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APRIL 29 - MAY 5, 2021

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GRANITE VIEWS **STEVEN RENO**

Staying the course



Even as I write these words, some professor at some college is planning a course for the fall semester that will deal with the pandemic. Virtually every academic discipline will

have some segment or unit that addresses what we have been (and still are) going through. Literature classes will have their own version of *A Journal of a Plague Year*. From Art to Zoology, scholars will draw upon the events of these days to develop retrospectives on how the pandemic came about, how it has been handled, who it's affected, what it's cost, the statistics of infection, hospitalizations, recoveries and deaths, social, racial and economic injustices, political dimensions, military strategic implications, and economic, psychological and cultural impacts. The list is seemingly endless.

Whatever the courses or programs the professionals develop to parse the significance of this almost unprecedented event, each of us will have our own story. Perhaps, if any of us lives to be old enough, our grandchildren or even great-grandchildren may someday ask, "What was it like back then?" How will we answer? That question occupies me very much these days as I find my longtime practice of daily journal writing has nearly ground to a stop. Quite simply, I do not know what to write now, especially as I imagine one of my descendants someday thumbing through the stack of leather-bound books I've been filling up since the early '60s, noting all my adventures and impressions, and then coming to a blank for most of this year. Will she or he wonder why the hiatus?

In truth, the isolation imposed by the pandemic has meant many of us have been alone with our own thoughts this last year more than ever before. While Zoom and FaceTime can close the loneliness gap somewhat, each of those is a really a kind of planned encounter, an "appointment." What has been missing is that range of unexpected stimulation that comes from simply being in the presence of other people, whether at the workplace, grocery shopping, dining, or just being out and about. Social distancing has truly made us socially distant and as a result, as David Brooks recently noted, our "extroversion muscles have atrophied while [our] introversion muscles are bulging."

Early on in the pandemic, there were signs everywhere proclaiming, "Together, we'll get through this." We are getting through it. My hope is that now, if we can do it safely, getting vaccinated and wearing our masks as appropriate, we can get back together. Perhaps my journaling will pick up again.

You can contact Steve Reno at stepreno@gmail.com.

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ON THE COVER

10 KEEPING NH IN THE PICTURE The New Hampshire Film Bureau, which has helped bring movies like 1981's *On Golden Pond* and this year's *Sound of Metal* to the state for filming, may be dissolved if the proposed state budget is approved. Professionals from the New Hampshire film industry explain what's at stake if that happens and why the Granite State is a film destination worth fighting for.

ALSO ON THE COVER, the Hampstead Eats food truck festival is rolling into town this weekend, p. 21. Hudson Brews is now open and offering craft beers, p. 22. And find all kinds of live music this weekend in Music This Week, starting on p. 32.

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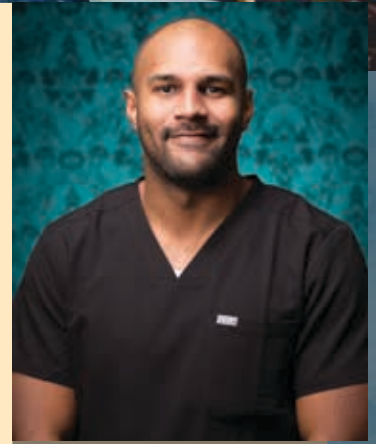
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Meet Victor Pena Duval

Victor joined Renew in 2019 in preparation for our expansion into the new facility in Derry, NH. Victor is originally from the Dominican Republic, where he attended the Technological Institute of Santo Domingo, earning a Doctor of Medicine degree. After practicing medicine in the Dominican Republic, he moved to the United States, and is working at Renew. He made changes on his career path and is finishing his RN and will move forward with his NP after.

Victor assists many of our male clients in navigating their choices for sexual wellness procedures here at Renew. He is also often found prepping platelet rich plasma for regenerative procedures, monitoring IV infusions, and performing Emsculpt and Trusculpt procedures.



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NEWS & NOTES

Covid-19 news

During the state's weekly public health update on April 22, state epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan reported that New Hampshire has averaged about 350 new infections of Covid-19 per day, while the test-positivity rate was at 4.5 percent.

Over the last several weeks, the number of active infections in the state has hovered around either side of 3,000, while the total number of positive cases since the start of the pandemic last year is creeping toward 100,000.

According to Dr. Beth Daly, Chief of the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control of the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services, roughly 47 percent of the state's population (about 637,000 people) have received at least their first shot as of April 22, while 28 percent of the population (about 387,000 people) has been fully vaccinated. "We continue to receive around 50,000 first doses of vaccine each week, between the doses that are allocated to us at the state, as well as our pharmacy partners," she said. "We still have thousands of open appointments available ... at over 200 different locations where you can get vaccinated."

Thousands more people received their shot at a mass vaccination site at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in Loudon on April 24. Unlike previous sites at the Speedway, this one was only held by appointment for people to receive their second shot.

Later during the press conference, Gov. Chris Sununu said that the state would like-

ly resume administration of the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine "in a matter of days."

The following day, April 23, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food & Drug Administration issued a joint statement lifting the recommended pause of the vaccine, saying that its "known and potential benefits outweigh its known and potential risks in individuals 18 years of age and older." Federal health officials had recommended a pause of states' usage of the vaccine on April 13 following six reports of a rare blood clot disorder, a condition the CDC is now calling "thrombosis involving the cerebral venous sinuses, or CVST (large blood vessels in the brain)."

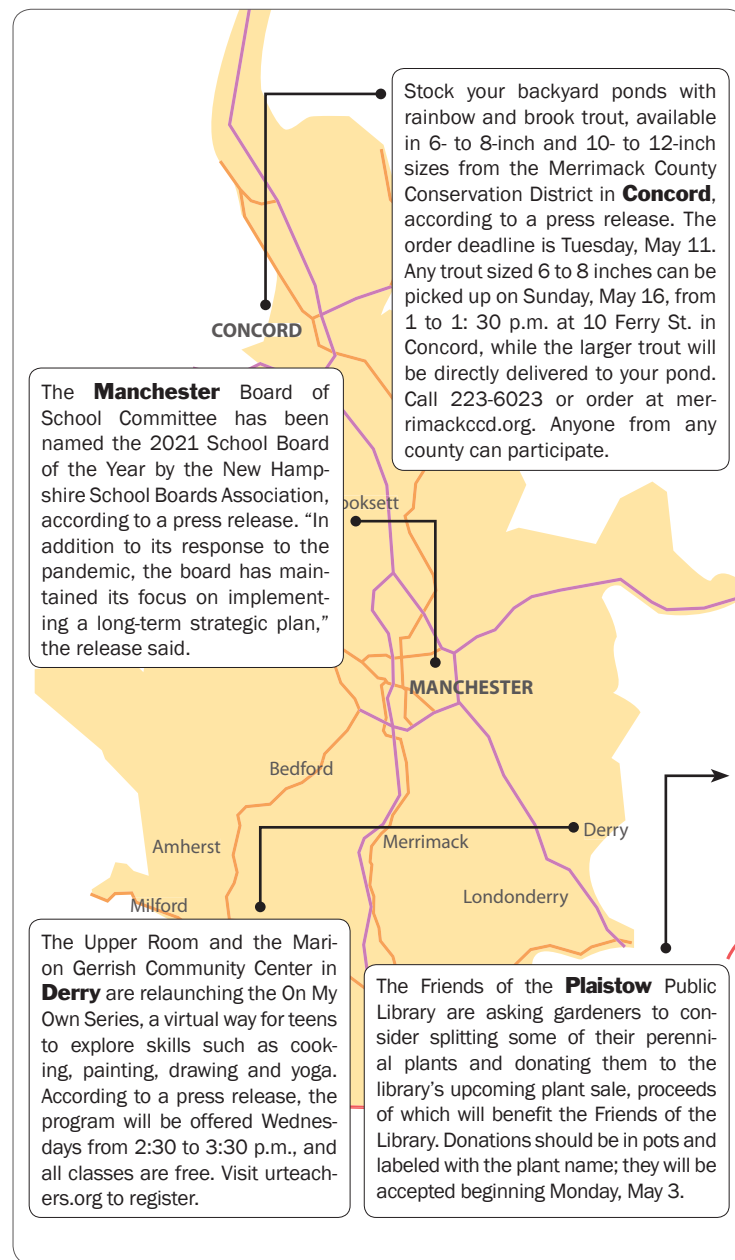
Re-election campaign

On April 27, Mayor Joyce Craig announced that she will be running for re-election for mayor of Manchester. She is currently serving in her second term and is the first woman to serve as mayor in the Queen City, according to a press release. "Manchester is a city on the rise. When the pandemic hit, our progress was interrupted, and we focused our efforts at City Hall on keeping our community safe while still providing essential services," Craig said in the release. "I'm running for Mayor in 2021 to ensure our city fully recovers from this pandemic, builds upon our progress and comes out of this stronger than before." This announcement comes after Victoria Sullivan announced her run for mayor last week. According to a press release, Sullivan is a former New Hampshire state

representative and assistant majority leader who served two terms on the House Education Committee.

Unemployment

The work search requirement for people getting unemployment benefits will be reinstated starting May 23, Gov. Chris Sununu said in a press conference on April 22, so anyone receiving benefits after that date will have to show proof that they are looking for work. The requirement has been waived during the pandemic, but Sununu said that the state now has a 3 percent unemployment rate, one of the lowest in the country. "Our economy is very, very strong," he said during the conference. "And it also unfortunately means that we're, if anything, facing a workforce shortage. ... There are tens of thousands of high-paying jobs across the state available today." The state has hosted 15 virtual job fairs since last summer to help employers find employees, he said, but there haven't been nearly as many potential employees attending these fairs as there are jobs. Several more job fairs are planned, including one on Thursday, May 6, aimed toward veterans, and one Monday, May 10, for students and recent graduates, as well as one on Thursday, May 13, for those in the construction industry. Sununu encouraged anyone seeking employment to get details about those and other upcoming job fairs at unemploymentbenefits.nh.gov. Meanwhile, he said, all NH Works Centers will be back open to the public by May 10.



Virtual urgent care

Instead of traveling to an emergency room or urgent care clinic, people who need non-emergency care can now connect with a provider by phone or by video on their laptops or mobile devices with the new D-HH Virtual Urgent Care. Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health's Connected Care and Center for Telehealth has partnered with MDLIVE to launch the new service, which provides patients with 24/7 access to urgent care by fully licensed providers from Dartmouth-Hitchcock or MDLIVE-affiliated physicians who are board-certified, licensed, telehealth-trained and have an average of 15 years of experience, according to a press release. Once they sign on, patients can wait for an avail-

able provider — the wait time is usually less than 15 minutes — or schedule an appointment for later that day for common health concerns like cold, flu, and other upper respiratory illnesses, allergies, bug bites, rashes, gastrointestinal issues, urinary tract infection and more. They can get prescriptions sent to their pharmacy, if necessary, the release said. The cost is \$59 per visit, and the service is currently available to those with private insurance or those who can self-pay. In accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), patient and visit details are shared only with the patient's primary care physician, the release said. Visit go.d-h.org/virtualurgentcare.

Covid-19 update	As of April 19	As of April 26
Total cases statewide	91,783	93,935
Total current infections statewide	3,329	2,717
Total deaths statewide	1,270	1,286
New cases	2,554 (April 13 to April 19)	2,152 (April 20 to April 26)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	1,002	806
Current infections: Merrimack County	270	225
Current infections: Rockingham County	746	477

Information from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services

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NEWS & NOTES Q&A

Breaking ground

NH cemetery introduces a new kind of burial

Mel Bennett is the creator of Life Forest, a recently opened conservation cemetery in Hillsborough that provides burial plots for cremated remains, marked by memorial trees planted and maintained by staff tree experts.

Q: *What led you to create Life Forest?*

My mom died [after] a long illness ... and I had her cremains in my cabinet, like many people do. ... I started reading about these burial pods where you could put cremains in a biodegradable container and plant a tree. ... I loved the idea, but when I started doing more research I couldn't find any cemeteries or places that would protect this tree. I felt like the responsibility of taking care of this tree was epic. What if I go on vacation? I'm going to have to hire someone to water my mom's tree. What do I do if I want to move? ... That's when I started thinking, 'I think people would want something like this.'

Is this a new idea?

We're the first ones to do this anywhere. We're the only legal cemetery that plants a tree above the cremains and legally protects both the tree and the legacy of the person. ... This is a big shift in the death care industry. There's always been this divide between traditional burial and green burial, but there are wonderful aspects of both, and we want to try to bridge that gap. We want to maintain the legal protection of legacy and ancestry and cemetery [land] that's [associated with] traditional burial and incorporate the idea of environmental protection that's [associated with] green burial.

How are the plots protected?

Headstones are protected under cemetery law. As we worked with our legal team, we realized that if we use a tree as a headstone, it's a respected entity. It's legally protected, meaning that nobody can ever cut it down or cut the branches, as long as it's in a legal cemetery. ... We also want to protect the legacy of the people who are buried there, so we record their vital statistics — full name, birth date and death date and latitude-longitude location of where they're buried on the property — in the deed of the land. That's really important, because that ensures that people will know where their loved ones are in future generations.



Mel Bennett. Photo by Millyard Studios.

What's the science behind this?

There's a misconception being sold out there that cremains actually help plants grow, and that's not true. ... We've worked with quite a few environmental scientists to make sure that we're doing this correctly ... and in a way that's not going to be detrimental to the tree. ... You have

to make sure there's a buffer of at least 18 inches between the root ball of the tree and the cremains, and that you use a rich compost. After three years, the salty nature of the cremains will dissipate.

How are the plots marked?

We have a QR code placed at the base of the tree ... and we help families create [virtual] memorial pages ... with memories, pictures and video clips of their loved one. Then, you can scan that QR code, and it'll bring up [the memorial page]. This gives people the opportunity to share an immense amount of personal things, ideas and representations of their loved one in the way that they would want to be remembered, without taking up a ton of space.

What kind of comfort does a memorial tree give people who have lost a loved one?

Instead of having a commemorative piece of granite that never changes, you have this tree that grows and changes and takes different forms every season. You can see its leaves and its flowers, and it's a way of connecting with your loved one through a different type of life.

What's the environmental benefit?

Instead of having these huge concrete vaults that are really not great for the environment, you're planting a tree that is going to grow and give off quality air, and you're creating a space with a more vivid [landscape].

What are your future plans for Life Forest?

We're going to be working toward [forming] collaborations with conservation entities in order to expand our locations and availability to be accessible to more people, and so that people don't have to travel too far to visit their loved ones. — Angie Sykeny

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A draft blows through



With Round 1 going off tonight, draft day has arrived. Finally! The mocks are done and all that's left is the announcers introducing every single player taken as if they are certain Hall of Famers, which we all know they won't be. Oh, and there's uproar around here if Coach B freaking trades down or out of Round 1 altogether instead of addressing the need everyone around here wants him to address on the draft's first round. If that happens, yowza.

In the meantime, with Jacksonville on the clock here are some topical thoughts.

The Quarterback Issues: With three QB's expected to go 1-2-3 tonight (**Trevor Lawrence**, **Zach Wilson** and a mystery guy from the trio of **Mac Jones**, **Trey Lance** and **Justin Fields** to San Francisco), with the other two likely to be taken in the Top 10, QB's will be the night's biggest story whether that happens or not, but especially if it doesn't.

When I see scouts bash someone anonymously, as some are doing to **Jones** or **Fields**, I'm thinking it's either a smoke screen from a team with interest, or someone trying to pump their own tires with a reporter and not having the stones to put their name on it.

Given the varying degrees on how good people think the **Tom Brady** play-alike Jones is, if I were doing the evaluating I'd go back to Brady's 2000 scouting reports to compare them with what's being said about the Bama QB today. Of special interest would be what the knocks were and whether they actually mattered in the long run.

After the fourth QB comes off the board, would it be smart for Buffalo to trade up in front of the Pats and then re-auction it to a QB-needy team like Chicago at a lower price? Unconventional for sure. But depending how expensive it is, would a couple of lower draft picks be an acceptable cost to keep a long-term solution at QB away from their AFC East rival for a couple more years?

Does it seem weird that QB's from Utah, Alabama and North Dakota will be in Cleveland tonight and Fields from nearby Columbus won't? Could that mean it's to save embarrassment because his camp thinks he could suffer a major slide?

Big Board All Name Team: (1) **Kwity Paye**, edge rusher, Michigan. (2) **Penei Sewell**, OT, Oregon. (3) **Hamilcar Rashed Jr.**, edge, Oregon State. (4) **Azeez (god bless you) Ojulari**, OLB, Georgia. (5) **Levi Onwuzurike**, DT, Washington. (6) **Amon-Ra St. Brown**, WR, USC. (7) **Ifeatu Melifonwu**, DB, Syracuse. (8) **Hamsah Nasirildeen**, DB, Florida State. (9) **Osa Odighizuwa**, DT, UCLA. (10) **Tamorri Terry**, WR, Florida State.

Although I'd have paid to be the announcer at UNC for the Chazz and Dazz show, which

has **LB Chazz Surratt** and wideout **Dazz Newsome** ranked at 79 and 90 on the Big Board.

Speaking of the Big Board, the most recent one I saw had all five QB's ranked accordingly, Expected first and second picks Lawrence and Zach Wilson ranked first and fifth overall. Lance was at eight, Fields nine and Jones at 20.

2020 Hunches Not Based on Facts or Scouting Reports: I get a bad feeling when people have been calling a guy a "generational talent" for as long as they have been doing it for Lawrence because after that happens evaluators get lazy and don't see any flaws that develop.

To those hanging to Jimmy G coming to the Patriots like a dog with a bone: If the Pats don't go QB in Round 1, I think **Cam Newton** is more likely to be the QB in Foxborough in 2022 than Jimbo.

Rumor Mill: After moving from 3 to 12 and then back to 6, rumor has it Miami is trying to get a second pick in the Top 10 by trading up with the 18th pick. The likely trade partner is Denver at 9, which would be bad news, good news for the Patriots. Bad because no one wants a division rival getting a talent infusion from two Top 10 picks. Good because if they do have their eye on a QB, Denver dropping behind them in the order takes out a QB-needy competitor out of the running.

With QB's and potentially elite receivers expected to dominate the first 10 picks, teams looking for defensive or offensive help, like Cincinnati (who could go for a receiver) at 5, need help everywhere. Detroit (7), Carolina (8), Dallas (10) and the G-Men (11) are possible landing spots if a QB they like slides to those spots and the Pats want to act.

Ancient Draft History: If one of the bally-hoed QB's slides to them and they act, it won't be the first time they've taken a QB at 15. The other time was 1983 for (gulp) **Tony Eason**. Not a horrible player, but soft as a grape and got famously yanked in SB 20 because he was terrified of the Bears defense. Worse still, they passed on **Dan Marino**, who went 12 picks later to Miami. What might have been comes to mind, especially since the invincible Da Bears' only loss in 1985 was a 38-24 verdict when Marino threw for 27 and three TDs.

Speaking of ancient history, when the Pats took **Richard Seymour** sixth overall in 2001, Hall of Famer **LaDainian Tomlinson** went next to San Diego. So here's the question: If that draft were held today would you stick with Big Richard or go with the top playmaker of that era? As good as LT was, but with three SBs being won by a defense-first team and he was its best player, they made the right call.

And One More Thing: With Brady winning the Super Bowl in Year 1 after basically being allowed to leave/pushed out, if Coach B trades does trade out of Round 1 altogether again, Patriot Nation will go berserk giving "In Bill We Trust" its second major hit in a year.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com.

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1. In a large pitcher, brew 1 Lipton® Cold Brew Tea Bag into cold water for 10 minutes.
2. Add grape juice and sliced citrus to pitcher, and chill for one to two hours. Add seltzer water just before serving and pour into ice-filled glasses.

Nutritional Information

Amount per serving: Calories 60; Total Fat 0 g; Saturated Fat 0 g; Cholesterol 0 mg; Sodium 10 mg; Carbohydrate 15 g; Fiber 1 g; Protein 0 g; Total Sugar 14 g; Added Sugar 0 g

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Honoring forgotten soldiers

The fourth installation for Flags for Forgotten Soldiers in New Hampshire will be placed at the Anheuser-Busch Brewery in Merrimack on May 1, according to a press release. There will be 660 flags installed, representing the loss of veterans to suicide, of which there are an average of 22 each day in the U.S. The first installations were in Derry, Chester and Danville and were installed for 30 days each — 22 a day multiplied by 30 days. This larger installation will include five flags that represent the first responders lost daily, and a single flag to signify active-duty members, according to the release, and it will be left up all summer.

Score: +1, for bringing attention to a tragic problem

Comment: *The public is invited to attend and assist placing the flags on Saturday May 1, at noon at Anheuser-Busch Brewery, 221 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack.*

Breathing better

New Hampshire's air quality has improved for both ozone and year-round particle pollution, according to the 2021 State of the Air report from the American Lung Association. According to a press release, New Hampshire has several counties that were ranked among the cleanest in the Boston metro area for short-term particle pollution. All five reporting counties (Belknap, Hillsborough, Rockingham, Cheshire and Grafton) maintained A grades for short-term particle pollution, and all seven of the state's reporting counties (all of the above, plus Merrimack and Coos) either maintained or improved their grades for ozone.

Score: +1

Comment: *In just the counties included in this report, more than 240,000 residents are living with lung diseases like asthma, COPD and lung cancer; as well as heart disease, making them more vulnerable to the effects of air pollution.*

Manchester cleans up

The Manchester Urban Ponds Restoration Program is in the midst of its annual spring cleanup. According to a press release, the program has organized 119 cleanups since it started in 2000, and its kept tally of some fun stats: 1071 volunteers have spent approximately 3,632 hours collecting 2,431 bags of trash — which does not include illegally “dumped” items like shopping carts (99), tires (441), car batteries, construction debris and more. The value of volunteer time spent at these cleanups has amounted to over \$78,000, the release said.

Score: 0 (+1 for the volunteers, -1 for the absurd number of illegally dumped items found in Manchester's parks and ponds)

Comment: *The next two cleanups are at Stevens Pond and Stevens Pond Park on Saturday, May 1, from 9 to 11 a.m., and at Nutts Pond and Precourt Park on Saturday, May 8, from 9 to 11 a.m. Cleanups will be held rain or shine and anyone is welcome. Latex gloves and plastic trash bags will be provided.*

Scam alert

Last week Eversource warned its customers to watch out for scammers who are using new techniques to trick people into thinking they're legit, including using phony caller IDs that display “Eversource” and reading from scripts that sound like they're coming from a real company representative who is threatening to disconnect their electric or gas service because of an unpaid bill. According to a press release, Eversource will never ask for an instant payment over the phone, will not ask for prepaid debit cards and will not ask customers to meet at a “payment center” to make the payment. Anyone who thinks they might have received a scam phone call, text or email should contact local police.

Score: -1

Comment: *“These scam artists sound sophisticated and are ruthless,” Eversource Senior Vice President and Chief Customer Officer Penni Conner said in the release. “[If you] get a call and the caller's message doesn't look or sound right, don't panic and don't pay. Remember, we will never threaten to disconnect service or demand instant payment over the phone.”*

QOL score: 69

Net change: +1

QOL this week: 70

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



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133809



Keeping NH in the picture

LOCAL FILMMAKERS EXPLAIN WHY NH COULD BE A GOOD PLACE TO SHOOT A MOVIE AND THE STRUGGLE TO GET IT NOTICED

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com

From the 1981 classic *On Golden Pond* to parts of this year's Oscar-winning *Sound of Metal*, New Hampshire has been a filming location for a number of movies. Since 1998, the New Hampshire Film Bureau has assisted filmmakers eyeing the Granite State for their films, serving as the connection between them and the state government and communities. But if the latest state budget proposal is approved, that resource may not be around for much longer. People from the New Hampshire film industry discussed what's at stake if the Film Bureau is dissolved, and why New Hampshire is a film destination worth fighting for.

The reel deal

Gov. Chris Sununu's proposed state budget for 2022-2023 includes the defunding and elimination of the New Hampshire Film Bureau, currently allocated a \$123,000 annual budget.

The budget proposal has been passed by the House and now heads to the Senate, which is scheduled to meet on June 4. If it's approved, New Hampshire will become one of only five states without an official state film office.

Matt Newton, the New Hampshire Film Bureau's director and only employee, declined to comment on the office's future and directed media inquiries to the Division of Travel and Tourism Development, which emailed a statement on behalf of Business and Economic Affairs Commissioner Taylor Caswell:

"While the workload of the Bureau of Film and Digital Media has declined for the past several years, the Governor's budget proposal ensures that the Division of Travel and Tourism Development will retain sufficient resources to meet the needs of New Hampshire's film industry," the statement said. "Further,

this consolidation of services ensures a more comprehensive approach, spearheaded by the Department of Business and Economic Affairs, to promote the development of New Hampshire's travel and tourism industry."

Jack Northcott, a Hollis resident and senior director of sales at Avid Technology, a media production software company in Burlington, Mass., said he is skeptical that the Division of Travel and Tourism Development will continue the Film Bureau's work.

"That claim ... is very disingenuous, because they aren't articulating whether or not the Film Bureau will remain in name and the Film Bureau website will still be supported," he said. "Will there be somebody there who actually cares?"

When the Hippo pressed the Division of Travel and Tourism Development for confirmation that the "consolidation of services" would mean the elimination of the "New Hampshire Film office" in name and as a direct point of contact for filmmakers, Division of Travel and Tourism Development communications manager Kris Neilsen replied via email, "Correct, [filmmakers] will reach out to the NH Travel and Tourism office."

Tim Messina of Studio Lab, a video production studio in Derry, also expressed concern about the Department's ability to take over the Film Bureau's role.

"[How is] someone from the Travel and Tourism department, who doesn't have any experience in our industry ... going to [answer] very industry-specific questions that come up?" he said.

The benefits of having a film office

Tim Messina of Studio Lab said he utilized the Film Bureau a few weeks ago when a filmmaker friend of his asked him where to get permits for shooting at Mount Washington.

"The Film office ... told me exactly where to go and who to talk to," he

said. "It was a less-than-five-minute conversation."

Tyler York, senior producer at Big Brick Productions in Manchester, works on commercial and brand video content and short form documentary-style videos for regional, national and international clients, such as New Hampshire Lottery, iRobot, Hasbro Gaming, Red Bull, ESPN, Fox Sports, Chobani and more. He said state film offices are "crucial" to his job as they provide a connection between the film industry and state legislators, municipalities, police forces and town and city officials.

"We do productions all over, and when we're shooting [in another state], we traditionally reach out to that state's film office for help with sourcing location permits and things like that."

Chris Stinson, a producer and line producer at the Portsmouth-based film production company Live Free or Die Films, said he also has depended on the services provided by state film offices for his work. Stinson worked as the line producer for the 2020 film *Sound of Metal*, which includes a driving scene shot on New Hampshire's Kancamagus Highway. The film was nominated for six Oscars and won two — one for Film Editing and one for Sound — at the April 25 awards ceremony.

Stinson recalled a time when representatives from the Massachusetts Film Office joined him at a meeting where he pitched Massachusetts as a shooting location for the 2019 film *Knives Out*.

"[The filmmakers] were considering shooting it in London, but we convinced them to come to Massachusetts," he said. "If the Massachusetts Film Office hadn't helped, that movie definitely would have gone to London."

In the 2018 Hippo story "Going professional: How to take your creative hobby to the next level," Newton explained how the Film Bureau assisted and advised filmmakers in hiring a crew, securing a shooting location, and marketing and distributing their films. The Bureau also maintains an online directory of local hireable film crew and film services, including camera operators, directors, editors, casting and talent resources, hair and makeup and wardrobe professionals, sound specialists, stunt people, production managers and assistants, payroll and production accountants, public relations and more.

The Bureau's primary job is acting as the official liaison between filmmakers and New Hampshire communities and state government, to help filmmakers find shooting locations and acquire permits necessary for road closures and access to public spaces.

New Hampshire film highlights

Here's a look at some of the most notable movies that were filmed or partially filmed in New Hampshire, according to IMDB and Wikipedia.

- *The Thomas Crown Affair*, 1968, starring Steven McQueen and Faye Dunaway, scenes filmed in Salem
- *On Golden Pond*, 1981, starring Henry Fonda, Katharine Hepburn and James Fonda, scenes filmed at Squam Lake in Holderness
- *The Good Son*, 1993, starring Macaulay Culkin and Elijah Wood, scenes filmed at Mirror Lake in Jackson
- *Jumanji*, 1995, starring Robin Williams and

Kirsten Dunst, scenes filmed in Keene

- *The Skulls*, 2000, starring Joshua Jackson and Paul Walker, scenes filmed at Dartmouth College in Hanover
- *The Brown Bunny*, 2003, starring Vincent Gallo and Chloë Sevigny, scenes filmed in Keene
- *Live Free or Die*, 2006, starring Aaron Stanford, Paul Schneider and Zooey Deschanel, shot in Claremont
- *Sound of Metal*, 2020, starring Riz Ahmed and Olivia Cooke, scenes filmed on New Hampshire's Kancamagus Highway. Chris Stinson of Portsmouth served as line producer for the film.



Shooting on the moon with virtual production volume at Studio Lab in Derry. Photo courtesy of Studio Lab.

“If you have a small film, closing a road might sound like a big deal,” Newton said in the 2018 story, “but working with [the Film Bureau] lends more credibility to your project. We can open doors that you might not be able to open by yourself.”

Losing a NH booster

Northcott said the state has offered little explanation about the reasoning behind the proposal to eliminate the Film Bureau.

“We just haven’t been able to get a lot of feedback or dialogue from them,” he said.

Having worked with more than 30 state film offices over the course of his career, Stinson said he sees no reason New Hampshire wouldn’t be able to maintain its film office.

“A lot of these other states’ film offices don’t have a big budget either; a lot of them are one-person offices, too,” he said, “but they’re still incredibly enthusiastic about bringing productions to their state. New Hampshire doesn’t even offer that.”

Ian Messina, director of virtual production at Studio Lab (and Tim Messina’s nephew), said he, too, is at a loss.

“New Hampshire has so many different pockets of small businesses, and filmmaking is one of them, so why shouldn’t it have the same resources that other businesses have?”

York said he believes a lack of awareness is to blame.

“Many people, [including] legislators, don’t know that there’s a film industry happening here and that there’s potential and opportunity for the film industry to grow here,” he said.

Losing the Film Bureau would be detrimental to the state’s film industry in a big way, Tim Messina said.

“Without [a film office], we just lose our sense of direction as a state in the film world,” he said. “We can make it work [independently] to an extent, but

the state is still a big part of it.”

A fear being echoed by many people in the New Hampshire film industry is losing credibility that comes with having an official state film office.

“It’s so much cleaner when you can say, ‘I’m calling from the New Hampshire Film office,’ as opposed to, ‘Hey, I’m Joe Schmo off the street, and we have a production coming to town,’” York said.

Eliminating the Film Bureau may also disadvantage young and aspiring filmmakers looking to stay in New Hampshire, Northcott said, or prompt them to move to another state that has more opportunities and a more prominent support system for filmmakers. As a member of the advisory committee for a Nashua-based film education program for high school students, Northcott said he’s seeing it happen already.

“You have all these students who are just dying to get into television and film production, but there’s no outlet for them locally, or they’re very limited in what they can do,” he said. “WMUR can only hire so many people.”

Location, location

While New Hampshire remains largely untouched by out-of-state filmmakers, its southern neighbor boasts one of the most active and fastest growing film landscapes in the country.

“There are four or five movies and TV shows filming in Massachusetts as we speak,” Stinson said. “It just seems crazy to me that New Hampshire gets zero of that action.”

One of Massachusetts’ biggest selling points as a film destination — and the reason New Hampshire is often overlooked — is the 25 percent tax credit it awards filmmakers, Stinson said. New Hampshire, though it offers no tax incentives, has other perks that filmmakers would value just as much as, if not more than, Massachusetts’ tax credit, he said, but most filmmakers never take the

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Trigger House commercial shoot for HiSense using volume from Studio Lab in Derry. Photo courtesy of Studio Lab.

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time to research New Hampshire or never even consider New Hampshire as an option in the first place.

“They see ‘25 percent tax credit’ and that’s all they’re focused on,” Stinson said.

While filming *Knives Out* in Massachusetts, Stinson said, the crew stayed in a mansion for three weeks, costing them \$500,000. If they had been filming in New Hampshire, he said, he is “absolutely sure” they could have found a comparable mansion for between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

“By going to a cheaper location you’ve saved 50 percent more money than [you would have saved] with the 25 percent tax credit in Massachusetts,” Stinson said, adding that lodging in New Hampshire usually costs 30 to 50 percent less than in Massachusetts.

Crews would also save money on permitting fees and on parking, which could cost up to \$3,000 or \$4,000 in Massachusetts, compared to between \$500 and \$1,000 in New Hampshire.

Massachusetts’ robust film office is also a major contributor to the success of its film industry, York said — and New Hampshire should take notes.

“With Massachusetts performing at the caliber that they are, it’s disappointing and, in my opinion, shortsighted,” York said, “for New Hampshire to forego a film office at this point.”

Banding together

According to Tim Messina, more than 100 people who work or have an interest in New Hampshire’s film industry have signed on to a grassroots effort to preserve the state film office in some capacity, including acclaimed documentary filmmaker and New Hampshire resident Ken Burns.

“If it does have to [merge with] another department, one of the best solutions would be to create a board of directors — people who are in the industry and understand it — that can help adminis-

trate what that [merge] would look like and how it’s going to function,” Tim Messina said.

Some members of the group have been volunteering their time and resources to improve the Film Bureau since before it was at risk of being eliminated.

Stinson, for example, has spent more than a year independently creating a visual database of filming locations in New Hampshire — a project normally shouldered by a state film office, he said.

“When a filmmaker is considering shooting in a state, they go to that state’s film office website to look at film location pictures, so having a location database is huge,” he said, “and if I have to do it on my own, I’m willing to do that.”

Northcott said the group has even gone so far as to offer to fund the film office themselves.

“There are a lot of people who are interested [in] and supportive of the Film Bureau,” he said. “I know we could raise the private funding easily.”

The Division of Travel and Tourism Development “gave no response and had no interest” in the proposition, Northcott said. (Reached shortly before press time, a spokesperson for the Division said they would need time to formulate a comment and couldn’t do so by press time.)

Tim Messina is also seeking the general public’s support in preserving the Film Bureau. On the Studio Labs website (studiolab.community/post/helpsavenhfilm), he outlined a four-point strategy that includes reaching out and advocating to the governor, the Senate Finance Committee, local senators and film and media organizations in the state. He urged advocates to explain how the issue affects them and include financial data about the film industry’s contribution to the state’s creative economy. 🍷

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133861

THE ROUNDUP

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

• **Group art show:** The New Hampshire Art Association presents its “Body of Work: Series I” exhibition, featuring artwork in a variety of media by eight local artists, online and in person at the NHAA’s Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth) now through May 2. NHAA holds several “Body of Work” exhibitions each year. “By exhibiting multiple works, the featured artists are able to present their overall artistic vision, sometimes difficult to do with one or two pieces,” the Association said in a press release. All works are for sale. Gallery hours are Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **Art for sale:** Studio 550 Art Center (550 Elm St., Manchester) will have a Spring Cleaning and Community Fundraiser from May 3 through May 8. There will be a variety of handmade items by local artists for sale, including bowls for \$15, with proceeds supporting Families in Transition – New Horizons’ efforts to end hunger and homelessness in the local

community. A \$1 pottery sale of abandoned workshop pottery will benefit Studio 550’s Clay for Kids Scholarship. Fundraiser hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday through Saturday, from noon to 7:30 p.m., and Wednesday, from 2 to 6 p.m. Call 232-5597 or visit info@550arts.com.

• **African fashion:** The Seacoast African American Cultural Center (located inside the Portsmouth Historical Society, 10 Middle St., Portsmouth) presents an exhibit, “Fashion Forward: Africana Style,” on view May 1 through Sept. 1. The exhibit showcases Black fashion and explores connections between African American and African design aesthetics from past to present. See photos from *Sapeurs: Ladies and Gentlemen of the Congo* by London-based photographer Tariq Zaidi; vintage African fashion pieces from 1930s Liberia reflecting influences of Islam and African American immigration; and more than a dozen contemporary fashion and fabric art pieces created or owned by African and African American women living and working on the Seacoast and throughout the East Coast. Gallery hours are Monday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; visitors must reserve a 45-minute time slot in advance. Walk-in guests will be accommodated as space permits. Tickets cost \$10 for the general public and \$5 for Historical Society members and are available through eventbrite.com. Call 430-6027 or visit saacc-nh.org.

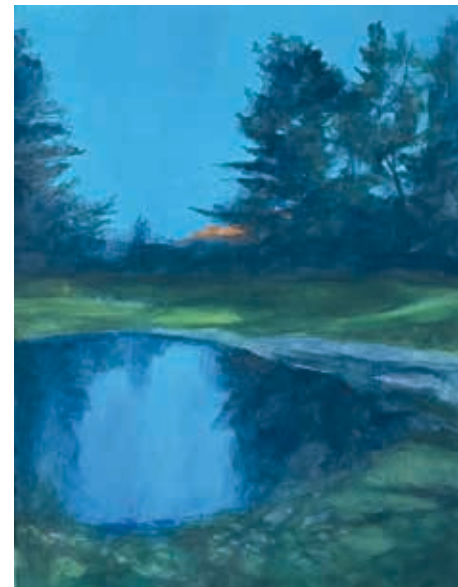


Studio 550 bowls. Courtesy photo.



“The Boundaries of Our Love,” oil painting by Brittany Soucy, featured in NHAA’s “Body of Work” exhibition. Courtesy photo.

• **Irish playwright showcase:** Manchester-based theater company Theatre Kapow continues its 13th season with a livestreamed production of *Room* April 30 through May 2, with showtimes on Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. The show features three stories by two Irish playwrights: *A Girl’s Bedroom* and *Room 303* by Enda Walsh and the American premiere of *I Used to Feel* by Ailís Ní Ríain. “What I love about *Room* is that, at the heart of it, the piece is really just about one character in a single room at one point in his or her life,” artistic director Matt Cahoon said in a press release. Tickets cost \$10 per streaming device. Ticket holders will be sent the link to watch the show. Visit tkapow.com. — *Angie Sykeny* 🍀



“Pastoral,” watercolor painting by Ellen Hopkins Fountain, featured in NHAA’s “Body of Work” exhibition. Courtesy photo.

Art

Call for Art

• **FIBER ART EXHIBIT** The Surface Design Association’s (SDA) New Hampshire Group invites New Hampshire fiber artists to submit work for its upcoming exhibit of fiber art and textiles, “Tension: Process in the Making.” Exhibit will run July 24 through Sept. 4 at Twigg’s Gallery (254 King St., Boscawen). Submission deadline is Fri., May 1. Visit twiggsgallery.wordpress.com or call 975-0015.

• **SUMMER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM** Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road, Canterbury) is accepting applications for its two-week summer residency. Open to visual artists of all media who are interested in creating art inspired by the architecture, landscape, traditional crafts, furniture, artistic endeavors and culture of the Shakers. Resident artists will live and work onsite at the village and talk with visitors about their creative process. To apply, email csvjuror@gmail.com with a bio or resume, an artist’s statement, a paragraph about why you’re

interested in the residency and what you hope to accomplish, and five images of your most recent artwork. Deadline is Fri., May 1. Call 783-9511 or visit shakers.org.

Exhibits

• **“BODY OF WORK: SERIES I”** New Hampshire Art Association presents an exhibition featuring artwork in a variety of media by eight local artists. On view now through May 2. Online and in person at the NHAA’s Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery, 136 State St., Portsmouth. All works are for sale. Gallery hours are Monday and Tuesday by appointment, Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **35TH ANNUAL OMER T. LASSONDE JURIED EXHIBITION** The New Hampshire Art Association presents a group art show featuring works in a variety of media by NHAA members and non-members. NHAA’s Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery (136 State St., Portsmouth). On view now

through May 30. Call 431-4230 and visit nhartassociation.org.

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

• **“THE BODY IN ART: FROM THE SPIRITUAL TO THE SENSUAL”** Exhibit provides a look at how artists through the ages have used the human body as a means of creative expression. On view now through Sept. 1. Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Museum admission tickets cost \$15, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, and must be booked online. Call 669-6144 or visit currier.org.

• **“CRITICAL CARTOGRAPHY”** Exhibit features immersive large-scale drawings by Larissa Fassler that reflect the Berlin-based artist’s observations of downtown Manchester while

she was an artist-in-residence at the Currier Museum in 2019. On view now through fall. Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Museum admission tickets cost \$15, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, and must be booked online. Call 669-6144 or visit currier.org.

• **GALLERY ART** A new collection of art by more than 20 area artists on display now in-person and online. Creative Ventures Gallery (411 Nashua St., Milford). Call 672-2500 or visit creativeventuresfineart.com.

• **“TOMIE DEPAOLA AT THE CURRIER”** Exhibition celebrates the illustrator’s life and legacy through a collection of his original drawings. On view now. Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Museum admission tickets cost \$15, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, and must be booked online. Call 669-6144 or visit currier.org.

• **“RETABLOS RECONSIDERED”** Exhibit features works by 12 artists inspired by retablos, the honorific art form of devotional paintings that relate to miraculous events. Twigg’s

Gallery (254 King St., Boscawen). On view now through June 6. Gallery hours are Thursday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Call 975-0015 or visit twiggsgallery.wordpress.com.

Special events

• **MAGNIFY VOICES EXPRESSIVE ARTS CELEBRATION** Youth artwork showcased to help raise awareness and decrease stigma of mental illness and affect change to ensure social and emotional health for all children in New Hampshire. May, date TBA. Visit tinyurl.com/magnifyvoices2021 or email magnifyvoices@gmail.com.

Theater

Shows

• **GODSPELL** The Seacoast Repertory Theatre presents. Virtual and in person at 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. Now through May 30. Visit seacoastrep.org or call 433-4472.

• **FUN HOME** The Seacoast Repertory Theatre presents. 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. Now through May 28. Visit [\[seacoastrep.org\]\(http://seacoastrep.org\) or call 433-4472.](http://seacoas-</p>
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• **COMEDY OUT OF THE BOX** The Hatbox Theatre (Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord). Sat., May 8, May 22 and June 5, and Thurs., June 24, 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$22 for adults, \$19 for members, seniors and students, and \$16 for senior members. Call 715-2315 or visit hatboxnh.com.

• **FAME JR.** The Seacoast Repertory Theatre PAPA Jr. presents. Virtual and in person at 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. May 5 through May 12. Visit seacoastrep.org or call 433-4472.

• **QUEEN CITY IMPROV** The Hatbox Theatre (Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord). Fri., May 7, May 21 and June 4, and Thurs., June 17, 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$22 for adults, \$19 for members, seniors and students, and \$16 for senior members. Call 715-2315 or visit hatboxnh.com.

• **42ND STREET** Recorded live in London. Virtual screening presented by Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord. May 12 through May 19. \$15 per ticket. Call 225-1111 or visit ccanh.com.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Spring allergy season

Which plants are making you sneeze

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

— THE — GARDENING — GUY —

If you suffer from spring allergies, this would be a good time to know what plants are affecting your comfort. Right now, many trees are dumping their pollen. Most trees are wind-pollinated and produce lots of pollen. They depend on the wind to move pollen around — and up your nose.

Although some trees and shrubs produce both male and female flowers, many are dioecious, meaning that male and female flowers are on separate plants. It is thus to their advantage to produce their (insignificant-looking) flowers and lots of pollen before the leaves get in the way. Which for me is right now. Showy flowers do not necessarily mean that trees like catalpa are low on the aggravation index (they are rated 8 of 10 on the index), but others like magnolias are lower. Both of those are pollinated by insects.

Of the trees, male poplars are among the worst — and in my area, they are just starting to bloom. Other culprits include willows, birches, oaks and some maples, but not all. If you are buying trees, look for trees that have separate male and female

plants (as opposed to both on one). Always buy the female specimen if you can, as it is the males that produce the pollen and cause the allergic reactions. Not all plant tags will tell you if the plant is male or female, but good nurseries may know.

Very popular in the landscape industry right now is the Hakuru nashiki willow. It has tri-colored (green, white and pink) leaves in June and is sold either as a multi-stemmed shrub or as a “standard.” Standards are created by grafting branches on the top of a straight, bare-of-branches stem that is generally about 4 feet tall. As far as I know, Hakuru nashiki willows are all female, so they do not create the pollen that a pussy willow produces.

Want a nice pussy willow? Not all are bad for the allergy-prone. It is worth consulting a book like Tom Ogren’s *Allergy-Free Gardening* that lists trees and flowers species by species (and often with cultivars) with their potential for making you miserable. Ogren’s book lists “Weeping Sally” as a pussy willow with the lowest rating for causing allergies, while the male forms of white willow are among the worst rated. Even so, many of the males are sold as named cultivars for decorative purposes.

Not all pollen is created equal. Each spring

I notice all the yellow pollen dropped on my car by pine trees. Pines produce huge amounts of pollen, but it is waxy and not very irritating to your nasal membranes. And it’s heavy, so it doesn’t fly far.

After the trees do their thing, along come the grasses. The seven worst offenders are introduced species of grass, including orchard grass, blue-grasses and timothy grass, which is commonly grown for animal feed. Grasses are wind-pollinated, and their pollen can float long distances. Your lawn should not be a problem so long as you never let the grass get tall enough to blossom. But fungal spores in the lawn can cause allergic reactions and can be stirred up by mowing, so if you get hay fever, you have a good excuse to get your spouse or kid to do the mowing.

Flowers with flashy form generally are not significant allergy-producers. Tulips, delphinium and peonies are obviously trying to get attention. They are the flirts — and insect-pollinated. Others such as hostas are among those least likely to cause an allergic reaction.

According to Lucy Huntington in her book *Creating a Low-Allergen Garden*, members of the daisy family have flowers that are insect-pollinated, but their pollen is highly allergenic to most sufferers. Chrysanthemums, asters, marigolds and zinnias can bother folks with allergies.



Catalpa blossoms are showy and insect-pollinated but still can cause hay fever. Courtesy photo.

I suppose that is particularly the case if you enjoy sniffing their scents. She also suggests avoiding geraniums (*Pelargonium* hybrids), strawflowers, dahlia hybrids, foxglove, sunflowers, nicotiana and cosmos.

Huntington’s book is full of lists and suggestions for low-allergen plants. Here are some of her suggestions for plants suitable for people with pollen allergies:

Annuals: Snapdragons, petunias, annual phlox, scarlet sage, purple salvia, pansies, bacopa, California poppies, nasturtiums and verbena

Perennials: columbine, astilbe, bellflowers, bleeding heart, delphinium, daylilies, Siberian iris, peonies, oriental poppies, penstemon, garden phlox, Jacob’s ladder, hollyhocks, alliums, globe flower, lady’s mantle, coral bells, catnip, hosta, foamflower and periwinkle.

The good news is this: Pollen is generally released in the morning, and by evening much of it has settled down, so evening should be a better time to garden. And rain knocks the pollen out of the air, so run outside and pull weeds after a nice downpour. You don’t have to cut down the culprits, and wearing a Covid mask will help if pollen is really bugging you!

Henry is a gardening consultant and the author of four gardening books. Reach him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net. 🍷

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

So Khaotic

New comic book store opens in Dover

Sadie Burgess
listings@hippopress.com

Jason Lindahl bought his first comic book when he was 6 years old. More than 40 years later, he still loves those brightly colored pages and has found a way to surround himself with them: by opening a comic book store in downtown Dover.

Khaotic Comics opened April 17, the location chosen because of the city's lack of comics.

"There's been a huge need for it in this area," he said. "People in the Dover area had to go to Rochester or Newington to buy comic books. ... I've got customers that used to take buses over to Newington because that was the only place they could get the stuff they wanted to read."

Lindahl believes that comic books have been and still are making a comeback.

"The industry is building up," he said. "There's more and more movies coming out. Comic books are becoming more and more popular."

The shop's name is inspired by the nature of comic book stores, with the purposeful misspelling adding to the meaning.

"When you look in a comic book store, it can look kind of chaotic," he said with a laugh.

Lindahl and his wife already have experience with owning and operating businesses: He runs a generator company and she runs a health care company. Still, opening a new business in these times was nerve-wracking, despite the field's growing popularity, Lindahl said. Between financial concerns, community interest and finding a location, there was no shortage of stress.

But so far, it's all been worth it. Opening day was met with great success.

"We had over 400 people show up at the store," Lindahl said. "My wife served over 200 [free] hot dogs to anybody that wanted them."

Lindahl hopes that Khaotic Comics can be a meaningful addition to the Dover community.

"I'd like to help out the library and youth groups," he said. "I can give them free comic books to help with education and reading."

The shop also plans to offer tabletop gaming, such as Pokemon and Dungeons & Dragons.

"Kids will have a place to come and hang out and relax and be in a safe environment," he said.

Khaotic Comics

Hours: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., 7 days a week

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More info: khaoticcomics.com



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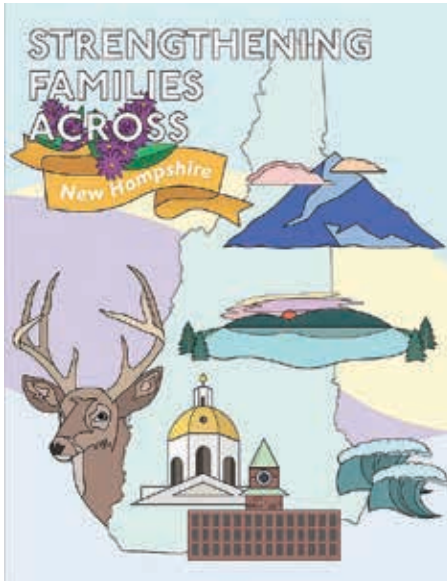
— POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

Animal fun

A traveling petting zoo and horse and pony rides will be part of the **Power of Angels Kitty Angels Fundraiser**, which takes place Saturday, May 1, and Sunday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Treasures, Antiques, Collectibles & More (106 Ponemah Road, Amherst, 672-2535, treasuresnh.com). The weekend will also feature artists and artisans, live entertainment, food vendors, flea market and yard sales and a raffle — and of course, adoptable kitties. Proceeds go to Kitty Angels, a no-kill cat shelter that rescues stray and abandoned cats and kittens, treats their injuries or health issues and then places them into new homes.

Explore the live animal exhibit trail, which features a new raptor exhibit, when **Squam Lakes Natural Science Center** (23 Science Center Road, Holderness, 968-7194) opens for the season on Saturday, May 1. The raptor complex includes nine raptor species in new aviaries, including a bald eagle and great horned owl. At another exhibit, children can imagine themselves as baby birds hatching out of giant eggs, and there's a new Songbird Feeding Station for visitors to observe wild birds that visit the Science Center. The Hidden Stories Exhibit, which opened in 2020, uses trail cameras to observe red fox, white-tailed deer, coyote and black bear. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, with the last trail admission in the 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. time slot. Trail admission is \$18 for adults and seniors (age 16+), \$13 for youth ages 3 to 15, and



New Hampshire Children's Trust is offering a free download of its Strengthening Families Across NH Activity Book. Courtesy image.

free to children 2 and younger. Tickets must be purchased in advance at nhnature.org. The center's Squam Lake Cruises, which feature lake wildlife, will begin in mid-May. Tickets are available online.

Family activity

New Hampshire Children's Trust is offering a free download of its **Strengthening Families Across NH Activity Book**, which is designed for young children and early adolescents and features activities like word searches, mazes, coloring pages and drawing pages, all with messages that promote things like resilience and positive relationships. New Hampshire Children's Trust works to prevent child abuse by strengthening families with basic supports, parenting education and more. Download the activity book at nhchildrenstrust.org/prevention. 🐾

TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

I have a set of clear Pyrex bowls that I got at a yard sale. I'm wondering if they have value to them, being a set of three. All are in really great unused condition. I have seen pattern Pyrex pieces for much more than I paid for these, so I am curious.



Linda

Dear Linda,

I think the set of bowls is sweet, and being Pyrex is a plus. But keep in mind Pyrex is still produced today. Many patterns have changed and there have been some different styles as well over time. The company started in Corning, N.Y., but now is in Pennsylvania. Can't think of any home that doesn't have a piece or several in it. The stuff was made to last, and that it did. I would say that values are in the patterns,

age, condition and rarity of production of pieces. So clear and common form at any age would be in the lower end of values. Not knowing what you paid I still think in today's secondary market the set of three would be in the range of \$25.

You can't buy a good set of bowls cheaper these days.

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

When it comes to headlights, safety outweighs cost



Dear Car Talk: My wife always drives with the headlights on; I do not. I try to tell her the lights only last so long, so use them just when you need them. Plus, with cars these days, you

By Ray Magliozzi

can't just pop out the lens, plug in a new bulb and pop the lens back on. She says that's ancient thinking, and that today's lights last far longer than they used to. It's been a while since high school auto shop, but help me out here. There is a week's worth of cooking and dishwashing riding on your answer. — Steve

Well, you're technically correct, Steve. A headlight only has so many hours in it.

But you can say the same thing about a seatbelt. Or the lightbulb you use to get down the stairs at night. And you wouldn't worry about the cost of using those things, would you?

Many studies have found a 5% to 10% reduction in head-on collisions when drivers use their daytime running lights during daylight hours. Presumably, headlights, being brighter, would be at least as effective, if not more.

So it's safer. The issue is, what's the cost? Well, there's a small cost in fuel economy, because there's no free energy. But it's tiny. Less than 1% for DRLs.

What about the bulbs? Typical halogen bulbs last in the neighborhood of 1,000 hours. So if you travel at an average of 40 mph and use your headlights all the time, you'll be replacing your bulbs every 40,000 miles or so.

For how much? About \$30 a bulb. So, if you drive 13,000 miles a year, that'll cost you \$60 every three years. Or, five cents a day. If you only use your lights at night, you'll spend about half of that, two and a half cents a day.

But if your wife gets into a head-on collision because her lights are off, the co-pay for the emergency room visit will be hundreds if not thousands of dollars. And your car insurance won't cover the full replacement cost, so add another \$5,000 there. And then, for however many weeks or months it takes your poor wife to recuperate, you'll be doing all the cooking and dishwashing.

Even with more expensive HID headlights that some cars have (which cost a lot more but last a lot longer, too), I think the safety argument outweighs the cost.

So take the "L" here, and do your one

week of chores now. And be grateful you're able to make your wife safer for a few cents a day.

Dear Car Talk:

I have a 1999 Chevy Boat (aka Suburban). It has 158K miles on it, is in great condition and is now driven about 2,500 miles a year, tops. Three years ago, I transitioned to an electric Chevy Bolt for most of my driving but want to keep the Suburban.

It can't be sold for much, and oh how useful it is when I need to do a heavy chore or a twice a year road trip. Plus, if I sell it, someone will drive it a lot and pollute a ton with it.

My question is: How do I maintain my '99 beast for the next 20 years? Do I need to do some "special stuff" not on a list, like have the wheel bearings greased or differential fluid changed some time? Should I change the transmission fluid too? I change the oil myself and replaced the plugs at 100,000 miles.

I'm just feebly trying to save the planet. — Steve

The short answer is no, Steve. You don't need to do anything special. Your 2,500 miles a year — or a couple of hundred miles a month — is actually enough to keep things lubricated and moving. So I'm not concerned

about anything seizing up due to neglect or disuse.

I'd change the oil once a year or two, and I'd use a synthetic oil if you haven't done so already. And then continue to follow the maintenance schedule. Whatever it calls for, do it. I know it stopped in the book at 100,000 miles, but use your high school math skills to figure out the intervals and apply them to your current mileage. So, if the book calls for a new air filter at 60,000 miles, you'd do that at 120,000 and 180,000, too.

Of course, random things will go wrong with it, like they will with any old heap. Your fuel pump will croak. Your exhaust system will rot. But you'll just have to fix that stuff as it happens — like the rest of us jamokes.

My one piece of advice would be to have an actual mechanic look it over once a year, just to notice safety-related stuff you might not see. A mechanic can put it up on a lift and let you know if a wheel bearing is about to go, if your brake lines are rotting or if your fuel line is corroding.

And by putting it on the lift, he can also check its structural integrity. If he raises the lift and it goes right through the undercarriage and up through the floorboards, that's a sign it's time to say goodbye, Steve.

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ON THE JOB

FELIX ALVARADO, JR.

FOUNDER/DIRECTOR, STRAIGHT "A" ACADEMY

Felix Alvarado Jr., better known on the job as Mr. "A," is a professional educator and director of Straight "A" Academy, a college preparation education service in southern New Hampshire.

Q: Explain your job and what it entails.

January through April, my job is all about working directly with students, helping them improve their SAT and ACT prep scores. ... Then there's a period of time where I'm able to focus more on business and professional development, staying on top of the latest trends and what's new with the testing and college admissions process. ... Late summer through October is another big testing season, so I'm back to primarily working with students.

How long have you had this job?

I've been a professional educator for 35 years, but I started focusing on test prep and college admissions and launched Straight "A" Academy in 2008.

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

I started out in pre-med. ... After a couple of years at [college], I was doing a lot of soul-searching, and I took one of those skills tests, and it told me, 'teacher.' I looked at it and said, 'That resonates. ... That's what I've known all along.' ... I transitioned out of pre-med into education. ... I had been a classroom teacher for 20-some years when I decided to launch a tutoring center in Bedford. I ... started specializing in SAT and ACT test preparation, because there was a strong demand. ... I ended up getting enough business after that first year that I had to leave the classroom.

What kind of training did you need?

In terms of being a test prep or college admissions coach, there's not a specific certification

out there. The training that I found was most important to me as a test prep coach was ... my professional training in education in college, but beyond that, just experience [teaching] ... and learning how to ... read my students to find the best way to help them understand.



Felix Alvarado, Jr.

What is your typical at-work attire?

Business-casual to casual. I try not to be too formal with my students because one of my objectives is to make them feel comfortable.

How has your job changed over the last year?

Believe it or not, all the Covid [changes] have been seamless for me. I've been using platforms like Zoom to work with students around the world ... for many years. The biggest change for me is that I had to totally close down my physical office in Merrimack last year, and now all my work is done in cyberspace. ... I'm waiting to find the right time and place to reopen a physical office, but honestly, I don't know that I really need to, because ... I'm as effective in my Zoom room as I am in my office.

What do you wish you'd known at the beginning of your career?

I wish I had known about all of the opportunities in education other than just [being a] classroom teacher. ... I would have specialized [in college prep coaching] sooner.

What do you wish other people knew about your job?

I think some people have this feeling that tutors are [educators who] weren't good enough to be a classroom teacher, and that's obviously not fair or true. I wish people knew that tutoring is, in many ways, much more challenging. You have to be very skilled to do it well ... and you feel more pressure to help your student succeed when it's just you [one-on-one with] your student.

What was the first job you ever had?

The summer after seventh grade, I worked in a restaurant, busing tables, cleaning bathrooms and sometimes helping in the kitchen.

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

Specialize in one thing, and be the best you can be at that one thing. — Angie Sykeny

Five favorites

- Favorite book:** The Bible and *A Tale of Two Cities*.
- Favorite movie:** *The Man Who Knew Too Little*.
- Favorite music:** Handel's Water Music and, being Latino, I have to give a nod to salsa, merengue and bachata.
- Favorite food:** Mexican food.
- Favorite thing about NH:** The proximity to a wide array of activities.

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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Menus for moms:** Now is the time to make your plans to treat mom on her special day — visit hippopress.com for our annual **Mother’s Day listings**, which include details on local restaurants and function centers serving brunches and other specialty menus, with some available for socially distancing dining in and others for takeout. Mother’s Day is Sunday, May 9, so be sure to make those reservations or place those takeout orders soon. Be sure to check the websites or social media pages of participating restaurants for their most up-to-date availability, or call them directly.

• **Summer market returns:** The **Concord Farmers Market** will kick off its summer season on Saturday, May 1, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, on Capitol Street in Concord (near the Statehouse), president Wayne Hall confirmed. One of the first markets to resume operations outdoors this year, the Concord market features a variety of local vendors over the course of its season, selling everything from fresh fruits and vegetables to meat, eggs, baked goods, maple syrup, dog treats and personal care products. More vendors will likely join the market later this summer as certain produce reaches its peak harvesting season. The market will continue every Saturday, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, through October. Visit concordfarmersmarket.com or find them on Facebook @concordfarmersmarketnh.

• **Commemorative whiskeys:** The New Hampshire Liquor Commission has entered a multi-year partnership with Barton 1792 Distillery in Bardstown, Kentucky, to launch a series of single-barrel, cask-finished Thomas S. Moore Kentucky **straight bourbon whiskeys**, according to a press release. Limited quantities of the 86-proof whiskeys are currently available in sherry casks at select New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Outlet stores, to commemorate the Liquor Commission’s 86th anniversary. According to the release, the Liquor Commission and Barton 1792 Distillery will offer a new release each fall over the next four years leading up to its 90th anniversary, including an 87-proof merlot cask finish in 2021, an 88-proof pinot noir cask finish in 2022, an 89-proof cabernet sauvignon cask finish in 2023 and a 90-proof port cask finish in 2024. Visit liquorandwineoutlets.com to find a store selling them near you.

• **Sparkling sodas:** Salem limoncello producer Fabrizia Spirits has recently introduced a new line of **canned sparkling vodka sodas**, according to a press 24 ▶

FOOD

Tastes of the trucks

Food truck festival to roll into Hampstead

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

After a lost festival year for local food truckers in 2020, a new event will bring more than half a dozen of them to Hampstead this weekend. The inaugural “Hampstead Eats” food truck festival will be held outside Hampstead Congregational Church on Main Street on Saturday, May 1, also featuring a full afternoon schedule of live music and a food drive to support the New Hampshire Food Bank.

Event coordinator Roxanne McGaffigan said attendees ages 5 and up pay an admission fee to gain entry to the event, with food selections then priced per item. The festival is being held in part as a fundraiser for the renovation and upkeep of the town’s Congregational Church.

“People can bring their own blanket or bring a chair ... and hang out and listen to music, or go back to their car,” McGaffigan said. “We are following all of the CDC’s guidelines, so we are asking people to wear a mask or a face-covering when they’re not eating ... [and] we’ll also have hand sanitization stations.”

The trucks, McGaffigan said, will be diverse in their menu offerings. Each will be parked on the driveway just to the left of the church, with lots of open grass nearby for blankets and chairs.

For Christy and Nick Ortins of The Hungry Caterpillar, this will be their first food truck festival since launching their plant-based comfort concept last June. The couple’s original plan had been to secure bookings at festivals, but the pandemic caused them to pivot to contacting nearby business owners about potential parking spots. Their most prevalent location happens to be just a few miles away from the church, in the parking lot of Hampstead Health & Fitness.

Menu items from The Hungry Caterpil-

lar, Christy Ortins said, will likely include Buffalo cauliflower bites, hand-cut french fries, and a sandwich known as the “Patty Mayonnaise,” which features homemade breaded seitan with lettuce, tomato and a plant-based mayo.

“This is very new for us and very exciting,” she said of the festival. “We’ve done a few busy events, but we haven’t had a chance to do a festival yet where we’re with other food trucks.”

Another local vendor that will appear at the festival, Chef Koz’s Crescent City Kitchen, offers scratch-made Cajun, Creole and Caribbean-inspired items. Owner and longtime chef Chris “Koz” Kozlowski, who will likely serve options like fish tacos and chicken jambalaya, only just pulled the 22-foot mobile trailer out of its winter hibernation last week.

“I took my first summer off in 31 years of cooking last year,” Kozlowski said. “Then we got a call for an event on Labor Day weekend, and so we decided we can’t be bogged down forever.”

Kozlowski would go on to generate more sales in three months from September to November than almost two-thirds of the year in 2019. With the help of his wife, he also ran Koz’s Haute Box, a second smaller food trailer serving New England regional comfort foods, in the winter.

This season, he said, he expects the food



The “Patty Mayonnaise” sandwich, featuring homemade breaded seitan with lettuce, tomato and plant-based mayo, from The Hungry Caterpillar plant-based food truck. Photo by Matt Ingersoll.

truck to continue to be mostly a family affair.

“It’s going to be a different structure,” he said. “Most of the gigs we have booked right now are days my wife has off, and I’ve got two kids that help out too.”

Kona Ice, which offers multiple flavors of tropical-themed shaved ice, will be providing free cup upgrades for festival-goers who bring an item to donate to the New Hampshire Food Bank. McGaffigan said the Food Bank will be accepting donations of nonperishable items.

Featured live performances throughout the afternoon will include Let’s Play Music from noon to 2 p.m., followed by The Sons of the Solstice from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m., and Michael Wingate and Chris Cyrus of the band Slack Tide from 3:30 to 5 p.m. McGaffigan said church members and volunteers will also be selling flowers ahead of Mother’s Day. 🌸

“Hampstead Eats” food truck festival

When: Saturday, May 1, noon to 5 p.m.
Where: Hampstead Congregational Church, 61 Main St., Hampstead
Hours: \$5 admission fee for ages 5 and up (cash or check only); foods are priced per item
More info: Search “Hampstead Eats” on Facebook, or call the church office at 329-6985
Event is rain or shine. CDC social distancing guidelines will be observed.

Participating vendors

Boogalows Island BBQ (boogalowsbbq.com)
Chef Koz’s Crescent City Kitchen (find them on Facebook @crescentcitykitchennh)
Chubb’s Fries & Dough (find them on Facebook @eddiemencis)
The Hungry Caterpillar (find them on Facebook @thehungrycaterpillarnh)
Kona Ice (kona-ice.com)
The Traveling Foodie Cart (jrmcateringllc.com)
The Whoo(pie) Wagon (thewhoopiewagon.com)

FOOD

Brews and beyond

New craft beer shop opens in Hudson

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

Cousins Jay Parajuli and Bik Basnet love trying new kinds of craft beers and had often talked about how to turn that hobby into a business. Then one weekend last fall, Parajuli said, he was en route to another cousin’s home in Hudson when he noticed construc-

tion of the town’s new Flagstone Crossing retail plaza.

“We saw the ‘for lease’ sign ... and literally jumped into it right there,” he said. “I was working at a family business, a convenience store down in Massachusetts, and with Covid and everything it was tough to stay afloat. The overheads were high to maintain employees. ... So we got out of that business

and just kind of said this was the right time to get into something we like doing.”

Hudson Brews, which opened on April 16, is New Hampshire’s newest spot to get local and regional craft beers, ciders and hard seltzers, with a constantly rotating selection, Parajuli said, based on both seasonal supply and customer demand.

CONTINUED ON PG 23 ▶

The shop's interior is custom-built, featuring two sets of coolers near the front that are dedicated just to single-serve cans and bottles. Beer lovers who want to try single selections of more than one type of craft brew can also create their own custom four-pack carrier at a discount.

"I'm a buyer myself, and I will go to a store and try a four-pack if they don't have singles ... [but] I don't want to end up spending \$20 on something that I didn't like," Parajuli said. "So that was the concept. We put out singles of every possible thing that we have ... so that people can try it, and if they like it, then they'll go for the four-pack."

Past the single selections are dozens of additional offerings in an aisle running near the back of the shop. Most of the coolers are labeled by their state of origin — beers from New Hampshire and Massachusetts make up several of them, including ones from popular local breweries like Concord Craft Brewing, Henniker Brewing Co. and 603 Brewery in Londonderry, as well as harder-to-find selections like from Coos Brewing Co. in Colebrook. Beers from other New England states are available, and there are coolers designated for regional and international options, and craft ciders and seltzers. In addition to its many beers, Hudson Brews sells a limited selection of glassware, canned cocktails and energy drinks, as well



Photo by Matt Ingersoll.

as cigars and CBD products.

Parajuli said he's already had conversations with customers about what types of beers they want to see at the shop.

"We want to talk to people, [and] we want to get involved in the community," he said. "It's fantastic when you see people are happy that you have a product they are looking for."

Hudson Brews

Where: 6 Flagstone Drive, Unit C, Hudson

Hours: Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

More info: Find them on Facebook and Instagram @hudsonbrews, or call 417-5528



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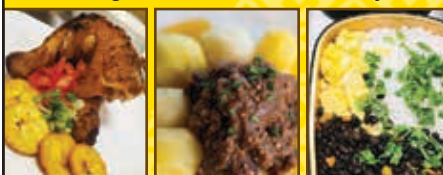
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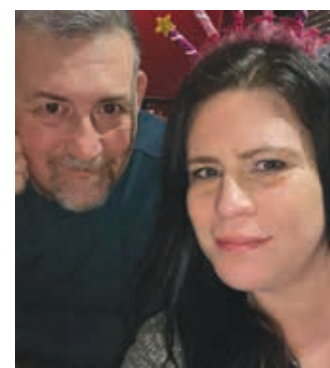


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IN THE KITCHEN

WITH JAMIE MANDRA



Jamie Mandra and her husband Randy are the owners of JRM Catering (509-9080, jrmcateringllc.com, and on Facebook @jrmcateringllc), also known as The Traveling Foodie, a mobile food cart based in Nashua. Their menu changes all the time but will often include comfort or Southern-inspired options — the Love in a Cup, for instance, is a layered barbecue meal featuring pulled pork, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, collard greens and cornbread all in one cup. Other featured items have been gourmet hot dogs and burgers, pulled pork sliders, macaroni and cheese and miniature doughnuts. The Traveling Foodie has several local public events booked for the month of May, including at the Hampstead Eats food truck festival on Saturday, May 1, from noon to 5 p.m., as well as Springlook Farm (112 Island Pond Road, Derry) on Saturday, May 15, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cart is also available to hire for private functions.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

A really good quality chef's knife. I could go without a lot of other things, but I have to have a good chef's knife.

What would you have for your last meal?

A spicy tuna roll from Fuji Asian Bistro in Naples, Florida. We used to live down there. The sushi is so fresh and authentic. It's out of this world!

What is your favorite local restaurant?

Bistro 603 [in Nashua]. The duck hash Benny with truffle fries is the way to go.

What celebrity would you like to see ordering something that you've made?

Julia Child. She is by far my biggest influence in the kitchen. I remember sitting in front of the TV as a child and it was like she was talking to me.

What is your favorite thing on your menu?

The Love in a Cup. It's by far the most popular ... [and] it's definitely a topic of conversation with people.

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

It's hard with Covid, but I think people are looking for fun, over-the-top, picture-worthy food. People look for that experience of being wowed when they're going out.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

Any type of soup. I love creating new flavors [and] using fresh local ingredients.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

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Tomato bisque with cheese tortellini

From the kitchen of Jamie Mandra

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup diced onions
- Pinch of salt
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 32-ounce container chicken broth
- 1 28-ounce can crushed San Marzano tomatoes
- ½ teaspoon paprika
- Pinch of freshly ground black pepper to taste
- Parmesan cheese to taste
- Pinch of cayenne pepper to taste
- Cheese tortellini
- ½ cup heavy whipping cream
- 2 Tablespoons thinly sliced fresh basil leaves, divided
- 2 Tablespoons heavy whipping cream, divided

Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Cook and stir onion with a pinch of salt until translucent (about 5 to 8 minutes). Stir in garlic and cook until fragrant (about 1 minute). Pour chicken broth and tomatoes into onion mixture. Bring to a simmer and season with paprika, black pepper and cayenne pepper. Blend soup with an immersion blender in the pot until smooth. Whisk ½ cup of cream into soup and adjust levels of salt, cayenne pepper, black pepper and sugar. If the soup is too thick, add more broth; if it's too thin, cook, stirring often, until reduced and slightly thickened (about 10 minutes). Add pre-cooked cheese tortellini. Ladle into warmed bowls, garnishing each bowl with a drizzle of cream and topping with about 1 teaspoon of chopped basil.

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 22

release. Available in three flavors — Sicilian lemon, blood orange and raspberry — each cocktail is 4.5 percent ABV and made with all-natural fruit juices, containing 100 calo-

ries and only one gram of sugar. They're sold in mixed eight-packs and are currently available in retail stores across several states, as well as online. Visit fabriziaspirits.com.



TRY THIS AT HOME

Banana pudding parfait

As you look at this recipe and its list of ingredients, you may think that it would be much simpler if boxed pudding mix were used. You would be correct. However, for the little effort required, homemade pudding is so much better. In fact, if you've never made homemade pudding, I'd suggest making a batch just to eat as is. Then come back and try this parfait.

What makes homemade pudding better? In my opinion the answer is everything. Homemade pudding has a slightly thicker consistency while still being incredibly creamy. The flavor of the pudding is better; it's full of vanilla flavor and sweetness without being overly so.

Once I've convinced you to make your own pudding, the rest of the recipe is simple. Slice bananas. Crush Nilla Wafers. Top with whipped cream. However, the combination of creamy pudding, tender bananas, and crunchy wafers is magical. It's a dessert that is nostalgic and comforting with every bite.

Don't worry if you don't own parfait dishes. Just find a narrow bowl, a rocks



Banana pudding parfait. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

glass or even a wine glass, and start assembling.

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.

Banana pudding parfait

Serves 4

- 2 large egg yolks
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 2 Tablespoons cornstarch
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups milk, 2% or whole
- 1 Tablespoon butter, softened
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 2 bananas
- 32 Nilla Wafers
- Whipped cream, optional

Place egg yolks in a medium-sized bowl and whisk gently; set aside. In a 2-quart saucepan, mix sugar, cornstarch and salt; gradually stir in milk. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture thickens and boils. Allow to boil for 1 minute, while stirring continuously. Gradually stir at least half of the hot mixture into the egg yolks, then stir this mixture

back into the hot mixture in saucepan. Boil and stir for 1 minute; remove from heat. Stir in butter and vanilla. Pour pudding into a medium-sized bowl. Cover with plastic wrap (making sure it is flat against the pudding) and refrigerate for about 1 hour or until chilled. Cut bananas into 1/2" rounds; cut each round in half to create half circles. Place wafers in a plastic bag, and break into smaller pieces. (Some should be crumb-sized and some should be bigger) Place a layer of banana slices in the bottom of 4 parfait glasses. Top each with an eighth of the pudding. Sprinkle with an eighth of the wafer crumbs. Repeat with layers of bananas, pudding and wafer crumbs. Serve with a topping of whipped cream, if desired.

Food & Drink
Farmers markets
 • **Concord Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, on Capitol Street in Concord (near the Statehouse), beginning May 1. Visit concordfarmersmarket.com.

• **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 milfordnhfarmersmarket.com.

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



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FOOD



DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

Mother's Day Cocktails

In my experience, it is unwise to make broad generalizations about any group of women, but that said, it's probably a good bet that this year, perhaps more than any other year, the moms of America could use a drink.

Let's look at two hypothetical mothers, Jasmine and Kimberly:

Jasmine is a divorced mom of two young children, ages 5 and 3. She works full-time but has been "lucky" enough to be able to work from home for the past year or so. She gets up at 5 each morning to try to get some work done before Bruno, the 5-year-old, wakes up and wants breakfast prepared to very exact specifications. Failure to meet these specifications will result in angry denunciations, which will wake Pearl, the 3-year-old.

Jasmine needs a drink.

She needs something refreshing that will give her a brief moment of calm and grace.

A brief moment of calm

Ingredients:

- 1½ ounces very cold vodka
- 1 ounce rhubarb syrup (see below)
- 1 ounce fresh squeezed lime juice
- 5 drops rose water
- 4 ounces aggressively bubbly seltzer, like Topo Chico Mineral Water

Shake all ingredients except the seltzer over ice until very cold.

Strain into a delicate 8-ounce glass.

Top with seltzer.

Admire, maybe take a picture, stir, then drink.

This is a light, not-too-boozy cocktail that tastes pretty much how it looks — pink. The rhubarb syrup gives the drink a decisively pink color that blends with the seltzer to give it an ombre coloring. The rhubarb is delicately sour. The lime juice is citrusy but not too sweet. The rose water remains in the background, hinting at exotic secrets.

Rhubarb syrup

Ingredients:

- Equal amounts (by weight) of frozen, chopped rhubarb and sugar
- Pinch of salt

(Note on the rhubarb: When you make syrup from any fruit — or rhubarb, in this case — frozen fruit works better than fresh. The freezing process creates ice crystals, which pierce the cell walls, making the fruit more apt to weep. That would be a drawback in an application where you wanted pristine, lovely fruit, but it is an asset in situations like this one.)

Combine rhubarb, sugar, and salt in a medium saucepan and cook over medium heat, until the rhubarb starts to give up its juice.

Mash the mixture with a potato masher.

Bring the mixture to a boil. Let it boil for 10 to 15 seconds, to ensure that the sugar has dissolved completely.

Remove from heat, cool, strain, bottle and label. Store in your refrigerator indefinitely.

Now, let's consider Kimberly:

Kimberly is married and the mother of a sulky teenager. All things considered, she and her husband Albert get along pretty well, but after a year of being locked in a house with him seven days a week, she is getting ready to smother him in his sleep. Elizabeth, 14, insists on being called Wynter Storm. She has recently graduated from telling Kimberly how stupid she is in general to making very specific observations of her shortcomings. She is also, apparently, a recent convert to veganism, although she still eats bacon and ice cream.

Kimberly needs a drink.

A classic boilermaker

Ingredients:

- 1 bottle of beer
- 1½ to 2 ounces bourbon

Fill a glass — pretty much any glass — ¾ of the way with beer. You might want to tilt the glass to minimize the head of foam on top, but maybe making a long, sudsy pour will feel a little like poking your finger in the eye of — well, somebody. You do you.

Fill a shot glass with bourbon.

Give the two glasses a steely-eyed stare.

Drop the shot glass full of bourbon into the beer

At this point I'd normally describe the subtle flavor notes of this cocktail to you, but if you're drinking a boilermaker you probably know what you're letting yourself in for. If you don't, consider this a well-deserved adventure.

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



A brief moment of calm. Photo by John Fladd.

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Bottle of red, bottle of white

Other wines to try at that Italian restaurant

by Fred Matuszewski
food@hippopress.com

“A bottle of red, a bottle of white; It all depends on your appetite; I’ll meet you anytime you want; In our Italian restaurant.” — Billy Joel, “Scenes from an Italian Restaurant”

Beginning as a melancholy tune, this song quickly accelerates into an exchange between friends or classmates on the short relationship of Brenda and Eddie. It then decelerates to a quiet end, with one of the two remarking, “I’ll meet you anytime you want / In our Italian restaurant.” It is a long song reflecting a comfortable conversation between those friends.

Italian culture is not only rich in history, food and wine; it is a culture of familiarity. We all look fondly back to our individual introductions to Italian culture with robust, red-sauced pasta. Italian food has become an American comfort food, enjoyed with friends and families over long conversations, perhaps about Brenda and Eddie. Therefore, isn’t it odd that when we think of Italian cuisine, only a few wines immediately come to mind: Chianti, pinot grigio, prosecco? There is a lot more to savor! In this column we will explore wines of two regions: Abruzzo and Molise. Lying east of Rome, beyond the Apennines, and along the coast of the Adriatic Sea, these two regions offer up wines of a special nature.

Our first wine, **Umani Ronchi Vellodoro Terre di Chieti Pecorino IGT** (available at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets at \$11.99), is a white wine from Abruzzo. This wine is made from 100 percent pecorino grapes, also known as “grape of the sheep,” deriving from its strong connection to sheep farming of the area. In the past, because of its high aroma concentration, good alcoholic content and acidic quality, it was used in blending to improve the quality of wines made from other varieties. This wine is a product of a project originating in 2005 and represents the winery’s work to discover and exploit Adriatic native varieties. The grapes are hand-picked and, after a light pressing, cooled in stainless steel tanks for two weeks. The wine does not undergo malolactic fermentation but rests in the stainless steel tanks for about four months in contact with its own yeasts before bottling.

The wine has a bright straw color with a floral nose of fresh lime blossoms, along with a bit of minerality. The nose persists to the tongue with an intense and pleasant



freshness. This is a wine to be enjoyed with fish dishes, fresh cheeses, pasta, and legume soups of lentils, peas, bacon and onion. Served chilled it is a great counterpoint to the broad spectrum of these dishes, both delicate and robust.

Our second wine, **Di Majo Norante Sangiovese San Giorgio** (originally priced at \$14.99, reduced to \$12.99 at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets), is, as its name implies, a 100 percent sangiovese from Molise. Until 1963 this region was joined to Abruzzo under the name of Abruzzi e Molise. Like Abruzzo, most of the country is mountainous, with its province of Campobasso running along its southern tier traversing from mountains to hills and on to the Adriatic Sea. The winery, Di Majo Norante, located in the coastal commune of Campomarino, has been making wine from grapes since 1800. The vineyard, of over 200 acres, produces wine from several varieties, including aglianico montepulciano, sangiovese, tintilia, falanghina, greco and moscato.

This sangiovese is harvested in October, aged in stainless steel and large oak barrels for six months, then spends three months in bottles to achieve a smoothness and softness while preserving the fruit-forward characteristic of sangiovese. The wine has a bright red color and a nose of cherry, Mediterranean herbs and leather. To the palate it is dry and mellow with smooth tannins. This is a wine to pair with antipasti, Bolognese sauces, game and ripe cheeses.

These wines are to be enjoyed with family and friends, over long conversations of reminiscences of shared experiences.

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

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CDs pg28

• Subterranean
Masquerade, *Mountain
Fever* B

• Poppy, “Eat” A+

BOOKS pg29

• *Effortless* B

• **Book Notes**

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

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

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

FILM pg30

• *Mortal Kombat* C

Subterranean Masquerade, *Mountain Fever* (Sensory Records)

As you’d guess by a band name like Subterranean Masquerade, we have an oddball foreign act on tap here. It’s the fourth full-length from an Israel-based seven-piece billed as a progressive metal band with world overtones, all of which is true, a straightforward power-metal thingamajig with Middle Eastern plug-ins. The Spinal Tap-ish shtick I expected didn’t run too late, but that’s not necessarily to infer that your average metal-head wouldn’t be into this, particularly anyone who thinks of bands like Bury Your Dead as high art,

or digs, on the swirling sandstorm front, Dracovallis. It’s not opera-metal for sure, either, although I can tell these guys would love it to be; no, it’s more po-faced, think ’80s Michael Schenker Group with (take a wild guess) Serj Tankian as its sensei. Like any metal album, I’m sure that if you cranked this to physically dangerous levels, it, you know, probably cranks, and I didn’t detect anything stolen from Scorpions or any of those other old bands, so who knows, you might like it.

B — *Eric W. Saeger*

Poppy, “Eat” (as yet unreleased)



Doing something different here, adding a little hype to a pile that’s fast building around this Boston-based singer, whose performance of this up-till-now-unreleased single was about the only thing indicative of a pulse at the last Grammys. The 24-year-old YouTuber is further (unnecessary) proof that we’ve entered a new, post-Gaga era of rock stardom, one that revolves around not just making cool songs and videos but also engaging directly with audiences on a daily basis by being, well, absolutely demented. Fans at home can

play too, because as you know, nowadays, the concept of DIY isn’t just for bands with a few dollars with which to rent a studio but for basically anybody to become whatever they want. This song isn’t as remarkable as a few of her earlier tunes (go watch the video for “I Disagree” if you want to hear a cross between older Nine Inch Nails, Meshuggah and riot-grrrl-on-crazy-juice), but it does stick with her genre-squishing mission statement. It’s an undeniably accessible but hellaciously heavy noise-whirlwind, like KMFDM jamming with (spoiler) Meshuggah (she obviously loooves those guys). The only thing surprising is that it took so long for something like this to bust out of the gate. A+ — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Well would you look at that, guys, the new-release list for April 30 actually has interesting stuff on it, not just a bunch of refried hacky nonsense that makes me want to become a hardened day-drinker. I know that very few people reading this know a lot about indie bands, but Atlanta-based **Manchester Orchestra** is one you might want to look into, unless you are a typical hipster who only indulges in really bad, smelly junk like Pavement or Versus or whatever. The caveat, though, is that I haven’t listened to a new Manchester Orchestra song in something like five years, so for all I know *The Million Masks Of God* is going to be one of the worst listening experiences a human could have, and so we’ll get this out of the way first, so that if it makes me barf I’ll have time to recover. So I’m checking out “Bedhead,” the new single, and nope, thou shalt not barf, because it is like what you’d hear if Trent Reznor teamed up with someone like Front Line Assembly to do a soundtrack piece for *Stranger Things*. It has a buzzy noise-rock side but also a veneer of classic ’80s-technopop, with goofy synths that sound kind of neat. The singer still has that Conor Oberst throat-lozenge sound, which has always been cool. I don’t know if they meant to go goth-pop, but that’s what this is really. It’s OK!

• Oh, no, it’s **Guided by Voices** again, with another freakin’ album, just because it’s a month that doesn’t end with a “J” or whatever rule bandleader Robert Pollard goes by. I mean, we’ve talked about him before, how he puts out albums all the time, and here I am again, getting suckered into giving him some press love only because I forgot that he doesn’t deserve any. But it’s those things you forget, you know? Like, every time I swipe through the Netflix releases I actually stop to read the description for *I Am Not Okay With This* and then quickly remember it’s stupid and I’ll never watch it (Netflix really needs to add an option to remove stupid movies from lists to save people some time) (OK, if they’ve already done that and I just don’t know it yet, I applaud your genius-level technical acumen and urge you to apply to NASA to help them build better space shuttles). Oh, where were we. Yes, *Earth Man Blues*, album number eleventy trillion from this stupid band. One of Pollard’s million new songs is “Trust Them Now.” Spoiler, it’s boring, like Ramones but with a singer who was in some ’60s psychedelic band, and (double spoiler) it doesn’t have a hook. Would y’all groovy trippy cats like to shag now, or shag later, my God I hate this band.

• Yow, my little Zippys, looky there, it’s Boston-sports-affiliated Irish-oi band **Dropkick Murphys**, with their new “slab,” called *Turn Up That Dial!* You bet your shamrocks there’s a new single, to lure you in, and it’s called... wait, I can’t repeat the title in a family newspaper, so how about the other song, “Middle Finger!” Will there be penny-whistles and Titanic-lower-deck accordions and mentions of Bobby Orr? Yup, same old thing, sea-shanty kazoo or whatever at the beginning, then some thrash-punk. At least they’re consistent (burp).

• OK, let’s end this miserable exercise with Scottish sludge-emo band **Teenage Fanclub**, whose new album *Endless Arcade* will have “Used — Like New” prices on Amazon in like a week. The single, “Home,” is wimpy strummy twee-pop, not grunge-indie or whatever. My faith is deeply shaken, folks. — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

Retro Playlist

It was 10 years ago this week in this very space when I felt it necessary to explain why I wasn’t going to write a proper review of the then-new **Gorillaz** album, *The Fall*. I forget what my problem was, but either way, that virtual band has never done it for me, nor have any of their skinny-jeans cohorts, you know, **MGMT**, **Modest Mouse** and whatever. For some idiotic reason, most of the guys in **The Clash** guested on that record, but nevertheless, a lot of critics didn’t like it. I saved us all some time: “I’ve heard the samples, and my instincts tell me that downloading the other 45 minutes of it ‘to get the full



effect’ will yield disappointment.” Disclaimer that I don’t — and you should be well aware of this by now — hate everything that came out in the Aught-10s, but oddly enough, that was when I became an adamant, immovable 1930s/1940s big-band fan. Yes, rock ‘n’ roll had become *that* messed up and worthless. For the most part.

But there was some joy in Mudville that so-long-ago week. *Undeveloped*, a darkwave/techno-goth album from **Skinny Puppy** frontman **Ohgr**, was on the docket, so I ranted spastically about how awesome it was (“Nitwitz is my favoritest song ever, for today”), not that that meant it was perfect. Even with long-

time **Skinny Puppy** engineer **Mark Walk** helping out, there was some weirdness that was too much, specifically in “Crash,” a denouncement of U.S. health care (the actual 911 call that came in when Michael Jackson died).

Magnetic Man, the dubstep all-star team of **Benga**, **Skream** and **Artwork**, were also in the process of releasing their self-titled debut that week. It was way cool and deserved better than the C+ grade I slapped on it, but as a techno work, yeah, there were some bothersome things. Overall, it came across as “a term paper for Ableton Hipness 101,” boasting only one legitimate club-slammer (“I Need Air”).



Consisting of “**Salem**-style haunted house, drum-n-bass, **Justice** hard-glitch and euro-club orchestrations in a manner less consistent with melodic appropriateness than with decorum,” it apparently bothered me then a lot more than it does now. Oopsy daisy.

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 🍷

Effortless, by Greg McKeown (Currency, 256 pages)

In some ways, Boxer the horse is a symbol for the American worker. One of the most memorable characters in George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, Boxer was the loyal draft horse whose response to any setback was "I will work harder." In a country steeped in the Puritan work ethic, where the typical two weeks of vacation pales in comparison with Europe's generous holidays, it's hard to not admire Boxer's attitude, even knowing how it turns out for him.

Hard work is good, right? It demonstrates commitment, perseverance, toughness.

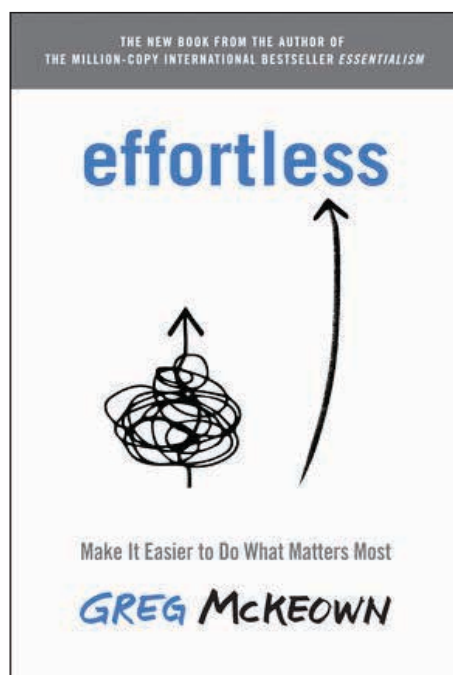
Wrong, says Greg McKeown in *Effortless*, the followup to his *Essentialism*, published in 2014. Emulating Boxer gets you sent to the slaughterhouse, essentially. The better way to work is to find a way to do it more easily, not in the Tim Ferriss pie-in-the-sky model of working four hours a week (as if) but changing the long-running soundtrack that informs the belief that the harder we work, the luckier we get.

McKeown believes that this mindset creates a fog that obscures a truth: that in those moments that we actually feel inspired, when the work seems to flow, as if poured from heaven, what we are doing is not hard, but feels effortless. This is the essence of what Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi wrote about in *Flow* in 1991 — and who hasn't heard the platitude "work smarter, not harder"? But McKeown's take on the subject feels fresh and relevant. And interestingly, he begins by admitting to a failure of his previous book.

In *Essentialism*, McKeown argues that we suffer from the misuse of the word "priority," which used to mean the singular thing that matters but has been pulled and stretched into "priorities," which shouldn't exist. Running around tending to priorities, as if they were errant chickens, means that the essential stuff of life doesn't get done. To be effective, he said, we must ruthlessly cull "the trivial many from the vital few" and, intentionally and guiltlessly, build a life around them.

But as McKeown built a career as the leader of Essentialism, he realized, from what other people told him and what he saw in his own family life, that some people can peel away all the unessentials and still have too much to do. In short, for most of us, there are multiple priorities, multiple essentials. Struggling with that, he realized that people in this situation can either let priorities slide or find a way to make everything easier and take less time. He recommends the latter. And in keeping with the Effortless theme, they're not hard to do.

McKeown believes that the transition from Boxer to Secretariat (the analogy is mine — Secretariat made everything look easy) begins with understanding the tired old template of platitudes like "It won't be easy but it's worth it" and replacing it with a new



mantra: How can I make this task easy and sometimes even fun?

Sometimes, answers appear when we just take the time to think about the question. But McKeown has devised a series of exercises to help people make progress on their essential goals with relative ease. For example, he says that one thing that slows people down is that they don't take time to think about what it looks like when a project, goal or idea is actually done; instead, they spend all their time thinking about the beginning and only vaguely seeing a nebulous end. Define what "done" means at the start and the steps leading there will be easier, he says. Another idea is to set goals that are malleable — low-end daily targets that represent the minimum amount of action you can take and still feel that there is momentum, high-end targets that are more ambitious but limited enough to protect you from burnout. Part of the "effortless" mindset, McKeown writes, is protective. Hard workers can sabotage themselves into paralysis by overthinking or working to exhaustion, thus needing extra time to recover and losing momentum. The effortless way is not so we can lie in hammocks in Thailand with Tim Ferriss, but so we can do our best work.

If this all sounds a bit like "work smarter, not harder," well, it is. But McKeown is an engaging writer who peppers his own experience with research and anecdotes of achievement, from how Elon Musk got into rocket science to why Reed Hastings started Netflix. He gets extra points for never using anonymous people with only first names, like so many authors of business and self-help books do when telling anecdotes, leaving the reader to wonder if the people really exist at all. If there's anything to criticize, it's that the writing of this book seems a bit too effortless; at 217 pages of new material, it feels short, and including an excerpt from *Essentialism* at the end feels like padding. Was that really essential? **B** — Jennifer Graham 🍷

BOOK NOTES

A few months ago, The New York Times reported that an editor at Hachette Book Group, one of the "big five" in publishing, had been fired. The editor, Kate Hartson, headed up Center Street, the conservative imprint within Hachette, and she said she'd been fired over politics. Apparently, she was open to books from Trump supporters and associates, and according to the Times, the big five are resistant to MAGA authors and themes.

This could explain why conservative media companies, sensing a profit to be made, have quietly started publishing books. Both Fox News and Newsmax have started publishing arms, respectively Fox News Books and Humanix.

You've probably never heard of Humanix, and most of its titles look pretty obscure and/or peculiar, but Fox, which launched its imprint in November, has already a splash. Its first book, *Modern Warriors: Real Stories from Real Heroes* by Pete Hegseth, made the bestseller lists at the end of last year.

The second book, *The Women of the Bible Speak*, by Shannon Bream, has been No. 1 on the Times bestseller list under "advice, how-to and miscellaneous" for three weeks.

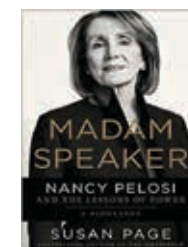
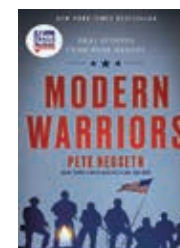
But the real surprise in conservative publishing has to be how well former Speaker of the House John Boehner's book is performing. In *On the House, A Washington Memoir* (St. Martin's, 288 pages) Boehner promises a story of how a "regular guy" went from working in a bar to "holding a pretty big job," and says that Congress didn't change him: "I walked out of the Capitol the same jackass I was when I walked in 25 years earlier." In early reviews, it looks like a slash-and-burn, which may be why it's doing so well.

Released April 13, Boehner's memoir was No. 1 in nonfiction last week but now has competition.

Susan Page's *Madam Speaker: Nancy Pelosi and the Lessons of Power* (Twelve, 448 pages) seems like a conflict of interest for the author, given that she is the Washington bureau chief for USA Today, but it's getting good reviews.

Interestingly, the Washington Post review notes that Pelosi felt slighted because Time magazine never put her on the cover during her first term as speaker but put Boehner on the cover shortly after the 2010 midterms. Booting him off the best-seller list would probably help resolve some of that sting.

— Jennifer Graham



Books

Author events

• **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 themusic-hall.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 or call 836-6600.

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

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

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

• **BELKNAP MILL** Online. Monthly. Last Wednesday, 6 p.m. Based in Laconia. Email bookclub@belknapmill.org.

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

Language

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Poetry

• **JENNIFER MILITELLO** Poet presents her newest volume of verse, *The Pact*. Hosted by Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. Virtual, via Zoom. Thurs., April 29, 7 p.m. Registration required. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com or call 224-0562.

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

Mortal Kombat (R)

A rag-tag group of would-be champions must come together to protect Earth in *Mortal Kombat*, a movie based on the video game franchise.

My *Mortal Kombat* experience is limited to occasional exposure to whatever version was floating around for home consoles and in arcades in the early to mid 1990s, but I think I was still able to roughly get the gist: There's our world (Earthrealm) and a more magic-y place (Outworld), and Outworld is poised to conquer Earthrealm if it wins the next *Mortal Kombat* tournament. Earthrealm is protected by superpowers-having wise-elder-type Raiden (Tadanobu Asano); Outworld is ruled by Shang Tsung (Chin Han). Shang Tsung has a bunch of experienced fighters who are well-schooled in all the *Mortal Kombat* lore; Earth's champions are all at varying degrees of knowing-about/believing-in this stuff and have an identifying dragon mark.

Which is where regular-seeming human Cole Young (Lewis Tan) comes in. He has the dragon mark but just thinks of it as a birthmark. Luckily, while he may not start out as an Earth-protecting champion with superpowers, he is



Mortal Kombat

an MMA fighter, so he isn't completely defenseless when bad-guy warrior Sub Zero (Joe Taslim) appears to "finish him" as part of Shang Tsung's plan to kill all of Earth's champions before the tournament.

Eventually we get the Earth-gang together: Cole, Jax (Mehcad Brooks), Sonya Blade (Jessica McNamee), Liu Kang (Ludi Lin), Kung Lao (Max Huang) and, because this kind of movie always needs quips and lugheaded aggression,

Kano (Josh Lawson). There's fighting, there's superpower-acquiring, there are some rules to the whole realm balance-of-power situation that I never really understood, and there is a centuries-old hatred between Sub Zero, who used to be called Bi-Han, and Hanzo Hasashi (Hiroyuki Sanada), who is an ancestor of Cole's.

Hanzo Hasashi's story is one of many details (like the whole *Mortal Kombat* tournament itself) that feel like half-

baked bits of lore included here to do some of the world-building that you need if your movie is the first in a franchise, which is what it feels like this movie is supposed to be. I feel like slicing the movie down to its core elements — Earth warriors learning to fight Outworld warriors — would have made for a more enjoyable lightweight fantasy-tinged martial arts-based action movie. (Lightweight but gory; this movie is very 1990s-video-game in its gore.)

I am not the audience for *Mortal Kombat* but I did basically want to like it, the way I want to like any movie that looks like it could offer fun action silliness. While it had its moments, it just doesn't live up to even that standard of *Godzilla vs. Kong*-esque popcorn entertainment.

C

*Rated R for strong bloody violence and language throughout, and some crude references, according to the MPA on [filmratings.com](https://www.filmratings.com). Directed by Simon McQuoid with a screenplay by Greg Russo and Dave Callaham, *Mortal Kombat* is an hour and 50 minutes long and distributed by New Line Cinema. It is available on HBO Max through May 23 and in theaters.* 🍷

AT THE SOFAPLEX

Stowaway (TV-MA)

Anna Kendrick, Daniel Dae Kim.

The four-person cast is rounded out by Toni Collette and Shamier Anderson in this movie about three astronauts headed to Mars. Zoe (Kendrick) is a doctor, David (Kim) is a scientist studying plant life and Marina (Collette) is the mission's commander. Twelve hours into the flight, they find the unconscious Michael (Anderson), an engineer whose last-minute check on equipment led him to be accidentally stuck on the spacecraft before liftoff. There is no turning back on this two-year mission, which means that Michael is now part of the crew.

I found myself waiting for this movie to reveal what it is *really* about — space vampires! space caper! — but it ultimately is about exactly what it appears to be about, in which case it presents some plot problems that make the whole endeavor feel a little shaky. Which is too bad because the basic idea of this movie (a small number of people stuck in space, some science-y stuff that allows you to keep the low-gravity-related special effects to a minimum) is a nice way to do low-budget space stories. There are decent performances all around but

nobody really gets the chance to build a fully realized character. C+ *Available on Netflix*

The World To Come (R)

Vanessa Kirby, Katherine Waterston.

Two women in 1850s rural New York, stuck in complicated marriages, find friendship and romance in each other in this bleakly pretty love story.

Abigail (Waterston) and her husband Dyer (Casey Affleck) joylessly churn through their days, still deep in grief from the death of their young daughter. Abigail keeps a record of the farm, which in her narration becomes a kind of poetry about their inner turmoil and increasingly distant relationship. Then she meets Tallie (Kirby), who moves to a nearby farm with her husband, Finney (Christopher Abbott), who seems disturbed and occasionally sadistic. The women seem instantly drawn to each other and fall beautifully in love even though they have little means by which to arrange their lives around this relationship that clearly makes both of them so happy.

Excellent performances and beautiful cinematography help make this story, which you know going in isn't going to end with, like, a run through the airport and a wedding proposal, lovely and swoony despite the constant air of impending doom. B+ *Available for rent.* 🍷



THE WINNER IS 'HUSAVIK'

The excellent, Oscar-nominated song from Will Ferrell's goofy but fun *Eurovision Song Contest: The Story of Fire Saga* didn't actually win the original song Oscar (that went to "Fight for You" from *Judas and the Black Messiah*) but the performance of the song in Husavik, Iceland, with Molly Sandén and sweater-wearing children singing in Icelandic was probably the standout element of last weekend's Oscar ceremonies for me and definitely the clip I'm going to rewatch the most.

That performance was aired during the official Oscar pre-show, which was optimistic and energetic and full of people who seemed delighted to be out in the world wearing nice clothes and talking to other humans. This vibe did not seem to carry through most of the ceremony itself, which often felt oddly lifeless despite having that much-hyped in-person gathering of people. While the ceremony featured some talk of movies past (Steven Yeun's story about watching *Terminator 2* was genuinely sweet), I was surprised by how little energy went into being excited about movies now, either for the nominated films (clips mixed in with discussion of craft would have been welcome) or upcoming films (I was happy to see trailers for *West Side Story*, *Summer of Soul* and, of course, *In the Heights*, which I have been hyped for since mid-2019). I had expected more in the vein of Frances McDormand's passionate plea to someday see these Oscar nominees in a theater.

A little more than half my predictions turned out to be correct this year (did anybody anywhere predict Anthony Hopkins for *The Father*?). Among the winners I hadn't expected, I was happy to see Emerald Fennell's Oscar for original screenplay (*Promising Young Woman*, available on VOD) and New Hampshire-connected *Sound of Metal*'s Oscars for film editing in addition to sound (see it on Amazon Prime Video).

The full list of nominees makes for a good line-up the next time you're looking for something to watch. I'd recommend starting with *Minari* (available to rent), best picture winner *Nomadland* (on Hulu and available to purchase) and *Sound of Metal* — and, of course, either the movie (on Netflix) or the Oscar clip of "Husavik." — Amy Diaz

THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Crafted tunes:** Enjoy an early evening set from **Nate Cozzolino**, a Providence-based singer-songwriter with ace guitar skills and an ethereal vocal delivery. Writer Vic Garbarini likened him to “early Van Morrison,” calling Cozzolino “one of the most promising artists working today.” In addition to his musical skills, he makes beautiful etched glasses, which are perfect for beverages on offer at this show. Thursday, April 29, 6:30 p.m., To Share Brewing Co., 720 Union St., Manchester, 836-6947.

• **Music machine:** A one-man band with rootsy sensibilities, **ODB Project** is the latest effort from Michael Dion, ex-Hot Day at the Zoo and currently in Daemon Chili. Dion loops together a wall of sound around an array of diverse material, from Frank Sinatra to the Dead and Cake, along with his originals. The tech doesn’t end there; the new RequestNow app lets audiences help him build a setlist in real time. Friday, April 30, 8 p.m., Penuche’s Ale House, 16 Bicentennial Square, Concord. See facebook.com/odbproject.

• **Rock al fresco:** Weather permitting, hard-rocking quartet **Crave** will take to the outdoor stage for a sunset show of covers from the heavy side of the songbook, from Volbeat’s “Hangman’s Body Count” to Breaking Benjamin, Seether, Stone Sour and Devour the Day, dressed in biker regalia with a banner of skulls behind them. Saturday, May 1, 6 p.m., The Bar Food & Spirits, 2B Burnham Road, Hudson, 943-5250.

• **Blues day:** A transplant from Nashville to New England, **Ms. Vee** is a blues, jazz, soul and occasional rock singer who has a lot of fun with the culture shock she’s experienced since moving here; her show offers both music and comedy. For her first post-pandemic appearance, the vocalist — real name Valyria Lewis — is joined by Lady Ro, part of a weekly series at the homey eatery. Reservations are recommended. Tuesday, May 4, 7:30 p.m., Madear’s Southern Eatery & Bakery, 141 Main St., Pembroke. See facebook.com/MsVeeSings.

NITE Do over

Married Iguana finally debuts in Manchester



Married Iguana. Courtesy photos.



By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

After a heady process of assembling a band, then working up and recording three original songs for a debut EP, Married Iguana was prepared for a big reveal at Jewel Music Venue in Manchester. Sadly for the nascent power trio, their debut gig was scheduled on March 14, 2020, the day after Covid-19 landed like an asteroid on the local music scene.

The group quarantined and waited for another chance to show their stuff to an audience. *The Rehearsal Dinner* did come out as planned, and it’s a treat. “EAYM” is a Primus meets Mothers of Invention romp, and “Farewell My Friend” echoes Rush as it rocks out with abandon.

Leading off the record, “Go With the Flow” chugs like a steady rolling party bus, but to Married Iguana guitarist, singer and principal songwriter Brett Higgins it’s also an ironic anthem for his band, which went from planning to play out to hunkering down.

A year later, the personnel has changed — the current lineup has Higgins, Ian Smith (Trichomes) on bass and drummer Tyrel Gagnon — along with the music. Punchy radio rockers are now stretched out more.

“We don’t want to call ourselves a jam

band,” Higgins said in a recent phone interview, “though Ian has a lot of that influence playing with his other group ... it’s a little more progressive rock.”

That said, the way Higgins described his songwriting process is jammy enough.

“Me doodling around at home is basically how every one of our tunes starts,” he said. “I have my strainer of songs. I’ll be working on something and I have to think if it’s special enough to sell those guys. It’s almost like I’m auditioning for my own group.”

Higgins formed Married Iguana to counteract playing in cover bands like Darrah and Channel 3.

“I’ve always written my own songs on the sidelines, and finally got to the point where it was time to start applying myself,” he said, and began recruiting on Facebook.

Smith responded immediately with an offer to hang out and jam.

“There was no real idea,” Higgins said. “I had a couple of songs floating around right at the get-go, and I started showing them. We just noodled around a lot and Ian really latched onto a couple of the riffs. We’ve been getting together ever since, and that was it.”

Early on, the band was a four-piece, with a second guitarist. A few different drummers also came and went before Gag-

non joined. He and Higgins have played in different bands together for over a dozen years.

“He’s been my go-to guy for a long time,” Higgins said. “He’ll get sick of me and he’ll skip out and then he’ll find a way to come back, or I’ll beg him enough and he ends up coming back in.”

On May 4, the band will finally make its hometown debut at Jewel.

“It’s a makeup gig,” Higgins said with a laugh, adding they’re fired up to finally play a set with over an hour of original music for a hometown crowd — though there are more than a few nerves at play.

“I just hope that people will have fun and will really accept us; we’re still kind of unsure what to expect,” he said. “We’re not the run-of-the-mill band from around the area. We’ve got a unique sense about us, a lot of energy in the music. It changes and twists and turns a lot, and I just hope that people will enjoy it, have fun and come see us.”

Married Iguana w/ The Humans Being and What Has Science Done?

When: Tuesday, May 4, 9 p.m.

Where: Jewel Music Venue, 61 Canal St., Manchester

Tickets: \$10 at the door, masks required for entry

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MUSIC THIS WEEK

Auburn Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road 622-6564	Concord Craft Brewing 117 Storrs St. 856-7625	Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225	Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954	Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022	Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St. 625-4444	Stella Blu 70 E. Pearl St. 578-5557	The Stately Bar & Grill 238 Deer St. 431-4357
Auburn Tavern 346 Hooksett Road 587-2057	Hermanos Mexicana 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669	Exeter Sawbelly Brewing 156 Epping Road 583-5080	WHYM Craft Pub & Brewery 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801	Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210	Strange Brew 88 Market St. 666-4292	New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362	Thirsty Moose Tap-house 21 Congress St. 427-8645
Bedford Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677	Penuche's Ale House 16 Bicentennial Square 228-9833	Sea Dog Brewery 9 Water St.	Hudson The Bar 2B Burnham Road	Manchester Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545	Meredith Hart's Turkey Farm 223 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-6212	Newmarket Stone Church 5 Granite St. 659-7700	Rochester 110 Grill 136 Marketplace Blvd. 948-1270
T-Bones 169 S. River Road 623-7699	T-Bones 404 S. Main St. 715-1999	Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230	Luk's Bar & Grill 142 Lowell Road 889-9900	Bonfire 950 Elm St. 663-7678	Merrimack Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022	Pittsfield Main Street Grill & Bar 32 Main St. 435-0005	Mitchell Hill BBQ Grill & Brew 50 N. Main St. 332-2537
Bow Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508	Deerfield The Lazy Lion 4 North Road	Hampton Community Oven 845 Lafayette Road 601-6311	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962	CJ's 782 S. Willow St. 627-8600	Milford The Pasta Loft 241 Union Square 672-2270	Plaistow The Crow's Nest 181 Plaistow Road	Porter's Pub 19 Hanson St. 330-1964
Brookline The Alamo Texas Barbecue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000	Derry T-Bones 39 Crystal Ave. 434-3200	CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972	Laconia 405 Pub & Grill 405 Union St.	Cercle National Club 550 Rockland Ave. 623-8243	Nashua American Social Club 166 Daniel Webster Hwy. 255-8272	Portsmouth Clipper Tavern 75 Pleasant St. 501-0109	Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway 458-2033
Chichester Flannel Tavern 345 Suncook Valley Road 406-1196	Dover SmuttLabs 47 Washington St. 343-1782	The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928	Fratello's 799 Union Ave. 528-2022	Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880	Fratello's Italian Grille 194 Main St. 889-2022	The Gas Light 64 Market St. 430-9122	T-Bones 311 South Broadway 893-3444
Concord Area 23 State Street 881-9060	Epping The Community Oven 24 Calef Hwy. 734-4543	Sea Ketch 127 Ocean Blvd. 926-0324	High Octane Saloon 1072 Watson Road 527-8116	The Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925	Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St. 644-3535	The Striker 15 Bow St. 431-5222	Seabrook Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706
Cheers 17 Depot St. 228-0180	Popovers at Brickyard Square 11 Brickyard Square 734-4724	Shane's BBQ 61 High St. 601-7091	T-Bones 1182 Union Ave. 528-7800	Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022	Penuche's Music Hall 1087 Elm St. 932-2868	Gibb's Garage Bar 3612 Lafayette Rd.	Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road 760-0030

Thursday, April 29

Brookline Alamo: Matt Borrello, 4:30 p.m.	Goffstown Village Trestle: Eddie Sands, 6 p.m.	Meredith Hart's: Game Time Trivia, 7 p.m.	Seabrook Red's: Everlovin' Rosie, 7 p.m.	WHYM: Steve Haidaichuck, 5:30 p.m.	Meredith Twin Barns: Jeff Mitchell, 5 p.m.
Concord Cheers: Eric Grant, 6 p.m. Hermanos: Brian Booth, 6:30 & 8 p.m.	Hampton CR's: Rico Barr Duo, 6 p.m.	Merrimack Homestead: Jessica Olson, 5:30 p.m.	Brookline Alamo: Tequila Jim, 4:30 p.m.	Hudson The Bar: Mitch Pelkey Luk's: Justin Jordan, 6:30 p.m.	Merrimack Homestead: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.
Dover SmuttLabs: trivia, 6 p.m.	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon: karaoke with DJ Jason Whitney, 7 p.m.	Nashua Fratello's: Jae Mannion, 5:30 p.m.	Concord Cheers: team trivia, 8:30 p.m. Penuche's: ODB, 8 p.m.	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon: Cory Malm, 7 p.m.	Milford The Pasta Loft: April Cushman, 8 p.m.
Epping Telly's: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.	Londonderry Stumble Inn: Corinna Savlen, 7 p.m.	New Boston Molly's: Chad Verbeck, 6:30 p.m.	Deerfield Lazy Lion: Chris Torrey, 5 p.m.	Londonderry Coach Stop: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m. Stumble Inn: Munk Duane, 8 p.m.	Nashua Fratello's: Malcolm Salls, 5:30 p.m.
Exeter Sawbelly: Max Sullivan and Derek Thompkins, 5 p.m. Sea Dog: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.	Manchester Fratello's: Chris Lester, 5:30 p.m. Murphy's: Chris Powers, 5:30 p.m.	Newmarket Stone Church: Blanco, 9 p.m.	Epping Popovers: John Irish, 5 p.m. Telly's: Johnny Angel, 8 p.m.	Manchester Backyard Brewery: Chris Lester, 6 p.m. Bonfire: Isaiah Bennett, 8 p.m. Derryfield: Alex Roy, 7:30 p.m. The Foundry: Tim Kierstead, 6 p.m. Fratello's: Jessica Olson, 5:30 p.m. Murphy's: Dave Bailin, 5 p.m.; Off the Record, 9:30 p.m. Strange Brew: Becca Myari	New Boston Molly's: Chad Verbeck, 6:30 p.m.
		Plaistow Crow's Nest: karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	Exeter Sawbelly: Elijah Clark, 5 p.m.		Newmarket Stone Church: Town Meeting, 6 p.m.
		Portsmouth Gibb's: Game Time Trivia, 8 p.m. The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.	Goffstown Village Trestle: Jeff Mrozek, 6 p.m.		Pittsfield Main Street Grill & Bar: Joe Pero, 6 p.m.
		Rochester Mitchell Hill BBQ: Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.	Hampton CR's: Don Severance, 6 p.m. The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m. Logan's Run: live music, 8 p.m. Wally's: Pat Dowling, 9 p.m.		Portsmouth Gas Light: Lewis Goodwin, 7:30 p.m.

Music plays on

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

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Gibb's Garage Bar: trivia, 8 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Grill 28: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Stevey Burke, 9 p.m.

Seabrook

Chop Shop: Fast Times ('80s tribute), 6 p.m.
Red's: Francoix Simard, 7 p.m.

Stratham

Tailgate Tavern: Alan Roux, 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 1

Bow

Chen Yang Li: Andrew Geano, 7 p.m.

Concord

Concord Craft Brewing: Josh Foster, 4 p.m.

Deerfield

Lazy Lion: Sweet Omotion, 5 p.m.

Epping

Telly's: Eric Grant, 8 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: John Irish, 1 p.m.; Abrielle Scharff, 5 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Tom Boisse, 6 p.m.

Hampton

The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Justin Jordan, 1 p.m.
Wally's: Fortune, 9 p.m.
WHYM: Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m.

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Jonny Friday, 7 p.m.

Laconia

405 Pub & Grill: Justin Cohn, 7 p.m.
High Octane Saloon: Deja Voodoo, 7 p.m.

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Joanie Ciatelli, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: The Offramps, 3 p.m.; Mugsy Duo, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Backyard Brewery: Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.
Bonfire: Maddi Ryan, 8 p.m.
Cercle National Club: April Cushman, 7:30 p.m.
Derryfield: Chad LaMarsh, 9 p.m.
The Foundry: Karen Grenier, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Paul Gormley, 5:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Everett Pendleton, 5 p.m.; Mo Bounce, 9:30 p.m.
South Side Tavern: Maven Jamz, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: David Rousseau

Merrimack

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

Nashua

Fratello's: Dave Zangri, 5:30 p.m.
Liquid Therapy: Andrew Emanuel, 3 p.m.
Millyard Brewery: Dan Carter, 4 p.m. (guitarist playing the favorites from the '70s-'00s)

New Boston

Molly's Tavern: Brother Seamus, 7:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Idlewild (a celebration of the Allman Brothers Band), 6 p.m.

Portsmouth

Gas Light: Dave Gerard, 2 p.m.; Alex Roy, 7:30 p.m.
The Goat: Dave Perlman, 9 p.m.
The Stacey Bar & Grill: 3 Man Band featuring Frank Crivello, 8 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Krystian Beal, 9 p.m.

Rochester

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

Seabrook

Chop Shop: Whammer Jammer, 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 2

Bedford

Copper Door: Phil Jakes, 11 a.m.

Chicester

Flannel Tavern: Joe Pero, 4 p.m.

Concord

Cheers: Pete Peterson, 5 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Blues & Brews with Alan Roux, noon; Dub Boat, 3 p.m.

Goffstown

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

Hampton

CR's: Steve Swartz, 4 p.m.
WHYM: Clint Lapointe, 1 p.m.

Hudson

The Bar: Nicole Knox Murphy, 2 p.m.

Kingston

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

Manchester

Murphy's: Abrielle Scharff, noon; J-Lo, 5:30 p.m.
Strange Brew: jam

Nashua

Stella Blu: The Incidentals, 3 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Dis-N-Dat, 3 p.m.

Portsmouth

Gas Light: Austin McCarthy, 12:30 p.m.; Matt Luneau, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Salem

Copper Door: Yvonne Aubert, 11 a.m.

Monday, May 3

Manchester

Fratello's: Phil Jakes, 5:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Dave Bailin, 5:30 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua

Fratello's: Clint Lapointe, 5:30 p.m.

Plaistow

The Crow's Nest: trivia, 8 p.m.

Portsmouth

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

Seabrook

Red's: trivia with DJ Zati, 9 p.m.

Tuesday, May 4

Hampton

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

Manchester

Fratello's: Ryan Williamson, 5:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Laura Suarez, 5:30 p.m.
South Side Tavern: Jonny Friday, 8 p.m.

Merrimack

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

Nashua

Fratello's: Justin Jordan, 5:30 p.m.
Peddler's Daughter: trivia, 8:30 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

Stratham

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

Wednesday, May 5

Concord

Area 23: open mic, 6:25 p.m.

Dover

SmuttLabs: Max Sullivan open mic, 6 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Michael Wingate, 5 p.m.

Hampton

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

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Kingston

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

Manchester

Fratello's: Clint Lapointe, 5:30 p.m.

Murphy's: Pete Massa, 5:30 p.m.

Merrimack

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

Nashua

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

Polish American Club: Nicole Knox Murphy, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Rochester

Mitchell Hill BBQ: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.

Thursday, May 6

Bedford

Copper Door: Paul Lussier, 6 p.m.

Concord

Cheers: April Cushman, 6 p.m.
T-Bones: Malcolm Salls, 6 p.m.

Derry

T-Bones: Joanie Cicatelli, 6 p.m.

Epping

Telly's: Austin McCarthy, 7 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Van Taylor, 5 p.m.
Sea Dog: David Corson, 5 p.m.

Hampton

CR's: Clandestine, 6 p.m.
Wally's: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.

Hudson

T-Bones: Jae Mannion, 6 p.m.

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Karaoke with DJ Jason, 7 p.m.

Laconia

T-Bones: Paul Warnick, 6 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Cactus Jack's: Corinna Savlen, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Ted Solo, 5:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Chuck A Duo, 5:30 p.m.

Meredith

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

Merrimack

Homestead: Ryan Williamson, 5:30 p.m.

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Concerts

Venues

Bank of NH Stage in Concord
16 S. Main St., Concord
225-1111, banknhstage.com

Capitol Center for the Arts

44 S. Main St., Concord
225-1111, ccanh.com

Dana Center

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

Palace Theatre

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

Stone Church

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

Tupelo Music Hall

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

Shows

• 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

• Foreigners Journey Saturday, May 1, and Sunday, May 2, at 1 & 4 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

• Idlewild (A Celebration of the Allman Brothers) Saturday, May 1, 6 p.m., Stone Church

• Concord Coalition to End Homelessness Talent Show Saturday, May 17 p.m., Bank of NH Stage in Concord

• Aardvark Jazz Orchestra Saturday, May 1, 7:30 p.m., Dana Center

• Truffle Friday, May 7, 6 p.m., Tupelo

• Broken Arrow (Neil Young tribute) Saturday, May 8, 1 & 4 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

• Jorma Kaukonen Sunday, May 9, 1 & 4 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Venues

Chunky's

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

The Strand

20 Third St., Dover, 343-1899, thestrandover.com

Hatbox Theatre

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

Friday, April 30, or Saturday, May 1, 8 p.m.

• Christine Hurley
Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, May 1, 8 p.m.

• Kenny Rogerson
Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, May 8, 8 p.m.

• Comedy night with Rob Steen and Johnny Pizzi
The Strand, Saturday, May 8, 7 p.m.

• Queen City Improv
Hatbox Theatre, Thursday, May 13, 7:30 p.m.

• Steve Sweeney
Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, May 15, 8 p.m.

• Comedy Out of the Box
Hatbox Theatre, Thursday, May 20, 7:30 p.m.

Film

Movie screenings, movie-themed happenings & virtual events

The Music Hall

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

Red River Theatres

11 S. Main St., Concord
224-4600, redrivetheatres.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* as well as the Oscar short film nominees (available by category and in a package with all 15 movies in three categories). See the ever-changing lineup on the website.

• *The Great Escape* (1963) starring Steve McQueen, James Garner and Richard Attenborough, will screen Saturday, May 1, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre.

• *Entangled* (2020) documentary will screen Saturday, May 1, at 7 p.m. at The Music Hall.

• *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* (1916) silent film with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, screens Sunday, May 9, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre. Admission is free but a \$10 donation is suggested.



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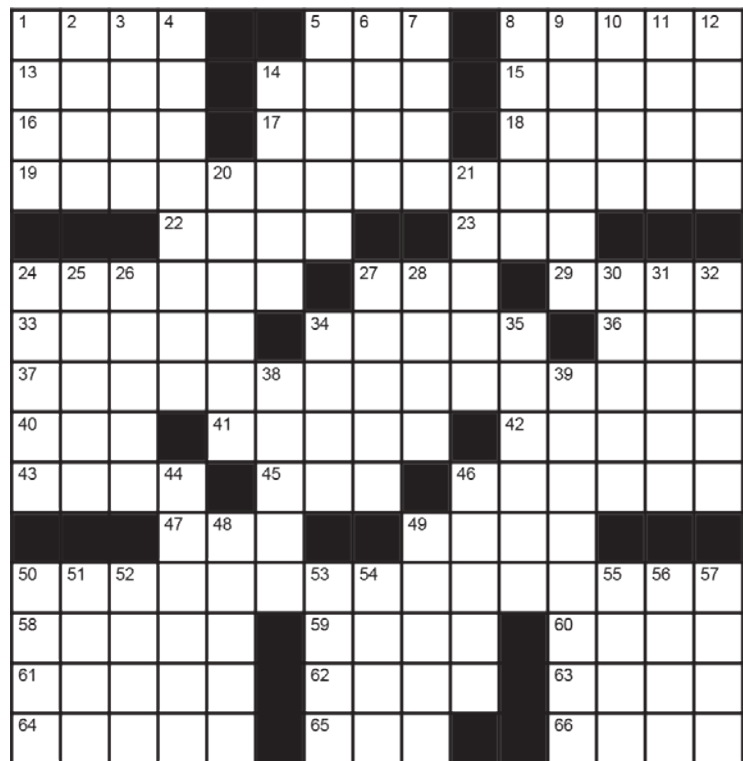
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THIS IS WHAT YOU'LL GET



65. Guster said 'I ___' with my little eye...

66. Bryan Duncan 'You Can ___ On Me'

Down

1. 1981's 'Star' Dee
2. Elvis Presley 'Yoga ___ Yoga Does' (2,2)
3. 80s 'I Like It' singer
4. Robert Plant's '82 debut 'Pictures ___' (2,6)
5. 'This Is My Truth Tell Me Yours' ___ Street Preachers
6. Choir voice
7. Like light on Broadway
8. Singing sweetheart the song you wrote for them will do this
9. Like tensions James Brown calmed on 4/5/68
10. Circularly-challenged Annihilator song 'Liquid ___'
11. '99 New Radicals song 'Someday ___ Know'
12. Influential Canadian pop punkers The ___
14. Cat Stevens 'The First ___ The Deepest' (3,2)

Across

1. Radiohead's '00 'Everything In Its Right Place' album (3,1)
5. Allman Bros 'Ramblin' ___'
8. Royal ___ Revue
13. Huey Lewis 'If This ___' (2,2)
14. Tulsa sound trailblazer JJ
15. Van Morrison '___ Told You Lately' (4,1)
16. Old school rapper Big Daddy ___
17. Devildriver 'Bear Witness ___'
18. Catherine put in '___ To Entropy' (1,4)
19. '01 Guided By Voices album (9,6)
22. Guitarist Clapton
23. "I wish I was special, but ___ creep" (2,1)
24. Scott of Judas Priest
27. 80s 'Sugar Tax' synth-band (abbr)
29. Crash Test Dummies 'Oooh ___!' (2,2)
33. Danzig said his girl was on a Harley because 'She ___'
34. The O'Jays started a 'Love ___'
36. Guitarist Steve that went up against Ralph Macchio in Crossroads
37. "___, I just want to bang on the drum all day" (1,4,4,2,4)
40. OK Go '1000 Miles ___ Hour'
41. What abusive guards can cause (1,4)
42. 'Crush' Jennifer
43. What angels did, during killer show
45. 'An Awesome Wave' ___-J
46. '73 Wings album '___ The Run' (4,2)
47. Pop Will ___ Itself
49. 'Control' Puddle Of ___
50. Kiss' re-titled Crystals classic off 'Love Gun' (4,3,6,2)
58. Like "old fashioned" rock that's back

59. Dropout Year '___ Friends For Never'
60. Sheryl Crow thinks 'Every Day Is A Winding' one
61. The Glitch Mob 'How To Be ___ By A Woman'
62. Air 'Alpha ___ Gaga'
63. 'Aerie Faerie Nonsense' band
64. Mika will tape over your song or do this

30. Bypass security or do this altogether
31. "Sailing away to Key ___"
32. American Idol Clay
34. Loggins & Messina 'Long ___ Cat'
35. Simple Plan '___, No Helmets... Just Balls' (2,4)
38. '09 Lamb Of God album about anger?
39. Mumford & Sons hopped a train as a 'Hopeless ___'
44. Styles
46. Rapper Trevor Smith or ___ Rhymes
48. 'Imagine' lyrics: "And the world will be ___" (2,3)
49. Led Zep '___ Mountain Hop'
50. Radiohead might climb a 'Fake Plastic' one
51. "Do you ___ me, do you care??" Missing Persons
52. 'Trust In Me' soul/jazz singer James
53. What career does with the flows
54. Pink Floyd hates silence so told us to '___ Talking'
55. Radiohead "And it's too late, the damage is ___"
56. Ebay seller will put your CD in this
57. Legendary twangy guitarist Duane

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THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

3-		1-	
12x		2÷	
5+	3-		3
	2	3-	

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CHALLENGING

10x		4	3÷		10+
11+	40x			5-	
	4	3+	2-		
3	18x			2÷	
5+			11+		7+
	36x			4	

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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

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

4	2÷	18x	3	5
4	1	2	6	3
8+	4	11+	6	1
3	4	5	2	1
12+	5	3	4	1
6	5	1	2	4
12x	6	5	1	2
60x	3	7+	4	3
1	2	3	4	5
2÷	2	6	5	3
				1
				4

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four words ending with CH
- Three dwarf planets
- Three words ending with FF
- Florida attraction: Walt _____
- Two spa services

Last Week's Answers: SAPPHIRE DIAMOND EMERALD OPAL RUBY / COVE LAKE POND GULF / IRON LEAD GOLD / APPLE BIRCH PEACH / JAZZ ROCK

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

“Knowing the Angles” — when it’s all right

Across

- 1 Hummus scooper
- 5 Snarls, like traffic
- 11 Pistachio, e.g.
- 14 Counting Crows singer Duritz
- 15 Prompt
- 16 “Suits” aier
- 17 Item of Mario Bros. lore where you can see the angle in the NW corner
- 19 Dose, informally
- 20 Covered with grime
- 21 Hummus brand
- 23 Liam Neeson film franchise

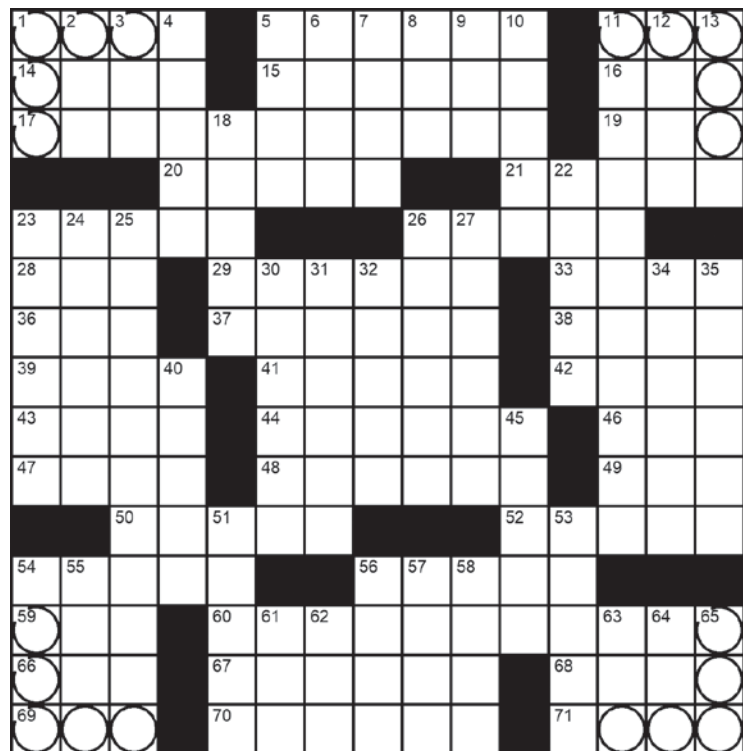
- 26 ___ folklórico (traditional Mexican dances)
- 28 Pol. entity that lasted from 962 to 1806
- 29 “That was my best effort”
- 33 Country singer Paisley
- 36 Frigid
- 37 “My kingdom for ___!” (Richard III)
- 38 Mount in Greek myth
- 39 Apprehends
- 41 Sharp-toothed spur wheel
- 42 Lo ___ (Chinese noodles)
- 43 Just had a sense

- 44 Ab ___ (from the beginning)
- 46 ___ deferens
- 47 Level-headed
- 48 Optician’s wares
- 49 Part of the psyche
- 50 In the wee small hours of the morning
- 52 Nattered away
- 54 Slash on a bowling scoresheet
- 56 Dispatched, as the Jabberwock
- 59 Sculpture, paintings, etc.
- 60 Intro to a certain cipher that resembles the angle in the SE corner
- 66 Homer Simpson outburst
- 67 Ferret’s cousin
- 68 Word before ringer or tired
- 69 Music with confessional lyrics
- 70 “Interview With the Vampire” vampire
- 71 Birds with dark green eggs

- 3 “Que ___?” (“How’s it going?”)
- 4 Cause laughter
- 5 Like most restaurant orders, lately
- 6 “Put a sock ___!”
- 7 Website for craftwork
- 8 Word usually put in brackets
- 9 Actress Thurman
- 10 Drink with a red, white, and blue logo
- 11 On a calculator, it looks like the angle in the NE corner
- 12 Manufacturer’s target
- 13 Exclamation after a big finish
- 18 Region conquered by Alexander the Great
- 22 “The Five People You Meet in Heaven” author Mitch
- 23 Speculates
- 24 Tarot deck grouping
- 25 Where to find the letter that looks like the angle in the SW corner
- 26 Surrounds
- 27 Antarctic penguin
- 30 Adrenaline rush

- 31 Mara of “The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo”
- 32 Late “Crocodile Hunter” Steve
- 34 Cheese in some bagels
- 35 Ted of “Mr. Mayor”
- 40 Pinky ___
- 45 “Hamlet” courtier who oversees a duel
- 51 Push away
- 53 Pole on a battery
- 54 1993 hitmaker with “No Ordinary Love”
- 55 Dance with a lot of rentals
- 56 Roasting stick
- 57 “Girls” creator Dunham
- 58 Perform without ___
- 61 Vexation
- 62 Ball club VIPs
- 63 On the left, for short
- 64 It might be free at a French restaurant
- 65 Mobile game interruptions

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Down

- 1 Dog’s foot
- 2 William McKinley’s First Lady

R&R answer from pg 35 of 4/22



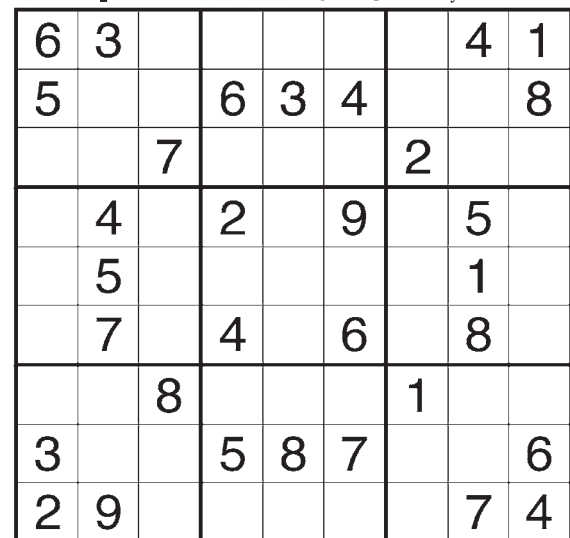
Jonesin’ answer from pg 36 of 4/22



NITE SUDOKU

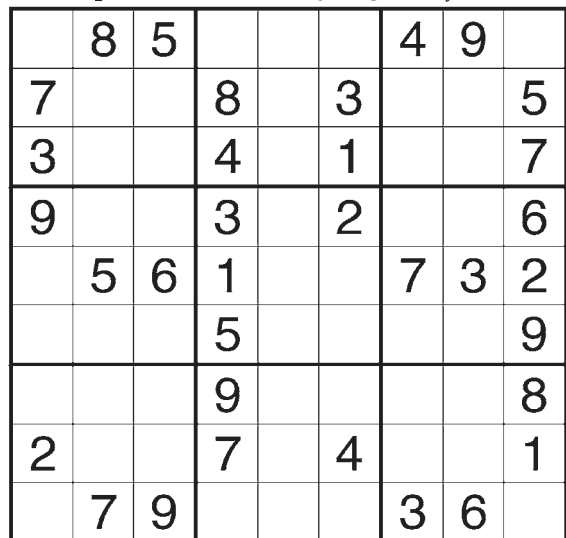
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week’s puzzle answers on pg 37.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A By Dave Green



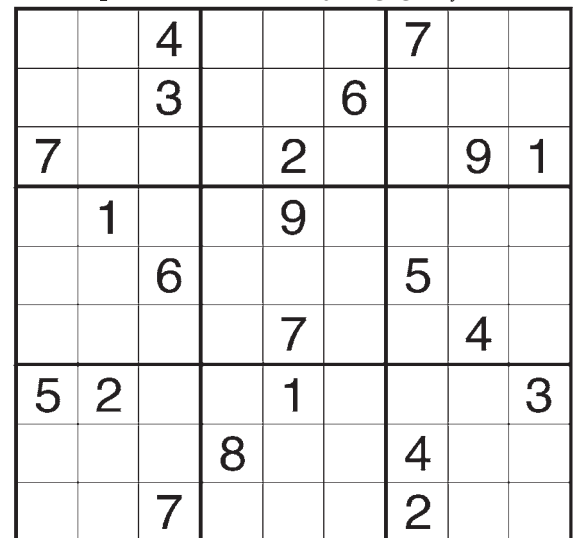
Difficulty Level ★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle B By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle C By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from Sam Heughan in *Clanlands: Whisky, Warfare, and a Scottish Adventure Like No Other*, by Sam Heughan, born April 30, 1980, and Graham McTavish.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) Both Graham and I share a very grand title, one we have fought over for years. He received it first but mine was obviously way better. We have both been Grand Marshal of the New York Tartan Day Parade. A grand title shall be bestowed upon you.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) With all the conflict, feuds, marginal farming, famine, disease and general hardships in those days, there were wolves as well! Even when there's plenty to deal with, you'll do great!

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) The more he panics, the better for TV, I thought. But maybe I was going too far. Avoid sensationalism.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) Perhaps Graham and I need to head to the Island of Discussion. It's a good place to go.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) Graham has taught me it's okay to sit in fourth gear (if you can find it) and enjoy the scenery. It's right there.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) I'm not really listening. I have reminiscing of my own to do because Glencoe was the first place I learned to ski on snow. Reminisce later. First, listen.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) I've learnt that writing is something I enjoy, although a great deal of practice is needed and it must be done regularly to retain the skill. Now is a time for practice.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) There is only one road to Glen Etive and the area is sparsely populated,

apart from the clans of belligerent sheep. Stay calm around belligerent sheep.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) If you're as serious about porridge as I am, I suggest you buy yourself a spurtle. Carpenters need hammers; porridge-makers need spurtles.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) Like eight-year-old boys, we gaze up, mesmerised. Having recreated the struggles, politics and battle scenes of the era in Outlander, seeing the Gentle Lochiel's sword really brings the history home. Bring it home!

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) We have run out of time and like the set of Jacobite glasses with the Latin inscription 'Redeat' (to comeback or reappear) we will, like their king, return. It's OK if you can't get it all done in one go.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) [Graham] is broken and alone. Until I turn up. Honking the un-macho horn on the wagon of despair. Honk your horn!

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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 heavy-duty (11)	_____
2 dilly-dally (8)	_____
3 Paddy Chayefsky screenplay (5)	_____
4 baby buggy (8)	_____
5 Cathy Rigby, say (7)	_____
6 play-by-play (10)	_____
7 "Toy Story" puppy (6)	_____

ST	HESI	GYMN	AL	AST
TA	IA	RR	MAR	BU
SUB	TE	GE	MEN	CA
ANTI	TARY	STER	TY	COM

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Sudoku Answers from pg36 of 4/22

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty Level ★

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

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Schemes

Police in Naples, Florida, are looking for a woman identified only as “Rosalia,” a self-described witch who is suspected of swindling more than \$100,000 from at least 10 victims. Authorities were first alerted to the scam on March 14 when a man called to report that Rosalia had disappeared with \$29,500 of his money, according to a police report. The man said he had responded to a flyer advertising Rosalia’s “witchcraft services,” WBBH-TV reported. She allegedly told the man she saw something “dark” in his future and gave him three eggs to put under his bed as he slept. When he brought them back the next day, she waved the eggs over his head and face, then opened them to reveal one filled with blood, one with needles and a third with worms, according to the report. She instructed the man to bring her all the money he had so she could bless it and multiply it at her temple in Fort Myers, promising to return it the next day, police said, but Rosalia hasn’t been seen since. Police have identified more victims in the course of their ongoing investigation.

Sign of the times

A family-owned patisserie in Veresegyhaz, Hungary, is offering its customers sweet relief from Covid-19 angst with colorful layered mousses, each topped with a decorative syringe. The Sulyan family’s special desserts are colored with jelly toppings representing

the different vaccinations available in Hungary: citrus yellow for AstraZeneca, darker yellow for Sinopharm, green for Pfizer, orange for Sputnik V and blue for Moderna, Reuters reported. “Anyone can try these,” said confectioner Katalin Benko, and “the only possible side effect would be a little smile on their face.”

Going out in style

Mourners at Phil McLean’s funeral in Wellington, New Zealand, first gasped, then laughed as his coffin, shaped like a giant cream doughnut, was brought into the chapel, the Associated Press reported on April 15. McLean had designed the special coffin with his cousin, Ross Hall, owner of Dying Art, a business in Auckland specializing in custom coffins. Over the last 15 years, Hall has fashioned a sailboat, a firetruck, a chocolate bar and Legos, among others. McLean’s widow, Debra, said her husband had considered himself a connoisseur of cream doughnuts, and the coffin “overshadowed the sadness. ... The final memory in everyone’s mind was of that doughnut and Phil’s sense of humor.” For himself, Hall said he had planned a red box with flames on it, but he changed his mind to a clear coffin, with him wearing nothing but a leopard-patterned G-string. “The kids say they’re not going,” he said.

People with issues

Edward and Cheryl Patton of Lake View,

New York, tried for three years to identify who was throwing used paper coffee cups, some with cigarette butts inside, on their front yard nearly every night, but they could never get a good look at the minivan as it drove by. Edward began keeping records of the littering and collecting the cups, eventually filling 10 garbage bags, reported The Buffalo News. They even installed a surveillance camera, but it wasn’t until neighbors set up a stakeout and captured the license plate number that the mystery was solved. On April 18, police set up their own stakeout and pulled over a former co-worker of Cheryl’s whom she had had disagreements with. He was charged with harassment and throwing refuse onto a roadway. The Pattons said the littering has stopped since his arrest.

Hobbies

Bearsun is the name Jesse Larios, 33, of Los Angeles gave to the teddy bear character he created in 2016 and fashioned into a human-sized Bearsun suit. On April 12, Larios decided to have a fun adventure walking from Los Angeles to San Francisco dressed as Bearsun, a journey of more than 400 miles. Mountain passes and road construction have made the trip slower than he expected, reported CNN Travel, and it’s no luxury excursion: Bearsun sleeps wherever he finds himself at the end of the day and gets food at gas stations. “I’m like a puppy, I guess,” Larios said. “I just see something and I chase after it.”

Mistaken identity

The Krakow (Poland) Society for the Protection of Animals responded on April 14 to a report that a suspected iguana was stuck in a lilac tree outside a residential building, only to discover a discarded croissant instead. “People don’t open windows because they’re afraid it’s going to enter their house,” the caller told the group. United Press International reported the animal rescue agency was forgiving. “It’s better to check and be pleasantly disappointed ... than not react, which can sometimes lead to a tragedy,” the group posted on its Facebook page.

Sightings

Detectives from the New Jersey State Park Police were dispatched on April 9 to a site in Wharton State Forest to examine a device found on the forest floor. The “UFO Detector Site” was determined to be safe by K-9 officer Prime, and officers had no trouble “disarming” the unit by unplugging headphone wires from the block of wood and soup can they were plugged into. It wasn’t clear who had left the object. On Facebook, park police noted, “Although humankind and the visitors to New Jersey’s state parks appreciate an extraterrestrial warning device like this, we should not be finding them in our state parks.”

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