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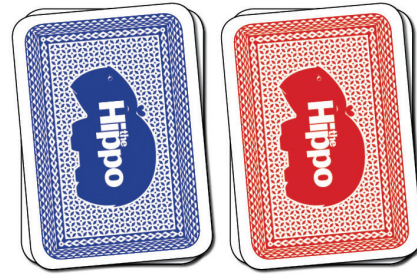
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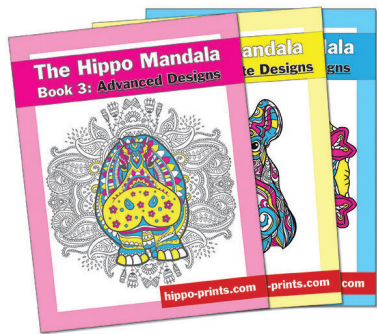
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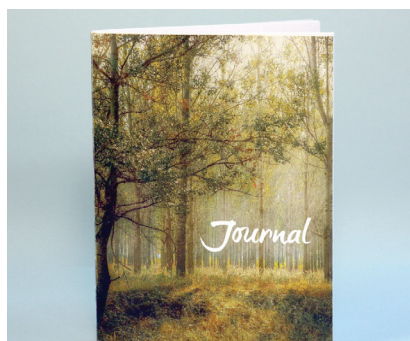
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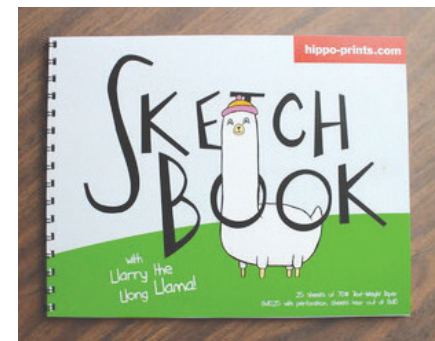
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JoAna is the Nursing Team leader for our Laser Assisted Liposuction procedures-SmartLipo and Precision TX-and for SmartSkin CO2 Laser skin resurfacing. JoAna enjoys spending time with her family, lake life activities, gardening, and staying current on changes in the fields of aesthetics, wellness, and anti-aging medicine.

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GOOD NEWS!



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COVID-19 VACCINES ARE HERE

New Hampshire is now vaccinating its residents in phases.
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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.

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GRANITE VIEWS **ROBIN MILNES** Leaders bring the weather



In their book *Scaling Leadership*, Robert Anderson and William Adams note that “Leaders bring the weather.” They further note that the tone, mood, presence, focus and behavior

of the leader is the weather in any organization — a force of nature. And everyone who works there can feel it, see it, experience it and describe how it impacts them and those around them.

All leaders bring the weather — organizational leaders or elected government leaders. In New Hampshire, we have a lot of elected state leaders. There are 400 leaders in the House of Representatives, 24 leaders in the Senate, five leaders on the Executive Council, and then of course, our governor. I wonder if these 430 leaders realize that they bring the “weather” to the state by their statements, actions and behavior?

I am a bit of a political junkie, and I will read just about any publication and any article written covering state and federal issues. Needless to say, I am frequently left scratching my head. As an example, US News & World Report recently picked up this headline, “New Hampshire Lawmaker Apologies for Anti-LGBTQ Language,” a story about Manchester Rep. Dick Marston’s apology after referring to LGBTQ people as having “deviant sexuality” in a Zoom House committee hearing. As InDepthNH and other sources reported, earlier in that same meeting, Manchester Rep. Nicole Klein-Knight appeared to take a gummy from her bottle of medical cannabis (“prescribed medication for arthritis,” she later tweeted), apparently trying to make a point during a discussion of two bills, including one related to fines for the possession of marijuana and therapeutic cannabis. WMUR reported on the House’s use of a University of New Hampshire facility for its sessions last year. House Speaker Steve Shurtleff had to apologize to UNH leadership this past September after some members were drinking beer in the hall and failed to wear masks outside the facility, violating UNH and town ordinances. Did I mention the head-scratching?

Let’s be clear. We have many outstanding, hard-working leaders in Concord who are essentially volunteering their time to serve the citizens of New Hampshire, and they deserve our respect and gratitude. Unfortunately, that behavior is not what typically makes the news. Instead of providing the attention-getting headlines described above, wouldn’t it be better if there were more to report on in terms of bipartisan work being pushed out of the House and Senate? Wouldn’t that be a better weather report from our elected leadership?

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



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ON THE COVER

12 FIND YOUR BOOK JOY If you’ve lost your love of reading — or never had it in the first place — there are so many reasons why now is the perfect time to pick up a book, whether it’s a paper copy, an ebook or an audiobook. With genres ranging from classics and memoirs to sci-fi and romance, there’s something for everyone.

ALSO ON THE COVER, enjoy a maple adventure this weekend, p. 20. Try the new Elm House of Pizza in Manchester or Destination India in Derry, p. 24 & 25. And head out for the night for some live music, p. 34.

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NEWS & NOTES

Covid-19 news

During the state's weekly public health update on March 11, state epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan reported that there continue to be about 200 to 250 new infections of Covid-19 on average per day in New Hampshire, numbers that have been "relatively stable over the last couple of weeks." Hospitalizations and deaths from the virus, meanwhile, are still trending downward. "We're seeing the number of people dying from Covid-19 in long-term care facilities continue to decrease, as we roll out vaccines to those settings, and as we have a higher proportion of our long-term care facility residents vaccinated," Chan said.

Dr. Beth Daly, Chief of the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control of the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services, said later during the same March 11 press conference that 10 percent of the state's population (about 132,000 people) have now been fully vaccinated. Phase 2A of the state's vaccine administration plan, which includes K through 12 teachers, school staff and child care workers, began March 12. "Our regional public health networks have scheduled 39 regional clinics through the end of the month, with plans to vaccinate 17,000 school, child care and youth camp staff," Daly said. "Phase 2A people who are not invited to one of these regional clinics will be able to register to get vaccinated at a state- or hospital-run site beginning March 17 on vaccines.nh.gov." She went on to say that registration for Phase 2B, which includes people between the ages of 50 and 64, will open on March 22.

Gov. Chris Sununu also announced that, effective immediately, restrictions and guidelines for several sectors in New Hampshire are being relaxed, including quarantining requirements for all

out-of-state travel. "We still recommend folks to quarantine ... but it is no longer a requirement going forward," he said. "Likewise, residents from outside of New England no longer have to quarantine prior to arrival in New Hampshire. ... This change applies only to domestic travel, not to international travel." Capacity at retail stores has also returned to 100 percent, and barber-shops and salons are now allowed to have walk-in customers without reservations. Restaurants and bars are also now allowed to resume karaoke, pool, darts and other games, as well as small live bands of three members or less.

Applications for the state's emergency rental assistance program opened on March 15, according to a press release. The program, which was established through the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery, is providing financial aid to Granite Staters who have experienced difficulty paying their rent, utilities and heating costs due to the pandemic. To be eligible, at least one person per household must qualify for unemployment benefits, have had their income reduced or have had some other financial hardship due to the pandemic. The household must be at risk for homelessness, be paying more than 30 percent of its income for rent and utilities, or be in an unsafe or unhealthy environment. Payments are processed through the state's five regional Community Action Partnership agencies. Visit caphn.com to submit an application.

Details of Sununu's emergency and executive orders, as well as the state's reopening guidance documents, can be found at governor.nh.gov.

Political climate

According to a March poll by the Saint Anselm College Survey Center at the New Hampshire

Institute of Politics, President Joe Biden's job approval among registered New Hampshire voters has narrowed since February. In the February poll, 53 percent of respondents said they "approve" and 45 percent said "disapprove." In March that narrowed to 50 percent and 49 percent, respectively. The poll also showed that Democrats hold a 48-40 percent advantage on the generic congressional ballot. New Hampshire's senators' job approval numbers have slipped in the last month: Sen. Jeanne Shaheen's approval-disapproval margin is now 51-43 percent, down from 54-38 percent, and Sen. Maggie Hassan has gone down to 47-44 percent from February's 49-40 percent. Meanwhile, Congressman Chris Pappas and Congresswoman Annie Kuster both saw slight improvements in their approval ratings. "While Democrats still enjoy a numerical advantage among voters, the independent nature of our state tends to be suspicious of a unified federal government, and this may be contributing to the relatively short duration of President Biden's honeymoon period," New Hampshire Institute of Politics Executive Director Neil Levesque said in a press release. The survey also looked at a hypothetical matchup between Hassan and Gov. Chris Sununu, with Sununu being the preferred candidate by a margin of 47 to 41 percent. Sununu's job approval has fallen somewhat since the last poll but still sits at 67-31 percent, with approval from virtually every demographic group, but Hassan would benefit from her party's strength, according to the press release. "This sets the stage for what may become one of the most closely watched races in the nation this cycle as Gov. Chris Sununu has signaled the possibility of challenging incumbent Sen. Maggie Hassan," Levesque said in the release.

On March 15, work began on Route 13 at Exit 2 off Interstate 89 in **Concord**, part of a project that includes painting structural steel on six bridges on and above I-89 between Exit 2 and Exit 5 in Concord and Hopkinton. According to a press release, the work will be done during the day and evening, and once the Concord bridge is complete, painting on the next bridge will begin, with work progressing north until the final bridge in Hopkinton is completed. The project is expected to be completed in December, the release said.

The **Manchester** Police Department has announced that it has a new training program for all sworn officers, stemming from Gov. John Sununu's recent executive order calling for law enforcement reforms. According to a press release, the 40-hour week of training includes topics like use of force, implicit bias, cultural responsiveness and ethics.

On March 12, crews removed sections of the three waterlides at Cascade Waterslide at **Hampton Beach**, according to a report from NHPR. The landmark has been there for more than 35 years, the report said, and there is no word on what might take its place.

Boston Billiard Club & Casino in **Nashua** announced in a press release that it is the exclusive spot in the region where people can play 21STUD, a new two-card blackjack game that was created and recently patented by New Hampshire-based game designer Brandon Zynfryx of ZFX Gaming, also in Nashua.

Access to CTE

The New Hampshire Department of Education has released a report called "Increasing Equitable Access to Career and Technical Education," a comprehensive review of the state's career and tech ed programs, as part of an ongoing effort to make those programs more accessible to students, according to a press release. The programs give students hands-on learning experience in high-demand employment fields and can be used to earn college credit, and the report outlines some of the current barriers that might be preventing students from taking advantage of CTE programs. For example, 71 percent of students enrolled in programs have a CTE center co-located in their high school, while 29 percent but must be provided transportation to participate. According to the press release, the report suggests ideas to help overcome this accessibility concern, including better coordination of scheduling and transportation, as well as calendars, between districts. "This research confirmed many of the important issues CTE leaders and other educators have been aware of for many years," Eric

Frauwirth, director of the Bureau of Career Development, said in the release. "Now we have a set of strategies to explore, and will continue to engage with stakeholders and local communities to determine the best options for the students and families they serve."

Wildlife funding

The New Hampshire delegation announced last week that the Granite State will get more than \$8.75 million through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to support the state's wildlife and sport fish restoration and vulnerable species conservation. According to the announcement from U.S. Sens. Jeanne Shaheen and Maggie Hassan and Reps. Annie Kuster and Chris Pappas, the funding will help state wildlife agencies pursue conservation projects and programs like hunting and fishing education, fish and wildlife management, scientific research, and habitat restoration and protection. "New Hampshire is home to some of the most beautiful land in the country, and we have a responsibility to protect it," Kuster said in the release. 🐾

Covid-19 update	As of March 8	As of March 15
Total cases statewide	77,060	78,813
Total current infections statewide	2,036	2,064
Total deaths statewide	1,184	1,199
New cases	1,472 (March 2 to March 8)	1,753 (March 9 to March 15)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	581	640
Current infections: Merrimack County	163	211
Current infections: Rockingham County	470	509

Information from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services

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NEWS & NOTES Q&A

Back to health

Program provides nursing education, employment

Catholic Charities New Hampshire recently announced the launch of Pathways, a career development and advancement program for New Hampshire residents working or interested in working in the health care field. Darlene Underhill, CCNH director of clinical services, discussed the program and how it hopes to address the shortage of health care workers, at CCNH's facilities and throughout the state.

Q: *What's happening with the number of health care workers in New Hampshire?*



Darlene Underhill. Courtesy photo.

There's been a health care staffing crisis and a critical shortage of both Licensed Nursing Assistants and nurses in New Hampshire and, in fact, in the whole country, for years. ... Hospitals, nursing homes, home health [services] — all of us are competing for the same small pool of nurses and Licensed Nursing Assistants in the state.

What's causing the shortage?

The number of people going into health care careers has been steadily declining. The average age of nurses in the state is almost 50 right now. ... Covid certainly hasn't helped things; Covid has made it much worse, because [it led to] a lot of health care workers deciding to get out of the health care field altogether, or to take an early retirement.

Why are fewer people pursuing careers in health care?

I think there are a lot more opportunities for a variety of [other careers] that people are choosing to do. ... [Pursuing a career in] health care is very expensive and takes a lot of time. The state will typically reimburse a Nursing Assistant [for education costs] once they get their license, but having to pay up front to enter the program makes it cost-prohibitive for many individuals.

How does the Pathways program work?

People [pursuing a career in health care] are trying to work, trying to go school and trying to pay for it all, and what we're doing is paying for the [licensing] program up front so that they can continue to work and go to school without having to worry about that financial burden. We also give them some time off [from their job] to study while they're in school, and we pay them for that. ... Last year, we started offering scholarships for some of our own Licensed Nursing Assistants, partnering with Harmony [Health Care Institute in Merrimack] for them to go into an LPN program. We graduated nine of our LNAs as LPNs, and they're now working in our facilities. We had so many people from our facilities apply to go into the program that we decided we really needed to do this as an ongoing, formal program, not just

a one-time thing. ... This year, we just awarded 10 more scholarships for LNAs who work in our facilities to go into the program. ... We've also just started doing the same thing for entry-level people who don't have a career or background in health care yet but are looking to get into a new career in health care. We're paying for the program and any expenses related to it — we're working

with LNA Health Careers [in Manchester] — for them to become Licensed Nursing Assistants. While they're going to school, we hire them into our facilities as unit aides where they'll be making beds and assisting with dining and activities and things like that. Then, once they get certified and licensed, we will offer them a position in one of our facilities as a Licensed Nursing Assistant.

What are you looking to accomplish with the program, short-term and long-term?

It's helping people grow, develop into who they want to be and achieve what they want for their life by moving forward in their careers, and helping people get out of poverty. ... For us, the benefit is that we would hire them as employees. We have been living with this critical [health care] staffing shortage, especially since Covid, every day in our skilled nursing facilities and assisted living facility. This is a way for us to grow our staff. ... In the long run, we hope it contributes to easing the nursing [staffing] crisis in the state. We do ask [program graduates] for a commitment of time [of employment with CCNH], but we know that not all of them are going to stay with us forever; some of them will want to move on to other [health care facilities], and that's fine, because overall, the more nurses who are added to the state pool, the better off everybody is going to be.

Any plans to expand the program in the future?

We're definitely going to keep growing and expanding in terms of servicing more students, and we're talking about branching into an RN program next year so that [the LNP program graduates] can keep going straight into an RN program, or maybe putting LNA [program students] all the way through to RN.

— Angie Sykeny

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Uproar after Cam's signing



This is going to sound hypocritical, especially coming from me. But everyone is a critic.

Even for wildly popular things like the recently passed stimulus bill national polls say was supported by 75 percent of the country. Still, the entire GOP voted it down, as the so-called progressives on the other side loudly say it doesn't go far enough. Economists? They're whining it will cause inflation. Meanwhile struggling folks everywhere gratefully say thanks.

As honest Abe once said, you can't please all the people all of the time.

Joining the chorus this week were those who didn't like (or hated) **Bill Belichick** bringing back **Cam Newton** as Patriots' QB for 2021. After a 7-9 season, when Cam threw an anemic eight TD passes, it's fair to question the decision. Particularly at first glance, but if you dive deeper into what's going on as they renovate the roster, there are legit reasons to do it. Though admittedly they carry risk of failure and don't inspire confidence throughout Patriot Nation.

As you might expect, it caused media blowback as well, where people like **Gary Tanguay** and **Dan Shaughnessy** acted like Bill did something personally to them. For Tanguay, it was his usual harangue (on WEEI) about Bill's "arrogance to not care what we think," while Big Dan actually said this in the Boston Globe: "As ever, stubborn Bill knows more than we do. And he's going to show you how smart he is again." I had to re-read that about 10 times to make sure he actually meant it the way it seemed. He did and thus it's hard to contemplate how idiotic that statement is.

Trust me, neither of those two is a deep thinker. They're reactionaries, who are ready, fire, aim guys thanks to being overly emotional (Tanguay) or taking any opportunity to land a blow in a feud with the Kraft family dating back to the **Bill Parcells** border war departure (Big Dan). It leads to really dumb predictions like saying (I'm paraphrasing) it's a big mistake that will come back to haunt them, after Coach B traded sulking **Randy Moss** (over his contract) four games into 2010. It was such a huge mistake they only won 11 of 12 after that to finish 14-2. There's also the old standby, "they think they're smarter than everyone else." Sorry, having the highest NFL winning percentage over 20 years says they are. So why would anyone listen to them?

One person I will listen to is **Rodney Harrison**, who has no axe to grind and actually knows something about football. He said long ago he didn't believe Cam could play at a level needed for NFL success any more. Not sure if I agree or disagree. I mean Baltimore won a SB with **Trent Dilfer** at QB and Cam's better than him. But I'm OK with the signing if it's the first move in a two-step process.

Here's what I think about why he did what he did:

Biggest Need: It's not just finding a QB, but finding a long-term solution at quarterback. The best way to get that is to draft one and hit on the pick. Most rookies, even ones that play in Year 1, usually learn behind a veteran for up to a full season. Then when ready they take over and the vet becomes the backup. That's what I think Newton likely is for 2021.

Why Draft One Over Sign One: Two reasons. You've got him for five seasons and thus you can shape him into what you want him to be, as **Charlie Weis** did by starting **Tom Brady** off with mostly low-risk slants and quick outs to the sideline until Brady showed he could be trusted with more. Second, they get a QB on a low-cost rookie contract (about \$5 million) for five years, over spending the \$40 million per **Dak Prescott** will cost Dallas over the same time. That saving can be invested team wide, instead of the salary cap casualties they'll see in Dallas. The Pats' first three SB wins had that advantage.

Why Not Jimmy G: At \$25 million per the people's choice is not as onerous as Dak. But that still cuts into their free agent cash in a year they have a major spending advantage over almost every team. A lot of pot holes can be filled during what will be a tight, bargain-filled job market featuring more talent than usual. Here's the math: After signing Newton and last week's **Trent Brown** and **Marcus Cannon** trades they had \$69 million to spend. With a Round 1 trade up to get the QB, \$13 million-ish goes to rookie salaries, taking it down to \$56 million. It will take around \$25 million or so to keep must-signs (**Andrews, Guy, Jackson, Jason McCourty** and a third down back) to leave \$31 million. Twenty-five more for Jimmy G leaves \$6 million to sign two wideouts, a tight end, run-stopping d-lineman, edge rusher and a kicker. What will they get for that? Not much, making the question if Brady couldn't win with his receivers in 2019 what makes anyone think Garoppolo can with a similar bunch they'll be able to afford for 2021?

Why Cam Newton: Two reasons. He's a cheap option with a chance for a higher upside. Second, while they could have gone with a **Ryan Fitzpatrick**, they probably preferred continuity and are betting with a real training camp, better command of the offense and more talent around him he'll play better in 2021. And when the rook is ready, he could evolve into a complementary Wildcat QB, who can actually pass and be the strong short-yardage runner on third down and around the goal line he was in 2020. Fitzpatrick can't do that.

Only time will tell if Cam is the best choice. In the meantime, the media noise brings to mind the Bill Parcells adage, "if you listen to people in the cheap seats, sooner or later you'll be up there with them."

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com.

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nutritious nibbles

This simple salad gets its zing from crispy dilly beans and a creamy homemade reduced-fat dressing.



Irish Pub Salad

Serves: 4

Dressing Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup Hellmann's® Mayonnaise with Olive Oil
- 1/4 cup Stonyfield® Organic 0% Fat Plain Greek Yogurt
- 2 Tbsp. rice vinegar
- 1 tsp. McCormick® Gourmet™ Tarragon
- 1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 2 to 3 tsp. water

Salad Ingredients:

- 1 (6 oz.) bag Fresh Express® Sweet Butter™ Lettuce
- 1 (12 oz.) jar Tillen Farms® Crispy Dilly Beans
- 1 cup each: sliced cucumber, diced tomatoes, chopped celery, shredded cabbage and sliced onions
- 4 hard-boiled eggs, peeled and sliced
- 4 oz. Cabot® Lite50 Sharp Cheddar Cheese, cubed

Directions:

1. In a small bowl, combine all dressing ingredients, adding water slowly until you reach desired thickness.
2. Divide salad ingredients between four plates and top with dressing.

Dietitian's Tips:

Reduce sodium by draining and rinsing dilly beans under cold water for 30 seconds. For a creamier dressing, substitute water with Silk® Unsweet Plain Almondmilk.

Nutritional Information

Amount per serving: Calories 300; Total Fat 16 g; Saturated Fat 5 g; Cholesterol 205 mg; Sodium 1250mg; Carbohydrates 20 g; Fiber 3 g; Sugar 5 g; Added Sugar 0 g; Protein 20 g

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

More people are making New Hampshire home

Based on a 13-percent net gain of new residents, New Hampshire was the sixth most moved-into state last year, a recent HireAHelper migration report found. According to a press release, the report analyzed 75,000 moves across the country and found each state's net growth, which takes the number of new residents moving in and divides it by the number of individuals moving out. Topping the list was Idaho, with a net growth of 103 percent, followed by our neighbors, Vermont, which had 62 percent new growth, and Maine, which saw its net population grow by 48 percent.

Score: +1

Comment: According to the release, results of a HireAHelper survey showed that about 25 percent of the moves in the last year were related to Covid-19.

And they're choosing the Granite State because...

New Hampshire has been ranked the fourth best state to live in, according to the recently released 2021 rankings from U.S. News & World Report. The publication analyzed data in each state from government and private sources, as well as a survey of nearly 70,000 U.S. residents, measuring things like health care, education, economy, crime and more, according to the report. New Hampshire ranked No. 1 for being low crime, No. 2 in natural environment and No. 3 in opportunity, which considers the opportunities that a state offers its residents in terms of economy, housing and equality.

Score: +1

Comment: Washington, Minnesota and Utah were ranked as the Top 3 states to live in, while in New England, Massachusetts ranked ninth, Vermont ranked 11th, Connecticut came in at No. 20, Maine was 27th and Rhode Island was 34th.

Seriously?

The residents of the nonprofit Evergreen Place Supported Assisted Living in Manchester had been looking forward to taking a scenic ride on the facility's 15-passenger wheelchair bus, which hadn't been used at all in the past year as residents quarantined. But according to a message on Hippo's website from Evergreen Place President and CEO Linette D. Handschumaker, on Saturday, when the facilities manager started the bus, it was louder than it should have been, and he thought there might be rust in the exhaust. "He then shimmied under the bus only to discover that someone had CUT OUT the catalytic converter!!!" Handschumaker wrote. After a year of waiting for that scenic ride, the residents now have to keep waiting.

Score: -2

Comment: As Handschumaker wrote to the Hippo, "Just when you think you've seen it all...."

A week of hope and appreciation

Throughout this entire week, Catholic Medical Center will honor its workforce with "Hope Week 2021." It was on March 14 last year that the Manchester hospital suspended its visitor policy, canceled classes and closed its Wellness Center, followed two days later by the cancellation of elective procedures, according to a press release. One year later, Hope Week kicked off Monday with the installation of more than 700 mirrored butterflies on the hospital sky bridge. The butterflies represent the Covid-19 patients who were cared for by CMC in the last year, including the 87 who were lost, the release said. Hope Week will also feature multiple drawings for gifts donated by CMC management and area companies like Millennium Running and Luxe Salon and Spa, and a donor recognition wall is now on display, thanking the hundreds of people and organizations that have supported CMC through the last year.

Score: +1

Comment: The press release said that the public is invited to send messages of appreciation and download a custom Hope Week profile frame on CMC's social media, which includes Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.

QOL score: 62

Net change: +1

QOL this week: 63

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

75

50

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HOW TO REDISCOVER CLASSICS, FIND NEW TITLES THAT INTEREST YOU AND HAVE MORE FUN WITH READING

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com

If it's been years since you've picked up a book (no judgment!), the idea of reentering the vast and always-expanding world of literature can be overwhelming. But with genres that cover everything from werewolves to World War II and reading formats that accommodate all kinds of lifestyles, becoming a reader is easier than ever.

"Every child is an artist, but as they get older, most people stop drawing, stop coloring, and I think it can be the same way with reading," said Michael Herrmann, owner of Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. "Every child loves stories, but somewhere along the line, we lose that. The secret here is to get back in touch with that inner child and ask yourself, what kinds of stories do I want to hear now?"

Find a book

Caitlin Loving, head of circulation at Bedford Public Library, said one of the most common hang-ups people have about reading is simply not knowing what to read.

"There is such a wealth of options, which is nice, but it can also be really overwhelming and intimidating," Loving said, "and if it's been a while [since you've read], you may not know what you'd like."

Books based on or related to your **favorite films and TV series** can be a great starting point, Loving said, as they

allow you to dive deeper into a story or subject that you know you're interested in.

"Even though you know what the book is about, there's often a lot that gets left out [in the screen adaptation], so reading the book can really add to your enjoyment," she said.

Another popular gateway to reading is **nonfiction**, said Emily Weiss, head of reference services at Bedford Public Library. You can explore a memoir or autobiography by a person who's always fascinated you, or a self-help guide that addresses an area of your life that you want to improve, or a commentary on a social or political issue that you're passionate about.

"If you have someone who is a reluctant reader but really likes sports, a nonfiction book about a sports team or a biography on an athlete will oftentimes draw them in," Weiss said.

"When I read nonfiction, I can't stop talking about what I've read to other people," added Susan Harmon, information and technology librarian at Manchester City Library. "It's a great way to learn more about something interesting or weird, or to become an expert on a subject or hobby of some kind."

If reading a whole book feels like too much to start, try a book of **poetry, short stories, a graphic novel or a novella** instead.

"Warm up your reading muscles first ... and start small," said Rachel Stover, technical services assistant at Manches-

ter City Library. "If you haven't read anything in a while, something too long might get discouraging."

There's no shame in reading a **young adult or children's book** either, said Sarah St. Martin, systems librarian for GMILCS, Inc., a nonprofit consortium of public and academic libraries in New Hampshire,

"Don't limit yourself," she said. "There are so many great children's stories out there, and there's no reason why you shouldn't read them."

"It truly is a golden age for young adult literature," Herrmann added. "These are books that have great stories and characters ... and don't involve a huge time commitment."

Podcasts, YouTube channels and magazines often provide recommendations of new titles, especially within a particular genre or niche.

"A lot of YouTubers talk about books they've read that go along with what they talk about on their channel, so that can be a really good springboard," Harmon said.

For more personalized recommendations, reach out to **family, friends and co-workers** who are readers and know what your interests are, or talk with the staff at your **local library or bookstore**, who can give you recommendations based on your interests, reading level and goals.

"The people who work in those places are in love with books," Herrmann said. "They'll help connect you with the kinds of stories that you're looking for."

To read or not to read

Inevitably, you will pick up some books that looked promising at first glance but fall short of your expectations. At that point, you'll need to decide whether you want to cut your losses early on, read a little more in hopes that it redeems itself, or finish the book regardless.

A good rule of thumb is to **read at least 50 pages** of a book before making a judgment, Loving said; if it hasn't appealed to you by then, it's probably never going to, but if you want to be sure that you aren't missing out, **take a look at the reviews**.

"Oftentimes a review will say, 'It picks up in the second half,' or 'The ending is worth it,' and that can be helpful for deciding if you want to keep going with it or not," Loving said.

The reverse is also possible:

"You might start a book and be really into it, and then, halfway through, it changes and you aren't into it anymore," St. Martin said.

Whether you're 20 pages in or 200 pages in, if you know that the book just isn't for you, it's OK to put it to rest and **move on to a book you find more enjoyable**.

"A lot of people feel like they have to stick with a book, even if it's not really capturing their attention, or else they feel like a failure," Loving said. "I say life is too short for that."

"There are hundreds of thousands of books that you could be reading, so why read something that's not speaking to you?" Weiss added.

Discover the classics

Local librarians shared 30 classic books that are worth reading outside of English class.

Recommended by Emily Weiss, head of reference services; Caitlin Loving, head of circulation; and Patricia Kline-Millard, reference librarian, at Bedford Public Library:

- *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
- *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
- *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens
- *War & Peace* by Leo Tolstoy
- *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville
- *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston
- *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison
- *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou
- *White Fang* by Jack London
- *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck
- *Dune* by Frank Herbert
- *Blackout* by Connie Willis

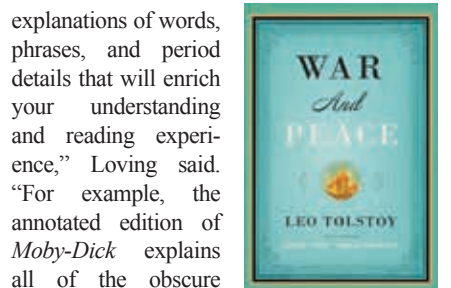
Recommended by Susan Harmon, information and technology librarian, and Rachel Stover, technical services assistant, at Manchester City Library:

- *Catcher in the Rye* by J. D. Salinger
- *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- *Beowulf* by Unknown
- *The Forever King* by Molly Cochran
- *Slaughterhouse 5* by Kurt Vonnegut
- *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller
- *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton
- *Stranger in a Strange Land* by Robert A. Heinlein
- *Epic of Gilgamesh*, author unknown, or Sin-Leqi-Unninni
- *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier
- *The Giver* by Lois Lowry
- *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
- *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

Classics made easy

Caitlin Loving, head of circulation at Bedford Public Library, shared eight tips for enjoying classic books.

1. Simplify with an annotated edition. “They have detailed



explanations of words, phrases, and period details that will enrich your understanding and reading experience,” Loving said. “For example, the annotated edition of *Moby-Dick* explains all of the obscure nineteenth-century whaling terms, which will definitely enhance your understanding of the story.”

2. Break it down. “*Moby-Dick* actually has short chapters, and it’s great to read it this way, and a lot of celebrated literature was serialized before it was collected in novel form,” Loving said.

3. Get academic. “You can take notes to keep characters straight and solidify your understanding, and you can look up words you don’t know,” Loving said. “If you’d like to get more formal about it, there are lectures available for free online.”

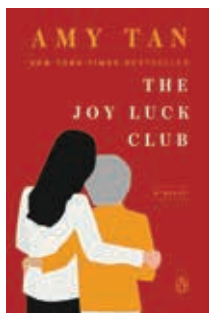
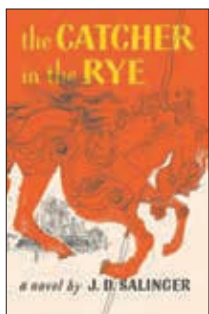
4. Read a nonfiction book about the book, such as *On Reading the Grapes of Wrath* by Susan Shillinglaw, *So We Read On: How The Great Gatsby Came to Be and Why It Endures* by Maureen Corrigan, and *Why Read Moby-Dick?* by Nathaniel Philbrick. “These are often fairly short and can bring out aspects of the story you might have missed, or enhance your experience by diving deeper into it,” Loving said. “It’s almost like taking a class about the book or discussing it with a good friend.”

5. Listen to it on audiobook. “Hearing the story can provide greater comprehension,” Loving said, “and one advantage of classics is that there are often several different narrators to choose from so that you can select the voice that speaks to you.”

6. Try a graphic novel adaptation. “The visual aspect can add a lot to the experience,” Loving said. “While they are often abridged, it’s still a great way to read a classic, either to jog your memory, in addition to reading the full text, or just as a way to get to know more classics than you might have time for otherwise.”

7. Find a reading buddy. “You can gush about symbolism, commiserate over the extensive number of indistinguishable Russian surnames, and hold each other accountable for finishing books,” Loving said.

8. Don’t force it. “If you get 50 pages in ... and you’re not into it, it’s okay to give up,” Loving said. “No one is grading you, and just because someone decided it belongs in the Western canon does not mean you are obligated to read it.”





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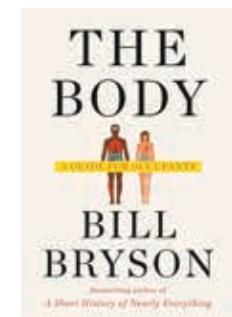
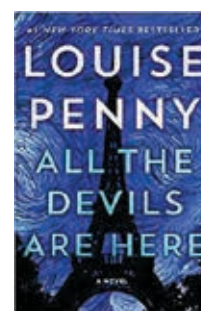
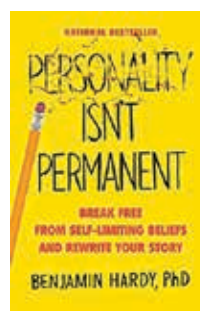
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New books for new bookworms

Susan Harmon, information and technology librarian at Manchester City Library, shared 10 approachable new releases that have been popular at the library.

- **Transcendent Kingdom** by Yaa Gyasi
“A deeply ruminative story on depression, addiction, grief, loss, science, religion, faith and love. Readers were drawn in by the engaging and lyrical writing, and the strong character development. You’ll definitely cry.”
- **The Body: A Guide for Occupants** by Bill Bryson
“A well-researched, funny and deeply fascinating exploration of the human body. The writing style is conversational without making you feel talked down to.”
- **The Night Watchman** by Louise Erdrich
“This historical novel is ... [an] authentic story of the Native American experience and fight for rights. Readers loved the engaging storytelling, vivid characters, fascinating historical elements and atmospheric tone.”
- **The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz** by Erik Larson.
“A deeply compelling and immersive exploration of the day-to-day life of Churchill and his family during his first year as prime minister.”
- **Solutions and Other Problems** by Allie Brosh
“An offbeat, comedic, and engaging collection of illustrated, biographical essays on topics ranging from childhood and very bad pets to grief, loneliness and powerlessness in modern life.”
- **The Vanishing Half** by Brit Bennett
“Bennett has an incredible ability to weave together unforgettable characters, complex family drama, tragedy, romance, love and triumph. It’s a story of twin sisters who took two very different paths in life.”
- **The Midnight Library** by Matt Haig
“This book is both fast-paced and deeply philosophical. The fantastic setting allows the author to engage playfully and profoundly with some heavy topics, but you won’t get bogged down.”
- **The Guest List** by Lucy Foley



of Addie LaRue by V. E. Schwab

“This fantastic story explores a timeless theme: ‘Be careful what you wish for.’”

• **The Last Traverse: Tragedy and Resilience in the Winter Whites** by Ty Gagne

“An epic story of a daring rescue in the White Mountains [that] weaves the personal accounts of volunteer rescuers and survivors with fascinating weather and survival information. This well-researched page-turner will be hard to put down.”

Sarah St. Martin, systems librarian for GMILCS consortium of New Hampshire libraries, shared some other recently published titles that have appeal for newbie readers:

Celebrity memoirs

- **The Answer Is ... Reflections on My Life** by Alex Trebek
- **Is This Anything?** by Jerry Seinfeld
- **Greenlights** by Matthew McConaughey

From page to screen

- **Battle of Brothers William and Harry — The Inside Story of a Family in Tumult** by Robert Lacey and **Finding Freedom: Harry and Meghan and the Making of a Modern Royal Family** by Omid Scobie and Carolyn Durand (for fans of *The Crown* on Netflix)
- **Return to Virgin River** by Robyn Carr (*Virgin River* on Netflix)
- **28 Summers** by Elin Hilderbrand (based on the film *Same Time Next Year*)
- **Ready Player Two** by Ernest Cline (sequel to *Ready Player One* book and film)

Help yourself

- **Personality Isn't Permanent: Break Free from Self-Limiting Beliefs and Rewrite Your Story** by Benjamin Hardy
- **The New Rules of Aging Well: A Simple Program for Immune Resilience, Strength, and Vitality** by Frank Lipman
- **Think Like a Monk: Train Your Mind for Peace and Purpose Every Day** by Jay Shetty

Major page-turners

- **All the Devils are Here** by Louise Penny
- **The Boy from the Woods** by Harlan Coben
- **Masked Prey** by John Sandford
- **One by One** by Ruth Ware
- **Walk the Wire** by David Baldacci

Make the time

Many people think they don't have time to read, St. Martin said, but one easy way to find time is to identify the minutes spent checking the news or social media **between tasks** and use those minutes to read instead.

"Even just that short amount of time is a good way to start," she said.

If you're out and about, Loving said, **bring a book or download an ebook on your phone** so that you can squeeze some reading in while you're in line at the grocery store, in the waiting room at the doctor's office or taking public transportation.

"If you're really hooked on a book, you'll see that no amount of time is too short," she said. "You'll be looking for every little moment to read because you won't want to put it down."

If you are able to set aside a more consistent time for reading each day, Harmon said, try to **make it an "experience"** — something you look forward to — as opposed to an obligation. One way to do that is by finding a quiet reading space with comfortable seating and sufficient lighting. A cup of hot cocoa, coffee, tea or another hot drink is also a nice touch.

"Minimize distractions," Harmon said. "Go to the bathroom, eat a snack, get a drink and get comfy."

Listen up

If a sit-down reading time isn't feasible, **audiobooks** may be the best option because they allow you to multitask.

"You can listen while doing boring chores, cooking, exercising, walking, driving," Harmon said. "It makes the time pass faster ... and you get some reading done."

Audiobooks aren't just convenient; they're another way for readers to experience a story.

"Some books you might enjoy more on audiobook, some you might enjoy better reading — it depends," St. Martin said. "If you're reading a book and you're not getting a good feel for it, listening to it on audiobook may make the imagery and characters and everything come alive for you."

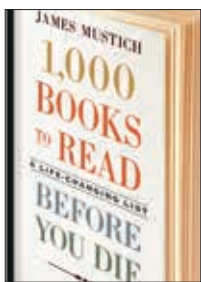
The narrator can make or break an audiobook, Harmon said, so try **listening to a sample first**, if possible. An over-dramatic or silly voicing of the characters; unfamiliar or odd word pronunciations; or insufficient pop filtering during the recording can be a dealbreaker, Harmon said, but a well-narrated audiobook can be magical.

"There are books I listened to as audiobooks that have become some of my favorite books, simply because the narrator added so much to it," she said. "He can bring the characters to life in a way that my imagination wouldn't have done." 🍷

Reading reads

Still stumped on what to read? Find inspiration in these "books about books" recommended by Emily Weiss, head of reference services at Bedford Public Library.

- *1,001 Books to Read Before You Die: A Life-Changing List* by James Mustich
- *The Books That Changed My Life: Reflections by 100 Authors, Actors, Musicians, and Other Remarkable People* edited by Bethanne Patrick
- *Dear Fahrenheit 451: Love and Heartbreak in the Stacks. A Librarian's Love*



Letters and Breakup Notes to the Books in Her Life by Annie Spence

- *Howards End is on the Landing: A Year of Reading from Home* by Susan Hill
- *My Life with Bob: Flawed Heroine Keeps Book of Books, Plot Ensues* by Pamela Paul
- *Tolstoy and the Purple Chair: My Year of Magical Reading* by Nina Sankovitch
- *The Toni Morrison Book Club* by Juda Bennett, Winifred Brown-Glaude, Cassandra Jackson, and Piper Kendrix Williams
- *What to Read and Why* by Francine Prose



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Airport art exhibition via iPhone

There's an augmented reality app for that

By Sadie Burgess
listings@hippopress.com

In the early 1990s, Tom McGurrin crafted a brooch from gold and a single pearl. The brooch's design is organic in nature, almost resembling that of a caterpillar on a branch. He hammered the gold against granite and folded it until he was satisfied with its texture. Then he sold it. But he never imagined that someday anyone with a smartphone would be able to open an app and see that brooch in a virtual art exhibition. In fact, he didn't even know what a smartphone was.

Today, the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen is using technology to make items like that brooch viewable beyond the walls of the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport, where the physical collection is currently on display. The League partnered with Aery, an augmented reality app, to bring its museum collection to Apple devices.

"It's a great way to bring forward what's happening in technology and how it relates to the world of craft and art," said Miriam Carter, the executive director of the League of NH Craftsmen. "Everyone loves technology these days, so it advances the possibilities of what we can do to show beautiful, hand-made crafts."

The Augmented Reality Exhibition includes pieces ranging from carved birds and lamps made of jade to the gold brooch crafted by McGurrin.

Objects in the League of NH Craftsmen's collection were photographed from all

angles in order to create complete 3D images, which were then uploaded to Aery.

"You can then see the entire [object] as it exists," Carter said.

The app also allows viewers to manipulate the objects; they can have some fun by placing them in front of scenic backdrops or changing their size. For example, a carved bird that's only a few inches tall can be made eight feet tall and positioned to tower over a backdrop of cars.

The project was spearheaded by the New Hampshire Business Committee for the Arts, of which the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport, League of NH Craftsmen and Aery are all members.

"We are working to create partnerships between our members that allow us to demonstrate the creative economy at work," said Tricia Soule, executive director of the committee.

Originally, the exhibit was only going to be on display at the Manchester airport.

"The airport is an access point for people coming to New Hampshire, so we wanted to have this featured there," Carter said. "We're a large, iconic New Hampshire organization and we wanted to let people know about us and all the wonderful cultural entities in the state itself."

Soule also had a clear vision going into the project: "To bring artwork into the airport to showcase arts and cultural organizations in the state of New Hampshire ... [and to] showcase New Hampshire as a destination for people to enjoy arts and culture."



Image from Aery. Courtesy of Tricia Soule.



Image from Aery. Courtesy of Tricia Soule.

And then the airport closed.

Now, though the exhibition has been on display at the airport since December, even people who are not traveling can access it through the New Hampshire Business Committee for the Arts's channel on Aery. Karina Mitchell, vice president of Aery, describes it as "an augmented reality app that allows guests to view augmented reality art in their home as a curated collection."

Carter said she's excited for a time when the League's Exhibition Gallery in Concord can reopen and the permanent collection can be experienced in person again; the Gallery has been closed for about a year because of the pandemic.

"That'll be our opening, celebratory event when we reach some form of normalcy," she said with a laugh. "At that time, we'll actually have folks on hand to show the app as well. So you'll see the live objects, but you'll also see what this app can do."

As for McGurrin? "Nothing really replaces looking at something in person." On the other hand, he adds, "It's kind of a lot of fun." 🍷

Augmented Reality Exhibition

When: All day, every day through May

Where: Aery AR app (iOS compatible)

More info: nhcrafts.org/
augmented-reality-exhibition

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 notified 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.

• **"ON THE BRIGHT SIDE"** New Hampshire Art Association features works by multiple artists in a variety of media. On view now through March 28, in person at NHAA's Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth) and online. Gallery hours are Monday and Tuesday by appointment, Wednesday and Thursday from 11

a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Online opening reception to be held on Friday, March 5, at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. 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.

• **"TRANSFORMATIONS: NATURE AND BEYOND"** The New Hampshire Art Association presents works by digital artist William Townsend. Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce Gallery, 49 S. Main St., Concord. On display March 23 through June 17. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

Tours

• **NASHUA PUBLIC ART AUDIO TOUR** Self-guided audio

tours of the sculptures and murals in downtown Nashua, offered via the Distrx app, which uses Bluetooth iBeacon technology to automatically display photos and text and provides audio descriptions at each stop on the tour as tourists approach the works of art. Each tour has 10 to 15 stops. Free and accessible on Android and iOS on demand. Available in English and Spanish. Visit downtownnashua.org/nashua-art-tour.

Theater

Auditions

• **HAMLET** Video auditions for post-apocalyptic reimagining of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, produced by Manchester-based theater company Cue Zero Theatre Co. 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 Sun.,

March 21. Callbacks will be held in person on Thurs., March 25, from 6 to 9 p.m. Visit cztheatre.com or email cztheatre@gmail.com.

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.

• **FIFTH ANNUAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL** New Hampshire Theatre Project presents. Five storytellers tell traditional and personal tales inspired by NHTP's 2020 - 2021 MainStage theme "What Are You Waiting For?" Sat., April 10, 7 p.m. The Music Hall Historic Theater, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Tickets cost \$36. Call 431-6644 or visit nhtheatreproject.org.

THE ROUNDUP

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

• **A quilted collaboration:** Two Villages Art Society has an exhibit, "45,000 Quilt Project," on display at the Hopkinton Town Hall (330 Main St., Hopkinton) now through March 24. The exhibit was created by Concord artist Glen Ring, who was inspired to speak out about U.S. immigrant detention practices after learning that there were, on average, 45,000 men, women and children in detention each day in 2019. "I needed people to see the enormity of the injustice being perpetrated on traumatized people seeking welcome and comfort in our country," Ring said in a press release. More than 60 artists and activists from 12 states and Mexico contributed to the exhibit, which features six 9-by-9-foot quilted panels comprising 45 squares, each square with 1,000 marks to represent the on-average 45,000 individuals detained in the U.S. each day in 2019. "I imagined the impact of seeing 45,000 marks on a huge quilt would remain in viewers' minds," Ring said. At a virtual event on Thursday, March 18, at 7 p.m., Ring will discuss the exhibit and the role of art in social justice and activism. Registration is required. Visit twovillagesart.org or call 413-210-4372.

• **SoloStage series concludes:** New Hampshire Theatre Project's new play development program SoloStage presents its third and final production, *A Tempest Prayer*, March 19 through March 21, in person (theater at 959 Islington St., Portsmouth) and online, with showtimes on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. The new play, written and performed by Peter Josephson, is an original adaptation of William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* for today's times. Told through text, movement and music, *The Tempest Prayer* explores the social and political pressures of the last year and examines what it means to be a white male in America. Tickets cost \$30 for in-person shows and \$20 for virtual shows. *A Tempest Prayer* as well as the SoloStage program's two previous productions, *The Adventures of Sleepyhead* by Gemma Soldati and *Where Do I Begin?* Stephanie Lazenby, will be available to watch on demand during SoloStage Encore from Thursday, March 25, at 10 a.m. through Sunday, March 28 at 10 p.m. "These artists, and their collaborators, have delved into three uniquely magical worlds that represent our dreams, our memories and our hopes for the future," NHTP artistic director Catherine Stewart said in a press release. "It has been a true gift to witness this work



"45,000 Quilt Project" exhibit. Courtesy photo.



Peter Josephson in NH Theatre Project's production of *A Tempest Prayer*. Photo by Dan Derby.

come to our stage, and that's why we wanted to give the audience one more chance to view these vitally important works." Tickets to watch the shows on demand cost \$10 per show. Additionally, there will be an event held over Zoom on Thursday, March 25, at 7 p.m. featuring Stewart in conversation with the SoloStage playwrights. "We've met monthly since October to discuss making theater, both the joys and the challenges. We wanted to open the door on that conversation, for our final gathering," Stewart said. "We hope artists and audiences alike will join us to explore the process of making, and the unique insights of that work which occurred in the somewhat solitary world we find ourselves in." The Zoom event is free, but registration is required. Call 431-6644 or visit nhtheatreproject.org.

• **Big, happy art:** The New Hampshire Art Association has two group art exhibits on view now through March 28, in person at NHAA's Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth) and online. "On the Bright Side" features art in a variety of media, with a bright and cheerful theme. "After a challenging year for everyone, what better way to look forward to a better year ahead than to focus on the positive," NHAA board president Renee Giffroy said in a press release. "Art can heal and be uplifting to both the artist and the viewer." "Large Works" features more than 30 works of art in a variety of media measuring 48 inches or larger. Gallery hours are Monday and Tuesday by appointment, Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230. — *Angie Sykeny*

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Starting from seeds

It's time to get ready!

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

— THE — GARDENING — GUY —

I love starting seedlings indoors when it's still cold and raw outside. It makes me dream of summer and the first red tomato. For me, it is still too early to plant most things, and I certainly don't want to have to baby my seedlings along for 12 weeks or more. But if you haven't ever set up grow lights and don't have all the equipment for indoor growing, now is the time to get everything you need before the stores sell out.

First, some basics: You need lights over your seedlings in order to get good plants. Yes, I know some people grow things on a bright windowsill for a few weeks, but getting sturdy tomato plants or zesty zinnias requires supplemental lighting.

Second, you can't use garden soil to grow your seedlings. Ordinary garden soil is too heavy and gets compacted with watering, and it may harbor fungal diseases. You need to purchase potting soil.

Last, you need a place that is at least 60 degrees but no more than 70 degrees. Cooler temps at night are good. Electric heat mats placed under

your seedlings will help get quick, even germination but are not required.

There are several types of lights for growing seedlings. For years I used fluorescent lights: 4-footers with fat T-12 tubes. These work but now have been replaced with more energy-efficient, slimmer, T-8 tubes. There are also LED grow lights of various sorts that use even less energy, though those can be very expensive.

Sold as shop lights, T-8 two-tube fixtures should cost around \$20 each, plus the fluorescent tubes, which cost around \$8 each. But do not, I repeat, DO NOT spend the money to buy full-spectrum tubes, which cost upward of \$35 each. You are not raising plants for sale, and for the short time they will spend in your basement, regular cool white tubes are fine. Or mix cool and warm white to get a broader light spectrum.

If you have a warm basement, I'd suggest that the easiest approach for starting a few things would be to use a card table and 4-foot fluorescent fixtures hanging from the ceiling. Put plastic over the table to protect it from water spills.

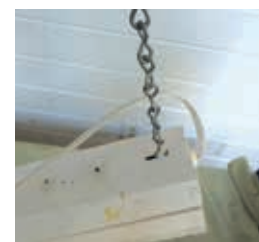
You can also go to my website, gardening-guy.com, and search for "Building a Plant Stand." That will give step-by-step directions for building an inexpensive A-frame plant stand that will hold six flats, and have room below it for four to

six more flats on the floor.

Your hardware store can sell you something called "jack-chain" that will allow you to adjust the height of your lights as your plants grow. Ideally, your lights will hang about 6 inches above the top of your plants. Two 4-foot fixtures, each with two tubes, hanging a few inches apart will illuminate four flats (or trays) of seedlings. When you buy your flats, be sure to get those that do not have holes in the bottom, as some do. The flimsy "six-packs" that fit into the flats come in various sizes, but I always look for the biggest, deepest cells. So, yes, you can get tiny cells that will allow you to plant 48 or even 72 plants in a flat, but there is not much room for roots.

The flimsy six-packs tend to self-destruct easily, particularly if you try to wash them out for re-use. But there are heavy-duty planting trays and cells that will last many years. Gardener's Supply sells them, along with clear domes to go over them. They cost more but will last forever, and some have self-watering features.

What about the soil mix for growing? Buy good-quality "seed starting mix" labeled as such. I mix it with high-quality compost in a 50-50 ratio. Sometimes I make my own starting mix using peat moss, perlite, vermiculite, compost and a slow-release organic bagged fertilizer. I start about 10 flats of plants each year, so there are cost savings for making my own mix.



Jack chain easily allows you to adjust the height of your lights. Courtesy photo.

Seeds are very susceptible to drying out, which can be lethal. One way to keep that from happening is to check on them often. Once a day is fine. Or, if you have a busy schedule, buy clear plastic covers that fit over each flat. These, like the flats, are reusable. They will steam up and rain the moisture back onto your plants, just like a tropical jungle.

Remove them when most cells have plants that have germinated.

How deep should you plant your seeds? About three times the length of the seed. Tiny seeds need just a thin sprinkling of soil mix over them. Bigger things like pumpkin seeds can be covered with half an inch of soil mix. Press down lightly with your fingers after covering the seeds so the soil mix is in good contact with the seed.

Lastly, water them. I like a soda bottle for watering, as it can deliver a nice slow trickle. Water the soil mix before planting, because if it is too dry, it is resistant to absorbing water.

The bottom line is that starting seeds is fun. And it lets you choose plants you might not find at the garden center. So get your materials and set up your lights. I start tomatoes and other frost-sensitive plants six to eight weeks before I would put them in the garden.

You may reach Henry by email at henry.homeyer@comcast.net, or by mail at PO Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746. He is the author of four gardening books. 🍷

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE KIDDIE

— POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

Maple madness

Celebrate Maple Month in New Hampshire at the **Maple Express** event at Charmingfare Farm (774 High St., Candia, 483-5623, visithethefarm.com). On Saturday, March 20, and Sunday, March 21, the farm is hosting the final weekend of its Maple Express experience, which includes a horse-drawn sleigh ride or a tractor train ride to an authentic sugar shack, where you'll meet a sugar maker and learn about tree tapping and watch how sap is boiled to make maple sugar and maple syrup. You'll get a chance for some taste testing too, with syrup served on silver dollar pancakes. After the ride back to the farm, head to the Discover Barn to visit with some animals. Various times are available between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Tickets must be purchased online. General admission is \$22; kids 23 months and under are free. Book an entire sleigh for up to four passengers for \$199. There's also a **Sugar Shack Live** event on Saturday, March 20, at various times in the evening, for \$25 per person. The event includes a visit to the sugar shack, where you can sit next to campfires and listen to live music from Dan Morgan. Visit the website to register for either event.

In Warner, the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum (18 Highlawn Road) is hosting **Maple Day** on Saturday, March 20, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be outdoor demonstrations of sap boiling and toma-



Photo courtesy of Charmingfare Farm.

hawk throwing from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., an informal walking tour of Medicine Woods at 11 a.m., a cooking demo at noon, and an outside walking tour of the 12-acre campus at 1 p.m. with the museum director. The museum will be open for self-guided tours (regular admission applies, \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors and students, \$7 for kids 6 to 12, no charge for kids under 6 or for Native Americans), and there will be maple syrup for sale from a local sugar house. The event is weather-dependent. Call 456-2600 or visit indianmuseum.org.

Candy crush

Chunky's Cinema Pub is hosting a family-friendly **Theater Candy Bingo** event on Saturday, March 20, at noon and 6 p.m. at its Manchester location (707 Huse Road), and at 6 p.m. that day at its Nashua location (151 Coliseum Ave.) and its Pelham location (150 Bridge St.). Purchase a ticket online to reserve a spot; for \$4.99 you get a ticket and a box of Chunky's theater candy. Players will turn in their candy to the host to get a bingo card, then play a few rounds to try to win some of that candy as well as other Chunky's prizes. Visit chunkys.com.

TREASURE HUNT



Dear Donna,

My sister came across these glasses at a flea market. We decided to get your input on them. They are different, but do they have any value?

Kim and Bev

Dear Kim and Bev,

These glasses are fun and wild! They look like mid-century style opera glasses. That is how women would use their spectacles back in the day — to watch operas, plays, etc. — and maybe they were used for the same purpose even in the 1950s and '60s.

It's tough to tell the age from a photo but if they are from the '50s or '60s they would probably have a value in the range of \$100. Beware, though; these glasses were reproduced because they were so funky and fun.

New ones would be in the range of \$10 to \$20.

I think for you to really determine the value you should have them looked at in person. But until then you have a general idea, and time to have fun with them. They could still be used today depending on the lens strength.

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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How does F-150 get same mileage in city, highway driving?



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:
My newspaper featured an ad for the 2021 Ford F-150 pickup. The ad said it has an Environmental Protection Agency fuel economy estimate of “24 mpg city/24 highway/24 combined.”

That sounds crazy to me. How can you get the same mileage making all the starts and stops in city driving that you can just flowing down the highway? — Matt

With a hybrid powertrain, Matt.

Those figures are exactly right. Well, they’re exactly what the EPA reports for the hybrid F-150 four-wheel drive under ideal conditions. The two-wheel drive did even better. Your own mileage may vary, as they say. And it almost always varies for the worse. But I wouldn’t be surprised if, in the real world, city mileage in that truck turned out to be better than highway mileage.

Here’s why. The F-150 has a 3.5-liter V6 gasoline engine that’s tuned to work with a 47 hp electric motor. Around town, the truck makes good use of that bat-

tery-powered electric motor, using it for lots of the typical stop-and-go driving that ruins gasoline engine fuel economy.

When you need more power, like when you want to accelerate quickly or if you’re pulling a heavy load, the gasoline engine kicks in, too. But in stop-and-go traffic, the electric motor does a lot of the heavy lifting.

On the highway, things are reversed. You’re primarily using the gasoline engine, with a boost from the electric motor when needed, like when you’re carrying a horse trailer full of in-laws to a family reunion.

If you want to get a general sense of where the hybrid powertrain helps the most, just compare the hybrid F-150 to the regular F-150. A non-hybrid four-wheel drive F-150 with a similar 3.5L V6 gets 18 mpg city (vs. 24 city for the hybrid) and gets 23 mpg highway (vs. 24 highway for the hybrid). So the hybrid improves the highway mileage by about 4 percent but boosts city mileage by 33 percent.

The other cool thing about the hybrid F-150 is that it also comes with an AC inverter that lets you use the hybrid battery as a source of electricity when you’re working at a job site. Or if you live in

Texas. With the standard 2.4kW inverter that comes with the truck, you can plug in your air compressor, your power washer or your tool chargers. And with the larger, optional 7.2kW inverter, you can plug in your 80-inch OLED TV, your LG French door refrigerator-freezer and your heated hot tub.

Dear Car Talk:

I have a 2016 manual Honda Fit. Sometimes upon ignition, there is a loud whirring noise under the hood that lasts a couple of seconds.

The car runs well, but the noise concerns me. Any thoughts? Thanks. — Alan

I have three thoughts, Alan. The first thought is: When the heck is Season 6 of *Better Call Saul* going to arrive?

My second thought is that you could have a slipping belt. A cold belt that’s worn out will often slip right when you start the car. And then, within a few seconds, the slipping friction heats it up enough so it grabs, and the noise stops.

My third thought — which is the thought I like best — is that you have a bad starter drive. When you turn the key or push the starter button to start the engine, there’s

a small gear called the starter drive that shoots out of the starter and engages with a bigger gear — called the ring gear — on the flywheel.

Turning the flywheel is what gets the engine going. Once the engine reaches a certain speed and is running on its own, that starter drive is supposed to retract back into the starter. At that point, the starter’s job is done.

But if your starter drive isn’t retracting right away — if it’s sticky or lazy due to a faulty overriding clutch — it’ll grind against the ring gear after the car starts and make a whirring, gnashing noise.

It can last a few seconds until the drive finally retracts. And, as you can probably imagine, it’s not great for the ring gear, so it’s something that should be fixed.

So my fourth thought — a bonus thought — is that you should take it to a mechanic, Alan. Leave the car with him overnight if need be, so he can hear the noise. A trained mechanic will be able to tell the difference between a bad starter drive and a slippery belt in two seconds. Or as we call it in the business, “two hours of labor.”

Good luck, Alan.

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133730

News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Greek pastries to go:** Join Assumption Greek Orthodox Church (111 Island Pond Road, Manchester) for a **drive-thru bake fest** on Saturday, March 27, from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. An assortment of homemade baked goods and desserts prepared by volunteers and members of the church's Philoptochos Ladies Society are available to order, like tsoureki (soft round sweet bread), baklava with walnuts and honey syrup, rizogalo (Greek rice pudding), kourambiedes (butter cookies rolled in powdered sugar), finikia (soft cookies flavored with orange zest and topped with crushed walnuts), galaktoboureko (creamy custard with honey lemon syrup) and koulourakia (crisp braided butter cookies), as well as spinach and cheese petas, and pastry sampler platters. Orders are online only and must be placed by March 24. The event is pickup only (no walk-ins) — similar drive-thru fests featuring more Greek meals are also planned for April and May. Visit foodfest.assumptionnh.org.

• **King Kone to reopen:** Soft-serve ice cream stand **King Kone** (336 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack) will reopen for its 49th season on Saturday, March 20, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., owner George Soffron confirmed. King Kone features around 30 flavors of soft-serve ice cream, more than a half dozen of which are available at a given time. Soffron told the Hippo that the stand will be offering blackberry, coffee and orange flavors of soft-serve during its opening weekend, in addition to the usual chocolate, vanilla and twist — flavors are often rotated out each week on Tuesdays or Wednesdays. This will be the first season that King Kone will be accepting charge cards as a form of payment. The stand will be open Monday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, from noon to 9 p.m., but Soffron said those hours may extend to around 10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays during the summer. Visit kingkoneh.com or find them on Facebook @kingkonemerrimack.

• **Plant-based palates:** The Derry Public Library will hold a virtual presentation on Wednesday, March 24, at 6 p.m., all about **plant-based diets**. Hannaford dietitian Heidi Tissot will talk about the emerging plant-based eating movement and the foods that fit into this pattern with moderation. She'll also showcase specific plant-based proteins and other vegan and vegetarian options that you can easily implement in your diet. Visit derry.org to register — a Zoom link will be sent to all participants prior to the program.

• **Cocktails and craft brews:** Get 26 ▶

FOOD

Flavors of India

Destination India opens in Derry



Mango Lassi. Photo courtesy of Destination India.



Navratan Korma (nine-gem curry.) Photo courtesy of Destination India.

By Matt Ingersoll
mingsoll@hippopress.com

A new eatery has brought Indian cuisine to downtown Derry, offering authentic meals from several regions across the country. Aptly named Destination India, the restaurant and bar held a grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony on March 12 following a brief soft launch period.

Co-owner and chef Navanath “Navi” Avhad comes from Mumbai and has cooked Indian cuisine all over the United States. Connections with restaurant owners and friends eventually led Avhad to New England — he worked at Tulsi Indian Restaurant in Kittery, Maine, for a time before opening Destination India with three business partners: Ram Bodke, Megha Bodke and Pranav Ambekar.

Avhad, who currently lives in Manchester, said the four ultimately chose Derry both because of its large population and the lack of an authentic Indian restaurant downtown.

“I always drive on this road, and I see all the cuisines, like Italian, Mexican [and] Chinese,” he said, “but something was missing, and that was Indian.”

Avhad said the menu has some familiar

dishes like vegetable samosas filled with potatoes, green peas and spices; chicken tikka masala, which is boneless chicken breast marinated in yogurt and spices and simmered in a tomato and cashew sauce; and multiple curries, with proteins like lamb, goat, chicken thighs or coconut shrimp. You'll also find some lesser-known items, like chicken vindaloo, or chicken marinated in a vinegar mixture, cooked with potatoes in a hot gravy. According to Avhad, vindaloo is an especially popular dish in Goa, a state on the southwestern coast of India that was once colonized by Portugal. Many Goan dishes were in fact influenced by Portuguese cuisine due to the country's centuries-long rule of the state — another option on the menu with Goan origins, he said, is shrimp balchao, or sauteed shrimp in a tangy, spicy sauce. It can be ordered as an appetizer or a main course.

Chicken Chettinad, or chicken cubed and cooked in fresh ground pepper, curry leaves, cilantro and spices, is also a traditional Southern Indian dish you'll see on the menu. Other items are representative of northern Indian states, like paneer butter masala, or sauteed cheese that's simmered in a tomato

cashew cream curry sauce.

“We have the option of mild, medium and hot ... for the spice level for our dishes, and people like that,” Avhad said. “We also have many vegetarian options for people.” One such dish is navratan korma, which literally translates to “nine-gem curry.” The different fruits, vegetables and nuts are the “gems” that make up the curry.

Some available items are cooked in a tandoor, a cylindrical clay oven that can reach temperatures of up to 900 degrees. In addition to tandoori chicken, shrimp and salmon, fresh flatbread called naan is baked fresh to order — you can get plain, butter or garlic naan, or a peshawari naan, which is filled with assorted nuts, coconut and dried fruits.

For desserts, Avhad makes his own kulfi, or Indian ice cream, in flavors like mango, pistachio and malai, a type of fresh cream. There's also rice kheer (Indian rice pudding), gulab jamun (deep fried dumplings cooked in a cardamom syrup) and mango lassi, a smoothie-like blended drink of yogurt, water and spices.

Even though Destination India was open for takeout and delivery only during its initial soft launch, Avhad said his staff were busier than they ever could have expected — they even had to stop taking orders that first Saturday night to get caught up. The eatery is now open for full in-house dining, in addition to takeout and delivery through DoorDash, and is looking into adding more tables outside when steadier warm weather returns. 🍷



Garlic, butter and onion naan. Photo courtesy of Destination India.

Destination India Restaurant & Bar

Where: 14A E. Broadway, Derry
Hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
More info: Visit destinationindianh.com, find them on Facebook @destinationindianh or call 552-3469

Neighborhood pies

Elm House of Pizza opens in Manchester

By Matt Ingersoll
mingsoll@hippopress.com

Back in the 1970s, Elm House of Pizza was a downtown favorite among Manchester locals for its grinders, spaghetti dinners and dozens of pizza pie varieties. Decades later, a new Queen City eatery is channeling that nostalgic neighborhood vibe while offering its own spin on a traditional house of pizza.

The latest iteration of Elm House of Pizza, which opened March 15 in the old Theo's restaurant, is the project of business partners Tim Baines of Mint Bistro and Bob Scribner of The Wild Rover Pub. Last summer the pair took over the 102 Elm St. space, which had most recently been Frida's Tacos & Tequila but was Theo's for more than 30 years before that.

Baines said the name was chosen as an homage to its 1970s predecessor — he recently shared a screenshot of its grand opening flyer from December 1973 on social media. The original Elm House of Pizza was a mile up the road at 866 Elm St. While there aren't the same ingredients or recipes as from years past, what you will find in the new spot is what he calls a modern twist on a traditional house of pizza, featuring everything from house pies and appetizers to fresh seafood dinners, pastas, burgers and more.

"We were taking a look at what we thought might be missing in Manchester, and we really felt that the south end neighborhoods are underserved in the pizza category," Baines said. "This is kind of an iconic space. Theo's had a great run here ... and we just thought it was a great location away from the hustle and bustle of Elm Street."

Pizzas come in two sizes, with vegan cheese and gluten-free cauliflower crusts available as substitutes and individual slices likely offered every Monday through Friday until 5 p.m.

There's a build-your-own option with dozens of toppings to choose from, in addition to several specialty pizzas — the House Pie, for instance, features tomato sauce, Italian sausage, ricotta cheese, a hot honey drizzle, and "cup-and-char" pepperoni, or smaller pepperoni pieces that form into cup shapes to trap the pizza's natural juices.

"We're definitely excited about how the House Pie is received. The flavors really come together in a magical way," Baines said. "The cup-and-char pepperoni is different. ... I think you're starting to see it become more popular."

But there's also more to look forward to than the pizzas. Fresh haddock and scallops are served daily, as well as house entrees like spaghetti and meatballs, chicken or eggplant Parmesan, chicken and broccoli alfredo,



Meat Lover's Pizza. Courtesy of Elm House of Pizza.

marinated steak tip dinners or shrimp scampi. Gluten-free zucchini noodles can also be swapped for cavatappi on any of the pasta options.

Sandwiches are served with either hand cut fries, coleslaw, potato salad or a vegetable of the day, and include steak and cheese subs, meatball subs, lobster rolls and several types of burgers. The appetizers menu has unique options of its own, like house pepper jack cheese sticks with marinara sauce, loaded potato skins, bacon-wrapped scallops and garlic Parmesan cheese curds.

Most of the restaurant's renovations took place in its bar area, which has been expanded. The drinks menu features an assortment of domestic and local craft beers, in addition to a few red and white wines and a selection of house mixed cocktails.

"Even though we're not a sports bar, I certainly envision it being a great place to come watch a game, [or] maybe grabbing pizzas for the family and having a couple of beers while you're waiting," Baines said. "Most pizza places wouldn't focus as much on the bar, but we want that to be a significant part of what we're doing here."

An outdoor patio at the rear of the restaurant seats about 40 people, and Baines said there are talks to extend the outdoor dining capacity in the parking lot during the summer. Online ordering and delivery are also expected in the coming weeks following the eatery's initial opening week. 🍕

Elm House of Pizza

Where: 102 Elm St., Manchester

Hours: Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

More info: Visit elmhop.com, find them on Facebook and Instagram, or call 232-5522 to place a takeout order

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IN THE KITCHEN

WITH JEFF LEDUC



Jeff LeDuc of Epping is the owner and founder of the Dawg Shed (find them on Facebook @dawgshed), a food stand he runs with family friend Shannon Knox that offers hot dogs, cold subs, salads, soups and other items made fresh daily, including chili dogs as specials on Fridays and Saturdays. LeDuc, who also owns a shed building and delivery company called JD's Sheds and More, had been running a hot dog cart on the side at local venues for about three years. He started the Dawg Shed last December — you can find it next to Floral Expressions Boutique (252 Calef Hwy., Epping) every Tuesday through Saturday, beginning at 11 a.m. and usually until the mid-to late afternoon, depending on the day.



What is your must-have kitchen item?

Definitely a knife. That's the most important.

What would you have for your last meal?

Something Italian, probably chicken Parm.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

I have three that I visit very frequently that are all right here in town. Telly's across the street, the Holy Grail Pub and then also DeBernardo's.

What celebrity would you like to see visiting your food stand?

I'd love to see anyone from the [Boston] Bruins team from the '70s or '80s, [like] Bobby Orr, Terry O'Reilly or Brad Park. All of them are very supportive of

the local hockey teams and are just great professional athletes.

What is your favorite thing on your menu?

A sauerkraut dog with spiced mustard.

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

I think the trend is what we're offering, which is fresh foods like homemade soups and sandwiches made right in front of you. ... I think more people now feel the need to support local businesses in their community.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

I love doing omelets in the morning, usually bacon and cheese. In the evening, there's nothing better than a nice T-bone steak cooked on the grill.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

Cranberry walnut chicken salad

From the kitchen of Jeff LeDuc and Shannon Knox of the Dawg Shed in Epping (combine the following ingredients)

Oven roasted chicken breast (quantity depending on preference)	2 to 3 cups mayonnaise
1 cup dried cranberries	1 tablespoon minced garlic
1 cup chopped walnuts	1 teaspoon onion powder
	2 teaspoons mixed Italian herbs

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 24

your tickets now for one of two **spring craft beer cocktail dinners** at each of the Copper Door Restaurant locations (15 Leavy Drive, Bedford; 41 S. Broadway, Salem), the next installment of the eatery's "Forks & Corks" dinner series. Happening on Tuesday, April 6, in Salem, and on Wednesday, April 7, in Bedford, each dinner will begin with a reception at 6 p.m., followed by a multi-course meal of items paired with a different cocktail using a local or regional brew as an ingredi-

ent. Courses will include frisee salad, roast lamb, blackened halibut tostada, steak frites and an espresso mousse for dessert, while the breweries represented in the cocktail pairings will be 603 Brewery in Londonderry, Stoneface Brewing Co. in Newington, Jack's Abby in Framingham, Mass., SoMe Brewing Co. in York, Maine, and Woodland Farms Brewery in Kittery, Maine. Tickets are \$75 per person and must be purchased online in advance. Visit copperdoor.com. 🍷



TRY THIS AT HOME

Cinnamon cereal cookies

Although I've been baking cookies for a long time, I had never considered making a cookie that incorporated cereal until a few years ago. Sure, I've made many, many batches of Rice Krispie treats, but putting cereal into an actual batch of cookie dough? It didn't cross my mind.

Then I saw a food show that featured Christina Tosi of Milk Bar, and she talked about her cereal cookies. With that a lightbulb turned on. Instead of adding chocolate chips to a cookie, why not try a flavorful cereal?

This is the perfect recipe for your first batch of cereal cookies. Although they are filled with and topped by cereal, it's also filled with cinnamon flavor, so they really aren't that different than many homemade cookies. While your fellow cookie eaters may raise an eyebrow to the idea of a cereal-filled cookie, these are likely to convince them of their yumminess.

Once you have established success with these, you can branch out and try more unique flavors. Perhaps a batch of apple or berry cereal cookies could be your next venture.

If you're looking for a different cook-



Cinnamon cereal cookies. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

ie recipe or are trying to finish a box of cereal quickly, give this recipe a try.

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. 🍪

Cinnamon cereal cookies

Makes 42 cookies

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 3 cups Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal, divided

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Combine butter and both sugars in the bowl of a stand mixer. Mix on speed 2 for

4 minutes.

Add eggs, one at a time, mixing until incorporated and scraping sides, if necessary.

Add vanilla, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, and flour, mixing until combined.

Take 2 cups of cereal and crush into small pieces.

Add to dough, stirring until combined.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Scoop heaping teaspoons of dough onto prepared sheet.

Flatten each mound of the dough with your hand.

Crush remaining cup of cereal into tiny pieces.

Sprinkle 1/2 teaspoon crushed cereal on each cookie. Press gently to adhere.

Bake for 12 minutes.

Transfer to a baking rack and cool fully.

Food & Drink

Farmers markets

- **Cole Gardens Winter Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Cole Gardens (430 Loudon Road, Concord), now through April 17. Visit colegardens.com.
- **Danbury Winter Market** is

Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Blazing Star Grange Hall (15 North Road, Danbury), now through April. Visit blazingstar-grange.org.

• **Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, inside the Families in Transition building (20 S. Main St.), next to the Con-

cord Food Co-op. Find them on Facebook @downtownconcord-winterfarmersmarket.

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



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FOOD



DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

Mister Handsome

I pulled into the parking lot to get my first Covid vaccine.

It was a bit science-fictiony/disaster-movie-y. Everything was being administered by the National Guard, all of whom were masked and wearing a disconcerting amount of mysterious equipment. As I pulled up to the second place in line, a guardsman had me roll down my window and told me, “OK, move up and talk to the *Sergeant*.” He emphasized the word *sergeant*, just the slightest bit, to let me know that this was somebody important, and that I’d better be on my best behavior. I was grateful for the warning.

I pulled up one slot, to where the Sergeant was waiting for me with a computer tablet.

He asked to see my identification, then pulled up my file.

Then he paused.

And gave me a Look. A very serious look. He was masked, of course, so I could only see his eyes, but even so, I knew I was under serious appraisal.

The issue, as it turned out, was my paperwork. Clearly, I had been in a goofy mood the previous night when I had filled out my medical forms. Under the category of Ongoing Conditions, I had written, “Chronic Handsomeness.”

After another moment, the Sergeant said, “I share your condition. I know the burden it can put on a man. Let’s get you out of here...,” and waved me into Parking Spot No. 1. It was a tiny moment of bonding.

I got my shot, and the sun came out, and birds and woodland creatures did a little musical number, etc.

But this got me thinking about the quality of handsomeness.

As it turns out, there is a drink dedicated to handsomeness — the Captain Handsome. I would not call it a *classic* cocktail, but it is not weirdly niche, and obscure, either. It is a fairly complex drink, with a surprising number of ingredients, but pretty simple to actually make.

So I made one. And it was good — one of those drinks that you aren’t really sure about with the first sip, but becoming more and more agreeable with each subsequent taste. It is made with *crème de violette*, which gives it a really lovely lavender color. It is crisp and floral, and washing the glass with absinthe gives it a strangely alluring hint of — something.

Here’s the issue, though. The Captain Handsome has five or six ingredients (depending on whether you count seltzer as an ingredient) and at least one of them — the *crème de violette* — requires a trip out of state to get. Absinthe is a bit pricey, and I’m



Mister Handsome cocktail. Photo by John Fladd.

reluctant to ask someone to lay out 30 bucks for the 1/8 of an ounce or so that it would take to rinse a martini glass with it.

So, here’s my thinking: Do any of us *need* the superhero level of handsomeness implied by the name *Captain Handsome*? I, for one, would be happy with a *Mister Handsome* level of alcohol-induced handsomeness.

Mister Handsome

A tiny amount of bourbon – Given the tiny amount you’ll be using, and the number of competing flavors in this cocktail, probably not your *best* bourbon.

2 ounces gin – I’ve been enjoying Death’s Door, lately.

½ ounce blue curacao – This will not give you the same handsome color as in the original drink, but rest assured it will be handsome.

½ ounce Campari – this will turn the color of the drink from a whimsical, tropical blue to a steely violet. It will also add a slight bitterness to balance out the sweetness from the curacao.

½ ounce fresh squeezed lime juice

5 drops of rose water – Rose water can be tricky stuff. You’re always risking adding one drop too many and making a drink taste grandmotherly. In this case, though, be of stout heart. You will need the floweriness to replicate the floral note of the missing *crème de violette*.

1 to 2 ounces plain seltzer – I like Topo Chico for its intense bubblyness.

(1) Rinse a chilled cocktail glass with bourbon. Swirl it around to coat the inside of the glass, then pour off the excess.

(2) Add the gin, blue curacao, Campari, lime juice and rose water to a shaker, half-

filled with ice. Shake thoroughly. If you shatter some of the ice, so much the better. Tiny ice shards really add to the drinkability of this cocktail.

(3) Strain into the prepared cocktail glass, then top with seltzer. (Don’t skip this step. The bubbles add a bracing mouth-feel to this drink, which raises it from a *Mister Attractive-Enough-I-Suppose* to a full-on *Mister Handsome*.)

The original Captain Handsome is garnished with a brandied cherry. This version doesn’t need it. Its steely grey color would contrast too much with the whimsy of the cherry.

This reimagined cocktail retains a lot of the mystery and allure of the original. It still has that “do-I-like-it?” quality at the first sip, then a growing amount of pleasure and affection as you work your way down the glass. (Or it works its way down you. Either/or.) The gin gives it an astringent air of authority. There is the barest hint of bourbon in the background, making you feel more like a grown-up as you drink it. There is the slightest kiss of sweetness from the blue curacao, but not enough to even hint that this is some sort of hipster, gimmick drink.

This drink lends itself well to small gatherings — even intimate ones. A sip or two will give you the confidence to make direct eye contact with a guest as you serve them one of their own. “Yes,” your gaze will say, “I know. But I am strong enough to be responsible with this amount of handsomeness. You are in good hands.”

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

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Meet Martin Reyes

The winemaker for Peter Paul Wines

By Fred Matuszewski
food@hippopress.com

Meet Martin Reyes, a Master of Wine and the first American of Mexican descent to achieve that honor. Reyes is a wine maker and chief wine officer for Peter Paul Wines in Napa Valley, California, and an importer for the Pennsylvania market. The recipient of many wine accolades, Reyes said in a recent phone interview that he stumbled into the wine industry. A graduate of Stanford in 2000, he set out to become a recruiter for high-tech companies, up until the bottom fell out of the tech economy immediately thereafter. Without a job, he tended bar and became interested in the business of wine, winemaking and viticulture. He stocked shelves and then landed a job with Fred Beringer at the St. Helena Wine Center (re-named The Bottle Shop last year). In this well-established tasting room, Martin learned how to appreciate extraordinary wines, his favorite of which is Champagne. He credits his accomplishments to the support of the Beringers.

The Institute of Masters of Wine is the home of exceptional expertise in the wine world. Started more than 65 years ago as an exam for the U.K. wine trade, it is now a globally recognized title held by just over 400 individuals worldwide and 50 in the United States. The exam tests the breadth and depth of a candidate's theoretical knowledge and tasting skills in the art, science, and business of wine. One must prepare a theory paper and in-depth research project. Martin's MW dissertation, "Crowdsourced Ratings for Wine: Exploring the Rise of the Consumer Critic and Its Impact on Purchasing Behavior in a U.S.A. Environment," was recently published (read it at reyeswinegroup.com).

Peter Paul Wines is owned by Peter T. Paul, CEO of Headlands Asset Management, and an alumnus and benefactor of the University of New Hampshire. Shortly after forming the winery, Peter Paul brought on Martin to develop a portfolio of wines. Martin set out to source grapes from some of the best vineyards in Napa and Sonoma and is now producing extraordinary wines, the "Live Free or Die" wines being exclusive to the state of New Hampshire. A portion of the sale of these wines also goes back toward supporting local New Hampshire organizations.

Peter Paul "LIVE FREE OR DIE" 2017 Sonoma Coast Chardonnay (originally \$24.99 at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlet and reduced to \$21.99) has a beautiful straw color and floral aromas of apple and peach along with some yeast. It is full to the mouth with melon and minerality, along with a touch of citrus. Vanilla is also present in the long finish on the palate, a perfect pairing to shellfish. The grapes of this wine come

from the Bacigalupi Vineyard, in the Russian River Valley. The Bacigalupi Vineyard is famous for having produced the fruit that went into the Napa Valley Chardonnay from Château Montelena, which triumphed over acclaimed French wines in the 1973 Paris tasting.

Peter Paul "LIVE FREE OR DIE" 2018 Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir (also originally \$24.99 at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlet, and reduced to \$21.99) is a pedigree from another outstanding vineyard in Sonoma, Terra de Promissio vineyard in the Petaluma Gap. Terra de Promissio (Land of Promise) grapes go into some of the finest wineries' blends, including Castello di Amerosa, Hanzell Vineyards, Kosta Browne and Williams-Selyem. Planted in 2002 by Charles and Diana Karren, a converted 53-acre ranch with rolling hills and a southwestern exposure, it is one of the most sought-after producers of pinot noir grapes. This wine has a beautiful red garnet color. It has a light bouquet of cherry, along with some earthiness, a departure from many pinot noirs and more akin to Burgundian pinot noirs. The nose carries through to the palate with a bright and lush texture and acidity to a long finish.

Peter Paul 2016 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon (available at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlet at \$39.99) is a blend of cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, petit verdot, merlot and malbec grapes, sourced throughout Napa Valley from Rutherford, to Mount Veeder, to St. Helena. This is a low production line of only 400 to 500 cases. The nose is of cassis, plum and vanilla. On the tongue, the wine is full of black cherry fruit and light, velvety tannins. The finish is long, which makes this a perfect pairing for a fine, rare rib-eye steak. This wine was awarded "One of the U.S.'s Best Napa Cabernets" by Wine & Spirits magazine.

Working alongside Trevor Smith, a former cellar master at Screaming Eagle who offers his technical expertise, Martin has created wines that are not only great tasting but appealing because of their price points, one of the hallmarks of Martin's goals to popularize wine.

Fred Matuszewski is a local architect and a foodie and wine geek. 🍷



Martin Reyes. Courtesy photo.



Peter Paul wines. Courtesy photo.

American Canadian Genealogical Society

Founded in Manchester, NH in 1973, the *American Canadian Genealogical Society* is the oldest genealogical society in the U.S. specializing in family tree research for persons who have family roots extending into French Canada, and ultimately into Europe.

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For further information please contact us via our Web site at ACGS.org, call us at 603-622-1554, (option #3 for "Research") or write to us at One Sundial Ave., 317N, Manchester, NH 03103.

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CDs pg30

- Kristian Montgomery and the Winterkill Band, *Prince of Poverty* A+
- Amber Dust, *Nothing is Lost* A

BOOKS pg31

- *No One is Talking About This* A
 - **Book Notes**
- Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, email asykeny@hippopress.com. To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

FILM pg32

- *Yes Day* B
- *Cherry* C+

**Kristian Montgomery and the Winterkill Band, *Prince of Poverty* (self-released)**

Catching up with a couple of local-ish releases, things that have sat in my Facebook messages for a while, mostly because there's always a hassle dealing with local guys. Take note, bands, just send direct links, OK, because I hate Dropbox, and now that that's out of the way, let's look at this (very good) album from Montgomery, a Danish alt-country-hippie who's now based in Boston, working as a fisherman in Brewster, Mass. Although the biographical materials claim the album's a genre-goulash, I didn't find that to be true, more like something between '70s country-pop and Hank Williams III, i.e. there's a discernible punk influence afoot. Lots of throwback southern rock going on here, too: The LP starts out with "American Fire," which will immediately have you thinking of The Outlaws, a sound, when done well, that's always welcome at this desk. And so on and so forth, some things that evoke Amos Lee, Rascal Flatts in afterparty mode, stuff like that, all of it memorable and never annoying. A+ — *Eric W. Saeger*

Amber Dust, *Nothing Is Lost* (self-released)

Another local release, this time a sort-of-compilation album (actually an audiophile's take on the movie *Boyhood*, in many ways) from Sandown-based Jesse Nickerson, whom we've talked about before. Nickerson's obviously a gentle soul, and his nicely lived life is documented here in the form of a sequence of alt-Americana tunes that were written for friends and family and such. For the most part, the record Krazy-Glues your basic Sufjan Stevens patter to Steve Winwood-level notions of songwriting, which means you'll hear billowy melodies spiced with Wilco-ish experiments that are guaranteed not to get on your nerves. The music itself was salvaged from a personal collection of cassettes, spanning from 1985 to 2000; it all had to be digitally rescued, and thus it's hilariously casual overall, with songs often introduced by background chatter from various bystanders and cohorts. I particularly liked "Tethered," wherein a '70s stun-guitar line matches up nicely with a trashcan-bashing drum line during one segue. A — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

- Blessed be, y'all, blessed be, because guess what, new albums are coming out this Friday, March 19! I love seeing what's in the weekly list, guys. It's a surprise every week, like going into a haunted house at the circus, except the ghosts and goblins and mummies who used to play bass for REO Speedwagon and assorted talentless hipster phonies are *real*, and they'll totally *get me* if I don't have my trusty snark-hammer at the ready, and I am fully prepared to smite them! Now take my hand, random person who's reading my genius at the diner, yes, take my hand, strap yourself in for safety, and let's see what's goin' on, in the crazy haunted house world of rock 'n' roll and whatever! Yikes, looky there, folks, the first creature to pop out from behind the spooky gnarled trees is ancient cowboy-hat sorceress **Loretta Lynn**, whose new album, *Still Woman Enough*, is on the way! This is her 50th album, and no, I'm not kidding, she's made 50 albums, not even including her duet albums with Conway Twitty. How does she do it? I don't know! But I'll bet she's got to be playing thrash metal by now, so let's see what the dilly is with the new single — wait, stop the ride, there's no single! There's just a "trailer" that's 20 seconds long. If there's anything on earth I detest to the core, it's album trailers! But there's banjo being plucked slowly, and she rap-sings about being a coal miner's daughter, so it's safe to say she still sounds like Reba McEntire. OK, that's it, the first stop is always a fail in these cheap haunted houses, so keep your arms and legs safely inside as we press onward!

- Hope you took your heart medication, guys, because look, the next stop in our ride through the poorly maintained ghost house is a Canadian act, some indie-rock imbecile named **Chad VanGalen!** Look out, it's a moose with a knife, ha ha, so scary! The new album is *World's Most Stressed Out Gardener*, and maybe you've already heard the single, "Samurai Sword." If so, I'll bet you wish you hadn't; I mean, I sure didn't need to hear this numbskull sing really bad harmony with some edge-lady girl he probably met on TikTok through some "Really Bad Music" search. They literally sound like they're drunk, or just really stupid, and the beat is a rickety messy joke, like something the Rolling Stones recorded just to troll their manager into thinking they'd lost their minds. OK, next stop, gang, choo choo!

- Here we are at the spooky graveyard part of the ride, guys, with an album from **Bell Orchestre**, called *House Music!* The horror angle here is that this is a six-piece "avant-garde" band from Montreal, and there are fiddles and other trappings used by hayloft bands that have never been inside an actual hayloft. These guys opened for Arcade Fire early on, and the first single here is called "V: Movement." It is, of course, awful, sort of Eno-style ambient, with some disparate layers, like belled trumpet, cheap synth, and bad singing. Moving on.

- Last stop, kids, with the big showstopping gorilla monster, **Sting**, and his new album, *Duets*, which, I'll bet you anything, doesn't include a duet with anyone who doesn't own a few Ferraris. Italian singer dude Zucchero adds his voice to a clunker song called "September." It's almost OK, but then it turns into a song you swear you've heard before on every lousy Sting album. OK, out, everybody out, single file, let's go. — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

Retro Playlist

In this space 10 years ago today, I wrote about America's favorite Honey Boo Boo singing lady **Britney Spears** and her then-new album, *Femme Fatale*. Back then, it was de rigueur for pop divas to use trance techno in their beats. Remember those days? It was like the three hacks who write all the lousy, interchangeable pop songs for America's smarmy, Nerds-gobbling tweens were listening to nothing but **Tiesto**, and life wasn't all that bad. I'm sure you've forgotten by now, but "Till the World Ends" was the single, and it was pretty decent, except for this one stupid "hiccupping" Auto-Tune effect that was added to her



voice, an unsurprising move by the corporate Borgs who've ruined everything else in music to date.

Ho ho ho, know what else was released that week? The soundtrack to the famous TV show *NCIS*, delivered in the form of a CD titled *NCIS: The Official TV Score*. My Stupid-O-Meter had to be put in the shop for a week after that one, but before the poor device fritzed out I was able to get off a quick "it's such cheesy horrible music that I automatically went to the kitchen to make a horrible cheese sandwich when I heard it just now."

It was a tough week, that week. I had to pretend to give a fair examination to *The King of Limbs*, the album **Radiohead** had just put out.

I have no problem admitting that I absolutely detest Radiohead, probably just as much as does fellow music snarkician Dr. David Thorpe, former editor of the "Your Band Sucks" page on the Something Awful site. Thorpe once commented that, oh-so-fittingly, Radiohead's singer, **Thom Yorke**, has two superfluous letters in his name. And so on, hate hate hate. My take on the album was that along with a couple of **Aphex Twin**-style moves, most of the sounds "came from the same old pit of eye-rollingly mournful slowbie-slug nonsense in which they traditionally wallow."

The other album on the slab that week was



Grails' *Deep Politics*, a band that's essentially a work in progress, given that they have no singer. Nonetheless, I submitted, "If you're into penny stocks, there's actual potential here." (I may have been lying, though, just to keep the PR person from getting too bummed out.)

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. 🍷

No One Is Talking About This, by Patricia Lockwood (208 pages, Riverhead)

Two-thirds through her first novel, Patricia Lockwood slyly skewers the Granite State, saying that the author of a certain book “made New Hampshire sound like a place you wanted to go.”

Worse, the book in question was a sex diary.

Don’t hold it against her. Lockwood skewers everybody and everything in *No One Is Talking About This*, which is a scathing indictment of online life — or as she calls it, life in “the portal” — combined with a tender story of love and loss.

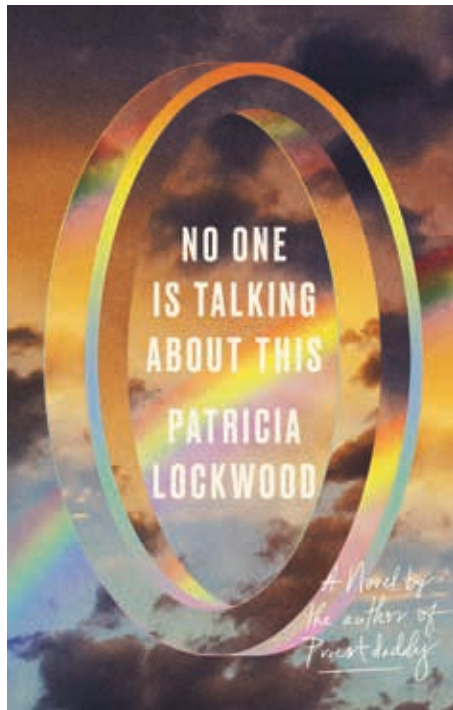
Lockwood has published two books of poetry as well as a widely acclaimed memoir, 2017’s *Priestdaddy*. She has a poet’s voice and a hawk’s eye, able to pinpoint contemporary absurdities from fish pedicures to paleo diets, from fatbergs to men who expose themselves online to (yes, this is a thing) snail face cream.

“Modern womanhood was more about rubbing snail mucus on your face than she had thought it would be,” Lockwood writes of her protagonist, a social-media star who inexplicably vaulted to stardom by posting a random question, “Can a dog be twins?”

“This,” Lockwood writes, “had raised her to a certain airy prominence.” Like so many vapid celebrities, the woman becomes famous for being famous and is invited to speak at events with people known more by their user names than their actual names, people whose lives revolve around interacting with strangers and commenting on everything that happens in the world. (Because then they have some say in what happens. “She had to have some say in what happened, even if it was only WHAT? Even if it was only HEY!”)

Written in a third-person stream of consciousness, with characters who are not identified by name, the style is a bit jarring at first but grows on you, and is fitting for the attention-challenged citizens of the portal, which would be us. While there are traditional chapter breaks, many of the paragraphs act as chapters, as Lockwood blazes from one topic to another: baby Hitlers on the internet, gods of foreigners, jetlag, a dictator who might as well have been identified as Donald Trump.

Her commentary is rich in politics, as when Lockwood writes, “White people, who had the political education of potatoes — lumpy, unseasoned and biased toward the Irish — were suddenly feeling compelled to speak out about injustice. This happened once every forty years on average, usually after a period when folk



music became popular again.”

Even if the reader would normally be inclined to rage at whatever opinion Lockwood expresses, her shocking arrangements of words knocks all the fight out of you. The New York Times has called her a “word witch” with good reason.

I would have been happy to read 300 pages of Lockwood’s poke-the-world zingers, but she inserts a baby into the story, the protagonist’s niece, diagnosed in utero with a terrible disease. The woman leaves her life in the portal to be with family, becoming the sort of person that she had previously avoided on the internet, “the ones in mad grief, whose mouths were open like caves with ancient paintings inside.”

Ultimately, some of the questions the protagonist screams are the existential problems of life, the same ones that would have been posed by Plato and Aquinas, had they had computers.

“What did we have a right to expect from this life? What were the terms of the contract? What had the politician promised us? The Realtor, walking us through being’s beautiful house? Could we sue? We would sue! Could we blow it all open? We would blow it all open! Could we ... could we *post* about it?”

For all its quiriness, *No One Is Talking About This* is a deeply moving novel, one that seems to accomplish something the protagonist says isn’t being done: writing about what’s happening out there, what’s happening *in* there, what’s happening to us. We gather the things in the portal, Lockwood writes, “as God’s own flowers,” not questioning whether they are poisonous.

Not that real life isn’t enough to slay us. But novels like this alleviate the sting, make dull the poison. **A** — Jennifer Graham

BOOK NOTES

This may be inspiring or soul-slating for aspiring writers, but Steven Pressfield wrote for 17 years before he got paid for his craft.

His first hit, however, was out of the park.

It was a novel, *The Legend of Bagger Vance* (Avon, 272 pages), which eventually became a movie. Since then, Pressfield has worked steadily as an author and screenwriter, along the way becoming a respected coach for other artists in his inspirational books *The War of Art* (Black Irish Entertainment, 190 pages) and *Do the Work* (Black Irish Entertainment, 112 pages), among others.

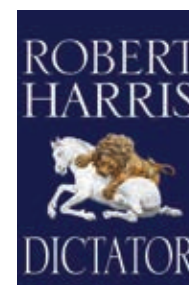
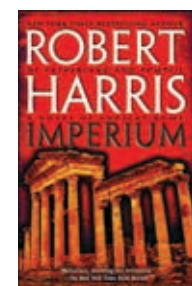
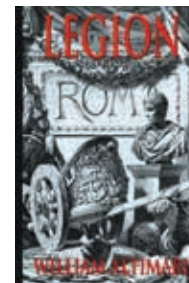
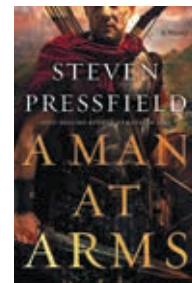
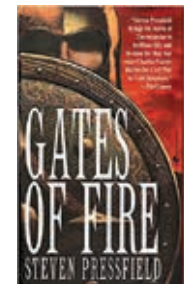
Though not as well-known as these titles, other Pressfield books explore the ancient world, usually its military. *Gates of Fire* (Bantam, 400 pages), for example, is about Spartan soldiers and the battle of Thermopylae in 480 BC, and it’s required reading for all officers in the U.S. Marine Corps, Pressfield says.

His new novel is *A Man at Arms* (W.W. Norton, 336 pages), and it’s set in the Roman Empire in the aftermath of the crucifixion of Jesus. The protagonist is a character from previous books, Telamon of Arcadia, who has been hired by the Romans to apprehend a courier delivering a letter to insurrectionists in Corinth. It is, according to the publisher, “a gripping saga of conquest and rebellion, bloodshed and faith.” It also sounds like it might be good reading around Easter.

There is, of course, plenty to choose from when it comes to historical novels about the Roman Empire. It’s a subgenre in itself, fueled by readers that Reddit has dubbed “Legioners.” (A legion was the largest unit in the Roman army.) My favorite of the genre is, appropriately enough, called *Legion*, by William Altimari (Imperium, 296 pages).

For a deeper dive, check out the three-part series by British author Robert Harris, who specializes in historical fiction. Harris’s most recent book, *I/2* (Knopf, 320 pages), is set in World War II, but his three-part series on Cicero and Rome was well-regarded. They are *Imperium*, *Lustrum* and *Dictator*, and while published separately in hardcover, they are available in a paperback set from Arrow.

Or, you can skip the fiction and go straight to the history in Mike Duncan’s *The Storm Before The Storm, The Beginning of the End of the Roman Republic* (PublicAffairs, 352 pages). — Jennifer Graham



Books

Author events

• **AMY MACDONALD** Monadnock Writers’ Group welcomes children’s book author. Virtual, via Zoom. Sat., March 20, 9:45 a.m. Email monadnockwriters@gmail.com.

• **PAULA MUNIER** Author presents *The Hiding Place*. Hosted by Gibson’s Bookstore in Concord. Virtual, via Zoom. Tues., March 30, 7 p.m. Registration required. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com or call 224-0562.

• **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.

Book Clubs

• **BOOKERY** Online. Monthly. Third Thursday, 6 p.m. Bookstore based in Manchester. Visit bookery-mht.com/online-book-club or call 836-6600.

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

• **TO SHARE BREWING CO.** 720 Union St., Manchester. Monthly. Second Thursday, 6 p.m. RSVP required. Visit tosharebrewing.com or call 836-6947.

• **GOFFSTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY** 2 High St., Goffstown. Monthly. Third Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. Call 497-2102, email elizabethw@goffstownlibrary.com or visit goffstownlibrary.com

• **NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY** Online. Monthly. Second Friday, 3 p.m. Call 589-4611 or visit nashualibrary.org.

Poetry

• **TEEN POETS LAUREATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE READING** Teen Poets Laureate will be reading, screen sharing and discussing their work. An open mic will be open to any teens who are interested in applying for next year’s Teen Poet Laureate New Hampshire program. Part of the Poetry Society of New Hampshire’s Reading Series. Virtual, via Zoom. Tues., March 30, 7 p.m. Visit poetrysocietynh.wordpress.com.

Yes Day (PG)

Jennifer Garner stars in *Yes Day*, a delightful family comedy about wacky hijinks on a day when kids pick the fun.

Or put another way, Jennifer Garner plays a mom in a waking nightmare of a horror story about a lady going through some stuff personally and professionally who is bullied by her family into participating in some internet nonsense to prove she can still loosen up and have fun — you know what would be fun how about someone else do the laundry for a change, dishes don't wash themselves, don't want to see Mom erupt in a rage volcano when she steps on a Lego how about you PICK UP THE LEGOS.

It is possible this movie touched a nerve.

When the Torres children — young teen Katie (Jenna Ortega), tween Nando (Julian Lerner) and young Ellie (Everly Carganilla) — complain that their mom, Allison (Garner), always says “no” to everything they want to do, she makes a deal with them. If they approach their kid duties (chores, homework) with more gusto, they will earn a Yes Day, a 24-hour period where the parents won't say no to any of their plans or desires, within legal, geographical and financial limits. (Their “mom says no” complaints are documented both in a haiku Katie writes for school and a movie Nando makes calling his mom a dictator for, among other things, losing her cool when she steps on Legos.) And even though that sounds exhausting, Allison approaches the day with excitement because it means spending non-nagging time with her family, most significantly with independence-seeking Katie and with work-absorbed husband Carlos (Edgar Ramirez). Allison, a former sky-dive and backpack-the-world type, is also under some stress outside the home as her attempts to reenter the workforce have not been successful.

A lot of cute giant ice cream sundae-eating and paintball-ish game-playing ensues. The actors here have good family chemistry, with Ortega believably walking that teen line between having fun with siblings



Yes Day

and parents while still wanting to do mature things with her friends, and the other kids turning in cute but not cloying performances. Ramirez turns in a completely fine “likeable dad” performance, even if his character gets the least to do of the bunch. Perhaps because of movies like *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* and her Capital One ads, I've come to think of Garner more as a mom character than as her *Alias* action hero but here she reminds you can she can pull off physical comedy and action-y moments as well as more sitcom-y moments of humor.

Even with a side plot involving Katie and her plans to go to a music festival with some friend's cousin and some older-dude friends, the movie is basically focused on wholesome goofiness. Wholesome goofiness and carpet-destroying foam — but I don't think everybody who watches this is going to spend quite as much time thinking “how are they going to get that out of the car upholstery” and “does homeowners insurance cover that” as I did. But then maybe that's a sign that I need a Yes Day. (No.) **B**

Rated PG for some rude and suggestive material, and brief language, according to the MPA on [filmratings.com](https://www.filmratings.com). Directed by

*Miguel Arteta with a screenplay by Justin Malen (based on the book by Amy Krouse Rosenthal and Tom Lichtenheld), *Yes Day* is an hour and 26 minutes long and is available on Netflix.*

Cherry (R)

Tom Holland plays a young man who falls into addiction in *Cherry*, a movie directed by Russo brothers Anthony and Joe of Marvel movies fame.

Specifically, they directed the *Captain Americas Winter Soldier* and *Civil War* and two *Avengers* — *Infinity War* and *Endgame*. I mention this because it's hard not to watch this movie as “Anthony and Joe Russo show they can do something not Marvel” or maybe as “Anthony Russo and Joe Russo bring popcorn movie flash to a downbeat story.”

We first see Holland, whose character isn't called by name in the movie, as he prepares to rob a bank, explaining his actions to us in narration that is weaved through the movie. The bank robbery serves as bookends to his short (in years) life story, starting when he is aimlessly attending college and meets Emily (Ciara Bravo), the girlfriend who quickly becomes his wife, through a stint in the Army and into his post-Army years of PTSD, hero-

in addiction and crime.

The bare bones of *Cherry* are a thoroughly depressing story that the movie manages to add humor (dark humor) to and that is warmed up by Holland, who I think does an above average job as a kid who seems a little bit like he's blown by the wind through his life.

Bravo, whose Emily feels more like Holland's character's projection of her than she does like a fully formed person, feels sort of sleepy throughout. Their relationship is one of the cores of this movie but her wispiess prevents us from ever really understanding why she stays with Holland or why the relationship is so important to him.

I wasn't bothered by the movie's general storytelling showiness, all strange comic/tragic asides, stylized shots and fourth-wall-breaking narration. Perhaps at a runtime shorter (significantly shorter) than two hours and 22 minutes the style of the movie and the general solid-ness of Holland's performance would be enough to keep things moving and to make the movie's points (assuming the elements about the military, the war, careless opioid prescription and the socioeconomics of a gray-looking Cleveland are points the movie's trying to make and not just, like, story-telling accessories). But you feel this movie's lengthy runtime and it doesn't always provide you with a good reason why you are lingering in this or that moment. As a result, a lot of the more stylish elements end up feeling like padding.

Cherry isn't a bad movie but the result of all this moviemaking style put on a relatively thin story is that you feel like you're getting about four inches of elaborate frosting on one inch of cake. **C+**

*Rated R for graphic drug abuse, disturbing and violent images, pervasive language and sexual content, according to the MPA on [filmratings.com](https://www.filmratings.com). Directed by Anthony Russo and Joe Russo with a screenplay by Angela Russo-Otstot and Jessica Goldberg (from the novel *Cherry* by Nico Walker), *Cherry* is two hours and 22 minutes long and is available on Apple TV+. 🍷*

AT THE SOFAPLEX***Coming 2 America* (R)**

Eddie Murphy, Arsenio Hall.

Murphy's 1988 comedy gets a sequel that feels like, essentially, one of those EW movie reunion photo shoots with a few next-generation people sprinkled throughout (Leslie Jones, KiKi Lane, Tracy Morgan). Everybody looks great — I highly recommend checking out the Hollywood Reporter story about the cos-

tumes, which were created by Ruth E. Carter, the Oscar-winning designer behind the *Black Panther* costumes. I maybe recommend it (and a forthcoming *Coming 2 America* fashion lookbook? Please?) more than the movie, about which I had these thoughts: (1) I honestly don't know if I ever saw the original all the way through or if it was one of those movies I just sort of absorbed parts of over the years. Or maybe it's just been that long since 1988. (2) As many have noted, all the actors (including Wesley Snipes, Shari Headley, James Earl Jones,

John Amos and random cameos, like Trevor Noah) seem like they're having a great time. (3) In addition to the *Coming 2 America* lookbook, I'd like a whole album of new En Vogue/ Salt-N-Pepa collaborations (we get a cute reworking of “Whatta Man” here). (4) With everybody having such a great time while wearing such fun looks, does it really matter if the movie felt kinda “meh” most of the time?

The plot just barely holding everything together is that with the death of King Jaffee (Jones), Prince Akeem (Murphy) needs

to return to America to find his long lost son to serve as his heir, as he and his wife, Lisa (Headley), only ever had daughters, who apparently can't take the throne. This movie features less “2 America” and more of the American, newly-titled Prince Lavelle (Jermaine Fowler) coming to Akeem's African country of Zamunda. Lavelle learns the ways of his new royal family, Akeem's wife Lisa deals with her annoyance at having Akeem show up with his new son (and the son's mom, played by Jones) and Akeem's oldest daughter

Meeka (Lane) chafes at having what she feels is her rightful role as future monarch usurped. The movie throws this all out there but, in keeping things light and jokey, never deals with its story points with much depth, which can make the story feel thin overall.

But, again, with wardrobe items like the red-and-gold wedding dress that appears at the end of the movie (Google it), does it really matter? **B-** primarily for fashion, En Vogue and Salt-N-Pepa and general nostalgia *Available on Amazon Prime.*

Have an Oscar movie night

Where to see the 2021 nominees

By Amy Diaz
adiaz@hippopress.com

We finally have the Oscar nominees for 2020 films.

Announced March 15, it's a pretty solid list for such a weird year (films from first two months of 2021 were also eligible; the Oscar ceremony is scheduled for April 25). Most of the early-2020 hopefuls (Elisabeth Moss for *The Invisible Man*, anything for *First Cow* or *Never Rarely Sometimes Always* or *The Forty-Year-Old Version*) didn't make an appearance on the list but late-season favorites like *Minari*, *Promising Young Woman*, *Judas and the Black Messiah* and *Nomadland* have heavy award presence.

And now the fun really starts: seeing all the nominees. Many of this year's big nominees had their "opening weekends" on streaming services so most are relatively easy to find. Here's how to see the films in the big feature film categories:

Best picture

- ***The Father*** — This movie is in theaters (as close as the AMC Methuen, according to Fandango) now and will be available via video on demand on Friday, March 26. The movie also received nominations for lead actor (Anthony Hopkins), supporting actress (Olivia Coleman), film editing and production design.

- ***Judas and the Black Messiah*** — This Fred Hampton biopic was on HBO Max for a month when it was first released and is now in theaters. It also received two supporting actor nominations (for Daniel Kaluuya and Lakeith Stanfield) and nominations for cinematography, original song and original screenplay.

- ***Mank*** — This *Citizen-Kane*-behind-the-scenes tale of old Hollywood is available on Netflix and also received nominations for lead actor (Gary Oldman), supporting

actress (Amanda Seyfried), cinematography, costume design, directing (by David Fincher), makeup and hairstyling, original score, production design and sound.

- ***Minari*** — This beautiful story of a Korean American family is in theaters (in the Boston area) and available for rent via VOD. It also received nominations for lead actor (Stephen Yeun), supporting actress (Yuh-Jung Youn), directing (Lee Isaac Chung), original score and original screenplay.

- ***Nomadland*** — This tale of a woman dealing with her losses while living as a nomad (she travels from job to job living in her van) is in theaters (including in Keene Cinemas) and on Hulu. It also received nominations for lead actress (Frances McDormand), cinematography, directing (Chloé Zhao), film editing and adapted screenplay.

- ***Promising Young Woman*** — This searing (but at times bleakly humorous) tale of grief and vengeance is in theaters (in the Boston area) and available for rent via VOD. It also received nominations for lead actress (Carey Mulligan), directing (Emerald Fennell — and yes you read that right, two female director nods this year!), film editing and original screenplay.

- ***Sound of Metal*** — This movie about a musician who loses his hearing is available via Amazon Prime and was also nominated for lead actor (Riz Ahmed), film editing, sound and original screenplay.

- ***The Trial of the Chicago 7*** — Aaron Sorkin's very Sorkin-y movie about the 1968 Democratic Convention protests is available on Netflix and is also nominated for supporting actor (Sacha Baron Cohen), cinematography, film editing, original song and original screenplay.

Other movies with acting nominations

- ***Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*** — This Net-

flix release based on an August Wilson play garnered nominations for lead actress (Viola Davis) and is the last chance to honor Chadwick Boseman, who was nominated for lead actor. The movie also received a nomination for costume design and production design.

- ***One Night in Miami...*** — This Amazon Prime movie based on a Kemp Powers play got Leslie Odom Jr. a supporting actor nomination as well as an original song nomination and an adapted screenplay nomination.

- ***The United States vs. Billie Holiday*** — This biopic of Holiday is a bit of a mess but Andra Day's performance as the singer makes it worth watching; it's available now on Hulu.

- ***Pieces of a Woman*** — Vanessa Kirby is excellent in this Netflix release about grief (at least she is in the hour and 40-ish minutes of the movie I watched; I guess now I need to make myself watch the harrowing first 30 minutes of the movie).

- ***Borat Subsequent Moviefilm*** — I think, years from now, this movie, available on Amazon Prime, is going to be a time capsule of weirdness, with all the Trump and Covid and political conspiracy stuff crammed into this "hidden" camera comedy. Maria Bakalova, who plays Borat's "teenage" daughter, is nominated for supporting actress, and the movie also received a nomination for adapted screenplay.

- ***Hillbilly Elegy*** — Glenn Close gets her eighth Oscar nomination (no wins yet) for her role in this mess of wigs and accents and arm's-length storytelling. I think we all agree she deserves an award for a movie. See *Hillbilly Elegy* if you want, I guess, like if you're an Oscar completist, on Netflix.

Animated feature films

- ***Onward*** — This movie opened right before Everything but quickly made its way to Disney+ early in the pandemic, which is probably why I had completely forgotten about this Pixar movie about suburban-y magical creatures (elves, centaurs, cyclopes, etc.) and two teens brothers on a quest to have their late father back for one day.



Minari

- ***Over the Moon*** — It's another movie about a kid dealing with the loss of a parent. For reasons I can't remember, I only made it about halfway through this movie during my one attempt to watch it (though I do remember some very pretty visuals). The movie is available on Netflix.

- ***A Shaun the Sheep Movie: Farmageddon*** — This might be my favorite of the category. This G-rated movie is beautiful to look at, fun for adults (sci-fi pop culture jokes) and kids (burps!) and manages to be extremely clever and sweet while also not really having any dialogue. The mischievous but kind Shaun the Sheep meets a lost alien in this Netflix release that felt pretty all-ages friendly (a rarity even among kid fare).

- ***Soul*** — This late-2020 Pixar release, available on Disney+, looks and sounds absolutely beautiful and while it's probably OK for most kids, scary-stuff-wise (there are some creatures that might freak out some of the youngest movie viewers) my middle-elementary-school-aged kid did get bored with some of the parts where the main character agonizes about his career and what constitutes a life's purpose.

- ***Wolfwalkers*** — This Apple TV+ movie is definitely not for the littlest kids — the wolves can be scary, the British officials ruling Ireland are scarier. But for middle-elementary and up this movie with picture-book-like illustrations and feisty girl central characters (one is an English girl who has come to Ireland with her wolf-hunting father; one is an Irish girl who can also turn into a wolf) is beautiful and thoroughly engrossing. 🐾

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THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Character:** Rhode Island based singer-songwriter **Tequila Jim** has a John Mellencamp vibe going on his latest original song, “And I Still Love You,” along with a long catalog of originals amassed over decades of performing. He counts influences across a diverse spectrum of music, from Herman’s Hermits to Frank Zappa and the Mothers of Invention. Thursday, March 18, 5 p.m., To Share Brewing Co., 720 Union St., Manchester, facebook.com/ToShareBrewing.

• **Coolness:** Soulful, insightful singer and keyboard player **Yamica Peterson** is joined by scene veteran **Nate Comp** on guitar and backing vocals for a post-dinner show in downtown Manchester. The NEMA-nominated performer headlined the final pre-winter intermission show with a live audience at Concord’s Bank of NH Stage a few months back, an inspirational evening that will hopefully be repeated soon, as the sun comes out and herd immunity takes hold. Friday, March 19, 7:30 p.m., XO on Elm, 827 Elm St., Manchester, facebook.com/XOonElm.

• **Tuneful:** Enjoy an eclectic selection of cover songs and quality food as **Bob Pratte** performs solo. A look at the singer and guitarist’s schedule for this year gives one encouragement that things will get better, as it grows longer with each passing month. Pratte plays a lot of classic rock and country songs, everything from Van Morrison’s “Into the Mystic” to “X’s & O’s” from Elle King. Saturday, March 20, 8 p.m., The Pasta Loft, 241 Union Square, Milford, bobpratband.com.

• **Vocalize:** Late afternoon music from **Bobby Lane** is on the menu at a pizza place doing a lot to support local music. With a set list that includes ’90s rockers like Matchbox 20, folk music, modern and classic country, Lane is a natural performer who recently marked two years of playing out. He’s the restaurant’s regular Wednesday night entertainer — this is a special event. Sunday, March 21, 5 p.m., Lynn’s 102 Tavern, 76 Derry Road, Hudson, facebook.com/lynns102tavern.

NITE

A new twist

Take3 on a mission to the mainstream

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Classical music is rigorous and demanding, its top purveyors virtuosic — but it’s box office anathema. Charity, not ticket sales, provides the majority of revenue for most American orchestras.

Enter Lindsay Deutsch. She launched her group Take3 to change the genre’s perception. The violin, piano and cello trio performs modern songs like “Despacito” and “Yellow” with the same musical discipline Deutsch learned when she was classically trained at The Colburn School in Los Angeles.

It’s an approach familiar to fans of Netflix’s *Bridgerton*, which offered string quartet renditions of Ariana Grande and Maroon 5 hits, among others, but Deutsch arguably got there first. Beyond that, her kinetic stage presence is singularly unique. She’s to the violin what Ian Anderson is on the flute with Jethro Tull, stalking the boards like a dervish.

The idea for reimagining pop songs as classical pieces came from frustration with the medium’s strict rules.

“The thing about Bach, Brahms and Beethoven is you have to play in a box, so to speak,” Deutsch said in a recent phone interview. “As an artist, I felt like ... I have this huge voice, and people keep asking me not to use my voice, but to try and figure out what this dead, old white guy wants.”

Deutsch’s light bulb moment came when she traveled to Saudi Arabia for a last-minute spot playing with Yanni. The New Age superstar had found her on YouTube; she’d never heard of him until he called to say his regular violinist was leaving to have a baby. She had three weeks to learn the material; it would be her first time performing with amplification and in-ear monitors.

During her initial solo, Deutsch couldn’t hear anything and feared the worst was happening.

“I’m just fingering the violin, I can’t hear one note, I don’t know what’s going on,” she



Take3. Courtesy photo.

said. “My thought is, OK, this is my first and last performance with Yanni, because I’m gonna for sure be fired.”

When she glanced at the bandleader, however, he was smiling broadly at her.

“I look up further and see a sea of people on their feet, cheering. That’s when I realized my in-ear monitors are fine; it’s the sound of the crowd that is so loud.”

For Deutsch, it was a revelation.

“In classical music, we don’t have audiences that make that kind of noise,” she said. “It was something that I realized I was really missing. ... I became kind of addicted to that passion and to that fire the audience was giving me in response to this crossover style. After that moment, I just never looked back.”

Though the group’s material is accessible, it remains musically challenging.

“Take3 never felt that just playing the tune was good enough, because we had the chops to play big concerti with an orchestra,” Deutsch said. “We were not going to be happy with just playing single notes and easy renditions. So we made this stuff super hard, and we added double stops all over the place and cool techniques. ... We wanted to really show off what we learned.”

After a few lineup changes, Take3 is currently Deutsch, Juilliard-trained pianist Jason Stoll and fellow L.A.-based cellist Mikala Schmitz, who studied at Cleveland Institute of Music.

“It’s very rare to find serious classical musi-

cians that have the chops needed who can also let their hair down and have fun. ... It’s been beaten into us since we were 5 years old to read the music, play exactly you see,” Deutsch said. “I’m saying the music is a guide, and if you want to diverge from that, have a little fun and do something different, by all means go for it. We’re on stage to have a good time.”

Though she’s playing a violin that’s over two centuries old, Deutsch knows she’s competing with 21st-century distractions like movies and video games.

“These amazing things that people are used to seeing ... if I just walk out on stage and plop myself down in a chair, it doesn’t matter how good it sounds, I’m never going to compete with modern-day entertainment.”

A livestreamed show sponsored by the Palace Theatre in Manchester on March 26 will feature Take3 performing a wide selection of material.

“It’s just all our favorite tunes that we’ve been playing over the last three years,” Deutsch said. “Anything from Justin Bieber to The Beatles to Coldplay, *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *Game of Thrones*. All good stuff.”

Take3 Virtual Stream

When: Friday, March 26, 8 p.m.
Where: Hosted by The Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester
Tickets: \$15 at palacetheatre.org

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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.

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.

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.

Friday, March 19

Auburn

Auburn Pitts: Nicole Knox Murphy, 6:30 p.m.

Bristol

Kathleen's Irish Pub: Colm O'Brien, 5 p.m.

Brookline

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

Concord

Area 23: Scott Solsky & George Laliotis, 7 p.m.
Cheers: team trivia, 8:30 p.m.
Penuche's: Michael Hauptly Pierce, 8 p.m.

Deerfield

Lazy Lion: John Farese, 5 p.m.

Epping

Telly's: Jonny Friday, 8 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Dave Corson, 5 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.

Hampton

CR's: Ross McGinnes, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.
Logan's Run: live music, 8 p.m.
Shane BBQ: Likes of Athena, 6 p.m.
Wally's: Pat Dowling, 9 p.m.
WHYM: Gabby Martin, 5 p.m.

Hudson

The Bar: Mitch Pelkey, 7 p.m.

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Cory Malm, 8 p.m. (acoustic)

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Justin Jordan, 8 p.m.

Manchester

Backyard Brewery: Mikey G, 6 p.m.
Cercle: Chris Perkins, 7 p.m.
Derryfield: Game Time Trivia, 7 p.m., Clint Lapointe, 7:30 p.m.
Foundry: Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Malcolm Salls, 5:30 p.m.
South Side: Emily Rae Shively, 8 p.m.

Meredith

Twin Barns: Mike Loughlin, 5 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Marc Apostolides, 5:30 p.m.

Milford

Pasta Loft: April Cushman, 8 p.m.

Nashua

American Social Club: Chad LaMarsh, 8 p.m. (solo acoustic)
Fratello's: Tim Kierstead, 5:30 p.m.

New Boston

Molly's: Charlie Chronopoulos, 6:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Soup (Slack Tide & Clandestine), 7 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Maddi Ryan, 9 p.m.

Rochester

Mitchell BBQ: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.

Seabrook

Chop Shop: Back to the 80s, 6:30 p.m.
Red's: Francoix Simard, 8 p.m.

Stratham

Tailgate Tavern: Chad Verbeck, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 20

Bow

Chen Yang Li: April Cushman, 7 p.m.

Bristol

Kathleen: Irish pipes with Anthony Santoro, 6 p.m.

Brookline

Alamo: Justin Jordan, 4:30 p.m.

Concord

Area 23: Saturday jam with Ross Arnold, 2 p.m.; swapping sets with Faith Ann and Craig Farrington, 7 p.m.
Concord Craft Brewing: Mikey G, 4 p.m.
Penuche's: Andy Laliotis & Friends, 8 p.m.

Deerfield

Lazy Lion: Chris O'Neil, 5 p.m.

Epping

Telly's: Pete Peterson, 8 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Double Shotz, 1 p.m.; Rich Amorim, 5 p.m.
Shooter's Pub: Max Sullivan, 7 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Brother Sheamus, 6 p.m.

Hampton

The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.
Wally's: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
WHYM: Alex Roy, 5 p.m.

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Time Bands, 8 p.m.

Laconia

405 Pub & Grille: Senie Hunt, 7 p.m.
High Octane: live music, 7 p.m.

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Paul Lussier, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Jonny Friday, 8 p.m.

Manchester

Backyard Brewery: Chad Verbeck, 6 p.m.
Cercle National Club: Joe McDonald, 7:30 p.m.
Derryfield: Eric Grant, 7:30 p.m.
Foundry: Dwayne Higgins, 6 p.m.

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Fratello's: Mark Lapointe, 5:30 p.m.
Great North Aleworks: Max Sullivan, 3 p.m.
South Side: Lewis Goodwin, 8 p.m.

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

Merrimack
Homestead: Marc Apostolides, 5:30 p.m.

Milford
Pasta Loft: Bob Pratte, 8:30 p.m.

Nashua
Fratello's: Paul Gormley, 5:30 p.m.
Liquid Therapy: *Seinfeld* trivia at 2 p.m.; Brian Wall, 6 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Rose Alley, 5 & 9 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Jodie Cunningham Band, 6:30 p.m.
Red's: Francoix Simard, 8 p.m.

Sunday, March 21
Bedford
Copper Door: Marc Apostolides, 11 a.m.

Bristol
Kathleen Irish Pub: Colm O'Brien, 4 p.m.

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

Chichester
Flannel Tavern: Lucas Gallo, 4 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbelly: Max Sullivan, noon

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

Hampton
Community Oven: Brad Bosse, 6 p.m.
WHYM: Lewis Goodwin, 1 p.m.

Nashua
Polish American Club: Nicole Knox Murphy, 4 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Dave Gerard, 10:30 a.m.; Brian Walker, 5 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Jim Zaroulis, 11 a.m.

Monday, March 22
Manchester
Fratello's: Phil Jakes, 5:30 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Jessica Olson, 5:30 p.m.

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

Portsmouth
The Goat: Musical Bingo, 7 p.m.; Jonny Friday, 9 p.m.

Seabrook
Red's: trivia, 9 p.m.

Tuesday, March 23
Hampton
Wally's: Musical Nation Bingo, 7:30 p.m.

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

Merrimack
Homestead: Joanie Cicatelli, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
Fratello's: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.

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

Wednesday, March 24
Brookline
Alamo: Brian Weeks, 4:30 p.m.

Dover
SmuttLabs: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.

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

Kingston
Saddle Up Saloon: Musical Nation Bingo, 7 pm.

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

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

Wilton Town Hall Theatre
 40 Main St., Wilton, 654-3456
 wiltontownhalltheatre.com

Shows
 • **Royalty of Rock n Pop** (tribute to Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson & Lady Gaga) on Friday, March 19, 7 p.m., virtual via Palace Theatre
 • **John McCutcheon: Halfway to Winfield** Friday, March 7:30 p.m., virtual via Cap Center
 • **An Evening with Ryan Montbleau** Friday, March 19, 8 p.m., Music Hall
 • **Rose Alley** Saturday, March 20, 5 & 9 p.m., Stone Church
 • **Dinner & a Magic Show** Saturday, March 20, 6 p.m., LaBelle Winery
 • **The Busted Jug Band** Saturday, March 20, 8 p.m., Music Hall
 • **Dwight Yoakam: One Time Live** performing entire albums: *Buenas Noches from A Lonely Room*, Sunday, March 21, 9 p.m., virtual live concert via Cap Center
 • **Derek Russell Fimble with Andrew Johnson** Wednesday,

March 24, 7 p.m., Stone Church
 • **Some Like It Hip Hop** virtual dance experience, Thursday, March 25, and Friday, March 26, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 28, at 2 p.m., virtual via Cap Center
 • **Take 3 & Company** Friday, March 26, 7 p.m., virtual via Palace Theatre
 • **Wood & Bone** Friday, March 26, 8 p.m., Stone Church
 • **Acoustic Outlaw** Saturday, March 27, 6 & 9 p.m., Stone Church
 • **Briezjane with guest Betsy Heron** Wednesday, March 31, 7 p.m., Stone Church
 • **Teen Co Takeover: Golden Age** performances of 1940-1965 Broadway by the Palace Teen Company, Friday, April 2, at 7 p.m., virtual via Palace Theatre
 • **Stephen Marley Acoustic Soul** (with special guest Mystic Marley) Friday, April 2, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
 • **Skull & Roses** Saturday, April 3, 5 p.m., Stone Church
 • **NY Symphony — East Meets West** Friday, April 9, 7:30 p.m., virtually via Cap Center

Concerts

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Merrimack

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

Nashua

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

Newmarket

Stone Church: Derek Russell Fimble with special guest Andrew Johnson, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Thursday, March 25

Brookline

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

Concord

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

Epping

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

Exeter

Sawbelly: Max Sullivan, 5 p.m.

Sea Dog: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.

Hampton

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

WHYM: music bingo, 6 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Fratello's: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.

Meredith

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

Merrimack

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

Nashua

Fratello's: Joanie Cicatelli, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Dave Ogden, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Emily Rae, 9 p.m.

Rochester

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

Seabrook

Red's: Brad Bosse, 7 p.m.

Film

Venues

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

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

Red River Theatres

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

Wilton Town Hall Theatre

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

Shows

• Red River Virtual Cinema

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

• **21+ Live Trivia for *The Big Lebowski*** on Thursday, March 18, 7:30 p.m., at Chunky's in Manchester. Reserve seats with a \$5 food voucher.

• **Theater Candy Bingo** at Chunky's in Manchester on Saturday, March 20, at noon and 6 p.m., and at Chunky's in Nashua and Pelham at 6 p.m. Admission costs \$4.99 plus a theater candy purchase per person.

• **21+ Live Trivia for *Full House*** on Thursday, March 25, 7:30 p.m., at Chunky's in Manches-

ter. Reserve seats with a \$5 food voucher.

• **Noah's Ark** (1928) silent film accompanied by live music performed by Jeff Rapsis screens on Sunday, March 28, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre. Admission is free but a \$10 donation is suggested.

• **War Horse** National Theatre Live production of the play available virtually through Cap Center March 31 through April 6, tickets cost \$15.

• **Double Take!** A collaboration between Repertory Dance Theatre & Ririe-Woodbury Dance Co., available virtually via Cap Center, Thursday, April 1, at 8 p.m.; Friday, April 2, at 8 p.m., and Saturday, April 3, at 4 p.m. Tickets start at \$25.

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

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

Tupelo Music Hall

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

Shows

• **Comedy Out of the Box** Hatbox Theatre, Thursday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.

• **Laugh Thursdays Showcase Comedy Series** Chunky's Manchester, Thursday, March 18, 8 p.m.

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

• **Lenny Clarke** Chunky's Pelham, Thursday, March 25, 8 p.m.

• **Lenny Clarke** Chunky's Nashua, Friday, March 26, 8 p.m.

• Mike Donovan

Chunky's Manchester, Friday, March 19, at 8 p.m., and Saturday, March 20, at 8 p.m.

• **Will Noonan** Chunky's Nashua, Friday, March 19, 8 p.m., and Saturday, March 20, 8 p.m.

• **Ace Aceto** Chunky's Pelham, Saturday, May 20, 8 p.m.

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

• **Laugh Thursdays Showcase Comedy Series** Chunky's Manchester, Thursday, March 25, 8 p.m.

• **Lenny Clarke** Chunky's Pelham, Thursday, March 25, 8 p.m.

• **Lenny Clarke** Chunky's Nashua, Friday, March 26, 8 p.m.

• Bill Simas

Chunky's Manchester, Friday, March 26, 8 p.m.

• **Lenny Clarke** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, March 27, 8 p.m.

• **Mark Scalia** Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, March 27, 8 p.m.

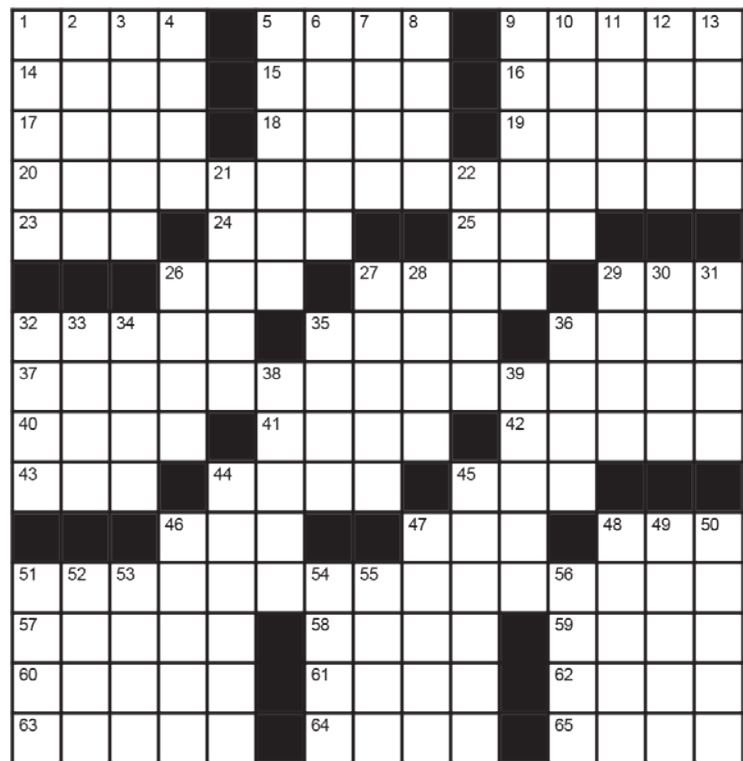
• **Kelly MacFarland** Chunky's Pelham, Saturday, March 27, 8 p.m.

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

• **Laugh Thursdays Showcase Comedy Series** Chunky's Manchester, Thursday, April 1, 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.

LIVED A MAN WHO SAILED TO SEA



64. 'Under The Influences' punk rocker Mike
65. '64 album '___ The Beatles!'

Down

- Beck had a song on this Sci-fi Amazon show (abbr)
- Celine Dion might flick them off her cigarette
- Like version for kids
- Queen 'One ___ Of Love'
- Chad of The Aquabats
- '94 Siouxsie & The Banshees single (1,4)
- Beatles "They said you were not home, that's ___" (1,3)
- '99 Luftballons' band
- Big security guard wants you to be this
- Do this to your girl's wrist when running to the stage
- Gerardo '___ Suave'
- 'Vertigo' Irish electro-popster
- 'The Wiz' song '___ On Down The Road'
- 'Still The Baddest' rapper named after "triple" in Latin
- Beatles 'Till ___ Was You'
- Prince classic for smooching?
- Madness hits album '___ Madness'
- San Antonio sing/songer/guitarist Doug
- "While you ___ chance, take it" (3,1)
- 'The Curse' metal band that tells the future?
- Real Life '___ Me An Angel'
- Like scotch stars may drink
- The Miracles 'Going To A ___' (hyph)
- "It's been a hard day's night, and

- I've been working like ___" (1,3)
35. Band may play two in a night
36. Gavin Rossdale band
38. '75 Marion Brown album for a nice view?
39. Scottish reggae guy Finley
44. '15 Ugly Kid Joe album '___ Than They Used Ta Be'
45. Aerosmith '___ Got A Gun'
46. '97 Calexico album they rapped?
47. Courtney Love likes them in the

- middle of donuts?
48. Canucks Three Days ___
49. Cedric Bixler-Zavala band ___ Drive-In
50. Like music on paper
51. Bob Dylan song about Egyptian goddess
52. Smashing Pumpkins song originally called "Coma"
53. Beatles '___ In The Life' (1,3)
54. Jonathon of Journey
55. Black Box 'I Don't Know Anybody ___'
56. Actor Sandler that strums
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Across

- 'The Sellout' songstress Gray
- Might need one to purchase new axe
- Dave Mason will do this to 'Disagree'
- Überwealthy may purchase one in the ocean
- Pharrell Williams is ready and this
- 'I Know There's Something Going On' singer from ABBA
- Maltese singer Garrett
- Don't want this at the fest
- Eric Bachmann was off 'To The ___' on '06 album
- U2 classic 'Two ___' (6,4,2,3)
- Stephen Stills folk supergroup (abbr)
- 'Shotgun Wedding' soul singer C
- Rap or ___-Hop
- '16 KT Tunstall album about one's family, perhaps
- 'Artwork' Utah band (w/'The')
- Sting was sending out one on 'Message In A Bottle'
- Peter Criss "By myself, starting over ___"
- The ___ Spangled Banner
- Elvis Presley 'Let It ___' (2,2)
- De facto national anthem of the UK (3,4,3,5)
- They blow up when fame hits
- A CD is called one in your Ebay cart
- '99 Godflesh album '___ Them' (2,3)
- 'Old Timer' That ___
- Beatles were 'Back In' this place
- PiL bassist Wobble
- ___ Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band
- Colin of Men At Work
- What 'Jumping Jack Flash' is
- Belinda Carlisle smash 'Heaven ___' (2,1,5,2,5)
- Agreeable Jordan Davis song? (2,2,1)

- ___ Want For Christmas Is You (3,1)
- A show may be a great first one
- Cole Porter-penned 'Mind If ___ Love To You?' (1,4)
- "I look at the floor and ___ it needs sweeping" (1,3)
- Might have a back one, post-stage dive
- British 'Easy To Love' singer Leo

WORD★Roundup™

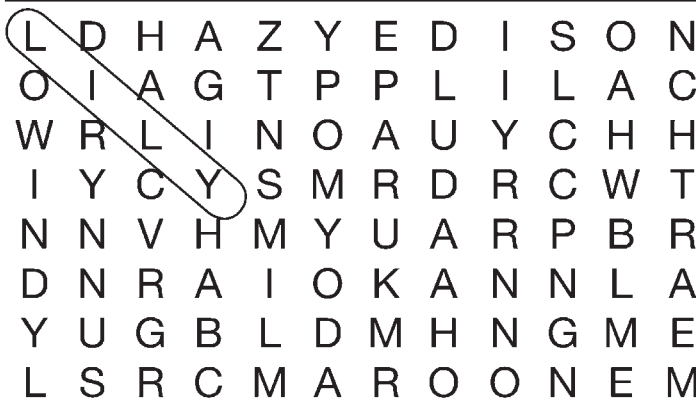
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four two-syllable flowers
- Four weather conditions ending with Y
- Three six-letter colors
- Three things that are thirds
- Prolific inventor Thomas

Last Week's Answers: SHREW SKUNK SLOTH SEAL / CORPORAL CAPTAIN GENERAL MAJOR / FIRE TIRE WIRE DIRE / ALGERIA LIBYA / JUPITER

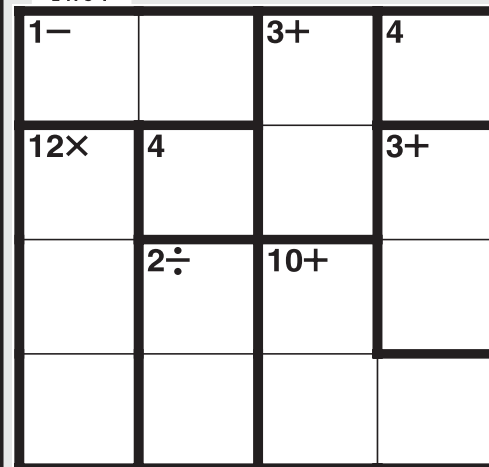
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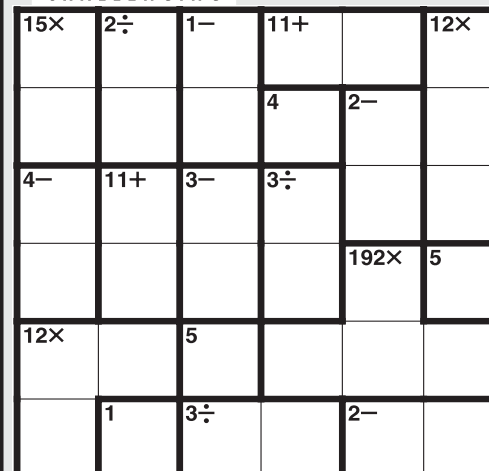
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EASY



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CHALLENGING



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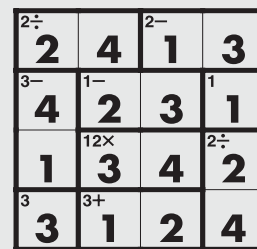
RULES

- 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



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"Hi, Turnover" — when you can look at it both ways

Across

- 1 Havana's home
- 5 Herb with leaves used in Japanese cooking
- 10 Classic Ford models
- 14 Like some arguments
- 15 Complete
- 16 On vacation
- 17 Meyer of the "Saw" movies
- 18 How to view the alternate answers crossing the circled squares
- 20 Expert's offer
- 22 Artist's stand
- 23 Army creature?
- 24 Dinner table basketful
- 26 Troubled outburst from

- Scooby-Doo
- 28 Charlie of the 1960s Orioles
- 30 Indigenous New Zealanders
- 33 Denounces
- 34 Performance style at UCB and Second City
- 36 '50s Ford failure
- 38 Baked Italian dish
- 39 "___ Up" (Violent Femmes song)
- 41 "Here's ___ from me to you ..."
- 45 *"Rudolph the Red-___ Reindeer" (or the other way, Japanese audio company)
- 47 *"Barber Shop Chronicles" playwright Inua ___ (or the other way, letter used to abbreviate "forte")

- 49 Encouraging words
- 52 *Athlete running 5,280 feet (or the other way, second run of crew practice)
- 54 "Call Me ___" (Mayim Bialik sitcom)
- 55 Inter, as a pharaoh
- 57 Marry in haste
- 59 "Nightswimming" band
- 60 "Blue Ribbon" beer maker
- 63 Cool, once
- 66 It helps clean the word in the circled squares (as well as the alternate version)
- 69 100 centesimi, pre-euro
- 70 Like jungle foliage
- 71 Cheap instrument
- 72 Done
- 73 Suffix for kitchen
- 74 FBI operative
- 75 Freshman, usually

- 3 Wheel of Fortune wedge to be avoided
- 4 Texas shrine to "remember"
- 5 "Rugrats" father
- 6 "Fingers crossed"
- 7 "___ Sin" (HBO Max miniseries)
- 8 "Je ne ___ quoi"
- 9 Farther along
- 10 Edinburgh boy
- 11 Like some biceps exercises, e.g.
- 12 Suddenly occur to
- 13 Electronic keyboards, casually
- 19 Outwit, in a way
- 21 Red Muppet
- 25 *Aa and pahoehoe, for two (or the other way, like military fleets)
- 27 Designation at an Arabic meat market
- 28 "30 Rock" character Lemon
- 29 "Where ___?"
- 31 *___-wip topping (or the other way, more unusual)
- 32 "The Last King of Scotland" name
- 35 "Octopus's Garden" singer
- 37 *___-toed boots (or the other way,

- half of those pairs of boots)
- 40 *DNC member (or the other way, married)
- 42 Dave Brubeck standard
- 43 "___ complete mess"
- 44 Eugene clock setting, for short
- 46 Vitality
- 48 "Battlefield Earth" author ___ Hubbard
- 49 Dr. Seuss title turtle
- 50 Early inning statistic
- 51 Fullest extent
- 53 *Reveals one's true feelings (or the other way, pater ___)
- 56 Russian rum cake
- 58 Cockpit figure
- 61 Be immodest
- 62 Financial advisor Orman
- 64 Maple, for instance
- 65 Intricate story
- 67 Chance ___ Rapper
- 68 Super-spicy

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Down

- 1 Classical conclusion
- 2 "Armageddon" author Leon

R&R answer from pg 43 of 3/11

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

Jonesin' answer from pg 44 of 3/11

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

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						
38					39	40					41	42	43	44
		45	46						47	48				
49	50	51				52		53				54		
55					56			57				58		
59				60		61	62			63			64	65
66			67					68			69			
70						71					72			
73						74					75			

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 41.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A By Dave Green

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

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Difficulty Level ★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle B By Dave Green

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

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Difficulty Level ★★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle C By Dave Green

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

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *The Plain Princess*, by Phyllis McGinley, born March 21, 1905.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) And she looked so serenely at the King that he was impressed in spite of himself. You've got a serene vibe going on.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) Well, the King argued and he argued but he got nowhere; and finally he gave in. Don't waste time arguing.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) Whatever spells Dame Goodwit knew, they were not, at once, evident. She never said 'Abracadabra' or 'Hocus Pocus,' and there wasn't a single wand anywhere about the cottage. You don't need a wand to get things done.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) Governesses attended to her posture, insisting that she walk eleven times daily about the nursery with a book balanced on her head. Attend to your posture.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) Flowers of early spring nodded beside the walk, and near the picket fence flamed beds of crocuses. But Esmeralda saw only the shabbiness and the smallness. The flowers are there for the seeing.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) Esmeralda found, to her horror, that she was even expected to assist with the housework. Grab a mop and get going.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) There was no use her baking cookies — Dame Goodwit was already frosting an impressive cake. So for the first time in a long while she felt sad and left out. You won't be left out for long.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) They sewed and patched and darned and embroidered and whipped up delicate puddings out of practically nothing, while she could scarcely pour water without spill-

ing it. You just need practice.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) Into her mind crept the suspicion that perhaps simply being born a Princess did not make her a really superior person. Perhaps.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) They may not have been the best muffins ever baked — perhaps they were just a bit doughy at the center and a trifle lopsided at the edges if you looked closely — but Esmeralda could not have been more pleased had they been perfection. Your muffins are great.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) She forgot about her pony in caring for the brown hens. She forgot about the tall swings, with clambering up the old apple trees for fruit. Simple pleasures are way better than expensive toys.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) The good Dame was well pleased with Esmeralda and remarked it so frequently that the Princess's turned-up smile got quite dimply with happiness. If you're pleased, say so. 🍷

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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 run (4)	_____
2 run (6)	_____
3 run (7)	_____
4 run (9)	_____
5 run (6)	_____
6 run (7)	_____
7 run (4)	_____

ER

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SP

ADD

MP

IT

Last Week's Answers: IVORY 2 CREAM 3 CORNSILK 4 PEARL 5 COTTON 6 SEASHELL 7 PARACHMENT 3/14

Sudoku Answers from pg44 of 3/11

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty Level ★

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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Names in the news

Shoe Zone, a footwear retailer with stores throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland, announced March 8 that Terry Boot has been named its next chief financial officer effective immediately, according to the Evening Standard. Mr. Boot takes over the role after the unexpected departure in February of Peter Foot, who had been with the company for seven months.

Quick thinking

An unnamed maskless woman waiting in line at a Pick 'n' Pay supermarket in South Africa was caught on cellphone video being confronted by a store guard who demanded she put on a mask or be thrown out of the store. On the video, she is next seen reaching up under her dress, pulling out her underwear — a black thong — and placing it on her face, the New York Post reported. Witnesses were mixed in their reaction. “Good lord,” one shopper was heard saying. “Brilliant,” said another.

Oops!

Federal Judge Jesse M. Furman ruled in U.S. District Court in Manhattan on Feb. 16 that Citigroup could not expect to receive repayment of nearly \$500 million of the \$900 million it mistakenly wired

to a group of lenders last year after a contractor checked the wrong box on a digital payment form. Intending to make only an interest payment to the lenders on behalf of its client Revlon, Citi instead wired payment in full for the entire loan, and after realizing its error, asked for the money back, but some of the lenders refused, according to The New York Times. Judge Furman found that the lenders were justified in assuming the payment had been intentional. “To believe that Citibank, one of the most sophisticated financial institutions in the world, had made a mistake ... to the tune of nearly \$1 billion, would have been borderline irrational,” he said in his ruling. Citi vowed to appeal.

Creepy!

Samantha Hartsoe noticed a draft in her New York City apartment and traced it to the mirror in her bathroom, the New York Post reported on March 4. With the help of friends, Hartsoe removed the mirror and found a hole in the wall behind it leading to ... another apartment. As she documented her adventure on TikTok, Hartsoe climbed through the hole into a hallway leading to a room at the end and “a whole other apartment” with three bedrooms, a disconnected toilet, a staircase and an unlocked door (which she promptly locked). Hartsoe returned to her own apartment, showered

and vowed her landlord would get an unusual call the next day.

Least competent criminal

Authorities in Camden County, Missouri, arrested Leigh Ann Bauman, 43, a prominent Lake of the Ozarks real estate agent and self-described “cheer mom,” on March 4 for allegedly plotting to kill her former mother-in-law. Prosecutors say Bauman allegedly offered to pay \$1,500 to a person in St. Louis who contacted the Missouri Highway Patrol and then turned informant, recording Bauman’s request that the “look like an accident,” and later saying she’s a Christian but she could ask for forgiveness later. According to The Daily Beast, Bauman also allegedly texted her daughter, saying, “Your grandmother will die.” She is being held without bond in the Camden County Jail.

Crime report

Detectives investigating recent thefts of catalytic converters from vehicles in Pasco, Washington, went to the mobile home of Dustin Allen Bushnell, 30, in nearby Burbank with a search warrant on Feb. 26, and not only found converters, but also discovered a 400-pound playground slide that had been removed from a city park in December, KEPR reported. The slide had been repainted and mounted to a bunk bed

in the home. Bushnell was arrested for possession of stolen property for the slide; no charges were filed for the converters.

Awesome!

Snake breeder Justin Kobylka of north-east Georgia has been breeding ball pythons for eight years to achieve a bright golden yellow and white color combination, but recently wound up with a snake bearing three smiley face emoji-looking markings on its body. Kobylka told United Press International one in 20 of his snakes sports a smiley face, but this was the first to have three faces. He sold it for \$6,000.

What could go wrong?

Alexandr Kudlay, 33, and Viktoria Pustovitova, 28, of Kharkiv, Ukraine, are experimenting with a new way to preserve their on-and-off relationship: On Valentine’s Day, they handcuffed themselves together and have vowed to stay that way for three months. “We used to break up once or twice a week,” Kudlay told Reuters, but now when they disagree, “we simply stop talking instead of packing up our things and walking away.” They take turns taking showers and give each other privacy in the bathroom by standing outside with one hand inside.

Visit news-of-the-weird.com.

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