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APRIL 15 - 21, 2021

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GARDEN FOR THE  
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LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

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A photograph of three men standing in front of a wall with vibrant, abstract paint splashes in shades of pink, purple, and green. The man on the left is wearing a grey baseball cap, dark sunglasses, and a dark t-shirt. The man in the center is wearing a black baseball cap, gold-rimmed sunglasses, a mustache, and a blue and red jacket. The man on the right is wearing clear sunglasses and a colorful floral shirt. The overall mood is casual and artistic.

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## Envisioning our future



Over my nine years working at Leadership NH, we often asked the participants: "What kind of state do we have and what kind of state do we want?" I am disheartened when I see legislation like HB 266, HB 434, and, of course, HB 544 in this year's session. All of them work to undermine the kind of state that I want by working to impose anti-immigration efforts that law enforcement across the state oppose (HB 266), and attack reproductive health (HB 434), and remove conversations about one's race and sex in all of our public spaces (HB 544).

While many of our lawmakers are working to outlaw our existing inclusive practices, they are also upholding and expanding laws that put some of our most vulnerable populations at risk.

Earlier in the year, the House tabled HB 238, a bill that would prohibit a defendant in a manslaughter case from using the alleged victim's sexuality or gender identity as a defense for why the defendant was provoked into action as well as any actual or perceived romantic advances made by the victim.

Our state made national headlines when the House voted to expand "stand your ground" laws. Under current law, someone can use deadly force to protect themselves and their family during the commission of a felony inside their homes. The bill sent to the Senate would expand that self-defense law to cases in which a felony is committed against a person in a vehicle.

Fear is clearly the motive behind so many of these bills, and this is only a small sampling of what our legislators are debating in this legislative year. When fright is at the core of the work, it limits what we and our state can accomplish and become into the future.

What decision have you made out of distress that resulted in happiness? I have a hard time remembering any of my anxiety-based decisions resulting in true contentment, and I imagine I'm not alone in that struggle.

If you, like me, want New Hampshire to foster a culture that centers on humanity and potential then we must act to stop these bills from becoming law. Reach out to your elected officials, neighbors, friends and colleagues, and encourage them to act against these efforts. There is promise on the horizon but we cannot favor complacency in getting there. Otherwise the state we have may no longer be the state we want.

*Allyson Ryder addresses social justice issues in both personal and professional capacities across New Hampshire. She can be reached at [almryder@outlook.com](mailto:almryder@outlook.com).*



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Badfish. Photo by Chad Martel.

## ON THE COVER

**28 READY TO ROCK?** Local live music venues have big hopes for the upcoming season. Find out who's bringing music back to parking lots, which indoor and outdoor venues are hoping to reopen, and what performers you can (tentatively) expect to see.

**ALSO ON THE COVER**, check out some free plays created specifically for Zoom, p. 10. Learn how to bring all the birds to the yard, p. 12. And the Riviera Nayarit Mexican Style Seafood and Grill is now open in Nashua, p. 18.

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# NEWS & NOTES

## Covid-19 news

During the state's weekly public health update on April 8, state epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan reported that the test-positivity rates and numbers of new infections and hospitalizations statewide have all been on a slow increase over the past weeks. About 450 new infections per day have been reported on average, WMUR reported on April 12, with the increase being more pronounced in younger people, according to Dr. Beth Daly, Chief of the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control of the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services.

Gov. Chris Sununu announced during the April 8 press conference that, starting April 19, Covid-19 vaccine eligibility will expand to all individuals ages 16 and older regardless of their state residency. "We're going to have a lot of vaccine [doses] here ... so we want to get it out to anyone who might actually be here in the state," Sununu said. As of April 8, roughly 20 percent of the state's population (about 276,000 people) has been fully vaccinated, Daly said during the conference.

Thousands more, including

both Sununu and DHHS Commissioner Lori Shibinette, received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine during the state's third mass vaccination site at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon, which was held the weekend of April 10 and April 11.

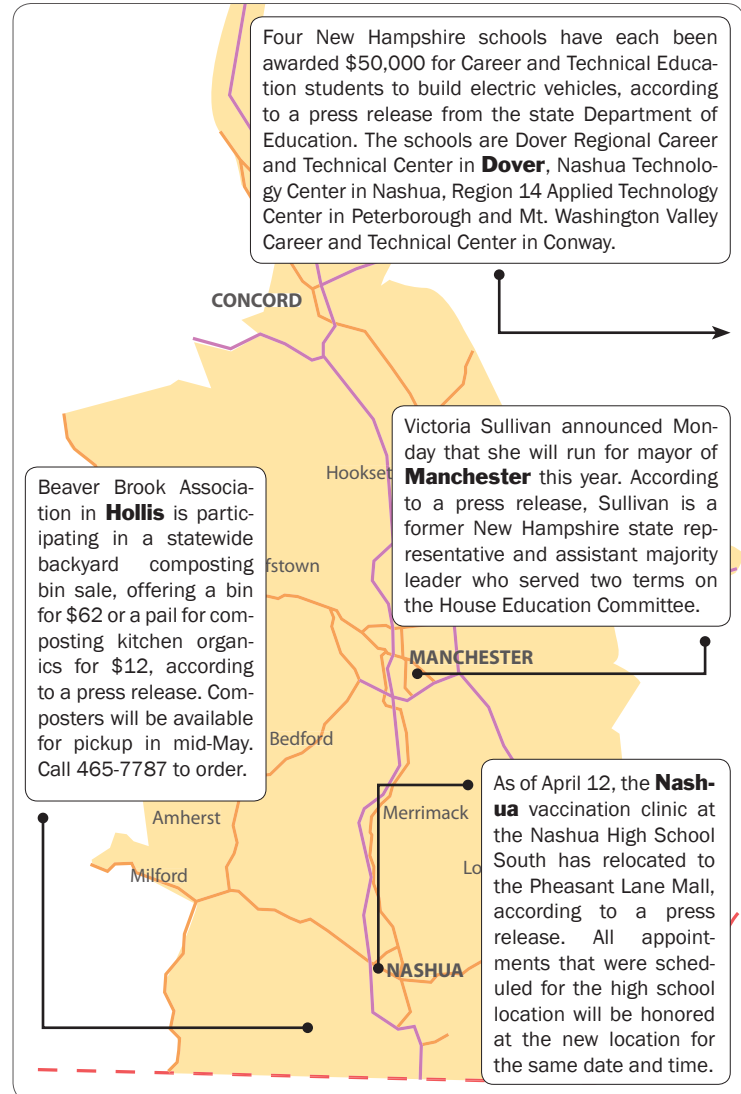
On Tuesday, April 13, the state announced that it has paused the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, based on the recommendation of the federal government after reports that six people in the country have developed a rare blood clot disorder within about two weeks after vaccination. "While the federal government has directed a brief pause in the J&J vaccine, the state is already working with our partners to ensure that they have an alternative supply of Pfizer or Moderna," Sununu said in a press release.

According to the April 12 report from WMUR, three New Hampshire residents have contracted Covid-19 despite being at least two weeks past their second shots. "We know that these vaccines aren't 100 percent effective," Daly said, according to the WMUR report. "We are going to have what we call breakthrough disease, which is when someone acquires Covid-19

even though they're fully vaccinated. For the most part, though, especially the vaccines that are currently in use right now, they're very effective at preventing Covid-19."

## Waiver approved

The Manchester School District will resume in-person learning five days a week starting May 3, after state officials approved a request for a waiver to Gov. Chris Sununu's mandate that all schools must start full-time in-person learning on April 19. According to a press release, the District requested the waiver April 6 due to concerns over staffing levels, and in consideration of the fact that the week of April 26 is school vacation. Several staff members plan to work remotely until they are fully vaccinated, according to the release, leaving the schools understaffed until May 3. According to an April 12 Union Leader report, Manchester Superintendent John Goldhardt said the waiver had been approved by state education officials, who are now requiring the District to eliminate Wednesday remote learning days altogether in order to reach the 180 days of school required by state law.



Covid-19 update	As of April 5	As of April 12
Total cases statewide	86,125	89,229
Total current infections statewide	3,287	3,384
Total deaths statewide	1,249	1,257
New cases	2,785 (March 30 to April 5)	3,104 (April 6 to April 12)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	1,083	1,002
Current infections: Merrimack County	320	297
Current infections: Rockingham County	826	846

Information from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services

## Affordable housing

Last week, Manchester Mayor Joyce Craig released the report from the Mayor's Affordable Housing Taskforce, the first city housing initiative since the 2008 Affordable Housing Task Force created by then-Mayor Frank Guinta. According to a press release, the task force began its work in the fall of 2020, looking at funding and incentives, zoning, regulations, and land use and support services. There are 14 recommendations in

the report, including updating zoning regulations, streamlining the permitting process for developers, compiling a comprehensive audit of all city-owned properties, and creating a housing-resource portal on the city website. The Taskforce also recommends creating a city Housing Commission. Rent prices in Manchester for a two-bedroom apartment increased 25 percent in the past decade, including a nearly 10-percent increase from 2020 to 2021, the release said.

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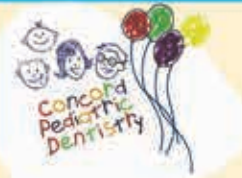


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# Strong families, safe kids

Children's Trust defines child abuse prevention

April is National Child Abuse Prevention month. To bring awareness, the New Hampshire Children's Trust has launched its "Prevention Is" campaign, focused on defining prevention and showing how strengthening families by giving them basic needs and emotional support is a key factor in preventing abuse. NHCT executive director Cliff Simmonds talked about the campaign and what individuals and communities in New Hampshire can do to help.

**Q:** *What is National Child Abuse Prevention Month all about?*

Last year it was about reacting to the pandemic, but this year it's about really defining what prevention is. ... Primary prevention is about strengthening families [by] giving them the basic needs, emotional support and sense of community they need to be successful, because we know that drastically reduces the occurrence of child abuse and neglect.

*What does child abuse look like?*

As many people know, child abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional or neglect, but what's also important to know is that these [types of abuse] don't show up exclusively. A lot of times it's a combination.

*What is the impact of child abuse on a family?*

It's disruptive to a family unit, and it lessens the odds of success for that child because they aren't getting the social and emotional growth that they need to be successful. Ultimately, [abuse] can translate into some lifelong psychological consequences, like feelings of isolation, fear, distrust, lower self-esteem, depression [and] trouble forming and maintaining relationships.

*What is the impact of child abuse on a community?*

A community is defined [by its] family units. ... If you have these cases of abuse or neglect going on within a family, [abuse] can cycle through multiple generations ... and through a specific geographic area and disrupt the whole idea of success within that community.

*How has the pandemic affected efforts to prevent and end child abuse?*

It's been challenging, to say the least. It created a lot of concern when the schools shut down, because that's where the eyes on kids are. Teachers are one of the major reporters of abuse. They know these kids; they see these kids every day, so they can see if there are any behavioral changes, physical changes or emotional changes. ... Reports [of abuse] started dropping significant-



Cliff Simmonds. Courtesy photo.

ly when the schools shut down. We got together with different community organizations and state agencies and put our heads together [to think of] creative ways that we could keep eyes on kids and keep families strong. I think we've done a pretty good job of reaching out to families, making sure their needs are being met ... and pivoting to being more virtual to get the word out about the resources and services that are available.

*What is the "Prevention Is" campaign?*

Throughout the month, we're highlighting the factors ... of primary prevention — parenting education, social and emotional development of children, basic supports and building a sense of community — through videos, podcasts and other digital [media]. We're trying to elevate the conversation around these factors and what people can do as a family member, a neighbor or a community member to help strengthen those factors.

*What can people do in their everyday lives to help prevent child abuse?*

Reach out and say, 'How are you doing? How are things going?' It can be as simple as that. If you have a neighbor with young children who is struggling between getting work done and going to the grocery store, maybe you can go over and say, 'Hey, why don't you have your kids come play at my house for a bit so you can do what you need to do.' ... It's not about catching [a parent] doing something wrong; there's no such thing as a perfect parent. It's really about having that 'It takes a village' mentality and attitude and contributing to create that sense of community that strengthens families.

— Angie Sykeny 🌈



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# Best game ever?



One of my sports pet peeves is people who proclaim something as the greatest ever immediately after something great happens like the NCAA College Basketball semi-final game from two Saturdays ago won in overtime by Gonzaga over UCLA, which

was sent to OT on a miraculous half-court heave by Zaga's **Jalen Suggs**. Don't mind the enthusiasm and I'm fine with saying that's the best game I've ever seen because that goes to their personal history. What does bug me is that before you proclaim something to be the "greatest" ever, you should have seen, or know a lot about, what has happened before.

But there it was the next day on Facebook with a friend, who should know better, nominating Gonzaga-UCLA as the greatest game ever. Of course like the lunatic I am I launched back by writing back, "EVER? Really? Are you kidding me? I can name two off the top of my head right now that are better than last night." Now, I don't recommend it to the kids at home, and only people of a certain age will understand what I mean when I say when I hear something like that, it's like **Moe** hearing N-I-A-G-A-R-A Falls on *The Three Stooges* right before he gives Curley the double-finger eye poke and then hits him over the head with the crowbar. My version of "slowly I turn" was firing back my list of 10 better games.

But before I get to them, let me say what in my not so humble opinion has to happen for a game to be great. (1) There needs to be a dramatic/memorable ending. (2) It has to be historic in some way. (3) There have to be great players involved who build a sense of anticipation going in, like **Magic vs. Larry** in 1979, though that didn't live up to the hype, B-O-R-I-N-G. (4) Not perfection, but the ultra-competitive and an extremely high level of play. (5) It helps to have white hat and black hat teams, like Georgetown was during the Hoya Paranoia glory day. (6) A major upset or near miss. (7) A great player performance like **Bill Walton's** 21-for-22 day vs. Memphis State in 1973 when the only miss was a disallowed dunk because they weren't legal then. How many young'ns know that? (8) The game should be played by historically great teams. (9) Or the game itself is so dramatically exciting it renders all my conditions moot. The only game I've ever seen do that was *The Miracle On Ice* at the 1980 Olympics.

Here's my list from 10th to best.

**North Carolina 77, Michigan 71:** The Fab 4 was arguably the most publicized team in college basketball history, but it was 73-71 when the leader of the now all sophomore starting lineup, **Chris Webber**, called the fateful timeout Michigan didn't have. UNC gets free throws and the ball to close it out.

**Indiana 74, Syracuse 73:** **Keith Smart** base-line buzzer-beater in the 1987 Final gives **Bobby Knight** his third title.

**UNC 63, Georgetown 62:** Two Hall of Fame coaches, two all-time great players, **Patrick Ewing** and **Michael Jordan**, and soon to be a first overall NBA pick **James Worthy**. Jordan's all-time shot wins the 1983 Final right before **Fred Brown** mistakenly passes it to Worthy on final possession.

**Duke 79, UNLV 77:** Duke ends sinister UNLV's bid for an undefeated season and a second straight title in the 1991 semi.

**UNC 53, Kansas 52 in 3OT:** With no one over 6'5" the Tar Heels survive a second straight triple-OT game to take down towering **Wilt Chamberlain** and Kansas, though MOP still goes to Wilt.

**Villanova 66, Georgetown 64:** Eight seed Nova shoots down its invincible Big East rival in the 1985 final by shooting 9 for 10 in the second half and 78 percent overall.

**Duke 61, Butler 59:** Largest lead was five and if **Gordon Hayward's** mid-court shot drops the 2010 NCAA Final would have been the biggest upset in history. But instead the clock struck 12 to end Cinderella Butler's dream as Coach K won his fourth title.

**ND 71, UCLA 70:** Second-ranked ND took down top-ranked UCLA to end its 88-game winning streak in January 1974 when with 29 seconds left as **Dwight Clay's** 15-footer gave ND its only lead, followed by a Bruins miss and three frantic put backs before jubilant ND fans poured onto the court to celebrate the historic win.

**Duke over Kentucky 104-103 in OT:** The 1992 East Regional Final featured two HoF coaches and the most memorable full court pass in history from a Top 50 player (**Grant Hill**) to a Top 10 member (**Christian Laettner**) for the fake left, spin right foul line jumper that won it to make Laettner 10 for 10 from the field and 10 for 10 from the foul line in the game.

**North Carolina State 80 UCLA 77 in 2OT:** This wins for drama, historic nature, all-time figures (**John Wooden, Bill Walton, David Thompson**) and great performances along with NC State fighting back from 7 down in the final minutes of regulation and 5 down in the second OT. And, oh yeah, it ended UCLA's 37-game tournament winning streak and reign of seven titles.

There's my Top 10 with honorable mention going to 1966 when Texas Western's first ever all-Black starting lineup took down Kentucky, NC State beating Houston with **Clyde Drexler** and **Akeem Olajuwon** a last-second **Lorenzo Charles** dunk, and the spectacular 1974 ACC 103-100 Final won by NC State over Maryland.

As for Gonzaga-UCLA: Great game, lots of drama and a historically memorable play. But I've seen many games I thought were better because, with all due respect, I didn't think the teams were that good, Gonzaga's quest for an undefeated season was aided by playing in a second-tier conference, there were no historic players, and the great Suggs shot wouldn't have counted in H-O-R-S-E because he didn't call the bank.

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[dick.lombardi.gz15@statefarm.com](mailto:dick.lombardi.gz15@statefarm.com)





# nutritious nibbles

This twist on traditional chicken pot pie makes four individual serving sizes to help keep portions in check, and is a great way to get in a rainbow of vegetables.

## Healthier Chicken Pot Pie

**Serves: 4**

### Ingredients:

Hannaford Olive Oil Cooking Spray  
1 Tbsp. olive oil  
8 button mushrooms, quartered  
2 ribs of celery, cut in 1/2-inch pieces  
2 large carrots, sliced into 1/2-inch rounds  
1/2 cup turnips, chopped  
1 medium onion, chopped  
Ground black pepper, to taste  
1 cup frozen peas  
1/4 cup all-purpose flour  
2 cup cooked skinless chicken breast, cut into 1/2-inch cubes



1 cup Nature's Promise® Organic Low Sodium Chicken Broth  
1/2 cups Stonyfield® Organic Lowfat Plain Yogurt  
1 tsp. McCormick® Parsley Flakes  
1 tsp. McCormick® Dill Weed  
3 sheets Taste of Inspirations® Puff Pastry  
1 dash McCormick® Paprika (for garnish)

### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400°F. Prepare four (8 oz.) ramekins with olive oil spray and set aside.
2. In a medium skillet, heat olive oil over medium heat. Add carrots, mushrooms, celery, turnips, onion and black pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, until vegetables are golden brown, about eight minutes. Add peas and cook for one additional minute.
3. Sprinkle flour evenly over vegetables and cook for another minute.
4. Add cubed chicken and broth. Whisk until mixture starts to boil. Remove from heat and let cool about five minutes.
5. Stir in yogurt, parsley, dill and optional black pepper to taste.
6. To prepare crust, layer three sheets of puff pastry on a flat surface. Spray each sheet layer with olive oil spray, making sure to get in between each layer of dough. Cut in half and stack one half on top of the other (creating six layers total).
7. Divide chicken mixture evenly between ramekins. Cut the phyllo into four rounds to fit the top of each ramekin. Top with paprika and optional ground pepper. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes, or until crust is golden brown.

### Nutritional Information

Amount per serving: Calories 1010; Total Fat 61 g; Saturated Fat 29 g; Cholesterol 65 mg; Sodium 860 mg; Carbohydrates 97 g; Fiber 9 g; Sugar 11 g; Added Sugar 0 g; Protein 39 g

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## NEWS & NOTES

# QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

## Free fishing, hunting and more for military members

The Fallen Outdoors nonprofit is looking for New Hampshire veterans and active duty service members who like hunting, fishing, canoeing, hiking and camping to enjoy the great outdoors with free active excursions. According to a press release, Team New England, which started in 2019, has a big goal this year: to facilitate 14 to 20 fishing trips in lakes, rivers and oceans; 12 to 18 hunting trips; eight canoe trips; five overnight hikes; three snowshoe hikes; and three family barbecues. These excursions are designed to provide veterans and service members with an outlet from life stressors to help prevent veteran suicide, according to the release, and staff are all volunteers who are active or former military service members.

**Score: +1**

**Comment:** *Anyone who is interested in attending a free outdoor trip can find events on The Fallen Outdoors East Coast community page on Facebook; one upcoming local trip is a day of fishing, leaving from Hampton, on May 20. The trip is limited to 30 veterans; email Jesse.Weber@TheFallenOutdoors.com to reserve a spot.*

## One man's trash isn't always another's treasure

If you've got bags of outgrown clothes or gently used household items that you're planning to donate, Goodwill will be happy to take them — as long as you're not just dropping off your trash. According to a recent report from WMUR, Goodwill Northern New England has seen an increase in unusable donations, things like a birdhouse with no roof and a ceiling fan with three blades that is supposed to have six. It costs the organization money to get rid of all that trash, the report said, more than \$1 million for each of the last two years, which is money that could otherwise go to the workforce programs that Goodwill funds.

**Score: -1**

**Comment:** *According to the report, Goodwill welcomes clothes, shoes, books and dishes that are in decent condition.*

## Speech earns local student a national scholarship

A local student was a top finisher in the national Voice of Democracy scholarship program. According to a press release, Central High School junior Matthew Blair was named the third place national winner and the recipient of the \$10,000 scholarship award, which is given out by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Blair was sponsored by the Queen City Memorial VFW Post and entered the oratorical competition.

**Score: +1**

**Comment:** *"This speech really was inspired by my grandfather, his story and the love for America that he instilled in me," Blair said in the release. "I am so proud that I could represent Manchester Central High School, the city of Manchester and the state of New Hampshire at this competition."*

## First Day of Caring in 2021 a success

Over the course of six hours on April 7, about 20 volunteers packaged 15,000 shelf-stable meals to help stock southern New Hampshire food pantries. The percentage of people who miss a meal in a day has increased by more than 200 percent since the start of the pandemic, according to a press release from the United Way of Greater Nashua, which is why the nonprofit focused on replenishing food supplies for its first Day of Caring event.

**Score: +1**

**Comment:** *This was the first of five events planned for The United Way of Greater Nashua's 2021 Days of Caring. The next is the annual Community Baby Shower in July, the release said.*

**QOL score: 67**

**Net change: +2**

**QOL this week: 69**

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

75

50





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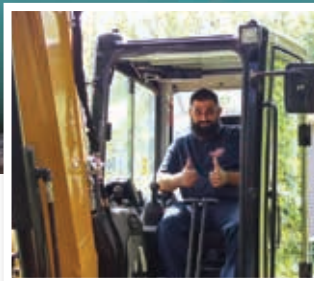


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# ARTS

## Zooming in

Festival showcases plays created for virtual performance

By Angie Sykeny  
asykeny@hippopress.com

Laconia-based theater company Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative is giving a new meaning to virtual theater with its Zoom Play Festival, featuring a series of short plays written specifically for the Zoom video chat platform.

“It’s not like these are just readings of plays,” Powerhouse manager Bryan Halperin said. “These are plays that are actually being performed as they were intended.”

The festival, produced in collaboration with the Community Players of Concord, will be pre-recorded and available to watch for free on YouTube from Friday, April 16, through Sunday, April 25.

There will be seven original plays, all written by New Hampshire playwrights who participated in a 10-week playwriting workshop hosted by the two theater companies last fall. The workshop was open to playwrights of all experience levels and covered the basics of playwriting, such as developing plot points, characters and dialogue, as well as how to write a Zoom-based play.

“If they came up with an idea that wasn’t really workable, I steered them back to how we could make it work to fit into this format,” said Halperin, who instructed the workshop.

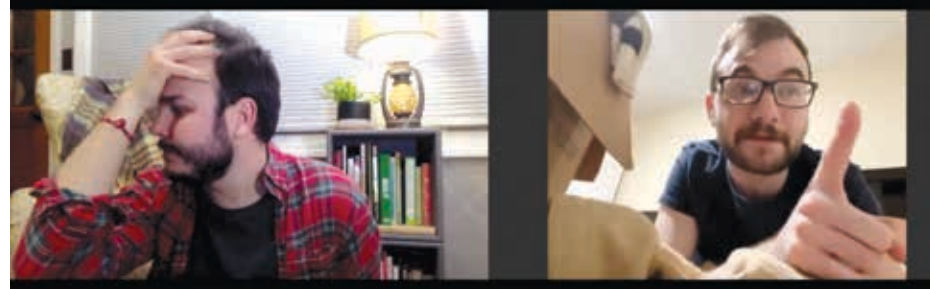
Featured playwright Douglas Schwarz of Concord has been active with the Players for years, acting, directing and doing backstage work. Recently he’s taken an interest in playwriting.

“I’ve done a very small amount of playwriting in the past, and it’s something I’ve been sort of wanting to get better at,” he said. “I thought the workshop would be an opportunity to get some more perspective on how playwriting works and give me the confidence that I can really do this.”

Schwarz’ play, titled *Choices*, follows four people at various stages in their lives, talking over Zoom and reflecting on the choices they’ve made.

“I’ve thought a lot about how decisions can change our lives and really [determine] what direction our lives are going to go,” he said. “I thought, wouldn’t it be cool if I could do [a play] that somehow expresses these thoughts I’ve had?”

The plays *In Boxes*, *Boys in Boxes* and



Joel Iwakiewicz and Adam Beauparlant in *Boys in Boxes*. Courtesy photo.

*Girls in Boxes* are three different versions of a play by Sharleigh Thomson, each with a different director and cast. Set in May 2020 during the pandemic, it centers on a video chat between two college seniors as they consider the next chapter of their lives and realize their romantic feelings for each other.

“You’d never make a captive audience sit through three versions of the same play back-to-back, but since it’s on YouTube, they can choose which one they want to watch, or they can watch all three at their leisure,” Halperin said. “It’s a bit of an experiment.”

Other plays include *Couple Seeks Extrovert* by Brenda Wilbert, a comedy about an introverted couple who step outside their comfort zone when they rent out a room to an extrovert; *Ship of Fools* by Chuck Fray, an interview between an oblivious newscaster and an author of apocalyptic fiction; and *Here We Go* by Doreen Sheppard, a

look at how families come together and cope during hard times.

More than 30 people are creatively involved in the festival.

“That’s what we’re most happy about,” Halperin said. “It’s great to be able to give [theater artists] an opportunity to be appreciated during this time when theater is so limited.”

“Theater is so important to us, and going without it has been difficult,” Schwarz added, “so this was really a gift to us from the Players and Powerhouse.” 🍀

### Zoom Play Festival

**Where:** Virtual, via YouTube.

**When:** Pre-recorded, available to watch Friday, April 16, through Sunday, April 25.

**Cost:** Free, donations appreciated.

**More info:** Visit [communityplayersofconcord.org](http://communityplayersofconcord.org), [belknapmill.org](http://belknapmill.org) or Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative on Facebook.

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# THE ROUNDUP

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

• **Big news at the Capitol Center:** Nicolette Clarke, executive director of the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord, announced at a board meeting last week her plans to retire, according to a press release from the Center. The second executive director in the CCA's 25-year history, Clarke significantly expanded the venue's programs and facilities during her 14-year tenure. Her accomplishments include establishing the Spotlight Cafe, a Salon Series and MET Live in HD broadcasts and spearheading the CCA's adoption of its second venue, the Bank of NH Stage, which opened in 2019. In response to the pandemic, she instituted numerous organizational development and safety projects, such as new analytic and marketing tools, HVAC filters and hands-free restroom equipment, and maintained the CCA's programming through outdoor performances and a virtual series of livestreamed and recorded shows. "It has been an honor to lead an organization that provides such rich and diverse arts experiences," Clarke said in the press release. "I am very proud of the number of lives we have touched and the service to the community we continue to provide despite the limitations of the pandemic." She will officially step down at the end of July. Call 225-1111 or visit [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com).

• **Classical diversity:** The Walker Lecture Series will conclude with a virtual screening of "Common Ground: Weaving Nepali & American Musical Traditions," a concert by Concord Community Music School faculty, airing on Concord TV (Channel 22 and [yourconcordtv.org](http://yourconcordtv.org)) on Wednesday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m. Recorded in May 2019 as part of the School's Bach's Lunch Concert Series, it features jazz, folk and South Asian classical music performed by a group of five faculty members with diverse backgrounds: Harimaya Adhikari, vocals and harmonium; Prem Sagar Khatiwada, tabla; Scott Kiefner, bass; Matt Langley, saxophone; and David Surette, guitar and mandolin. The screening will include a conversation among the performers as they reflect on the concert and the experience of learning about each other's musical traditions. All previously aired programs from this year's Walker Lecture Series are still available to watch on YouTube, including a performance and discussion of traditional New England tavern music, hymns, sailor songs and more; travelogues about Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska and the deserts, coastline and safari parks of Namibia; an art history lecture on Frank Lloyd Wright and Norman Rockwell and more. Call 333-0035 or visit [walkerlecture.org](http://walkerlecture.org).



Capitol Center for the Arts Executive Director Nicolette Clarke has announced her retirement. Courtesy photo.



"Common Ground: Weaving Nepali & American Musical Traditions," a concert by Concord Community Music School faculty. Courtesy photo.

• **Art tour for Spanish-speakers:** The self-guided audio tour of public art in downtown Nashua, launched last May by Great American Downtown, is now available in Spanish. Offered through the Distrx app (accessible on Android and iOS), the tour uses Bluetooth iBeacon technology to automatically display photos and text and provide audio descriptions as tourists approach the tour's 14 murals and sculptures. The original audio was translated into Spanish by Oscar Villacis and read by Jasmine Torres Allen, both of WSMN's "First Gen American," a radio talk show aimed at people who are the first in their families to be born U.S. citizens. "This art tour is a great way to explore our vibrant art scene on and around Main Street ... [and] has been an especially valuable option [for] social distancing as it is an outdoor activity [users can] experience at their own pace while following health guidelines," Paul Shea, Great American Downtown executive director, said in a press release. Search "Nashua Public Art Tour" on Facebook.

• **Virtual reception:** The New Hampshire Art Association hosts a virtual opening reception and awards ceremony for its 35th annual Omer T. Lassonde exhibition on Thursday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m. The exhibit honors Omer T. Lassonde, who helped found NHAA in 1940, and features works in a variety of media by NHAA members and non-members centered around this year's theme, "Beyond the Boundaries." It's viewable online and at the NHAA's Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth; open Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday from noon to 5 p.m., and Monday and Tuesday by appointment) now through May 30. Visit [nhartassociation.org](http://nhartassociation.org) or call 431-4230.

— Angie Sykeny 🍀



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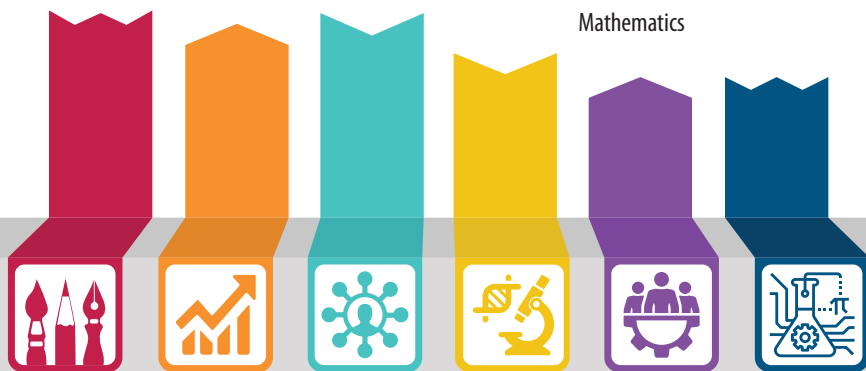
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# INSIDE/OUTSIDE

## Feed the birds

How growing native trees and shrubs can help

By Henry Homeyer  
listings@hippopress.com

### — THE GARDENING GUY —

By now birds are finding their own food and have less need for that sunflower seed we have been providing during the cold days of winter. Now, growing native trees and shrubs on our property can be a huge help to our bird friends.

It is not enough to put out birdhouses; we need to help birds find food for their chicks. The diet of baby birds is about 90 percent composed of caterpillars, which are high in the fat and protein that developing birds need to grow and be healthy. One clutch of chickadees can, according to entomologist Doug Tallamy, a Ph.D. researcher from the University of Delaware, consume 6,000 to 9,000 caterpillars in the 16 days from hatching to fledging. And most parent birds continue to feed their chicks even after they have fledged.

In Tallamy's new book, *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard*, he explains that not all trees and shrubs are created equal. Those that evolved alongside the butterflies and moths are palatable to them. Those that were imported from Asia or Europe

mostly are not of interest to them.

Most woody plants create toxins or bad-tasting chemicals to keep all sorts of animals from eating them, but caterpillars have developed ways to eat most native tree leaves — they have adapted to eat what was available to them.

Although caterpillars eat the leaves of our native plants, they rarely damage or defoliate their host plants. Tent caterpillars and a few other imported species will defoliate trees, but that's rare. It's just that most of us never notice the little holes chewed in the leaves that are supporting the caterpillars. In fact, I rarely notice caterpillars in the trees and shrubs at all, but our bird friends certainly do. They evolved along with the caterpillars and are genetically programmed to recognize them and bring them to their young, even birds that are seed eaters.

As Dr. Tallamy explains in the book, not all native plants are created equal. Some native species may only feed a few. Some, like our oaks, feed many hundreds of species of caterpillars. These "keystone species" are critical to supporting our wildlife. Five percent of the native species support over 70 percent of our lepidoptera, according to Tallamy.

So what plants are best to feed the caterpillars that support our birds?

According to Tallamy's research, native oaks, cherries, willows, birches, poplars and elms are best, and goldenrods, asters and perennial sunflowers "lead the herbaceous pack." The National Wildlife Federation's Plant Finder website ([nwf.org/NativePlantFinder](http://nwf.org/NativePlantFinder)) allows you to enter your zip code and see what plants are best for your zone, and how many pollinators are served by each.

Tallamy did a study in Portland, Oregon, and found that of 1,176 trees he identified on the streets there, 91.5 percent were from other continents or ecoregions, mainly Asia. What does that mean? Portland is a pretty city with lots of trees, but it is largely a wasteland for caterpillars that feed our baby birds. The birds need to nest where they can get food for their young.

If you wish to improve your landscape and plant native species that will support wildlife, think about reducing lawn size. Tallamy explains that there are 40 million acres of lawn in America, an area the size of New England. Thirty percent of our water is used to water lawns, and 40 to 60 percent of all fertilizer ends up in our waterways and drinking water, he wrote.

Doug Tallamy proposes that we all join him in creating a "Homegrown National Park" by reducing our lawns by 50 percent and growing native plants. This will create wildlife corridors and improve our environment in many ways.



Bird houses are nice, but we need to do more for our baby birds, including growing native plants. Photo courtesy of Henry Homeyer.

The plants will sequester carbon in ways that lawn does not. It will help to save endangered species of insects and birds. It will reduce pollution of our air and water.

According to one study, in newer housing developments lawn covers about 92 percent of space not covered with driveways and buildings. If we were all willing to reduce our lawns and add trees, shrubs and native perennials, that would make a big difference in helping to reduce species extinction of lepidoptera, birds and small mammals.

It does not require eliminating lawn, just reducing it. Think of lawn as area rugs, not wall-to-wall carpeting.

What else can you do to help our birds? Add a water feature. Even a small pool with a recirculating pump will attract birds, especially migrating birds that need sustenance for their long journey.

Instead of lawn, add native groundcovers. Lawns get compacted by lawnmowers, making it difficult for caterpillars and native bees to burrow in the ground. Most caterpillars pupate in the ground or in leaf litter, but lawns are not suitable. Other than honeybees, most bees burrow into the ground or into decaying wood to lay their eggs and hatch their young.

You can go to [homegrownationalpark.org](http://homegrownationalpark.org) to register your property as part of this movement.

Contact Henry at [henry.homeyer@comcast.net](mailto:henry.homeyer@comcast.net) or PO Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746. 🐛

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**INSIDE/OUTSIDE**  
**KIDDIE**  
**— POOL —**

Family fun for the weekend

**Celebrate Earth Day**

There's still time to register for the **Stonyfield Earth Day 5K**; in-person participation closes at 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 15, but virtual registration is open until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 16. The race will be held in person on Saturday, April 17, starting at 9 a.m. and following a staggered time trial format. The 3.1-mile course starts and finishes in Londonderry's West Soccer Complex, right near the Stonyfield Earth Day Fair. The cost is \$30 for ages 21 and up, \$25 for youth ages 12 to 20 and \$15 for kids 11 and younger. The virtual run is \$25. For more details or to register, visit [millenniumrunning.com](http://millenniumrunning.com).

Make plans now to celebrate Earth Day at the New Hampshire Audubon Massabesic Center in Auburn. The **Earth Day Festival** will take place Saturday, April 24, with three time slots between 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., according to a press release. The day will be filled with nature activities like building a birdhouse, planting seeds, going on a scavenger hunt, taking a nature-themed walk and visiting the animals that live at the center. The center will not be releasing a recovered animal back into the wild as it usually does for Earth Day, but there will be an opportunity to meet one of the center's ambassador raptors, like the barn owl, and everyone gets to take home a tree sapling to plant. Reservations are required; you can sign up for one of the time slots (10 to 11:30 a.m., noon to 1:30 p.m. or 2 to 3:30 p.m.) at [nhaudubon.org](http://nhaudubon.org) or by calling 668-2045. The cost is \$15 per family.



Stonyfield Earth Day 5K 2019. Photo courtesy of Millennium Running.

**Math madness**

Mathnasium of Nashua is hosting a **Multiplication Madness Day Camp** on Sunday, April 18, from noon to 2 p.m., with games and activities to help children review or learn multiplication skills. It's geared toward kids in grades 2 through 5, but all grades are welcome, and previous multiplication experience isn't necessary. Students will work in small groups with an instructor. The cost is \$20. Space is limited. Call 242-2004 to reserve a spot.

**Baseball is back**

Single-game tickets to **watch the Fisher Cats play ball** for the first time in about 600 days are on sale now for the month of May, according to a press release. Their home opener at Delta Dental Stadium in Manchester is set for Tuesday, May 11, at 6:35 p.m. against the Somerset Patriots, with an Atlas Fireworks show after the game. That night kicks off a six-game homestand from Tuesday through Sunday, May 16, followed by another six-game series in Manchester against the Portland Sea Dogs from May 18 to May 23. You can get tickets now at [nhfishercats.com](http://nhfishercats.com) or 641-2005. Tickets for games in June, July, August and September will be released later in the season as MLB capacity regulations continue to evolve, according to the release. 🍌

**TREASURE HUNT**

*Dear Donna,  
 We recently purchased a Victorian home in Hampton. We have three doors that are missing the match for knobs. Wondering if you might be able to help locate matches. Are they worth trying to find?*

*Rob and Shea*



Dear Rob and Shea,

The value on antique doorknobs can run usually in the range of \$10 to \$50 depending on material and design. Now the tough part will be to find matches — like needles in a haystack, as they say.

I would try online first to see if a match is on any selling sites. Try Googling antique brass doorknobs (you might have to replace them both if you find what you are looking for in a complete set). Or maybe you'll find similar knobs with the same aged patina (coloring of the aged brass). Next I might

try flea markets and salvage shops as well.

All of these suggestions could take time, so it depends on the amount of effort you want to put into replacing them with original ones, or finding similar ones from the same time period that will fit into the rest of the doors.

*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](http://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](mailto:footwdw@aol.com), or call her at 391-6550 or 624-8668. 🍌*



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# Finding the best fit means getting in, out and behind the wheel



By Ray Magliozzi

*Dear Car Talk:*  
I have always driven a sedan but want to switch to a midsize SUV. I am an elderly lady (79) and have never driven an SUV but want something practical and dependable.

I have looked online at the Honda Pilot, Toyota Highlander and Kia Telluride. If I want a third row of seats, which of those would you recommend?

If I decide I could do with a five-passenger vehicle, I have looked online at the Subaru Outback, Honda CR-V and Toyota RAV 4. What would be your top choice in that category? My current car has suddenly died, and I need to make a quick decision. — Wanda

Well, Wanda, every vehicle you've listed is a good one. Those are all practical, reliable, well-designed cars. The Telluride is currently our favorite three-row SUV. It's quiet, smooth, powerful, and is a great value, besides.

In the five-passenger category, we frequently recommend all three of the crossovers you list: the CR-V, the RAV4 and the Outback. And I'd add the Subaru Forester to that list, because it has particularly good visibility.

But here's the important thing: You need to go and drive them. Even if you're a spry 79, climb-

ing up into the bigger SUVs may not suit you. Even if you can make it in there with a yank on the grab handle or a little push from a helpful stranger, you may not want to do that every day.

Plus, the Highlander, the Pilot and the Telluride are all pretty big. They'll certainly be harder to maneuver and park than whatever sedan you're used to.

So unless you're solely responsible for game day transportation for the senior center's basketball team (plus coaches), I'd suggest you lean toward the five-passenger category. Those will be easier to get in and out of, easier to park and turn around, and, generally, more car-like and easier to live with.

Then the question is, which one fits you best? Which is easy for you to get into and out of? Which one allows you to see easily over the dashboard and out the back? Which seat and seatbelt position fit your body best? Which one feels easy for you to drive and park?

Visit a few dealerships and take a few test drives. I'm guessing that after some basic seat-of-the-pants research, one of those will emerge as the obvious choice for you, Wanda.

*Dear Car Talk:*  
I have a 2010 Mazda Miata. It now has almost 40,000 miles on it. Ever since I bought it (with 18,000 miles on it), I have had a problem when

I go over speed bumps. It makes a loud screeching sound. It sounds like metal rubbing against metal.

My mechanic is stumped as to what is causing this noise. I have replaced the front brakes and all four struts, but the noise continues. When they work on the car, they always add extra grease (somewhere?), but the noise always returns. The mechanics don't think the noise is causing any harm, but it is very annoying.

This is my second Miata. My first was a 1991, and I drove it for 27 years. I traded it in for this one when it had 204,000 miles on it. It never made a noise like this one does.

By the way, if I also drive this one for 27 years, I will be 100 and still driving it. Thanks for any suggestions or help. — Fran

I'll need a crane to get myself into a Miata when I turn 100. I'll certainly need one to get me out.

When you go over a speedbump, Fran, you're causing the suspension to go beyond its normal limits. And strange things happen when you push components that far. So finding the culprit — without convincing your mechanic to hang by his fingers under your car while going over a speedbump — is going to involve some guesswork.

What could be making noise when pushed past its limits? It could be something like your

control arm bushings, which are involved in letting the wheels move up and down without letting them move forward and back.

Next time you're in, ask your mechanic to start by spraying your four front control arm bushings with silicone penetrating oil. If that doesn't help, try the rear bushings next time. Ideally, you want to know what fixes it, so you'll know where to spray when the noise comes back. Don't spray the convertible top, though. I think we can rule that out.

Another possibility is that the car itself is flexing over the speed bump, and the spinning driveshaft is momentarily scraping against the exhaust system. That's not uncommon.

So while the car is up on the lift, your mechanic should also eyeball the exhaust system, and see if there's any sign of scraping or external wear near the driveshaft. If he sees an area of the exhaust that looks like it's been scratched up or scraped, then you may have your answer. If it's happening infrequently, and at speed-bump-speed, I agree with him that it's not a huge concern.

But he may be able to make some small adjustments to the way the exhaust system is hanging to reduce or eliminate the noise. Or he can buy you some Metallica CDs to play when you go over speed bumps. Good luck, Fran.

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# ON THE JOB

## SUSAN TERZAKIS

### FOUNDER AND CEO, TERZAKIS & ASSOCIATES

Susan Terzakis is a professional certified business coach and founder and CEO of Terzakis & Associates, a team of small business advisors based in Bedford.

**Q:** Explain your job and what it entails.

We work with small businesses, exclusively [ones with] under \$10 million in annual sales volume ... referred to as microbusinesses. We support, nurture and guide their leadership with two key programs: 'Seed' and 'Growth.' Seed ... is for folks in the concept and idea stage. We help them [with] vetting and proving the idea, making sure there's an appetite for it in the community and creating a market. ... 'Growth' is where we put the pedal to the metal; they've proven the concept, and now they need to [develop] systems and processes, build out their team and delegate.

**How long have you had this job?**  
Since 2014.

**What led you to this career field and your current job?**

I was a business banking director ... and then a staffer for Sen. [Kelly] Ayotte's office, [assisting with] the senator's efforts on small business, treasury and HUD issues within the state. ... Then, I had a health event ... and had to slow down a bit. ... There was an opportunity for me to assist at the Center for Women's Business Advancement at SNHU. It was a perfect transition ... but it was only a year-long gig. After that contract ended, I was consistently [hearing] from clients I had worked with at that center, and what started as 'Sure, I'll meet you for coffee and help you with your strategy' eventually turned into my realizing, 'Hey, I think this might be an enjoyable business.'

**What kind of education or training did you need?**

I grew up in a family-owned business, so I got to witness and be part of a growing business ... and in banking, I got to learn the financial [aspects] of business ... but I felt that, to round out the experiential portion of my resume, I should get some technical knowledge, so I went and got my Professional Coaching Certificate at the UNH business school. That took two years.



Susan Terzakis

**What do you wish other people knew about your job?**

You're constantly going back and forth between the personal — [the business owner is] scared, overwhelmed, freaked out or lacking confidence — and the professional, where things are more technical. You have to have the ability to guide and support business owners in both [of those ways], and that's one of the greatest joys of my job.

**What was the first job you ever had?**

At our family-owned restaurant in Salem, Massachusetts, I had the true joy of being the busser and honorary potato peeler.

**What's the best piece of work-related advice you've ever received?**

Your word is your bond. Nobody can take your name away from you, so guard it preciously.  
— Angie Sykeny 🍌

#### Five favorites

**Favorite book:** The Bible

**Favorite movie:** *The Godfather* trilogy

**Favorite type of music or musician:** Elton John and AC/DC

**Favorite food:** I love all of it. Food is my love language. Except for mayonnaise. I really hate mayonnaise.

**Favorite thing about NH:** The variety. The coast, the mountains, the suburbs, some cities — we have it all here.

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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll  
food@hippopress.com

• **Greek meals to go:** Join Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church (68 N. State St., Concord) for its next **boxed Greek dinner to go** event on Sunday, April 25, from noon to 1 p.m. Now through April 21, orders are being accepted for boxed meals, featuring baked haddock, rice pilaf, a vegetable and a dinner roll, for \$20 per person. The event is drive-thru and takeout only — visit holytrinitynh.org, email ordermygreekfood@gmail.com or call 953-3051 to place your order. Assumption Greek Orthodox Church (111 Island Pond, Manchester) is also hosting its next **drive-thru food fest** on Saturday, April 25, from noon to 2:30 p.m., with orders being accepted now through April 21. That menu will feature baked haddock dinners with rice pilaf, Greek-style peas and carrot medley, plus other available a la carte items like spinach petas and pastry platters featuring baklava and assorted cookies. This event is also pickup only (stay in your car; no walk-ins). Visit foodfest.assumptionnh.org.

• **Taste Kone reopens this week:** Soft-serve ice cream shop **Taste Kone** (272 Route 101, Amherst) will reopen for the season on Friday, April 16, owner Jill Jones confirmed. In addition to 30 different flavors of soft-serve, including chocolate, vanilla and chocolate and vanilla twist, Taste Kone also serves hot dogs and all types of sundaes and razzles, or soft-serve flavors mixed with a variety of candied ingredients. One of the most popular offerings, Jones said, is the almond milk swirl, a vegan alternative with different flavors changing every three days. Taste Kone is open Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday from 2 to 8 p.m. Find them on Facebook or call 203-3270.

• **Anniversary brews:** Derry's Daydreaming Brewing Co. (1½ E. Broadway) is celebrating its first full year in business with the release of its **Anniversary Ale** on Friday, April 16, at 4 p.m., featuring a blend of its Russian imperial stout, barleywine and Belgian strong dark ale that has been aged in a whiskey barrel. Owner and founder Andy Day will also be presenting a new beer series this week based on a Dungeons & Dragons campaign — **Fierce Princess**, a German Pilsner brewed with rye and spicy peppers, will roll out on Thursday, April 15, at 4 p.m., followed by three more releases in the series expected to be ready every four months. Visit daydreaming.beer. In Manchester, Candia Road Brewing Co. (840 Candia Road) is releasing a crushable session IPA called **Lil' Conez** on Saturday, April 17, at noon, a collaborative brew with Bill and Alli 20 ▶

# FOOD

## Fresh catch

### Mexican-style seafood grill opens in Nashua

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingsoll@hippopress.com

Off the Pacific coast of Mexico, the Riviera Nayarit is a destination renowned for its beaches, resorts and abundance of seafood. A new eatery has brought that culture to Nashua, offering a menu heavy on harder-to-find Mexican-style seafood dishes and a beach-like ambiance to match.

Sharing a name with the popular tourist spot, Riviera Nayarit Mexican Style Seafood and Grill opened on West Pearl Street last month, with walls painted ocean blue and sand beige and framed photos of Riviera Nayarit's beaches at several of the booths.

Owner Karla Gutierrez, who also operates Mi Jalisco Mexican Grill in Manchester and has helped open a few other Mexican restaurants in the Granite State with friends and family members, said Riviera Nayarit is a concept that has been years in the making.

"The gastronomy of Mexico is huge. There are hundreds and hundreds of different styles," said Gutierrez, who was born in Nayarit and came to the United States with her family at the age of 9. "My menu here is ... how we do seafood on that part of the coast. A lot of people venture into what they know, like the mussels, the oysters and the dips, but I have a huge variety."

The pescado zarandeado for instance, which Gutierrez referred to as Riviera Nayarit's house dish, features a whole red snapper that's fileted, grilled and marinated in house. It's one of several plated dishes served with rice, beans or fries, a salad and either flour or corn tortillas.



Grilled salmon. Photo courtesy of Riviera Nayarit.

"A lot of people have been loving that I'm using snapper, which is so hard to get up here," she said. "It's definitely something you have to try if you haven't."

Aguachiles, or dishes featuring marinated shrimp and vegetables in varying degrees of spiciness, are also among the eatery's staples. One option, the aguachile Sayulita, adds octopus.

Ceviche, or fish cooked in lime juice with cilantro, onions and cucumbers, is also available in several versions. You can order ceviche with shrimp, catfish or octopus, or try a fancier option like torre de marisco, which translates to "seafood tower." That dish is a combination of shrimp, octopus, scallops and other seafood that is stacked with layers of tomato, cucumber and onions.

The Baja tacos, featuring three per serving with grilled fish or shrimp, cabbage and a chipotle cream sauce, have been among the restaurant's top sellers out of the gate, as have been the shrimp empanadas, the oysters



Tostada de pulpo (octopus ceviche tostada). Photo courtesy of Riviera Nayarit.

and the steamed mussels.

If you'd prefer something a bit more familiar, or you're simply not a seafood lover, Riviera Nayarit has other options too, like street tacos, fajitas, quesadillas and salads with chicken, steak or mixed veggies, plus nachos with a variety of toppings to choose from. Extensive selections of Mexican beers, micheladas, specialty margaritas, martinis and other house cocktails like cantaritos, mojitos and Mexican mai tais are also available. 🍷

#### Riviera Nayarit Mexican Style Seafood and Grill

**Where:** 116 W. Pearl St., Nashua  
**Hours:** Tuesday through Thursday, 4 to 10 p.m.; Friday, 4 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. (hours may be subject to change)  
**More info:** Visit rivieranh.com, find them on Facebook or call 521-8602

# FOOD

## Egg-ceptional eats

### Crack'd Kitchen & Coffee coming to Salem

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingsoll@hippopress.com

Inspired by their love of breakfast sandwiches, Alan Frati and Danny Azzarello found success in 2019 with Crack'd Kitchen & Coffee, a fast casual concept specializing in locally roasted coffees, smoothies, bowls and eclectic breakfast options like loaded hash browns and egg sandwiches with creative toppings. After two years in Andover, Mass., Crack'd will open a second spot in Frati's hometown of Salem on Monday, April 19.

"We felt like there was a big opportunity to kind of do a chef-driven breakfast concept that could be done fast. That was really the

foundation for what we did," Frati said. "Our bacon is local from North Country Smokehouse here in New Hampshire, our eggs are all cage-free and organic, our bread is baked fresh daily and delivered seven days a week. ... We wanted to find a concept that fit into people's hectic lifestyles but wasn't full of frozen, processed foods."

Frati and Azzarello, along with their respective wives, Meghan and Emma, who also have hands in the business, had been looking at a few other potential spots in Salem to expand. Then early last fall, Azzarello said, he and Frati were approached by Jay Gee's Ice Cream on South Broadway — the Wayback Burgers restaurant in the adjoining storefront next door, they learned,

had closed and would not be reopening.

Other than being in a slightly smaller space than its Massachusetts counterpart, Crack'd will carry much of its established brand to Salem with a few of its own touches unique to the Granite State. The eatery features an open-kitchen concept, plus a high-stool breakfast bar overlooking the window and a large outdoor patio space.

"We definitely love the fact that we can appeal to everybody," Frati said of the menu. "Our chef-driven breakfast sandwiches are sort of our core items, and those are very indulgent ... but we have healthier options too, so grain bowls, salads, smoothies, things like that."

CONTINUED ON PG 19 ▶

Egg sandwiches are available all day. They can be anything from a simple bacon, egg and cheese sandwich on a brioche bun or bagel, to more elevated options like the Porker, featuring house sausage, maple mustard and caramelized onions; and the Early Bird, which has roasted turkey, Swiss cheese and a house sauce called “Bam” sauce.

“Every single item has a story or something looped to it. It’s not just on there because we need it,” Azzarello said. “The Bam sauce originated late one night. It was probably 1 o’clock in the morning and we were trying to create a sauce that kind of replicated almost like a Russian or Thousand Island dressing. We mixed our ketchup, maple mustard and honey Sriracha and then added some mayo and relish. We tasted it and we were like, ‘Bam, this is it!’”

There are also specialty breakfast sandwiches of the month — Frati said the first one out of the gate at the new Salem location will likely feature flavors inspired by Cinco de Mayo.

The lunch menu at Crack’d includes burgers, sandwiches, grain bowls featuring a quinoa rice blend, and “mac bowls” that are made with egg noodles and a house cheese sauce.

Smoothies, teas and espresso drinks are all part of the drinks menu. Coffees, including several of their own proprietary blends, are sourced from Hometown Coffee Roasters of Manchester.

“We have something like 35 different



The Live Free or Die breakfast sandwich. Photos courtesy of Crack’d Kitchen & Coffee.

options that you can get,” Frati said. “We do some real fun stuff like cereal milk, which is Cinnamon Toast Crunch that’s steeped in milk overnight. We use that to make some really creative and fun drinks.”

**Crack’d Kitchen & Coffee**

Opening Monday, April 19. Visit their website or social media channels for updates.

**Where:** 327 S. Broadway, Salem

**Anticipated hours:** Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**More info:** Visit crackdkitchen.com, find them on Facebook and Instagram @crackdkitchen or call 212-1511

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# IN THE KITCHEN WITH JEFF MARTIN



Jeff Martin of Nashua is the executive chef of Industry East Bar (28 Hanover St., Manchester, 232-6940, [industryeastbar.com](http://industryeastbar.com)), which opened in early February. Industry East features an eclectic cocktail menu with syrups, juices and other ingredients made in house, along with a food selection that includes flatbreads, charcuterie boards and shareable plates, from duck confit-stuffed popovers to braised short rib toast points. A native of Litchfield, Martin got his start in the industry working as a dishwasher at Woodman's Seafood and Grill at Mel's Funway Park while in high school — he later went on to study culinary arts at Nashua Community College. He was the sous chef at The Birch on Elm prior to Industry East's opening, and has also held cooking jobs at the Bedford Village Inn and the Vesper Country Club in Tyngsborough, Mass.

**What is your must-have kitchen item?**  
I'd probably have to say either my chef's knife or a pair of tongs.

**What would you have for your last meal?**  
I am a huge steak lover, so a big fat juicy ribeye ... and probably a nice glass of bourbon.

**What is your favorite local restaurant?**  
Savannah Kitchen in Newmarket. A shout out to my buddy Ian Gage, who's the executive chef out there. They do a lot of really great stuff there. There's a pork belly dish with barbecue sauce and apple slices that is unreal.

**What celebrity would you like to see ordering from your menu?**  
I'm going to say Guy Fieri.

**What is your favorite thing on your menu?**  
The duck confit-stuffed popovers, which I'm super proud of. We make them fresh every day.

**What is the biggest food trend in New Hampshire right now?**  
It's been going on for years but vegan and plant-based items have become really popular.

**What is your favorite thing to cook at home?**  
Honestly, when I get home from being in the kitchen all day, I'm either ordering out or I'm eating frozen pizzas or Cheez-Its.  
— Matt Ingersoll 🍕

**Homemade popovers**  
From the kitchen of Jeff Martin of Industry East Bar in Manchester

2 cups all-purpose flour  
2 cups whole milk  
4 eggs  
Salt and pepper

Mix flour, salt and pepper together. Heat the milk to about 120 degrees. Pour the milk slowly into the eggs to temper them. Mix the dry ingredients with the wet ingredients to form the batter. Pour them over into a popover pan about halfway up. Bake at 395 degrees for 15 minutes, then bring the temperature down to 350 degrees and bake for 15 additional minutes.

## Weekly Dish

Continued from page 18

Seney of the Manchvegas Brew Bus in celebration of the bus's third anniversary. Visit [candiaroadbrewingco.com](http://candiaroadbrewingco.com).

• **Gibson's selling Bread & Chocolate gift certificates:** Gibson's Bookstore in Concord is helping to sell gift certificates redeemable at its Main Street neighbor **Bread & Chocolate**, which is expected to remain closed through at least the end of this month following an unexpected family medical emergency. You can visit [gibsonsbookstore.com/bread-chocolate-gift-certificate](http://gibsonsbookstore.com/bread-chocolate-gift-certificate) to purchase a gift certificate in multiple amounts from \$5 to \$200 per recipient. Certificates will be mailed to you, with all of the money collected going toward Bread & Chocolate. The downtown bakery, which has long been a spot known for its cakes, tarts, Danishes, cookies and other pastries, has been closed since late March. Follow Bread & Chocolate on Facebook @breadandchocolateconcordnh for updates on their reopening plans. 🍞



# TRY THIS AT HOME

## Blueberry white chocolate truffles

I'll start with an important note about this recipe. It requires at least two and a half hours of your time, but don't let that scare you away. These are amazingly good treats that are well worth the time commitment.

Next, I have a couple notes on the ingredients. You'll notice that the recipe requires both freeze-dried blueberries and dried blueberries. Don't try to substitute one for the other. They both have great blueberry flavor, but they have extremely different textures that have specific purposes in the recipe. Also, white chocolate is listed twice, and that isn't a mistake. The first amount goes into the truffle; the second amount goes onto the truffle.

Once you have the ingredients on hand, get ready to make a batch of sweet treats that will be the focus of conversation, if you share them. Between their purple-hued interior and fun combination of white chocolate and blueberries,



Blueberry white chocolate truffles. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

I've found that people can't stop talking about them.

*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.* 🍷

### Blueberry white chocolate truffles

Makes 20

- 1/3 cup heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon salted butter, softened
- 8 ounces white chocolate
- 1/2 cup freeze-dried blueberries, puréed into dust
- 3 tablespoons dried blueberries
- 4 ounces white chocolate

Fill a medium pot 1/3 full with water; bring to a boil.  
Reduce heat until simmering and place a heat-proof bowl over the pot. (The bowl should be big enough not to submerge and small enough to rest on the rim.)  
Add cream and butter to bowl.  
Stir occasionally until butter melts.  
While butter melts, chop 8 ounces of white chocolate into small pieces.  
Add white chocolate, stirring continuously.  
When chocolate is fully melted, stir in freeze-dried blueberry powder; mix well.

Remove from heat and add dried blueberries, stirring to combine.  
Transfer mixture to a pie plate.  
Refrigerate, uncovered, for 2 hours.  
Line a large plate or tray with parchment paper.  
Using a teaspoon, scrape a small amount of mixture from the bowl.  
Using hands, roll into a ball approximately 1 inch in diameter; place on parchment paper.  
Repeat until all mixture is used.  
Place tray of truffles in the refrigerator for 15 minutes.  
Place remaining 4 ounces of white chocolate in a small bowl and microwave in 30-second increments, stirring after each, until melted.  
After 15 minutes, remove baking sheet from refrigerator. Place one truffle in melted chocolate and roll until fully coated.  
Using a fork, return coated truffle to parchment-lined plate or tray.  
Repeat with remaining balls, and refrigerate for 10 minutes to set.

### Food & Drink

#### Farmers markets

• **Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, at 20 S. Main Street in Concord, now through late April. Find them on

Facebook @downtownconcord-winterfarmersmarket.

• **Milford Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at 300 Elm Street in Milford (across the street from the New Hampshire Antique Co-op), beginning May 8. Visit milfordn-

hfarmersmarket.com.

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



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**DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD**

**The Chestnut Club**

This column is an intervention for my editor and her aversion to a certain liqueur.

We Americans don't deal well with bitterness.

The *taste* of bitter things, that is. We are fine with it as a character trait, but bitter tastes have a steep acceptance curve for us. Other cultures are much more accommodating to it. The Chinese concept of candy is more likely to be bitter than sweet. The British brew beers and ales that would make an American face collapse in on itself. But offer one of us an oil-cured black olive (the best kind of olive, by the way), and most of us will shrink back in horror.

"But, but that tastes like ... *leather!*"

Yes. Yes, it does.

And this aversion makes a certain amount of sense, evolutionarily speaking. Long ago, we developed the ability to taste bitter things to help us avoid toxins in the wild. If a new berry or caterpillar tasted astringent or bitter, our ancestors knew to spit it out. But that logic breaks down in our modern world. There are huge numbers of us — granted, not so much in New Hampshire — who challenge ourselves to eat the spiciest foods we can stand. Sweating and gasping until we feel light-headed from a literal *pain response*? Fine. Bitterness? "What? Are you CRAZY?"

Intellectually, we accept that delicious, well-nuanced foods need a mixture of basic flavors. Bake a batch of cookies without salt, and they will just taste wrong. We love sweet-and-sour pork and chocolate-covered pretzels. Bitterness has a place at the table.

Which brings us to Campari.

Campari is a bright red, extremely bitter liqueur from Italy. You have seen it at the liquor store, or behind the bar at most upscale joints, but probably don't have any around your house. It is the dominant ingredient in a Negroni.

To be fair, it is not universally loved. Some cynical critics have referred to it as "The Raisins of Booze." [Editor's note: As in "Why are there raisins in this cookie? This did not need raisins," but with an otherwise perfectly good cocktail and Campari.] And yet, the fact remains that it is one of the best complementary counterbalances to sweet juices or syrups in mixed drinks. It is a team player; nobody is going to drink a glass of the stuff.

Actually, hold that thought.

*Sound of footsteps going into the kitchen, various bartending sounds, a brief moment of silence, then a gasp of shock and the sound of a tiny glass hitting the floor. More footsteps returning.*

Yeah. I can't recommend that.

BUT, I stand by my assertion that Campari deserves the space on your shelf where you are



Chestnut Club. Photo by John Fladd.

keeping that bottle of Crystal Head vodka that you bought on a whim that time and can't bring yourself to open. (Open it and drink it, already. It's vodka. It tastes like vodka.)

A case in point is a classic drink — the Chestnut Club (sometimes known as the Chestnut Cup), a modern classic developed in a California restaurant of the same name. It balances sweetness in the form of orgeat (an almond-infused syrup pronounced "or-szott", as in, "It is unclear at this time whether the victim was stabbed *or shot*"), astringency from gin, sourness from lemon juice, and, of course, bitterness from Campari.

**Chestnut Club**

- 2 ounces gin (lately I like Death's Door, out of Wisconsin.)
- 2 ounces Campari (Yes. Do it. God hates a coward.)
- 2 ounces fresh squeezed lemon juice
- 1 ounce orgeat

1. Combine all ingredients with 4 or 5 ice cubes in a shaker.
2. Shake until it is very cold — at least until condensation forms on the outside of the shaker.
3. Pour, without straining, into a rocks glass.
4. Drink sincerely, without irony, and, if possible, while sitting in a leather chair in an oak-paneled library with a taxidermied tiger head on the wall.

This drink is delicious. The flavor comes in waves. You really can taste each individual ingredient. It *implies* fruitiness, without actually embracing a Tiki mandate. It feels as if it should be too sweet and frivolous to take seriously, but it's not.

Do you know why?  
Campari, people.

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



# Meet crémant

Another French sparkling wine

by Fred Matuszewski  
food@hippopress.com

When thinking of sparkling wines two immediately come to mind: Champagne and prosecco. Champagne is typically reserved for celebratory events and prosecco has generated a following because it is light and not complex, to be enjoyed in an afternoon or with dessert, without the guilt of spending a lot of money. But if you want complexity derived from a blending of a variety of grapes, along with the added boost of notes of fresh bread, and possibly a sweetener, you must turn to a Champagne, a cava or a crémant. In this column we will discuss crémant, as the other sparkling wine from France.

Crémant, made in the same method as Champagne, can be produced in eight different wine regions of France, including Alsace, Bordeaux, Loire, Bourgogne and Jura. Sparkling wine labeled as Champagne can only come from the Champagne region of France. Both Champagne and crémant are produced from grapes that are hand-harvested and both require a second fermentation in the bottle, with the lees (sediment of yeast), which helps to give the wines their natural fizz. Both have a second dosage of sugar or wine before they are corked and both are aged for a minimum of 12 months before they can be sold. The regulations for Champagne are very strict, while the guidelines for crémant may be a little more relaxed; however, crémants can still have the great quality of Champagnes and are growing in popularity.

Crémant d'Alsace means the "Sparkling Wine from Alsace." This region makes up approximately 45 percent of all crémant production, producing approximately 40 million bottles annually, making this the largest contributor toward the crémant production of France. Our first wine, a **Cave de Ribeauvillé Crémant d'Alsace Brut Le Comte** (originally priced at \$49.99, reduced to \$17.99 at the NH Liquor & Wine Outlets) has a pale yellow color with a slight citric nose. The bubbles rise consistently and do not fade in the glass. The first taste is of green apples and is slightly citric, but vanilla and the yeast of brioche comes through in a full creamy mouth feel.

Alsace, located on the Rhine River plain and the border of Germany and Switzerland, has alternated between French and German control over the centuries. Wines produced here tend to be influenced not only by the cooler climate but also by German tastes. Varietals grown include riesling, gewurztraminer, muscat and pinot gris. It is logically



expected that riesling is the predominant grape of this crémant produced by Cave de Ribeauvillé, the oldest wine co-operative in France, originating in 1895 and containing over 650 acres of vineyards.

Our second crémant is from the Loire Valley, home to kings and castles. The river flows through central France and the valley is referred to as "the Garden of France" due to the abundance of vineyards, fruit orchards, and vegetable fields in its banks and hillsides. There are several wine regions producing muscadet on the Atlantic Coast, to Sancerre and Pouilly-Fumé, southeast of Orleans that run along the course of the river. **Comte de Saint Aignan Crémant de Loire Brut Première Étoile** (originally priced at \$28.99, reduced to \$14.99 at the NH Liquor & Wine Outlets) produced by Fournier Père & Fils, is a blend of 60 percent chenin blanc, 35 percent chardonnay and 5 percent cabernet franc. The grapes for this sparkling wine come from the Crémant-de-Loire appellation of the Valley, including Anjou, Saumur and Touraine, in the heartland of the Loire Valley.

The color is light gold (almost clear) with persistent but sparse bubbles. The nose is slightly nutty with notes of dark honey. To the mouth, there are bold citric notes, leading one to think that sauvignon blanc is included in the blend, as it is in crémant blends of Bordeaux — but it isn't. The nose and taste of the chardonnay in this blend is more pronounced than in a typical Champagne, which may influence the taste buds of some more than those of others. The finish is long, perhaps in part owing to the presence of the chardonnay.

Each of these wines can be enjoyed as an aperitif or served with fish and seafood, and perhaps enjoyed with fruit and cheese. They are versatile.

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

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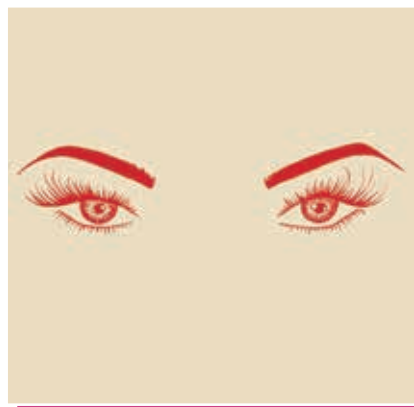
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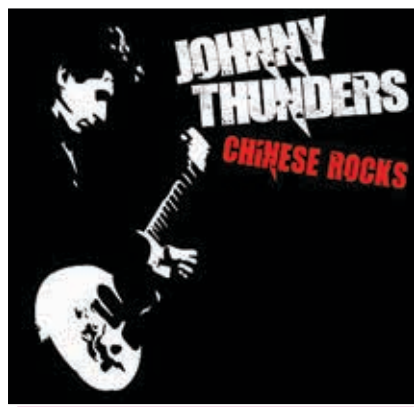
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One usually doesn't associate San Jose with experimental music, but Jamie Stewart has been producing just that out of the area for 19 years at last count. He's been the only constant, although keyboardist and drum-programmer Angelo Seo has been a constant for several releases now, including this one. If you need some sort of touchstone, producing Stewart's albums was a guilty pleasure of Deerhoof's Greg Saunier, but Deerhoof-worship sure isn't what's afoot here. It's a mercurial mixed bag of weirdness, in which Stewart sings

deconstructionist-savvy duets with a bunch of different singers, including the aforementioned Saunier, Chelsea Wolfe and Alice Bag (Haley Fohr is particularly unlistenable here); his tentative, Norman Bates-style vocal is an acquired taste, as is his fetish for nonsense vocals, but this should work for you if you like things like the Swans when they're in intelligible mode. Plenty of glitch and industrial noise, and for the most part it comprises billowy clouds of goth-ish mood-fog, but as always with this project, the record's impossible to nail down in a couple of paragraphs. **B** — *Eric W. Saeger*

#### Johnny Thunders, "Chinese Rocks" (Die Laughing/ Golden Robot Records)



Warmup single for the forthcoming exclusive live album *Cosa Nostra: Live At The Mudd Club 1983 Gothenburg*, a Swedish live set from the former New York Dolls guitarist. Thunders was a tragic figure who grew up a fatherless outsider in Queens, N.Y., turned his back on a promising baseball career and died very mysteriously and way too soon. This song has been a staple anthem of original New York punk rockers for many decades now, written by Richard Hell and Dee Dee Ramone and first appearing on the 1977 album *L.A.M.F.* by Johnny Thunders and the

Heartbreakers. The lyrics revolve around a drug reference that's become almost quaint over time in some hyper-hip circles (the guys were trying to out-cool Lou Reed's "Heroin"), and by the way, it was redone by the Ramones on their *End Of The Century* album. With regard to the quality of this release, well, it's less than boombox-level, which one would expect for something this old and that was probably recorded on a cassette recorder by a roadie who never wanted the responsibility. But as such, it's a priceless artifact. **A+** — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

• Where does the time go, I ask non-rhetorically, because look, guys, the next general CD release date is April 16! Since 80 percent of New Hampshireites love them some hard rock, we'll kick off this week's episode with none other than Led Zeppelin Mini-Me band **Greta Van Fleet**, with their new album *The Battle At Garden's Gate!* As you know, these guys are nowhere near as adept at repackaging Zep as Fantastic Negrito (I think I heard Negrito won a Grammy this year, but my delicate constitution was, as always, too touchy to sit through all the twerking imbecility of the Grammys, so I'm just going by some headline I scrolled past while looking to poach some Twitter followers), but they sure are the next best thing to Negrito, if by "the next best thing" you mean "not even close, but at least I don't feel horrible while it's playing." But hey, hilarious title, *The Battle At Garden's Gate*, huh? There's some meme that shows a pie graph of Zeppelin songs, showing that 30 percent of them are about sex, 68 percent are about hobbits, and 2 percent are about citrus fruits, and that's all true, but these guys' idea of a hobbit-style title — repeat, *The Battle At Garden's Gate* — sounds like something you'd receive in a Loot Box when you were actually hoping for a 12-inch action figure of Gandalf just cold taking out a dragon with his light saber bow staff or whatever it is. But wait folks, that's not all! The first single, "Age of Machine," pickpockets tuneage from The Pretenders, Zep's *Houses of the Holy* album, and some other Zeppelin thing, who cares. Now, granted, they do totally sound like a reincarnated version of Zep from 1971, but a version of Zep that grew up listening to Pennywise and Weird Al, not 1920s blues and whatnot. Oh, we've talked about this before, let's just move it along here.

• Well, looky there, fam, it's *Let The Bad Times Roll*, the new album from snotty Poindexter punks **The Offspring!** You remember them, with all their songs, you know, those songs that all just sound like remixed versions of "Come Out And Play." (Sorry to bring that up, gang, really. Now the only way you'll be able to get the line "you gotta keep 'em separated" out of your head is to go into the Apple store and shout it in the face of their Paul Blart at the top of your lungs.) So the title track is basically just the "Keep 'em separated" thing but a version played by a total ska band. Sublime comes to mind. OK, people, stay awake, let's proceed.

• Until now, **London Grammar** was known as a dream-pop band, and that may have been true, but the title track from the British trio's new album *California Soil* is trip-hop, not dream pop. It's kind of nice, a cross between Mazzy Star and Florence and The Machine, but it's not dream-pop. The video for the tune is pure *Nylon*-bait, an empty high-fashion statement with people dressed all spiffy whilst chilling out in scenes of ruin and upside-down people and whatnot.

• Lastly and rest assuredly leastly, it's mummified video game boss villain **Paul McCartney**, with something mysteriously titled *McCartney III Imagined!* What does this all mean? Nothing really, from my seat, like the first single, "Kiss of Venus," is basically an '80s-pop song as redone by Justin Bieber, because it has a feat from mini-Bieber Dominic Fike. I can't imagine anyone will actually dig this aside from the record company's Like-bots, but have at it if you like. — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

#### CDs pg24

• Xiu Xiu, *Oh No* **B**

• Johnny Thunders,

"Chinese Rocks" **A+**

#### BOOKS pg25

• *The Blizzard Party* **A**

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#### FILM pg26

• *Thunder Force* **B-**

#### Retro Playlist

Let's go back to eight years ago this week or so, when the big news was the release of *Life On A Rock*, the 16th album from guitar-strumming cowboy person **Kenny Chesney**. I reported that the lead-off single, "Pirate Flag," is a "mid-tempo number which has some banjo on there," a "sleepy non-descript song about being a country boy" but at least wasn't meant as a "WWE wrestling entrance theme like all the other garbage coming out of Nashville, even if it does remind me a little too much of **Tom Petty's** 'Mary Jane's Last Dance,'" which was OK,



as "Chesney's old and rich enough not to care about unimportant little details like originality, who cares."

The real meat of that long-ago potato, though, was a look at **Paula Cole's** *Raven* album. The bummer thing about it was that Cole, "a Rockport, Mass., native who studied at Berklee and actually made something out

of that training" unlike most, actually had to throw a Kickstarter in order to get enough money to release the album. OK, Cole was never meant to be the next **Joni Mitchell** or whatever, but she did table a couple of really nice hits, namely "Where Have All the

Cowboys Gone" and the *Dawson's Creek* theme song "I Don't Want to Wait." I do like that lady, and opined that her songs, although a bit long in running time, were "opuses of solitude, and her talent for haunting beauty is still there," finishing with the bullet "Instant musical oatmeal for discriminating soccer moms."

The other great one for April 18, 2013, was a world music joint, the self-titled debut from South African beatbox band **The Soil**. It's a deeply immersive LP, mostly sung in their native (Sowego) dialect, "a warm, uninhibited set of (barely) rock-



tinged a cappella hymns which, the band believes, come directly from God." I'm too lazy to see if they got a Grammy nod for this record, but it did go well-deserved platinum in their corner of the world.

*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.* 🍷



*The Blizzard Party*, by Jack Livings (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 400 pages)

If you have a pulse and live in New England, you've likely heard stories about the blizzard of 1978, the historic Nor'easter that paralyzed states from Pennsylvania to Maine. As powerful as that storm was, so is a new novel about it, or rather, about a party that was held during it, and lives forever changed.

Astonishingly, it is the first novel by Jack Livings, a New York City resident who has won acclaim for short fiction (his short story collection is *The Dog*) and, in this, makes the transition to long form look as easy as picking up a pen. Yet this panoramic novel is a marvel of complexity, the antithesis of NaNoWriMo, the national spewing of tortured fiction that recurs like a bad cold every November. If it is overwritten in a few parts, it is only to drag you deeper into a corn maze of a story that ends with a boulder dropped on your head. Buckle up.

The narrator is Hazel Saltwater: "... known to be a Halloween enthusiast, known to my dry cleaner Tio as a generous December tipper, to my acquaintances a person of pleasant demeanor, to my lenders an exemplary credit risk, to my friends, a music, a crazy woman, a apopheniatic, a rationalist, an open wound."

Hazel is a widow whose husband, Vik, died in the 9/11 terror attacks. But that's not what defines her life. What does is the events that transpired in 1978, when she was 6 years old and the blizzard of '78 hit.

Young Hazel lived with her parents in an elegant apartment building on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. As the blizzard howled outside, she found herself asleep in a spare bedroom of a neighbor's penthouse where an increasingly wild party was taking place. "This party had motivation," Livings writes. The party, "an intimate gathering for 500," was "a sweeping, pulsing organism that had oozed into every room of the penthouse, consuming whatever lay in its path, vacuuming up all the drugs, all the food, all the liquor." It was a party so memorable that her father, a writer, wrote a book about it, which he called *The Blizzard Party*. (Yes, there is a book within the book, which must be forgiven.)

As often happens, Erwin Saltwater took some liberties with his story, and Livings' book is Hazel's retelling of what really happened that night. Because what happened to a young girl who fell asleep in a spare bedroom into which an old, sick man was suddenly thrust is far different from the telling of a story by a man who wasn't even at the party and who, in fact, had little instinct for parenting and knew his failings in that department.



The old man who came to be with the sleeping child in that bedroom was Albert Caldwell, "partner emeritus and former head of litigation, at Swank, Brady & Plescher; (Harvard) class of '26; father of three, widower, atheist, fiscal conservative, moralist."

Caldwell was, it appeared, suffering some sort of medical emergency. He had been found outside in the blizzard, "shivering with such violence that he appeared

to be vibrating," by a kind-hearted boy who would one day be Hazel's husband. Overwhelmed by the chaos of the party, 13-year-old Vik parked the mute Caldwell in the only open space he could find. (Most crevices of the penthouse were occupied by people doing drugs or having sex.)

What happened then? Well, that will take nearly 400 pages to get to, a journey leavened with wit and profundities but ultimately sodden with pain. At the heart of the story is the human capacity to keep secrets, despite their desire to be told. "Our secrets shape us," Caldwell says at one point. "They give us form. Without them, we'd be perfect, smooth creatures. Angels, or something like them. But it's by these distensions that we identify ourselves."

Caldwell, as it turns out, was not the mute, disabled man that he seemed when led into the party, "shuffling along like a trained seal." Desperate to preserve his own devastating secret, he had devised a plan to to fake his own death by drowning in the Hudson River during the blizzard; the appearance of having had a stroke was part of that plan. (I am not spoiling anything by revealing this; the book jacket says as much.)

Hazel's father, too, has debilitating secrets that are manifest in his inability to cross a street without other people present. The two men's traumas collide, bringing the young Hazel along and catapulting the adult Hazel, who has perpetually carried Caldwell in a "snug little slot in [her] head," to her own momentous resolution of trauma.

Like the novelist Cormac McCarthy, who said he preferred not to mess up a page with "weird little marks," Livings shuns quotation marks, as if the novel has no time for such trivial things even though it meanders to its conclusion. The punctuation is not missed, although the meandering at times is maddeningly slow. But with a conclusion you won't see coming, *The Blizzard Party* achieves the holy grail of any long book: When it's over, you'll want — nay, need — to read it again. It would be a remarkable novel for any writer; it's extraordinary as a debut. **A** — Jennifer Graham 🍷

## BOOK NOTES

There's no reliable accounting of the most popular topics for self-published books, but in nonfiction, arguments against vaccines are surely near the top.

On Amazon, two anti-vaccine titles are overwhelmingly rated 5 stars, despite the likelihood that their accounts would be suspended if these were not self-published books but posts on Twitter or Facebook.

Traditional publishing, for all its faults, is still a reliable gatekeeper on controversial topics, with its phalanx of editors and fact-checkers. So if you're still mulling whether to get a Covid-19 vaccine, here are a few books that can help inform your decision.

*Vaccine Hesitancy* by Maya J. Goldenberg (University of Pittsburgh Press, 264 pages) covers public reluctance over getting vaccines going back to smallpox in 1796.

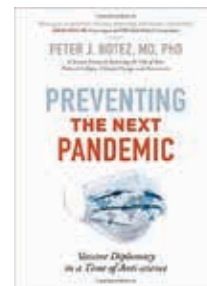
Much of the energy in the anti-vax movement comes from belief that vaccines are responsible for the rise in autism. Pediatrician Peter Hotez took that on in *Vaccines Did Not Cause Rachel's Autism* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 240 pages), an account of his own research after his daughter was diagnosed with autism. The book was published in 2018 but released this year in paperback.

Hotez also has a new book on the topic: *Preventing the Next Pandemic: Vaccine Diplomacy in a Time of Anti-Science* (Johns Hopkins, 208 pages).

A few years older but still relevant is Meredith Wadman's engrossing *The Vaccine Race, Science, Politics and the Human Costs of Defeating Disease* (Penguin, 464 pages), which is non-fiction that reads like a novel and is honest about the historic costs of today's vaccines.

For much lighter fare, check out the new memoir from the reliably funny Jenny Lawson: *Broken (In the Best Possible Way)*, (Henry Holt and Co., 304 pages).

— Jennifer Graham



## Books

## Author events

- **SCOTT WEIDENSAUL** Author presents *A World on the Wing*. Tues., April 20, 7 p.m. The Music Hall, Historic Theater, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Tickets cost \$46. Visit [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org) or call 436-2400.
- **ERIN BOWMAN** Author presents *Dustborn*. Hosted by Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. Virtual, via Zoom. Tues., April 20, 7 p.m. Registration required. Visit [gibsonsbookstore.com](http://gibsonsbookstore.com) or call 224-0562.
- **SARA DYKMAN** Author presents *Bicycling with Butterflies: My 10,201-Mile Journey Following the Monarch Migration*. Hosted by Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. Virtual, via Zoom. Wed., April 21, 7 p.m. Registration required. Visit [gibsonsbookstore.com](http://gibsonsbookstore.com) or call 224-0562.
- **BILL BUFORD** Author presents *Dirt: Adventures in Lyon as a Chef in Training, Father, and Sleuth Looking for the Secret of French Cooking*. Hosted by The Music Hall in Portsmouth. Virtual. Wed., April 28, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5. Visit [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org) or call 436-2400.

- **SUZANNE KOVEN** Author presents *Letter to a Young Female Physician*, in conversation with author Andrew Solomon. Hosted by The Music Hall in Portsmouth. Tues., May 18, 7 p.m. Virtual. Tickets cost \$5. Visit [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org) or call 436-2400.

## Book Clubs

- **BOOKERY** Online. Monthly. Third Thursday, 6 p.m. Bookstore based in Manchester. Visit [bookerymht.com/online-book-club](http://bookerymht.com/online-book-club) or call 836-6600.
- **GIBSON'S BOOKSTORE** Online, via Zoom. Monthly. First Monday, 5:30 p.m. Bookstore based in Concord. Visit [gibsonsbookstore.com/gibsons-book-club-2020-2021](http://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](http://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](mailto:elizabethw@goffstownlibrary.com) or visit [goffstownlibrary.com](http://goffstownlibrary.com)

- **BELKNAP MILL** Online. Monthly. Last Wednesday, 6 p.m. Based in Laconia. Email [bookclub@belknappmill.org](mailto:bookclub@belknappmill.org).
- **NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY** Online. Monthly. Second Friday, 3 p.m. Call 589-4611, email [information@nashualibrary.org](mailto:information@nashualibrary.org) or visit [nashualibrary.org](http://nashualibrary.org).

## Language

- **FRENCH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE CLASSES** Offered remotely by the Franco-American Centre. Six-week session with classes held Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. \$225. Visit [facnh.com/education](http://facnh.com/education) or call 623-1093.

## Poetry

- **READINGS AND CONVERSATIONS WITH GRANITE STATE POETS** Part of National Poetry Month in New Hampshire. Virtual. Weekly, Monday, 7 p.m., through April. Featuring Rodger Martin and Henry Walters, April 19; and New Hampshire Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary and Margot Douaihy, April 26. Registration required. Visit [newhampshirepoet-laureate.blogspot.com](http://newhampshirepoet-laureate.blogspot.com) and [hobblebush.com/national-poetry-month](http://hobblebush.com/national-poetry-month).

**Thunder Force (PG-13)**

With Melissa McCarthy and Octavia Spencer playing middle-aged lady superheroes, Bobby Cannavale playing all the ego and Jason Bateman playing a half-crab man, *Thunder Force* really should have been a better movie than it is.

I had such hopes after *Superintelligence*, the Ben Falcone-directed Melissa McCarthy movie that hit HBO Max a few months back. That movie was so above average and genuinely enjoyable that I let myself get way too excited for this movie, forgetting all about my letdown at *Tammy* and *The Boss*.

As it is, I won't even pretend I'm being completely objective about this movie; I like McCarthy and Spencer and all the other players here too much not to grade on a curve. And it helps that this movie is on Netflix, so if you already have a Netflix subscription it basically only costs your "what should we watch, I don't know, this looks promising" time.

The comic book-like premise here is solid: Once upon a time (March 1983) a cosmic ray struck the Earth, giving superpowers to people genetically predisposed to be sociopaths. These people, called Miscreants, have basically an unchecked ability to cause mayhem, as no good-guy superpower-having people exist to stop them. After young Emily (Bria D. Singleton) loses her parents to a Miscreant attack, she vows to make it her life's



Thunder Force

mission to find a way to stop them.

First, however, she has to make it through school, which is not easy when you're perceived as a nerd. Luckily, Emily has a friend in Lydia (Vivian Falcone), who might not be a star student but is willing and able to stand up to anyone picking on Emily. The girls remain close friends until high school, when Emily's single-minded studiousness and Lydia's lack of direction pull them apart.

Still, decades later, when their high school reunion approaches, Lydia (McCarthy) is pretty excited to see Emily (Spencer), who is now a rich and famous scientist type.

True to old patterns, Emily forgets all about the reunion, so Lydia goes to her science lab/office to retrieve her — which is how Lydia, a "what does this button do?" type, accidentally gets injected with Emily's superpowers-creating serum. Emily had planned to give herself super-strength and invisibility to help her fight the Miscreants. But now Lydia has the super-strength and Emily has the invisibility and they must work together, with the help of Emily's super-smart daughter Tracy (Taylor Mosby), to fight a Miscreant called Laser (Pom Klementieff). Because they decide they need cool names

to go with their powers and supersuits, they dub themselves "Thunder Force."

Bobby Cannavale, playing a politician trying to get people to call him "The King," and Jason Bateman, as a sometime criminal who has crab arms and is conflicted about his Miscreant status, also show up, as does Melissa Leo as Emily's security officer. And, just writing this, I'm sort of excited about this movie all over again — sounds great! Except, parts of the movie just don't click, like Leo, who always feels a step off from what the movie needs her to be. Or like parts of Bateman's whole crab-arms thing, with jokes that go on too long or seem to trail off. Elsewhere it feels like jokes and character notes are left unexamined. The whole movie has a frustrating "not exactly there" feel.

That said, while writing this review, I did go back to check this or that fact in the movie and found myself watching whole scenes. So maybe the key is expectations; go in expecting nothing more than an hour and 46 minutes of new content that you've already paid for and maybe you'll be suitably amused. **B-** because this thing has its moments and I'm definitely going to wind up watching it again.

*Rated PG-13 for some action/violence, language and mild suggestive material, according to the MPA on [filmratings.com](https://www.filmratings.com). Written and directed by Ben Falcone, Thunder Force is an hour and 46 minutes long and distributed by Netflix.* 🍷

## World travel through movies

A look at Oscar's International Feature Film nominees

By Amy Diaz

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Seeing all of the International Feature Film nominees feels like a personal victory, sort of on par with the thrill you feel at filling a punch card to get a free coffee or cookie.

I know seeing five movies on a list of dozens doesn't seem like a great accomplishment but it's a task that can't be completed every Oscar year, at least not before the ceremony. Some years the international nominees don't hit the U.S. until weeks later. This year, however, all five of the movies are available for home viewing now. And all are worth a watch, not just for Oscar completists but for any movie fan looking for something different.

• **Another Round** When I checked awards prediction website Gold Derby on April 12, this Danish movie from director Thomas Vinterberg (who is also nominated in the Directing category) was the favorite to win the category; it's available to rent (including via Red River Theatres' virtual cinema) and on Hulu. Starring Mads

Mikkelsen, it tells the frequently comic, sometimes troubling story of a group of middle-aged friends who test that Homer Simpson saying about alcohol being the cause of and solution to all of life's problems. They decide to try an experiment wherein they are slightly buzzed all the time, drinking while at work (as teachers at what appears to be a high school) to see if it makes them happier, more relaxed people, with varying results (particularly as they start to increase their preferred level of intoxication). Mikkelsen gives a strong performance.

• **Better Days** This Chinese entry is based on a Chinese YA novel (according to Wikipedia) and is available for rent. It follows a young woman, Chen Nian (Zhou Dongyu), traumatized by the death of a bullied student at her high-pressure high school and dealing with bullying herself (as well as her mother's financial and legal problems). She makes a friend and protector in Liu Beishan (Jackson Yee), a teen who gets by as a petty criminal. Though there is some anti-bullying message-iness, the performances of the leads are solid and engaging.

• **Collective** Also available via Red River



Another Round

Theatres, for rent in general and on Hulu, this Romanian documentary is also nominated in the Documentary Feature category. If I were an Oscar voter, this would likely be my pick in the International film category, especially for its focus on a newspaper and its journalists as they cover a fire at a nightclub that led to many deaths — first in the fire itself and then at hospitals. The story of those deaths uncovers problems with

the safety codes at the club and then problems at the hospitals, where patients died from bacterial infections and the journalists uncovered a scandal related to inadequate disinfectant solutions. We also meet a newly appointed minister of health attempting to reform the system and constantly hitting bureaucratic walls.

• **The Man Who Sold His Skin** Also available via Red River Theatres and avail-



The Man Who Sold His Skin

able for rent, this movie, as end title cards and Wikipedia explain, takes its inspiration from a real-life artist, Wim Delvoye, who tattooed a work of art on a man's back and gave the man a cut of the sale price in exchange for the obligation of showing up to display the work. Here, Belgian artist Jeffrey Godefroi (Koen De Bouw) offers money and, more importantly, a visa to Sam Ali (Yahya Mahayni), a Syrian refugee who lets the artist use his back as a canvas. The image is itself of a visa, making the work a commentary on immigration and the commodification of people — or something, so Jeffrey explains. For Sam, it's mostly a means to get to Brussels, where Abeer (Dea Liane), the woman

he loves and planned to marry before he had to flee Syria, now lives with her husband. The movie is frequently funny, with moments of sadness, tragedy and absurdity, and Mahayni makes Sam a compelling and complex character.

• **Quo Vadis, Aida?** Available for rent and on Hulu, this film from a Bosnian director is tense and captivating even if you also know that it is speeding toward tragedy. In 1995 Srebrenica, UN translator Aida (Jasna Đuričić) is frantically trying to protect her husband and two teen/young adult sons as the Serbian army takes over the Bosnian town. Đuričić gives Aida a mix of competence and desperation that is hard to watch but absolutely riveting. 🍷

## Snack-size movies, supersized stories



The Letter Room

Oscar season is one of the few times in a year when I find myself seeking out short films and I always end up wishing I did it more often. Shorts can be such a perfect, quick-hit story-telling mechanism and I feel like they are perfectly suited to the “what can I watch on Netflix for the next 30 minutes?” viewing experience.

This year's short film Oscar nominees are fairly easy to find at home — and that was even before the release of the short films as a package via virtual cinemas (at places such as Red River Theatres, where you can buy a virtual ticket to see all the films in a category — documentary short subject, animated short film or live action short film).

In the documentary category, all of the films were fairly easy to track down:

• **Collette** This movie available via The Guardian tells the story of a French woman visiting the German concentration camp where her brother, a member of the French resistance in World War II, was killed so many decades ago.

• **A Concerto is a Conversation** Available via the New York Times, this film features Kris Bowers, a composer whose work includes the score for the movie *Green Book*, talking with his grandfather, who left the segregated South and built a dry cleaning business in Los Angeles. This

is definitely the most hopeful in tone of the entries.

• **Does Not Split** This documentary, which I rented on Vimeo, gives us the story of pro-democracy protests in Hong Kong in the months leading up to the start of the pandemic.

• **Hunger Ward** In war, children are always the casualties, so explain the doctors in this documentary about the starvation of children in Yemen. Available on Paramount+, this short reminded me of the documentaries about doctors in Syria and their determination to save as many lives as they can in the roughest possible conditions.

• **A Love Song for Latasha** This Netflix short captures the lasting trauma caused by the shooting death of a bright, ambitious girl in a convenience store in Los Angeles in 1991. Though the documentary touches on the wider social issues, it is primarily focused on Latasha as remembered by friends and family and the impact she had during her short life.

In animated short film, two are relatively easy to find on their own.

• **Burrow** This short on Disney+ is a sweet tale (dialogue-free, outside of cute animal chirps) of a bunny trying to build a dream home. The animation has a pretty,

hand-illustrated look.

• **If Anything Happens I Love You** Largely black and white with a sort of fluid sketchbook appearance, this Netflix short about two people lost in grief was difficult to watch (definitely don't watch it immediately after dropping your kids off at school) but lovely with moments of remembered joy among all the sadness.

*Opera*, *Genius Loci* and *Yes-People* join those previous two movies in the Oscar Shorts presentation available via Red River Theatres virtual cinema and other theaters on shorts.tv. The animated shorts package has other films on it as well, including a short adaptation of *The Snail and the Whale* that recalls adaptations of other Julia Donaldson books like *Room on the Broom* and *The Gruffalo*.

• **Opera** made me think of a cuckoo clock — like, a cuckoo clock as designed by a children's book author who had spent time watching Darren Arronofsky's film *mother!* Life, death, marriage, religion, war and more are all contained in a pyramid-like space that houses rooms and halls and factories and landscapes that interconnect in ways that aren't always clear until we move down the pyramid. This one definitely benefits from being able to rewind and take a closer look; it has oodles of little details.

• **Genius Loci** has a dreamlike quality as its central character moves through a city and through a variety of artistic styles.

• **Yes-People's** characters have a charming visual style that blends newspaper comics and a more rounded, almost clay-like appearance. These animated shorts often have the feel of picture books for adults and *Yes-People* gives us a bouncy look at one day in the life of a group of people with the charm of that kind of story-telling. The movie is also available for rent on Vimeo.

Most of the live action short films are available a la carte now.

• **Feeling Through** tells the story of a young man, struggling with homelessness, who finds himself helping a man get home.

The movie, which is available on YouTube, has a nice mix of uplift and humor.

• **The Letter Room** has some big names in its cast: Oscar Isaac plays a prison guard whose desire for advancement puts him in what first seems like a dead-end job — reading and recording the mail to inmates. But he finds himself getting mixed up in the lives of two of the inmates. Alia Shawkat (of *Search Party* and *Arrested Development*) also appears in this film, which is available for rent on Vimeo.

• **The Present** is one of three movies I saw via the shorts presentation but it is also available on Netflix. The movie follows a Palestinian man and his young daughter shopping for groceries and a new refrigerator while also navigating West Bank checkpoints.

• **Two Distant Strangers**, also on Netflix, follows a Black man in New York City who has a fatal run-in with police only to wake up back in the bed where he started his morning. The circumstances around his death can change each time he relives the day but frequently the same quick-to-violence white police officer is the one pulling the trigger. Even with its moments of *Groundhog Day* humor, the movie never lets the audience off the hook about what it's saying.

• **White Eye** tells the story of unintended consequences. A man trying to retrieve his stolen bike finds himself conflicted as he learns more about the man who says he just bought it.

Don't have time for all the shorts? If I had to pick two must-watches from each category, I'd recommend *A Concerto is a Conversation* and *A Love Song for Latasha* in the documentary category, *Burrow* and *Opera* in animated shorts (OK, probably *Burrow* and *If Anything Happens I Love You*, but I could barely bring myself to watch the latter short the first time and definitely won't be watching it again, beautifully done as it is) and for live action *The Letter Room* and either *Feeling Through* or *Two Distant Strangers*.

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Hip-hop health:** A benefit concert for suicide prevention stars **J Gramz** and several other acts, part of the Tour For Life Fund-raiser series. The Brockton rapper is a good choice to headline, as his lyrics and beats reflect a hard-won survival through street life, depression and addiction. Also appearing are Ty Hunt, Paranormal Adam, Vad33m, Diastro and five others. Thursday, April 15, 7 p.m., Jewel Music Venue, 61 Canal St., Manchester, \$12 at the door, 21+, more at gramzgtg.com.

• **Celtic crossing:** A Seacoast microbrewery welcomes **Erin's Guild**, a favorite of regional Irish music fans. The trio of Sean Fell on guitar, Patrick Bowling, who competed in the All-Ireland championship on flute and bodhran, and mandolin player Scott Sutherland weaves traditional jigs and reels with American folk songs and a few of their own originals. They have released three CDs, including their most recent, *Lost In The Game*. Friday, April 16, 7 p.m., Stripe Nine Brewing, 8 Somersworth Plaza, Somersworth, erinsguild.com.

• **Out standing:** Sometimes the only way to deal with fear is to blast past it. For years **Nick Drouin** was chided when he tried to sing. Stay behind the drum kit, people told him, and he did — until one day he didn't, and began writing his own songs. It's a good thing, too, because Drouin's instinct for what makes a good country record matches his sense of where he should fit into the creative process: front and center. Friday, April 16, 8 p.m., Bonfire Country Bar, 950 Elm St., Manchester, bonfire.country/manchester.html.

• **Rocking return:** It's been five months since **Truffle** played in public, though front man Dave Gerard has kept busy with solo shows. Being idle is uncommon for the group, which boasted on Facebook that they've never even gone five weeks without a gig. The year is shaping into a busy one for the "New Hampshire Soul" band, together over 30 years with no slowing down in sight. Saturday, April 17, 2 p.m., Stone Church Beer Garden, 5 Granite St., Newmarket, tickets sold in two-, four- and six-person blocks, \$50 to \$150 at stonechurchrocks.com.

• **Brunch bunch:** Art, cuisine and music combine, the latter provided **The Incidentals**, a fun cover band that touches on everything from the Ramones to Frank Sinatra. The newly launched brunch, offered in the Currier's Winter Garden, now includes table service, house bloody mary and mimosa flights, and a rotating chef-curated micro menu. Reservations are not required, but timed tickets for a gallery visit are. Sunday, April 18, 10 a.m., Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org. 🍷

# NITE Ready to rock?

Live music returns to big venues — carefully



Northlands. Courtesy photo.



Tupelo. Courtesy photo.

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Fueled by rising vaccination rates and the tantalizing promise of herd immunity, the live music industry is more optimistic than it was a year ago. Around the region, however, a haze of uncertainty remains, and a survey of regional venues seating 500 or more patrons reveals varying plans to offer shows in the coming months.

In Manchester, the Rex and Palace Theatres are ambitious, almost booked solid from June through December. There's more caution at Concord's Capitol Center for the Arts and its sister room Bank of NH Stage, with only outdoor events planned — at least until New Hampshire eases its social distancing rules for venues like theirs from 6 to 3 feet.

Portsmouth's Music Hall is taking a hybrid approach, re-launching 2020's successful Music Under the Arch outdoor concert series while booking regional acts for its Historic Theatre. Casino Ballroom in Hampton Beach is selling tickets for nationally touring acts, though it's aware that those shows might get canceled or postponed.

That's also somewhat true for Bank of NH Pavilion; the Lakes Region shed is bullish on its plans for national acts like Toby Keith, Dave Matthews Band and Chris Stapleton, betting on New Hampshire plans to allow 100 percent capacity there by July 16, "assuming self-attestation of vaccination" by fans when they purchase tickets.

At SNHU Arena in downtown Manchester, the state's largest indoor facility, tickets for Nickelodeon star JoJo Siwa are still being sold, but the July 24 date, rescheduled from last summer, might move again. The arena's next listed concert is Eric Church on Dec. 3; the country singer's 55-city Gather Again tour is scheduled to kick off in mid-September.

"The chicken/egg situation is still true no matter what confident venue people say," Tupelo Music Hall CEO Scott Hayward said on April 5. "Unless artists are ready to organize tours through several states and be confident that it's safe everywhere, they're not going to

mount tours."

The question of how to ensure the safety of audience members lingers. New Hampshire state guidance makes no mention of a so-called vaccination passport or other form of proof. Verifying such a document was deemed "impossible to do" by Capitol Center Executive Director Nicki Clarke in an April 6 phone interview. "If some other authority issues something" defining enforcement, she said, it might have a chance of working. "[but] we just think it's a problem on so many levels." (Clarke, also a member of the Governor's Economic Re-Opening Task Force, announced her retirement from the Capitol Center after 14 years at the helm on April 9.)

Two efforts born of necessity last year are returning, each bringing a different mindset.

Tupelo Drive-In in Derry was a pioneer in parking lot concerts, garnering national press for its quick pivot from indoor to outdoor shows. It will be back exactly as it was in 2020, with only minor tweaks. That said, Hayward sees an end in sight as he eyes indoor shows for the fall, albeit cautiously.

Not so for Northlands, launched last year as Drive-In Live by the agency that books Plymouth's Flying Monkey Cinema. With a capacity more than double Tupelo's, it can book bigger acts. The rebranded venue now has five-person audience pods instead of parking spaces, and its founders envision a life well beyond the pandemic.

Here's what venues around the region are doing in the coming months. Fans need to be aware that everything is a moving target. Tickets bought for an event in May or June might end up unused until September or October — or even 2022. It's essential to frequently check websites and social media pages — the latter option seems to be the most reliably up to date.

## Palace Theatre & Rex Theatre, Manchester

The wall calendar in Palace Theatre CEO Peter Ramsey's office is filled with shows.

"We have some 200 events scheduled between June 1 and the end of the year, which

is a lot," he said. "I've only got maybe six or seven days free from Labor Day to the end of the year and most of them are Mondays."

Many are shows that were postponed in 2020, like Linda Ronstadt Experience and KT Tunstall. "From the beginning, we were committed to not treating any artist in an unethical or bad way, so we guaranteed we'd rebook them out," Ramsey said.

Those include Paula Cole, The Fools and Billy Joel tribute act David Clark's Songs in the Attic.

Ramsey's big hope is a five-week run of *Mamma Mia!* in the fall, at full capacity.

"We were running *Mamma Mia!* when we shut down and we ended up canceling 15 sold out shows," he said.

Manchester's newest venue was sent reeling when the pandemic shut it down mere months after opening. Rex Executive Director Chuck Stergiou promises three months of regular Friday night comedy shows, along with a solid mix of music, from locals like Ally Beaudry and the Spain Brothers to Adam Ezra, Susan Werner and Max Weinberg's Jukebox, a side project of the E Street Band drummer due to hit town on Nov. 11.

## Capitol Center for the Arts & Bank of NH Stage, Concord

While the space was shuttered for the year, indoor air treatment capabilities were improved, hands-free restroom equipment was added and other pandemic-related enhancements were done, so both the Chubb Theatre and Bank of NH Stage are ready when the State of New Hampshire green-lights larger audiences.

For Clarke, reducing the social distancing minimum from 6 to 3 feet would be a critical step.

"Depending on what happens with the guideline situation, if it loosens up a little bit, getting another 25 or 30 people into the Bank of NH Stage makes a difference for us," she said. "Nothing's going to change in the big theater until we really can be at full capacity, because of the fees we pay artists."

CONTINUED ON PG 30 ►



Twiddle plays Northlands May 14.



Pink Talking Fish and Neighbor play Northlands May 21.

**Rex Theatre**

- Saturday, June 12, 7:30 p.m., No Shoes Nation: Kenny Chesney isn't booked at any football stadiums in the foreseeable future, but this well-regarded tribute act is a fun substitute.
- Saturday, July 10, 7:30 p.m., An Evening With The Spain Brothers: Local favorites Liam and Mickey play acoustic folk originals and traditional songs.

**Palace Theatre**

- Sunday, June 20, 2 p.m., Uptown Boys: Three-man tribute act appeals to anyone whose favorite Billy Joel songs are "The Longest Time" and "Uptown Girl."
- Saturday, July 10, 7:30 p.m., Scott Spradling Band: Expect a big sound from this 10-piece combo, whose set list ranges from Chicago to Michal Bubl  and Frank Sinatra.

**Capitol Center for the Arts (Fletcher-Murphy Park)**

- Sunday, June 13, 2 p.m., Jason Spooner: Inspired by the Americana canon — Neil Young, Paul Simon — the Maine singer and guitarist is a staple at Kerrville, Falcon Ridge and other prestigious festivals.
- Sunday, June 20, 2 p.m., Yamica Peterson Trio: Soulful singer-songwriter is a club scene favorite with Mica's Groove Train and a myriad of other collaborative efforts.

**Tupelo Drive-In**

- Sunday, May 30, 1 & 4 p.m., Gary Hoey: Last year's appearance by the surf guitarist with a blues man's heart was a highlight, with several special guests.
- Thursday, June 10, 6 p.m., Dar Williams: The wry singer-songwriter is a gifted lyricist and talented singer, not to mention a very funny woman.

**Bank of NH Pavilion**

- Saturday, May 29, 7 p.m., Jake Owen: A reduced-capacity Barefoot Blue Jean Night is the second of two area shows for the country singer, who also appears at Northlands May 28.
- Saturday, July 3; Sunday, July 4, & Monday, July 5, 7 p.m., Old Dominion: Formed to showcase songs written for other country stars like Luke Bryan, the Nashville band has won CMAs for its own sound.

**Northlands**

- Friday, May 14, 6:30 p.m., Twiddle: Beloved Vermont jam band that headlined Red Rocks in Colorado a few years ago returns for a hometown-ish show.
- Friday, May 21, 6:30 p.m., Pink Talking Fish & Neighbor: The world's most original cover band, blending Pink Floyd, Talking Heads and Phish, shares the stage with breakout Boston jam band.

**Music Hall**

- Saturday, May 8, 6 & 8 p.m., Antje Duvekot: Live Under the Arch outdoor show from a gifted singer-songwriter.
- Saturday, May 22, 5:30 & 8 p.m., Rachael & Vilray: Lake Street Dive lead vocalist Rachael Price teams up with singer, guitarist and composer Vilray for a jazz-infused night in the Historic Theatre.

**Casino Ballroom**

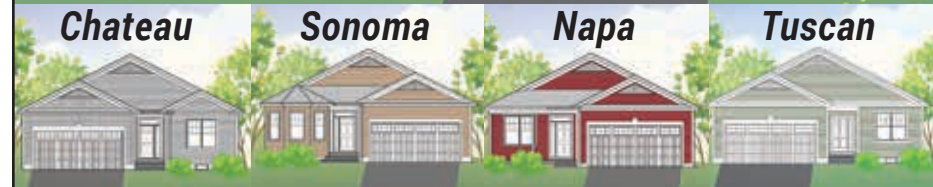
- Sunday, June 27, 8 p.m., Happy Together Tour: Blast from the past offers The Turtles, Three Dog Night's Chuck Negron, The Cowsills, The Association and Mark Lindsay of "Indian Reservation" fame.
- Saturday, July 10, 8 p.m., Dark Desert Eagles: Among many tributes to the band that gave the world a peaceful easy feeling, this group of New Englanders may be the best.

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Foreigners Journey



Indigo Girls. Courtesy photo.

even more seats for big-name acts like Indigo Girls, Allman Betts Band, Dinosaur Jr. and Smith & Myers, the latter an acoustic side project from Shinedown front man Brent Smith and guitarist Zach Myers.

The switch was made to improve audience experience, Northlands Director of Operations Mike Chadinha explained in a phone interview. "The drive-in was cool in a lot of ways because you're tailgating at instead of before the concert," he said, but other issues, such as sight line and sound, negated the benefits. "Someone has a giant truck and the person behind them has a Honda Civic, that's a little tough. On top of that, I don't think artists generally want to play to a parking lot."

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 28

Rather than plan indoor events that currently aren't economically viable, there are plans for an 11-show Sunday in the Park outdoor concert series in nearby Fletcher-Murphy Park, beginning on June 16 with guitarist Joe Sabourin.

### Tupelo Music Hall, Derry

After inventing a new business from scratch in three weeks last year, Hayward will again transform his parking lot into Tupelo Drive-In — he hopes for the final time.

"The question is, how long are we going to be outside? We've booked through the end of July, but from everything I can see ... we'll be outside in August. I'm hoping I can get back indoors by October, but who knows?"

An eclectic mix of talent is booked, from national acts like Dar Williams, Tiffany and Popa Chubby to local favorites like Truffle, Entrain and guitarist Tim Theriault, who opens the season on Friday, April 30. A May 29 Jon Butcher Axis show will include a guest appearance from Stompers front man Sal Baglio.

Doppelgänger acts appear frequently, beginning with Foreigners Journey May 1 and May 2.

"The tributes attract a lot of people because they are generally bands that have been around a very long time, like the Eagles," Hayward said. "People like the music ... it appeals to parents and kids alike, and they will bring the families."

### Northlands, Swanzey

After a switch from cars to pods inspired by European festivals, the novel venue can sell

### Bank of NH Pavilion, Gilford

Beginning with Thomas Rhett on June 3 and June 4 and ending with Toby Keith in early September, there are 17 shows scheduled at New Hampshire's biggest outdoor concert facility that require fully relaxed guidance. "We expect to be back to full capacity by midsummer, so a very good chance," the venue responded on its Facebook page when fans asked about whether their tickets would be used.

That said, four "reduced-capacity, socially-distanced" shows are bet-hedgers for the LiveNation property. Country singer Jake Owen appears May 29, followed a month later by an Independence Day weekend run from by Nashville band Old Dominion.

### The Music Hall, Portsmouth

The historic downtown theater will take its mixed approach of indoor and outdoor events a step further, with livestreams of socially distanced concerts now available. The focus of those concerts continues to be regional talent that would appear at the smaller Music Hall Loft in different times.

Music Hall CEO Tina Sawtelle is especially pleased with a three-concert series featuring Zack Williams, Rachael Price and Son Little, designed to assist fellow Portsmouth venues 3S Artspace and Prescott Park.

"They were not able to access State of New Hampshire Covid emergency funding as easily as we were," she said by phone, "so we're opening up our doors and providing the production team and the front of house team to run those events."

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Recycled Percussion. Courtesy photo.



Badfish. Courtesy photo.

Proceeds will be split evenly between the two nonprofit organizations, Sawtelle continued. "We're just thrilled to be hosting it and to be collaborating in a way we haven't before," she continued. "We hope that's a real relationship that is sustained beyond Covid and these trying times that we're all in."

The very successful evening concerts on Chestnut Street resume with two shows from Antje Duvekot on May 8, followed by area bluegrass stalwarts Rockspring the next Saturday. Also slated are folksinger Vance Gilbert on May 19 and the duo Crys Matthews & Heather Mae on June 22.

### Casino Ballroom, Hampton Beach

Beginning with the '60s revival Happy Together Tour on June 27 followed by

the annual SoCal ska show from Badfish on July 2, Casino Ballroom has over a dozen dates slotted for summer. But the reality, Marketing Director Andy Herrick explained by phone recently, is many may be postponed because advance ticket sales already exceed capacity limits.

"The holy grail for us is when restrictions can be dropped," Herrick said. "No one has a crystal ball, but the fall looks reasonably good, and maybe even summer, with the vaccination rate being what it is."

The reluctance of big-name acts to hit the road compounds things.

"We're only part of the big picture, because tours have to happen for our shows to happen," he said. "We'll try to stay positive, and keep shows on our website that have a shot." 🍀

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NITE

# 'Sweet Caroline' for the win

Musical Bingo Nation adds songs to game night



Musical Bingo. Photo courtesy of Steph Smith.

By Sadie Burgess  
[listings@hippopress.com](mailto:listings@hippopress.com)

come in a time where it's challenging to find out-of-the-house things to do.

"It's nice to go out into a socially distant environment and be able to bring your kids along with you and play and have a good time and just be a family," Smith said.

Wally's Pub in Hampton has been offering Musical Bingo Nation on Tuesdays for a couple of months, and bartender Hannah Beringer said it has already brought bigger crowds to the beachside bar.

"People ... come in just to play bingo," she said. "It's just a good way to get out and have fun without just sitting at a bar all night long."

Saddle Up Saloon in Kingston is entering its third month offering Musical Bingo Nation, and owner Bob Page said the new game has "definitely helped," with the bar seeing about a 25 percent increase in customers on Wednesday nights.

"The music they play is excellent," Page said.

Smith agrees, saying that staff loves bingo nights too.

"We're all just in such a great mood, listening to great music. The customers are happy, we're happy," she said. "The other day [the host] was playing 'Sweet Caroline' and everyone in the restaurant was singing. It makes me happy. It makes everyone happy. ... I don't know too many people that can listen to music nice and loud and stay in a bad mood."

Musical Bingo Nation is changing bingo's sound all across the Seacoast — rather than listening for "B2" or "G6," players listen for the opening chords to "Never Gonna Give You Up," "Sweet Caroline" or other songs on their bingo sheet.

On Tuesdays at Tailgate Tavern in Stratham, anyone who wants to play gets a free bingo card when they're seated. Throughout the night, guests eat and drink while keeping an ear out for the songs listed on their card, which were created by the entertainment company Musical Bingo Nation.

"They [are] usually based upon some sort of theme, like either '60s, '70s, hits, or one-hit wonders," said Stephanie Smith, general manager at Tailgate Tavern.

A host from Musical Bingo Nation plays the tunes throughout the night, and once someone fills a column, row or diagonal they'll win a prize, ranging from free drinks to Tailgate Tavern gift cards.

"The good thing about it is it's not like trivia, where you're locked in and you have to be there at a certain time. You could come in late or just play one round if you want. It's a lot of fun," Smith said, though she noted that some people have started to arrive hours in advance to guarantee a seat.

The game is family-friendly at Tailgate Tavern, she said, which is especially wel-

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### Where to play music bingo

Here are a few spots that are currently offering Musical Bingo Nation.

#### Wally's Pub

**When:** Tuesday nights, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
**Where:** 144 Ashworth Ave, Hampton  
**More info:** [wallysnh.com/calendar](http://wallysnh.com/calendar)

#### Tailgate Tavern

**When:** Tuesday nights, 6 to 8 p.m.  
**Where:** 28 Portsmouth Ave, Stratham  
**More info:** [tailgatetavernnh.com](http://tailgatetavernnh.com)

#### Saddle Up Saloon

**When:** Wednesday nights, 7 to 9 p.m.  
**Where:** 92 Route 125, Kingston  
**More info:** [saddleupsaloonnh.com/Events](http://saddleupsaloonnh.com/Events)

#### The Goat

**When:** Monday nights, 7 to 9 p.m.  
**Where:** 20 L St., Hampton  
**More info:** [goatnh.com](http://goatnh.com)





# MUSIC THIS WEEK

<b>Auburn</b> Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road 622-6564	<b>Cheers</b> 17 Depot St. 228-0180	<b>Exeter</b> Sawbelly Brewing 156 Epping Road 583-5080	<b>WHYM Craft Pub &amp; Brewery</b> 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801	<b>Stumble Inn</b> 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210	<b>South Side Tavern</b> 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947	<b>Liquid Therapy</b> 14 Court St. 402-9391	<b>The Goat</b> 142 Congress St. 590-4628
<b>Auburn Tavern</b> 346 Hooksett Road 587-2057	<b>Concord Craft Brewing</b> 117 Storrs St. 856-7625	<b>Sea Dog Brewery</b> 9 Water St.	<b>Hudson The Bar</b> 2B Burnham Road	<b>Manchester Backyard Brewery</b> 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545	<b>Strange Brew</b> 88 Market St. 666-4292	<b>Millyard Brewery</b> 25 E Otterson St. 722-0104	<b>The Stately Bar &amp; Grill</b> 238 Deer St. 431-4357
<b>Bedford Copper Door</b> 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677	<b>Hermanos Cocina Mexicana</b> 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669	<b>Goffstown Village Trestle</b> 25 Main St. 497-8230	<b>Luk's Bar &amp; Grill</b> 142 Lowell Road 889-9900	<b>Bonfire</b> 950 Elm St. 663-7678	<b>Thirsty Moose Tap-house</b> 795 Elm St. 792-2337	<b>Peddler's Daughter</b> 48 Main St. 821-7535	<b>Thirsty Moose Tap-house</b> 21 Congress St. 427-8645
<b>Bow Chen Yang Li</b> 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508	<b>Lithermans</b> 126 Hall St., Unit B	<b>Hampton Community Oven</b> 845 Lafayette Road 601-6311	<b>Nan King Restaurant</b> 222 Central St. 882-1911	<b>Cercle National Club</b> 550 Rockland Ave. 623-8243	<b>Meredith Hart's Turkey Farm</b> 223 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-6212	<b>Polish American Club</b> 15 School St. 889-9819	<b>Rochester Mitchell Hill BBQ Grill &amp; Brew</b> 50 N. Main St. 332-2537
<b>Brookline The Alamo Texas Barbecue &amp; Tequila Bar</b> 99 Route 13 721-5000	<b>Deerfield The Lazy Lion</b> 4 North Road	<b>CR's The Restaurant</b> 287 Exeter Road 929-7972	<b>Saddle Up Saloon</b> 92 Route 125 369-6962	<b>Derryfield Country Club</b> 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880	<b>Twin Barns Brewing</b> 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876	<b>New Boston Molly's Tavern &amp; Restaurant</b> 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362	<b>Porter's Pub</b> 19 Hanson St. 330-1964
<b>Chichester Flannel Tavern</b> 345 Suncook Valley Road 406-1196	<b>Dover SmuttLabs</b> 47 Washington St. 343-1782	<b>Shane's Texas Pit</b> 61 High St. 601-7091	<b>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon</b> 92 Route 125 369-6962	<b>The Foundry</b> 50 Commercial St. 836-1925	<b>Merrimack Homestead</b> 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022	<b>Newmarket Stone Church</b> 5 Granite St. 659-7700	<b>Salem Copper Door</b> 41 S. Broadway 458-2033
<b>Concord Area 23</b> State Street 881-9060	<b>Epping The Community Oven</b> 24 Calef Hwy. 734-4543	<b>Smuttynose Brewing</b> 105 Towle Farm Road	<b>Laconia 405 Pub &amp; Grill</b> 405 Union St.	<b>Fratello's</b> 155 Dow St. 624-2022	<b>Milford The Pasta Loft</b> 241 Union Square 672-2270	<b>Pittsfield Main Street Grill &amp; Bar</b> 32 Main St. 435-0005	<b>Seabrook Chop Shop Pub</b> 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706
	<b>Telly's Restaurant &amp; Pizzeria</b> 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225	<b>Wally's Pub</b> 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954	<b>Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant &amp; Tavern</b> 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022	<b>The Goat</b> 50 Old Granite St.	<b>Nashua American Social Club</b> 166 Daniel Webster Hwy. 255-8272	<b>Plaistow The Crow's Nest</b> 181 Plaistow Road	<b>Red's Kitchen + Tavern</b> 530 Lafayette Road 760-0030
			<b>603 Brewery &amp; Beer Hall</b> 42 Main St. 404-6123	<b>Henry J. Sweeney Post</b> 251 Maple St. 623-9145	<b>Murphy's Taproom</b> 494 Elm St. 644-3535	<b>Portsmouth The Striker</b> 15 Bow St. 431-5222	<b>Stratham Tailgate Tavern</b> 28 Portsmouth Ave. 580-2294

## Thursday, April 15

<b>Brookline</b> Alamo: Matt Borrello, 4:30 p.m.	<b>Concord</b> Hermanos: Scott Solsky, 6:30 p.m.	<b>Epping</b> Telly's: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.	<b>Exeter</b> Sawbelly: Brian Walker, 5 p.m. Sea Dog: Joel Cage, 5 p.m.	<b>Dover</b> SmuttLabs: trivia with DJ Koko-P	<b>Goffstown</b> Village Trestle: Daniel Wray, 6 p.m.	<b>Hampton</b> CR's: Steve Sibulkin, 6 p.m.	<b>Kingston</b> Saddle Up Saloon: karaoke with DJ Jason Whitney, 7 p.m.	<b>Londonderry</b> Stumble Inn: Alex Roy, 7 p.m.	<b>Manchester</b> Fratello's: Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m. South Side Tavern: Joe McDonald, 8 p.m.	<b>Meredith</b> Hart's: Game Time Trivia, 7 p.m.	<b>Merrimack</b> Homestead: Tom Rousseau, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Nashua</b> American Social Club: DJ Night with Iron Beats, 8 p.m. Fratello's: Ted Solo, 5:30 p.m.
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<b>Newmarket</b> Stone Church: Ryan Zimmerman, 6 p.m.	<b>Portsmouth</b> The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.	<b>Rochester</b> Mitchell BBQ: Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.	<b>Seabrook</b> Red's: Max Sullivan, 7 p.m.
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## Friday, April 16

<b>Brookline</b> Alamo: Jae Mannion, 4:30 p.m.	<b>Concord</b> Area 23: Liam & Pete, 8 p.m. Cheers: team trivia, 8:30 p.m. Lithermans: DJ Shamblez and DJ Myth, 4 p.m. Penuche's: Kyle Klose, 8 p.m.	<b>Deerfield</b> Lazy Lion: Tequila Jim, 5 p.m.	<b>Epping</b> Telly's: Jessica Olson, 8 p.m.	<b>Exeter</b> Sawbelly: David Corson, 5 p.m.	<b>Goffstown</b> Village Trestle: April Cushman, 6 p.m.	<b>Hampton</b> CR's: Steve Sibulkin, 6 p.m.	<b>Kingston</b> Saddle Up Saloon: karaoke with DJ Jason Whitney, 7 p.m.	<b>Londonderry</b> Coach Stop: Chris Powers, 6 p.m. Stumble Inn: Pete Peterson, 8 p.m.	<b>Manchester</b> Backyard Brewery: Karen Grenier, 6 p.m. Bonfire: Nick Drouin, 8 p.m. Cercle National Club: Lewis Goodwin, 7 p.m. Derryfield: Clint Lapointe, 7:30 p.m. The Foundry: Dwayne Haggins, 6 p.m. Fratello's: Josh Foster, 5:30 p.m. South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke with George Cox, 9 p.m. Strange Brew: David Rousseau Sweeney Post: Nicole Knox Murphy, 7:30 p.m.	<b>Merrimack</b> Homestead: Tim Kierstead, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Milford</b> Pasta Loft: Rich & Bobby, 8 p.m.	<b>Nashua</b> American Social Club: Chad LaMarsh, 8 p.m. Fratello's: Matt Luneau, 5:30 p.m.	<b>New Boston</b> Molly's Tavern: Austin McCarthy, 6:30 p.m.	<b>Newmarket</b> Stone Church: A Band Beyond Description, 6 p.m.	<b>Pittsfield</b> Main Street Grill & Bar: White Dog Duo, 6 p.m.	<b>Portsmouth</b> The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m. Thirsty Moose: Maddi Ryan, 9 p.m.	<b>Seabrook</b> Chop Shop: Money Kat, 7 p.m. Red's: Acoustic Tandem, 8 p.m.	<b>Stratham</b> Tailgate Tavern: Rich Amorim, 7 p.m.
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## Saturday, April 17

<b>Brookline</b> Alamo: Travis Rollo, 4:30 p.m.	<b>Bow</b> Chen Yang Li: Alex Cohen, 7 p.m.	<b>Concord</b> Area 23: Saturday jam with Ross, 2 p.m.; Llava Lama, 7 p.m. Concord Craft Brewing: April Cushman, 4 p.m. Penuche's: Jared Steer, 8 p.m.	<b>Deerfield</b> Lazy Lion: Josh Riley, 5 p.m.	<b>Epping</b> Telly's: Brian Johnson, 8 p.m.	<b>Exeter</b> Sawbelly: Double Shotz, 1 p.m.; Rich Amorim, 5 p.m.	<b>Goffstown</b> Village Trestle: Gardner Berry, 6 p.m.	<b>Hampton</b> The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m. Wally's: Chris Toler, 9 p.m. WHYM: Joanie Cicatelli, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Hudson</b> Nan King: Cox Karaoke with George Cox, 9 p.m.
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**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](mailto:music@hippopress.com).

## NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

### Kingston

**Saddle Up Saloon:** Bite the Bullet, 8 p.m. (acoustic top 40, funk, rock, country covers)

### Laconia

**405 Pub:** Chad Verbeck, 7 p.m.

### Londonderry

**Coach Stop:** Mark Lapointe, 6 p.m.  
**Stumble Inn:** Jonny Friday, 8 p.m.

### Manchester

**Backyard Brewery:** Malcolm Salls, 6 p.m.  
**Bonfire:** Maddi Ryan, 8 p.m.  
**Cercle National Club:** Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.  
**Derryfield:** Pete Peterson, 7:30 p.m.  
**Foundry:** Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.  
**Fratello's:** Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.  
**South Side Tavern:** Emily Shively, 8 p.m.  
**Strange Brew:** Becca Myari

### Merrimack

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

### Milford

**Pasta Loft:** Bob Pratte Trio, 8 p.m.

### Nashua

**American Social Club:** DJ Night with Iron Beats, 8 p.m.  
**Fratello's:** Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.  
**Liquid Therapy:** Bobby Lane, 6 p.m.  
**Millyard Brewery:** Bradley Copper Kettle and Friends, 4 p.m.

### New Boston

**Molly's Tavern:** Matt Bergeron, 6:30 p.m.

### Newmarket

**Stone Church:** Truffle, 2 p.m.; Not Fade Away Band, 8 p.m.

### Pittsfield

**Main Street Grill & Bar:** Alan Roux, 6 p.m.

### Portsmouth

**The Goat:** Dave Perlman, 9 p.m.  
**The Stately:** Tim Theriault, 7 p.m.  
**Thirsty Moose:** Jonathan Mateo, 9 p.m.

### Rochester

**Porter's Pub:** Max Sullivan, 6:30 p.m.

### Seabrook

**Chop Shop:** The American Who Experience, 6:30 p.m.  
**Red's:** Francoix Simard, 7 p.m.

### Stratham

**Tailgate Tavern:** Irish Whiskey, 7 p.m.

## Sunday, April 18

### Bedford

**Copper Door:** Steve Aubert, 11 a.m.

### Brookline

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

### Chichester

**Flannel Tavern:** Chris Bonoli, 4 p.m.

### Concord

**Cheers:** Gabby Martin, 5 p.m.  
**Hermanos:** Eric Chase, 6:30 p.m.

### Exeter

**Sawbelly:** Max Sullivan, noon

### Hampton

**Shane's:** Max Sullivan, 4 p.m.  
**WHYM:** Ralph Allen, 1 p.m.

### Kingston

**Saddle Up:** music video bingo, 5 p.m.

### Manchester

**Strange Brew:** jam

### Nashua

**Polish American Club:** Nicole Knox Murphy, 3 p.m.

### Newmarket

**Stone Church:** Brunch with Arthur James, 10 a.m.

### Plaistow

**The Crow's Nest:** Cry Uncle, 4 p.m. (acoustic)

### Portsmouth

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

### Salem

**Copper Door:** Nate Comp, 11 a.m.

## Monday, April 19

### Concord

**Area 23:** dart night, 7 p.m.  
**Hermanos:** Paul Bourgelais, 6:30 p.m.

### Deerfield

**Lazy Lion:** trivia night, 7 p.m.

### Manchester

**Fratello's:** Phil Jakes, 5:30 p.m.

### Merrimack

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

### Nashua

**Fratello's:** Tom Rousseau, 5:30 p.m.

### Portsmouth

**The Goat:** music bingo, 7 p.m.; Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.

### Seabrook

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

## Tuesday, April 20

### Concord

**Hermanos:** Kid Pinky, 6:30 p.m.

### Hampton

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

### Manchester

**Fratello's:** Joanie Cicutelli, 5:30 p.m.  
**South Side Tavern:** Jonny Friday, 8 p.m.

### Merrimack

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

### Nashua

**Fratello's:** Chris Lester, 5:30 p.m.  
**Peddler's Daughter:** trivia, 8:30 p.m.

### Pittsfield

**Main Street Grill & Bar:** Brian Booth, 6 p.m.

### Portsmouth

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

## Wednesday, April 21

### Brookline

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

### Concord

**Area 23:** open mic night, 6:30 p.m.  
**Hermanos:** Kid Pinky, 6:30 p.m.

### Dover

**SmuttLabs:** Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.

## COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

### Venues

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

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

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

### Shows

• **Laugh Thursdays Showcase Comedy Series** Chunky's Manchester, Thursday, April 15, 8 p.m.  
• **Mark Riley** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, April 16, or Saturday, April 17, 8 p.m.  
• **Dinner & a Comedy Show with Steve Swee-** ney LaBelle Winery, Saturday, April 17, 6 p.m.

• **Dave Russo** Chunky's Pelham, Saturday, April 17, 8 p.m.  
• **Steven Rogers** Peter Wong opening, The Music Hall, Saturday, April 17, 8 p.m.  
• **Comedy Out of the Box** Hatbox Theatre, Thursday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.  
• **Laugh Thursdays Showcase Comedy Series** Chunky's Manchester, Thursday, April 22, 8 p.m.

• **Dave Russo** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, April 23, or Saturday, April 24, 8 p.m.  
• **Johnny Pizzi** Chunky's Nashua, Friday, April 23, or Saturday, April 24, 8 p.m.  
• **James Dorsey** Chunky's Pelham, Saturday, April 24, 8 p.m.  
• **Laugh Thursdays Showcase Comedy Series** Chunky's Manchester, Thursday, April 29, 8 p.m.

## Film

### Venues

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

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

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

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

### Shows

• **Red River Virtual Cinema** Red River Theatres is currently offering indie, foreign language and documentary films via a virtual cinema experience including Oscar nominees *The Father*, *Collective*, *Another Round*, *The Man Who Sold His Skin* and *Minari* (1929) silent film nominees (available by category and in a package with all 15 movies in three categories). See the ever-changing lineup on the website.  
• **Oscar Shorts at The Music Hall** The Portsmouth theater is also offering the Oscar shorts virtually. Tickets are available by category (there are three shorts categories) or for all 15 shorts.

• **Friends Trivia Night 21+** at Chunky's in Manchester on Thursday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m. Reserve a seat with a \$5 food voucher.  
• **Toy Story Trivia Night 21+** at Chunky's in Manchester on Thursday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. Reserve a seat with a \$5 food voucher.  
• **The Last Warning** (1929) silent film accompanied by live music performed by Jeff Rapsis screens on Sunday, April 25, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre. Admission is free but a \$10 donation is suggested.  
• **Entangled** (2020) documentary will screen on Saturday, May 1, at 7 p.m. at The Music Hall in Portsmouth.

## Concerts

### Venues

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

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

**LaBelle Winery Derry**  
14 Route 111, Derry 672-9898, labellewinery.com

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

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

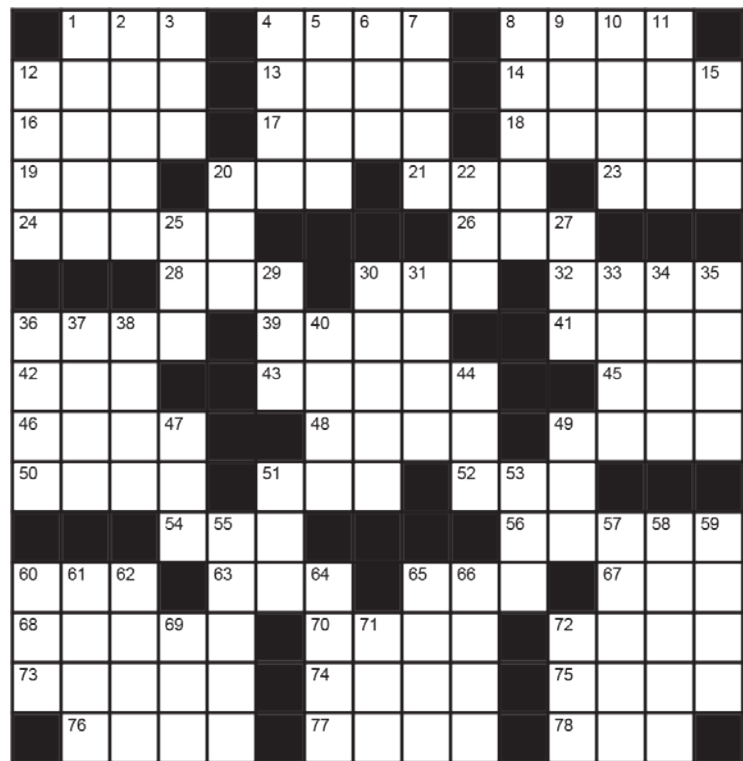
**The Strand**  
20 Third St., Dover 343-1899, thestranddover.com

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

### Shows

• **A Band Beyond Description** Friday, April 16, 6 p.m., Stone Church  
• **Tom Paxton and the DonJuans** Friday, April 16, 8 p.m., virtual via Palace Theatre  
• **Truffle** Saturday, April 17, 2 p.m., Stone Church  
• **A Night of Sinatra** (performance from Rich DiMare with Ron Poster & the Sinatra Ambassadors) Saturday, April 17, 6 p.m., LaBelle Derry  
• **Elton John Tribute** Saturday, April 17, 8 p.m., The Strand  
• **Ani Di Franco** Sunday, April 18, at 8 p.m., virtual via Cap Center  
• **The Decemberists** Sunday, April 18, and Sunday, April 25, at 8 p.m., virtual concert via Cap Center  
• **Mariachi Divas** Thursday, April 22, and Friday, April 23, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 25, 2 p.m., virtual via Cap Center  
• **Club D'elf** Friday, April 23, 6 p.m., Stone Church  
• **The British Rock Experience** Friday, April 23, 7 p.m., virtual concert via Palace  
• **Sans Souci** (A Tribute to Jerry Garcia) Saturday, April 24, 2 & 6 p.m., Stone Church  
• **Dueling Pianos with the Flying Ivories** Saturday, April 24, 6 p.m., LaBelle Derry  
• **Caamp 5 Year Anniversary** Thursday, April 29, 9 p.m., virtual concert via Cap Center  
• **Town Meeting** Friday, April 30, 6 p.m., Stone Church  
• **Tim Theriault** Friday, April 30, 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In  
• **Palace Teen Apprentice Cabaret: I Hope I Get It** Friday, April 30, 7 p.m., virtual audition cuts via the Palace

# THAT FUNKY MONKEY



**Across**

1. Vicious of Sex Pistols
4. Like 70s bushy do
8. 4. Across is made from strands of this
12. 'Groover's Paradise' Doug
13. The G-, F- or C- this
14. American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (abbr)
16. John Such of Bon Jovi
17. Lovato that started on Barney & Friends
18. Sixx of Motley Crue
19. Love \_\_\_ Battlefield (2,1)
20. Label that gave way to UMG
21. RZA-written book The \_\_\_ Of Wu
23. Exile song meaning "thus far" perhaps
24. Warren Zevon was on the \_\_\_ Sanders Show
26. "It's \_\_\_ to be square"
28. It goes with an ooh
30. Latin freestyle trio from the 80s and 90s
32. Cex '\_\_\_, I Did It Again!'
36. \_\_\_ Against The Machine
39. Great Salt Lake state Donny & Marie are from
41. "Beastie Boys known to let the beat Mmm... \_\_\_!"
42. Jeff Lynne band
43. R&Bers Color \_\_\_ (2,3)
45. Supertramp album 'Free \_\_\_ Bird' (2,1)
46. Soul singer James
48. '17 Cheap Trick album '\_\_\_ Time Coming'
49. Songwriter/producer Ballard
50. Metal w/slower tempos, low-tuned guitars and a thick sound
51. \_\_\_ Speedwagon
52. Michael Bolton '\_\_\_ I Touch You... There?'
54. Michael Jackson '\_\_\_ (Pretty Young Thing)'
56. Literary technique used in lyrics, at

times

60. Zooley Deschanel band She And \_\_\_
63. Ozzy Osbourne 'Blizzard Of \_\_\_'
65. You put one on eBay for an instrument
67. Dave Grohl band \_\_\_ Fighters
68. '17 Liam Gallagher album '\_\_\_ Were' (2,3)
70. Leader Shamaya fronts this LA nu metal band
72. Might be a strong one coming from

- the dressing room, post-show
73. ELP album 'Brain \_\_\_ Surgery'
  74. CSN&Y song about Kent State shootings
  75. '84 Roger Glover album he put over his face?
  76. One of The Plastic Ono Band
  77. Bee Gees 'How Can You \_\_\_ A Broken Heart'
  78. Rock shirt: Tie- \_\_\_

**Down**

1. Dance music developed out of Afro-Cuban and mambo
2. '66 Supremes album '\_\_\_ A Symphony' (1,4)
3. Rap icons Run-\_\_\_
4. 'Highway To Hell' band
5. Red Hot Chili Peppers bassist
6. Michael Stipe band
7. 'Just Look Around' Sick \_\_\_ All (2,2)
8. Michael Monroe band \_\_\_ Rocks
9. Metalcores \_\_\_ Lay Dying (2,1)
10. '93 Archers Of Loaf album '\_\_\_ Mettle'
11. Me First & The Gimme Gimmes '\_\_\_ It In: The Greatest Hits'
12. 'Come \_\_\_ Away - The Styx Anthology'
15. 'Gossamer' Passion \_\_\_
20. Actress/comedian/singer Rudolph
22. 'The Sun Always Shines On TV' band
25. 'Put Your Records On' Corinne Bailey
27. Tenacious D lead single from 'The Pick Of Destiny'
29. Alt-rockers that did 'Stars'
30. Boy George stage musical that was a social prohibition?
31. Miike Snow sang of 'Genghis \_\_\_'
33. Kind of agreement a musician should never make
34. You strike one for photo

## WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

**Find and Circle...**

- Four Stephen King stories
- Four six-letter animals
- Two colors ending with E
- Two neighboring countries
- Opposite of worst

Last Week's Answers: BATMAN ALIEN ROCKY SHREK JAWS / VANCOUVER MONTREAL TORONTO / GOPHER BEAVER GERBIL / BACCARAT / BRONCO

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

35. Shorter songs are now made for a shorter attention this
36. Bassoon, e.g.
37. Choir member
38. Beastie Boys "I stay up all night I \_\_\_ sleep watchin' Dragnet" (2,2)
40. Keith Richards guitar (abbr)
44. David Geffen label founded in '90
47. You need one for an electric guitar
49. 'Sweet Child O' Mine' band (abbr)
51. Brad Delp 'Face The Music' band
53. Scarling 'Band \_\_\_ Covers The Bullet Hole'
55. Radiohead "\_\_\_ it to yourself" (3,2)
57. Howie Day 'Perfect Time \_\_\_' (2,3)
58. Soundgarden 'Pretty \_\_\_'
59. Grammy-winning classical guitarist Andrew
60. The Streets '\_\_\_ It Come To This?'
61. \_\_\_ A Little Prayer (1,3)
62. '11 Coldplay album '\_\_\_ Xyloto'
64. '98 The Knack album that blasted off?
65. Phil Collins 'You'll \_\_\_ My Heart' (2,2)
66. Portable media player by Apple
69. The \_\_\_ Ridge Boys
71. '96 Beastie Boys album '\_\_\_ In Sound From Way Out!'
72. 'If You Leave' synth-poppers © 2020 Todd Santos

# KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

**EASY**

2-		5+	2-
2÷	3		
	12x		2÷
2-		2	

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**CHALLENGING**

120x	3-	6	3÷	
	2÷	3	2-	10+
		10+	3÷	
3÷			5	72x
1-		6+		
2-		1-		6

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**RULES**

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

**PREVIOUS ANSWERS**

2÷	2	1	1-	3	5+	4
7+	3	4	4	2	1	
6x	4	2	1	3		
1	1	3	4	2		

14+	6	3+	2	1	3	60x	4	5
	2	6	4	5	3	3	1	
4	4	3	6	1	5	2		
2-	3	5	2	6	1	4		
1	1	4	12+	5	2	6	3	
4-	5	1	3	4	2	6		



**SIGNS OF LIFE**

All quotes are from *Naturally Tan*, by Tan France, born April 20, 1983.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** My husband, Rob, is constantly on the hunt for the perfect pair of jeans. ... He purchased a new pair of jeans every fortnight for like two years until I finally sat him down and said (barked), 'There is no such thing as the perfect jean.' But there are lots of very good jeans, and you have your pick.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** Negativity in the office spreads like wildfire. If you see it, get rid of it. And replace it with positivity.

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** I'm not saying to wear a ball gown every day, but if you have some nicer pieces, there's nothing wrong with wearing them more often. It's never made sense to me to keep shut away in a closet the items that make you feel attractive and look your best. Why save that feeling for once every few weeks? It's only a question of cleaning expenses.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** It's amazing how when you're a kid, somebody can mention something once, and it stays with you forever. Say nice things!

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** I think it's funny I've become known for my hair. My hair was never a thing. From nothing to something, just like that.

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** I actually got a really good grade — I got a B plus, which was shocking because when it came to the arts, I thought I was a very strong F student, and I prided myself on my consistency. That B plus was very exciting for me. There's a B plus just waiting for you.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** ... I got distracted, because Abbi and Ilana from Broad City started screaming, 'Tan!' and making the heart signs with their hands. So I became like that five-year-old boy in the school play who gets distracted by his mom in the audience and doesn't realize what's going on. You may have some good distractions.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** Did I clean the office myself? Yes, I sure did. Your employees aren't your ser-

vants; they're your employees. Everyone should take turns cleaning.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** People will often ask, 'Is it weird to drive on the other side of the road?' And I'll tell them, 'I'm not just driving on the other side of the road, I'm also sitting on the other side of the car!' Dig deeper to get the whole story.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** I think that when people are in a position of power, they can really affect a person's mental health, happiness, and career. They don't realize what an effect they have on their subordinates. You have an effect on those around you.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** Don't go into business thinking, I'm going to be rich! ... Business ownership is ... so not the easy ride you might think it is. You don't get to go on vacation, you don't get to chill by the pool, and if you do, you're going to get bogged down by emails and phone calls.... Find a job you like to do.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** One thing I say regularly in my life is 'Signal your intentions.' How is anyone supposed to know what's going on unless you signal your intentions? This is especially true in dating. Don't leave people guessing. 🍷

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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 calm (8)	_____
2 calm (10)	_____
3 calm (6)	_____
4 calm (6)	_____
5 calm (8)	_____
6 calm (8)	_____
7 calm (4)	_____

PL	CO	AC	CO	RMO
NI	ID	PEA	ENE	UL
NQU	HA	CEF	TRA	SED
OL	IL	SER	OUS	MPO

4/11  
Last Week's Answers: 1. TRANQUIL 2. HARMONIOUS 3. PLACID 4. SERENE 5. PEACEFUL 6. COMPOSED 7. COOL

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**Sudoku Answers from pg40 of 4/8**

**Puzzle A**

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

Difficulty Level ★

**Puzzle B**

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

**Puzzle C**

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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**Government in action**

Most citizens of Brussels, Belgium, have never seen the Palace of Justice, the largest courthouse in the world, without construction scaffolding surrounding it, as renovations on the facade of the iconic building have been mired in red tape and bureaucratic incompetence for most of 40 years, according to The Bulletin. In mid-March, construction crews finally started work, but not on the building; they arrived to shore up the scaffolding, which has grown outdated and dangerous over so much time. Officials assert this will allow outside renovations to finally commence and predict the scaffolding will come down by 2030. Belgians, however, are skeptical.

**The passing parade**

Authorities in Sri Lanka arrested Caroline Jurie, the reigning Mrs. World, after she snatched the crown from the head of Pushpika De Silva as she was crowned Mrs. Sri Lanka on national television on April 4, allegedly injuring her. Jurie, the 2019 Mrs. Sri Lanka, claimed De Silva was a divorced woman, which made her ineligible to win the pageant, but organizers confirmed De Silva is only separated, and she has been re-crowned. The new queen reported on Facebook that she went to the hospital to be treated for head injuries after the incident, and police spokesman Ajith Rohana told the

BBC Jurie was charged with “simple hurt and criminal cause.” Pageant director Chandimal Jayasinghe said, “It was a disgrace how Caroline Jurie behaved on the stage.”

**All in the family**

At a wedding in Suzhou, Jiangsu Province in China on March 31, the groom’s mother noticed a birthmark on the bride’s hand that was similar to one belonging to her long-lost daughter. When asked, the bride’s parents admitted they had found her as a baby by the side of the road and taken her to live with them as their own, a secret they had never told. The Daily Star reported that upon hearing of the connection, the bride burst into tears, saying the moment was “happier than the wedding day itself.” Bonus: The groom was also adopted, so their marriage could proceed as planned.

**Job of a researcher**

Scientists studying ticks at A.T. Still University in Kirksville, Missouri, have enlisted the help of the Missouri Department of Conservation in asking the public to refrain from killing any ticks they pick off themselves and mail them to the university instead. Conservation department spokesman Francis Skalicky told KY3-TV that, while 14 species of ticks live in Missouri, “we’re trying to find out ... the prevalence of species and more information on the diseases they

are carrying.” He asks people to put ticks in a zip-close bag with a damp paper towel before sending them in for study.

**Causing a stink**

Police in Phoenix are searching for whoever dumped hundreds of carp and gizzard shad along a road on the north side of the city on April 4, KPHO-TV reported. Arizona Game and Fish said the estimated 1,000 pounds of fish were dumped along with trash left over from a spearfishing tournament at nearby Lake Pleasant. “It’s pretty gross,” said motorist Karen Rowe. “I mean fish in the middle of the desert, so it’s quite shocking.” Authorities said those responsible could be charged with criminal littering.

**Sweet revenge**

Concord, North Carolina, police say they have not determined a motive for an April 2 incident in which Lacy Cordell Gentry, 32, allegedly drove his car through the front doors of the Walmart he had recently been fired from, destroying displays but avoiding injuring any shoppers. “If you take a car through a Walmart, there’s going to be a lot of damage,” one officer told local media. The New York Daily News reported that Gentry was taken into custody and faces multiple charges.

**Lost and found**

Cybill Moore of Weatherford, Texas, was puzzled by the large basket of men’s dirty laundry left on her front porch, along with a bag of laundry soap and dryer sheets, on March 26. Assuming there’d been a mix-up, she left it on the porch for a day and posted on social media sites to find the owner, with no luck, she told the Weatherford Democrat, so she finally just washed, dried and folded the clothes. That’s when a man showed up at the door saying he meant to drop the laundry four houses down, where he pays a woman to clean his clothes. Moore said he was shocked that she had laundered the items for him. “A lot of people have joked about dropping off their clothes for me, since I’m doing ‘community laundry,’”

**Disturbing the peace**

Neighbors around a new luxury condo tower in Brooklyn, New York, are up in arms, and up at night, because of the persistent, shrill whistle they say is coming from the building, reported NBC New York. The city has been inundated with complaints. “It almost sounds like the subway screeching, but it’s constant, and it usually happens late at night,” Chris Valentini said of the noise. A representative of the developer told neighbors the sound originates from wind whipping around the new metal balconies. “This is not uncommon in new buildings,” he said, “and we will resolve it.”

Visit [newssoftheweird.com](http://newssoftheweird.com).

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