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GRANITE VIEWS **STEVE RENO**

The Reference Room



Most folks probably scanned past the news item that recently reported the imminent closure of the 450-year-old “Lamb and Flag” pub in Oxford, England.

This venerable gathering place on St. Giles Street has served clients local and visiting, famous and ordinary, and even the likes of me. The pub not only held fond memories for me, it also indirectly affected the upbringing of my children.

In the early '70s, while doing research for my doctoral dissertation in the Bodleian Library nearby, I would repair to the Lamb and Flag at the end of the day for well-earned refreshment. My favorite seat in the pub — if it were available — was at an ancient and worn oak round table situated in a corner and flanked by two tall bookcases.

On my first visit to the pub, that space caught my eye because it was occupied that afternoon by an Oxford don and three of his students. I sat close enough to them to engage in my favorite pastime, namely eavesdropping. They were discussing a poem and each had their book open in front of them along with a pint of bitter. Behind them, the two tall bookcases were filled with Oxford University Press reference books. From time to time, I noticed, one of the group would turn around, take down a book, and look up a reference. I was fascinated by the ritual, not to mention the novelty that a pub would keep so many shelves of reference books. Thereafter, I sat at that table every time I could and I too would turn and look something up from one of the books.

Twenty-five years later, my family and I moved into a house in southern Oregon. A feature of the house that attracted me immediately was a little corner dining nook that had two tall bookshelves behind it. Ah ha! I decided to fill it with all of my reference books, from the *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Music*, *Dictionary of Ancient History* and *Fowler's Modern English Usage*, to *The Oxford Dictionary of Modern Slang*. There were tomes of history, books on world religions, collections of poetry and language dictionaries.

Before long, our family had its own ritual. We had many of our meals together at that round table in the nook. Whenever a question of fact or definition arose, someone would say, “Let’s look it up” and would reach around to find the appropriate reference work. Tedious? Yes, I am sure our son and daughter felt that way many times. Nevertheless, we sorted out a number of homework assignments, not to mention settled disputes.

So, yes. I shall miss the Lamb and Flag, almost as much as I miss those family gatherings around our own reference table. With Google readily available now, we don’t need those any more. Do we?

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ON THE COVER
10 GET EXCITED ABOUT SUMMER CAMP! Most of the usual summer camps will be back in business, in person, this year. Find the perfect camp for your kid — there are options for blooming artists, sports fans, music lovers, nature enthusiasts and more.

ALSO ON THE COVER, A new space for community art classes has opened on Hanover Street in Manchester, p. 22. The new Hotbox eatery in Manchester will be serving up Latin soul and street foods, p. 30. And beer columnist Jeff Mucciarone shares a few random beer selections for the random month of March, p. 34.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- NEWS & NOTES**
- 4 NEWS IN BRIEF
- 6 Q&A
- 7 SPORTS
- 8 QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX
- THE ARTS:**
- 22 ART HOUSE STUDIOS
- 23 ARTS ROUNDUP
- The latest arts news.
- INSIDE/OUTSIDE:**
- 26 GARDENING GUY
Henry Homeyer offers advice on your outdoors.
- 27 KIDDIE POOL
Fun for the family.
- 27 TREASURE HUNT
There's gold in your attic.
- 28 CAR TALK
Automotive advice.
- FOOD:**
- 30 HOTBOX; SouperFest; Weekly Dish; In the Kitchen; Try This At Home; Beer.
- POP CULTURE:**
- 35 BOOK, MUSIC AND FILM REVIEWS Amy Diaz is won over by the artistry of *Raya and the Last Dragon* and the goofiness of *The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge on the Run*.
- NITE:**
- 40 BANDS, CLUBS, NIGHTLIFE
Ryan Montbleau, Nite Roundup, Music This Week.
- 43 MUSIC CROSSWORD
Puzzle for the music-lover.

- ODDS & ENDS:**
- 43 KENKEN, WORD ROUNDUP
- 44 CROSSWORD
- 44 SUDOKU
- 45 SIGNS OF LIFE
- 45 7 LITTLE WORDS
- 46 NEWS OF THE WEIRD



Welcome home!

LOFTS AT MILL WEST

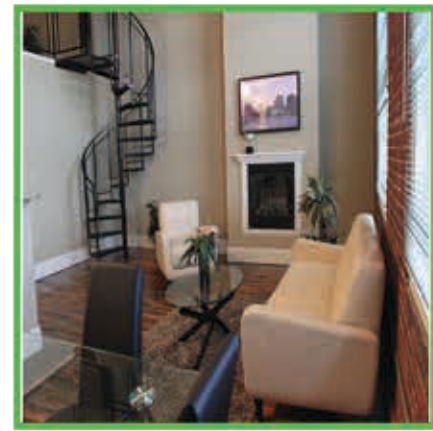
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NEWS & NOTES

Covid-19 news

On March 1, Gov. Chris Sununu issued Emergency Order No. 86, an order authorizing certain retired health care workers to administer Covid-19 vaccines in the state. Any retired or inactive physician, physician assistant, registered nurse or licensed practical nurse who was previously licensed and in good standing within the last five years is permitted to administer doses of the vaccine, provided he or she completes the CDC's vaccine training modules. This follows a similar order that was issued in January allowing registered and certified pharmacy technicians to give vaccine shots under certain conditions.

State officials in their weekly public health update on March 4 reported that there have been about 200 to 250 new infections of Covid-19 on average, "a slow decrease over past weeks," state epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan said. State hospitalizations, test positivity rates and deaths also continue to trend downward, while the amount of vaccine doses administered is increasing each week. As of March 4, 17 percent of the state's population has received one dose, with 8 percent fully vaccinated, according to Dr. Beth Daly, Chief of the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control of the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services.

Later during the same press conference, Sununu announced that the state will likely be moving into Phases 2A and 2B of its vaccine administration plan ahead of schedule "well before March is over." Phase 2A includes K through 12 teachers, school staff and child care workers — beginning March 12, the state's regional public health networks will begin scheduling vaccination clinics in partnership with school officials. "For those who choose and can organize it, we can actually provide the vaccinations right there in a closed pod clinic atmosphere," Sununu said. For communities where this isn't possible, Sununu added that registration for vaccine appointments through the state-run scheduling system will begin on March 17.

People in Phase 2B, which includes those over the age of 50, will be able to register starting March 22, with the first appointments to begin on March 25. "If we get more and more vaccine, there is still an opportunity for some of these dates to change, to even move up further," Sununu said.

On March 5, Sununu issued Executive Order 2021-4, extending the state of emergency in New Hampshire due to the pandemic for another three weeks through at least March 26. With this new extension, New Hampshire has now been in a state of emergency for more than a year.

House appeal

On March 2, Democratic members of the New Hampshire House of Representatives filed an appeal in federal court seeking remote access to House sessions for disabled House members, according to a press release. The appeal asks the court to overturn U.S. District Court Judge Landya McCafferty's ruling that Republican House Speaker Sherman Packard does not have to use remote technology and that Packard is immune from the Democratic lawmakers' suit. The House met in person for a two-day session last month at the NH Sportsplex in Bedford. "We have appealed because we believe the Courts should be available to protect the disabled from discrimination, especially when discrimination is used to gain an unfair political advantage by robbing 100,000 citizens of representation in what should always be the people's House," Deputy Democratic Leader David Cote (D-Nashua), one of the plaintiffs in the appeal, said in the press release.

Resignations and nominations

New Hampshire's United States Attorney Scott W. Murray resigned from his position effective March 6, according to a press release, in response to President Joe Biden's

Approximately 7,800 people received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine at the state's first mass vaccination site at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway in **Loudon** on March 6 and March 7, with an additional 3,800 expected to receive the vaccine on Monday, according to a report from WMUR. According to the report, there were some technological issues on Saturday that created long wait times for some, but those problems were resolved and the process was much smoother on Day 2.

A free online training safety program for all servers and food preparers called NH Promise is now available through the NH Lodging & Restaurant Association and the Community College System of New Hampshire, according to a press release. The two organizations joined forces to help eateries certify that their staff has been trained in the latest Covid-related safety precautions, in part to reassure the public that restaurants are safe spaces. According to the release, an event announcing the program was scheduled for March 9 at the Common Man in **Concord**, where staff was the first to be certified.

Makin' It Happen and the City of **Manchester** have launched a comprehensive harm reduction strategy with the goal of moving people who are struggling with a substance use disorder toward treatment and recovery, according to a press release. The strategy is funded by the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief & Recovery and includes initiatives like connecting people to primary care and mental health services; providing access to Naloxone (Narcan) and training to prevent overdose deaths; and offering screening and vaccinations for the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases.

call to replace nearly all remaining presidentially appointed and Senate-confirmed U.S. attorneys. Murray was nominated by President Donald Trump and was sworn in on March 5, 2018, after serving his fourth term as Merrimack County Attorney. First Assistant U.S. Attorney John J. Farley will serve as Acting United States Attorney until a new presidentially appointed U.S. Attorney takes office, according to the release.

On March 3, Gov. Chris Sununu nominated John Formella to serve as the state's next attorney general, according to a press release. For-

mella currently serves as Sununu's legal counsel, a position he has held since Sununu first took office in 2017. A confirmation vote is expected at the March 24 Governor and Council meeting, the release said. Formella will replace Gordon J. MacDonald, who served as New Hampshire's attorney general from April 13, 2017, until March 4, according to another press release that announced MacDonald as the new chief justice of New Hampshire. MacDonald was sworn in by Sununu during a ceremony in the Supreme Court's courtroom on March 4. 🗨️

Covid-19 update	As of March 1	As of March 8
Total cases statewide	75,588	77,060
Total current infections statewide	2,363	2,036
Total deaths statewide	1,170	1,184
New cases	1,923 (Feb. 23 to March 1)	1,472 (March 2 to March 8)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	692	581
Current infections: Merrimack County	163	163
Current infections: Rockingham County	533	470

Information from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services

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Best seller

Toadstool Bookshops named Retailer of the Year

The New Hampshire Retail Association's New Hampshire Retailer of the Year award recognizes retailers in the state that have achieved excellence in creativity, customer service, commitment to the community and work environment. The 2021 recipient is The Toadstool Bookshops, owned by Holly and Willard Williams, Jeff Osgood and Lowell Morris, with store locations in Nashua, Peterborough and Keene. Willard Williams talked about how the Toadstool managed to stay afloat and continue to serve book lovers throughout the pandemic.

Q: How did the Toadstool handle the first few months of the pandemic?

In late March, we had to close our doors and couldn't be open for people to come in the store. ... A lot of our sales are really based on people coming in and browsing ... so we had to try to find other ways to let people know what new books were out there. We started creating different lists, like a Black Lives Matter[-inspired] list and lists of new arrivals. ... Our website became really active, and we started getting a lot of orders online, and a lot of phone calls from people who wanted to pick things up curbside. We learned how to pack and ship books quickly. We've always had a number of in-store author events but had to stop those, of course, so we started doing them virtually, on Facebook at first, and then we started using Zoom. ... It was



Willard Williams with wife and Toadstool co-owner Holly Williams. Courtesy photo.

a lot of hard work in the beginning to figure out how to do online business and virtual events and curbside, but our staff was really good about picking up on everything quickly and working together.

How were things different after you reopened?

In mid-June, we were able to let people come into the store again. We put up plexiglass barriers at the counters and, of course, put out hand sanitizer and started requiring masks for everyone. The store is large enough that we didn't have an issue with people being able to spread out sufficiently and keep their distance. We set things up a little differently so that there's better traffic flow. We had to take all of the chairs out of the store because we didn't really want people sitting or lingering. The whole idea was to get people to come in, get what they want

quickly, and then leave. ... That was the hardest thing for us, having to tell people, 'We want to see you; we want you to come in; but unfortunately, you can't stay; you have to come and go quickly.' In the good old days, people would come in, meet each other, talk, chat, gossip, but I really can't encourage that in the store.

How are you doing, business-wise?

We were down probably about 60 percent [in sales] during March, April, May and early June. Once we were able to open again in mid-June, [sales numbers] started to come back, and in the fall they were actually better than [they were in the fall of] the previous year.

How have you taken care of your staff?

We had to cut back on staff in the beginning, unfortunately. We were able to take advantage of the PPP program from the federal government, so in early June we started bringing some [staff] back to help us out in the store. ... The biggest challenge for our staff was trying to find a schedule that allowed them to stay home with their kids when they weren't in school. ... We're pretty much back to the staff that we had before. Now we're just trying to make sure everybody stays healthy and that our stores are a safe place to work.

How have your customers stepped up?

I know a number of people who used their stimulus checks to buy books and kind of fill up their personal libraries. We sold a lot of gift

certificates — 50 percent more than we would have during that time of year — to people who just wanted to make sure that we still had the cash to survive and get through this. We're really grateful for that. It's been encouraging to know that people really wanted us to be here when it was all over. There were those who told us they considered us an essential business because being able to access books is so vital to their lives, and that's been nice to hear.

How did it feel, being named New Hampshire Retailer of the Year?

We've been a member of the New Hampshire Retail Association for quite a number of years, but I had never been aware of the award until I heard that a local person had nominated us for it. I thought, 'Well, that's nice,' but I didn't think we would actually win. There are so many retailers in the state, and I think that anybody who's still in business after [the pandemic] is deserving of an award. But we've been here for 50 years now, so it was nice to get that recognition.

How are things looking now?

It's pretty close to normal. We still have no chairs and still don't encourage lingering, but people can come in and browse again. We're doing our best to make sure people enjoy being able to come into the store and get out and about while also making sure people stay safe and healthy when they come in.

— Angie Sykeny 🌸

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Pats remodeling begins



At this time last year I said the Patriots were entering an 18-month remodeling period to be up and ready to go again in 2021. Well, that moment has arrived and they're about to be on the clock with around \$65 million to spend over the next few

weeks and their best first-round draft position since 2008. They are not bereft of talent, but they do have major holes to fill and other areas to fortify. Given that they have a big question mark at quarterback in a QB-crazed environment and are in the unaccustomed position of not being able to wait for bargains, word on the street is they're likely to be mucho aggressive in pursuit of what they need.

Here's a look at what they are faced with and we'll start with the methods to accomplish their goals.

Strategy Options

The Draft: My attitude about the draft is if it comes down to getting a player who can become a true star or one who fills a glaring hole, go for the star because they're harder to come by. Plus, as evidenced by the fact that after hitting the bonanza 2010 draft (McCourty, Gronk, Hernandez and Spikes) they've added only three players of value each year since, none great, we know it's a crap shoot. But the draft can be used as ammo in trades for immediate help like in 2007 as well, when **Wes Welker** and **Randy Moss** totally transformed the offense by going for 112 catches for 1,175 receiving yards and 98 for a whopping 1,495 yards and an NFL record 23 TD catches respectively after getting them for just second- and fourth-round picks. The only player of consequence taken that year was top pick **Brandon Meriweather**, but hard to say it wasn't a great use of that draft.

Trades: The success of the approach in 2007 speaks for itself and when combined with their dire need (and long incompetence) for drafting good wide receivers, I'd suggest they do that via trades for guys who they know can play at this level already.

Free Agency: They've got money to spend and real needs, so this is the year to spend big on players, who again they know can play at this level, to refurbish the team.

Biggest Possible Losses

Joe Thuney: Can't see **Coach B** paying a franchised tagged guard north of \$15 million, so a long-term deal is needed or see ya. Most think he's way expensive. But by making 60 straight starts over five seasons his durability is very valuable. The emergence of versatile rookie **Michael Onwenu** provides options, as he could be a cheaper replacement for either Thuney or the returning **Marcus Cannon** at right tackle.

David Andrews: Whether Thuney stays or goes, retaining the free agent center is crucial as the line fell apart when he missed the entire 2019 season.

Three Biggest Needs

Quarterback: Until this question is answered, they won't be able to recruit real offensive help in free agency without knowing who'll be under center. Thus a trade for a vet probably pays the biggest dividends in recruiting receivers. My preference is to draft the right one in Round 1 to find a long-term solution and reap the financial benefits a young QB provides. If that means they also need a one-year caretaker, whether **Cam Newton** in an evolving role or a **Ryan Fitzpatrick** type, I'm OK with it.

Wide Receiver: Seeing how ordinary **Tom Brady** looked in 2019 and how revitalized he was with that deep receiving core in Tampa convinced me I've underestimated the value of good receivers. That was reinforced by what **Stefon Diggs'** arrival did to the Buffalo offense. With **Julian Edelman** coming off a significant knee injury at 35 they need two top receivers. I know **Jakobi Meyers** had 59 catches for 729 yards. But I recall **Reche Caldwell** led the 2006 team with 61 catches, but only because Brady had to throw it to someone. So, I'm wait and see on whether Jacobi's 59 fall into the Caldwell category or not. There are some big names out there, like TB's **Chris Godwin**, **AJ Green** and **JuJu Smith-Schuster**, who I like a lot. They'll cost big money, but this is the place and time to splurge, like they surprisingly did by going really big for **Stephon Gilmore** in 2017.

Tight End: If you're an optimist you'll say the results from using third-round picks on tight ends last year are a work in progress. If you're realistic, you'll say after combining for a pathetic five catches, under no circumstances can tight end be left up to **Devin Asiasi** and **Dalton Keene**. Though I'm not with the clamor for the just-released **Kyle Rudolph**. The once highly productive TE is coming off a 28-catch season preceded by 39 in 2019, which sounds like a guy on the way down. The most expensive option is San Diego, er, L.A.'s **Hunter Henry**, who's solid, but I'm not sure they have to have the best. Just someone they can count on.

Secondary Needs

These are holes that can be worked around if the first three are filled, but they still need help.

Defensive Front Seven: Dont'a Hightower will be back and that's good news. He'll fortify young'ns **Anfernee Jennings** and **Josh Uche**, who showed flashes toward the end of 2020. Next would be an inside run stopper and an edge rusher, as I'm not totally sold on New Hampshire loving **Chase Winovich**. A **Kyle Van Noy** return might be possible, if the price is right, which makes it not likely.

Secondary: It's their deepest group, but with the rumor mill saying a trade of Gilmore is likely, they'll need talent on the back end, as **JC Jackson** takes over as the No. 1 corner. I'm hoping Gilmore doesn't go, but with him on the final year of his contract, if it's for a No. 1, do it.

OK, get to it, Bill. *Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com.*

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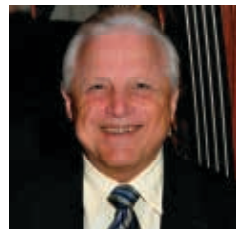
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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Work and learn

Anyone interested in joining the health care field now has the chance to work while earning a nursing license or degree — at no cost to them. Catholic Charities NH has created a program called Pathways that encourages full-time and part-time employees to develop their careers, according to a press release. Entry-level candidates can get full financial assistance to pursue an LNA Certificate program; upon its completion they will be placed into a full-time or part-time LNA role. Those who are already LNAs can get a full-tuition scholarship to attend a full-time Licensed Practical Nurse degree program at Harmony Health Care Institute in Merrimack. And there are select scholarship opportunities for LPNs to earn their Registered Nurse degrees as well. Catholic Charities NH has seven skilled nursing facilities, including three in Manchester. Visit cc-nh.org/pathways.

Score: +1

Comment: *In a time where having a strong health care workforce is more essential than ever, and with post-secondary education being cost-prohibitive to many, Pathways seems like a great opportunity for anyone interested in joining the nursing profession.*

A chance to volunteer

New Hampshire Businesses for Social Responsibility will host a Virtual Volunteer Fair on Thursday, March 18, to show what some of the state's biggest nonprofits are doing for our communities, and how volunteers can have a major impact. According to a press release, the fair will highlight all kinds of opportunities for businesses and people to get involved. Register at nhbsr.org/volunteer-fair to attend the virtual event.

Score: +1

Comment: *One of the nonprofits that will be at the event is CASA of NH, which pairs kids in the court systems with individuals in the community who have volunteered to advocate on a child's behalf, according to the press release, and volunteers don't need any particular skills other than a desire to help kids.*

U.K. Covid is here

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services has resumed its contact tracing investigations and in doing so has confirmed six cases of the United Kingdom variant of Covid-19 in the state in people who did not travel internationally, according to a March 8 report from WMUR. "Many of these variants do not result in increased illness or risk of hospitalization or death," Beth Daly, chief of the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control, said in the report. "They do appear to be more transmissible and can spread more easily, so that is certainly concerning."

Score: -1

Comment: *Great, an even more transmissible version of Covid — here's hoping that vaccinations and safety measures will make this a non-issue.*

Working toward diversity in health care

Network4Health, a collaboration of more than 40 area health care providers established in 2016 to improve behavioral health services in the greater Manchester, Salem, and Derry areas, is working to increase diversity, equity and inclusion, according to a press release. James McKim — managing partner of Organizational Ignition, current president of the Manchester NAACP, and a leader in diversity, equity and inclusion — will work with N4H members on things like improving hiring practices to promote diverse, recovery-friendly workplaces; making staff feel welcome and respected; and creating equitable policies throughout an organization, the release said.

Score: +1

Comment: *"We want this effort to help our partners build and leverage a diverse and inclusive workforce that mirrors the communities they serve," Peter Janelle, executive director of Network4Health, said in the release.*

QOL score: 60

Net change: +2

QOL this week: 62

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

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GOOD NEWS!



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COVID-19 VACCINES ARE HERE

New Hampshire is now vaccinating its residents in phases.
Schedule your appointment by visiting www.vaccines.nh.gov or calling **2-1-1**.

FACTS ABOUT THE VACCINE



- Medical experts confirm the COVID-19 vaccines are *safe and effective*, studied widely in diverse populations.
- The vaccines *can not give you COVID-19*.
- The vaccines are *free* - you do not need health insurance.
- Most COVID-19 vaccines require 2 doses, about 1 month apart. *Follow dose recommendations* for best protection.
- Scientists have been *researching similar vaccines* for years which allowed for faster creation and distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

WHY GET VACCINATED?

- **BECAUSE** vaccination can prevent serious illness or death.
- **BECAUSE** vaccines are the best way to protect your family.
- **BECAUSE** we deserve to get back to work safely.
- **BECAUSE** we want to hug our loved ones.
- **BECAUSE** one death is too many.



LET'S ALL DO OUR PART! Even with vaccination, stay home if sick, wear a face mask in public, stay 6 feet away from others, avoid crowds, and wash your hands often.

TOGETHER, WE CAN SAVE LIVES!

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Get excited about

SUMMER CAMP!

YOUR GUIDE TO DAY CAMPS AND THEIR PLANS FOR THIS SUMMER

Summer camps are back in business, from special interest camps for art, sports, academic enrichment, STEM and nature, to general interest camps with all kinds of games and activities.

With many camps limiting their capacity this year to allow for social distancing, now is the time to register if you want to secure a spot. Here, you'll find camps with registration open now as well as camps with tentative plans and details to be announced in the coming months.

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

Breakthrough Manchester at the Derryfield School 2108 River Road, Manchester, 641-9426, breakthroughmanchester.org

What: Breakthrough Manchester offers middle school summer programming for Manchester middle school students who might not have the resources for summer

Details to come

The following camps have confirmed that they will be hosting a camp but the details have yet to be announced. Call or visit their websites for up-to-date information.

- **Barbara C. Harris Episcopal Camp** (108 Wally Stone Lane, Greenfield, 547-3400, bhccenter.org/camp) General interest camp. Details TBA on its website by March 31.
- **Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua** (1 Positive Place, Nashua; Camp Doucet, Ridge Road, Nashua; 883-1074, bgcn.com) General interest camp. Details TBA.
- **Concord Community Music School** (23 Wall St., Concord, 228-1196, ccmusic-school.org) Music camp. Details TBA.
- **Nashua Parks and Recreation** (589-3370, nashua.recdesk.com/community/home) General interest camp. Details TBA on its website this month.
- **Peacock Players Theatre Camp** (Nashua, 886-7000, peacockplayers.org) Theater camp. Details TBA.
- **Project SMART** (University of New Hampshire, 46 College Road, Durham, 862-3205, smart.unh.edu) Academic enrichment camp with a focus on math and science. Details TBA.

camp enrollment, delivering a combination of rigorous academics and fun, high-energy summer experiences. **Who:** Sixth-grade students attending a Manchester middle school, with priority to those who have limited access to summer enrichment opportunities **When:** Monday through Friday, dates offered June 21 through July 30 (registration deadline is April 1) **Cost:** Free (includes transportation to and from the school, as well as breakfast and lunch)

College Preparation; Find Your Voice – Jump Start Your College Essay *The Derryfield School, 2108 River Road, Manchester, 641-9426, derryfield.org/summer/college-prep--academic-programs*

What: This intensive writing workshop is designed to create a space for local high schoolers to begin the creative process of drafting their college essay. The class will be run in person (potential for a virtual option in August if there is interest) with time spent sharing essay drafts as a group and individual time writing with guidance from the teacher. On the final day of the workshop, a college admissions officer will provide the college perspective on the personal statement and read essay drafts. **Who:** Students entering grades 11 and 12 **When:** Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., dates offered June 7 to June 11 or Aug. 9 to Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$375

Kumon Math & Reading Center 128 S. River Road, Bedford; 505 W. Hollis St., No. 103, Nashua, 897-6194; 95 Brewery Lane, No. 8, Portsmouth, 427-8456; kumon.com

What: Each center offers an independent learning program for kids to freshen up their skills in math and reading. Topics covered in math include counting and number sequencing, fractions, order of operations, algebra, trigonometry and calculus. Topics covered in reading include vocabulary, phonics, sentence building and reading comprehension. **Who:** Preschool through high school **When:** The Bedford center is open Monday and Thursday, from 3 to 6 p.m. The Nashua center is open Wednesday, from 4 to 7 p.m., and Friday, from 5 to 8 p.m. The Portsmouth center is open Tuesday and Thursday, from 2 to 6 p.m. **Cost:** Varies; call your individual center for details

SAT/ACT Preparation *The Derryfield School, 2108 River Road, Manchester, 641-9426, derryfield.org/summer/college-prep--academic-programs*

What: Students will learn the universal strategies and components of the SAT and ACT, followed by individual recommendations. Classes will include one-on-one time with the instructor and group work. Students may register for verbal sessions, math sessions, or both. **Who:** Students entering grades 11 and 12 **When:** Verbal sessions run Monday through Friday from 9:15 to 11:45 a.m., and math sessions run from 12:15 to 2:45 p.m., dates offered June 14 to June 18, July 12 to July 16, or Aug. 9 to Aug. 13 **Cost:** Ranges from \$375 for half-day sessions to \$650 for full-day sessions

Thursday Mini-Camps – “We the People: Beyond the Battlefield *American Independence Museum, 1 Governors Lane, Exeter, 772-2622, independencemuseum.org*

What: Campers will immerse themselves in hands-on 18th century life, discovering the stories of the men and women who fought and won the American Revolution and their stories beyond the battlefield. Up to four sessions are available. **Who:** Ages 8 to 12 **When:** Sessions run Thursdays, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., dates offered July 1, July 8, July 15 and July 22 **Cost:** \$45 per day or \$170 for all four sessions for museum members; \$55 per day or \$195 for all four sessions for non-members.

ART

Brainwave Summer Art and STEAM Camps *The Nature of Things, 10 Groton Road, Nashua, 881-4815, tnotgroup.com/enrichment-center/summer.php*

What: Themes include Canvas Painting & Drawing Plein Air, Duct Tape & Wire Sculpture Arts, Illustrate It, Lost Civilizations: From Culture-Building to Multimedia Museum Exhibit, Art Exploration: From Crayons to Pixels, Minecraft Art Heist: Widgets, Traps, & Redstone, Animate It, Start Up: Birth of a Brand, Lego Mind Pal-



Brainwave summer camp. Photo courtesy of the Nature of Things.

ace, Cardboard Quest & Engineering, and Minecraft Around the Universe in 5 Days: Creative World Building & Architecture. **Who:** Ages 6 through 14 (varies by camp) **When:** Sessions run for one or two weeks, depending on the camp, Monday through Friday (no camp on Monday, July 5), 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 20 **Cost:** One-week camps range from \$355 to \$380, two-week camps are \$725

Creative Ventures Gallery 411 Nashua St., Milford, 672-2500, creativeventuresfineart.com

What: Discovering Art in Nature camp includes drawing, painting and crafting a variety of art projects inspired by the outdoors. **Who:** Ages 8 through 12 **When:** Monday, Aug. 2, through Thursday, Aug. 5, 9 a.m. to noon **Cost:** \$100

Kimball Jenkins School of Art 266 N. Main St., Concord, 225-3932, kimballjenkins.com/summer-arts-camp

What: Campers participate in indoor and outdoor art, history and engineering activities. Themes include Wild Animal Safari, Think Like an Artist, Fantasy & Fashion, Around the Campfire, Magic & Muggles, Travel the World and Bam! Wow! Pop Art!

Who: Ages 6 through 17 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., dates offered June 28 through Aug. 20
Cost: \$275 per week (\$255 for members)

Studio 550 Pottery Camp *Studio 550 Community Art Center, 550 Elm St., Manchester, 232-5597, 550arts.com*

What: Campers will learn to throw on a pottery wheel and hand-sculpt with clay.
Who: Ages 10 through 16 **When:** Sessions will run Monday through Friday, with a morning option from 9:30 a.m. to noon, and an afternoon option from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Dates TBA. **Cost:** TBA

Wild Salamander Summer Camps *Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center, 30 Ash St., Hollis, 465-9453, wildsalamander.com*

What: A variety of art camps that work with a theme or concept, covering several art media, like painting, drawing, sculpting and fiber arts **Who:** Pre-K through Grade 8 **When:** Runs weekly, dates offered July 5 through Aug. 6 **Cost:** Registration will begin April 10; call for more details.

DANCE

Concord Dance Academy 26 Commercial St., Concord, 226-0200, concorddanceacademy.com/dance-camp

What: Camps teach a variety of dance styles, including tap, jazz, lyrical, hip-hop, ballet, tumbling and musical theater. Other activities include arts and crafts, nature walks and scavenger hunts. **Who:** Ages 3 through 13 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for a full day, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a half day, dates offered July 19 through July 23, and July 26 through July 30 **Cost:** \$250 for full day week, \$150 for half day week, or \$50 per individual full day and \$30 per individual half day

Southern New Hampshire Dance Theater 19 Harvey Road, Bedford, 637-4398, snhdt.org **What:** Programs include Preschool Princess camp and Prima Ballerina camp (girls ages 3 through 5), the Young Dancers' Program (ages 6 through 12) for beginner and intermediate dancers, and a three-week Summer Intensive (ages 10+) for serious dancers looking to challenge themselves. **Who:** Girls ages 3 and up **When:** Preschool camps run Tuesday through Thursday, July 6 through July 15, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Young Dancers Program runs Monday through Friday, July 19 through July 23, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Intensive runs Monday through Friday (with optional Saturday class), July 26 through Aug. 14, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$160 for Princess and Prima Ballerina camp (or \$290 for both), \$175 for Young Dancers Program; Intensive ranges from \$550 to \$1,250, depending on number of weeks



Photo courtesy of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central New Hampshire.

FILMMAKING

Triple Threat Film Camp *Londonderry Dance Academy, 21 Buttrick Road, Londonderry, 432-0032, triplethreattheatercamp.com/audition-intensive*

What: Campers will learn the process of making a film, including writing; camera, sound and lighting; directing, and editing. **Who:** Ages 8 to 18 **When:** Monday, July 5, through Friday, July 9, 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. **Cost:** \$275

Movie Making Camp *SEE Science Center, 200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400, see-sciencecenter.org/movie-making-camp*

What: Campers will create an "Invention and Discovery" film using stop motion animation Lego bricks and minifigures. Working in groups, each camper will learn techniques of storyboarding, set design, construction, mini-figure casting and more. **Who:** Ages 8 to 12 **When:** Monday, Aug. 2, through Friday, Aug. 6, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$300

GENERAL INTEREST

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central New Hampshire *Locations in Andover, Concord, Epsom, Holderness, Hopkinton, Laconia, Suncook, Sutton, Warner and Weare, 224-1061, centralnhclubs.org*

What: Centers offer general camps and specialty camps, with activities like arts and crafts, water games, sports, field trips, cooking, hiking and more. **Who:** Grades 1 through 8 (varies depending on the camp location) **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., dates offered June 14 through Aug. 27 **Cost:** Ranges from \$135 to \$200 per week

Boys & Girls Club of Manchester *Camp Foster, Kidz Camp and Summer teen program, 36 Camp Allen Road, Bedford; Union Street Clubhouse, 555 Union St., Manchester; 625-5031, begreatmanchester.org*

What: Activities at Camp Foster include swimming, playground time, arts and crafts, field games, athletics, hiking, boating and canoeing. Campers at Kidz Kamp (grades K and 1) and in the summer teen program



YMCA OF GREATER NASHUA SUMMER CAMP INFO:

Summer Day Camp at YMCA Branches
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Camp Foster

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Weekly themes with fun activities!

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Camp Lovewell. Courtesy photo.

(grades 8 through 12) will participate in similar activities and attend Camp Foster each afternoon. **Who:** Grades K through 12; membership required (\$25) **When:** Sessions begin Monday, June 21, and end on Friday, Sept. 3 **Cost:** Ranges from \$140 to \$145 per week, plus a \$25 membership fee (\$10 membership fee only for the Summer Teen program).

Brentwood Recreation Day Camp 190 Route 125, Brentwood, hosted by the Brentwood Parks & Recreation Department, 642-6400, rec.brentwoodnh.gov/programs

What: Traditional day camp with activities like water and non-water games, arts and crafts, team-building activities, yoga and more. **Who:** Kids entering grades 1 through 6 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 20 (no camp on Monday, July 5) **Cost:** Call for details; registration is open now for both residents and non-residents, but is limited due to Covid-19 restrictions

Camp 603 507 Hall St., Bow, 568-8107, camp603.com

What: Activities include trips to Lake Winnisquam for waterskiing, wakeboarding, tubing and other water sports; Mount Major, Mount Cardigan and other local mountains for days of hiking; and Hampton Beach for beach trips, swimming and more. **Who:** Ages 10 to 17 **When:** Weekly sessions run from Monday through Friday, dates offered July 6 through Aug. 6 (registration is limited) **Cost:** \$660 for the first week, which is shortened due to the July 4 holiday; \$825 for all other weeks

Camp Adventure Auburn Parks & Recreation, 483-5052, ext. 101, auburnnh.us/parks-and-recreation/pages/programs-events

What: During this full-day summer camp, kids will travel on multiple field trips throughout the state, including to the beach, lakes, water parks and more. **Who:** Kids entering grades 5 through 8 **When:** Two week-long sessions are offered, from Monday, July 26, through Friday, July 30, or from Monday, Aug. 2, through Friday, Aug. 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (meet at the Auburn Safety Complex at 55 Eaton Hill Road) **Cost:** \$279 for the

full week (registration is open now to Auburn residents and will open on May 1 to non-residents if space is available.) If camp needs to be canceled due to Covid-19 restrictions, refunds will be issued to all registrants.

Camp Babuck Amherst Parks & Recreation Department, 673-6248, amherstnh.myrec.com

What: A traditional day camp with activities like arts and crafts, group games and sports. Each week is themed; this year's themes include Spooky, Science, Olympics, Survivor and The Big Top **Who:** Grades 1 through 7 **When:** Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$215 per week for Amherst residents and \$255 per week for non-residents. Extended before or after care is also available.

Granite Base Camp 300 Blondin Road, Manchester, 617-615-0004, experiencebasecamp.org

What: This outdoor day camp features hands-on activities for kids ages 6 to 10, such as hiking, ecology, archery, crafts, swimming, fishing and more. Specialty camps are also available for ages 11 to 14, featuring activities like mountain biking, kayaking and fort building. **Who:** Ages 6 to 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 28 to Aug. 13 (each activity depends on the week) **Cost:** \$330 per week

Camp Coolio New Boston Central School, 15 Central School Road, New Boston, hosted by the New Boston Parks & Recreation Department, 487-2880, newbostonnh.gov

What: Activities include sports, games, crafts and more. There are six themed weeks throughout the summer. This year's themes are Harry Potter Week, Animal Planet Week, Disney Week, Wacky Water Week, Destination Imagination, and Camp's Got Talent Week. **Who:** Kids ages 6 to 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., dates offered June 28 through Aug. 6 (no camp on Monday, July 5) **Cost:** \$225 per week (Week 2 is \$180, as it is a shortened week)

Camp Gottalikeachallenge Southern New Hampshire University, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester, 868-2140, campgottalikeachallenge.org

What: A fast-paced adventure in problem-solving, hands-on learning and challenging activities. Campers will develop their creativity, critical thinking, leadership, confidence and teamwork. **Who:** Grades 4 through 9 **When:** Day camp session runs Monday, July 12, through Friday, July 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. **Cost:** \$350 (\$315 if you register by March 31)

Camp Kettleford 26 Camp Allen Road, Bedford, hosted by Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, 888-474-9686, girlscoutsgwm.org

What: Set on 30 wooded acres on the shore

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Brainwave camps



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of Sebbins Pond, this traditional day camp features swimming, boating, archery, cooking out, horseback riding, day trips and more. **Who:** Girls entering grades K to 8 **When:** Weekly day camp sessions are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., dates offered July 5 through Aug. 13. **Cost:** \$245 per week, or \$475 for a two-week session. Financial assistance is also available.

Camp Lincoln 67 Ball Road, Kingston, 642-3361, ymcacamplincn.org, hosted by Southern District YMCA, sdymca.org

What: Activities at the traditional day camps include swimming, sports, nature exploration, arts and crafts, archery, boating, ropes courses, pottery and mountain biking. **Who:** Age 3 through grade 9 **When:** Sessions run various days/weeks, beginning the week of June 21 and running through Aug. 27. See website for details **Cost:** Varies; starts at \$275 for a one-week session

Camp Lovewell *The Nature of Things, 10 Groton Road, Nashua, 881-4815, camplovelwell.com*

What: Campers will enjoy hiking, field games and sports, swimming, skits and songs, kayaking, arts and crafts, a ropes course and more. **Who:** Ages 6 through 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered June 21 through Aug. 20 (no camp on Monday, July 5) **Cost:** Ranges from \$350 to \$360 per week; extended care is also available

Camp Ponemah *Hampshire Hills Athletic Club, 50 Emerson Road, Milford, 673-7123, ext. 272, hampshirehills.com/camp-ponemah*

What: Day camps feature activities like swimming, tennis, crafts, dance parties, playgrounds, trails, games and more. **Who:** Campers entering kindergarten through seventh grade **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 14 through Aug. 27 (no camp on Monday, July 5) **Cost:** Varies, depending on camper's age, membership status and the session duration. Multi-sibling discounts are also available

Camp Seawood 350 Banfield Road, Portsmouth, hosted by Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, 888-474-9686, girlscouts-gwm.org

What: Set among pine forests, wetlands and wildlife, this traditional day camp features archery, cooking out, horseback riding, day trips, nature hikes and more. **Who:** Girls in grades K through 8 **When:** Weekly sessions run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., dates offered July 5 through Aug. 20. **Cost:** Starts at \$245 for a one-week session, or \$475 for a two-week session. Financial assistance is available.

Camp Souhegan *Boys & Girls Club of Souhegan Valley, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002, svbgc.org*

What: Daily camp activities include swimming, theater arts, science and STEM programs, cooking, sports, dance and more, all centered around a different theme each



Camp Lovewell. Courtesy photo.

week. **Who:** Grades K through 12 **When:** Weekly sessions run Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 23 **Cost:** \$185 per week

Camp Starfish 12 Camp Monomonac Road, Rindge, 899-9590, campstarfish.org

What: Camp Starfish provides structured, nurturing and fun group programs to foster the success and growth of children with emotional, behavioral or learning problems. **Who:** Children ages 6 and up **When:** Sessions run various weeks, dates from June 22 to July 21 **Cost:** Rates vary depending on type of camp

Camp Witzel *Bedford Parks & Recreation Department, 472-5242, bedfordreconline.com*

What: A traditional day camp with activities like arts and crafts, sports, swimming and more. Each week is themed; this year's themes include Animation Domination, Party in the USA, Edible Engineering, Jedi Training, Fun & Fitness, Aqua Adventure and Camper vs. Counselor Challenge **Who:** Ages 6 to 13 **When:** Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 6 (no camp on Monday, July 5) **Cost:** Ranges from \$115 to \$245, depending on the number of days per week and the camper's resident status, plus a one-time \$25 registration fee

Candia Springs Adventure Camps *Candia Springs Adventure Park, 446 Raymond Road, Candia, 587-2093, candasprings.com/camp*

What: Campers can enjoy all that the park has to offer by participating in themed weeks that focus on education, environment, exploration and leadership. Themes include Archery, Makers Week, Outdoor Living Skills and more. **Who:** Ages 8 to 12 **When:** Weekly sessions run Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$249 per week

Concord Parks and Recreation *City Wide Community Center, 14 Canterbury Road, Concord, 225-8690, concordnh.gov*

What: Programs include Stay & Play Camp (grades 1 through 5), in which kids enjoy swimming, tennis, arts and crafts, field games and more; Adventure Camp (grades 3 through 8), in which campers will go on four-day trips to beaches, theme parks, hiking and kayaking destinations and more; Nature Camp (ages 5 to 8), in which campers can explore

the park and create nature-based crafts); and Explorers Camp (ages 9 to 12), in which campers can explore the City of Concord's trail system. Specialty camps in a variety of areas are also offered, such as soccer, basketball, TV/video production, dance, and STEM education **Who:** Grades 1 through 8 **When:** Most sessions run Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 13 (no camp on Monday, July 5); Nature Camp sessions run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and are based out of the Lodge at White Park in Concord **Cost:** \$150 per week for Concord residents and \$160 per week for non-residents for Stay & Play Camp; \$190 per week for Concord residents and \$200 per week for non-residents for Adventure Camp; \$160 per week for Concord residents and \$170 per week for non-residents for Nature Camp and Explorers Camp (except for the week of July 6 to July 9 for Explorers Camp, which is \$128 for Concord residents and \$138 for non-residents).

Educational Farm Camp *Education-at Farm at Joppa Hill, 174 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford, 472-4724, theeducationalfarm.org*

What: Campers will learn about animals, work in the garden, take nature hikes and help with farm chores. **Who:** Ages 4 through 11 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, half days for ages 4 and 5 from 9 a.m. to noon, and full days for ages 6 through 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$135 per half-day week, \$250 per full-day week

Naticook Summer Day Camp *Wasserman Park, 116 Naticook Road, Merrimack, hosted by Merrimack Parks & Recreation, 882-1046, merrimackparksandrec.org/naticook-day-camp*

What: Campers enjoy swimming, boating, drama, group games, archery, nature exploration, sports, arts and crafts, special events and more. **Who:** Grades Pre-K through 9 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 20. Extended care is available from 7 to 8 a.m. and from 4 to 6 p.m. **Cost:** \$240 per week for residents, \$290 per week for non-residents. Additional fees apply for extended care.

New Hampshire SPCA *New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Learning Center, 104 Portsmouth Ave.,*

Stratham, 773-5730, nhspca.org

What: All camp activities are animal-themed, featuring games, crafts, baking, hands-on animal care, handling and feeding, service projects and more. There are three camp age ranges: Little Kids (ages 6 to 8), Big Kids (ages 9 to 12) and Teens (ages 13 to 15) **Who:** Ages 6 through 15 **When:** Camp weeks, dates and times TBA **Cost:** TBA

Pelham Parks & Recreation *Pelham Veterans Memorial Park, 109 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Pelham, 635-2721, pelhamweb.com/recreation*

What: The camp features activities like swimming, kayaking, beach play, volleyball, basketball, tetherball, relay games, wiffle ball, arts and crafts and more. **Who:** Ages 6 to 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., dates offered July 6 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$475 per child for six weeks (may be limited to Pelham residents only due to the pandemic; a decision on that limitation is pending)

Strawbery Banke Museum Camps *14 Hancock St., Portsmouth, 433-1100, strawberybanke.org*

What: Campers will explore the 10-acre outdoor history museum and participate in activities led by professional crafters, archaeologists, character role-players, curators and historians. **Who:** Ages 6 to 17 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., offered various weeks from June 28 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** Ranges from \$240 to \$580, depending on the camp and the camper's membership status

SummerQuest at World Academy *138 Spit Brook Road, Nashua, 888-1982, worldacademynh.com*

What: Programs include arts and crafts, games, cooking activities and much more, all intended to encourage the child's creativity and imagination. **Who:** Kindergarten through grade 8 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., dates offered June 14 through Aug. 20 **Cost:** Ranges from \$310 to \$340 per week

UNH Youth Programs and Camps *University of New Hampshire, Thompson Hall, 105 Main St., Durham, 862-7227, unh.edu/youthprograms*

What: More than 50 programs offered for academic enrichment, creative arts, athletics, STEM and traditional camp recreation. See website for a full list. **Who:** Boys and girls ages 5 and up **When:** Various dates/times from June through August **Cost:** Varies depending on the program

YMCA Allard Center of Goffstown *Branch of The Granite YMCA, 116 Goffstown Back Road, Goffstown, 497-4663, graniteymca.org/daycamp*

What: Camp Halfmoon (ages 6 to 10) and Camp Quartermoon (ages 4 and 5) feature activities like archery, swimming, cre-

ative arts, sports and more. Other programs include Discovery Camp (ages 6 to 11), Ultimate Sports (ages 6 to 11), and Mad Science (ages 8 to 11), plus camps in archery, swimming, cooking and more. **Who:** Ages 4 and up **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, offered various dates from June 21 through Aug. 27 **Cost:** Varies; call for details

YMCA Day Camp of Hooksett *Hooksett Memorial School, 5 Memorial Drive, Hooksett, Branch of The Granite YMCA, 497-4663, granitemca.org/camps*

What: Campers participate in sports, archery, arts and crafts, nature, adventure and special themed days. **Who:** Ages 5 to 13 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 20 **Cost:** Varies; call for details

YMCA of Downtown Manchester Branch *of The Granite YMCA, 30 Mechanic St., Manchester, 232-8632, granitemca.org/camps*

What: Kids at Camp Namoskeag (ages 6 to 14) will enjoy activities like swimming, field games, sports, arts and crafts and more. Each week has a different theme. **Who:** Ages 6 to 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Sept. 3 **Cost:** Varies; call for details

YMCA of Greater Nashua Nashua YMCA Branch, 24 Stadium Drive, Nashua, 882-2011; *Merrimack YMCA Branch, 6 Henry Clay Drive, Merrimack, 881-7778; Camp Sargent, 141 Camp Sargent Road, Merrimack, 880-4845; nmymca.org*

What: Camp Sargent is held on Lake Natcook and includes a traditional day camp and a variety of specialty camps, like Digging for Dinosaurs (grades K through 2), Wild West Camp (grades K through 4), Harry Potter Camp (grades 3 through 6), Archery Camp (grades 5 through 9) and more. The Nashua Branch also has a Little Investigators Camp (ages 3 to 5). The Merrimack Branch day camps include a creative arts camp called Camp Create (grades 1 through 6), and specialty camps like Music Makers (grades 1 through 6), Dance Mania (grades 1 through 4), Skips and Scribbles (grades 1 and 2), and Creative Cooks (grades 1 through 6). **Who:** Ages 3 and up **When:** Most sessions run Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., various dates offered throughout the summer beginning the week of June 14 **Cost:** Camp Sargent is \$210 per week for YMCA members and \$275 per week for non-members. Specialty camps at the Merrimack branch are \$235 per week for members and \$300 per week for non-members. The Little Investigators Camp is \$152 per week for members and \$165 per week for non-members.

YMCA of Greater Londonderry Branch *of The Granite YMCA, 206 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, 437-9622, granitemca.org/camps*

What: Camp Pa-Gon-Ki (pre-K to grade 7) is a traditional day camp featuring creative



Photo courtesy of Beaver Brook Nature Camp.

arts, fort-building, archery, swimming, sports, theater, nature and adventure. Camps for teens include a trip camp, where campers will travel to fun attractions around New England. **Who:** Ages 5 and up **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, dates offered June 21 through Aug. 27 **Cost:** Varies; call for details

YMCA of Strafford County Branch *of The Granite YMCA, 35 Industrial Way, Rochester; Camp Coney Pine, 63 Lowell St., Rochester; 332-7334, granitemca.org/camps*

What: Camp Coney Pine (ages 5 to 12) includes archery, creative arts, dance, group games, a ropes course, swimming, sports, fort-building and more. A variety of specialty camps new to 2021 are also available, like Mad Science (ages 7 to 11), Ultimate Sports (ages 7 to 11), Raw Arts (ages 6 to 11) and High Adventure (ages 7 to 12) **Who:** Ages 5 and up **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, dates offered June 21 through Sept. 3 **Cost:** Varies; call for details

YMCA of the Seacoast Branch *of The Granite YMCA, 550 Peverly Hill Road, Portsmouth, 431-2334, granitemca.org/camps*

What: Camp Gundalow (ages 5 to 13) features nature exploration, swimming, a ropes course, sports, creative arts, dancing, fort-building, team-building activities, archery and more. There is also a four-week Leader in Training program for teens, introducing them to becoming leaders through effective communication, team-building and behavior management techniques. **Who:** Ages 5 to 15 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered June 21 through Sept. 3 **Cost:** Varies; call for details

MUSIC

Bedford Youth Performing Company Music Camps 155 Route 101, Bedford, 472-3894, bypc.org/2021-music-summer

What: Virtual Rock Band Camps allow campers to jam, collaborate and perform with fellow musicians over Zoom. A Recording Camp is also offered for grades 7 and up. **Who:** Grades 4 through 12 **When:** Rock Band for grades 4 through 6 offered July 26 through Aug. 6, with sessions held Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rock Band for grades

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7 through 12 runs July 12 through July 16,
with sessions held Monday through Friday, 4
to 9 p.m. Recording Camp runs Monday, Aug.
16, through Friday, Aug. 20. **Cost:** \$250

Manchester Community Music School
2291 Elm St., Manchester; 644-4548, mcmusicsschool.org/summer-camp

What: Programs include musical exploration sessions for students in either grades 1 through 3 or grades 4 through 6. Campers spend the week trying out different types of musical instruments and participating in musical games and music-making activities **Who:** Grades 1 through 6 **When:** Sessions are available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon, dates offered Aug. 2 to Aug. 6 for grades 1 through 3 and Aug. 9 to Aug. 13 for grades 4 through 6. **Cost:** \$200

Nashua Community Music School Nashua Millyard, 5 Pine St. Ext., Nashua, 881-7030, nashuacms.org/summercamps

What: Themes for ages 8 through 12 include Musical Olympics, Rise Up & Create, Ukulele Camp, and Broadway Week. Themes for ages 4 through 7 include Fairy Tale Musical Mash-up and Music Around the World. **Who:** Ages 4 through 12 **When:** Dates offered June 21 through July 16 for ages 8 through 12, and July 19 through July 30 for ages 4 through 7, sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$175

Walden School Young Musicians Program Dublin School 18 Lehmann Way, Dublin, 415-648-4710, waldenschool.org/young-musicians-program

What: A residency camp where campers will receive daily instruction in a supportive community of peers and mentors to hone their musical and creative skills and improvise and compose original works. **Who:** Ages 9 through 18 **When:** June 29 through Aug. 4; three-week or five-week sessions are available **Cost:** Call for details

NATURE

Beaver Brook Nature Camps 117 Ridge Road, Hollis, 465-7787, beaverbrook.org/education/summer-camp

What: Campers will enjoy hikes and outdoor exploring, campfire cooking and nature-themed games and activities. **Who:** Ages 4 through 16 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday (no camp on Monday, July 5) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (9 a.m. to noon for ages 4 and 5), dates offered June 21 through Aug. 6 **Cost:** Ranges from \$132 to \$285, depending on the camp

Farm, Field and Forest Camp The Nature of Things, 10 Groton Road, Nashua, 881-4815, cultivatingwild.com

What: This program is designed for the camper who loves animals and the outdoors. Campers will participate in the daily routine of a real working farm, learning about

sustainability, healthy food, gardening and composting, and humane treatment and care of barn animals such as goats, chickens, donkey and alpaca. **Who:** Ages 7 through 13 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered July 12 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** Ranges from \$350 to \$360 per week; extended care is also available.

New Hampshire Audubon Nature Day Camps McLane Center, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord; Massabesic Center, 26 Audubon Way, Auburn; 224-9909, nhaudubon.org/education/nature-day-camp

What: Programs include a half-day Wonders Camp (ages 4 and 5) and a Discovery Camp (ages 6 through 9), featuring hikes, crafts, storytelling, games and live animal presentations. Themes include Buzz and Flutter, Be a Scientist, Survival, Marvelous Mammals, Aquatic Adventures, Digging in the Dirt, and Creatures of the Night **Who:** Ages 4 through 9 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday (no camp on Monday, July 5) from 9 a.m. to noon for ages 4 and 5 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for ages 6 through 9, dates offered June 21 through Aug. 13. **Cost:** TBA

Outdoor Discovery Summer Camp Amherst Parks & Recreation Department, 673-6248, amherstnh.myrec.com

What: A camp focused on exploring the great outdoors. Each week is themed; this year's themes include Eco-Zone, Trash to Treasure, Minute to Win It, Olympics and Castaway **Who:** Grades 1 through 7 **When:** Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$215 per week for Amherst residents and \$255 per week for non-residents. Extended before or after care is also available.

WildQuest Camp Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center, 928 White Oaks Road, Laconia, 366-5695, prescottfarm.org/service/wildquest-day-camps/wildquest-summer-camp

What: Campers will participate in nature activities, animal and plant identification, arts and crafts, quests, games and hands-on learning. Themes include Survivor, Kids Can Cook, Nature Artists, Water Water Everywhere, Beyond the Myths, Mad Scientists, Creature Feature, A Little Bit of Everything and A Little Bit More **Who:** Ages 4 through 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 28 through Aug. 27 **Cost:** \$235 per week

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Astronomy Camp Meeting House Montessori School 28 Logging Hill Road, Bow, 227-9300, meetinghousemontessori.com

What: Through experiments, crafts and lessons, campers will learn about the solar system, the different phases of the moon, stars, constellations, comets, rockets, astronauts and more. **Who:** Ages 6 to 10 **When:** Sessions run

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., dates offered June 21 to Aug. 20 **Cost:** Call for details

Brainwave Summer Technology Camps
The Nature of Things, 10 Groton Road, Nashua, 881-4815, motgroup.com/enrichment-center/summer.php

What: Themes include Lego Urban Planning and Minecraft Adventurecraft: Lost in the City. **Who:** Ages 6 through 8 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., dates offered July 12 through July 23 **Cost:** \$380

Camp Invention *Locations in Amherst, Londonderry and Strafford, 800-968-4332, invent.org*

What: Campers participate in a variety of hands-on STEM activities led by local educators. **Who:** Grades K through 6 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, times vary depending on location, dates offered June 21 through July 2 and Aug. 2 through Aug. 6. **Cost:** Ranges from \$235 to \$260, depending on the camp location

FIRST Lego Invention Challenge Camp
SEE Science Center, 200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400, see-sciencecenter.org/camp-summer-science-first-lego-session-1

What: Campers use Lego Mindstorms robots in small teams to design, build and program autonomous robots. **Who:** Ages 9 to 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., dates offered July 19 through July 23 and Aug. 2 through Aug. 6 **Cost:** \$300

iSpy Camp *SEE Science Center, 200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400,*

What: Campers will learn about crime scene investigation and forensic science and espionage through hands-on activities. **Who:** Ages 8 through 13 **When:** Monday, July 26, through Friday, July 30, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$300

LEtGO Your Mind STEM Program
Locations throughout New Hampshire, in Amherst, Bedford, Concord, Dover, Durham, Londonderry, Manchester, Nashua, New London, Pelham, Portsmouth, Salem and Windham, 731-8047, letgoyourmind.com/summer-2021-programs

What: Campers work in small groups on guided STEM-related building projects, including Lego building, as well as free-building time. **Who:** Ages 4 through 13 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (9 a.m. to noon for ages 4 and 5), dates offered June 21 through Aug. 20. **Cost:** Ranges from \$185 to \$355, depending on the camp

McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center STEM Camp *2 Institute Drive, Concord, 271-7827, starhop.com/current-and-upcoming-programs*

What: Themes include Coding, Program-



Photo courtesy of McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center.

ming and Robots; Blast Off; Junior Flyers on Earth and Beyond; Tech for Ecology; Wicked, Wild Weather; Discover the Dinosaurs; and Astronomy 101. **Who:** Ages 5 through 14, depending on the camp **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. or 2 p.m., depending on the camp, dates offered are June 21 through Aug. 6 **Cost:** Ranges from \$185 to \$345, depending on the camp

SEE Science Center Summer Science Camp *200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400, see-sciencecenter.org/see-camps-programs*

What: Campers will explore science topics through hands-on activities. Themes include Electrifying Electricity, Chemical Concoctions, Exhibit Design Lab, and Reverse Engineering. **Who:** Ages 7 to 13 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., dates offered July 12 to July 16 and Aug. 9 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$300

Seacoast Science Center *570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 436-8043, ext. 16, seacoastsciencecenter.org/programs/environmental-day-camps*

What: In Treks 4 Tots (ages 4 and 5) and Seaside Safari (grades K through 5), campers will explore the different habitats in Odiome Point State Park as well as the live animal exhibits and hands-on exhibits in the center to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the natural world. Safari Stewards (grades 6 through 8) is a field trip program. Each session will have its own theme. A marine biology camp is also available for high school students. **Who:** Age 4 and up **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (half-day option available for Treks, from 9 a.m. to noon), dates offered June 21 through Aug. 27. **Cost:** Ranges from \$250 to \$400, depending on the camp. Single day options also available for some camps.

Space and Astronomy Camp *North End Montessori School 698 Beech St., Manchester, 621-9011, northendmontessori.com*

What: Campers will have the chance to explore the solar system, stars, asteroids, gravity, space travel and more. Sessions of two days, three days or five days per week



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Photo courtesy of Evo Rock + Fitness Camps

are offered **Who:** Ages 3 to 10 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., dates offered June 21 to Aug. 27 **Cost:** Ranges from \$85 to \$240 per week, depending on the number of sessions

SPORTS

Caramba Skills Soccer Camp Locations in Concord, Nashua, Chichester and Gilman-ton, 496-3579, soccerskillscamp.org

What: Soccer program specializes in skill development for goaltenders, defenders, mid-fielders and strikers. Players are divided by age for the first half of the day, then by ability level for the second half. A high school preseason camp is also offered. **Who:** Grades 1 through 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, times vary depending on the location (half-day option available), dates offered July 12 through Aug. 5 **Cost:** Starts at \$125 per week (price increases after March 20)

Challenger Sports Soccer Camps Various NH locations, 401-864-8880, challenger-sports.com

What: Campers will develop core soccer skills and understanding of the game as well as sportsmanship and leadership skills. **Who:** All ages **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday **Cost:** Varies, depending on the type of camp and the location

Health Club of Concord Camps 10 Garvins Falls Road, Concord, 224-7787, healthclubofconcord.com

What: Programs include basketball, volleyball, tennis, swimming, field games, arts and crafts and group activities. **Who:** Ages 5 to 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., dates offered June 21 to Aug. 20 **Cost:** Call for details

NH Climbing & Fitness 10 Langdon Ave., Concord, 715-9171, nhclimbinggym.com/camp

What: Programs include Summer Indoor Camp (ages 6 to 12), in which campers can learn basic top-rope climbing, and NH Adven-

ture Camp (ages 10 and up), in which campers take hiking-based field trips across the state. **Who:** Ages 6 and up **When:** Sessions for the Summer Indoor Camp are held Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., dates offered June 28 through Aug. 20. Sessions for NH Adventure Camp are held Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., dates offered June 28 through Aug. 20 (climbing gear is included). **Cost:** Summer Indoor Camp is \$260 per week. NH Adventure Camp is \$460 per week.

Foster's Golf Camp Derryfield Park, 581 Bridge St., Manchester, 622-1553, fostersgolfcamp.com

What: Campers travel to different par-3 courses across New Hampshire and participate in practice clinics, chipping and putting contests, time on the driving range and at least nine holes of golf with instruction. Trophies and certificates are awarded at the end of the session. Drop-offs and pick-ups are at Derryfield Park. Golf camps take place at a variety of locations, depending on the day of the week. **Who:** Ages 7 to 16 of all experience levels **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 27 **Cost:** \$295 per week

Granite State Lacrosse Camp Joppa Hill Fields, 176 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford; 867-9421, granitestatelacrosse.com

What: Boys of all abilities and positions will learn lacrosse skills and take part in full-field games to work on team concepts taught earlier in the day. Each camp also features a goalie school. **Who:** Boys ages 5 to 17 **When:** Three sessions run from Monday through Thursday, dates offered June 28 to July 1, July 12 to July 15 and July 26 to July 29 **Cost:** \$195 per session

Junior Fitness Camp Executive Health and Sports Center, 1 Executive Way, Manchester, 624-9300, ext. 206, ehsc.com

What: Campers receive instruction in tennis, golf and basketball and will take classes in yoga, Zumba and healthy eating. They also participate in group exercise classes, arts and crafts, team games and outdoor pool. **Who:** Ages 5 through 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** Call for details

NH Tomahawks Girls Lacrosse Camp Back River Sports Complex, 15 Camp Allen Road, Bedford; Joppa Hill Fields, 176 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford; girls.nhtomahawks.com

What: Players will be divided by position, age and ability, and will focus on improving fundamental skills in lacrosse, including offensive moves, shooting, cutting, feeding and one-on-one defense. Goalies will have specific training and integrate in with the rest of the camp for game play. **Who:** Girls ages 5 to 17 **When:** Three weekly sessions run from 9 a.m. to noon this year, dates offered Monday, June 28, through Thursday, July 1; Monday, July 12, through Thursday, July 15; and Mon-

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Photo courtesy of Triple Threat Theater Camp.

day, July 26, through Thursday, July 29 **Cost:** \$175 for each session

Nike Basketball Camps Locations in Derry, Hampton, Manchester and Nashua, 800-645-3226, ussportscamps.com/basketball/nike

What: Camp for basketball players who want to improve their skills. Includes lectures, team games and daily emphasis on fundamental development. **Who:** Co-ed ages 8 through 16 **When:** Most sessions run Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 6 (varies depending on the location) **Cost:** Ranges from \$285 to \$325, depending on the session and location

Pro Ambitions Hockey Day Camps Tri-Town Ice Arena, 311 W. River Road, Hooksett; Conway Arena, 5 Stadium Drive, Nashua; proambitions.com

What: At the Battle Camp, players learn skating skills and game theory elements while engaging in a situational battle. The Boston Bruins Camp features training in all aspects of ice hockey, plus daily appearances and autograph sessions with members of the Boston Bruins organization. A goaltending camp is also offered. **Who:** Ages 6 through 16 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. or 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered July 5 through July 23. See website for full schedule **Cost:** Generally ranges from \$549 to \$699, depending on the camp

THEATER

Bedford Youth Performing Co. 155 Route 101, Bedford, 472-3894, bypc.org/dance-musicaltheatre

What: Preschool camps are offered for ages 3 through 6 with themes including Kindermusik, At the Circus, In Motion, Outdoor Discovery, Super Heroes. Camps offered for ages 6 through 13 include a *Moana* Production, Taste of Broadway, Acro Circus, *Finding Nemo* Production and Musical Theatre Performer's Tool Kit. **Who:** Ages 3 through 13. **When:** Preschool camps run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., dates offered June 14 through Aug. 6. Other camps run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 or 4 p.m., dates offered June 21 through Aug. 20. **Cost:** \$250 for preschool camps, \$295 for all other camps

The Derryfield School Repertory Theatre Camp 2108 River Road, Manchester; 641-9426, derryfield.org/summer/theatre-camp

What: Campers will practice acting, singing, dance, script writing and improvisation techniques and participate in performance opportunities. **Who:** Grades 3 through 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., dates offered July 5 through July 30 **Cost:** \$575

The Majestic Theatre 880 Page St., Manchester; 669-7469, majestictheatre.net

What: Campers will learn the basics of music, theater and dance. Themes include Time Machine: Around the World and Beyond; It's a Jungle; Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure; and Bots: A New Children's Musical. **Who:** Ages 5 through 14, depending on the camp **When:** Days and times vary, depending on the camp, dates offered July 5 through Aug. 7 **Cost:** Ranges from \$160 to \$325, depending on the camp

Merrimack Summer Stage Wasserman Park Theater, 116 Naticook Road, Merrimack, hosted by Merrimack Parks & Recreation, 882-1046, merrimackparksandrec.org/merrimack-summer-stage **What:** Campers will learn about scene acting, vocal work, dance and creative movement, theater games and improvisation and work together to produce and perform *Disney's Aladdin Jr.* **Who:** Ages 8 through 14 **When:** Monday, July 12, through Friday, July 16, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Cost:** \$200 for Merrimack residents and \$210 for non-residents. Sibling discounts are also available.

Triple Threat Theater Camp Londonderry Dance Academy, 21 Buttrick Road, Londonderry, 432-0032, triplethreattheater-camp.com

What: Camps focus on the core aspects of theater, including acting, dancing and voice. Led by experienced theater educators, directors and choreographers, campers will participate in workshops and rehearsals to prepare for a public performance at the end of the session. **Who:** Ages 5 1/2 to 17 **When:** Three-week program for ages 7 through 17 runs July 12 through July 30, 8:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. A Junior Program for ages 5 1/2 through 9 is offered Monday, July 12, through Friday, July 16, 8:45 a.m. to noon **Cost:** \$175 for Junior Program, \$825 for three-week program. 🌟

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133674

ARTS

Drawn in

New community art classes come to Manchester

By Angie Sykeny
 asykeny@hippopress.com

Manchester has welcomed a new creative space to its growing art scene on Hanover Street.

Art House Studios, owned and operated by Manchester artist and art instructor Jason Bagatta, provides small, in-person drawing and painting classes and workshops for all levels.

"I've been in Manchester for a while and ... I'm always looking to create something new, to make this town a better place to be," Bagatta said.

Bagatta, who holds a master's degree in fine art and interdisciplinary art with a focus on drawing, painting and conceptual art, has been teaching art at the college level for more than 20 years. He also teaches youth and community arts and decided to open Art House Studios, he said, after noticing an increasing demand for community arts education opportunities.

"The community and continuing ed classes I was teaching would almost always fill up," he said. "There are many people who are not pursuing a degree [in art] but are interested in the arts and want to develop

their skills further, or they're just looking for a way to express themselves and focus their creative energy."

The 1,200-square-foot studio has high ceilings and multiple windows and is "totally suitable for adhering to social distancing and safety protocols," Bagatta said.

Art House Studios currently offers four courses. They run for six or seven weeks, starting whenever there is enough interest, with classes held once a week.

The "Drawing Fundamentals" course explores techniques of observational drawing, beginning with simple shapes and lines. Students will work with a variety of media, including graphite, chalk pastel, charcoal, pen, brush, ink and colored pencil. The "Painting in Acrylic" course covers the basics of color, line, shape, texture, light and shadow as well as the color-mixing and texture-building possibilities and limitations of acrylic paint. Students will sketch, then paint subjects or scenes from observation, memory or a photograph. "Drawing Fundamentals" and "Painting in Acrylic" are geared toward novice and intermediate level students.

In "Drawing: Observation to Abstraction," intermediate and advanced level

students will use their knowledge of fundamental drawing techniques to deviate from visual reality while maintaining clarity in their artistic vision. They will work with pencils, charcoal, stick and pencil pastel, colored markers, colored pencil, watercolor, paint pens, ballpoint pen and black ink pens.

"Exploring Mixed Media," open to all levels, will include a study of the concept of mixed media and experimentation with a variety of 2D and 3D media to create symbolic meaning within the context of a theme.

More courses may be added in the future, depending on what people's interests are.

"I'm pretty versatile," Bagatta said. "The more people talk to me about what they want, the more inclined I am to open things up and gear a class toward them."

Bagatta said students will receive individualized attention to help them set and achieve their own goals for what they want to get out of the class.

"My intention is not to teach people to do things my way," he said. "It's to guide people in the direction that they need to go in. I want them to take the tools and techniques and processes that I'm showing them and interpret those in their own way."

As of now, classes are limited to six stu-



Inside Art House Studios. Courtesy photo.

dents but can have up to 12 students once it's safe to do so, he said. Masks will be required at all times, and the studio will be disinfected after each class.

Art House Studios School for Drawing & Painting

Where: 66 Hanover St., Suite 202, Manchester

When: Courses run six or seven weeks. Classes run two-and-a-half hours and are held one day a week. Start dates and schedules vary, depending on interest.

Cost: \$165 for six-week courses, \$190 for seven-week courses

More info: arthousestudios.org, arthouse-jb@gmail.com

Art

Call for Art

• NHAA SPRING JURYING

The New Hampshire Art Association accepts new members. Jurying takes place on Mon., March 22. For a prospectus and application form, visit nhartassociation.org and click on "Become a Member." Applications and application fee payment are due by Thurs., March 18, and can be submitted online or in person at the NHAA headquarters (136 State St., Portsmouth). Instructions for dropping off and picking up artwork will be emailed after an application and

payment is received. Call 431-4230.

• **MAGNIFY VOICES EXPRESSIVE ARTS CONTEST** Kids in grades 5 through 12 may submit creative may submit a short film (2 minutes or less); an original essay or poem (1000 words or less); or a design in another artistic medium such as a painting, song or sculpture that expresses their experience or observations of mental health in New Hampshire. Art pieces will be showcased to help raise awareness, decrease stigma and discrimination, and affect change to ensure socially and emotionally healthy

growth for all children in New Hampshire. Submission deadline is March 31. Prize money will be awarded for grades 5 through 8 and grades 9 through 12. A celebration will take place in May, date TBD. Email magnifyvoices@gmail.com. • **ART ON MAIN** The City of Concord and the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce are seeking professional sculptors for year-round outdoor public art exhibit set up in Concord's downtown. Must be age 18 or older. Submit up to two original sculptures for consideration. Submission deadline is March 31. Sculptors will be noti-

fied of their acceptance by April 30. Installation will begin on May 21. Exhibit opens in June. Selected sculptors will receive a \$500 stipend. All sculptures will be for sale. Visit concordnhchamber.com/creativeconcord, call 224-2508 or email tsink@concordnhchamber.com.

Classes & lectures

• **"NORMAN ROCKWELL AND FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT"** Jane Oneal presents a lecture. Part of Concord's Walker Lecture Series. Virtual, via Zoom. Wed., March 17, 7:30 p.m. Free

and open to the public. Call 333-0035 or visit walkerlecture.org.

Exhibits

• **"THE VIEW THROUGH MY EYES"** The New Hampshire Art Association presents works by pastel artist Chris Reid. Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce Gallery, 49 S. Main St., Concord. On display now through March 18. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230. • **GALLERY ART** A new collection of art by more than 20 area artists on display now in-person and online. Creative Ventures Gallery

(411 Nashua St., Milford). Call 672-2500 or visit creativeventures-fineart.com.

Theater

Shows

• **A TEMPEST PRAYER** New Hampshire Theatre Project's SoloStage program presents. Fri., March 19, and Sat., March 20, 8 p.m., and Sun., March 21, 2 p.m. Performances held virtually and in-person at 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. In-person show tickets cost \$30, and virtual show tickets cost \$20. Call 431-6644 or visit nhtheatreproject.org.

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THE ROUNDUP

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



Jane Oneail will discuss the works of Frank Lloyd Wright and Norman Rockwell during the Walker Lecture Series. Courtesy photos.



• Post-apocalyptic *Hamlet* auditions:

Manchester-based Cue Zero Theatre Co. is holding video auditions for its reimagined production of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. "*Hamlet* will be set in a 'post-rapture' world, with the characters of the play being those unworthy of the Kingdom of Heaven," the company announced in a press release. "Described as '*The Walking Dead* without the zombies' in mood and atmosphere, this production will place the world's most famous play in a heightened and extra dangerous landscape." Open roles include Gertrude, Laertes, Guildenstern/Bernardo and ensemble characters. Performers must be at least 16 years old by opening night. To audition, submit a one-minute video of yourself performing a Shakespearean monologue that showcases your theatrical abilities by 11:59 p.m., on Sunday, March 21. Callbacks will be held in person on Thursday, March 25, from 6 to 9 p.m. The production will run June 18 through June 27 at the Derry Opera House. Rehearsals will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m.,

and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m., starting on March 28, mostly over Zoom, with some in-person rehearsals at the Granite State Arts Academy in Salem. Visit cztheatre.com or email cztheatre@gmail.com.

• **Military authors:** The Music Hall in Portsmouth presents a virtual event with former military officers and award-winning authors Elliot Ackerman and Admiral James Stavridis on Tuesday, March 16, at 7 p.m., as part of its virtual Writers in The Loft series. Ackerman and Stavridis will discuss their new novel, *2034*, a geopolitical thriller in which a naval clash occurs between the U.S. and China. An interview with Jonathan Day, managing partner at Centrus Digital and major in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, will follow the authors' presentation, along with an audience Q&A. Tickets cost \$5 for access to the event, which will be livestreamed on Crowdcast. Visit themusichall.org or call 436-2400.

• **A look at two artists:** The Walker Lecture Series continues on Wednesday, March 17, with an art history lecture on Frank Lloyd Wright and Norman Rockwell, presented by Jane Oneail, to be held virtually over Zoom at 7:30 p.m. Oneail holds a master's degree in Art History from Boston University and has taught at the college level for more than a decade. She previously served as the executive director of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen and as Senior Educator at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester. A recording of the lecture will also be available to watch starting the following day. The series will continue every Wednesday through April 21. Other upcoming events include a history lecture on New Hampshire revolutionaries John Stark and Henry Dearborn; a discussion with Michael Tougias about 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. All are free and open to the public. Call 333-0035 or visit walkerlecture.org.

• **Call for artist members:** Applications for the New Hampshire Art Association's spring jurying for new members are due by Thursday, March 18, with jurying to take place on Monday, March 22. The oldest statewide artist association in the state, NHAA provides many opportunities for New England artists to exhibit and sell their artwork throughout the year. Prospective members must submit original works of art in the same medium that "reflect the artist's voice and are representative of their body of work," according to the NHAA website. A jury of established NHAA artist members with backgrounds in a variety of media will review and judge the work. The jury looks for "maturity of artistic concept, mastery of the medium, composition, consistency of artistic concept and presentation," the website said. For a prospectus and application form, visit nhartassociation.org and click on "Become a Member." Applications and the application fee payment can be submitted online or in person at the NHAA headquarters (136 State St., Portsmouth). Instructions for dropping off and picking up artwork will be emailed after an application and payment are received. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

— Angie Sykeny 🍀

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Camp Quartermoon (Ages 4-5) Just Desserts (Ages 6-11)
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CAMP INFO NIGHT: April 21 (6:00 - 8:00 PM)

Camp Namoskeag (Ages 6-14) Musical Theatre (Ages 6-14)
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Basketball (Ages 6-14) Justin Chef (Ages 8-14)
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VIRTUAL CAMP INFO NIGHT:
March 23 (6:00 - 7:30 PM)
April 15 (6:00 - 7:30 PM)

Camp Pa-Gon-Ki (PreK-grade 7) DIY Art Camp (grades 2-8)
Windham Explorers (K-grade 8) Mad Science (grades 2-8)
Summer Swim Club (Ages 7-12) Ultimate Sports (grades 2-8)
Photography (grades 2-8) & SO MUCH MORE!
Chef's Camp (grades 2-8)

OPEN HOUSE: May 2 (12:00 - 2:00 PM)

Camp Gundalow (Ages 5-13) Leaders In Training (Ages 14-15)
Explorers Camp (Ages 5-7) Swim Lessons (Ages 5-10)
Trailblazers Camp (Ages 8-10) & SO MUCH MORE!
Voyagers Camp (Ages 11-13)

OPEN HOUSE:
April 25 (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)
June 13 (1:00 - 3:00 PM)

Camp Coney Pine (Ages 5-12) High Adventure (Ages 7-12)
Mad Science (Ages 7-11) Raw Arts (Ages 6-11)
Ultimate Sports (Ages 7-11) & SO MUCH MORE!

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Dream big

Make a wish list of trees you want

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

— THE GARDENING GUY —

I was recently thumbing through my first book, *Notes from the Garden*, looking for inspiration for yet another winter article. In it I read that I had planted my Merrill magnolia in 2001. I had forgotten that I planted it just 20 years ago this spring — it feels like it has always been there!

Looking out the window at that handsome tree that blooms each April with a thousand large, lightly fragrant double white blossoms made me think: How many of us plant a tree with a vision of what it will be like in 20 years? I had mainly hoped it would survive to bloom modestly, but it has been a magnificent tree for a decade or more.

I invite you to draw up a wish list this winter. Think of big, majestic trees that you wish to have and figure out where you could plant them. Dream of flowering trees. Think of native trees that will feed the baby birds with the thousands of barely noticeable caterpillars that feed on their leaves. Imagine a recliner in the shade of a tree you have planted. Picture grandchildren playing in its shade.

I think it's important to realize that trees get to be of a good size fairly quickly. Most grow two to three feet per year, some even more than that. So what if you are 60 or 70 or 80 years old? Even if you never live to see it bloom or drop nuts on the lawn, you are improving the environment, now and in years to come.

Years ago I visited author, illustrator, eccentric and well-known recluse Tasha Tudor at her home in southern Vermont. She was in her late 80s at the time but still was planting trees. She asked me if I could help her find two specific crabapple varieties that she had planted 30 years before but was unable to find anywhere.

One variety I found at EC Brown's nursery in Thetford, Vermont. The other I could not find, so I asked her where she had purchased it. She told me that she bought it at Weston Nurseries, and I called them. The woman who answered the phone remembered her, and the fact that she traveled with a rooster under her arm. Amazingly, she also remembered the fellow who waited on her that day; he still worked there, and he was brought to the phone. He explained that the variety was no longer in production. End of story.

Actually, it was not. I saw Wayne Mezitt, the owner of Weston Nurseries, at a trade show, and told him the story of his people remembering

Tasha. He said he would make her some of the trees she wanted by grafting branches onto root stock. And he did. Three years later, Wayne and I met and presented Tasha with the trees she wanted. By then she was past 90 but still planting trees. Did she ever get to see them blossom? Unlikely, but I love the idea of someone her age planting trees. I hope to do the same.



Wayne Mezitt presents Tasha Tudor a White Weeper crab apple. Photo courtesy of Henry Homeyer.

If you plant trees over a long period of time it is hard to keep track of when you planted them, and the variety planted. Keeping track takes real discipline. In my experience, tags are fine for a few years, but eventually they get lost or the writing fades until it is unreadable.

If you are linked closely to your phone or tablet, that might be one way to keep track of what you plant — until the phone dies or gets replaced. I don't have a cell phone, so I cannot advise how to keep records on it. But I do take lots of photos and they are in my computer by date, so I should be able to find most anything I plant — so long as I label well — and the computer doesn't eat things, which mine does from time to time.

I like writing things down, using a real pen, sometimes even using my trusty fountain pen. Years ago I bought a 10-year Gardener's Journal from Lee Valley Tool Co. They still sell them, and at about the same price: \$32.90. It is hard-covered and durable. The only thing it lacks is a search function. It has a page for every day of the year,

and 10 sections per page — a few lines for every day. In principle I would write the weather, what I planted or pruned or dug out every day. But life gets in the way of even the best of intentions.

I like old-fashioned "3x5" cards for making lists: to-do lists, grocery lists. They fit nicely in a pocket and good ones are quite sturdy. My Winter Resolution (like a New Year's resolution, but made after Groundhog Day) is this: I will fill in a note card every time I plant something. I have an old-fashioned wooden box designed for 3x5 cards, and I will use it to keep track of my plantings this year.

So what will go on the cards? First I have to decide if I will use common names or scientific names for alphabetizing the plants. I will use the scientific names, as that is how I think of most of my plants. But I will also include common names. Date planted, source of the plant, where planted, perhaps soil amendments added or any other details that might be useful. If plants die, I will keep the card, but place a black dot on the upper right corner of the card.

Last fall I wrote up a list of woody plants I have planted here in Cornish Flat since I bought my house in 1970. I listed nearly 80 species or varieties. I think I'll fill in a card for each tree on the next raw, gray, wet day.

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NashuaNH.gov/DPHCS

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133675

INSIDE/OUTSIDE
KIDDIE
— POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

Enjoy the (likely fleeting) warm weather

New Hampshire's Audubon centers are still closed, but their **sanctuary trails** are open for families who want to get outside and enjoy the warmer weather. There are miles of trails at the centers in Concord (84 Silk Farm Road, 224-9909) and in Auburn (26 Audubon Way, 668-2045). The trails are open from dawn until dusk. Don't forget to wear appropriate shoes, as trails may be snowy or muddy. Visit nhaudubon.org.



Photo courtesy of the NH Audubon Society.

Love your library

Many local libraries are closed or have limited hours and services, but they're still offering plenty of fun for kids and families. The **Nashua Public Library** (2 Court St., 589-4600, nashualibrary.org) has virtual story times posted on its website, along with monthly interactive virtual activities — March's is "The Great Flood." The library also offers age-appropriate craft projects on the second Saturday of each month; materials can be picked up curbside.

At the **Manchester City Library** (405 Pine St., 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us) kids can find a new Messy Art project online each Wednesday afternoon. The projects can be done at home with items around the house. There's also a weekly virtual story-time for kids ages 1 to 5, with a new video posted every Monday morning at 10 a.m. on the library's Facebook page, with a craft kit based on the weekly theme available for curbside pickup. And each Thursday afternoon at 3 p.m., the library posts a new Lego challenge on Facebook for kids and families.

And at the **Concord Public Library** (45

Green St., 225-8670, concordpubliclibrary.net) parents can pick up craft kits for their kids; this week's kit is a St. Paddy's Bear, available at the library through Friday, March 12, or until supplies are gone (call ahead to see if there are any left before coming to the library). The library is also hosting a St. Patrick's Day themed virtual story-time on Wednesday, March 17, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Register online to attend.

To discover the virtual events and activities that are happening at your **local library**, visit its website — most town and city libraries have revamped their programming to offer safe, at-home fun for families.

Art club

Middle school and high school youth are invited to Kimball Jenkins School of Art (266 N. Main St., Concord, 225-3932, kimballjenkins.com) each Tuesday after school from 3:30 to 6 p.m. for a free art club. **KJ Art Lab** meets each week and teaches art skills, project planning and community development. There is no cost for attendance or materials. New participants are always welcome, though a commitment to regular attendance is requested due to the collaboration on many of the art projects. 🍷

TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,
 This is a set of placecard holders. At least that's what they look like to me. Curious about your thoughts.



vibrant colors. The more flowers, the finer the detailing, the higher the values. In general a set of six would be anywhere from \$30 to \$60.

Nettie

Dear Nettie,
 You are right; they are placecard holders. Your made-in-England Coalport flower placecard holders are from the Coalport potteries. They have been around since the late 1700s (in England). The placecard holders were a common form and still are available today.

Who doesn't like flowers, right? I think that's why they are still around. Some have such fine detailing in the porcelain and

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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Slow driving can be as discourteous, dangerous as speeding



Dear Car Talk:

My wife and I have differing opinions on how fast to drive. I think driving 5 to 7 mph under a speed limit is not being discourteous to other drivers. I also like to drive slower when approaching a signal. Your column is awesome; I look forward to reading it every week. — Richard

By Ray Magliozzi

Buttering me up won't help you today, Richard (but please do try it again in the future). I have to side with your wife.

If you're able to drive at the speed limit and do so safely, that's what you should do. I'd never criticize anyone for driving at the speed limit, even though many people drive faster than that. But I don't recommend being the guy moseying along at 23 in a 30 zone. It is discourteous to drivers behind you, especially on a road where people can't legally or easily pass you.

You may be in no hurry whatsoever. You may be retired. You may be enjoying the sounds of the birds singing and your wife complaining about your driving. But most people aren't in that situation and get frustrated behind someone who appears to be slowing down traffic on a shared, public road for no reason.

While it would be nice to live in a world

where everybody slows down and enjoys scenery more, in this world your driving behavior leads to tailgating, road rage and potentially dangerous behavior in other drivers, like trying to pass you while flipping you the bird at the same time.

There also are studies that show that speed differential leads to collisions on highways. So if you're going 48 mph and someone else is driving 62, that's a recipe for a crash, regardless of who's right and who's wrong.

Now, if you simply feel like you can't drive safely when doing the speed limit, then it's time to consider whether you should still be driving at all. And whether it's time to enjoy the passenger seat and let your wife do the driving. I know that's a tough pill to swallow, Richard, but it happens to everyone at some point. At least think about it honestly. You don't want to get to the point where your wife is renting a car and meeting you at the supermarket.

Dear Car Talk:

Love reading your column. I always learn something and appreciate your humor.

Years ago (back in the Dark Ages), my uncle told me to always buy a vehicle in the even-numbered years. He said that most changes were done in the odd-numbered years, and the even numbered years were when they worked out the

bugs from the changes the year before.

Not sure if whoever told him that had all their fries in one basket or if that really was the truth then, or ... if it still applies. What do you think? — Christine

I'd file this under Old Husbands' Tales, Christine, but I'm not sure an uncle qualifies. I may need to start a whole new category.

Car redesigns have never been on such a rigid schedule. In the old days that you're probably referring to, the 1950s and '60s, the manufacturers did make a big deal every fall about "next year's new models." But in reality, that often meant a tweak of a taillight or a new piece of trim. The real, mechanical guts of the car were not changed every year. Or every other year.

The truth is that the complete redesigns — new platform, new engines, new interiors — are all over the calendar. And while product life cycles are shorter today than they've ever been, the average vehicle is still only redesigned once every six to seven years. And there's no general assumption you can make about when that will happen. You'd have to check each manufacturer's product schedule.

Top-selling cars get more-frequent updates. Poorer-selling cars get ignored for years on end, because the costs of redesigning them may never pay off. And pickup trucks don't get redesigned that often, because their buyers aren't as eager

for change. To make things more complicated, some manufacturers stagger different types of major improvements.

So a car may move to a new platform and yet carry over its old engines to avoid shaking out too much new stuff at once. Then, a couple of model-years later, the car may get new engine or transmission options.

Redesign plans also can be changed — and they are all the time. A recession can push back a planned redesign by a year or two, or more. Or a drop in sales due to a redesign of a popular car may lead to a sooner-than-expected "emergency" restyling. Or a supposed upgrade of a screen system will turn out to be hated by customers, resulting in bad owner satisfaction scores. So a manufacturer may make re-engineering it a top priority. So, the idea of a two-year schedule wasn't true back then, and it's not true now.

What IS true is that — if you have the option — it's not a bad idea to wait a year or two after a major redesign before buying, to let other folks be the lab rats. Despite the greatest engineering brains and quality-control systems known to Detroit-kind, screw-ups still happen. Ask Honda owners about their new capacitive-touch volume controls from a few years ago (which replaced volume knobs) if you want to hear some creative foul language.

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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Green cuisine:** If you're still wondering where to get your plate of corned beef and cabbage this year, visit hippopress.com for our annual **St. Patrick's Day listings** at local eateries. Many are offering single or family-sized boiled dinners to go, for pickup on or around Wednesday, March 17, while others are taking the festivities a step further with options like bangers and mash, Irish soda bread, green beer, Guinness cake and sticky toffee pudding. For the most up-to-date availability, check participating restaurants' websites or social media pages, or call them directly.

• **Clam Haven to reopen for the season:** Derry's **Clam Haven** (94 Rockingham Road), a seasonal takeout eatery known for its fried seafood plates, will reopen for the season on Wednesday, March 17, owner Lisa DeSisto confirmed. DeSisto, who took over ownership of Clam Haven last year and who has also owned Rig A Tony's Italian Takeout for two decades, told the Hippo that several new menu items are in store for this season, including homemade fish tacos on Tuesdays and clambakes on weekends, in addition to old favorites like fried haddock, clams and scallops, hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken fingers and ice cream. Clam Haven will be open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week through the end of October. Visit clamhaven.com.

• **Make it maple: It's New Hampshire Maple Month** and to kick off the annual production season Gov. Chris Sununu will perform the ceremonial maple tree tapping on Saturday, March 12, at 9 a.m. at Connolly Brothers Dairy Farm (140 Webster Hwy., Temple). He's also expected to recognize the 75th anniversary of New Hampshire County Conservation Districts by signing a proclamation honoring 2021 as the Year of Conservation, according to a press release. Throughout Maple Month many local sugarhouses welcome visitors to partake in maple sugaring tours, view demonstrations and try all kinds of maple-flavored goodies. Visit nhmapleproducers.com to find a participating sugarhouse near you.

• **Tastes of France and beyond:** Office manager Nathalie Hirte of the Franco-American Centre in Manchester has recently launched **Franco Foods**, a how-to YouTube series dedicated to French-inspired foods and recipes. New videos are expected to be posted every Tuesday, with each focusing on a different recipe from France or Quebec. Beginning in April, Hirte said, she hopes to branch out to other regional recipes across Europe, Africa, Asia and the United States. A native of Quebec and an avid cooker and baker, Hirte said she originally started Franco Foods last year as a virtual recipe swap among Franco-American Centre members. Visit facnh.com/news/franco-foods to subscribe to her channel.

FOOD

West Side comfort

Hotbox to open soon in Manchester

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

Like many Granite Staters at the onset of the pandemic, Pedro Gonzalez of Manchester started cooking at home more often. Fast forward nearly a year and now he and several of his family members and friends are about to open their own eatery on the West Side, focusing on Latin soul and street foods with a New York City bodega-style storefront.

The concept of the Hotbox — fondly referred to by Gonzalez as simply “The Box” — began on a whim last spring with positive feedback for his family’s home-cooked Spanish meals.

“Restaurants were closed ... and so our friends would come over and they’d be like, ‘What are you guys cooking? Can I grab a plate?’ We didn’t expect money or anything, so of course we were like, ‘Sure!’” said Gonzalez, a native of Bronx, N.Y. “Then we started showing our plates on social media, and it just took off after that, like wildfire.”

Gonzalez and his wife Kelli, daughter Ally, mother Sonia and family friends Kelley Richard and Kalley Mihalko all now have a hand in cooking or baking different items for the Hotbox. The original plan, he said, was for them to expand their newfound catering venture into a food truck before that later shifted to a brick-and-mortar restaurant. They found their current spot, most recently occupied by Rita Mae’s Restaurant, last August.

Hotbox’s menu will feature a variety of Latin soul and street food items, some of which will be available all the time, others on a rotating basis. Options may include chicken, beef or pork guisado, or a tomato-based sauce, with servings of rice and beans.

“Guisado is very popular in the Spanish community,” Gonzalez said. “We can do a Jamaican-style jerk chicken guisado, or we can do a hot Mexican guisado with spices. ... We can do guisado with any meat, but



Jerk chicken plate with white rice and marinated onions. Courtesy photo.



Chicken teriyaki wrap. Courtesy photo.

the most popular one we have is our chopped chicken, which we cook in a sauce with onions and peppers.”

You’ll also find several types of empanadas and burritos, as well as Cubanos and fresh pressed sandwiches called “bobos” — the name, Gonzalez said, is a reference to Joseph “Bobo” Benedetti, who founded Benedetti’s Deli in Haverhill, Mass., in the early 1960s.

“I grew up literally five minutes from Benedetti’s Deli,” he said. “We’ll have massive subs, just like the ones I grew up eating.”

But Hotbox will offer more than just Spanish food — an ever-changing a la carte menu Gonzalez calls the “flip-flop” will be available to those who walk in, where you might find everything from pasta dishes to fried pork belly, half-chicken or shrimp. Once one “flip-flop” option is gone, he said, a new one will take its place.

Gonzalez said all kinds of unique dessert creations are expected too. One of the most popular options among their catering customers has been a layered “Oreo lasagna” cake.

Takeout and curbside pickup will be available, while between four and six tables will be set up in the eatery’s dining room by res-

ervation only. Up to six people per party can reserve a table.

“We’re not trying to rush you out of here. We want to have it be a very intimate experience with your party when you come in to eat,” he said. “Our plates are big, too, so there will be leftovers.”

The front of the store will look similar to that of a bodega in New York City, with a few small grocery and household items for sale, as well as marinated meats, cold cuts and more.

Hotbox will be open for lunch and dinner to start, but Gonzalez said the plan is to branch out to serving continental breakfasts, omelets, breakfast sandwiches and other similar options.

Hotbox

An opening date announcement is expected in the coming weeks. Follow them on social media for updates.

Where: 280 Main St., Manchester

Hours: TBA

More info: Find them on Facebook @hotboxlfe or email hotboxlfe@gmail.com

FOOD

Soup it up

Order now for outdoor SouperFest

By Sadie Burgess
listings@hippopress.com

Roasted Red Pepper & Butternut Squash Bisque from O Steaks & Seafood, Hungarian Mushroom Ale from the Concord Food Co-op, Smoked Brisket Chili from Georgia’s Northside — those are some of the soups on the menu for the

12th annual SouperFest, and you can only get them if you order ahead.

The event, hosted by the Concord Coalition to End Homelessness, will be held Saturday, March 20, at White Park in Concord.

In the past, Souperfest was held inside a school and brought in 800 to 1,000 attendees. Thirty-five soups were pre-

pared mostly by home chefs and served to hungry patrons.

“People just had as much soup as they wanted,” said Greg Lessard, board vice chair of the Concord Coalition to End Homelessness.

This year, eight local restaurants will be preparing the soup, which must be pre-ordered on the Concord Coalition to End

Homelessness's website, concordhomeless.org. Anyone placing an order will select a half-hour window of time to pick up their soup.

With last year's SouperFest getting canceled in March, Lessard said, soup orders are already pouring in for this year. The other five options are Pumpkin Apple Bisque from The Barley House, Clam Chowder from The Common Man, Vegetarian Chili from Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, Lentil Soup from The Works Cafe and Miso Noodle Soup from Col's Kitchen.

"It's a wonderful selection. You're hard pressed to say 'I'm only taking two of these,'" Lessard said. "The choices are so great you just can't say no."

Col's Kitchen is a new face in Concord's restaurant scene, having just opened in August. O Steaks & Seafood, meanwhile, has been participating in SouperFest since home chefs made up the bulk of the competition.

All proceeds from SouperFest will benefit the Concord Coalition to End Homelessness.

"[The Coalition] has a number of different programs that support people that are experiencing homelessness," Lessard said.

These programs include an emergency winter shelter, a resource center and more. 🍷



Hungarian Mushroom Soup from the Concord Food Co-op. Courtesy photo.

SouperFest: Hosted by Concord Coalition to End Homelessness

When: March 20, 3 to 5:30 p.m.

Where: White Park, 1 White St, Concord

More info: concordhomeless.org/souperfest-2021



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IN THE KITCHEN

WITH **BRYAN LEARY**



Bryan Leary has been the executive chef of the Oak & Grain Restaurant (Inn at Pleasant Lake, 853 Pleasant St., New London, 873-4833, innatpleasantlake.com) since early 2016. In addition to indoor dining open to the public, the Oak & Grain is now offering seasonally inspired a la carte takeout meals. Its menu options change every two to three weeks but often include locally sourced steaks, seafood, soups and appetizers. Three-course brunches are served on Sundays. A New Hampshire native, Leary has amassed experience in all kinds of cooking styles over the course of his career. He graduated from Johnson & Wales University in Rhode Island and later accepted a culinary position at the Scottsdale Fairmont Resort in Arizona. Before coming to the Inn at Pleasant Lake, he worked as a chef at The Grill Room in Portland, Maine.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

Either [a pair of] tongs, or my two-pound meat cleaver.

What would you have for your last meal?

My wife's enchiladas with charred grilled chicken, and a Coke slurpee.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

I like The Coach House in New London. I also love The Black Trumpet [Bistro in Portsmouth]. Evan [Mallett] is an incredible chef there.

What celebrity would you like to see eating at your restaurant?

Probably [New York chef] Dan Barber. He's one of my favorites. He's incredibly smart in terms of food and expanding our horizons into what we should be eating.

What is your favorite thing that you've ever featured on your menu?

I really like being able to use product to create something that's multi-faceted and just unique and different. ... So, for exam-

Continued on PG 33 ▶

Seared Canadian sea scallops and citrus-braised pork belly, with yellow curry yogurt, burnt leek puree, herbs and chicken kombu grains
From the kitchen of Bryan Leary of the Oak & Grain Restaurant, at the Inn at Pleasant Lake in New London

For the burnt leek puree:

Split a full leek down the middle. Rub with oil and burn on the grill or saute pan until black. Chop each side into quarters and place on a sheet tray. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Remove leek from the oven. Place it in a blender and puree with olive oil just until it is a smooth paste. Season with salt and a little bit of lemon juice. Set aside for plating.

- 1/2 cup salt
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup bourbon
- Pork belly

For the yellow curry yogurt:

- 1/2 cup Greek yogurt
- 1/2 tablespoon curry powder
- 1 tablespoon yellow curry juice of half a lemon

Mix ingredients together and rub on both sides of the pork belly. Place in a hotel pan, wrap and refrigerate for two days. After removing the cure, line the same hotel pan with foil and parchment paper and bake at 350 degrees for an hour and 45 minutes. Let it rest for 20 minutes, then cut up into 1-by-1-inch cubes. Set aside for plating. (Optional: For quicker time, you can use a few strips of bacon and bake at the same temperature for 17 minutes.)

Mix all ingredients together until incorporated. Set aside for plating.

For the chicken kombu:

- 1 quart chicken stock (pre-bought or homemade)
- 2 tablespoons tamari (wheat-free soy sauce)
- 1 sheet kombu seaweed
- 1 cup mixed grains (quinoa, sorghum, millet or other grain of choice)

Clean scallops under cold water, then pat dry. In a small mixing bowl, add a little oil and seasoning. Let the scallops sit at room temperature for at least 20 minutes. Add 1/2 tablespoon of oil to the pan. Carefully place scallops into the pan until golden brown, then flip and remove pan from heat. Let them sit in the pan for two minutes.

Pour chicken stock, soy sauce and kombu seaweed into a saucepan and simmer for 30 minutes.

Add a small pile of the kombu chicken stock grains in the center of the plate, followed by a few dollops of burnt leeks puree. Place a few pieces of pork belly on top of the puree. Scatter the scallops around the plate, adding a dollop of curry yogurt on top of each. Sprinkle with fresh herbs.

For the pork cure:

- Juice and zest of 1 lime, 1 orange, 2 lemons and 1 grapefruit



TRY THIS AT HOME

Triple-the-flavor coconut cookies

I love, love, love coconut in my dessert. I think it begins with the coconut-topped cakes my mom would make in the '70s. Do you remember those? (I know, I'm dating myself.)

Anyway, with this lifelong fascination for coconut desserts, I've created many a sweet treat, so it's high time that I make a cookie with those same cake-like elements. This cookie definitely has a cakey texture to it. It's a moist and dense cookie in all the right ways. It's topped with a coconut-infused glaze and finished with a generous amount of flaked coconut. Basically, it's coconut cake in a handheld package.

As a fan of coconut, I've been shocked to learn that not everyone enjoys the texture of coconut. The flavors? Yes. The texture? No. Therefore, the only flaked coconut in



Triple-the-flavor coconut cookies. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

this recipe is added as a topping, which can easily be skipped. Those people still get a double-the-flavor coconut cookie. That's OK with me — that means I have extra coconut for my part of the batch!

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

Triple-the-flavor coconut cookies

Makes 28 cookies

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 2 teaspoons coconut extract
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 1/2 cups flour

Frosting

- 2 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon coconut extract
- 1 tablespoon milk, plus extra
- Flaked coconut

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine butter and sugar in the bowl of a stand mixer. Beat for 2 minutes on speed 2 using paddle attachment. Add eggs, one at a time; mix until combined. Add yogurt and coconut extract, mixing on speed 4.

Scrape down the sides of the bowl, and mix again on speed 4 until batter is fully blended. Add baking powder, salt and flour. Mix on low.

Form dough into balls the size of a walnut. Place on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet, leaving 2 inches between cookies. Flatten balls of dough slightly. Bake for 12 minutes. (They will not be golden.) Transfer to a baking rack, and cool completely.

Make the frosting

Combine powdered sugar, coconut extract and 1 tablespoon milk; mix well. Add extra milk, 1 teaspoon at a time, until desired consistency is reached. Pour 1 cup of flaked coconut into a small bowl. Frost cookies with glaze. Dip frosted side of cookie in coconut, and return cookie to baking rack. Add extra coconut to bowl, if needed. Allow cookies to sit for 10 minutes for glaze to set.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 32

ple, we've done our own Tahitian buttermilk panna cotta from butter we make from local cream.

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

Switching to more of a family-friendly aspect in fine dining. We were strictly French service my first year here ... [but]

now the atmosphere is more easygoing and approachable.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

Barbecue food, because there's a lot of complexity that goes into it. I love ribs especially.

— Matt Ingersoll

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FOOD



Three random beers

March is unpredictable; so are these selections

By Jeff Mucciarone
food@hippopress.com

Nobody knows what the month of March is going to throw at us. Exhibit A? March 2020 brought us essentially a nationwide lockdown.

On March 1, 2020, you had no doubt heard of Covid-19 but you can't look me in the eye and say you had an inkling that in a matter of days you were headed for a full year of working from home. You could try to tell me you saw it coming but I promise you I won't believe you. OK, OK, maybe I'd believe you if you are a medical professional. But most likely you are not.

March brings us bizarre, varied and often extreme weather. It brings us one of the biggest drinking holidays of the year. It also brings us a huge college basketball tournament. Sometimes, it brings us Easter. And fun fact: The Eiffel Tower opened on March 31, 1889.

What will March 2021 bring us?

With a month that's this all-over-the-place, your beer choices are probably going to be equally random. Sometimes you get an 80-degree day in March, and that's when you cue something light and refreshing. This March opened with bitterly cold temperatures, and, in turn, I stuck with big stouts and porters. Anything and everything in between is on the table.

Here are three random beers to enjoy this March.

Lighten Up by Lithermans Limited (Concord)

This double dry hopped pale ale is bursting with citrus aroma and fresh hop flavors in, as you might expect, a pretty light package — perfect at any time. Sometimes, I find that with all the super-happy IPAs available now, just enjoying a straight pale ale can be an enlightening and delicious experience. This is basically a toned down IPA but you'd be hard-pressed to find a more pleasing hoppy beer — juicy, crisp and tasty.

Fun side note: You can download the Lithermans Limited playlist right on its website (lithermans.beer) with Spotify or iTunes and “experience the musical stylings of Lithermans from the comfort of your own home.” Maybe other brewer-



Photo courtesy of Jeff Mucciarone.

ies do this too? I don't know. But in a time where we're all still finding ways to adapt, this is just another thoughtful way to recreate “normal” for your own sanity and beer-drinking enjoyment.

Farmhouse Noir with Raspberries by Stoneface Brewing Co. (Newington)

This is a complicated, unpredictable beer, making it perfect for March. This saison is quite dark on the pour and definitely brings some richer maltiness. But at the same time it's also super bright and tart and just oozes raspberry flavor. It's a little funky, a little sweet, maybe even a little chocolatey? This beer is going to keep you on your toes. Be ready for anything.

Beamish Irish Stout by Beamish & Crawford (Cork, Ireland)

Guinness gets all the attention in the United States on Saint Patrick's Day and that's just fine with me, but there are other traditional Irish stouts that deserve your attention. The Beamish Irish Stout is a little more decadent than a Guinness with a bit more chocolate and coffee character. Yes, drink this on Saint Patrick's Day, but don't limit yourself to that single holiday. This brew is incredibly pleasing and at 4.1 ABV it is exceedingly easy to drink for even the most stout-averse beer drinkers.

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

Sam Adams Gameday Beers by Boston Beer Co. (Boston) I love a good mixed pack and Sam Adams is the first company I think of when it comes to variety packs. The Sam Adams Gameday Beers pack features four lighter brews: Boston Lager, Cold Snap White Ale, Alpine Lager, which is new, and a Golden Ale. First, I think this variety pack would be perfect for summer, as these are all lighter, easy-drinking options. All of these brews are just “beers,” and I mean that in the best kind of way. They are flavorful, crisp and refreshing, and yes, agreed, these are perfect for gameday. Cheers.

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• King Yosef and Youth

Code, *A Skeleton Key in*

the Doors of Depression

A+

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• *Raya and the Last*

Dragon A

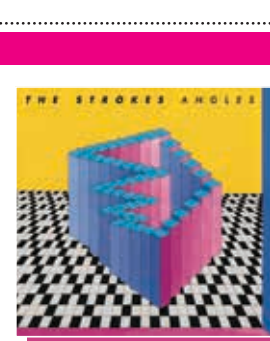


here and there. There's nothing here that has the sheer depth of Portishead, let's say that, but by the same token the songs hold their own and do aim for the same sort of broke-down subway ambiance as *Dummy*, an album that's — my stars, around 27 years old now. Much as I'd love to recommend it, then, the record seems a little, I dunno, underdone. B+ —Eric W. Saeger

King Yosef and Youth Code, *A Skeleton Key in the Doors of Depression* (self-released)

Given that I'm all up into horror-techno in general and KMFDM in particular (with caveats), I was pleasantly surprised by this collaborative EP from a trio of underground industrial/hip-hop artists. Portland, Oregon-based Yosef (real name Tayves Yosef Pelletier) has produced songs for Billboard Hot 100-charting rap artists like the late XXXTentacion and Ski Mask the Slump God, while Youth Code is a boy-girl pair-up from Los Angeles. The latter act's singer Sara Taylor is the broken-glass-gargling singer in front here, sounding every bit the Lucia Cifarelli worshipper, and maybe even better, and the grinding, crazily

angered beats are up there with Terrorfakt, if you have any idea who that is. The Skinny Puppy/Front Line Assembly cabal is big into them too; having Pelletier along to provide a little underground-rap sensibility makes this a tough one to top, I don't care who you are. When you absolutely, positively have to get everyone on Elm Street running for the safety of the shops. A+ — Eric W. Saeger



Retro Playlist

Wow, exactly (almost) 10 years ago, we had a couple of real doozies to talk about on this page, and the Playlist stuff was full of big-album news too. There was *F.A.M.E.*, the then-new LP from Rihanna's ex, Chris Brown. Ha ha, remember that one, with the song "Yeah 3X," where Brown tried super-hard to dance like Michael Jackson? Unfortunately for me, it wasn't that bad, and there wasn't even a lot of Auto-Tune on there, so I really didn't have anything bad to say about it, except for, of course, "ha ha, look, it's Chris Brown!"

Anyway, of the two albums I talked about in this space the week of March 14, 2011,

Angles, the album from The Strokes, was the biggest disappointment. Granted, the band ran into a ton of problems during the making of *Angles*, not the least of which was singer Julian Casablancas' total absence from the planning of it, but nevertheless some critics claimed to think the album was good, a "return to form" (what, they'd actually left

the form at some point?). The press's praise, I noticed, was of the sort parents gush in the direction of their kids on Christmas morning, when the little dears finally break down and put on the pink bunny pajamas Grandma sent them. But I was free. I wasn't trying to sell my opinion to Rolling Stone or Nylon editors,

so I was able to snark at will: "Five years it took these guys to barf out what amounts to *Second Impressions of Earth*? Five years?" And etc., viewer discretion advised.

Now, the other album that week, Pet Shop Boys' *The Most Incredible Thing*, was another matter entirely. "There's likely no band other than PSB,"

I blowharded back then, "more culturally credentialled and intellectually licensed to combine techno and classical toward the creation of a modern ballet, as this is — the stage production is a modernization of the Hans Christian Andersen story, which grew from his disgust with the pointless conflict of his

• The next general CD release date is this Friday, March 12, and now for a message about the rumors of my selling out to the corporate matrix! For months I've been amusing myself with a mutual dragging contest over email, with a mysterious cabal of underground-music guys, all of whom have a nicely warped sense of humor but who don't seem to understand that you can't ask for publicity in this fine upstanding newspaper while also remaining completely anonymous and — here's the key — not having an actual, official album/mixtape/EP/single available for sale (or whatever, free download, I don't care, anything that loosely resembles a finished product). In other words, to tweak the old, stale *Game Of Thrones* meme, "One does not simply send Uncle Ewic an email demanding coverage for a music release that is not a release and then spazz about the fact that he doesn't take you seriously." We'll start with Zach and Emily, an "artist-promoting" couple who, under the corporate name of **Cupcake Kamikaze**, promote bands that are, you know, *different*. When last I heard from them, they were pushing a "band of meatheads" from Maine, **The Imbosills**, which had just released *The Imbosills Sing Your Favorite Marvel Theme Songs* on YouTube only. This fine collection kicks off with some joke song about Marvel superhero Scarlet Witch, and I had to shut it off about 30 seconds in, because it sounded like two 4channers singing in joke voices over a boombox recording of a guitar riff and nothing else. They also sent along a demo of "all-disco versions" of King Crimson songs that weren't horrible, which isn't to say they were good. So there you have it, guys, whoever you are; you have officially gotten some press in the Hippo. If this is all a troll, I technically won, because you spent a lot more time making these nonsense-songs than I did writing about them. I. Win.

• There's really not a lot else to chat about this week, but we can discuss Louisiana sludge-metal band **Eyehategod**'s first LP in seven years, *A History Of Nomadic Behavior*, just so I'll have a reason to go listen to them, which I've avoided doing for years. Ah, yes, here we are, the first single, "High Risk Trigger." The band is like Crowbar with Trent Reznor singing. OK, moving along.

• Wow, more fringe-metal, might as well: it's **Rob Zombie**, with new LP *The Lunar Injection Kool Aid Eclipse Conspiracy!* I haven't cared about this dude since his "Drag-U-La" days, but maybe this is good, I'll go listen to his new song, "The Triumph of King Freak." Whoa, this is cool, an Arabian-metal trip, sort of like Ministry's "Khyber Pass" (the tune at the end of *Hurt Locker*). It is OK!

• We'll wrap up this week with alt-blues/folk singer **Valerie June**'s *The Moon And Stars: Prescriptions For Dreamers*, in specific its single, "Call Me A Fool [feat. Carla Thomas]." It's a nice little soccer mom song, sort of like "Blue Bayou," a decent vehicle for June's Kate Havnevik-ish sour-pickle voice. Norah Jones fans would like this I think. — Eric W. Saeger



own time, the Franco-Prussian War." Yes, it was a technopop/classical "soundtrack" album of sorts, from, yes, the same guys whose first hit single, "West End Girls," substantially lowered the bar for pop music in 1984. My, what a terrific band those guys grew up to be, really.

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

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BOOK NOTES

It seems strange for a book to come out first in paperback, but that's the format for the new Stephen King thriller *Later* (Hard Case Crime, 272 pages), released last week.

A limited-edition, collectible hardcover is promised for the future, but for now paperback is your only option because like two previous King novels (*The Colorado Kid* and *Joyland*) *Later* was written for Hard Case Crime, a throwback to pocket-sized novels published in the middle of the 20th century.

The venture, the publishers say, “is dedicated to reviving the vigor and excitement, the suspense and thrills — the sheer entertainment — of the golden age of paperback crime novels.” King’s new book, like the others, is also distinguished by an original painting made for the cover.

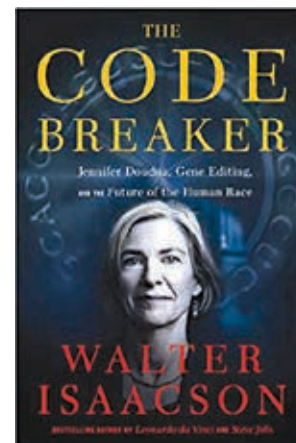
The novel may have a 1950ish look, but the narrative is more late '90s. That's because the story involves an 8-year-old boy who can see and converse with the dead, a la the 1999 film *The Sixth Sense*, which King acknowledges in the book, saying the ability is “not like in that movie with Bruce Willis.”

Other authors in the series — which, we must presume, are primarily targeted at men because of the scantily clothed women on most of the cover art — include Joyce Carol Oates, film director Brian DePalma (writing with Susan Lehman), the late Ray Bradbury and the late Donald Westlake. See more at hardcasecrime.com.

For those who prefer their thrillers to be nonfiction, check out *The Code Breaker* by Walter Isaacson, out this week (Simon & Schuster, 560 pages). It's about how Nobel Prize winner Jennifer Doudna came to crack the code of genetics with what is known as CRISPR technology.

Like his subject, Isaacson, now a history professor at Tulane University, is the sort of person who exists to make the rest of us slackers feel badly about our life choices. Previously chairman of CNN and editor of Time magazine, he's written seven other acclaimed books, including biographies of Leonardo da Vinci, Steve Jobs, Albert Einstein, Henry Kissinger and Benjamin Franklin.

— Jennifer Graham



Books

Author events

- **ELLIOT ACKERMAN & ADMIRAL JAMES STAVRIDIS** Authors present 2034. Virtual livestream hosted by The Music Hall in Portsmouth. 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 \$49.95).
- **MICHAEL TOUGIAS** Author of *The Waters Between Us* presents. Virtual, via Zoom. Part of Concord's Walker Lecture Series. Wed., April 7, 7:30 p.m. Free. Call 333-0035 or visit walkerlecture.org.

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- **DOWN CELLAR POETRY SALON** Poetry event series presented by the Poetry Society of New Hampshire. Monthly. First Sunday. Visit poetrysocietynh.wordpress.com.

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Raya and the Last Dragon (PG)

Awkwafina voices a dragon and Kelly Marie Tran voices a warrior in *Raya and the Last Dragon*, a beautifully animated Disney movie in theaters and available via Disney+.

Similar to *Mulan*, this movie is available for an extra fee to Disney+ subscribers: \$29.99 to see the movie before it becomes available to all subscribers on May 4. The fee allows you to watch it as many times as you like, something my kids took full advantage of this weekend.

The movie is set in the fictional land Kumandra, which feels like it is to Southeast Asia what *Frozen*'s Arendelle is to northern Europe. As Raya (voice of Tran) explains, Kumandra was once a land of harmony and dragons. But smoke creatures called the Druun sucked away much of the life from the land and turned people and dragons to stone. Sisu (voice of Awkwafina), the final dragon, used the last of her powers to create a gem that was able to banish the Druun and un-stone the people — but not the dragons.

The people responded to this brush with annihilation by fighting with each other over the gem and breaking into five kingdoms — Fang, Talon, Spine, Tail and Heart. Heart guarded the dragon gem, which caused mistrust in the other four kingdoms, who were constantly at odds with each other.

Thus is the state of things for centuries until Heart's Chief Benja (voice of Daniel Dae Kim) tries to get all the kingdoms to come together. He has trained his daughter, Raya, to be a warrior who protects the dragon gem but also has tried to convince her that a rebuilding of trust between the five groups is necessary for the long-term survival of all people.

Naturally, Raya's first attempts at trust — she thinks she's found a friend in fellow



Raya and the Last Dragon (PG)

dragon-fan Namaari (voice of Gemma Chan), the daughter of Fang leader Virana (voice of Sandra Oh) — do not go great. The dragon gem is cracked (with each group grabbing a piece) and the Druun are set loose upon the land again (and return to their turning-people-into-stone ways). Raya ends up on her own, out in the wilderness. (Raya and Namaari are maybe tweens or young teens during this flashback and six years older during the movie's present day.)

After years of questing, Raya finds Sisu, who reawakens and admits that while she may be the "last" dragon she wasn't really the "best" dragon, skills-wise. Raya and Sisu decide to undertake another quest: to find the pieces of the dragon gem, each of which contains a magical power from Sisu's more powerful siblings, and bring them together to give Sisu the power to defeat the Druun (and bring back the people and dragons turned to stone and just generally save the world). Along the way, Raya gathers

a crew: kid chef Boun (voice of Izaac Wang), baby pickpocket Noi (voice of Thalia Tran) and her hench-monkeys, and Spine warrior Tong (voice of Benedict Wong). Trailing this group are Namaari and her army. Fang is very determined to pursue a dragon-gem-as-deterrent-weapon policy and seeks to control more of the gem pieces.

Raya and the Last Dragon is absolutely beautiful to look at with some lovely world-establishing in its creatures (the colorful dragons, Raya's armadillo-y pet), in its landscapes (which vary by kingdom), and in its mythology. Disney animation continues to wow with how it executes little details, such as how it renders water (which here behaves in all sorts of magical ways around dragons and their power). There is also something very Marvel-esque in the way it presents some of the action and the establishing shots, and in how the team came together (I got some serious *Guardians of the Galaxy* vibes at times).

The score is also very beautiful with melodies that really add some extra oomph to more emotional moments. This movie just missed this 2020's Oscar contention cutoff (extended until Feb. 28 for the April awards) but I fully expect both this movie and its score to be in serious awards consideration next year.

I saw this movie several times throughout the weekend and while my initial reaction was to wonder if all the questing and history of Kumandra crowded the characters and their emotional arcs, I found that I appreciated this movie's story-telling and rich world-building more with each viewing. These are solid characters; Raya, Sisu (who is sometimes a dragon and sometimes an Awkwafina-esque human) and Namaari all get interesting arcs that help examine the movie's themes of trust and how a society at odds can find a way to work for the greater good and the difficulties of doing so. (Add this movie to the list of movies bringing me back to *The Good Place* and its "what we owe to each other" ruminations.) Even the supporting players (the con-artist baby and her monkeys, the Drax-like Tong, the cautious Virana) get enough space to add something to the emotional fabric of the story. It's sophisticated stuff — delivered with visuals that look great no matter the size of the screen you're seeing them on and in a kid-friendly way with the right amount of funny baby and animal antics. **A**

Rated PG for some violence, action and thematic elements, according to the MPA on [filmratings.com](https://www.filmratings.com). Directed by Don Hall and Carlos Lopez Estrada and co-directed by Paul Briggs and John Ripa with a screenplay by Qui Nguyen & Adele Lim, *Raya and the Last Dragon* is an hour and 47 minutes long and distributed by Walt Disney Studios. It is available for an extra fee on Disney+ and in theaters. 🍷

AT THE SOFAPLEX

The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge on the Run (PG)

Voices of Tom Kenny, Bill Fagerbakke.

SpongeBob and Patrick — and then eventually all their buddies from Bikini Bottom — go to the "lost city of Atlantic City" to confront Poseidon and rescue

SpongeBob's pet snail Gary in this new animated movie. *Sponge on the Run* is delightful, if a bit more violent than you might want for your youngest Nick viewers (SpongeBob's pending execution is a significant plot point in the movie's

back-half). But the animation has a nice bit of Play-Doh-like roundedness and a generally cheery color scheme. There are some delightful cameos (particularly during a weird detour where animated characters wander into a live-action-ish set-

ting) and general goofy humor both visually and in the dialogue that make this movie a fun bit of silliness for adults as well as for kids, say, middle-elementary and up. **B** Available on Paramount+.

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POP CULTURE FILMS

Moxie (PG-13)

Hadley Robinson, Lauren Tsai.

Rounding out the teen cast, Alycia Pascual-Peña, Nico Hiraga, Josie Totah, Sabrina Haskett, Sydney Park, Anjelika Washington and Patrick Schwarzenegger. Adults include Ike Barinholtz, Marcia Gay Harden and Amy Poehler, who also directed the movie based on the YA novel by Jennifer Mathieu.

Vivian (Robinson), daughter to single mom Lisa (Poehler), keeps her head down in high school and dreams of graduating and escaping, with best friend Claudia (Tsai), to the safety of a college science lab. But then outspoken new girl Lucy (Pascual-Peña) has Vivian reconsidering her passive reaction to the jerky and predatory behavior of school bully/star football player Mitchell (Schwarzenegger) and her school's general discriminatory approach to

girls versus permissiveness toward the school's boys. Full of her mom's good-ole-days memories of riot grrrl bands and patriarchy-fighting protests, Vivian pastes together a zine called *Moxie*, dropping 50 copies in the girls' bathrooms. The zine spurs the girls to stand up for themselves and each other, but Vivian's newfound zeal also causes a rift with her friend Claudia.

I mean, we can quibble about whether schools today are this laissez faire about very menacing bullies or if it's really all that cool that high school girls need to resort to vaguely-*Handmaid's Tale*-ish secret signals of support for each other but — *Moxie* is adorable. I don't know how it reads to actual teens; from my vantage point this movie feels like mom wish-fiction about what you want your teen daughter's life to be like. The girls here are rallied by a zine, love 1990s girl rock and

social media is just a thing that exists at the margins. You (by which I mean me) want your daughter to feel empowered, not really have to deal with social media all that much, find support from fellow empowered girls, have honest conversations about different life experiences with friends and meet a boy who is genuinely respectful and supportive. And you (by which I mean me) want her to like awesome music that you will also turn up and embarrassingly mom-dance to, like the soundtrack to this movie (which doesn't appear to be available yet as a purchase-able album but song lists exist all over the internet; time to make a mixtape!). Does this movie provide the same hit of Gen-X nostalgia as the *Listen to Sassy* podcast and the *Real World* season one reunion? Why yes it does! Now who's up for starting a zine? **B Available on Netflix.**

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Sincerely,

Jody Reese
Hippo Publisher



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By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Mainstay:** As his band Truffle marks 35 years together, front man **Dave Gerard** performs solo as he waits for the regional club scene to flower again. Truffle is perhaps the longest-running band in New Hampshire, a constant presence. The secret? “We keep writing music and bring back things we haven’t done in a while,” Gerard said once. “We’re always blowing the rust off of something and changing up the set list.” Friday, March 12, 8 p.m., Telly’s Restaurant & Pizzeria, 235 Calef Highway, Epping, 679-8225.

• **Interplay:** Always a fun evening of music and comedy shaped by audience participation, **Dueling Pianos** is served up in Celtic green with a side of shamrock for a St. Patrick’s Day themed performance. The formula is simple: Two piano players play requests dropped in a tip jar — and occasionally pre-empt a song when someone’s friend outbids, say, “She’s Got A Way” into silence (or, in this case, “Danny Boy”). Friday, March 12, 8 p.m., Chunky’s Cinema & Pub, 151 Coliseum Ave, Nashua, \$20 at chunkys.com.

• **Countrified:** In the early days of the pandemic lockdown, **Maddi Ryan** hosted weekly Couch Sessions with drummer and guitarist Charles Greenwood, playing everything from Dolly Parton to Buffalo Springfield, along with many of her own twanged-up originals. She and Greenwood are playing out again, Friday, March 12, 8 p.m., Bonfire Restaurant & Country Bar, 950 Elm St., Manchester, facebook.com/MaddiRyanMusic.

• **Reunited:** Even a three-fifths JamAntics reunion is cause to celebrate, as **The Special Guests** — guitarist Lucas Gallo, bass player Eric Reingold and singing drummer Masceo — perform in the Capital City’s own cellarful of noise. The power trio promises a musical stew of rock, blues and funk, an extension of the genre-bending, “high energy, tasty licks” jammy, jazz-inflected sound the band established its reputation with in the late Zeroes. Saturday, March 13, 8 p.m., Penuche’s Ale House, 16 Bicentennial Square, Concord, 228-9833. 🍷

NITE Elemental

Ryan Montbleau unveils first of four new EPs

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

On the first track of his latest record, Ryan Montbleau celebrates imperfection. “If things don’t have to be perfect, it’s a lot easier for them to be right,” Montbleau sings, quoting his therapist.

There’s a lot of self-care on the new EP *Wood*, the first in a series to be followed by *Fire*, *Water* and *Air*. Montbleau tends to look on the bright side of things, like his upcoming gig at Portsmouth’s Music Hall on March 19. True, social distancing rules will reduce crowd size, but performing in the storied Historic Theatre instead of the smaller Loft space is a big plus.

“I’ve always wanted to play there; all it took was them limiting capacity to 20 percent,” Montbleau said with a laugh in a recent phone interview.

Similarly, the Massachusetts-born singer-songwriter managed to turn his pandemic year into a growth experience.

“It kind of sped up the process of life,” he said. “It’s weird, but in some ways I’ve almost never been happier.”

Montbleau purchased his first house, in Burlington, Vermont. He took piano lessons, did weekly Facebook Live sets and the odd solo gig, and appeared on a local music talk show.

“I’ve been very lucky through all this; it’s kind of allowed me to stay in one place for once and start to build a home life,” he said.

Spotify and other streaming services provided a cushion as well.

“I’ve been building this thing for 20 years, and I don’t have to tour my face off like I used to,” he said.

One bit of good fortune: He completed the basic tracks for the new music in summer 2019, playing with a rotating cast that included jazz jam legend Martin Medeski. Montbleau worked with producer Adam Landry (Deer Tick, Rayland Baxter) at Guil-

ford Studio in southern Vermont.

“I had just amazing people coming in and out,” he said. “Turning it into a record [is] what’s taken the last year and a half ... a lot of tweaking, taking things out and putting them in.”

He divided the collection’s 15 tracks into four themes. *Wood* is rustic and down to earth, while *Fire* rocks hard. *Water* is calm, reflective, with songs inspired by time Montbleau spent doing medicine work in Peru.

“I would sit in the jungle in a tent for 10 days and work with different plants,” he said, calling the experience “pretty life-altering. ... It points you in a different direction. ... I feel like some of those songs were gifts; that’s why they ended up on *Water*.”

The final chapter, *Air*, offers a sense of closure and peace. It ends with “The Dust” and Montbleau singing, “just know that you are not alone, and that’s all you get to know now.”

Wood, *Fire*, *Water* and *Air*’s songs reflect a long and sometimes difficult period for Montbleau.

“My old band split up around 2013 and I lost my management at the time; I had a long relationship end and I’d been on the road for 10 years,” he said. “I had a lot of growing to do. Since then, I’ve been searching for who I am, how to heal and how to be better.”

Wood was scheduled to be released on March 12; the others are expected to arrive over the next three to four months.

The just-released EP includes the charming “Ankles,” an autobiographical song that touches upon his first tour, where he suffered a burst appendix and a busted van. Montbleau soldiered on in spite of that nightmare, becoming a festival staple along the way.

“If I could survive this, I could survive anything,” he decided.

“On the road I found my muses, off the road I lost my mind,” he sings, concluding with, “off the road I lost my uses, on the road



Ryan Montbleau. Photo by Shervin Lainez.

I found my shine.” For most touring musicians, Montbleau explained, standing still is where the trouble begins.

It’s also where his growth had to start.

“You get so used to being on stage and having people appreciate what you do... when you get home finally and you’re just sitting alone in a room, it’s really daunting,” he said. “What is my purpose? What are my uses? Back on the road, I would find my shine under the lights, and find my purpose again. So I think the years leading up to now have been me digging deep and figuring out who I am, and who I was before I started doing this.” 🍷

An Evening With Ryan Montbleau

When: Friday, March 19, 8 p.m.

Where: The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth

Tickets: \$38 at themusicHall.org

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MUSIC THIS WEEK

<p>Auburn Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road 622-6564</p> <p>Auburn Tavern 346 Hooksett Road 587-2057</p> <p>Bedford Bedford Village Inn 2 Olde Bedford Way 472-2001</p> <p>Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677</p> <p>Murphy's Carriage House 393 Route 101 488-5875</p> <p>Bow Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508</p> <p>Bristol Kathleen Irish Pub 90 Lake St. 744-6336</p> <p>Brookline The Alamo Texas Barbecue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000</p>	<p>Chichester Flannel Tavern 345 Suncook Valley Road 406-1196</p> <p>Concord Area 23 State Street 881-9060</p> <p>Cheers 17 Depot St. 228-0180</p> <p>Concord Craft Brewing 117 Storrs St. 856-7625</p> <p>Penuche's Ale House 16 Bicentennial Square 228-9833</p> <p>Deerfield The Lazy Lion 4 North Road</p> <p>Dover SmuttLabs 47 Washington St. 343-1782</p> <p>Epping The Community Oven 24 Calef Hwy. 734-4543</p>	<p>Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225</p> <p>Exeter Sawbelly Brewing 156 Epping Road 583-5080</p> <p>Sea Dog Brewery 9 Water St.</p> <p>Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230</p> <p>Hampton Community Oven 845 Lafayette Road 601-6311</p> <p>CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972</p> <p>The Galley Hatch (Tino's Kitchen is upstairs) 325 Lafayette Road 926-6152</p> <p>The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928</p>	<p>Logan's Run 816 Lafayette Road 926-4343</p> <p>Shane's BBQ 61 High St. 601-7091</p> <p>Smuttynose Brewing 105 Towle Farm Road</p> <p>Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954</p> <p>WHYM Craft Pub & Brewery 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801</p> <p>Hudson The Bar 2B Burnham Road</p> <p>Luk's Bar & Grill 142 Lowell Road 889-9900</p> <p>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962</p> <p>Laconia 405 Pub & Grille 405 Union St.</p>	<p>Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100</p> <p>Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022</p> <p>Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210</p> <p>Loudon Hungry Buffalo 58 Route 129 798-3737</p> <p>Manchester Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545</p> <p>Bonfire 950 Elm St. 663-7678</p> <p>Cercle National Club 550 Rockland Ave. 623-8243</p> <p>Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880</p> <p>The Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925</p> <p>Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022</p>	<p>Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St. 644-3535</p> <p>South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947</p> <p>Strange Brew 88 Market St. 666-4292</p> <p>Thirsty Moose Tap-house 795 Elm St. 792-2337</p> <p>Meredith Hart's Turkey Farm 223 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-6212</p> <p>Twin Barns Brewing 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876</p> <p>Merrimack Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022</p> <p>Moultonborough Buckey's 240 Governor Wentworth Hwy. 476-5485</p> <p>Nashua American Social Club 166 Daniel Webster Hwy. 255-8272</p>	<p>Casey McGee's Irish Pub 8 Temple St. 484-7400</p> <p>Fratello's Italian Grille 194 Main St. 889-2022</p> <p>Liquid Therapy 14 Court St. 402-9391</p> <p>Peddler's Daughter 48 Main St. 821-7535</p> <p>New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362</p> <p>Newmarket Stone Church 5 Granite St. 659-7700</p> <p>Portsmouth The Gas Light 64 Market St. 430-9122</p> <p>Gibb's Garage Bar 3612 Lafayette Rd.</p> <p>The Goat 142 Congress St. 590-4628</p> <p>The Stately Bar & Grill 238 Deer St. 431-4357</p>	<p>Thirsty Moose Tap-house 21 Congress St. 427-8645</p> <p>Rochester Mitchell Hill BBQ Grill & Brew 50 N. Main St. 332-2537</p> <p>Porter's Pub 19 Hanson St. 330-1964</p> <p>Salem The Colosseum Restaurant 264 N. Broadway 898-1190</p> <p>Copper Door 41 S. Broadway 458-2033</p> <p>Jocelyn's Lounge 355 South Broadway 870-0045</p> <p>Seabrook Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706</p> <p>Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road 760-0030</p> <p>Stratham Tailgate Tavern 28 Portsmouth Ave. 580-2294</p>
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Thursday, March 11
Brookline
Alamo: Matt Borrello, 4:30 p.m.

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

Dover
SmuttLabs: trivia night, 6 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Dave Gerard, 7 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbelly: Van Taylor, 5 p.m.
Sea Dog: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Chad LaMarsh, 6 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Jodee Frawlee, 7 p.m.

Hampton
CR's: Rico Barr Duo, 6 p.m.

Manchester
Cercle National Club: April Cushman, 7:30 p.m.
Derryfield: Game Time Trivia, 7 p.m.
Fratello's: Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.

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

Merrimack
Homestead: Malcolm Salls, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
Fratello's: Ted Solo, 5:30 p.m.
Liquid Therapy: trivia, 7:30 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Michael Wingate, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gibb's Garage: Game Time Trivia, 8 p.m.
The Goat: Emily Rae, 9 p.m.

Rochester
Lilac City Grille: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.
Mitchell BBQ: Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.

Seabrook
Red's: Alex Anthony, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 12
Brookline
Alamo: Mike Preston, 4:30 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: swapping sets, Lucas Gallo & Masceo Williams, 7 p.m.
Cheers: team trivia, 8:30 p.m.

Deerfield
Lazy Lion: White Dog Duo, 5 p.m.

Dover
SmuttLabs: music bingo, 6 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Tim Theriault, 8 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbelly: Elijah Clark, 5 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Justin Jordan, 6 p.m.

Hampton
CR's: Rico Barr Duo, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.
Logan's Run: live music, 8 p.m.
Shane's BBQ: Dave Corson, 6 p.m.
Wally's: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.
WHYM: Emily Rae Shively, 5 p.m.

Hudson
The Bar: 2 of Us, 7 p.m.

Laconia
The 405: Max Sullivan, 7 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Ted Solo, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Chris Perkins, 8 p.m.

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Dan Walker, 6 p.m.
Bonfire: Maddi Ryan, 9 p.m.
Derryfield: Alex Roy, 7:30 p.m.
Foundry: Josh Foster, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Tim Kierstead, 5:30 p.m.

South Side: Maven Jamz, 8 p.m.

Meredith
Twin Barns: Sweetbloods, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Jeff Mrozek, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
American Social Club: Pete Peterson, 8 p.m.
Fratello's: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.
Peddler's Daughter: Vere Hill, 8 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's: Jodee Frawlee, 6:30 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Joel Cage, 6 p.m.

Pittsfield
Main Street Grill & Bar: Chris Bonoli, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Fil Pacino, 9 p.m.

Rochester
Porter's Pub: Paul Lussier, 6:30 p.m.

Salem
Jocelyn's: live music, 6 p.m.

Seabrook
Chop Shop: MoneyKat, 7 p.m.
Red's: Michael Troy, 8 p.m.

Stratham
Tailgate Tavern: Rich Amorim, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 13
Bedford
BVI: Ryan Williamson, 11 a.m.

Bow
Chen Yang Li: Mikey G, 7 p.m.

Bristol
Kathleen: Colm O'Brien, 6 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: Travis Rollo, 4:30 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: Saturday jam with Crazy Steve, 1 p.m.; Colby Priest, 7 p.m.; Spain Bros. pre-St. Paddy's warm up, 8 p.m.
Concord Craft Brewing: Senie Hunt, 4 p.m.
Penuche's Ale House: The Special Guests, 8 p.m.

Deerfield
Lazy Lion: Chris Torrey, 5 p.m.

Music plays on

These listings for live music are compiled from press releases, restaurants' websites and social media and artists' websites and social media. Call the venue to check on special rules and reservation instructions — and you may want to double check before you head out for the evening, as cancellations for weather or virus concerns are not uncommon. Get your gigs listed by sending information to music@hippopress.com.

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Epping

Telly's: Brian Johnson, 8 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Aaron Denny, 1 p.m.;
Tombstone, 5 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Brother Seamus,
6 p.m.

Hampton

The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.
Shane BBQ: Brian Walker, 6 p.m.
Wally's: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
WHYM: Eric Grant, 5 p.m.

Hudson

The Bar: Dan Carter, 7 p.m.

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Joe McDonald, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Joanie Ciatelli, 8 p.m.

Manchester

Backyard Brewery: Walker Smith, 6 p.m.
Derryfield: Justin Jordan, 7:30 p.m.
Foundry: April Cushman, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Dave Zangri, 5:30 p.m.
South Side Tavern: Jonny Friday, 8 p.m.

Meredith

Twin Barns: music bingo, 6 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua

Fratello's: Andrew Geaon, 5:30 p.m.
Liquid Therapy: Andrew Emmanuel, 6 p.m.

New Boston

Molly's Tavern: Robert Allwarden, 6:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Marble Eyes, 2 p.m.; Sneaky Miles, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Brett Wilson (of Roots of Creation), 9 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Steve Burke, 9 p.m.

Rochester

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

Salem

Colosseum: Vere Hill, 6 p.m.

Seabrook

Chop Shop: Fast Times, 6:30 p.m. (80s tribute)
Red's: Abraxas (Carlos Santana tribute), 8 p.m.

Sunday, March 14

Bedford

Copper Door: Phil Jakes, 11 a.m.

Bristol

Kathleen Irish Pub: Anthony Santoro, 2 p.m. (traditional Irish music)
Brookline
Alamo: Brad Bosse, 4:30 p.m.

Chichester

Flannel Tavern: John Farese, 4 p.m. (acoustic)

Exeter

Sawbelly: Frankie & Johnnie, afternoon

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Bob Pratte, 3:30 p.m.

Hampton

WHYM: Max Sullivan, noon

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Video Music Bingo, 5 p.m.

Nashua

Casey McGee's: Steve DeLuca, 1 p.m. (Irish music)

Newmarket

Stone Church: Brunch with Chris O'Neil, 10 a.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Salem

Copper Door: Nate Comp, 11 a.m.

Monday, March 15

Manchester

Fratello's: Matt Luneau, 5:30 p.m.
Wild Rover: trivia, 8 p.m.

Merrimack

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

Nashua

Fratello's: Chris Lester, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth

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

Seabrook

Red's: trivia, 9 p.m.

Tuesday, March 16

Hampton

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

Manchester

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

Merrimack

Homestead: Clint Lapointe, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua

Fratello's: Jeff Mrozek, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.

Wednesday, March 17

Auburn

Auburn Tavern: live Irish music, 6 p.m.

Bedford

Copper Door: Jodee Frawlee, 3 p.m.
Murphy's: Brad Bosse, 11 a.m.; Steve DeLuca, noon p.m. (Irish music); Cam McMaster Irish Trio, 4 p.m.

Bristol

Kathleen Irish Pub: Irish music led by Noah Jacobs throughout afternoon & evening

Brookline

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

Chichester

Flannel Tavern: open mic music all day for St. Patrick's day

Concord

Area 23: open mic night, 7 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Chad Verbeck, 3 p.m.

Hampton

Community Oven: Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.
SmuttyLabs: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m. (open mic)
Wally's: Chris Toler, 7 p.m.

Kingston

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

Laconia

Tower Hill: Jodie Cunningham, 7 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Pete Peterson, 5 p.m.

Manchester

Derryfield: Eric Grant, 6 p.m.

Fratello's: Ryan Williamson, 5:30 p.m.

Murphy's: Mark Lapointe, 8 a.m.; Sean Dennehy, 11:30 a.m.; Rebel Collective, 3 p.m.; Dancing Madly Backwards, 7 p.m.

South Side Tavern: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.

Strange Brew Tavern: live music in the afternoon and evening

Meredith

Twin Barns: trivia night, 6 p.m.

Merrimack

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

Nashua

Casey McGee's: Steve DeLuca, 5:30 p.m. (Irish music)
Fratello's: Chris Cavanaugh, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Zach Frederick, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.

Salem

Copper Door: Austin McCarthy, 3 p.m.
Jocelyn's: live music for St. Patrick's Day, 5 p.m.

Thursday, March 18

Brookline

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

Concord

Area 23: Lance Drops the Bass, 7:30 p.m.
Penuche's: open mic with Brian Burnout, 8 p.m.

Epping

Telly's: Emily Rae Shively, 7 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.
Sea Dog: Elijah Clark, 5 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

Hampton

CR's: Ross McGinnes, 6 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Johnny Angel, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Cercle National Club: Justin Jordan, 7:30 p.m.
Fratello's: Chris Lester, 5:30 p.m.

Meredith

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

Merrimack

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

Nashua

Fratello's: Jessica Olson, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: George Brown, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth

Gibb's Garage: Game Time Trivia, 8 p.m.
The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.

Rochester

Mitchell BBQ: Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.

Seabrook

Red's: Max Sullivan, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 13, 5 p.m., virtual concert via Cap Center

- **Virtual Ireland with Michael Londra** Saturday, March 13, 7 p.m., virtual concert via Cap Center
- **Rhythm of the Dance** Sunday, March 14, 2 p.m. and Saturday, March 20, at 7 p.m., virtual concert via Cap Center
- **Dwight Yoakam: One Time Live** performing entire albums: *Hillbilly Deluxe*, Sunday, March 14, 9 p.m.; *Buenas Noches from A Lonely Room*, Sunday, March 21, 9 p.m., virtual live concert via Cap Center

- **Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival (Virtual)** via the Music Hall on Thursday, March 11, \$15 for 3-day rental, \$28 for 14-day rental.
- **The Bride's Play** (1922) silent film featuring Marion Davies accompanied by live music performed by Jeff Rapsis screens on Sunday, March 14, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre. Admission is free but a \$10 donation is suggested.

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Venues

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

Chunky's

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

Dana Center

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

The Flying Monkey

39 Main St., Plymouth
536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com

The Music Hall

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org

Stone Church

Newmarket, 659-7700, stonechurchrocks.com

Tupelo Music Hall

10 A St., Derry, 437-5100, tupelomusic-hall.com

Shows

• **Robbie Printz** Chunky's Pelham, Friday, March 12, 8 p.m.
• **St. Paddy's Dueling Pianos Live!** on Friday, March 12, at 8 p.m. at Chunky's in Nashua, and Saturday, March 13, 8 p.m., at Chunky's in Manchester and Pel-

ham. Admission costs \$20 per person.

• **Will Noonan** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, March 12, and Saturday, March 13, at 8 p.m.

• **Mike Hanley** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, March 12, and Saturday, March 13, at 8 p.m.

• **Stone Church Comedy Series presented by Day Break Comedy** Stone Church, Saturday, March 13, 8 p.m.
• **Saint Patrick's Day Comedy and Dance Spectacular** Music Hall, Saturday, March 13, at 8 p.m.

• **Chris Smither** Saturdays, March 13, 20, and 27, at 8:30 p.m., virtual via the Cap Center

• **She the People — The Second City** virtual show via the Cap Center, Thursday, March 18, and Friday, March 19, at 8 p.m. and Saturday, March 20, at 4 p.m.

• **Justin Willman** of *Magic for Humans*, The Music Hall, Saturday, March 27, 8 p.m.

• **Bob Marley** Dana Center, Friday, April 2, at 5:30 & 8 p.m. and Saturday, April 3, at 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.

• **Bob Marley** Flying Monkey, Saturday, April 10, 2:30, 5:30 & 8:30 p.m.

• **Kevin James** Cap Center, Saturday, May 22, 7:30 p.m.

Concerts

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

Film

Venues

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

The Music Hall

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org

Palace Theatre

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

- **An Evening at the Opera** Friday, March 12, 7 p.m., virtual via the Palace
- **Karan Casey** Friday, March 12, 7:30 p.m., virtual via Dana Center
- **Adam Ezra Group** Friday, March 12, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio** Friday, March 12, 8 p.m., virtual concert via Cap Center
- **We Banjo 3: Live from Ireland**

Red River Theatres

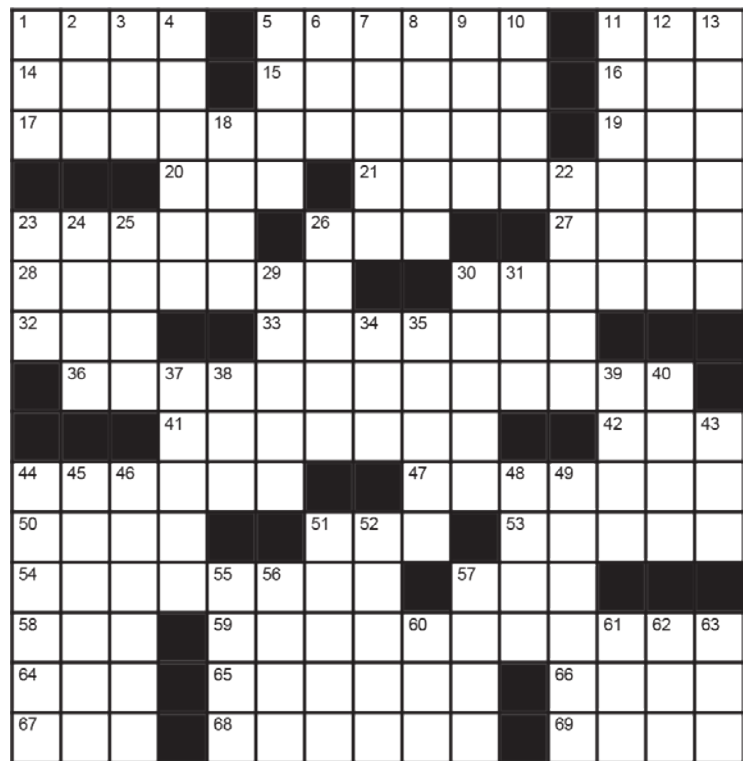
11 S. Main St., Concord
224-4600, redrivertheatres.org

Wilton Town Hall Theatre

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

- **Labyrinth 21+ Trivia Night** on Thursday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester. \$4.99.

NOW THAT YOUR ROSE IS IN BLOOM



- feel like ___" (1,2)
 3. Guitar luthier/inventor Paul
 4. Limp Bizkit wants to '___ Alive' (3,3)
 5. Buys ticket or does this
 6. 'Schubert Dip' Brits
 7. Duke Ellington 'Just Squeeze Me (But Please Don't ___ Me)'
 8. Like uber-wealthy star
 9. Simons of Girls@Play
 10. TX guitar prodigy Doug
 11. Nell Carter sang the 'Gimme ___' theme song (1,5)
 12. He lugs the gear
 13. These beauties star in videos
 18. Build ___ Buttercup (2,2)
 22. 'Plagues' The Devil Wears ___
 23. James Taylor 'Long ___ & Far Away'
 24. Like fit star for photo shoot
 25. 'Ride The Tiger' ___ Teng (2,2)
 26. P!nk '___ Me Alone (I'm Lonely)'
 29. Dolly Parton '___ Always Love You' (1,4)
 30. Kim Carnes sang of this 'Davis'
 31. Legendary Boston venue Rathskeller, for short
 34. Ronin album about Irish actor Stephen?
 35. Blue Rodeo said it just '___ Hit Me Yet'
 37. Like feeling you get w/no mosh pit
 38. Cook of Creedence Clearwater Revival
 39. Become frozen w/stage fright (w/'up")

40. Elvis, aka
 43. Robbie Williams 'The ___ Has Landed'
 44. Godflesh '___ Lit Only By Fire' (1,5)
 45. Music shop will do this to your hurt axe
 46. Like up and coming image
 48. Madonna movie '___ That Girl'
 49. Like sized-up for a Grammy tux

51. Pioneering IN Christian rockers
 52. Judy Garland was in ___ Is Born (1,4)
 55. Actress Kendrick that has a soprano voice
 56. 'Undertow' prog rockers
 57. Tom Petty was on 'Needles & ___'
 60. Zoëy Deschanel band She & ___
 61. Coasters caught 'Poison ___'
 62. 'Singularity' band named after actress West?
 63. Seal "If their world should ___ they won't care about that anyway"

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Across

1. Mother Mother had a 'Burning' one that was stacked up
 5. Cetera & Frampton
 11. You hold it up to make a fist
 14. Speck of a song or this
 15. Joni Mitchell song about aviator Earhart?
 16. Disapproval sound
 17. Seal song for going to the dark side? (4,2,5)
 19. Like cool riff, slang
 20. Jon Anderson 'Time And A Word' band
 21. Mass impulse crowd sprint
 23. Seal "When I look ____, you get me" (2,3)
 26. Tommy of Mötley Crüe
 27. Ozzy might go off one on a train
 28. Female backstage follower
 30. '84 John Waite album 'No ___'
 32. Give Me ___ In My Lamp
 33. Label for an explosive device?
 36. 'Mezzanine' electronica group (7,6)
 41. The 88 shrugged and sang '___ It Was Here' (2,5)
 42. Seal sang of 'The Way' he tells an untruth or this
 44. '75 self-titled album '___ Dodger'
 47. '09 Them Crooked Vultures single (3,4)
 50. Barbra Streisand 'The Way We ___'
 51. Smear of Nirvana
 53. REO Speedwagon 'Don't Let ___' (3,2)
 54. Soundguy does this with the board
 57. '02 Rainbow comp '___ Of Gold'
 58. What Flock Of Seagulls did
 59. Kate Bush song for allowing no more? (3,4,4)
 64. Ambient duo Stars Of The

65. Blind Melon smash (2,4)
 66. Dando of The Lemonheads
 67. Like free of rain at fest
 68. Might set a bunch to wake and make show
 69. Hippie shirt: Tie-___

Down

1. John Lydon post-Sex Pistols band
 2. Seal "Can't explain myself why I

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four mammals starting with S
 Four military ranks
 Four words ending with IRE
 Two neighboring countries
 Ganymede orbits it

Last Week's Answers: CACTUS FAMOUS BONUS MINUS BOGUS FOCUS PLUS OPUS / GOLD GONE GOOD GOAL / TEXAS MAINE IDAHO / AMPLE / KOALA

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

KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

2÷		2-	
3-	1-		1
	12X		2÷
3	3+		

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CHALLENGING

3÷	6X	8+		1-	
		5-		4-	
2÷			11+	1-	3+
20X		3-			
3-	4-		3÷		3-
		24X			

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RULES

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
- Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

1-	2	3	3+	1	12X	4
7+	4	1	2	3		
	3	2	4	1		
1	1	4	3	2		

20X	2	5	13+	3	4	6	1
2-	3	2	5-	6	1	5	4
6	4	2	3-	3	1	5	
10+	4	6	5-	1	5	2	3
	1	3	3-	4	5	2	4
	5	1	4	6	3	2	

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“All Over the Place” — it’s another themeless mess of words!

Across

- 1 Online request to “pay your respects” when your playable character dies
- 12 Internet acronym with origins on Usenet
- 15 Lead singer on the “Pinkerton” album
- 16 Hawaiian delicacy
- 17 One way to get up from the ground floor
- 18 Extreme degree, for short
- 19 Actor Hawke
- 20 B’way purchase
- 21 Washington Irving’s Bones
- 22 Scott of “30 Rock” and “Big Hero 6”
- 25 Location of a theater, in clichéd ads
- 27 Soviet WWII force
- 29 Bandleader for Leno
- 30 Really silly
- 31 H.S. units
- 32 “Time to head out”
- 33 Japanese naval architect of WWII, Baron Yuzuru ____

- 38 Shaker ____, OH
- 40 “Funky Cold Medina” rapper
- 41 It involves pinning and throwing
- 45 Like some chances
- 46 Begins with, in a screenplay
- 47 Bearded “South Park” puppet
- 48 Fitzgerald of jazz
- 49 Cobra’s warning
- 51 Pandemic-era romantic meetup
- 54 ____ Harbour (Miami Beach resort area)
- 55 Instant ramen brand name, originally (before ditching the middle letter)
- 58 Prefix with scope
- 59 Statistician with a speciality
- 60 Wanna-____ (copycats)
- 61 Opportunity to get a computer program early

- 3 Exasperated outburst
- 4 Paradise residents
- 5 Subject of a historic June 2020 Supreme Court ruling
- 6 Pres. from Missouri
- 7 Friendly prefix?
- 8 Short
- 9 Pop poolside painter
- 10 Event to test out an act, perhaps
- 11 High rock pile
- 12 Former Fugees member Hill
- 13 “Check this out!”
- 14 Chemical indicator
- 21 Item with underwire
- 23 “Ehhh, really?”
- 24 Actor Sheridan of “X-Men: Apocalypse”
- 26 “Essential” product of wormwood
- 27 “Too-Ra-Loo-Ra-Loo-____” (Irish classic)
- 28 Canine suffix for Bern or Peking
- 34 Get ready to ride again
- 35 Carrier to Leonardo da Vinci

- Airport
- 36 Pantheon figure
- 37 High card
- 39 Site of intense magnetic activity
- 40 “____ Goes to the Mayor”
- 41 Briggs who hosts “The Last Drive-in”
- 42 Watching just one more episode, maybe
- 43 Some potluck desserts
- 44 ____ bind
- 50 Buckwheat bowlful
- 52 Jamie Lee’s “Freaky Friday” character
- 53 Direction from Madrid to Barcelona
- 55 Non-profit that started NPR in 1970
- 56 GRF’s vice president
- 57 2021 U.K. award for “Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom” actor Toby Jones

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15											16			
17											18			
19							20				21			
		22			23	24		25		26				
27	28							29						
30								31						
32									33		34	35	36	37
41	42	43	44						45					
46									47					
48														
							49		50				52	53
54														
58														
60														

Down

- 1 Untied
- 2 Sedimentary material in a delta

R&R Classic answer from pg 31 of 02/04

T	I	G	E	R	A	D	A	M	S	C	A	N	
E	V	I	L	E	M	O	L	D	S	U	S	A	
X	Y	L	O	P	H	O	N	I	S	T	S	I	N
C	A	R	R	I	O	N	G	L	O	O	M	Y	
A	R	O	U	N	D	T	H	E	R	O	O	M	
S	L	A	N	T	O	N	I	O	N				
T	O	D	D	O	N	T	O	P	E	D	E	N	
S	P	H	E	R	E	H	E	A	R	T	E	D	
C	H	A	N	A	M	E	S	S					
R	A	P	P	U	R	E	A	T	H	E	A	R	T
A	S	I	A	S	T	A	R	E	L	T	O	N	
P	E	N	T	E	S	L	A	S	P	E	N	T	

Jonesin’ answer from pg 32 of 02/04

M	A	R	V	E	D	U	C	E	N	E	S	T		
A	F	O	E	N	O	R	A	S	A	S	T	I		
R	I	G	G	Q	U	I	L	T	P	A	I	L		
C	R	E	A	T	U	R	E	F	E	A	T	U	R	E
E	N	N	U	I	S	E	T	I						
C	T	S	C	E	L	E	B	E	R	I	E			
L	O	W	T	I	R	E	P	R	E	S	S	U	R	E
U	T	A	H	S	U	E	M	E	T	E	D			
B	O	P	E	E	P	P	A	P	P	Y				
R	E	C	R	E	A	T	I	O	N	A	R	E	A	S
E	V	O	O	H	A	N	N	A	I	R	M	A		
D	A	R	N	E	G	G	E	D	C	O	B	S		
O	N	Y	X	N	E	E	D	A	K	I	S	S		

NITE SUDOKU

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

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A By Dave Green

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

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle B By Dave Green

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

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle C By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★

Difficulty Level ★★★

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *Hell is Other Parents*, by Deborah Copaken Kogan, born March 11, 1966.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) 'Nooooooooo waaaaaayyyyyyy, I could hear Michael saying in the background as his wife, whom I'd called to chat about other things, told him the news. 'Nooooooooooooooooo waaaaaayyyyyyy!' This is a man who won a Pulitzer for his perspicacity with words. Simple words convey complex emotions.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) I signed him up for musical theater lessons at the Y. I clapped loudly when he performed in his school play. But I drew the line at professional acting. Lines must be drawn. Also the school play will go great.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) ... what struck me most was ... the hours of Ashley's day that had to be spent maintaining this simple lifestyle, whether through chopping wood or tending the garden or fetching eggs or scooping out the waste from the composting toilet. Uncomplicated is not the same thing as effortless.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) We had long ago relegated Valentine's Day to the dustbin of the ridiculous, but that night Paul showed up with roses and wine. Don't be ridiculous.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) I still pine for Paris, but I don't think that kind of ache can ever be cured. It can't. Move on.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) Parallel universes, I decided, must be like Kate's and Ruth's kitchens: identical containers holding completely different realities. Your kitchen, your universe.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) Was Serena referring to my fascination with the children of extreme wealth at our college, the ones who'd gone to schools with pretty names — St. Paul's, Andover, Deerfield — and were themselves given otherworldly monikers such as Thorn, Struan, and Alistair? Prepare to be fascinated.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) What a dumb question, I

thought, even as I was asking it. It's OK; you can ask a brilliant follow-up.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) ... the revelation of a secret crush would be like breaking the Prime Directive, the guiding principle of the United Federation of Planets.... Some guiding principles would be useful.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) It's hard being the captain of a ship, no matter its mission, star date, or battlefronts. Especially when your first officer doesn't pick up his communicator. Being in charge may not be as glamorous as you thought.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) The stories in this book are all, preposterously, true, with the normal caveat that many of the names have been changed to protect the innocent. And the not-so-innocent. And the blatantly guilty. You don't have to name names to get your point across.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) I am not a Trekkie, but I did want my Grandpa David to love me. To earn his affection — or at least a pat on the head — required sitting by the foot of his easy chair watching Star Trek, even if you weren't a big fan of the floor or the show. Try taking an interest in a friend's hobby. 🍷

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7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 elephant tusk material (5)	_____
2 it rises to the top (5)	_____
3 tassel on an ear (8)	_____
4 oyster's gem (5)	_____
5 cloth from plant fibers (6)	_____
6 beach memento (8)	_____
7 ancient form of paper (9)	_____

CO	RL	SI	PAR	CR
HE	CHM	IVO	TT	CO
PEA	LL	EAM	ON	SE
RN	RY	ENT	AS	LK

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Sudoku Answers from pg33 of 02/04

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty Level ★

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Wait, what?

On Feb. 23, Siriporn Niamrin, 49, discovered a large, waxy, oval-shaped lump that smelled of fish and weighed about 15 pounds along the beach near her home in Nakhon Si Thammarat province, Thailand, and was excited to learn it may be a rare substance called ambergris, or vomit produced by sperm whales. The Mirror reported ambergris is highly prized in making perfume, and it might be worth as much as \$260,000. "If I really have the genuine ambergris, I can help my community once I find a buyer for it," Niamrin said. "I'm keeping it safe in my house" as she waits for expert confirmation of its authenticity.

Multitasking

Northern California plastic surgeon Scott Green surprised officials in Sacramento Superior Court on Feb. 25 when he appeared for a traffic trial via videoconference from what appeared to be an operating room, the Sacramento Bee reported. As clicks and whirs of medical equipment and suction could be heard in the background, a courtroom clerk questioned his whereabouts, and Green, dressed in hospital scrubs, admitted, "Yes, I'm in an operating room right now. I'm available for trial. Go right ahead." Despite Green's repeated assurances, Court Commissioner Gary Link was skeptical: "I do not feel comfortable for the welfare of a

patient if you're in the process of operating ... I don't think that's appropriate." The trial was rescheduled for later in March. California's Medical Board said in a statement it was investigating the incident.

Crime report

Sharon Carr of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was arrested by officers responding to a residential burglary call on Feb. 26 when she stepped from the shadows in front of the victim's house. Investigators found a window screen removed and a window open, where they allege Carr entered the home but quickly left, leaving behind an empty Cheetos bag and a water bottle. Cheetos residue on Carr's teeth allegedly linked her to the crime, reported KTUL-TV, along with testimony from the victim. Carr was charged with first-degree burglary.

The foreign press

Diplomats and their families from the Russian embassy in Pyongyang, North Korea, worked around extreme Covid-induced travel restrictions by pushing themselves across the border in a rail trolley to reach their home country on Feb. 25, the BBC reported. The group of eight, including children, traveled 32 hours by train and two hours by bus to reach the Russian border, but trains and wagons cannot enter or leave North Korea, so the embassy's third secretary, Vladislav Sorokin,

completed the last half-mile of the journey by pushing the trolley filled with the group and their baggage on train tracks over the Tumen River, where they were met by Russian officials at the border station.

Animal antics

EuroWeekly reported that on Feb. 24, a routine Sudanese Tarco airline flight from Khartoum to Doha, Qatar, was forced to turn around about a half-hour after takeoff when a stowaway cat caused a midair emergency. The cat gained entry to the cockpit and became aggressive, attacking the crew, who were unable to restrain it, prompting the pilot to return to the airport. Officials believe the cat got onto the airplane while it was parked overnight in a hangar in Khartoum.

Inexplicable

Natasha Harris of Lillian, Alabama, called the Baldwin County Sheriff's office on Feb. 28 after her granddaughter's pet goat, Billy the Kid, returned home from one of his frequent adventures around their rural neighborhood painted from head to toe. Harris told Fox 10 News she suspected local teens had stolen and abused the goat, but investigators followed the goat's trail to Erica Farmer, who was visiting relatives nearby, and arrested her for theft of property and animal cruelty. Farmer has since apologized for dyeing the goat with colored shampoo and food coloring, and

Harris now wants the charges dropped, telling the district attorney's office, "I'm really sorry for wasting your time."

Oops!

Mates Jackson Perry and Noah Palmer of Mandurah, Western Australia, planned a leisurely float offshore, drinking beer on a blowup air mattress on Feb. 27, but they wound up stranded in the Indian Ocean for nearly three hours after the wind blew them out to sea. "We couldn't paddle against the wind, and we just kept going further and further out," Perry told 7News, but they did manage to call a friend, who reached them on his jet ski just before their cellphones died. "We were kind of getting worried at that point," Perry said, but the beers helped with the anxiety.

Mystery

Police in Hertfordshire, England, received about 100 complaints over a three-day period from people parked at a Tesco store in Royston who reported their car alarms inexplicably went off, and they couldn't use their key fobs to lock or unlock their vehicles. Communications watchdog company Ofcom told the BBC in March 1 its investigators checked the area for signs of interference, but found nothing. No cars have been reported stolen, and police said they were not treating the incidents as malicious.

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