. 16, Gov. Chris Sununu announced that the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services received nearly \$20 million from the federal government to support child care programs in the state, as part of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act. The funds, according to a press release, will be distributed to family child care providers, child care centers and licensed-exempt providers.

During a Feb. 18 press conference, state epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan said the daily number of new infections of Covid-19 in New Hampshire has been on a slight increase, due in part to those at colleges and universities in the state. Hospitalization rates, he said, have continued to be stable over the last several weeks.

Dr. Beth Daly, Chief of the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control of the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services, also said during the press conference that the state is expected to receive about 27,740 first doses of Covid-19 vaccine this week, an increase of more than 5.000 doses from the week prior. "In addition to state allocation, additional vaccines are coming into the state through the federal retail pharmacy partnership with Walgreens," she said. First-dose appointments for people in Phase 1B of the state's vaccine distribution plan are still available.

A recent change in federal unemployment policy, according to a Feb. 18 report from WMUR, has rendered hundreds of Granite Staters ineligible to receive their weekly benefits. Those who are temporarily laid off or whose hours are reduced but who have employers that remain open are no longer eligible. According to the report, U.S. Sens. Jeanne Shaheen and Maggie Hassan said they are working to get the policy reversed.

On Feb. 19, Sununu issued Emergency Order No. 85, an order mandating that Granite State schools offer in-person instruction to all students for at least two days a week starting March 8. "It isn't just so the kids come back and have a more full, robust learning model." Sununu said during the Feb. 18 press conference. "It really is for the behavioral and mental health. the isolation issues that so many of our students have been bearing with." Under the order, a K through 12 school may transition to required full-time distance learning for students for up to 48 hours without state approval if officials deem it necessary to address Covid-19 concerns related to infections or staffing shortages. But if a school wishes to transition to fully remote learning for more than 48 hours, it must receive approval from the Commissioner of Education. Virtual Learning Academy Charter Schools are not impacted by the order. All K through 12 staff will be able to receive their first vaccine dose in Phase 2A of the state's vaccination plan, which is expected to be between March and May.

Details of Sununu's emergencv orders, executive orders and other announcements can be found at governor.nh.gov.

House lawsuit

On Monday, U.S. District Court Judge Landva McCafferty ruled that Republican House Speaker Sherman Packard does not have to use remote technology for the two House sessions scheduled for this week, according to a report from WMUR. On Feb. 16, Packard released a statement following a lawsuit filed by Democrat state representatives against him, which argued that Packard was refusing to provide remote accommodations for House members with disabilities. "We are reviewing the complaint and working with counsel on our response," Packard said. He pointed to the House sessions that have been

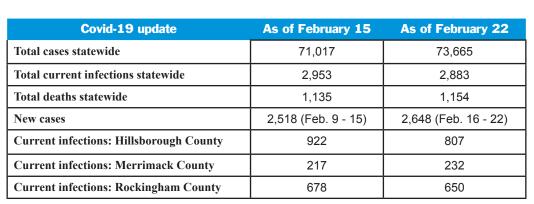
There is now a bobblehead of the nation's 14th president, Franklin Pierce, who was born in Hillsbor-On Feb. 18, U.S. Sen. Maggie ough. The bobblehead is part of the Hassan visited small busi-"Neglected Presidents" collection, nesses in downtown Laconia. according to a press release, produced speaking to owners about the by the National Bobblehead Hall of pandemic-related challenges Fame and Museum and available for they are facing, according to a purchase at store.bobbleheadhall.com. press release. Hassan helped get the Employer Assistance CONCORD Coordination Act included in the end-of-year funding bill that was passed in December, so now small businesses can participate in the Paycheck Protection Program and also claim the Employee Retention Tax Credit, the release said. Goffstown The Granite State Leathers Superfund Site in Nashua. MANCHESTER also known as Mohawk Tannery, will be cleaned up and The Palace Theatre in Manchester eventually redeveloped to has a new performing arts series sponinclude mixed-use commersor. According to a press release, St. cial space and residential Mary's Bank has made a three-year, housing, according to a press \$180,000 commitment, having given release from the U.S. Envian initial gift of \$30,000 at the end of ronmental Protection Agency, 2020 to support the Palace's virtual which will share remediation costs with local developer shows, which are streaming during the Blaylock Holdings and the City theater's intermission. of Nashua. The cleanup will NASHUA address hazardous substances in soils, sludges and con-

held at the Whittemore Center, "where we had high attendance levels by legislators, numerous legislative and UNH employees, police, paramedics, contract employees, firefighters and others. No one contracted Covid-19 at the Whittemore Center indoor events in 2020." He said the new venue for this week's meetings, NH Sportsplex in Bedford, has more than double the usable area of the Whittemore Center and assured "an accessible, risk-mitigated and secure environment for all members and staff in attendance." McCafferty wrote in her ruling that Packard is "immune" from the Democratic lawmakers' suit "challenging his enforcement of a House rule

taminated waste originating

from the site.

that is closely related to core legislative functions," according to WMUR's report, and she based her ruling on the argument on legislative immunity. After the ruling, Packard issued a statement thanking the court and saying, "We were confident in our position that remote participation could not be reasonably accommodated at this time." Democratic Leader Representative Renny Cushing released a statement saying, "Unfortunately, this case has exposed the callous indifference of House Republican leadership toward our most vulnerable members during the Covid-19 crisis that has taken the lives of a half a million Americans."



Information from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services







State Epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan gives an update on best mask-wearing practices.

What types of masks are the most effective? If people can find masks that are two or three layers, that's preferred over single-layer masks. Oftentimes, we see homemade masks being one piece of fabric, so we encourage people to ... double up on the fabric they're using, Dr. Benjamin Chan, MD or to look for store-bought masks,



most of which are made of multiple layers. ... If you're using a neck gaiter and it's only a single layer, folding the neck gaiter in half is a very simple way of adding another layer of fabric ... but we would go even further and say that neck gaiters are probably not the best type of mask to use. ... The other key point is that masks should be well-fitted. ... The whole goal of wearing a mask is to not let your respiratory drops escape, and to not let somebody else's respiratory drops come in, so if there are gaps, that's going to cause the mask to be less effective. Ideally, all of the air you breathe out and breathe in should be filtered through the fabric.

How can people ensure a good fit with their

I think the first and easiest way is to simply use masks that have a nose wire so it can be pinched and cinched down around the nose to prevent any gaps that can occur between somebody's nose and cheek area. ... To eliminate gaps on the sides of the mask, there are different mask fitters and mask braces that can be used to better form the mask to the face. ... Double-masking is another strategy. ... Its primary purpose is to get a better fit [by] eliminating the gaps ... but there's also the added benefit that it has multiple layers.

What is double-masking?

When we're talking about double-masking, we're talking about wearing a reusable cloth mask and a disposable mask. ... The way it's being promoted and recommended by CDC ... is that people should wear the disposable mask against the face, and then the cloth mask over that, so the cloth mask helps to compress the disposable mask against the face. ... CDC does not recommend combining other types of masks.

Are two masks always better than one?

We're not universally recommending that everybody should be walking around wearing two masks. What we are recommending is that ... they upgrade their mask to one that's better-fitting ... and double-masking is just one option for people to get a better fit with their mask.

Is it safe for kids to double-mask?

I think the goal here is to focus on getting kids to wear at least one mask. ... For young children two years of age and older - we and CDC continue to recommend that masks not be put on children under the age of 2 - wearing masks can take some training and some practice ... but it can be done.

What's the deal with N95 masks?

N95 masks are generally medical-grade masks that should be reserved for health care providers caring for sick patients and patients with Covid-19 in the hospital, and for

people in health care settings. There are over-thecounter [KN95] masks that may be constructed of comparable material to an N95 mask ... but aren't appropriate or certified for medical use. ... A KN95 mask is certainly an option ... but we're not recommending that ... over another well-fitted procedural-type mask.

Is there any reason someone should not wear a KN95 mask?

One of the downsides of KN95 masks and some of those thicker types of masks is that there's more resistance to breathing in and out, which can make it harder for some people to breathe. That's part of the reason we're not universally recommending that everybody wear KN95 masks.

At what point should a mask be thrown away?

It partly depends on ... how long they're wearing it during the day. [It's different], for example, for somebody who is in school and wearing their mask all day ... [than for] someone who wants to run into a grocery store for a half an hour. ... The general recommendation is that when the mask is soiled or saturated, or the person is having a hard time breathing through it ... and the fabric has lost its filtration efficacy, it should be discarded and replaced. ... If you wear a disposable mask for an extended period of time, use a new one the next day. If it's a reusable cloth mask, make sure you're taking it home and washing it.

Is it really necessary to wear a mask outdoors?

It's still recommended that people wear masks outdoors if they're going to be around other people ... but there's some discretion involved. ... If ... there are two people sitting down 10 feet from each other, then it's probably not necessary for them to wear a mask the whole time, but if you're with a group of people mingling or moving around, absolutely [wear a mask].

Is there anything else you want people to know about proper mask-wearing?

I think the focus right now should be, one, that people wear at least one mask ... and two, that people upgrade their single-layer masks to ones that are better-fitted. ... A CDC study ... showed that, if two people are together and one of them has Covid-19, when both people are wearing masks [that] are well-fitted, exposure can be reduced by more than 95 percent. — Angie Sykeny



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C's headed for catastrophe



Following their latest loss, where they blew a 20-plus-point lead again, the 15-15 Celtics are straddling a line between their season becoming a huge disappointment and a total catastrophe. A wild overstatement? Maybe, but we're now five weeks into

a stretch of 11 losses in 19 games and it's not like it's been an incredibly rough stretch in the schedule. It started with a horrid mail-it-in 105-75 loss to the Knicks, which was followed by losses to bottom-dwellers Detroit, Washington, Sacramento, Atlanta and New Orleans on Sunday. So it's beyond being just a funk. Shockingly it leaves them just a half game ahead of the surprising Knicks, and I'm pretty sure "catastrophe" would be the No. 1 answer if this were an episode of *Family Feud* and a family of green-teamers were asked what one word would best sum up finishing behind the Knickerbockers this year.

Now I'm more into fixing things than second guessing, so here's a look at the issues and some suggestions for fixing the problem.

The Team Is Playing Dead: They have no emotion. Especially with Marcus Smart out. All teams need a guy who gets in people's faces when they don't play hard, they make dumb mistakes or they just don't care enough about winning and losing. Some do it by scaring guys like MJ or KG, some with a stern leadership demeanor like LBJ. Others are just a pain in the butt like Draymond Green. But however it's done every team needs it and they don't have a guy like that.

Brad Stevens: I'm not a blame-the-coach-for-everything kind of guy. But I admit I have Brad fatigue for two reasons.

They Reflect His Placid Demeanor: Some coaches are suited for one kind of situation and not for others, like Bill Fitch with the Celtics in the '80s. His drill sergeant approach was perfect for the young team Larry Bird joined as a rookie, which needed to learn how to win. But his shrill, never satisfied voice was eventually tuned out when those lessons were learned. In came the "treat them like they know what they're doing" KC Jones and the guys responded by winning two titles. That may be the case here in reverse. This passive group needs a guy to drive them because they're too comfortable with losses.

He's Too In Love With The 3-Ball: It's why they blow so many big leads. Once the 3's stop falling, they have few other options to look for help as the big leads melt away, as happened on Sunday.

Jayson Tatum: I know how talented he is and he's a good kid who puts in the work to improve. But I want more. I know it's not his way, but the best player has got to develop a what-the-blank-are-you-doing way when needed, and until he does he's not a Top 10

Following their latest player or the leader they need.

The 3-Ball Doesn't Always Fall: I know it's a 3-ball league and what the math says about taking 3's over 2's. But sorry, anyone who has ever played knows that sometimes long-distance shots hit dry spells. Thus teams also need scoring down low, where the percentage is higher and you get foul shots. You rarely get the latter on 3-balls unless you have a dope covering you. Case in point was Sunday, when after being down 21, instead of the Pelicans chucking up more 3's, they posted up 280-pound **Zion Williamson** or gave it to him at the foul line for drives, where he just overpowered everyone, leading to easy buckets and trips to the line for old-time three-point plays. That and the sudden appearance of defense was why they turned that game around. Having a really dependable block scorer, like, I don't know, Joel Embiid also forces weakside defenders to double team them, which gives shooters more time/room to launch.

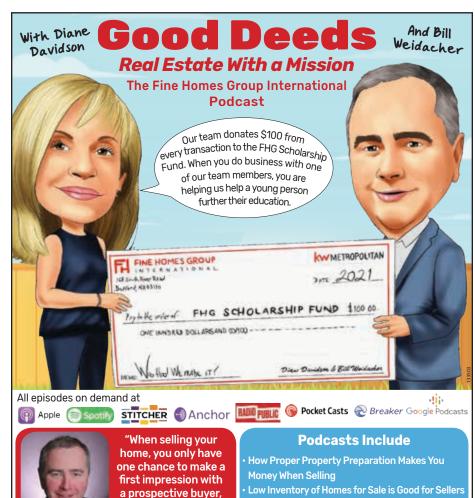
C's Needs Restructuring: I don't know what Brian Scalabrine is smoking, but the biggest need is not another scoring wing like Harrison Barnes. It's changing the formula from wing scoring dominance to one that complements the 3-ball with reliable scoring from the block. As much as I love the grit of Daniel Theis, that's not him. So a trade is needed. But if they want to wait a bit, give Robert Williams 30 minutes a game to see if he can do some of that.

The General Manager: Earth to Danny, what are you waiting for? Stop trying to get a steal every time you make a trade like in the Gordon Hayward-for-Myles Turner fiasco. I'm not in love with Turner, but taking only him in that deal instead of holding out for more would have filled the need to get bigger up front and provided a stretch four who blocks shots too. He also could have been flipped later for a better fit. Rome is burning. Stop fiddling (and diddling) and get what is needed.

The Bench Needs Scoring: Short term, I'd swap Payton Pritchard and Kemba, to give the second unit a much-needed dynamic scorer. However, any major deal will likely need Kemba as the bait to make that happen, so it must give the C's a proven bench scorer back, like Orlando's Terrence Ross.

Top Trade Target: I wanted Orlando's Nikola Vucevic as the free agent replacement the summer Al Horford and Kyrie Irving defected. The problem is that he's blossomed into a 24 and 11 guy so he'll cost a lot more. Why would Orlando move him? Maybe after falling out of it again they'll want to build around their younger players and know his trade value will never be higher. He'll cost future picks, recent top picks and likely the Time Lord, unless Kemba goes to a third team needing a veteran presence with a lot of draft capital to send their way like New Orleans.

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Dietitian's Tip

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Bedford boy appears on Ellen

"This is awesome! I never thought I would hear my voice and now it's on this show!" That was 9-year-old Elliot Perry's response to Ellen DeGeneres when she asked how he was doing during his appearance on her show on Feb. 18. The Bedford resident appeared as a CHaD ambassador; after he was born several months premature, doctors said he would never walk or talk. He spent 121 days at the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock's intensive care nursery, and now he's on a mission to raise \$121,000 to build two playgrounds for CHaD in 2021, one at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon and one at Dartmouth-Hitchcock in Manchester, according to a press release. During the segment, Ellen presented Elliot and his parents, BJ and Carrie Perry, with a \$20,000 contribution from Shutterfly.

Score: +1

Comment: This is one cute kid doing a whole lot of good. The Perrys have also joined forces with Team Police forward Kyle Daly of the Manchester Police Department to raise more than \$100,000 in five years through CHaD's Battle of the Badges Hockey Championship, according to the press release. You can see Elliot on The Ellen DeGeneres Show at ellentube.com.

75

Fisher Cats plan their comeback

After missing the entire season last year, the New Hampshire Fisher Cats have announced a 120-game season that kicks off May 4. According to a press release, the Toronto Blue Jays Double-A affiliate will play its first home game at Delta Dental Stadium on May 11 against a new division team, the Somerset Patriots (the New York Yankees Double-A affiliate). Other highlights of the season include 18 home games against the Portland Sea Dogs (Boston Red Sox) and 17 post-game fireworks shows throughout the season.

Score: +1

Comment: Single-game tickets for the month of May will go on sale March 15, according to the release, and single-game tickets for the rest of the season will be available in the coming months "as stadium capacity regulations continue to evolve."

The final reel?

New Hampshire movie lovers will have fewer places to go for buttery popcorn and cinematic goodness (or cinematic badness, which can be just as fun). According to reports this week in multiple media outlets, Zyacorp Entertainment, parent company of Cinemagic theaters, announced on Feb. 22 that it is closing all eight of its New England theaters (including the three New Hampshire locations in Merrimack, Hooksett and Portsmouth). "After 20 years' operating movie theaters ... and with a heavy heart, Zyacorp Entertainment has closed its Cinemagic Movie Theaters with no plans to reopen," according to a statement from the company as reported by the Worcester Telegram & Gazette in a post on Feb. 23. (QOL attempted to contact Zyacorp by phone and email Tuesday morning but couldn't reach anyone.) The theaters had been on "intermission till spring" since early February, which is what the website still said as of Tuesday. QOL has seen more movies at the Merrimack and Hooksett theaters than QOL can count. Returning to those theaters, loading up on snacks and watching a summer tent pole or a late-year Oscar hopeful was definitely near the top of QOL's "things to do when This is over" list. Though southern New Hampshire is lucky to have other movie theaters in operation (and more that are still planning to return to operation), this loss of so many screens is a real blow.

QOL score: -3 (one for each of those theaters)

Comments: Sure, QOL enjoys the convenience of having the big movies hit home screens roughly the same time they're hitting theaters but nothing quite captures the escapism of seeing a story play out on a giant screen or the joy of cheering for an action movie climax with a crowd.

QOL score: 57 Net change: -1 QOL this week: 56

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Walker Lecture Series goes virtual

By Angie Sykeny asykeny@hippopress.com

After canceling its events in 2020, the Walker Lecture Series will return for its 124th spring season with weekly virtual events every Wednesday from March 3 through April 21.

The Concord-based series, traditionally held at the Concord City Auditorium, features free performances and lectures on history, travel, art and science topics. This spring's virtual events will be hosted by Concord TV, some pre-recorded and aired on the city's public access TV channel, and some livestreamed over Zoom.

"[When Covid hit,] we were thrown for a loop just like everyone else [was], and we didn't know what the future would hold," Walker Lecture Series trustee Jon Kelly said, "but we're dealing with that reality now. We're embracing it with a spirit of experimentation."

The series kicks off with "Banjos, Bones, and Ballads," where local musician and historian Jeff Warner will perform and discuss traditional New England tavern music, hymns, sailor songs and

"He plays old-time music on the banjo, the spoons, the washboard and the bones, just like people did in the 19th century," Kelly said. "He's

The following week, mentalist and author of Psychic Blues Mark Edward will present a lecture, "Psychics, Mediums, and Mind Readers: How do they do it?"

"He talks about the fraudulence of people who pretend they can talk to the dead and encourages people to use critical thinking to examine the trick nature of it before they believe that someone has magical powers," Kelly said. "I think our audience will be really interested in that."

Other programs in this spring's Walker Lecture Series will include an art lecture on Frank Lloyd Wright and Norman Rockwell; a history lecture on New Hampshire revolutionaries John Stark and Henry Dearborn; an author event with Michael Tougias, discussing his memoir The Waters Between Us; a nature program about bears; travelogues about Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska and the deserts, coastline and safari parks of Namibia; and a faculty concert by Concord Community Music School.

"We try to choose programs that will be edifying for the audience, but we also want it to be fun," Kelly said. "We want [the topics] to be things that people will enjoy and like."

The Walker Lecture Series has also planned and released the schedule for its fall season,

which will run Sept. 22 through mid-December. Though it remains to be seen whether the series will be held virtually or in person, Kelly said he is hopeful that in-person events will be possible.

"People have done well with socialization over Zoom, but I am nostalgic for the days when people would all pile in the City Auditorium and get there early and talk with their neighbors in the lobby," he said. "I'm choosing to be optimistic that we'll be able to have that in the fall."



The Walker Lecture Series opens with "Banios, Bones, and Bal lads" by Jeff Warner on Wednesday, March 3. Courtesy photo.

Walker Lecture Series spring season

p.m., March 3 through April 21 Where: Virtual, on Concord TV (Channel 22, or stream at yourconcordtv.org), YouTube and Zoom, depending on the program Cost: Free and open to all; no tickets or reservations required More info: Call 333-0035 walkerlecture.org visit

"Banjos, Bones, and Ballads" with Jeff Warner

March 3 on Concord TV

"Psychics, Mediums, and

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Wednesdays, 7:30 Mind Readers: How do they do it?" with Mark Edward March 10 on Zoom

> "Norman Rockwell and Frank Lloyd Wright" with Jane Oneail

March 17 on Zoom

"Autumn in Denali" and "The World of the Bear" with Tom Sterling March 24 on Concord TV

"Two New Hampshire Men from the American **Revolution: John Stark** and Henry Dearborn" with George Morrison March 31 on Zoom

"Growing Up Wild in the '60s and '70s" with Mike Tougias April 7 on Zoom

"The Road to Namibia" with Rick Ray April 14 on Zoom

Concord Community Music School Faculty Concert April 21 on Concord TV

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ROUNDUP

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

• Lovely art: The New Hampshire Art Association has an exhibit, "Perfect Pairings," on view online and at the NHAA's Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth) now through Feb. 28. The Valentine's Day-inspired exhibit, focused on the themes of twos, pairs and relationships, features pairings of works that relate to each other. All pieces are for sale individually, with a 10-percent discount if both pieces are bought as a pair. "We encourage customers to consider purchasing both works as a set," NHAA board president Renee Giffroy said in a press release. "They can purchase the pair either for themselves or as a gift, or they can keep one piece for themself and give the other one to that special someone. The art will always connect them." 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 Monday and Tuesday by appointment. Call 431-4230 and visit nhartassociation.org.

Don't miss "Let Me Show You What I Love," an art exhibit by the Seacoast Artist Association on view now through the end of February in the windows at the gallery (130 Water St., Exeter) and inside by appointment. The Valentine's Day themed exhibit features a variety of art by gallery members depicting "what they love — what seizes their hearts, minds and souls," according to a press release from the Association. Visit seacoastartist.org or call 778-8856.

• Virtual music and comedy: The Palace Theatre in Manchester presents "2020 Good Riddance," a virtual comedy special with Juston McKinney, on Friday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

The Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord also has a few virtual shows coming up, including a concert by the band **Trampled by Turtles** on Thursday, Feb. 25, at 9 p.m. (tickets cost \$15); "**Stream of Consciousness,"** an improv comedy special featuring Colin Mochrie and Brad Sherwood of *Whose Line is it Anyway?* on Sunday, Feb. 28, at 4 p.m. (tickets cost \$35); and a pre-recorded concert by Irish music and dancing group **Rhythm of the Dance** on Thursday, March 4, at 7 p.m., Sunday, March 14, at 2 p.m., and Saturday, March 20, at 7 p.m. (tickets cost \$20). Call 225-1111 or visit ceanh.com.

• Classical concert: The First Music Concert Series of The First Church in Nashua presents Franz Schubert's 1827 song cycle "Winterreise" (Winter Journey) in person at the church (1 Concord St.) on Sunday, Feb. 28, at 3 p.m. The piece will be performed by bass-baritone Mark Andrew Cleveland and pianist Eliko Akahori. Masks are required. Admission is free. Visit first—music.org, email info@first—music.org or call 882-4861.





"Loves Me" and "Loves Me Not," paired colored pencil drawings by Katie Mae Pollard, featured in NHAA's "Perfect Pairings" exhibit. Courtesy photo.

- Sculptors wanted: The City of Concord and the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce are seeking professional sculptors for the fourth annual Art on Main, a year-round outdoor public art exhibit set up in Concord's downtown. Sculptors age 18 and older are invited to submit up to two original sculptures for consideration. The deadline for submissions is March 31, and sculptors will be notified of their acceptance by April 30. Installation will begin on May 21, with the exhibit opening in June. The selected sculptors will receive a \$500 stipend, and their sculptures will be for sale. To apply, visit concordnhchamber.com/creativeconcord, call 224-2508 or email tsink@ concordnhchamber.com.
- Discussing plays: Goffstown Public Library presents a virtual event, "The Play's the Thing: Or is it?" on Saturday, Feb. 27, at 11 a.m. Participants will analyze, act out and dissect Bathsheba Doran's play Parents' Evening and discuss what important statements are being made on Broadway today, how Broadway productions speak to the American experience outside of New York City, the longterm relevance of Broadway productions and how Broadway pertains to life in New Hampshire. Registration is required. Copies of the play are available for registered participants at the library circulation desk (2 High St.). Visit goffstownlibrary.com/calendar, call 497-2102 or email elizabethw@goffstownlibrary.com.
- Childhood health author: The Toadstool Bookshops (locations in Nashua, Peterborough and Keene) will host a virtual author event via Zoom on Thursday, March 4, at 7 p.m. Dr. Daniel O'Neill will present and discuss his new book *Survival of the Fit*, which provides a look at different approaches to childhood health through physical education in schools. The event is free. Visit toadbooks.com or call 352-8815.

— Angie Sykeny 🦚

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

The year of pets

The tales of puppies, sugar gliders, a potbelly pig and other animals that found new homes in the last year



Beauty and Beast. Photo courtesy of Sheila Sanville.

By Matt Ingersoll & Angie Sykeny news@hippopress.com

With limited opportunities for human socialization over the past year, many New Hampshire residents have turned to companionship of the furry, feathered and scaly variety. Meet some of the animals who found their forever-homes during the pandemic.

Beauty and Beast

Beauty and Beast are two nearly oneyear-old sugar gliders, mammals native to Australia that look like a cross between a small racoon and a flying squirrel. Sheila Sanville of Londonderry adopted the pair last September from the Raymond-based Our Sugar Gliders of New Hampshire, soon after moving into her new home.

Sanville had owned two other sugar gliders, named Tink and Simba, around a decade ago. In captivity, she said, they tend to live up to 10 to 12 years.

"My mother-in-law had a co-worker who needed a home for her sugar gliders, which is how I first got Tink and Simba. I had never heard of them before and I said I would love to know what they are all about," she said.

She found Beauty and Beast (then known as Bambi and Thumper) from the Raymond rescue and sanctuary through Facebook.

"I work at a school and we were remote at the time," she said. "I knew that I could give them more time and attention than I ever could have ... to just make that bond with me."

Sugar gliders can make good pets, just as long as you do your research. According to Sanville, they are nocturnal and have different diets depending on their age. State laws vary in the legality of keeping them as pets, although it is legal in most, including New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

"In the wild, you'll find them at the tops of trees," Sanville said. "They have skin under their arms and legs that helps them 'glide' from tree to tree."



Coco. Photo courtesy of Michael Pereira and Amy Wales.

Coco

Derry couple Michael Pereira and Amy Wales had fostered several dogs from Second Chance Ranch Rescue in New Boston prior to adopting one themselves. After Solomon and Sadie, two dogs they had fostered who respectively were adopted into new homes in late 2019 and June 2020, Pereira and Wales met Coco (previously Vera), a 3to 4-year-old black Lab pitbull mix who was introduced to them by Second Chance Ranch owner and founder Kristin Morrissey. "Kristin's goal is really to find the right home that's a good match for the dogs," Pereira said. "We recently took guardianship of my wife's cousin, who has special needs, and Coco has done incredibly well with her. ... She's also great with our kids."

Vera, he said, was renamed Coco after the 2017 Disney film of the same name.

"From what we understand, she was a sweet caring and nurturing mother," he said. "She loves hugs and will cuddle with anyone."

Herbie

Ryan Moran never thought he'd get a pet bearded dragon. But when his sister Nicole, who works at the Manchester Animal Shelter, sent him a post on a dragon named Jackie Chan that was looking for a new home, he was intrigued.

"I thought he looked cool ... [and] I've always been drawn to an animal with a funny name," he said.

Moran had always had dogs in his family growing up. But with his landlord not allowing dogs in his apartment, and with Moran working from home more often during the pandemic, he became interested in the prospect of owning a new pet reptile. Jackie Chan was eventually renamed Herbie — Moran plays the piano and named him after pianist Herbie Hancock. Through online research and a visit with the veterinarian, he worked to educate himself on Herbie's enclosure habitat, behavioral patterns and diet.



Herbie. Photo courtesy of Ryan Moran.

"Bearded dragons are omnivorous, so they'll eat mostly leafy greens and different proteins," Moran said. "He's actually encouraged me to eat a little healthier and expand my own horizons." Dragons, he said, also love natural sunlight and are drawn to windows.

"The cool thing is that he'll change color," he said. "Most of the time he's a lighter tan color, [but] he turns a darker color to absorb more heat and he turns totally white when he's sleeping."

Iceberg Lettuce

Iceberg Lettuce, also known as Iceberg or "Icy" for short, is a 2-year-old female parakeet with light green feathers and a yellow head and tail. Thirteen-year-old Doc Willoya of Manchester received Iceberg as a birth-day present last November from the MSPCA adoption center at Nevins Farm in Methuen, Mass

Due to the pandemic, according to Willoya's mother, Constance Spencer, they were required to make an appointment ahead of time to meet Iceberg.

"When we got there, we had to wait to be let in ... and they escorted us straight to the bird room," Spencer said.

Though Iceberg is currently recovering from an upper respiratory infection, she is a very musical bird.

"She just loves to chirp all day," said Willoya, who also has another parakeet and a green-cheeked conure.

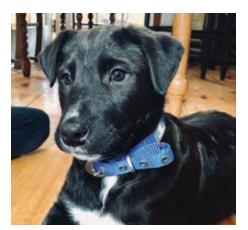
Also known as budgies, parakeets like Iceberg live for around 15 years and have a diet that includes pellets, seeds and chopped up vegetables.

JoeE

Katie Hall, her husband Chris and daughters Olivia and Lucy adopted this adorable 4-month-old Lab mix puppy late last month from Second Chance Ranch Rescue in New Boston. JoeE (pronounced "joey") is named after the street the shelter is located



lcv. Photo courtesy of Doc Willova and Constance Spencer.



JoeE. Photo courtesy of Katie Hall.

on (Joe English Road) and is also short for Joe English Hill in New Boston, near where Chris's parents still live. After the Hall family dog, Maple, passed away last fall at the age of 10, Katie said, searches for a new pup were made online via Petfinder to no avail.

"It was pretty limited in the midst of the pandemic," she said. "It was hard to get a timely response from anyone."

The Halls eventually learned of opportunities available at Second Chance Ranch Rescue, and met with potential adoptees in an outdoor fenced area on the property while masked up. JoeE was one of at least three littermates the family visited.

"Part of our inspiration to get a puppy was for the kids to have those childhood memories and adventures," Hall said.

JoeE has adapted to his new home very quickly — you just can't leave him unsupervised, Hall said, or he'll try to chew on a glove, mitten or shoe.

Kane

Kane is a 2-year-old medically needy American Staffordshire terrier who found his new home in late January. Chris Garceau of Windham came across an online post about Kane from the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire in Bedford.

A pet owner for three decades, Garceau



Kane. Photo courtesy of Chris Garceau.

has adopted several other animals with medical conditions in the past. He most recently had a 13-year-old springer spaniel with canine cognitive dysfunction named Lexi; she passed away last September.

"I didn't want to see a dog like Kane end up with a family that couldn't afford his care," said Garceau, who noted that Kane is on multiple medications for food and skin allergies.

Garceau also has two cats, Dezzy and Tyna, who came from Pope Memorial SPCA in Concord, and reports that Kane has settled in with his new furry housemates seamlessly.

Oakley

Oakley is a sweet 12-week-old female Lab mix who came all the way from Puerto Rico. Melissa Magee of Sandown and her family adopted Oakley in late January from The Student Rescue Project, a Vermont-based volunteer-run organization that rescues stray and abandoned dogs from the U.S. territory. Once she received her vet clearances, she was to be flown into Boston to be picked up by the rescue.

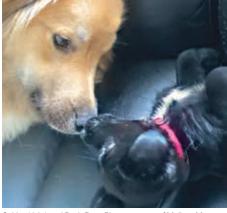
"Covid caused so many delays and forced schedule changes so the flights had to be rebooked more than once," Magee said in an email. "Because of this, Oakley and the rest of the dogs with her ultimately traveled for two days from Puerto Rico to Baltimore, New York City and Philadelphia before being driven to Connecticut, and finally to Vermont."

The pandemic, she said, also made the pickup process very quick and informal.

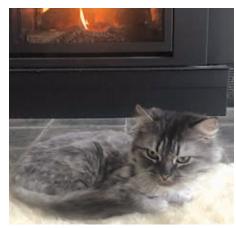
"We had to stay in our vehicle, with masks on, and have our puppy brought out to us," she said. "There was a quick handoff, details about receiving her paperwork, and then we were off." Despite the initial scheduling hiccups, Magee said the young pup has quickly acclimated to her new home and bonded with the family's 2-and 4-year-old sons and their other rescue dog, an English shepherd and Great Pyrenees mix named Pooh Bear.

Scarlett

Christine Kay of Merrimack brought this 9-year-old senior cat home earlier this month. A retired teacher, Kay had anoth-



Oakley (right) and Pooh Bear. Photo courtesy of Melissa Magee.



Scarlett. Photo courtesy of Christine Kay.

er cat that passed away about three years ago and had thought about adopting again.

"I came across Scarlett online and really liked her," she said. "I had no other pets, just me, and now of course we can't travel ... so I thought she might be a good fit."

Kay said she was so excited to meet Scarlett that she drove to the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire in Bedford in a snowstorm. Scarlett, in turn, jumped on her lap almost immediately. "[The Rescue League's] website says you can take the animal home the same day, and I left the little carrying cases outside the room hoping that that would happen," she said.

In addition to some upper respiratory challenges, Scarlett has had several of her teeth removed and is a very fussy eater, oftentimes not touching her food in the morning.

"They were very up front about everything that needed to be done," Kay said, "and I thought, 'you know what, I can handle this.' I don't mind, because she's worth it."

Zazu

Named after the character from *The Lion King*, Zazu is a 3- or 4-month-old black and white domestic shorthair kitten. Londonderry native and University of New Hampshire student Saba Awan had gone fully remote with her classes and wanted a new pet kitten. She found Zazu late last year.

"I had nothing to do and we were all home anyway, so we knew he was always going to have somebody around," Awan Considering

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Zazu. Photo courtesy of Saba Awan.





Jimmy. Photo courtesy of Alison and Mark Langlois.



Bennie and Charlie. Photo courtesy of Lisa and Scott



Baby. Photo courtesy of Shannon and Nate Sprague.

said. "He settled in pretty much immediately. ... He could fit in my hand when we first got him. He's a little bit bigger now but not by much."

Banana

Kim Caddle of Stratham adopted 2-year-old male pup Banana from the New Hampshire SPCA last June.

"We had fostered a few dogs for the last couple of years and knew it was time for our family to get a forever dog again," she said.

When the NHSPCA first brought Banana out to meet Caddle and her family, he was "smiling from ear to ear," she said, and the connection was instant.

"As soon as he approached my 8-yearold son, he reached up and covered his face in kisses," she said. "That sealed the deal."

Caddle said Banana is "the friendliest goofball" who is full of energy but also loves downtime with lots of cuddles.

During the pandemic he has made friends with the neighborhood kids and has become the "mascot," Caddle said, for the pod classroom of third-graders who meet at her home.

"Everyone on Zoom knows who he is," she said.

Jimmy

Wife and husband Alison and Mark Langlois of Goshen had been looking for a companion pig to join the other rescue pigs and animals on their hobby farm, so



Sugar. Photo courtesy of Katie LeBeau.

when 8-year-old potbellied pig Jimmy became available at the New Hampshire SPCA, they applied right away.

"One look at his photo online stole my heart, but even more so when I arrived and saw him basking in the sun next to his duck friends," Alison Langlois said. "He was pure joy from the first moment."

When they brought Jimmy home from the New Hampshire SPCA a few weeks ago — a two-hour car ride in an SUV — they tried to have him ride in the back of the hatchback trunk, but he was "having none of that," Langlois said.

"[He] opted instead to climb up next to me in the back seat and ride the rest of the way like a human," she said.

In the short time that Jimmy has been at his new home, Langlois said he fits right in and has already made friends with one of the sheep on the farm.

"It's heartwarming to watch these beloved animals interact," she said.

Bennie and Charlie

Wife and husband Lisa and Scott Hunt of Hillsborough already had two hound rescues and weren't planning to adopt any more dogs, but when they saw a post on Facebook featuring 12-year-old puggle pair Ben and Charlie, who had been left at the Manchester Animal Shelter, they found it hard to look away.

"We knew we had to go meet them," Lisa Hunt said. "The minute we met them, it was love at first sight. ... We [applied] and prayed that we would be chosen to give these boys the best last years of their lives."

Charlie is "Mr. Personality," Hunt said — very vocal and loves to play with his toys and roll around on the floor — while Bennie is "cooler than the other side of the pillow" and loves his nap times.

"They are both sweet, funny, loving and just pure goodness," she said. "They are both very spunky too. You would never know they are little old men."

Their favorite part of the day, Hunt said, is their morning Dunkin run.

"We pile [all the dogs] into the car ... [to get] our iced coffees and their doughnuts," she said. "Everyone [at Dunks] knows them, and they love the attention from their doughnut friends."

Hunt said the dogs have brought her family "instant peace and feelings of love" throughout the pandemic.

"I think about how lucky our family is to have these sweet boys by our side during the toughest times we have ever faced," she said. "Who is luckier, us or them?"

Baby

Having lived her first year as a feral dog on the streets of Georgia, Baby was in need of a foster home with another dog who could help her learn how to live domestically. Wife and husband Shannon and Nate Sprague of Pelham, who heard about Baby through a post on the Greater Derry Humane Society's Facebook page, felt that they and their dog George would be able to fulfill that need, but then something happened that they did not expect.

"We took her in to foster ... and she never left," Shannon Sprague said. "We fell in love with her ... and couldn't imagine living without her."

Baby has come a long way since they made the adoption official last March, Sprague said. At first Baby was petrified of people and wouldn't step outside of her crate or let anyone touch her. Now she loves snuggling, hiking and going for car rides with the family.

"George took her under his wing and truly taught her how to live in a home with people and other animals," Sprague said. "She has transformed into a completely different dog. ... We can hardly believe it."

Sprague said Baby has been a source of comfort for the family during the pandemic, especially for Sprague's 15-year-old daughter, Gwyneth.

"Gwyn is an extremely social teenager and has been hit hard emotionally at times due to the pandemic," Sprague said. "Baby has rescued her as much as she rescued Baby. They are smitten with each other."

Sugar

Katie LeBeau works at the Nashua Humane Society for Greater Nashua. It was there that she first met Sugar, a 13-year-old cat who was up for adoption.

"It was love at first sight," LeBeau said.
"I would care for her every day, and we developed a bond while she was waiting to be adopted."

LeBeau said she thought about adopting Sugar every day but was hesitant because she had another cat at home and wasn't sure how the two would get along. One day LeBeau came in to work to find that Sugar had been adopted.

"I was happy she had found a home, but heartbroken at the same time," she said.

The adoption did not work out, however, and Sugar returned to the shelter shortly after. This time LeBeau didn't hesitate.

"I just knew I could not let her go again, so I adopted her as soon as I could," she said

Fortunately, LeBeau said, Sugar and LeBeau's other cat, Simba, get along great.

"They are very happy together," she said. "They act like they have lived together their whole lives."

Rue

Last December, Heather Mills of Nashua agreed to foster Rue, a 3-month-old Chihuahua mix up for adoption at the Humane Society for Greater Nashua, while the puppy was being medicated for anaplasma, a tick-borne disease.

"The shelter felt it would be best for her to go into a home setting instead of sitting in a shelter while on the medication to receive socialization that is so important at a young age," Mills said.

Mills, who had just adopted a kitten a month before, had no intention of adopting another animal, but when Rue and the kitten "fell in love right away," she started to reconsider.

"As the month went on I kept telling myself, 'No, I don't want a puppy,'" she said. "In the end I just could not part with her. ... It was just meant to be."

Mills said Rue is affectionate, loves people and is "the ideal lap dog," and has been a comfort to Mills' daughter, who was a college student when the pandemic hit.

"She is going through some depression like so many other young adults," Mills said, "but [Rue] just brings a light into our home [and] brings both myself and my daughter so much joy."

Juneau

Wife and husband Donna and Eric Long of Bradford had been considering getting a dog after their 14-year-old Labrador retriever died in 2019. When the pandemic hit, they decided to not put it off any longer.

"My husband and I were both working from home, [so] we figured it would be a good time to train a puppy," Donna Long said

In September they adopted Juneau, a 9-week-old Siberian husky, Labrador



Rue. Photo courtesy of Heather Mills.

retriever and boxer mix, from Pope Memorial SPCA in Concord.

"We put in an application for a puppy, and we were matched up with her," Long said. "We visited with her for a bit ... and she stole our heart immediately."

Long said they are always looking for ways for Juneau to engage with other people and dogs in hopes of preventing separation anxiety if and when the couple returns to working outside of the home.

Juneau has even had the unique opportunity of getting to know her biological siblings thanks to the owner of one of the siblings, who proposed that they all keep in touch. The group has connected eight out of the 10 adopted puppies from Juneau's litter, occasionally getting together for



Juneau. Photo courtesy of Donna and Eric Long.

playdates, sharing pics and keeping each other updated on the pups' weights and developing personality traits.

"It usually takes a few moments [for the puppies] to remember who they are [during the playdates], but then they are so happy to play together," Long said. "It is fun to watch all the siblings grow up together."

Prosecco

Katie Boyden met 9-year-old cat Prosecco at the Humane Society for Greater Nashua, where she works as the director of community engagement.

"I would visit her kennel and she would meow and come right up to me," Boyden said. "I knew from the moment I met her that our personalities were meant to be."



Prosecco. Photo courtesy of Katie Boyden.

Boyden said she had no intention of adopting an animal during the pandemic, but after seeing a promotional video the Humane Society made with Prosecco giving a "shelter tour," she couldn't resist.

"It stole my heart. ... I fell in love immediately," she said. "When I saw she was still available the next day, I adopted her."

Prosecco loves snuggles, french fries and accompanying Boyden to work in her "adventure backpack," Boyden said, but most of all she loves to be the center of attention, especially on Zoom calls.

"She sits front and center in front of the camera whenever I Zoom," she said. "She has become well-known around Greater Nashua; anyone who has Zoomed with me has gotten to know my beautiful cat."



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Make your houseplants happy

Mid-winter care for sad indoor plants

By Henry Homeyer listings@hippopress.com

Are you suffering from the mid-winter blahs? More importantly, are your houseplants? We can't be in our gardens outside now — except for a few stalwarts who are pruning, I suppose — but we can take good care of our houseplants.

Although I have not the passion for house-plants that I do for plants outdoors, my friends seem to think it is all right to dump tired or depressed houseplants on me — I mean, they gift me houseplants that need a little extra care. This winter I ended up with around 50 houseplants, including a banana tree, cacti of various sorts, a gardenia and much, much more. That's fine. I will re-gift some in the spring or summer, and move the rest outdoors.

One of the best things you can do for your houseplants is to be judicious in watering. More is not better! Roots will rot, especially if the soil mix has gotten compacted over the years (as organic matter has been depleted).

That said, as February transitions to March, the sun is stronger than it was in January, and the plants are waking up for spring. Their roots are growing and seeking moisture. Instead of watering once a week, twice a week is better for some. Leaves are growing and need more water.

Rosemary plants, which do well in dry climates like California or the Mediterranean coast, do not survive if their roots become totally dry. Outdoors there, their roots go down deep to a soil layer that is slightly moist all year. But in a pot? It's easy to let them dry out.

If you see the leaves start to wilt, water immediately! Sadly, if you miss a watering and the plant is in a sunny window, your plant may die. And then, no matter how much you water your dead rosemary, it will not come back to life. I know, I've tried. Just harvest the leaves and use them in the kitchen.

I keep a woodstove chugging along day and night, all winter. I keep a kettle on it to add a little moisture to the air, but that is not nearly enough to keep most houseplants happy. The best thing you can do if you have a warm, dry house is to buy a humidifier. This will make you more comfortable, too.

I have a small humidifier in the bedroom that will deliver a gallon of water to the air in 12 hours, but that is a drop in the bucket for an entire house. So I also have a cabinet-style humidifier that will deliver 5 gallons of water to the house in 12 hours. It wicks up water and then blows air over the wick to evaporate it. Since I have an open-plan home, this helps throughout the down-stairs. Still, it is a struggle to keep the house at 40



Gardenias are fussy and hard to get to bloom indoors. Photo by Henry Homever.

percent relative humidity, my goal. It would be easier to do if I kept it running 24/7, but I don't like the sound of the fan all day, and mainly run it at night. I fill the humidifier with a watering can from the garden that I fill in the bathtub.

Last fall Cindy asked if I knew a greenhouse that would keep a client's gardenia for the winter. She said she'd been told they were fussy, needed high humidity and were aphid-prone. I asked one greenhouse, and was told \$5,000 would be about right for caring for one for four or five months. Huh. So I decided to do it — for free, and for the challenge of it.

The gardenia was loaded with flower buds when it came to the house in October. So far, we have had two flowers blossom, but most dried up and fell off. Still, getting any blossoms is a victory, I think. So how did I do it? I'd like to say it is aphid-free because I washed the leaves and growing medium carefully before bringing it in the house. That's what I would recommend. But life was busy, and it's a 4-foot-tall tree in a 50-pound pot, so I just lugged it in — frost was predicted.

I carried it upstairs to our cool, sunny laundry room. I filled a 12-inch plant saucer with small stones, and kept the saucer full of water. The gardenia sat on the stones and breathed in the evaporated moisture. I also sprayed the gardenia with a special plant misting device made by Florasol. This sprays a very fine spray with an easy squeeze and is the best of the sprayers I've tried.

Still, it was not happy. Buds dried and dropped. I moved it into a bathroom where the shower is used twice a day, morning and evening. Everyone was asked to spray anytime they were in the bathroom. But there was not enough sunshine, and still no blossoms opening up.

Finally I hauled it back down the spiral staircase (losing buds along the way) and set it next to my desk and computer, the warmest place in the house. I set up that big humidifier nearby and keep the hand sprayer handy. It is in a bright, west-facing window and is in flower now. And no signs of aphids!

In March I will start to help some dormant plants to wake up. I've had a fig tree and a crape myrtle in pots in our dark basement at 40 degrees all winter. They've dropped all leaves, and I only water them every six weeks or so, and lightly. But I will bring them up into the house and give them a taste of liquid fertilizer — just a light dilution. I like Neptune's Harvest fish and seaweed formula. That worked fine last winter.

So keep an eye on your houseplants, and if they get dusty you can take one in the shower with you and give it a good spray.

Email henry.homeyer@comcast.net.







Family fun for the weekend

Bounce and climb

Cowabunga's (725 Huse Road, Manchester, 935-9659, cowabungas.com) has extended hours for February vacation week, with public play times this Thursday, Feb. 25, and Friday, Feb. 26, from noon to 6 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 27, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 28, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets must be ordered ahead of time online. The cost is \$12 per hour per child, or two hours for \$15, or for \$19.99 get three hours of bounce time and a kids meal.

Nuthin' but Good Times (746 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack, 429-2200, nuthinbutgoodtimes.com) is also open for the remainder of vacation week, on Thursday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Climbing is open to the public during those hours, and there is no time limit. Admission is free for infants, \$2.50 for crawlers, \$6 for ages 3 and under, \$9.50 for ages 4 through 17, and \$2.50 for ages 18+.

Try tubing

Let the kids get out some energy outside. For the rest of the vacation week, Pats Peak (686 Flanders Road, Henniker, 428-3245) is open for tubing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The cost is \$24 for a two-hour session, and advance online reservations are required. Only Pats Peak tubes are allowed and they are included in the cost. Children must be at least 5 years old and at least 44 inches tall. Visit patspeak.com to make a reservation.



McIntyre Ski Area. Courtesy photo.

McIntyre Ski Area (50 Chalet Ct., Manchester, 622-6159, mcintyreskiarea.com) also offers tubing, though reservations are not accepted. Tickets must be purchased at the ticket window, and it is first come, first served. Tickets are \$23 for a two-hour session. For vacation week, hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, with sessions broken into two-hour time slots. According to the McIntyre website, tickets go on sale 30 minutes prior to each session, but it is recommended that you arrive an hour to an hour and a half prior to the session to get in line for tickets.

Virtual homeschool

On Thursday, March 4, from 10 to 10:45 a.m. the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (Holderness, 968-7194, nhnature.org) will host its monthly virtual homeschool series for ages 4 to 10. On the first Thursday of each month, participants are introduced to a seasonal topic and are provided with an outdoor investigation to complete at home. The following Thursday, students share their observations and discoveries and "meet" a live animal that connects to the topic. Virtual sessions are held via Zoom, and adults are expected to participate with their kids. The cost is \$11 per child per month, or \$22 per family per month. Register online or by calling.

TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna.

I had considered having this clock converted to battery-operated and then began to research. I believe it is a George Nelson for Howard Miller sunburst spike clock. If so, I think it would be best to leave it unaltered! I love this fun clock from my childhood home, but it's not in character

with my own home. Would you know the val- information with it for future generations. ue for this, and how would you recommend I sell it?

June

Dear June,

Any antique or collectible that is in running and good condition is best left alone.

Your Howard Miller clock is very collectible and I found prices all over the place, from \$150 to \$300. Some of the clocks from the same period of time — 1960s to 1970s -

brought an even higher value.

Mid-century items are the in thing right now so I am thinking if your clock is working you should be able to get in the range of \$150 to a reseller or try for the collector online yourself. My personal suggestion would be to tuck it away for now. It's money in the bank as long as you noted your

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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Prius electrical systems each require a battery



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:

We recently had to jump-start our 4-yearold Toyota Prius. It turns out that the Prius uses a 12-volt battery for starting. My question is: When the Prius has a large battery that can move the car,

why does it need a separate 12-volt battery to start the engine? Is this just poor engineering?
— Malcomb

For decades, cars have used 12-volt electrical systems. Those 12-volt systems run computers, radios, windshield wipers, lights, seat heaters, butt scratchers and pretty much every other accessory. So when Toyota's engineers built the Prius, they could either grab all that 12-volt stuff off the Toyota shelves and put it in the Prius, or they could start from scratch and design a whole new set of electrical components to run on high voltage. Not surprisingly, they took the easier route. Why spend time designing a new windshield wiper motor when you're already reinventing the propulsion system?

And that's why there are two electrical systems in your Prius. One is a 12-volt system that runs all the traditional electronics. The other is a high-voltage system that powers the wheels and the motor-generator that starts the gasoline

engine. OK then, you may ask: If the high-voltage battery runs the motor-generator, which starts the gasoline engine, why can't I still drive my Prius when the 12-volt battery is dead? It sounds like I don't need the 12-volt battery to start the gasoline engine.

Another good question, Malcomb. And here's the answer: All of the car's computers run on 12-volt power. And in order to turn on the high voltage battery, the 12-volt battery has to first power up the 12-volt computers that control it. That's why your Prius is useless when its 12-volt battery dies.

Dear Car Talk:

First, thanks for the many years of Car Talk. I head straight for your column every week. Secondly, why do cars still have tachometers? I remember the days when we really did need them. My dad bought a red 1952 MG-TD in 1954. I was about 16 years old, and I thought this was the greatest car I had ever seen. It was really fun to drive — top down and windscreen folded flat. It didn't go very fast, but it felt like it did. The little engine really revved up, and my dad always reminded me to watch out for that red line on the tach. You didn't need to worry about carrying jumper cables, because a very handy crank was stowed behind the driver's seat. I saw my dad several early mornings cranking

that engine so he could leave for work. We lived in Southern California, and he could leave the top down almost all year. Anyway, I've noticed that most cars still have tachometers. Why? Most of us rarely glance at the tach, or we forget it's there, or some don't know what it's for! My wife and I own four vehicles. None of them are Peterbilt's! We don't need the tachometers and could not red line any of them even if we tried! I can only guess that some obscure highway safety regulation mandates that every vehicle have a tachometer. Do you know the answer to this riddle? — Ed

No, it's not a regulation, Ed. I think it's one part tradition (it's always been there), one part theater (it looks cool and suggests performance), and one part needing to fill up space on the instrument cluster (what are we going to do with all this extra space on the dashboard? Make the oil light 30 times bigger?).

You're right that the tachometer — or the "tach" for short — which measures the engine speed in revolutions per minute or RPM, is completely unnecessary for most cars. It was originally there to prevent you from revving the engine too high ("red lining it," or letting the needle pass the red line on the tachometer). If you revved an engine too high, centrifugal force could cause its internal parts to fly apart. I've always found it very exciting when that happens.

But the computers in today's cars prevent you from ever red-lining an engine. You can't do it if you try. And that's even true with stick shift cars now. The computer will cut back the fuel injectors as you hit the red line.

Some people who drive stick shifts still like to know their engine speed. But most people have less than zero interest in it. And I think we probably will see instrument panels without tachometers in the coming years. For several reasons. One is we're moving to electric cars. There will be no engine, so there's no need to know how fast its internal parts are moving. And instrumentation is changing. Head-up displays now allow you to see crucial information without ever taking your eyes off the road and looking at your instrument panel. A head-up display projects key information, like the vehicle speed, on the windshield, so it appears to be floating at the end of your hood as your drive. So the instrument panel itself will become less important.

And finally, we're also seeing more digital instrument panels, which are essentially computer screens instead of analog gauges and dials. As you might imagine, those can be configured to include anything the car can display. And when you can see stuff on your dashboard that's as exciting as where the nearest Denny's is, why would you watch your engine speed?

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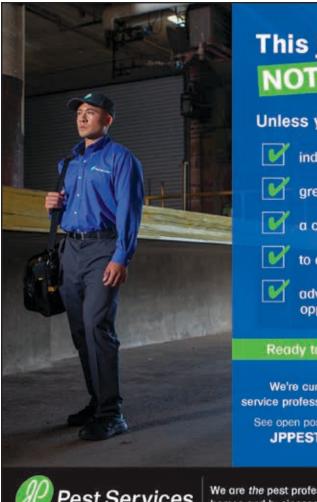


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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll food@hippopress.com

- More drive-thru Greek meals: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church (68 N. State St., Concord) will hold its next boxed Greek dinner to go event on Sunday, March 7, from noon to 1 p.m. Now through March 3, orders are being accepted for boxed meals, featuring Greek beef stew with orzo, Greek salad and a dinner roll, for \$15 per person. The event is drive-thru and takeout only - email ordermygreekfood@gmail.com or call 953-3051 to place your order. The church has a few other similar upcoming events planned, like a baked haddock dinner on April 25 and a chicken souvlaki meal on May 16. Visit holytrinitynh.org.
- Bite Out of Hunger: Now through March 25, the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary is selling chocolate Easter bunnies, made by Granite State Candy Shoppe, as part of its Bite Out of Hunger Campaign. The cost is \$8.50 for an eight-ounce solid milk, white or dark chocolate bunny. Proceeds benefit The Kids' Café, which offers children and teens meals and recreation activities four evenings a week. To order a bunny, call Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary publicity chairwoman Sylvia Crete at 490-4107.
- · B's Tacos expands to Manchester: Londonderry-based food truck B's Tacos has opened a new brick and mortar location on Manchester's West Side, at 372 Kelley St. According to owner and founder Ken Spilman, who has operated B's Tacos since 2013, the new location has allowed him to expand his menu offerings. You can still get six-inch tacos, in crispy corn or soft flour tortillas, as well as 12-inch burrito and rice bowls, in a variety of fillings, like slow-cooked pork, ground beef, pork and chorizo sausage, grilled chipotle garlic steak, fried chicken tender and more. There are also taco salads, quesadillas, and sides like beans, chicken fingers and avocado fries. While it is now open in Manchester Tuesday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., B's Tacos will continue to operate as a food truck at the BP Gas Station (2 Mohawk Drive, Londonderry) from May to October. Visit nhtacotruck.com.
- LaBelle taps new culinary chief: LaBelle Winery recently announced the addition of industry veteran Peter Agostinelli to its culinary team, according to a press release. A 1998 culinary arts graduate from Newbury College in Brookline, Mass., Agostinelli is no stranger to the local food scene his resume includes stints at the Bedford Village Inn, the Exeter 24

FOOD Comfort to go

Red Beard's Kitchen offers ready-made farm-to-fork meals

By Matt Ingersoll mingersoll@hippopress.com

From soup, chowder and chili to beef stew, veal Bolognese and shepherd's pie, a new ready-made meal business is offering a variety of locally sourced comfort options, available at a few area farm stands and also via weekly pickups in Manchester.

Known as Red Beard's Kitchen, it's the latest culinary project of Matt Provencher, who has held executive chef positions at multiple Granite State eateries over the years, most recently at The Foundry in Manchester. The business launched earlier this month with its first curbside pickups in front of the temporarily closed Noodz restaurant on Elm Street. For now, pickups will continue there every Saturday between 10 a.m. and noon.

"We're working with local farms as much as we can," said Provencher, who's been putting out Red Beard's Kitchen's meals with the help of his wife, Dalila. "We're dealing with New England Fishmongers for our scallops and haddock, and Bohanan Farm [in Hopkinton] for ground beef, dairy and cheese. ... The goal is to do some self-distribution."

Ordering is available through Red Beard's Kitchen's Facebook page and through its website. All items are sold frozen, with specific heating instructions depending on what you get. Most meals



Red Beard's Beef Chili to go. Courtesy photo.



Red Beard's Shepherd's Pie to go. Courtesy photo.

will serve two or three people per order

Some of Provencher's hottest-selling items right out of the gate have been seafood chowder with scallops, haddock and veggies, and shepherd's pie with ground beef. He has also done beef chili with kidney and pinto beans; veal Bolognese; split pea soup made with chicken stock, bacon and veggies; beef stew, and broccoli cheddar soup. Several of the meals, including the chili, the shepherd's pie and the Bolognese, are gluten-free. Provencher has also tested the waters with different products and worked with potential items like meatloaf and meatballs.

In addition to ordering online for Saturday pickups at Noodz, you can get

Provencher's meals at a few local farm stands — he's working with Vernon Family Farm in Newfields and Brookvale Pines Farm in Fremont, and will soon have his products available through the Three River Farmers Alliance, an online network linking customers to locally sourced food.

Red Beard's Kitchen

To order, visit red-beards-kitchen.square. site, email redbeardskitchennh@gmail.com or find them on Facebook. Place orders for weekly pickups on Saturdays, between 10 a.m. and noon, at Noodz (968 Elm St., Manchester).

FOOD

Coffee is brewing

Game of Thrones-inspired cafe now open in Amherst

By Matt Ingersoll mingersoll@hippopress.com

A new cafe in Amherst is inviting you to transport to the lands of Westeros while enjoying locally roasted coffees, teas, breakfast burritos, baked goods and more. The 7Kingdoms Cafe, which arrived last month in the town's Salzburg Square shopping center, is inspired by *Game of Thrones*, a favorite show of co-owners and sisters Kareya and Karina Flores. The casual spot features medieval cloth shields, gargoyle light fixtures, chess boards, books and other themed decor and some drinks with names that call to mind the popular HBO series.

Kareya Flores, whose family also owns El Arroyo Mexican Restaurant just a few doors down in the same plaza, said she and her sister became inclined to take over the space

following the closure of its preceding business, Hodlbyte Coffee.

"We've been [at El Arroyo] since 2018 ... and we always liked to walk over to that cafe to grab a coffee and relax. Our restaurant staff would also head over there on their breaks," Flores said. "So once we saw that the landlord there was renting that area out, we wanted to see if we could get it up and running again."

According to Flores, it was a conversation among family members about what the new cafe would be named that sparked the idea of a *Game of Thrones* theme.

"We were trying to think of what would be different," she said. "My husband suggested that it would be neat to have that as a theme ... and everything kind of evolved around that."

The cafe features espresso drinks, in addition to hot or iced drip and nitro cof-



Courtesy photo.

fees, using beans roasted from A&E Coffee & Tea. Many of the options are named after *Game of Thrones* characters or places, like the "latte of Winterfell" made with Irish cream-flavored syrup, the "Cersei chai latte," and the "mocha Stark," with either white chocolate or regular cocoa. If you prefer your own unique coffee creation, there are several other flavors of syrups available, from vanilla, caramel and hazelnut,

CONTINUED ON PG 23 ▶



Courtesy photo

◆ CONTINUED FROM PG 22

to tiramisu, amaretto, strawberry and raspberry. Other featured drinks are hot or iced teas, hot chocolate, freshly squeezed orange juice, and mixed refreshments with fruits like strawberries, passion fruit and mango.

Food options include several varieties of breakfast burritos premade the same day they are available, like those with Mexican chorizo sausage, jalapenos, scrambled eggs, cheese and house salsa. There are also paninis, like an Italian option with ham and salami, and a vegetarian option with mushrooms, tomatoes and romaine lettuce.

At the cafe's counter is a display case of fresh baked goods, several of which are either prepared at El Arroyo or sourced from the Manchester-based Dulces Bakery. There you'll find items like conchas (Mexi-

can sweet bread), cuernitos (Mexican sweet croissants) and assorted cookies.

Flores said the 7Kingdoms Cafe is already fast becoming a regular stomping ground for local *Game of Thrones* fans.

"Some people have said that as soon as they heard the name they knew it was related to *Game of Thrones* and were very excited," she said. "They love discussing the show."

7Kingdoms Cafe

Where: 292 Route 101, Amherst

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m.

to 4 p.m.

More info: Visit 7kingdoms-cafe.business. site, find them on Facebook @7kingdoms-cafe or call 213-5390

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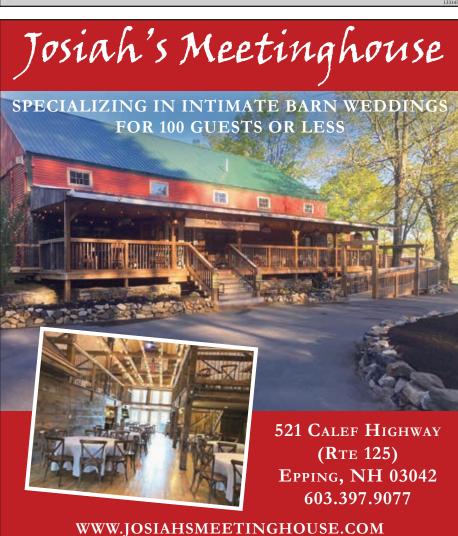


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EKITCHEN

Erofili Roesel of Loudon and her husband Alex are the owners of Brookside House of Pizza (563 Route 106 North, Loudon, 783-4550, brooksidepizza.com), which has been in operation since her father, Billy Lazos, founded it in 1987. The eatery has long been known as a local favorite for its specialty pizzas and calzones, pasta dishes, fried appetizers and sides, dinner plates and around 30 different kinds of hot and cold subs. A



graduate of both Southern New Hampshire University and Suffolk University in Boston, Roesel took over Brookside House of Pizza's Loudon restaurant about three years ago. Lazos, who came to the United States from northern Greece in the early 1980s, also has a second location in Concord that's been open for just over a decade.

What is your must-have kitchen item? Definitely a knife.

What would you have for your last meal?

A spaghetti and feta pizza. ... It's something we have on the menu that my mom created back in the day.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

We've been going to The Red Blazer [Restaurant and Pub in Concord] for the longest time. I get the chicken Parm there.

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

Adam Sandler.

What is your favorite thing on your menu?

The cheese pizza is something we have all the time. I like simple stuff.

What's the biggest food trend in New Hampshire right now?

The steak and cheese sub, just because it has so many variations, and the gyro also seems to be upcoming as well. We have a beef strip or a grilled chicken option for our gyros.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

I like a simple piece of grilled chicken with Greek olive oil, oregano and some lemon, and then some mashed potatoes.

— Matt Ingersoll 🦛

Homemade grilled chicken and mashed potatoes

From the at-home kitchen of Erofili Roesel of Brookside House of Pizza in Loudon

3 pieces chicken breast, butterflied 5 russet potatoes, peeled and cubed 1/4 cup milk ½ stick butter Dash of fresh oregano Pinch of salt Pinch of pepper 1 fresh squeezed lemon Greek olive oil

Cook chicken breasts on the stove top in a cast iron pan, with enough olive oil to coat the bottom of the pan. Add oregano, salt, pepper and lemon. Boil the peeled and cubed potatoes until soft. Blend potatoes with milk, butter, salt and pepper. (Optional: Add another squirt of lemon when chicken is done).

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 22

Inn, Grill 23 & Bar in Boston and many other acclaimed eateries. He will oversee all of LaBelle's food and beverage operations at its Amherst and Portsmouth locations, as well as its newest spot due to open in Derry later this year. "Peter's expertise in the industry

and depth of knowledge and experience will allow him to continue to elevate LaBelle's culinary-related programs to a place we've always envisioned them going — and then some," winery owner and founder Amy LaBelle said in a statement.

Farmers markets

- Cole Gardens Winter Farmers Market is Saturdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Cole Gardens (430 Loudon Road, Concord), now through April 17. Visit colegardens.com.
- Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market is Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon, in the Families in Transition building (20 S. Main St.). Find them on Facebook.
- Rolling Green Winter Farmers Market's final date is Saturday, Feb. 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Rolling Green Nurs-

ery (64 Breakfast Hill Road, Greenland). Visit rollinggreennursery.com.

• Salem Farmers Market is Sundays, from 10 a.m. to noon, inside the former Rockler Woodworking building (369 S. Broadway, Salem). Visit salemnhfarmersmarket.org.



Hot and cheesy corn dip

In the current world there are many lazy Sundays at my house. There's really nowhere to go and nothing to do, so why not make it a fun, lazy day at home? For me, food needs to be part of the plan. However, since it's a lazy Sunday, I lean toward appetizers that are simple to make.

This corn dip is a perfect lazy Sunday recipe. All it requires is a minimal amount of mixing before a little bit of time baking in the oven. Then you have a dish full of hot and cheesy goodness.

What's to like about this recipe for hot and cheesy corn dip? First and foremost is its simplicity. A little grating, measuring and stirring and your active work is done. Recipes don't get much easier than this. Second, although it's a dip meant to be served hot, it still presents well after sitting on the counter for half an hour, unlike other cheese-based dips that require a crockpot or frequent reheating.

There are a couple substitutions that can be made here. If you don't keep Greek dish, you can replace it with sour cream or mayonnaise. Also, if you happen to have fresh corn, as long as it's cooked, you can use it in place of the frozen.



Hot and cheesy corn dip. Photo by Michele Pesula

Now, find a way to carve some laziness into your Sunday (or any day for that matter), and you have a delightful dip to enjoy while you relax in the comfort of your home.

Michele Pesula Kuegler has been thinkyogurt on hand and enjoy a more indulgent ing 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.

Hot and cheesy corn dip

Serves 4-6

- 2 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 2 tablespoons plain Greek yogurt
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack
- 1/3 cup grated Parmesan
- 1 1/2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 1/2 cups frozen corn kernels, defrosted
- 4-ounce can chopped green chiles
- Freshly ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 350°F.

Combine cream cheese yogurt, and mayonnaise in a mixing bowl; stir until thoroughly combined. Add Monterey Jack and Parmesan, stirring to

Add garlic powder and chili powder, mixing well. Stir corn and chiles into mixture.

Season with pepper to taste.

Grease a 2-quart baking dish.

Transfer corn dip to baking dish.

Bake for 25 minutes or until dip is bubbling.

Serve with corn chips, butter crackers, or snack item of your choice.





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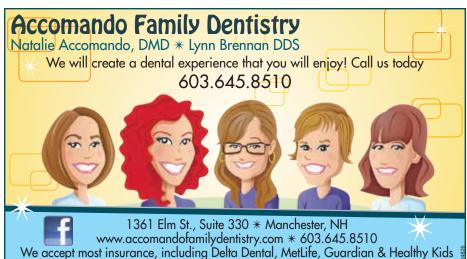
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FOOD



Flavor impact

What you eat or drink affects your brew

By Jeff Mucciarone food@hippopress.com

In sort of a famous family incident several years ago during a get-together at a restaurant, my dad complained about the Wachusett Country Ale he was drinking. He didn't like it. The flavor wasn't quite right.

As the brew is one of my staples and frankly, unarguably, one of the least offensive brews on the planet, this concerned me. Was it skunked? Did the bartender accidentally give him the wrong beer? Was

give him the wrong beer? Was something wrong with my father?

After a little investigation, he admitted he had popped an Altoid just as he was drinking the beer. Look, I'm not going to question the big guy. He must have needed a breath mint. But I feel sure the brewers at Wachusett Brewing Co. didn't brew any of their beers to be enjoyed with an Altoid.

The point is, juxtaposition matters when it comes to beer.

This is not an article about pairing food with beer. This is some commentary on at least considering how one thing might impact another. It's also about encouraging people to give beers another shot — in a different context, you might find different results.

If you've had a couple rich, smooth stouts, and then you make the jump to an amped up double IPA, well, it might work but the bitterness might be a lot to take on the first sip.

Recently I was enjoying a delicious Velvet Moon Milk Stout by Mighty Squirrel Brewing of Waltham, Mass., just savoring the rich coffee flavor and decadence of the brew. Then I followed it up with a much drier stout. It was not a good experience and left me disliking the second brew. I even bad-mouthed it to a friend.

I gave the brew another shot several days later and it was a completely different, completely pleasurable experience. I'm glad I came back to it.

Juxtaposition matters, of course, when you're making a dramatic shift from one style to another, but it also matters when you're sticking with the same style. If you're enjoying a bunch of IPAs, sometimes the combination of hops from the next brew can hit you right or wrong.



ArrrVP by Great North Aleworks

Food has an impact as well, potentially bringing out the right or wrong flavors from the beer you're drinking.

Just keep it in mind. If you try a beer and you don't like it, you might just not like it, but consider the possibility that other factors have impacted how you feel about it. Try it again in a different context.

Here are three random beers that can probably be enjoyed in succession but I don't really know.

ArrrVP Oak-Aged Robust Vanilla Porter by Great North Aleworks (Manchester)

Great North Aleworks takes its terrific Robust Vanilla Porter (RVP) and ages it in rum oak cubes, which accentuates the vanilla in the brew and gives it a little "bite," while the beer maintains a dry finish. At its core this is still RVP, just a little different. The ABV is pretty low at 6.6 percent, making it approachable too.

Blueberry Ale by Wachusett Brewing Co. (Westminster, Mass.)

Just a coincidence that I referenced Wachusett earlier in the piece, but when you have had more IPAs than you should, this is a perfect choice. The subtle sweetness from the blueberries and the light body provide the perfect counterpoint to all that hop bitterness.

Unraveled IPA by Founders Brewing Co. (Grand Rapids, Michigan)

This is good stuff: very juicy but also smooth, if an IPA can be that. It's also a crystal clear pour, making it very unique for this style. It also has big citrus aromas.

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

What's in My Fridge

60 Minute IPA by Dogfish Head Craft Brewed Ales (Milton, Delaware) I hadn't had this in forever and I'll tell you what, this brew, now nearly 20 years old, absolutely stands up to today's super-hoppy IPAs. Cheers.

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Book Notes

Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. let us know about your book or event, email asykeny@hippopress. com. To get author events,

library events and more

listed, send information to

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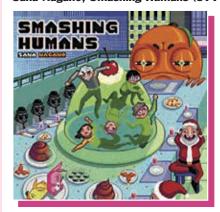
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POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS, GAMES, COMICS, MOVIES, DVDS, TV AND MORE

Sana Nagano, Smashing Humans (577 Records)



Hey man, if I have to get introduced to an avant punk-jazz record by the most sterilized, LinkedIn-style jumble of words I've ever read, you do too: You see, on this album, the "compositions are naturally motivic with grid-like melody lines underpinned by relentless rhythmic intensity." What does this mean? It means that the music of this NYC-based band (i.e. Smashing Humans), as led by Nagano, is probably the most interesting - even agreeable — cacophony to which I've ever been exposed, not that I ever honestly seek out avant jazz (it's more

like that stuff finds me). I don't believe this is actually improvisational; "Humans In Grey," unhinged and spazzy as it is, goes on a long tear that bespeaks progressive head-drug jazz from the '80s, and like the designated genre would indicate, the sax, guitar, drums, bass combine with Sana's battered violin to render pure, raucous expressionism that you could actually groove to. Like the impulsive eight-bit cover art hints at, it's perfect for clearing your head of any stupid but manageable frustration du jour. A+ — Eric W. Saeger

Yoko Miwa Trio, Songs of Joy (Ubuntu Music)



At this writing, Jazz Times hasn't weighed in on this (by my count) fifth LP from the long-time Berklee college instructor's trio, a pianist who's been touted by the legendary Ahmad Jamal and has been a regular fixture at festivals and Boston jazz clubs (if you're a regular visitor to that scene, Les Zygomates Wine Bar & Bistro in Boston closed as a casualty of Covid last year). With regard to her last album, 2019's Keep Talkin', the Jazz Times guy noted that Miwa's work possesses a certain prettiness that jazz snobs tend to snub ("even some of Oscar

Peterson's work was dismissed for being too beautiful"). She won't get that sort of nonsense from me; not that I'd ever pretend to be a Mingus-head, but I find stuff like this album's intricately woven rub of Richie Havens' "Freedom" really just cool. Like Havens' original Woodstock-hippie outcry, it rushes to say a lot, but in this case Miwa's expansive wanderings are slowly counterpointed by Will Slater's upright bass in a boss move. This ain't lounge stuff, no, it's way too bold, but it wouldn't be out of place at one. A — Eric W. Saeger

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

- The first thing I see in this list of new CD releases for Feb. 26 is Wil**lie Nelson**'s *That's Life*, and of course I can't resist putting in my two cents, because it's always fun to make fun of 87-year-old dudes who drive Cheech and Chong vans powered by nothing but pot smoke! What's interesting is that he is 5'6" tall, which, as his Wikipedia entry specifically notes, is the same height as Patsy Cline. I hope that if I ever get an actual Wiki entry instead of the stupid "Wikipeople" thing or whatever it is, they will make note that I am the same height as George W. Bush. I think it's important to know that about me, so that you won't ever mistake me for Danny DeVito. Anyway, with all the important stuff out of the way, we can proceed to the contents of this new album, one that consists solely of covers of Frank Sinatra songs. I sort of don't blame Willie for doing a victory lap for having lived so long, like, he totally dunked on James Dean and the dude from Nirvana and all those guys, so really, he does have every right to imprison a few musicians in a studio while he warbles old Rat Pack songs in his hoarse grandfatherly tenor. This is actually the second time Willie's done an album of Sinatra tunes, but unlike the last one, this new album features a cover of "Luck Be a Lady" as well as a duet with none other than famous jazz singing lady Diana Krall ("I Won't Dance"). OK, I know this has been a lot to unpack and wrap your head around, so let's move to the next thingie after you gulp down some Pepto Bismol in order to settle your stomach, which got violently upset over my use of the buzzspeak word "unpack."
- Ha ha, speaking of albums from old and crazy rock stars, look there fam, it's famous Halloween decoration Alice Cooper, with Detroit Stories, just when we needed it, or at least I did! OK, I know Alice grew up in Detroit, so these tunes are probably about the times he used to play pranks with Jack White? No, Jack White's young enough to be Alice's great-grandson, so maybe it's about the old days with another Detroit guy, Iggy Pop? Nope, Iggy is way cooler than Alice, so they probably never hung around either. In that case, I'll just ditch this exercise, bite the bullet and go listen to the new Alice single, "Rock & Roll!" Nope, it's not the Led Zeppelin song, it's the old Velvet Underground song, so apparently the album title refers to Alice's favorite songs that have the word "Detroit" in the lyrics. Say, guess who plays guitar on this? That's right, it's Joe Bonamassa! This rocks so hard, like, if you had just arrived from another planet and this was the first rock 'n' roll song you'd ever heard, you'd be like, "Ha ha, wow, dig this crazy music!"
- Blub blub blub, I'm drowning in awful music that never should have wait, belay that order, leftenant, it's a new Melvins album, called Working With God, we're saved! One of the songs, "Brian the Horse-Faced Goon," is part joke song and part early Ministry, I love it so much I'd marry it if I were single.
- To close the week out, it's one-man U.K.-based electronic-drone-whatnot project Blanck Mass, with In Ferneaux, his fifth album! The single, "Starstuff," is just fine I suppose, if you like krautrock and '80s sci-fi soundtrack music mixed together. I don't, but then again, I have become biased against music that sucks, so don't mind me.
 - Eric W. Saeger 🦛

Retro Playlist

Let us go back, friends, back to the year 2013. Do vou even remember what it was like before Covid and the Q-Shaman guy who's part yak and part human, back when everything wasn't so messed up that you had to hold Zoom meetings with your friends in order to get some semblance of communal

the fuss about, again?



it devolves into the usual epic throwback radio-rawk fail to all, but one of that week's col-Flowers, a solo record from Simon. I don't think I've

2013, one of the new releases that week was wasn't the expected Slushie mix of Animal but otherwise it comprised things like hay- cyberontix.com for fastest response.

What About Now, by Bon Collective and Raveonettes; Jovi. As I noted that week, some OK Go-style rockthe title track "starts out with ing out was present, and so I an '80s-new-wave shoegaze didn't just whip out my handy sort of guitar line" and then bag of insults when I talked about it.

That week there was also which his fans have long been the album The Fire Plays from accustomed. That's nice and Ari Hest, whose approach is, in general, stripped-to-theumn's main focus points was hooks radio-folk a la Paul



loft indie ("All Because") and halcyon-cowboy haze ("Couldn't Have Her"), which automatically got my approval because Hest mostly sounded like Warren Zevon. Man, does the world need another Zevon, seriously.

If you're in a local band, now's a great time to let me

togetherness? Oh, wait, for young people, Seabear leader Sindri Már Sigfússon, under so much as mentioned the guy in the eight know about your EP, your single, whatever's that was how most interpersonal relation- the stage name Sin Fang. Naturally, since it's years that have passed since my review of on your mind. Let me know how you're holdships were maintained anyway, so what's all by an Icelandic dude, someone from Sígur TFP, so you probably know more than I ing yourself together without being able to Rós had to be involved, in this case their prodo, but regardless, on this album Hest did a play shows or jam with your homies. Send Anyway, warping back to late February ducer, Alex Somers. The album, thankfully, decent Seal impersonation on "Set In Stone," a recipe for keema matar. Email esaeger@

POP CULTURE BOOKS

The Bad Muslim Discount, by Syed M. Masood (Doubleday, 368 pages)

The Bad Muslim Discount is the second book by Syed Masood, a Sacramento attorney who grew up in Pakistan. He brings a first-person perspective to this story of two Muslim families who come to the U.S. — one from Pakistan, and one from Iraq — and how disparate lives eventually collide.

It is a deeply moving and often tragic narrative that is liberally undercut with humor and a wonderfully relatable voice. While The Bad Muslim Discount is about people heavily influenced by other cultures, in both good and horrific ways, it's still essentially an American story. As such, the novel provides a much needed and easily digestible perspective for the many Americans who still involuntarily shudder at the words "Allahu Akbar."

The novel opens with the killing of a goat. Yes, many Muslims still sacrifice animals, even in America, and that is yet another cultural hurdle that stands high for animal lovers. But the shock of the sacrifice, carried out by a child, is overcome in a wise and compassionate telling, as the father comforts his distraught son, explaining that most people don't understand the point of a ritual sacrifice.

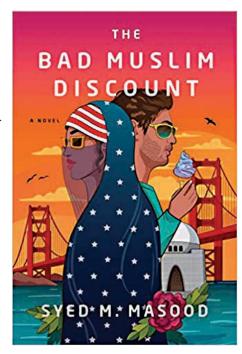
"They think their offering is the money they spend on the animal. Or they think it is the life of the animal," the father says. "But it isn't. You are the sacrifice. What are you feeling now? That is your sacrifice. The lives of other creatures are not yours to take."

The weeping boy is Anvar, the Pakistani who grows into the titular "bad Muslim" and takes turns narrating the book in first person with a young woman, Safwa, who eventually moves to the U.S. from Baghdad with her rigidly orthodox father.

Anvar demonstrates the truth that people are people, no matter where they're from, with family dynamics that are easily recognizable to anyone who has never left the U.S. He struggles to deal with a neurotic mother and the too perfect brother who casts a long shadow over everything Anvar tries to accomplish. Even when he becomes a lawyer, he is the family's black sheep, watching as his brother seems to get everything he wants, dealing with it by cracking cynical jokes.

Meanwhile, Safwa is growing up in a family that is constantly watered with pain. She loses first her mother, then her brother, to disease, leaving her alone with an increasingly abusive father made brittle by loss and further hardened by his imprisonment and torture at the hands of American soldiers during Desert Storm.

When he is released, the father and daughter make their way to San Francisco via Mexico, and there the lives of the two families begin to intersect. Safwa,



who now goes by Azza, is the opposite of Anvar's "Bad Muslim" (he drinks and is spotted eating a ham sandwich, in addition to other, more significant lapses of piety). She is the proverbial good girl, in no small part because of the controlling, rough hand of her father, and the man to whom she is to be given in an arranged marriage. But America offers opportunity she wouldn't have in Baghdad.

"For the first time in forever, my world began to get bigger again. How amazing a thing a book is. How wonderful a piece of paper and pen. A lot of things about religion do not make sense to me, it is true, but I understand why, in that desert mountain cave, when the history of man was about to change, God's first command to His last prophet was one simple word. Read."

Thomas Jefferson owned a Quran, Islam's holy book, but few Americans today have read any of it, unless forced to in high school. Stories from the Ouran and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad are scattered lightly throughout the book, helping the reader to understand Muslim culture and proscriptions even as they see the Gulf war and its casualties from another perspective. The book is not sympathetic to Osama bin Laden or the murderous fundamentalists who fueled anti-Muslim sentiment in the U.S. but offers a cogent explanation of why, as Masood puts it, "Islam was weaponized for the Cold War."

The relative immediacy of the story — Donald Trump is elected at the end — and America's polarization on the subject of immigration could make The Bad Muslim Discount a polarizing book in less capable hands. It isn't. With shades of Us Weekly, Masood shows Christian Americans "Muslims! They're just like us!" — but for the goat sacrifices and staggering costs of old wars. Look for this one in 10 months on lists of the best novels of the year. A

– Jennifer Graham 🦛

BOOK NOTES

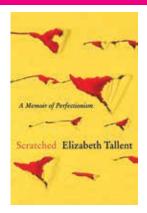
I'm old enough to remember Reader's Digest Condensed Books (which were exactly as horrible as that sounds), and also the Book of the Month club in all its variations. (You'd sign up and get a box of titles for a low, low fee, and then an exorbitantly priced one that you may or may not have wanted to read, every month going forward.)

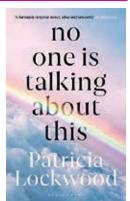
Today, for all the dramatic changes in publishing, book-ofthe-month clubs still exist. The one getting the most buzz is Literati, which recently raised \$40

million in financing, not bad for an industry that's been said to be dying for more than

Literati started sending monthly boxes of books to children in 2017; last year, Elizabeth Tallent (Harper, 240 pages) is the the company expanded to adults, offering a printed book every month, plus access to online discussion groups run by celebrities to include NBA star Stephen Curry and businessman Richard Branson. Founder Jessica Ewing says she's building a social network around books. It costs \$25 a month, or \$20 a month if you pay for a year in advance.

And by the way, there's a more traditional Book of the Month Club online, too. You pay \$14.99 a month for one title that you choose - which sounds way more complicated than just ordering from a local bookseller or Amazon. But the website says, "a subscription gets you excited to read, so you might actually do more of it," which we tell you with no further comment.





Meanwhile, here are two books out this week that might get you excited to read, no club required:

Scratched, A Memoir of Perfectionism by author's confession of how her personal life and career has been shaped by obsessive perfectionism, how she grew up believing she was "the child whose flaws let disaster into an otherwise perfect family." Looks heartbreaking, and riveting.

No One is Talking About This, by Patricia Lockwood (Riverhead, 224 pages) is by an author once described by The New York Times as a "modern word witch" and is billed as a provocative fictional commentary on social media in a full-immersion world where people are asking each other "Are we in hell? Are we all just going to keep doing this until we die?" Sounds like a takedown of Twitter.

— Jennifer Graham 🦛

Books

Author events PAUL KRUGMAN Author

presents Arguing with Zombies. Virtual livestream hosted by The Music Hall in Portsmouth. Tues., March 2, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5. Call 436-2400 or visit themusichall.org.

DR. DANIEL O'NEILL Author presents Survival of the Fit. Hosted by The Toadstool Bookshops of Nashua, Peterborough and Keene. Virtual, via Zoom. Thurs., March 4, 7 p.m. Visit toadbooks.com or call 352-

- NORMAN VANCOR Author presents Swift Silent Deadly. Hosted by The Toadstool Bookshops of Nashua, Peterborough and Keene. Virtual. via Zoom. Sat., March 6, 11 a.m. Visit toadbooks.com or call 352-8815.
- · C. J. BOX Author presents Dark Sky. Virtual livestream hosted by The Music Hall in Portsmouth. Tues., March 9, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5. Call 436-2400 or visit themusichall.org.
- ELLIOT **ACKERMAN ADMIRAL JAMES STAVRIDIS** Authors present 2034. Virtual livestream hosted by The Music Hall in Ports-

mouth. Tues., March 16, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5. Call 436-2400 or visit themusichall.org.

• 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

Book Clubs

- · BOOKERY Online. Monthly. Third Thursday, 6 p.m. Bookstore based in Manchester. Visit bookerymht.com/online-book-club or call 836-6600
- GIBSON'S BOOKSTORE Online, via Zoom. Monthly. First Monday, 5:30 p.m. Bookstore based in Concord. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com/gibsons-bookclub-2020-2021 or call 224-0562.
- TO SHARE BREWING CO. 720 Union St., Manchester. Monthly. Second Thursday, 6 p.m. RSVP required. Visit tosharebrewing.com or call 836-
- GOFFSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY 2 High St., Goffstown. Monthly. Third Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. Call 497-2102,

email elizabethw@goffstownlibrary.com or visit goffstownlibrary.com

- · BELKNAP MILL Online. Monthly. Last Wednesday, 6 p.m. Based in Laconia. Email bookclub@belknapmill.org.
- NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY Online. Monthly. Second Friday, 3 p.m. Call 589-4611, email information@nashualibrary.org or visit nashualibrary.org.

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Special events

 EXETER LITFEST Literary festival will feature local authors. keynote speaker Victoria Arlen, book launches, a Saturday morning story hour for kids, and programs on various topics including publishing tips, mystery writing and homeschooling. Hosted virtually via Zoom by Exeter TV. Thurs., April 1, through Sat., April 3. Free and open to the public. Visit exeterlitfest.com.

Nomadland (R)

Frances McDormand gives one of the year's great performances in *Nomadland*, a movie based on the non-fiction book by Jessica Brueder.

The two most common scenes in this movie are McDormand's Fern talking to people in what feel like actual conversations people are just having with McDormand herself, and Fern by herself enjoying the beauties and working through the difficulties of life as a nomad. Fern became a nomad — specifically, a nomad who lives in a van and travels from one seasonal job (Amazon warehouse) to another (a harvest) — after, basically, losing everything. Her beloved husband died after a painful illness and her town essentially died when the factory employer closed and kicked the workers out of the company housing.

Shorn of everything — her possessions are in a storage locker, she even cut her hair we're told — Fern packs up a few of her most precious things and heads out. First, she stays at an Amazon-paid-for RV lot while she works packing things at some massive distribution center. Later, we see her follow new friend Linda May to a job as a park host at another RV/campground near a national park. Fellow nomad Dave (David Strathairn, one of the few other people not essentially playing themselves here) is a worker at the park and helps hook Fern up with a job at Wall Drug (a tourist attraction in South Dakota). Dave takes a shine to Fern; she maybe likes him too. They're both awkward as heck in their flirting but we also get the sense that Dave is an attachment Fern is not ready for.

According to posts on the *Nomadland* Twitter account, several of the people McDormand's Fern meets along the way — including Swankie, Linda May and Bob Wells — are essentially playing themselves



Nomadland

and had their stories told in the book. I think this approach helps to ground this movie and keep the story focused on Fern and her life, rather than letting it spin off into thinkpiece territory. Fern is working through grief and dealing with a life turning point when we first meet her and that makes her story (and all the socio-economic aspects to it) all the much more layered and meaningful.

I realize that projecting soul-deep authenticity is sort of a baseline of any McDormand performance but she really does knock it out of the park here. I cared about Fern, and the movie makes us understand why she makes the choices she does and empathize with them

And on top of this, the movie is beautiful — beautiful to look at (so many shots of the western and midwestern country) and beautiful to listen to, with a really excellent score. Definitely add *Nomadland* to your awards season must-watch list. A

Rated R for some full nudity, according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Directed by Chloe Zhao with a screenplay by Zhao (from the book Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century by Jessica Bruder), Nomadland is an hour and 48 minutes long, is distributed by Searchlight Pictures and is in some theaters and available via Hulu.

The Map of Tiny Perfect Things (PG-13)

Two teens are stuck in one of those *Groundhog Day/Edge of Tomorrow*-time loops in *The Map of Tiny Perfect Things*.

We enter in the middle of Mark's (Kyle Allen) time-loop experience. He knows all the beats of this one day he's been living over and over. Currently, he is using his knowledge of when and where everything happens, down to the second and the milimeter, to get the attention of a specific girl who always falls into the water at the neighborhood pool after getting hit by a beach ball. That is, she falls in if Mark isn't there to catch her (and sometimes if he is; playing it cool takes a lot of do-overs).

But one day, instead of Mark catching the girl after the ball hits her, another girl walks

by and swats the ball away. This new girl's sudden appearance and the way she looks at and runs away from Mark makes him pretty sure that she, too, is in the loop. After a few "days" of looking, Mark finds and meets Margaret (Kathryn Newton). They are, as she says, marooned on this island together, so they hang out and become friends, even creating a project to map all of the little awesome moments (a guy getting pushed out of the way of bird poop, an eagle grabbing a fish, a girl showing up all the lesser skaters at a local skateboard hangout) that happen during their one day. But every evening Margaret mysteriously leaves him, and Mark isn't sure how to turn these regular hangouts into something more. Or how to even have something more when he can never move forward.

Unlike other timey-wimey movies, Mark actually has a good group of people around him that he can lean on. We see him interact with his dad (Josh Hamilton), his sister (Cleo Fraser) and his best friend (Jermaine Harris). who don't know about the "one day over and over" thing but are still able to help him work through some things. It's all very sweet and allows the movie to examine the regular teen clash of emotions of wanting to grow up and also not being ready to move on. Newton in particular stands out as being a solid up-and-comer; I liked her in the recent Freaky and this movie similarly shows her skill with blending drama and humor, silliness and genuine emotion. B+

Rated PG-13 for brief strong language, some teen drinking and sexual references, according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Directed by Ian Samuels from a screenplay by Lev Grossman, The Map of Tiny Perfect Things is an hour and 38 minutes long and is distributed by Amazon, where it is available on Amazon Prime.

SOFAPLEX

I Care A Lot (R)

Rosamund Pike, Peter Dinklage.

This recent Netflix release feels like half of a good idea: Perfectly coiffed, razor-sharply attired Marla Grayson (Pike) steals the assets of old people, legally, by getting them declared incapable of taking care of themselves and getting herself named as their guardian. She has a network of people wittingly (and maybe a few unwittingly) helping her get them locked into care facilities and incapable of reaching family or legal representation. Marla liquidates their assets "to pay for their care" — and for her own guardianship services, of course -

until they slowly waste away. She is slick and insincere and basically evil and I never once rooted for her.

The possibility of comeuppance is introduced when Marla commits Jennifer Peterson (Dianne Wiest), a woman who appears to be quite wealthy but without family. Messing with Jennifer, who turns out to have shadowy "friends," is a mistake, several people try to tell Marla, and that's before a murderous Peter Dinklage character gets involved.

Of all the characters here, I guess I rooted for Wiest, who is sidelined for way too much of the movie, and maybe for Dinklage, who is one of those "always fun" actors for me but also didn't feel like he was given the best material. This movie has a strong cast (including some nice work by Alicia Witt and Chris Mes-

sina). It sets itself up as a comedy, maybe, or at least a darkly comic drama about villain versus villain, but I felt like some of that went off the rails in the movie's second half and maybe wanted us to see Marla as one of those peak TV anti-heroes that have moral layers (maybe just let the villain be a villain?). But Marla to me always felt like a flatter version of Pike's Gone Girl character without the wit or the relatable rage. The movie feels like it wants to make a statement about Capitalism or The System or something but by the time we get to the big climax I found that I didn't really care much at all. C+ Available on Netflix

Supernova (R)

Stanley Tucci, Colin Firth.

Tusker (Tucci), an American writ-

er, and Sam (Firth), a British pianist, are a longtime couple who hit the road in an RV through the countryside in England, where they have lived for decades. We can tell by the way Sam gazes adoringly at Tusker that all their complaints about each other's driving and navigation is the banter of a couple deeply in love. And, even before it is openly stated, it's clear that there is an underlying current of grief to this trip. Tusker has a degenerative disease, one that is affecting his memory and abilities to write (and maybe read) as well as his physical abilities. He is getting worse and there is a bit of a "last hurrah" tone to the trip from the beginning, with the couple visiting a favorite camping spot and then Sam's family home for a big get-together.

Exactly how Tusker and Sam are individually coping with Tusker's illness and how they plan to handle it as time goes on is the topic they keep returning to throughout the trip but it's one that both of them are not quite ready to deal with directly, at least to each other. Their relationship is the center of this movie and the performances of Tucci and Firth are what make this lovely, gentle movie worth watching. Both actors fill in all the corners of these characters, we can see the layers of emotion, we can see all the things they're saying to each other even when they're chatting about something meaningless. It's all such good work that it carries you through this bittersweet story. A- Available for rent or purchase.

ROUND UP Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus mwitthaus@hippopress.com

- Returning: A vital force in the region's live music scene is back, virtually. Parsonsfield, now a duo of Antonio Alcorn and Chris Freeman, performs at the Riverwalk Cafe in an online show sponsored by Symphony NH. The two met at UConn and bonded over Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, Bob Dylan and traditional folk music from Ireland to Appalachia. The band broke through with 2014's *Poor Old Shine*. Thursday, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. \$20 per household at eventbrite.com. More at symphonynh.org.
- Laughing: Enjoy a trio of standup comics topped by Mike Hanley. The Boston funny man went viral with a five-minute video of him dancing with his daughter. The clip garnered national television exposure along with 22 million YouTube hits. Hanley's storytelling comedy is delivered with full-on intensity; joining him are Brian Plumb and host Rob Steen. Friday, Feb. 26, and Saturday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m., Chunky's Cinema Pub, 707 Huse Road, Manchester. Tickets are \$20 at chunkys.com.
- Changing: A Lakes Region watering hole renames, but a show from Jodie Cunningham at the newly opened High Octane Saloon promises a vibe similar to the former Broken Spoke. It even bills itself as "Weirs' newest yet oldest tavern ... the owners take pride in keeping this a popular biker bar." Cunningham has lately been playing her country rock acoustically with guitarist Tim Kierstead. Friday, Feb. 26, 6 p.m., High Octane Saloon, 1072 Watson Road, Laconia, 527-8116.
- Deciding: Band To Be Named Later will suffice as the moniker of a new project involving singer-guitarist Andy Laliotis, who has spent time in Lamont Smooth, Kitchen, Diamond Joe and Dead tribute act Blue Light Rain. Expect a jammy, eclectic sound from a group that includes Eric Bilodeau on guitar and a rhythm section of drummer Logan Kessler and bassist Ryan McGowan. Saturday, Feb. 27, 9 p.m., Alibi Lounge, 137 Wilson St., Manchester, facebook.com/andy.laliotis.

NITE Still rocking

Fable finds Leaving Eden in fine form

By Michael Witthaus mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Since forming in 2011, Leaving Eden has remained among the most dedicated bands in New England. Their latest album, *Fable*, shows them maturing but still delivering high-energy rock 'n' roll. "Broken" is a floor-mopper that stands with anything on their eight previous records, but there's also a strummy cover of "The Rose" — yes, from the '80s movie. "Detached" has a Beatlesque jangle evoking "Nowhere Man," and the piano-driven title track is a tuneful departure for the band.

Keyboards are a recent addition to Leaving Eden's sound, provided by Alyssa White, their newest member. White also collaborated on songwriting with guitar player and principal lyricist Eric Gynan on the song. She also co-wrote the title track of *Dream With Me*, released last year, and used it for an evocative Covid-19 themed video.

That wasn't the plan, Gynan said in a recent phone interview. *Dream With Me* was due to support a tour covering most of 2020.

"We didn't have one open date, and I had to turn places away," but the pandemic had other plans, he said. "Of course, everything got canceled."

So the band filmed a video full of masks and dancing molecules, then set about finding ways to work — successfully.

"We were able to play different places we'd never played before, like Hampton Beach Seashell Stage; right on the sand was just so cool," Gynan said with a vial-half-full positivity. "As one door closed, another door opened, and we went straight through November, when it got too cold because everything we were doing was outdoors."

They used the chilly months to complete the new record, released in mid-January,

and practice for a livestreamed *Lockdown Series* show that debuted Feb. 13. The YouTube concert will eventually become a live album.

The band's original lineup included two women: lead singer Eve and bassist Carissa Johnson, who's now a solo artist. So adding White is a return of sorts. They were introduced in late 2018 at a gig — sort of.

"Alyssa was too shy, so she had her cousin come up to us to say she plays keyboards, sings and wants to be in the band," Gynan said.

He responded by giving White Eve's cell number.

"If she calls, that's cool, then let's see if she shows up," he said. "She showed up. So [then it was], let's see if she can learn the material. ... She just did it all, a check mark off of each thing."

Rounding out the group are drummer Jake Gynan and bass player Rick Chouinard. The latter played with Gynan and Eve (Gynan's wife) in a pre-Leaving Eden band. Their latest public appearance was at The Chop Shop in Seabrook on Feb. 20. But the livestreamed show felt like a return, Gynan said — even if the stage was a bit cramped due to camera restrictions.

"I wanted to jump around but I couldn't because if I moved even a little bit to the right or left I'd be covering Alyssa, and if Eve moved she'd block Jake and Rick would be out of the frame," Gynan said. "We literally had just those spots, but it still had the energy."

A show scheduled for Feb. 27 at VFW Post 88 in Kingston has been postponed to May 22, but a March trip to Florida for a few gigs is still on. As warm weather returns, they expect their home turf to become more welcoming.

A few Leaving Eden songs have appeared in movies, including Mayday, Lockdown, Painkiller, Bloodthirst and The Penthouse, all from Italian director Max



Leaving Eden. Courtesy photo.

Cerchi. Seemingly inspired, Gynan wrote his own screenplay for a film called *The Nitwit*. Rooted in reality — "things that really happened to me or somebody very close" — it was filmed in Iowa and is nearly complete.

"We would be done if this pandemic didn't happen," he said. "We've only got to go there for a long weekend and we can finish up."

Ten years down the road, Leaving Eden soldiers on. Is the original vision intact?

"That's a great question," Gynan said. "You can't be a frustrated musician forever. I guess you can be, but it's not fun. It's good to set your expectations high [but] I've learned to be totally happy doing exactly what I'm doing *right now*. Every gig is just as important as the next ... a big concert or a little dive, it's still important to me. It's all just a matter of perspective."

Leaving Eden

Watch Leaving Eden, The Lockdown Sessions on youtu.be/N31j1cfmkQM, or find them at facebook.com/bandleavingeden

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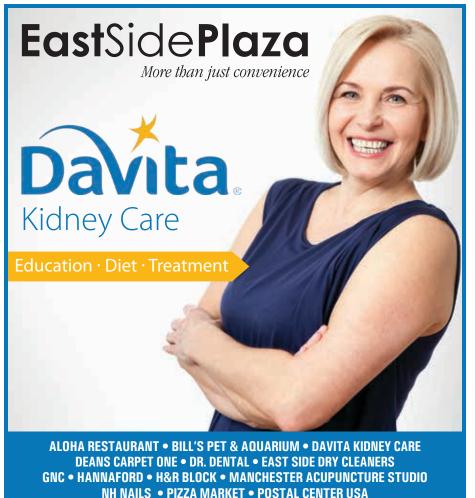
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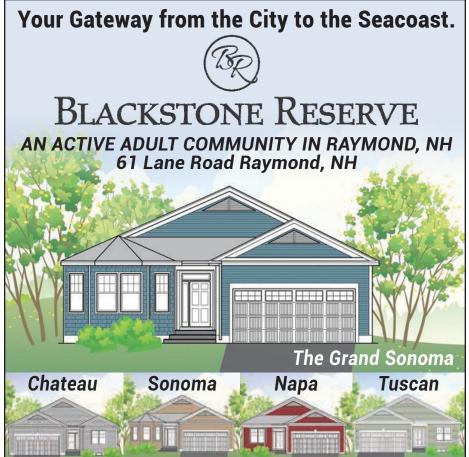


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Exclusive listings of Frank DiDonato and Keller Williams Metropolitan

133186

Thinking and drinking

Bars across New Hampshire offer trivia fun

By Sadie Burgess listings@hippopress.com

If you're full of seemingly useless information, you can put it to good use at one of several weekly trivia nights hosted by local bars.

Area 23 in Concord has been hosting trivia nights every Tuesday for more than five years.

"We get people who are very intense on trivia," bar owner and trivia writer Kirk McNeil said.

Five different categories are offered each week, rather than one overarching theme. These can range from Broadway musicals to UFOs to European food to classic movies, and they're often suggested by the bar's patrons.

Area 23 doesn't take trivia lightly. The bar was awarded toughest trivia in New Hampshire in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

"I don't know if they gave it out after that," McNeil said with a laugh.

Part of this honor is because of die-hard fans, like the six-person team that's attended the events every week since it started.

But, McNeil said, "This doesn't mean you can't do well as a newbie."

Area 23 sometimes awards prizes, which range from free appetizers to T-shirts or koozys from local breweries.

Liquid Therapy in Nashua is a bit newer to the

trivia scene, devoting Thursday nights to trivia for just under two years. Attendees typically sign up a week ahead of time, sometimes two, to secure a seat.

"People even sit outside right now, when it's cold," the bar's owner, Stanley Tremblay, said.

Tremblay feels that the open, airy space that Liquid Therapy offers makes patrons feel more at ease amid stressful times.

"I think there's a lot of comradery, even between teams," said Tremblay. "And it adds some normalcy to what's going on in the world right now."

For each trivia night, there's a three-question themed round, with the theme chosen by the team that came in second the week before (first place gets a \$25 gift card). The themes tend to be very specific and have ranged from fantasy novels like *The Wheel of Time* to Fleetwood Mac to Philadelphia sports teams.

Smuttynose Brewery offers trivia on Tuesday nights at its Hampton location, as well as Thursday night trivia at Smuttlabs in downtown Dover. DJ Koko-P hosts the events throughout the year at both locations.

This brewery is new on the trivia scene; it introduced trivia this past summer at the Hampton location, and only about a month ago in Dover. Their trivia is completely contactless and played through each participants' cell phone. DJ Koko gives you a URL to go to, according to Colleen Lynch, the marketing manager at Smuttynose, and all questions are answered through the URL.

The night is divided into three rounds. The first is a warm-up round, where the winner receives a free appetizer. During the second and third rounds, gift cards and larger, specialty prizes can be won. In the event's short past, prizes have ranged from lawn chairs to T-shirts to grills. Themed trivia nights are offered once a month. On Feb. 28, Star Wars themed trivia will take place at Smuttynose in Hampton.

Trivia nights bring more than just an assortment of fun facts to the bar experience.

"It gives people the option to come by in a



Courtesy photo.

comfortable setting, and do something other than just sitting around and talking," Lynch said. "It really gets people engaged. And it's nice to give everyone a little bit of a sense of normalcy back."

Weekly trivia

Here are some local places with regular trivia nights. Find more every week in the Music This Week listing. Know of a trivia night not mentioned here? Let us know at music@hippopress.com.

Area 23 Trivia
When: Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
Where: Area 23, 254 N. State
St., Unit H, Concord
Visit: thearea23.com
Visit: chunkys.com
Community Oven Trivia
When: Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
Where: The Community O

Cheers Trivia
When: Fridays, 9 p.m.

St., No. 1, Concord **Visit:** cheersnh.com

Chunky's Cinema Pub Trivia When: Thursdays, 8 p.m. Where: Chunky's Cinema Pub,

707 Huse Road, Manchester Visit: chunkys.com

When: Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
Where: The Community Oven,
24 Brickyard Sq., Epping
Visit: thecommunityoven.com

Where: Cheers Grill, 17 Depot Liquid Therapy Trivia

When: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Where: Liquid Therapy, 14 Court St., Nashua

Visit: Find them on Facebook

Smuttynose Trivia When: Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

Where: Smuttynose Brewing, 105 Towle Farm Road, Hampton

Visit: smuttynose.com

Smuttlabs Trivia

When: Thursdays, 6 p.m. **Where:** Smuttlabs, 47 Wash-

ington St., Dover

Visit: smuttynose.com

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167 Rockingham Road 622-6564

Bedford

Bedford Village Inn 2 Olde Bedford Way 472-2001

Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677

Cheng Yang Li 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508

Brookline

becue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000

Chichester

Flannel Tavern 345 Suncook Valley Road 406-1196

Concord Area 23

State Street 881-9060

Cheers 17 Depot St. 228-0180

Concord Craft Brewing

117 Storrs St. 856-7625

Penuche's Ale House The Alamo Texas Bar- 16 Bicentennial Square 228-9833

> **Dover** SmuttLabs 47 Washington St. 343-1782

Telly's Restaurant & Piz-

zeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225

Exeter

Sawbelly Brewing 156 Epping Road 583-5080

Sea Dog Brewery 9 Water St.

Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St.

497-8230 Hampton

CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972

The Galley Hatch (Tino's Kitchen is upstairs) 325 Lafayette Road 926-6152

Epping

Exeter

p.m.

Goffstown

Hampton

Laconia

Londonderry

Manchester

Solovicos, 7 p.m.

p.m.

8 p.m.

6 p.m.

n m

5:30 p.m.

day, 8 p.m.

20 L St. 601-6928

Smuttynose Brewing 105 Towle Farm Road

Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954

WHYM Craft Pub & **Brewery** 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801

Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962

Laconia 405 Pub & Grille 405 Union St.

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

Sawbelly: Gabby Martin, 5 p.m.

Village Trestle: Tom Boisse, 6

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Wally's: Chris Lester, 9 p.m.

WHYM: Justin Jordan 5 p.m.

405 Pub: Chad Verbeck, 7 p.m.

Tower Hill: April Cushman, 8

Coach Stop: Mark Lapointe, 6

Stumble Inn: Lewis Goodwin,,

Backyard Brewery: Senie Hunt,

Cercle National Club: Ted

Derryfield: Eric Grant 7:30 p.m.

The Foundry: Alex Cohen, 6

Fratello's: Austin McCarthy,

South Side Tavern: Jonny Fri-

CR's: Jeff Auger, 6 p.m.

Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave 366-9100

Londonderry **Coach Stop Restaurant** & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road

437-2022

Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210

Manchester Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545

Cercle National Club 550 Rockland Ave 623-8243

Derryfield 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880

The Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925

Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022

South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947

Meredith Hart's Turkey Farm 223 Daniel Webster Hwv. 279-6212

Twin Barns Brewing 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876

Merrimack Homestead 641 Daniel

Hwy. 429-2022

Moultonborough Buckey's 240 Governor Wentworth Hwy. 476-5485

Nashua **American Social Club** 166 Daniel Webster Hwy. 255-8272

889-2022 **Liquid Therapy**

194 Main St

14 Court St. 402-9391

New Boston Molly's Tavern æ Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362

Newmarket **Stone Church** 5 Granite St. Webster 659-7700

> **Pittsfield** Main Street Grill & Seabrook Bar 32 Main St 435-0005

Plaistow The Crow's Nest 181 Plaistow Road

Portsmouth The Goat 142 Congress St. 590-4628

Fratello's Italian Grille Thirsty Moose Taphouse 21 Congress St. 427-8645

> Rochester Mitchell Hill BBQ Grill & Brew

50 N. Main St.

332-2537 Porter's Pub 19 Hanson St.

Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway

330-1964

458-2033

Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706

Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafavette Road 760-0030

Stratham Tailgate Tavern 28 Portsmouth Ave. 580-2294

Thursday, Feb. 25

Bedford BVI: Ryan Wiliamson, 5:45 p.m.

Brookline

Alamo: Matt Borrello, 4:30 p.m.

Concord Area 23: NH Vintage Vinyl, 6:30

Penuche's Ale House: open mic with Brian Burnout, 8 p.m.

Epping

Telly's: Tim Theriault, 7 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Tyler Allgood,

Hampton

CR's: Steve Swartz, 6 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Joanie Cicatelli, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Fratello's: Malcolm Salls, 5:30 p.m

Meredith

Hart's: Game Time Trivia, 7

music@hippopress.com.

Music plays on

Merrimack

Homestead: Ralph Allen, 5:30

Nashua

American Social Club: Justin Jordan, 8 p.m.

Fratello's: Amanda Cote, 5:30

Plaistow

The Crow's Nest: Team Trivia Night, 8 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m

Seabrook

Red's: Francoix Simard, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 26

Auburn

Auburn Pitts: Lisa Guyer, 7 p.m.

Brookline

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

Concord

These listings for live music are compiled from press

on special rules and reservation instructions — and you

may want to double check before you head out for the eve-

ning, as cancellations for weather or virus concerns are not

uncommon. Get your gigs listed by sending information to

Area 23: Thrown To the Wolves (album release party), 7 p.m. (see story about band on page 28 of Feb. 4 Hippo)

Cheers: team trivia, 8:30 p.m. Penuche's: Dillan Welch, 8 p.m.

releases, restaurants' websites and social media and art-Meredith ists' websites and social media. Call the venue to check

Twin Barns: Jeff Lines, 5 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Dave Zangri, 5:30

Nashua

American Social Club: Emily Rae Shively, 8 p.m. Cercle National Club: Ted Solovicos, 7 p.m. Fratello's: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30

Portsmouth

The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m Thirsty Moose: Vere Hill, 9 p.m.

Rochester

Mitchell BBQ: Max Sullivan, 6

Seabrook

Chop Shop: Casual Gravity, 7 Red's: Francoix Simard, 7 p.m.

Stratham

Tailgate Tavern: Alan Roux, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 27

Bow

Chen Yang Li: Ryan Williamson, 7 p.m.

Brookline

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

Concord

Area 23: swapping sets with Chris Fritz and Ken Clark, 7 p.m. Concord Craft Brewing: Andrew Geano, 4 p.m. Penuche's: Raid the Larder, 8

Epping

Telly's: Lewis Goodwin, 8 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Max Sullivan, 1 p.m.

Goffstown Village Trestle: Gardner Berry,

6 p.m.

Hampton The Goat: Jonny Friday, 9 p.m. Wally's: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.

WHYM: Matt Luneau, 5 p.m.

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Eric Grant, 8 p.m.

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Dave Zangri, 6 p.m. Stumble Inn: Justin Jordan. 8

Manchester

Backyard Brewery: April Cushman, 6 p.m. Cercle National Club: Johnny

Angel, 7:30 p.m. Derryfield: Alex Roy, 7:30 p.m. The Foundry: Tim Kierstead, 6

Fratello's: Mark Lapointe, 5:30 p.m. South Side Tavern: Joanie

Meredith

Cicaatelli, 8 p.m.

Twin Barns Brewing: music bingo, 6 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Tom Rousseau. 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m Thirsty Moose: Ben Lyons, 9 p.m.

Rochester Porter's: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m. Seabrook

Chop Shop: Whammer Jammer, 7 p.m. Red's: Alex Anthony Band, 8

Sunday, Feb. 28

Bedford

p.m.

Copper Door: Steve Aubert, 11 a.m.

Brookline

Alamo: Brad Bosse, 4:30 p.m.

Chichester Flannel Tavern: Dave Graham. 4 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Joel Cage, noon

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Bob Pratte, 3:30

Hampton

WHYM: Max Sullivan, noon

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m

Portsmouth

Salem Copper Door: Yvonne Aubert,

Monday, March 1

Manchester

Fratello's: Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m.

Merrimack

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

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Venues

Capitol Center for the Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord 225-1111, ccanh.com

Dana Center

Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, anselm.edu

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

Franklin Opera House

316 Central St., Franklin 934-1901, franklinoperahouse.org

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

Palace Theatre 80 Hanover St., Manchester 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

Stone Church

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

Shows

- Trampled by Turtles, Thursday, Church Feb. 25, 9 p.m., virtual concert via the Cap Center
- Jelani Remy Friday, Feb. 26, 8 p.m., Music Hall
- Tapestry -King) Saturday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- Martin Sexton Saturday, Feb. 7:30 p.m., Dana Center 27, 8 p.m., Music Hall
- 3, 7 p.m., Stone Church
- · Rhythm of Dance Thursday, · Jordan Tirrel Wysocki Trio March 13, at 2 p.m., and Saturday, march 20, at 7 p.m., virtual concert • An Evening with Ryan Montexperience via Cap Center
- Symphony NH Bonjour, Music Hall **Printemps!** Friday, March 5, 7:30 p.m., live broadcast of virtual con- March 20, 8 p.m., Music Hall cert via Cap Center

- Peacherine Ragtime Society Orchestra Friday, March 5, 7:30 p.m., Dana Center
- · Dave Gerard & Senie Hunt Saturday, March 6, 7 p.m., Stone
- · Fruit Flies Like a Banana (interactive variety show) Saturday, March 6, 8 p.m., live virtual show via Cap Center
- the Carole Charlie Chronopoulus Wednes-King Songbook (tribute to day, March 10, 7 p.m., Stone Church
 - Karan Casey Friday, March 12,
- Adam Ezra Group Friday, • Coral Moon Wednesday, March March 12, 7:30 p.m., Flying Mon-
- March 4, at 7p.m.; Saturday, Friday, March 12, 8 p.m., virtual concert via Cap Center
 - bleau Friday, March 19, 8 p.m.,
 - The Busted Jug Band Saturday,

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Nashua

Fratello's: Justin Jordan, 5:30

Portsmouth

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

Seabrook

Red's: Trivia, 9 p.m.

Tuesday, March 2

Hampton

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

Manchester

Fratello's: Chris Gardner, 5:30

Merrimack

Nashua

Homestead: Matt Luneau, 5:30

Fratello's: Clint Lapointe, 5:30

Portsmouth

The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m

Dover

SmuttyLabs: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m. (open mic)

Hampton

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

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Musical Bingo Nation, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Fratello's: Justin Jordan, 5:30 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Chris Lester, 5:30

Nashua

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

Newmarket

Stone Church: Coral Moons, 7

Portsmouth The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m

ROCK AND ROLL WORD SEARCH

BY TODD SANTOS

AMANDA BARRYGOUDREAU BRADDELP DONTLOOKBACK

FEELINSATISFIED

INEEDYOURLOVE LONGTIME **PEACEOFMIND**

SIBHASHIAN SPACESHIP LGBARRYGOUDREAU

WINEEDYOURLOVEQ EADONTLOOKBACKZ RULDPHQSRFGYBDP ESOKTEJGFQGTRXT RPNDOHALIWSSASO EAGBONICPPFCDTM ACTQGYSREHXRDGS DEIDUQVQDOBJEGC YSMSCYKTCSFCLKH SHENNINHDJTMPXO XINMFNXMIKYAIWL B P X R F H A M A N D A G N Z F E E L I N S A T I S F I E D IBHASHIANGGAGB

NEW!

THIRDSTAGE TOMSCHOLZ WALKON WEREREADY

R&R Word Search Answer from pg 32 of 02/18



707 Huse Road, Manchester; 151 Coliseum Ave., Nashua; 150

11 S. Main St., Concord 224-4600, redrivertheatres.org

Wilton Town Hall Theatre

Rodrigues Dana Cen- LaBelle Winery, Satur- Pelham,

Venues Chunky's

chester; 151 Coliseum p.m. Ave., Nashua; 150 Bridge St., Pelham, chunkys.com Chunky's Manchester, urday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m.

LaBelle Winery

com

Shows

Comedy with Jimmy

707 Huse Road, Man- ter, Friday, Feb. 26, 7:30 day, Feb. 27, 6 p.m.

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

672-9898, labellewinery. Nashua, Friday, Feb. 26, Saturday, March 6, at 8 and Saturday, Feb. 27, at p.m.

> Night show with Paul D'An- day, March 5, and Satur- Saturday, March 13, at Cash, gelo (openers Mitch day, March 6, at 8 p.m.

Johnny Pizzi •

Friday, Feb. 26, and Sat- • Brad Mastrangelo • Will Noonan Chunky's

urday, Feb. 27, at 8 p.m. Chunky's Manchester, Manchester, 345 Route 101, Amherst • Drew Dunn Chunky's Friday, March 5, and March 12, and Saturday,

Johnny

Drew Dunn & Corey Stinson & Jody Sloan) • Mark Riley Chunky's Saturday, March 6, 8 p.m.

> Robbie **Printz** Hanley Chunky's Pelham, Sat- Chunky's Pelham, Friday, March 12, 8 p.m.

> > March 13, at 8 p.m.

Mike Hanley Pizzi Chunky's Manchester, • Dinner & a comedy Chunky's Nashua, Fri- Friday, March 12, and

Venues

Chunky's Cinema Pub

Bridge St., Pelham, chunkys.com

Red River Theatres

40 Main St., Wilton, 654-3456 wiltontownhalltheatre.com

Shows

Red River Virtual Cinema Red River Theatres is currently offering indie, foreign language and documentary films via a virtual cinema experience. See the ever-changing lineup on the website.

• Schitt's Creek 21+ Trivia Night on Thursday, Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester. Admission costs \$4.99

· Kansas Silent Film Festival in tion per person is suggested. New Hampshire Friday, Feb. 26, through Sunday, Feb. 28, at Wilton Town Hall Theatre. The line-up features The Little Church Around sion costs \$4.99.

the Corner (1923) and The Round-Up (1920) on Friday, Feb. 26, at 7:30 p.m. On Saturday, Feb. 27, at 7:30 p.m. The Show-Off (1926) and Risky Business (1926) will screen. A silent adaptation of Wizard of Oz (1925) and The Navigator (1924) will screen on Sunday, Feb. 28, at 2 p.m. All films feature live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis. Admission is free but a \$10 dona-

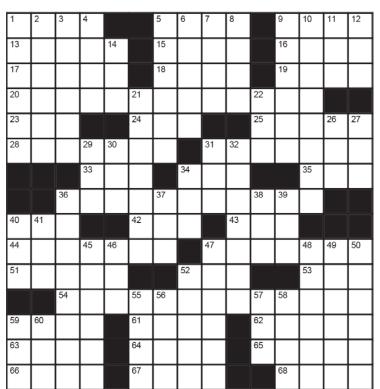
• Goonies 21+ Trivia Night on Thursday, March 4, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester. Admis-







10 WILL BE HER LOVER



Across

- 1. Drummer Fleetwood
- 5. Hit w/girl's name off 'Tusk' by Fleet-
- 9. Like Peter Green from across the pond 13. JT Hodges 'Give More Night'
- 15. "These are __ _ of my favorite things" (1,3)
- 16. Bring Me The Horizon song they messed up? (2,2)
- _ _ Horse (Ride a 17. Big & Rich ' Cowboy)' (4,1)
- 18. Deck the cruise ship band may play
- 19. 1967's 'The Velvet Underground &
- 20. Ryan Adams 'Oh My 'was Neil Diamond-inspired, perhaps (5,8)
- 23. Producer's hearing aid
- 24. Ludwig van Beethoven used '__ To Joy' in his 9th symphony
- 25. Vanilla Ice did '__ Rap' for TMNT II: The Secret Of The Ooze
- 28. '87 Donna Summer album 'All
- 31. Mike + The Mechanics '86 single that pulled you? (5.2)
- 33. Hotel Mira drink 'Ginger
- 34. Death Cab For Cutie's Gibbard
- 35. 'If You Leave' synth-poppers
- 36. Rod Stewart had an intense lust on this '84 smash
- 40. This '71 Paul & Linda McCartney album had horns
- 42. 'My Own Worst Enemy' band
- 43. Country variety show Hee
- 44. Alice In Chains classic 'Down ' (2,1,4)
- 47. '81 Chaka Khan album asked 'What For Me' (5,2)
- 51. What tour masseuse did to your back before the rubdown
- 52. Editors brought their '__ Of Love' in

- a dumptruck 53. Scott Walker would wait '__ The Band Comes In'
- 54. Early 90s Duran Duran smash (8,5)
- 59. 'Selling The Drama' band
- 61. Scorpions 'Me An Angel'

Find and Circle...

Four words ending in RY

- 62. Had the smash album '19' in '08
- 63. Like revitalized career
- 64. 'Here It Goes Again' Grammy-winners (2,2)
- 65. 'Uppers & Downers' band that hung 32. Michael of Chickenfoot/Van Halen

- 66. '72 Fleetwood Mac album ' Trees' 67. On '14 album Arkells wanted to meet at 'High
- 68. '70 album regarded as Todd Rundgren's debut solo outing

Down

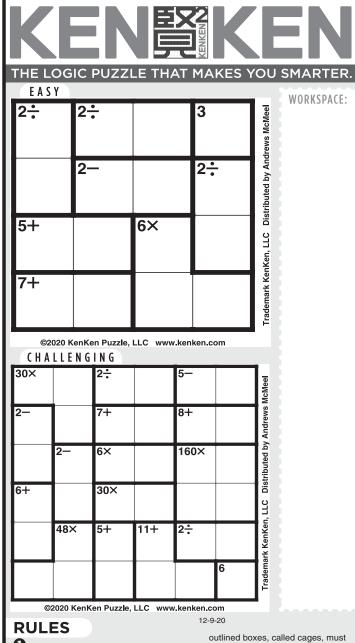
- 1. Not hits
- 2. Paul McCartney "Take _____, wanna hear you play 'til the lights go down' (2,4)
- 3. Not originals but these
- 4. Boyz II Men got down on a 'Bended'
- 5. Overweight rockers' pre-tour lunches,
- 6. Foo Fighters might be 'Making at the campsite (1,4)
- 7. 2nd take
- 8. Troubled rocker might take off or go this w/out warning
- 9. This Raitt had the 'Luck Of The Draw' on her '91 album
- 10. '76 "Will you ever win" Fleetwood Mac classic
- 11. Murder Records
- 12. Carole King 'It's __ Late'
- 14. What Weird Al will do with 'It' when he's at dinner
- 21. Thrice " you weary with your heavy loads" (4,3)
- 22. Star's tattoo or this
- 26. 'Time In A Bottle' Croce
- 27. Crystals '__ Then He Kissed Me'
- 29. Brad Paisley was 'Working On' one at
- 30. Musical from Will Ferrell Christmas movie
- 31. '20 Yusuf/Cat Stevens album ' For The Tillerman 2'

 \square

2/19

- 34. Panic At The Disco! pleaded '__ It's 48. 'Falling Down' metalcores Better If You Do'
- 36. Kinks '__ Not A Fighter' (2,1,5)
- 37. __ A Yellow Ribbon Round The Ole Oak Tree
- 38. Rolling Stones keyman Stewart
- 39. '07 REO Speedwagon album 'Find Your __ Way Home'
- 40. Brazilian music fest Rock In
- 41. 'Fellow Workers' Utah Phillips & DiFranco
- 45. Ray Charles 'Go Again' (4,2)
- 46. Like strange or this 'Look' The Weeknd gave us
- 47. Violent Femmes leader Gano

- 49. Headstones leader Hugh
- 50. Like Michael in Bacon Brothers
- 52. '87 Fleetwood Mac album '__ In The Night'
- 55. Johnny Cash 'The One On The Right The Left' (2,2)
- 56. 'Blacklisted' sing/songer Case
- 57. Fleetwood Mac said you could 'Go Your Own' this
- 58. Post-show dressing room may have a strong one
- 59. 'See The Sun' rockers Black
- 60. - Gadda-Da-Vida (2,1)
- © 2020 Todd Santos



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

2 The numbers within the heavily

combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners. 3 Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with

3

5

the number in the top-left corner.

6

3 PREVIOUS ANSWERS 6 2 2 3 2 4 3 3

Three four-letter countries Three words ending in GO Three forms of precipitation Three eight-letter words

Last Week's Answers: RICHARDS JAGGER WATTS WOOD / DINGO MANGO BINGO LINGO / CICADA WASP MOTH / SALMON MULLET / HOTEL

WORD ★Roundup™

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NRΤ 0 Α R Т R S Ε

me a Reason" — when you know.

Across

1 Heat source?

6 "Isn't that ___ much?"

10 Clinton preceder or follower

14 "Quaking" tree

15 City NNE of Lake Tahoe

16 Capri or Elba

17 Copper-colored coin last minted in 1958

19 Karmann (classic VW model)

20 Part of S&L

21 Knight's transport

22 My reaction to this ice storm I'm 44 E flat's alias

stuck in right now

25 Alfred E. Neuman line

29 Scan in

31 Show announcer

32 Overabundance

35 "March Madness" sponsor, for short

36 Relaxing sound

39 Sport featured in the 2005 docu- Helmut mentary "Murderball"

42 Heart-wrenching

43 Actor Bailey of "Band of Brothers" and "Almost Famous"

45 Skim, like with homemade chick-

16

46

46 Follow closely, these days

47 "Never in a million years!"

53 Dashboard Confessional genre

54 Tiniest bits

55 Roswell crafts

57 '80s-'90s German chancellor

58 Discover (or how to determine what the four circled answers have in common)

64 Swedish store to get lost in

65 "My Life as ____" (1985 Swed- 23 Singer Bebe

ish film)

66 Add to the pot

67 Macedonian's neighbor

68 "Ermahgerd Gersberms!", for one

69 Time on a job

Down

1 It may be gaping

2 "Black-___" (ABC sitcom) 3 Magilla Gorilla, really

4 Brunch, e.g.

5 Being dragged along

6 Hockey site, maybe

7 Actor Whishaw

8 "Newhart" establishment

9 Stocking stuffer

10 It may get stubbed

11 "The Fall of the House of

12 Comparatively cunning

13 Intoxicating, as liquor

18 Oombands (Oktoberfest entertainment)

21 Contributes to the jar?

22 Makes some tea

24 Competed at Daytona

26 Renters

27 80 years into the future, in movie credits (will we even have movies?)

28 Animated alternative to mailing a greeting

30 "Don't Go Breaking My Heart" vocalist Kiki

33 Catches some Z's

34 "Futurama" genre

36 Colorful quartz

37 Former U.S. President James

Garfield

38 Prefix with therapy

40 "Ashes to Ashes" novelist Tami

41 Conversation lapses

45 Crime investigation facility

47 Collaborative websites

48 Robert who introduced the term "cell" to biology

49 Air beyond the clouds

50 Chocolate candy cut into cubes

51 "Summer Girls" boy band

52 Succinct letter signoff

56 Fantasy football figure

58 Kinfolk, for short 59 Ending with fluor-

60 ___ de plume

61 Nintendo Switch predecessor

62 Channel for buying stuff from your couch

63 By this point

© 2021 Matt Jones

R&R answer from pg 31 of 02/18



Jonesin' answer from pg 32 of 02/18

Α	L	1	Α	S		S	L	0			W	Е	Α	Ν
Ν	Α	Ν	С	Τ		W	1	N		Ζ	Τ	Р	Р	Υ
Т	Τ	G	Н	Т	F	Τ	٧	Е		\perp	R	Α	Т	Е
	R	Ε	Е	Α	R	Ν		R	Ε	Ν	Ε			
			Т	R	1	G	F	U	Ν	С	Т	1	0	Ν
	R	Κ	0			L	Е	N	D		Α	Ν	Ν	Α
S	Α	Τ		Α	Т	0	М		Τ	Ν	Р	Α	W	Ν
Т	Ι	М	В	Е	R	W	0	L	٧	Е	S	F	Α	Ν
Е	D	0	Е	R	Α		R	Е	Е	D		Е	R	Υ
Ν	Е	Ν	Е		Ν	С	Α	Α			Т	W	D	
Т	R	0	Р	Τ	С	Α	L	F	Т	S	Н			
			В	Α	Е	R		L	Α	Υ	Ε	R	S	
М	0	D	Ε	М		Т	Н	Τ	N	Κ	F	Α	S	Т
Α	R	Ι	Е	S		Е	Ε	Κ		Е	L	Τ	Т	Е
D	Ε	Ρ	Р			R	Υ	Ε		S	U	D	S	Υ

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 38.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A By Dave Green

58

8	6				9	1	
7	6 9				4	5	, Inc.
			4				yndicate
		4		9			22021 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.
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Conceptis SudoKu Puzzle B By Dave Green

	9	3		7			1	
1			4		9		6 8	, Inc.
	4					7	8	yndicate
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8			7		5	4		©2021 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Difficulty Level ★★

Conceptis SudoKu Puzzle C By Dave Green 5



Difficulty Level ★★★★

Be at This Hour?, by Lemony Snicket, a.k.a. Daniel Handler, born Feb. 28,

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) It was a folding ladder. I knew it was there. I'd put it there myself. Pay attention to what you put where.

Aries (March 21 - April 19) I also couldn't help but wonder what sort of person would sign a secret note, even if they only signed the letter S. A secret note is secret. There is no reason to sign it. But also no reason not to.

were almond cookies, although they could have been made of spinach and shoes for all I cared. It's a good time to bring a friend their favorite cookie.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) There was stroll in nature. a town, and there was a girl, and there was a theft. I was living in the town, and I was hired to investigate the theft, and I thought the girl had nothing to do with the steam. it. You might change your mind.

Cancer (June 21 -July 22) My chaperone looked at me like I should aha! back, but all I could manage was a quiet 'ah.' I made a note to ha later. Make a note.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) ... tea had been laid out on a tray, along with a dozen cookies on a plate. ... I ate eleven of them, right in a row. It is rude to take the last cookie. Don't be rude. Not that vou would.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) We passed a small white cottage and then came to a stop at the driveway of a mansion so large it looked like several mansions had crashed together. Small things are adding up.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) The creature looked like a sea horse like a

All quotes are from Who Could That hawk looks like a chicken. You can't judge entirely by looks.

> Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) She was wrong. She was not excellent at her job, and this was why I wanted to be her apprentice. You'll learn different things from different people.

> Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) The staircase undoubtedly led to the top of the lighthouse, but to get there, you would have had to step over the girl sitting on the stairs with a typewriter. You may meet a new friend on your way to where you're going.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) There Taurus (April 20 - May 20) They were Bombinating Beast coffee mugs and Bombinating Beast cereal bowls stacked up with Bombinating Beast napkins on Bombinating Beast placemats. You may want to carve out some time for a quiet

> Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) When the tea arrived, for a moment the steam was all I could see. There is tea beneath

LITTLE WORDS

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 grain grinder (6) 2 barrel maker (6)
- 3 bricklayer (5)
- 4 arrow maker (8)
- 5 vegetable grower (8)
- 6 cloth maker (6)
- 7 candlemaker (8)

coo	СНА	PER	LL	SON
ER	FL	ER	GA	VER
ET	WEA	MA	RD	СН
NDL	ER	ER	MI	EN

FORTON DESTRUCKA E. BLAGTICKY 7. GABLICKY LAST WEEK'S ANSWEIS: 1. STICKY 2. PLASTICKY 3. GIMMICKY LAST WEEK'S A. GIMMICKY A. PANICKY 5. GIMMICKY A. PANICKY 5. GIMMICKY A. PANICKY 5. GIMMICKY A. BANICKY A. BANICKY A. BANICKY A. BANICKY B. BA

Sudoku Answers from pg32 of 02/18

Puzzle A

3	4	9	7	2	5	6	1	8	
6	1	5	4	8	9	3	7	2	
7	2	8	3	6	1	9	4	5	
1	7	2	9	4	6	8	5	3	
5	6	3	8	1	2	4	9	7	
9	8	4	5	3	7	2	6	1	
8	5	7	2	9	4	1	3	6	
2	9	6	1	7	3	5	8	4	
4	3	1	6	5	8	7	2	9	
Difficu	ifficulty Level ****								

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

Call it in! We've got your food cravings covered!

Award Winning Burgers, Wings, Chicken Tenders, Sandwiches & Chili

Live Music

Thurs. Feb. 25th 6-9pm - Tyler Allgood Fri. Feb. 26th 6-9pm - Tom Boisse Sat. Feb. 27th 6-9pm - Gardner Berry Sun. Feb. 28th 3:30-6:30pm - Bob Pratte

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PUBLIC AUCTION

1st Priority Auto & Towing, LLC will be auctioning for

non-payment, impounded/abandoned vehicles per NH

2020 Chevy Sonic 1G1JB5SP4L4100957

2013 Nissan Altima 1N4AA5AP4DC824555

2006 Dodge Caravan 2D4GP44L86R783916

2005 Jaguar X Type 5AJWA51A35WE55669

1994 Toyota Camry 4T1SK12E4RU452651

2005 Ford Focus 3FAFP37N35R161366

2006 Ford F150 1FTPX14506FA34693

2014 Toyota Corolla 2T1BURHEC026988

2006 Audi A4 WAUDF78EX6A176465

Vehicles will be sold at Public Auction Feb 26, 2021 at

10:00 AM at 26 Mason St., Nashua NH. We reserve the

right to refuse/cancel any sale at any time for any reason.

Law RSA 262 Sec. 36-40. To be liquidated:

PUBLIC NOTICE

A public auction will take place at 420 Second Street, Manchester NH on March 2, 2021 at 9:00 am.

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It's a dog's life

Bill Dorris, a successful Nashville, Tennessee, businessman, was 84 years old when he passed away late last year, WTVF-TV reported, leaving \$5 million to his beloved 8-year-old border collie, Lulu. Dorris, who was unmarried and traveled frequently, often left Lulu in the care of his friend Martha Burton, 88, who will continue to keep the dog and will be reimbursed for reasonable monthly expenses from the trust established for Lulu by the will. Burton was chill about the whole thing: "I don't really know what to think about it to tell you the truth," she said. "He just really loved that dog."

Annals of education

Concordia University student Aaron Asuini wanted to ask a question in the online art history class he was taking, but when he tried to reach out to the lecturer, Francois-Marc Gagnon, he couldn't find any contact information in the school's portal. So he Googled the professor's name — and found an obituary. The Verge reported Gagnon passed away in March 2019, and although the course syllabus listed someone else as the class's official instructor, it also noted that Gagnon would be the lecturer. A Concordia spokesperson expressed regret at the misunderstanding, but Asuini is still unsettled about it: "I don't really even want to watch the lectures anymore. ... I think it lacked tact and respect for this teacher's life."

Awesome!

Appalachian Bear Rescue is on the lookout for a wild mother bear to foster three newborn cubs found in the crawl space under a home in Sevier County, Tennessee, according to United Press International. Utility workers called to the home on Feb. 13 to repair a gas leak found the "ample caboose of a very large snoozing bear" when they entered the crawl space under the house, the wildlife agency said. "There was no way to safely repair the gas line while the bear was in residence," so wildlife officials tempted the bear out of her den but found three babies had been left behind. They will remain with Appalachian Bear Rescue until a foster mom is found.

Neighborhood watch

Homeowners in the Quail Hollow neighborhood of Charlotte, North Carolina, have been frustrated by a mail thief since late 2020, so when Lacy Hayes spotted a car lurking near his mailbox on Feb. 11 and saw the driver, who appeared to be an elderly woman, reach inside it, he took action. Hayes reached through the driver's window and removed the keys from the ignition. The woman hit him with her cellphone, so he took that too, called 911, then took a picture of the driver and the tags, The Charlotte Observer reported. The driver got away, but neighbor Nicole Kern got online and, using Hayes' photo and facial recognition software, soon found a match

— a man, wanted in Greenville, South Carolina. Neighbors rejoiced when a man with the same name was booked into the Mecklenburg County jail on Feb. 13 on a fugitive extradition warrant and a charge of resisting a law enforcement officer. Police declined to comment on whether the man is also a suspect in the mail thefts. The unnamed criminal was held on \$2 million bail.

Desperate times

Police in the Ukrainian village of Hrybova Rudnya determined that the unnamed man who called them Feb. 13 and confessed to seriously injuring his stepfather, made the call in order to get the road in front of his house cleared of snow. Police spokeswoman Yulia Kovtun told the BBC the man insisted that officers would need special equipment to get to him because of the snow, but when police arrived, they found no assault or murder, and the road had already been cleared by a tractor. The man was charged with filing a false report and fined.

Weird history

In an auction in Chesapeake City, Maryland, that closed on Feb. 8, a white wooden toilet seat pilfered from Adolf Hitler's retreat in the Bavarian Alps sold for about \$18,750, The Sun reported. Ragnvald C. Borch, a U.S. soldier who spoke German and French, was one of the first to arrive at the Berghof at the

end of World War II. His senior officers told him to "get what you want" from the damaged property, so Borch grabbed a toilet seat and shipped it home to New Jersey, where he displayed it in his basement. Bill Panagopulos of Alexander Auctions said, "This was as close to a 'throne' as the dictator would ever get." Borch's son put the "trophy" up for auction; the buyer was not identified.

What's old is new again

The Boston Globe reported on Feb. 15 about the newest hipster craze: typewriters. Manual, heavy, clunky "typers." Tom Furrier, the owner of Cambridge Typewriter, Boston's only remaining typewriter repair shop, first noticed the upward sales trend in April 2020. "I was busy beforehand, but Covid raised my business by 40%." While typewriters can't take the place of digital communications devices, they're attractive to young people for creative endeavors that have become popular during the lockdowns: "My customers use it for journaling, poetry, creative writing," Furrier said. "It's all about writing without internet distractions, about getting into a zone." With pandemic restrictions in place, Furrier brings typewriters out onto the sidewalk for customers to inspect, then disinfects them and returns them to the window. Customers "instantly get the typewriter bug," he said.

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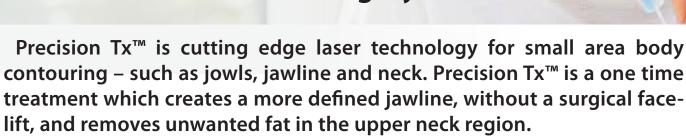
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