

# the Hippo

MAY 6-12, 2021

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BERRIES P. 16

TRUFFLE AT TUPELO  
DRIVE-IN P. 31

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

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GRANITE VIEWS **ROBIN MILNES**

**Behind the masks**



My father passed away last summer during the midst of the pandemic in Illinois. I am so grateful I was able to be with him for much of the summer despite the challenges of Covid-19.

He was extremely hard of hearing, and he had been for several years. He was dead set against getting hearing aids. Any time this was discussed, he would politely inform us that he could hear everything he wanted to hear just fine. When I was sitting with him in the hospital, he kept telling me to take my mask off. "I can't hear you," he would say, even though I was doing my best to speak loudly and articulate clearly. I realized then how much he had been relying on lip reading for clues as to what we were saying.

I have always prided myself on having good communication skills and being able to read people's emotions well. Throw a pandemic in the mix where the world wears masks in public, and that changed relatively quickly. While I didn't need to read lips, I soon realized how much I relied on facial clues to gain a sense of what somebody was thinking. The smile, the frown, the clenched jaw, the pause, the "but I am about to interrupt you" look. All these things are a piece of a puzzle that is now hidden.

I have retrained myself to look in the eyes for clues. I can see the pain in my mother's eyes since my dad passed, and I am sure many days it is still evident in mine. I can see beautiful smiles in my grandchildren's eyes above their little masks when I see them. And on any given day I can see joy, frustration, amusement, annoyance and a whole variety of emotions in my 16-year-old son's eyes. I see anger in eyes now, and I see compassion. I see hurt, and I see understanding.

My mother says I have my dad's "snappy brown eyes," and she can always tell when I am mad. I didn't realize that, but I am so grateful that I do. While I can't wait for a time when it is safe to live our lives without masks, I will still be looking in people's eyes for a piece of the puzzle. I highly recommend you give it a try. Only then do you really get the full picture.

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

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Photo above and on the cover is of infielder Vinny Capra during a game in 2019, courtesy of the Fisher Cats.

**ON THE COVER**

**10 PLAY BALL!** The Fisher Cats opened their season on the road in Portland on May 4, and their home opener is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11. Find out what this year will be like at the stadium, which players to watch and why a revamped schedule means more fan-favorite match-ups.

**ALSO ON THE COVER**, why you don't have to wait until June to plant strawberries, p. 16. LaBelle Winery is opening its new location in Derry, with a restaurant, minigolf and more, p. 22. Michael Witthaus talks with the band Truffle, which will perform live at the Tupelo Drive-In, p. 31.

**INSIDE THIS WEEK**

- NEWS:**  
4 NEWS IN BRIEF  
6 Q&A  
7 SPORTS  
8 QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

- THE ARTS:**  
14 NEW POETRY  
15 ARTS ROUNDUP  
The latest arts news.

- INSIDE/OUTSIDE:**  
16 GARDENING GUY  
Henry Homeyer offers advice on your outdoors.  
17 KIDDIE POOL  
Fun for the family.  
17 TREASURE HUNT  
What's in your attic?  
18 CAR TALK  
Automotive advice.  
20 CAREER Q&A

- FOOD:**  
22 LABELLE WINERY DERRY Weekly Dish; In the Kitchen; Try This At Home; Beer.

- POP CULTURE:**  
26 BOOK, MUSIC AND FILM REVIEWS Amy Diaz has a good movie week with *The Mitchells vs. the Machines* and some action fun.

- NITE:**  
31 BANDS, CLUBS, NIGHTLIFE  
Truffle; Nite Roundup, Music This Week, concerts, comedy.  
35 MUSIC CROSSWORD  
Puzzle for the music-lover.

- ODDS & ENDS:**  
35 KENKEN, WORD ROUNDUP  
36 CROSSWORD  
36 SUDOKU  
37 SIGNS OF LIFE  
37 7 LITTLE WORDS  
38 NEWS OF THE WEIRD

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# NEWS & NOTES

## Covid-19 news

During the state's weekly public health update on April 29, state epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan reported that New Hampshire has averaged between 250 and 300 new infections per day over the previous week, numbers that continue to trend down. He later added that, as of April 29, New Hampshire has seen a total of 88 confirmed "breakthrough" infections of Covid-19, meaning those that occurred despite individuals being fully vaccinated. "The majority of these are not variants of concern," Dr. Chan said, adding that only seven of the 88 infections were with the B.1.1.7 variant. "Whether it's a variant of concern or not, we know that breakthrough infections can and do occur, but the vaccine continues to be important for limiting the burden of disease, preventing hospitalizations, preventing deaths and preventing asymptomatic infection."

Dr. Beth Daly, Chief of the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control of the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services, also provided an update on vaccine distributions in the state. As of April 29, roughly 50 percent of New Hampshire's population (about 687,000 people) has received at least one shot, while a third of the population (about 446,000 people) is

now fully vaccinated. An additional 4,500 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, which was recently recommended by the CDC and the FDA to resume administration, were allocated across three fixed sites in Concord, Nashua and Newington on May 2.

Later during the press conference, Gov. Chris Sununu announced that the "universal best practices" guidance documents for state businesses would be released that day, with the guidance itself going into effect May 7. "What we're really trying to do is keep it truly universal," he said. "We're just kind of re-emphasizing the most important parts of the guidance and mandates that we previously had in place. ... This is a bit of a reminder going into the long-term." Separate "overnight congregate settings for children" guidance documents have also been released, for businesses like overnight summer camps. Both sets of documents can be viewed online at covidguidance.nh.gov.

## Housing markets

New Hampshire has two of the top 10 emerging housing markets in the country, according to a study released last week by the Wall Street Journal and realtor.com. Concord and Manchester-Nashua ranked 8th and

9th, respectively. The new Emerging Housing Markets Index used housing market, economic vitality and quality of life metrics to determine its rankings for 300 of the largest metropolitan areas in the U.S., according to realtor.com. "Out of the top emerging 10 housing markets in the country, New Hampshire was the only state in the nation with two markets in the top 10," Gov. Chris Sununu said in a statement following the study's release. "With a superior quality of life, thousands of high-paying jobs, and no income or sales tax, it's no surprise people are looking to move to New Hampshire." According to realtor.com, the top 10 housing markets have strong demand and somewhat limited supply, and home prices are expected to continue rising; they've seen an appreciation of about 27 percent, on average, in the last year, compared to 14 percent across all markets.

## Job fairs

The State of New Hampshire is hosting 10 virtual job fairs between the first week in May and the first week that the work search requirement resumes, on May 23. Those collecting unemployment will need to show proof that they are searching for work while collecting benefits. "This return to our traditional, more normalized

**Bedford** residents are invited to a virtual public information meeting Thursday, May 6, at 6:30 p.m., when the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services will provide updates on the status of PFAS in the community. According to a press release, the meeting will include information on the current status of PFAS in Bedford, what it means to residents, actions to help mitigate exposure, a question-and-answer session and more. Pre-registration is recommended; visit [bedfordnh.org](http://bedfordnh.org) for the link.

Sarah Lenau of **Manchester** has been named a 2021 Camp Champion by Camp Casco, a non-profit organization offering free camps and socials for childhood cancer patients, survivors and siblings in New England, according to a press release. She will soon join a crew of athletes to take on the Presidential Traverse to raise awareness and funds for childhood cancer survivors.

**Exeter** High School graduate Hunter Long has joined the Miami Dolphins, according to an April 30 report from WMUR. Long, who helped earn Exeter a state title in 2015 before playing for Boston College, was the 81st pick in the third round of the NFL draft and is seen as one of the best tight ends in the nation, according to the report.

Covid-19 update	As of April 26	As of May 3
Total cases statewide	93,935	95,506
Total current infections statewide	2,717	1,979
Total deaths statewide	1,286	1,305
New cases	2,152 (April 20 to April 26)	1,571 (April 27 to May 3)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	806	558
Current infections: Merrimack County	225	168
Current infections: Rockingham County	477	386

Information from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services

system is a sign that we are getting back to normal," Gov. Chris Sununu said in a press release. The virtual job fairs are:

- May 6 veteran virtual job fair in partnership with NH DMAVS
- May 11 student virtual job fair in partnership with Pinkerton Academy
- May 11 student and adult education virtual job fair in partnership with Pinkerton Academy
- May 13 construction industry virtual job fair in partnership with ABC NH/VT

- May 18 Great North Woods region & Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee region
- May 19 Seacoast region
- May 20 White Mountains region
- May 25 Lakes region
- May 26 Monadnock region
- May 27 Capital & Southern region

Employers looking to register their company and job seekers looking for work can register for one of the job fairs by going to [virtualjobfairs.nh.gov](http://virtualjobfairs.nh.gov). All New Hampshire Works Jobs Centers across the state will be open to the public by May 10, the release said.

## Know the Five Signs of Emotional Suffering

- Personality Changed?
- Feeling Agitated?
- Feeling Withdrawn?
- Poor Self-Care?
- Feeling Hopeless?

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# Positive change

## Plymouth State student recognized for civic service

Alyssa Griffin of Londonderry is a second-year student at Plymouth State University, where she's studying meteorology. She was recently honored with Campus Compact for New Hampshire's Presidents' Leadership Award and a spot in the Newman Civic Fellowship for her service work on campus and in the community.

**Q:** *What is the Student Support Foundation, and what has your involvement been?*



Alyssa Griffin

The Student Support Foundation ... awards emergency financial grants to students in need, and we manage an on-campus food pantry, as well as some other satellite miniature pantries across campus. In the fall semester I was elected food pantry manager. ... I noticed that the food pantry didn't really have any type of inventory system or donation system ... so I created an inventory tracking system on Google Sheets ... which was highly successful. We continued that system this semester, and I'm hoping we can continue it going forward. ... This semester, our previous president didn't return, and in our first meeting I was elected SSF president. I was kind of sad in a way because I loved my food pantry manager position, but I was also happy for all these new opportunities and connections that I can make as president.

**How does the pantry inventory system work, and why was it needed?**

We didn't really know what was moving in and out of the pantry or what the items that students really needed were. If people reached out to us about organizing a food drive and asked us, 'What do you guys need?' we would have to physically go into the space and look and figure that out. ... [With the new system] we do inventory once a month, and every time we get donations, we log those, so we're very easily able to [assess the need] every month. ... For example, if we were getting a lot of donations of chicken noodle soup and the inventory of chicken noodle soup was continuously going down, [that indicated that] chicken noodle soup was a hot, popular item, so we'd ask for donations of chicken noodle soup. Similarly, on the opposite side, if we were getting a lot of donations of toothbrushes and the toothbrush inventory kept going up, we [knew we] didn't have to ask for toothbrushes for our next drive.

**What have you and SSF accomplished during your time as SSF president?**

[We accomplished] opening a couple of those satellite miniature pantries across campus, as well as organizing a partnership with Hannaford in Plymouth, New Hampshire. [Hannaford] donated over 100 boxes of pasta, bags of rice and canned products to us, and they featured us as their charity for a couple months.

**What does the Newman Civic Fellowship entail?**

The purpose is to connect me with other stu-

dents and like-minded individuals across the nation — I think there are over 200 other colleges and universities [involved with the program] — who are doing amazing things on their campuses, to kind of inspire us and give us a support system and network to continue our work.

There are going to be workshops on leadership and entrepreneurship, connecting us with professionals in different disciplines who are working with social justice issues, environmental issues, food insecurity, all of that stuff. They hold a big conference for all of us in the spring in Boston ... where we'll get to meet all these people and do some workshops and just get inspired by other people's energies and aspirations.

**What about the fellowship are you looking forward to most?**

I'm definitely very excited to branch out. Being a STEM major, I haven't had the opportunity yet to take a lot of classes in the social sciences, so [with the fellowship] I'll be able to get involved in that way and also meet students who are a little more knowledgeable about some of the social injustices and things that are happening in the world. I have a feeling it's really going to open my eyes to the struggles that other students are facing across the campus and the unique ways that [my] peers are tackling these issues.

**How would you like to continue serving the campus over the next two years?**

We want to make sure that we're reaching the students who need our help ... [with] whatever issue they're facing right now, whether it's a financial hardship or not being able to have a meal for the evening, so my goal is to make sure that our services are widespread and very easily accessible. ... [Plymouth State] serves a lot of first-generation college students and low-income students and minorities in that aspect, so I'd love to talk to students who are comfortable talking about those challenges to see what else SSF can do to better support them.

**How would you like to serve the wider community after you graduate?**

In whatever line of work I end up in, whether it's research or being a forecaster or a consultant or something completely different, I hope that I can find ways to continue to connect with the public. ... I am extremely interested in educating the public on climate change and the science [behind it] and ... making sure people have the tools and the knowledge at their disposal ... to understand and prepare for it.

— Angie Sykeny

# Pats keep up with the Joneses



With **Bill Belichick** soon to be on the clock really needing to get it 100 percent right for the first time since 2001, last Thursday's NFL draft was a big day for Patriot Nation. But, given his exasperating draft history of mindlessly trading up and down the board, I didn't enter the night with great confidence. Especially with his annoying penchant for trading out of the first round for a better "value" pick in the second and then blowing it on failed DBs like **Joejuan Williams**, **Duke Dawson**, **Cyrus Jones**, **Jordan Richards**, **Tavon Wilson** and **Ras-I Dowling**.

But after a less than satisfactory year after **Tom Brady** took his talents to a south beach, this time there couldn't be any of the usual nonsense. He needed to get a long-term quarterback solution. That had everyone but those holding out for a trade for **Jimmy G** begging, and I mean begging, for a trade up to get one of the five top-rated quarterback prospects.

That set the stage as the night started. And the following is an account of how it went for David Long the fan, not the columnist, over the mostly excruciating 100 minutes from when Roger the Dodger opened the 2021 NFL draft until Coach B picked at 15.

I was calm, cool and collected through picks 1 and 2. Three was a shocker, at least to the "experts" who assured all that after trading three firsts and a third to move up there the 49ers would absolutely take Alabama QB **Mac Jones**. But somewhere along the line indecision crept into the SF war room and they went with ND State's uber-athletic **Trey Lance** instead. That also put to rest the local media's (except me) obsession with **Jimmy Garoppolo**'s return to Foxboro being inevitable. Never was, because no team has ever been imbecilic enough to dump a solid veteran QB to hand its legit Super Bowl ambitions over to any rookie on Day 1.

However, that didn't change the equation for Patriot Nation, as two of the top five QBs remained as Lance was just swapped for Jones. That meant the real action, angst and worry now got started with all the picks to 8 trade-up possibilities. Scuttlebutt had the Falcons (4) and Carolina (8) as possibles to go QB. But thanks to enormous cap hit consequences on **Matt Ryan** and Carolina having just traded for **Matt Darnold**, that was unlikely. Still I crossed my fingers, but neither did. Phew. Denver, who clearly needs a QB, was next. But nope, they went DB **Jaycee Horn** to eliminate another QB contender or trade-up slot, making Denver's choice both weird and lucky for New England. Phew again.

At 10, ESPN's **Mike Greenberg** says "we've got a trade." Please don't say Chicago, WFT or New Orleans! Nope, in a move even weirder than Denver's, hated rivals Philly and

Dallas go all **Henry Kissinger** on us to swap 12 for 10. But turns out not to be détente but a desire to jointly screw another AFC East rival, as Philly jumped ahead of the G-Men to take Bama wideout **Jaylen Waddle**, whom the NYG's badly wanted.

So, with the G-Men and Dallas having no QB interest, I'm back to the trade up mantra. Except at 11 I hear, "We've got another trade between the Giants and ... Chicago." Yikes! That means QB 4 is gone. Still, It's still sort of lucky, as they took **Ryan Day**'s Ohio State QB **Justin Fields** to leave the already QB-solid Cowboys, Chargers and Minnesota between the Pats and the QB I wanted all along — Jones. So I'm back shouting, "GO UP will you please!" Although to be truthful it was more like begging him, along the lines of when I was on my knees begging **Grady Little** to take Pedro out of Game 7 vs. the Yanks during the 2003 baseball playoffs.

But then it's all in jeopardy. Another trade is announced for the last pick before the Pats. Now it's double fingers and legs crossed and I'm in full body contorted mode while squinting at the TV to help me both hear (good news) and not hear (if it was bad). Don't ask me how it does either, because it doesn't. Then comes the biggest shocker of the night, when the Jets of all teams save Bill from himself by moving into the 14th slot. They already took **Zach Wilson**, so no QB there. Of course, given his history I knew freaking Bill could still trade back and out of the first round.

But no — **Roger the Dodger** goes, "with the 15th pick the Patriots *select*" — please no DB, please no DB — "**Mac Jones** of Alabama." Exhale and say PHEW as I uncross my cramped fingers, legs and de-contort my torso. Well, in truth I may have exaggerated the contorting parts just a bit. You'd have to be insane to do that at my age. Though when I was kid I once left my head resting on a radiator one Sunday in November as it kept getting warmer and warmer because doing it coincided with a big Giants comeback vs. Washington and I figured it was good luck. Hurt all the next day, but it was worth it. You know, once a lunatic fan, always a lunatic fan. So while exaggerated, that is how it played out in my head.

As for the net cost accounting to get the last three available QBs: (1) San Francisco — the position swap from 12 to third overall cost first-round picks in 2022 and 2023, along with 2022 third. (2) Chicago — their 2022 first pick to go from 20 to 11. (3) New England — thanks to a nice combo of strategy, guts and a little luck they spent nothing. We'll hold back on "In Bill We Trust" stuff until we see the goods from the 4.0 GPA graduate-a-year-early ex-Alabama chucker.

So good luck and welcome to town, young man.

Email Dave Long at [dlong@hippopress.com](mailto:dlong@hippopress.com).

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## Strawberry Banana Oven Pancake

**Serves: 4**

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- 1 banana, sliced
- 3/4 cup Hannaford Quick Oats
- 1 cup Stonyfield® Organic Whole Milk Strawberry Yogurt, plus more for topping
- 1/4 cup Silk® Unsweet Plain Almondmilk
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1/4 cup Hannaford Light Brown Sugar
- 1/4 tsp. McCormick® Ground Cinnamon
- 1/4 cup Planters NUT-rition Wholesome Nut Mix, chopped



### Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease and flour a 9-inch pie pan.
2. Layer sliced strawberries and bananas in the bottom of the pan.
3. Combine oats, yogurt, almondmilk, eggs, brown sugar and cinnamon in a blender or food processor until smooth. Pour batter over fruit.
4. Bake for 40 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean.
5. Cut pancake into wedges and serve with a dollop of yogurt and a sprinkle of chopped nuts.

### Dietitian's Tip:

Looking to complete the meal for mom? Add antioxidants by serving a warm mug of Lipton® Green Tea.

### Nutritional Information

Amount per serving: Calories 330; Total Fat 11 g; Saturated Fat 3 g; Cholesterol 100 mg; Sodium 90 mg; Carbohydrates 49 g; Fiber 5 g; Sugar 23 g; Added Sugar 16 g; Protein 12 g

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## QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

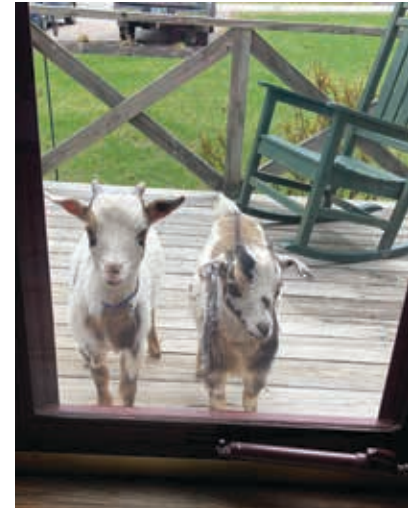
### Running with goats

Last week, these two adorable goats followed QOL's dad home from a run in Derry, staying right at his heels for about a mile until he got home, read their tags and called their owner. Alas, Bonnie and Clyde were not allowed inside, but they did enjoy some of the grass and rose bushes in the yard while they were waiting to be picked up.

**Score: +1**

**Comment:** *QOL's mom happened to be driving home and took a video capturing part of the run:*

*picture a 6'3" man with these two little guys running to keep up with him, with "Watermelon Sugar" playing on the car radio as a soundtrack. Hilarious.*



### Back to the movies

Regal Cinemas in Newington and Concord and O'neil Cinemas in Epping are set to reopen this month. According to its website, Regal plans to reopen its Newington location this Friday, May 7, and its Concord location on Friday, May 21. According to the O'neil website, it is scheduled to reopen on Friday, May 7, as well. As of the morning of May 4, movies had not been finalized at O'neil, while Regal is showing movies like *Godzilla vs. Kong* and *Mortal Kombat*. Safety protocols will be in place, with limited capacities and face mask requirements.

**Score: +1**

**Comment:** *There is no mention of the Hooksett location on Regal's website, so when and whether it will reopen remains to be seen.*

### Intown scam

Members of Intown Concord have been targeted by a scammer for the past several weeks, according to a letter that Intown Executive Director Jessica Martin posted to members in a May 3 newsletter. "A man claiming to be Intown Concord's Event Coordinator has been calling all over town asking for Market Days Sponsorships and verbally assaulting people. He has targeted banks, the fire department, the library, and many other businesses in the area," Martin wrote. Intown has notified the Concord Police Department and the City, and the nonprofit apologized to any of the businesses that have had to interact with the scammer.

**Score: -2**

**Comment:** *"Obviously, this is not the way Intown Concord does business," Martin wrote. "Our all-female staff of two will never ask for cash up front for an event and we will certainly never call you on the phone and rudely demand it."*

**QOL score: 70**

**Net change: 0**

**QOL this week: 70**

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# PLAY BALL!

BASEBALL RETURNS AS THE NH FISHER CATS TAKE THE FIELD

Panoramic view of Northeast Delta Dental Stadium in Manchester, home of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats. Courtesy photo.

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingersoll@hippopress.com

It has been more than 600 days since the New Hampshire Fisher Cats last played a home game at Manchester's Northeast Delta Dental Stadium, in August 2019. On Tuesday, May 11, the minor-league Double A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays will hold its season opener for the 2021 season, ending the nearly two-year professional baseball drought in the Granite State.

"I can't tell you how excited I am to be able to welcome fans back to the ballpark," team president Mike Ramshaw said. "I'm sure it's going to be an emotional day for a lot of people."

The Fisher Cats' front office team has been closely following guidance from the State and from Major League Baseball, implementing

a number of safety measures ahead of this season. Here's a look at what you can expect when you come to the ballpark, plus some other events and happenings the front office has in store for this season.

## Safety first

Northeast Delta Dental Stadium will be operating at 50 percent capacity, meaning it will be capped at just around 3,000 fans per game. In an effort to maintain social distancing, tickets will only be sold in "pods," limited to two, four, six, eight or 10 people, with at least six feet between pods. At least 12 feet also separates the first row of seats from each dugout and bullpen.

"We're really encouraging digital ticketing this year, just to try to limit the interaction between our staff and the fans," Ramshaw said. "We'll have ticketing that can be emailed



An aerial view of Northeast Delta Dental Stadium in Manchester, home of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats. Courtesy photo.

or texted to you, and then [our staff] can just scan it and you'll be good to go."

Fans will not be allowed to congregate during any pregame happenings such as team batting practice, nor will there be autograph signings this year. During game play, Ramshaw said, masks or face-coverings are required for everyone over 2 years old, even when seated, except for when actively eating or drinking. Seats not in use during games will be Velcro-secured.

The types and sizes of bags that fans are allowed to bring into the park will be limited, also in an effort to limit staff interaction. Only necessary items such as medical bags, diaper bags and small clutch purses of about four-and-a-half by six-and-a-half inches will be allowed.

All of the concessions on the concourse, which include everything from hot dogs and hamburgers to french fries, peanuts, popcorn and domestic beers, will be open during games. Team officials are encouraging credit and debit card use whenever possible.

Both team stores will also be open, but at limited capacity. Ramshaw said there will be continuous sanitation throughout the park, especially on the concourse and in other high-traffic areas. In the event of rain delays, fans will be encouraged to return to their cars

for the duration of the storm to avoid large gatherings. The Planet Fitness children's play area will be open, but the bounce house has been removed in favor of other games that can be easily sanitized, like a giant inflatable tic-tac-toe game with basketballs that will be set up.

## Coming out swinging

Despite the new precautions in place, the Fisher Cats will still be holding many of its usual special events throughout the season, including fireworks and giveaways.

"It will be a little different experience from what the fan is used to ... and we just ask for our fans' understanding and patience as we go through Covid," Ramshaw said.

## New Hampshire Fisher Cats

**Where:** Northeast Delta Dental Stadium, 1 Line Drive, Manchester

**When:** Home opener is Tuesday, May 11, at 6:35 p.m. against the Somerset Patriots

**Cost:** General admission starts at \$8. Tickets are being sold in "pods" this year for a minimum of two, in an effort to maintain social distancing. Tickets will go on sale on a month-to-month basis throughout the season.

**Visit:** nhfishercats.com



## Austin Martin

**Position:** Shortstop and outfielder

Austin Martin led Vanderbilt University to a College World Series championship in 2019 and was drafted fifth overall by the Toronto Blue Jays the following year. With the cancellation of the 2020 Minor League Baseball season, Martin will make his professional baseball debut at the Double-A level as a member of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats. He currently ranks No. 2 among Blue Jays prospects and No. 19 overall, according to MLB.com. Many baseball scouts have regarded him as the top hitter in the 2020 draft class.



## Simeon Woods-Richardson

**Position:** Right-handed pitcher

A second-round pick by the New York Mets in the 2018 Major League Baseball draft, Simeon Woods Richardson came to the Blue Jays organization as part of a July 2019 trade for former Fisher Cat Marcus Stroman. He was quickly promoted to the Advanced-A Dunedin Blue Jays, putting up a win-loss record of 3 and 2 with a 2.54 earned run average. MLB.com ranks him No. 4 among Blue Jays prospects, and No. 78 overall.



Courtesy photo.

“Minor league baseball is always about the player and fan interaction ... [and] we want to still be able to bring as much as possible during a pandemic.”

Both the first home game of the season on May 11 and the game on Saturday, May 22, against the Portland Sea Dogs, for example, will wrap up with a fireworks show courtesy of Atlas Fireworks. Several giveaways are also planned, like for a magnet schedule on May 11 and May 12, and for a youth shirsey from former Fisher Cats player (and current Blue Jays major leaguer) Vladimir Guerrero Jr. on May 16.

The Fisher Cats will honor local essential workers and first responders, during the games on May 13 and May 14, respectively. Saturday, May 15, is Game Show Night, when fans will be challenged with trivia questions, puzzles and more in styles of popular game shows like *Family Feud*, *Jeopardy!* and *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* More upcoming promotions will be announced on a monthly basis as the season goes on.

### Schedule and league changes

In ways similar to those of Major League Baseball teams in 2020, the pandemic has impacted the Fisher Cats’ schedule as the team tries to limit the amount of out-of-state travel among players.

The team will host the Portland Sea Dogs, Double A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox, 18 times in 2021 — a record since the Fisher Cats’ first season in New Hampshire in 2004.

“I know many of our fans always enjoy seeing the future Red Sox play here, so that’s going to be a big perk,” Fisher Cats broadcasting and media relations manager Tyler Murray said. “[The Sea Dogs] are coming three different times, each for a six-game series.”

In fact, adjustments to the Minor League Baseball schedule have the Fisher Cats either at home or on the road for six-game series matchups throughout the entire season, from Tuesday through Sunday with Mondays always designated off days. Half of the team’s 120-game season will be played within New England, with the



#### Gabriel Moreno

**Position:** Catcher

A native of Venezuela, Gabriel Moreno had a strong 2019 season with the Class-A Lansing Lugnuts of the Midwest League and an impressive summer at Toronto’s alternate training site, moving him up to No. 7 on MLB.com’s list of Blue Jays prospects.



#### Otto Lopez

**Position:** Infielder and outfielder

According to MiLB.com, Dominican Republic native Otto Lopez signed a minor-league contract with the Toronto Blue Jays on July 4, 2016. He won the Class-A Midwest League batting title in 2019 as a member of the Lansing Lugnuts, with a batting average of .325, and starts this season ranked No. 11 among Blue Jays prospects by MLB.com.







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Former New Hampshire Fisher Cat (and current Toronto Blue Jays major leaguer) Vladimir Guerrero Jr. celebrates with his teammates after a walk-off game-winning hit. Courtesy photo.

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exception of a few trips to New York and Pennsylvania, and one trip to Bowie, Maryland, at the end of June.

Due to a reorganization of certain team classifications that begins in 2021, the Fisher Cats will be playing a new rival during their opening homestand — the Somerset Patriots, who were announced as the new Double A affiliate of the New York Yankees late last year.

Under Minor League Baseball's new scheduling format, there will be no All Star Game or playoffs this year. The Fisher Cats will close out their 2021 season with a series at home against the Harrisburg Senators, Double A affiliate of the Washington Nationals, from Sept. 14 to Sept. 19.

### Field of opportunity

Even though the Fisher Cats didn't play a single game in 2020, the team's front office stayed busy throughout the year, hosting all kinds of socially distanced events on the field.

"The staff ... worked so hard to try to find ways that we could stay engaged in the community and still pull off some of the events that we could do in the absence of baseball," Ramshaw said. "We didn't actually find out that the baseball season was going to be canceled until closer to July. ... So for us, we were just trying to figure out how we could do other things in the interim."

Immediately turning out to be a success, he said, was hosting local high school and college graduation ceremonies on the field.

### Nashua Silver Knights



Dominic Keegan. Courtesy photo.



Nick Guarino. Courtesy photo.

**Where:** Holman Stadium, 67 Amherst St., Nashua

**When:** Home opener is Thursday, May 27, at 6 p.m., against the Worcester Bravehearts (this game will also include a championship ring ceremony)

**Cost:** Single game tickets start at \$8 (limited to groups of 10 people); concessions are priced per item. Season ticket rates are also available.

**Visit:** [nashuasilverknights.com](http://nashuasilverknights.com)

Following a championship-winning 2020 season, the Nashua Silver Knights will aim to defend their title in 2021, holding their home opener on Thursday, May 27. They will face off against the Worcester Bravehearts at Holman Stadium in the Gate City.

The Silver Knights are one of eight teams of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League, a summer league gathering college baseball players from throughout the New England area. Although the start of the team's 2020 season was delayed by about a month, front office general manager Cam Cook said the Silver Knights were able to play a shortened season that began on July 2.

For much of the 2020 season Holman Stadium was only filled at 25 percent capacity, or around 750 fans. This year, Cook said, it will likely be raised to 50 percent, pending final City approval. The home opener will feature a championship ring ceremony, while other promotions will include several fireworks nights on game days throughout June and July.

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As the summer and fall went on, the Fisher Cats office hosted everything from a food truck festival and "Dinner on the Diamond" events to socially distanced movie nights and an outdoor concert series in partnership with the Palace Theatre, as well as a corn-hole tournament, a fashion show, and even a Shakespeare-esque performance from members of the Cue Zero Theatre Co.

"We've always thought about a lot of the things that we were able to do last year, but never really had the bandwidth or time to do them," Ramshaw said. "I think people and companies are realizing that we're not just a ballpark but we're a venue ... [and] when you spread everybody out socially distanced, the park looks empty with 1,000 people."

In 2021, Ramshaw said, events are already being booked for dates when the team is on the road, including graduation ceremonies. There have also been conversations to bring back the outdoor concert series in the summer months.

"Hopefully as things start to change throughout the duration of the summer, we can try to get some more fans out to the ballpark," he said. "I think the ultimate goal would be that we're able to be at 100 percent capacity by the end of the year." 🐾



### Jordan Groshans

**Position:** Shortstop

Born in Magnolia, Texas, Jordan Groshans was the 12th overall pick by the Toronto Blue Jays in MLB's 2018 draft. He impressed with a .337 overall batting average with the Class-A Lansing Lugnuts of the Midwest League before a foot injury cut his season short. MLB.com ranks him as the No. 3 prospect in the Blue Jays system, and No. 39 overall in baseball. He is the younger brother of Jaxx Groshans, a catcher in the Boston Red Sox organization.

### Upcoming NH Fisher Cats team promotions

- **Tuesday, May 11:** Atlas Fireworks show
- **Wednesday, May 12:** Magnet schedule giveaway
- **Thursday, May 13:** Essential Workers Night
- **Friday, May 14:** First Responders Night
- **Saturday, May 15:** Game Show Night
- **Sunday, May 16:** Vladimir Guerrero Jr. youth shirsey giveaway

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# Dropping a line

Rob Azevedo makes poetry debut

By Angie Sykeny  
 asykeny@hippopress.com

Local radio host, columnist, author and filmmaker Rob Azevedo adds poetry to his list of activities with his debut collection, *Turning on the Wasp*, recently released by Spartan Press.

The new venture, which he started in April 2020, came as a surprise even to himself, Azevedo said.

“For some reason, I just started getting these poetic lines in my head ... and when I get something in my head, it doesn’t leave my head until I do something about it,” he said, “so I just started writing them down.”

While Azevedo has done some creative writing in the past, including the screenplays for six short films featured at the SNOB Film Festival in Concord, and a memoir, *Notes From The Last Breath Farm: A Music Junkie’s Quest to be Heard*, released by Plaidswede Publishing in 2019, poetry is a literary art form he hadn’t explored since his college days, he said.

“I went from having written maybe 10 or so poems in my whole life to writing 50 poems over the course of four or five months,” he said, adding that his poems now total more than 250.

With modest expectations, Azevedo submitted a few of his poems to the Spartan Press, hoping to get one featured on its website, he said, but the publisher had bigger plans for Azevedo’s poems.

“He loved them and said, ‘What do you think about putting out a book of your poetry?’” Azevedo said. “That [scenario] is unheard of when it comes to publishing — normally, getting something published is a grind ... and could take years, so I really hit the jackpot.”

*Turning on the Wasp* features 80 free verse poems, “perfect for flash poetry,” Azevedo said, at around 100 to 150 words each. They explore a wide range of subject matter, such as love, lust, rock ‘n’ roll and social issues, with a tone that Azevedo described as “darkly comic.”

“They could be prompted by a line in a song, something I’m watching on TV, a

work of art or something that happened in my own life,” he said. “Whatever [causes] that rush of poetry in my head, I just go with it and dive right into it.”

In the title poem, for example, Azevedo reflects on a near-death experience that he had two years ago, when he was stung by a wasp. He went into shock and stopped breathing.

“It’s all about me getting back at that wasp that almost took me out,” he said.

Azevedo continues to write poetry every morning, he said, and has no plans of stopping.

“I can’t seem to get away from it; I’m hooked,” he said. “It has consumed me to the point where I’m barely writing anything else.”

He has already assembled a collection of poems for another book, which he intends to pitch to his publisher at the end of the summer and, if approved, release in the winter.

“I’m just going to keep writing more and more poetry until this phase of my creative life is over and I move on to a new one.” 🐝



## Turning on the Wasp by Rob Azevedo

The book is available through Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Gibson’s Bookstore in Concord. Find Azevedo on Twitter (@robazzaz33) or email him at onemanmanch@gmail.com.

### Art

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In-person art classes for all levels and two-dimensional media. held with small groups of two to five students. Private classes are also available. Diane Crespo Fine Art Gallery (32 Hanover St., Manchester). Students are asked to wear masks in the gallery. Tuition costs \$20 per group class and \$28 per private class, with payment due at the beginning of the class. Call 493-1677 or visit dianecrespofineart.com for availability.

##### • DRAWING & PAINTING CLASSES

Art House Studios, 66 Hanover St., Suite 202, Manchester. Classes include Drawing Fundamentals, Painting in Acrylic, Drawing: Observation to Abstraction, Exploring Mixed Media, and Figure Drawing. Class sizes are limited to six students. Visit arthousestudios.org.

#### Exhibits

• **DUO ARTIST EXHIBIT** Features oils by Jim Ryan and watercolors by Lorraine Makhoul. On view during May. Seacoast Artist Association, 130 Water St., Exeter. Call 778-8856 or visit seacoastartist.org.

• **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.

• **“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. Twiggs 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 twigsgallery.wordpress.com.

• **“GEOMETRIC ABSTRACTION THROUGH CUT AND PASTE”** City Arts Nashua and The Nashua Telegraph present an exhibition featuring the works of Meri Goyette, including statement collages and collectible greetings cards that she crafted from paper, fabric and glue during the pandemic. On display in the windows and lobby of the Telegraph offices (110 Main St., Suite 1, Nashua). Now through June 11. Visit cityartsnashua.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.

#### 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.

#### Tours

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

### Theater

#### Shows

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

• **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.

• **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.

• **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.

• **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.

• **DISCOVERING MAGIC WITH ANDREW PINARD** The Hatbox Theatre (Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord). Wed., May 19 and June 16, 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.

• **A WIDER CIRCLE** The New Hampshire Theatre Project’s Elephant-in-the-Room Series, in partnership with the Seacoast Mental Health Center, presents a reading of the play, written by local playwright and social studies teacher Mary Ellen Hedrick. Virtual, via Zoom. Thurs., May 20, 7 to 9 p.m. Free. Registration is required. Visit nhtheatreproject.org.

• **ROTARY PARK PLAY FESTIVAL** Presented by Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative and Community Players of Concord. Features short original plays by New Hampshire playwrights. Sat., May 29, and Sun., May 30. Outdoors at Rotary Park, 30 Beacon St., E. Laconia. See Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative on Facebook or email powerhouse@belknapmill.org.

# THE ROUNDUP

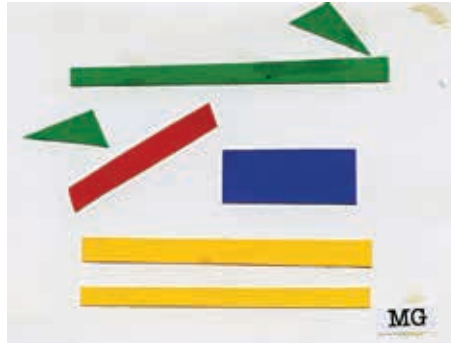
The latest from NH's theater, arts and literary communities

• **Pottery joy:** The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) presents a new exhibition, "Roberto Lugo: Te traigo mi le lo lai – I bring you my joy," from May 6 through Sept. 26. Lugo is a Philadelphia-based potter, painter, social activist, spoken word poet and educator. His pottery reimagines traditional forms and techniques with inspiration from urban graffiti and hip-hop culture. In this exhibition, Lugo pays homage to his Puerto Rican heritage and explores his cultural identity and its connection to family, place and legacy. "The Currier Museum has a long history of collecting and displaying studio ceramics, and Roberto Lugo is undoubtedly one of the most significant voices working today," Samantha Cataldo, the museum's curator of contemporary art, said in a press release. "We are excited for the public to experience this unique installation and find their own connections to these important themes of community, value, and legacy." Museum admission costs \$15, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, and must be booked online in advance. Museum hours are Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. (free after 5 p.m.); and Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the hour of 10 to 11 a.m. currently reserved for seniors and museum members. Lugo will give a virtual talk on Tuesday, May 11, at 5 p.m. It's free and open to the public. In July, Lugo and fellow ceramicist Margaret Kinkeade will be in residence at the museum and will lead community workshops on ceramics. Details on the workshops are TBA. Call 669-6144 or visit [currier.org](http://currier.org).

• **Exploring opioid addiction through theater:** The New Hampshire Theatre Project's Elephant-in-the-Room Series, in partnership with the Seacoast Mental Health Center, presents a reading of *A Wider Circle* virtually over Zoom on Thursday, May 20, from 7 to 9 p.m. Now in its fourth year, the Elephant-in-the-Room Series presents play readings followed by open discussions about subjects that are difficult to talk about, such as human trafficking and sexual abuse, death and dying, mental illness and more. *A Wider Circle*, written by local playwright and social studies teacher Mary Ellen Hedrick, centers on the family of a woman in the aftermath of her opioid overdose death. Following the reading, there will be a panel discussion on the opioid crisis' effect on families with Hed-



The work of Roberto Lugo is currently on display at the Currier Museum of Art. Photo by Neal Santos, courtesy of Wexler Gallery.



Art by Meri Goyette, featured in "Geometric Abstraction through Cut and Paste" exhibition. Courtesy photo.

rick, Rebecca Throop of Seacoast Mental Health Center and other opioid addiction and recovery experts. The event is free, and registration is required. Visit [nhtheatreproject.org](http://nhtheatreproject.org).

• **Meri Goyette makes her artist debut:** City Arts Nashua and The Nashua Telegraph present an exhibition, "Geometric Abstraction through Cut and Paste," featuring the works of Meri Goyette, on display in the windows and lobby of the Telegraph offices (110 Main St., Suite 1, Nashua) now through June 11. Goyette, who is 95 years old, has been a longtime supporter and patron of the arts in Nashua and beyond, but has never publicly shown her own work until now. The exhibition will include statement collages and collectible greeting cards that she crafted from paper, fabric and glue during the pandemic. "Meri is such an inspiration to all of us in the arts here in Nashua and we are so fortunate that she serves on our Advisory Board and partners with us to support City Arts Nashua's mission," City Arts Nashua president Lisa Bissonnette said in a press release. Visit [cityartsnashua.org](http://cityartsnashua.org).

• **New artisan market:** Henniker Community Market will host its first annual Henniker Handmade & Homegrown event at Henniker Community Center Park (57 Main St., Henniker) on Saturday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nearly 40 local vendors and artisans will sell handmade items including jewelry, pottery, textiles, soaps and body care products, baskets, candles, birdhouses, fine art paintings and prints, home decor and more. See "Henniker Community Market" on Facebook or email [hennikercommunitymarket@gmail.com](mailto:hennikercommunitymarket@gmail.com).

— Angie Sykeny

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# INSIDE/OUTSIDE

## Berry sweet

Now's the time to buy your strawberry plants

By Henry Homeyer  
listings@hippopress.com

### — THE — GARDENING — GUY —

Traditionally, June is the month for eating strawberries. But you can, in fact, grow varieties of strawberries that produce berries all summer, or that produce berries in June and again in the fall. In any case, now is the time to buy your strawberry plants before they are all sold out.

There are three basic types of strawberries: June-bearing strawberries, so-called ever-bearing strawberries, and day-neutral strawberries. Plant June-bearing berries this summer, and you will need to wait until next summer for your first berries (pick off any blossoms this year so they develop good roots). Ever-bearing berries are not really ever-bearing: they will deliver a load of fruit this fall, and again in future years in June and the fall. Day-neutral berries are not affected by day length and are truly ever-bearing. The first year, however, you will not get any June berries.

Strawberries are sold in clumps of bare root plants, usually 25 per bundle. They should be planted when the soil is at least 50 degrees, and when risk of hard frost has passed. A hard frost is

one that is colder than 28 degrees and lasts for 12 hours or more.

You can buy plants starting in early May at your local garden center or feed-and-grain store. You can also go online and order from seed companies, but many varieties were already sold out at Fedco Seeds and Johnny's Selected Seeds when I checked in late April. Nourse Farms in Massachusetts prefers that you order in the fall but still had several varieties available when I checked.

All strawberries like rich, well-drained soil. If you have a heavy clay you will need to make raised beds and add lots of compost. Work the compost in with a fork or shovel to make the soil fluffier. Even average soil needs compost for best results, as does sandy soil. Sandy soil will hold moisture much better if you stir in plenty of compost.

You do not need to create wood-sided beds. Just mound up the soil to create a bed about 3 1/2 feet wide that is 4 to 6 inches taller than your walkways. For 25 plants, a wide bed 20 feet long should do. For day-neutral berries, you can plant two rows of plants 12 to 18 inches apart in a bed. June berries need more space, so plant just one row per bed, and space 18 to 24 inches. But always read the directions that come with the

berries and space accordingly. Don't crowd your plants or they will produce smaller berries.

I recommend the day-neutral berries. They do not require as much work as June-bearing plants, which send out runners that need to be rooted in or pinched off. The day-neutral plants stay in nice tidy clumps. And they produce berries all summer long, starting in the second year. Their berries are smaller than June berries, however.

Assuming you have just average soil, you should work in some minerals and fertilizer in addition to compost before planting the berries. Five pounds of an organic, slow-release fertilizer in a 20-foot-wide row should be adequate. A good organic bagged fertilizer will add the three most necessary minerals — nitrogen for green growth, phosphate for strong roots and good flowering, and potassium for strong cell walls and resistance to drought and cold.

Organic fertilizers also add other nutrients that do not come in a bag of chemical fertilizer, things like calcium, magnesium, sulfur, manganese, chlorine and iron. Organic fertilizers are made from things like seaweed, chicken manure, peanut hulls and cottonseed meal. These break down over time and supply nutrients to your plants.

There are a number of ways of planting your strawberries, but the main thing to focus on is getting good contact with the soil. To plant the



Day neutral strawberries first picking. Courtesy photo.

berries, I smooth the soil surface, then dig shallow holes with small mounds of soil in the center of each. I spread out the roots over the mound, and then cover the roots with soil and pat it down. It's important to not cover the crown (the growing point where the leaves begin).

An alternative way is to just cut a slice in the soil with a putty knife and push the roots into

that slice with the putty knife. The crown needs to be at the soil surface, and the soil well-patted down. Nourse Farms (noursefarms.com) has a video on how to use that method.

After planting, water well and then water two or three times a week until they are well-established. All berries are high in water content, so don't let the plants dry out if we have a drought again this summer.

Strawberries hate weeds, so always plant into a weed-free bed. Grasses will compete with your berries, reducing the size and number of your berries. One way to minimize the labor of weeding is to mulch well. I put down four to six sheets of newspaper over the soil between beds and cover it with straw, mulch hay or dry leaves.

Strawberries are a relatively easy crop to grow and will reward you nicely. Most varieties will come back for a few years, but eventually they lose vigor. Still — strawberry shortcake anyone?

Email [henry.homeyer@comcast.net](mailto:henry.homeyer@comcast.net). 🍓



## Summer Theatre Camp

### Camp Dates

Session One: July 12 – July 16  
Session Two: July 19 – July 23  
Session Three: July 26 – July 30  
Session Four: August 2 – August 6  
Session Five: August 9 – August 13

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**Outdoor circus**

Find jugglers, acrobats, aerialists and other circus performers in the great outdoors during **Circus in the Woods**. Register now to attend one of Flying Gravity Circus's four performances, taking place at four different nature and arts organizations in New Hampshire for the remaining Sundays in May — at the Harris Center for Conservation Education in Hancock on May 9, the Beaver Brook Association in Hollis on May 16, the Hooper Institute in Walpole on May 23, and the Andres Institute of Art on May 30. Flying Gravity is a nonprofit based at High Mowing School in Wilton and is a circus education organization that promotes artistic expression, physical fitness and positive youth development through circus arts. Circus in the Woods will allow the annual show, which was canceled last year, to return as a fun family activity in a safe environment. Performances are between 2 and 5 p.m. and reservations are required through eventbrite.com. Tickets are \$5 (children 2 and under get in free). Reserve a time slot now at flyinggravitycircus.org.



Caption

**Mission to Mars**

Find out what NASA is up to on Mars during Super Stellar Friday at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (2 Institute Drive, Concord). On Friday, May 7, the discovery center will hold its monthly virtual program at 7 p.m.; this month's topic is "Robotic Life on Mars." STEM instructor and senior Discovery Center educator Dave McDonald will share updates on the Perseverance Mars rover and Ingenuity Mars helicopter and talk about what's next for their missions. The event is free, but registration is required at starhop.com.

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**TREASURE HUNT**

Dear Donna,  
 Enclosed is a necklace belonging to my great-grandma that I believe is of the Victorian era and made of brass. I have tried to research it but came up with nothing. There is also a cup and saucer, also belonging to my grandma, that says "J.P.L.France" and then "Limoges." I believe it could be of some value, and any help would be greatly appreciated.  
 Jackie from Pelham



The value would be in the \$25 range for the tea cup and saucer. Finding a buyer might be tough, though, in today's market.  
 As far as your sweet necklace, unless pieces like it are marked it's tough to find a value. So some things can give us a clue: material (gold or silver would have a higher value than brass); age (tough to tell in this case) and maker (if not signed then go by the

design and condition).  
 It looks to be an earlier style, maybe from the same estate and period of time as your tea cup and saucer or a bit later. I think we're safe to say it is in the \$40 range but I would have it checked by a professional to confirm my view from here.  
 Donna Welch has spent more than 30 years in the antiques and collectibles field, appraising and instructing, and recently closed the physical location of From Out Of The Woods Antique Center (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com) but is still doing some buying and selling. She is a member of The New Hampshire Antiques Dealer Association. If you have questions about an antique or collectible send a clear photo and information to Donna at footwdw@aol.com, or call her at 391-6550 or 624-8668.

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# Element in hand likely worth two on the used car lot



*Dear Car Talk:  
I'm going to college in the fall, and my parents want to give me their 2004 Honda Element. The Element has 140,000 miles on it, and my grandpa says it's going to fall apart and that cars can't be trusted*

By Ray Magliozzi

*after 100,000 miles. My dad says the Element could go to 200,000 miles.*

*I don't want to get to college and have a clunker that falls apart. I like the car well enough, although my first choice would be a Jeep. Should I sell it now and try to get something with fewer miles, or should I hang on to it? Thank you.*

—Genevieve

Grip it tightly, Genevieve. I side with your Dad on this one. Your grandpa came of age at a time when it was a surprise for cars to go more than 100,000 miles. A big hint was that odometers only went to 99,999.

Fifty years ago, you got bragging rights at the neighborhood OTB if you nursed your car over the 100K mark. But now it's expected. If you get less than 100,000 miles out of a new car these days, you'd probably go on Twitter and bad-mouth the manufacturer.

Hondas, in particular, have a reputation for lasting a long time, provided they're taken care of. Or even sometimes when they're not. We've

got several customers with Elements that have 250,000 miles or more on them. And they're still running perfectly.

That's no guarantee that yours will always run perfectly. Stuff eventually goes wrong with every old car. But the Element has proven very reliable.

Plus, it's actually a perfect college car. The rear seats fold up out of the way to create a ton of cargo room to schlep your stuff from home to school every year. And they fold back down to drive your friends around. It's all-wheel drive, which will help if you run into snowy or icy weather. It gets decent mileage, so it won't cut into your pizza (not beer!) money. And it's got a washable cargo area, in case you get involved in any crazy sorority pranks involving whipped cream, rotting fish and livestock.

Perhaps most important, you know its history. If you sell it and buy something else, you'll have no idea how that other used car was driven, or how it was cared for. In the case of the Element, your dad took care of it. Which comes with an added bonus: He might even feel a little bit guilty when something goes wrong and help you out. Whereas if you trade it in for a Jeep, he'll automatically disown you and wish you "good luck" when it breaks down.

My only suggestion is to ask your dad to have it checked out thoroughly before you leave for school. Take it to a mechanic and ask him to

look it over as if you were buying it as a used car. Ask him to tell you everything he can find that's wrong with it and everything that needs to be serviced and fixed. And have him change the rear differential oil and adjust the valves, if that hasn't been done recently. That'll give you one last chance to run the bill up on Dad before you take possession, Genevieve.

*Dear Car Talk:*

*I have a suggestion for Connie, the lady who wanted to install a second, gentler horn to nudge people who aren't paying attention at traffic lights.*

*I suffer from the same problem: people texting or asleep at the wheel on the green light. My problem is even worse, as I need to go through a light-rail crossing to get home. Sometimes the green light will last for only two cars if you are awake and move fast. If not, the second car has to wait sometimes up to 5 minutes or more for another chance.*

*So ... I blink my high beams once or twice and this usually does the trick. Maybe Connie wants to try it before installing a second horn? If my trick stops working, I will install the horn.*

*I love your column. Thanks very much.*

—Marcela

Flashing your high beams can work, Marcela, but you don't get the satisfaction of seeing the guy in front of you bolt up and hit his head on

the roof of the car, drop his lit cigar between his legs and then floor it. But it's certainly worth a try. Sometimes the high beams will be reflected in person's rearview mirror, and that may be enough to get someone's attention.

If not, you can always try a quick tap on the horn. But that doesn't always work. Some cars seem to have only two horn positions: off and tugboat.

Interestingly, we test drive new cars, and we've seen several technologies starting to be used to address this annoyance. Subaru, for instance, use the forward collision warning system to detect when a car in front of you has pulled away. And it gently beeps at you to get moving.

BMW also uses its forward collision system to detect when the car in front of you pulls away and restarts the engine (which automatically turns off when you stop at a light). That's also a nice way of getting the driver's attention.

That's a great, secondary use of that collision-avoidance technology. But it doesn't work if you're first in line at the red light and there's nobody in front of you for the car to "detect."

If you're first at the light, then you have to wait for Marcela to flash her high beams at you, or for someone less polite to jolt you out of your beauty rest with full-on foghorn.

Visit [Cartalk.com](http://Cartalk.com). 🍌

11<sup>TH</sup> Annual Mother's Day Weekend

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# ON THE JOB

## JC HAZE

### VOICE-OVER ACTOR, JC HAZE VOICE OVER

JC Haze is an independent voiceover actor and producer based in Manchester and a voice-over instructor at NH Tunes in Manchester.

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

On a day-to-day basis, I could be auditioning for clients [based] locally or around the country and around the world. ... Seldom do [clients] hire you right away. You could be auditioning with a dozen or so other voice talents. ... They send me a little script ... and I sit here in my in-home studio and produce a demo and send it to them and hope they call me back and tell me I got the gig. ... Once they've hired you for the gig, the client will tell you what they're looking for, and you just need to deliver the goods. ... If I'm recording at home, I'll send them a bunch of takes. ... If you're recording in a professional recording studio, the client will be there with you, directing you.

**How long have you had this job?**

I launched JC Haze Voice Over about 14 years ago, in 2007 ... but I had been doing a lot of voice recordings since I first got into the radio and broadcast business in 1979.

**What led you to this career field?**

I always wanted to do something with my voice. ... Listening to radio commercials, I'd think, 'I could do that. ... I could use my voice to make clients happy, and to make myself happy, and to pay the mortgage.' ... When I was let go of a programming job in radio, I decided that it was time to be more of a business person for myself ... so I created my own voiceover business.

**What kind of ... training did you need?**

You don't need a college education to be a voi-

ceover actor. What you do need to have is thick skin. You have to be ready for a lot of people saying 'no' before you get the occasional 'yes.'

**What is your typical at-work uniform or attire?**

Since I'm working in my own studio, I don't have to worry about that, outside of the occasional Skype or Zoom call. I can wear whatever I want, whatever is comfortable.



JC Haze

you have a computer crash and you lose everything.

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

We're not making tons of money. It's like any other industry, where there's a top 5 percent making 70 percent of the money. You have to really want it ... and you have to work really hard to make money doing it.

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

I worked at Brooks Brothers clothing store, down in the shipping department.

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

Don't give up, and don't stop believing in yourself; just keep plugging away.  
— Angie Sykeny 🍌

**Five favorites**

- Favorite book:** *The Art of Voice Acting* by James R. Alburger
- Favorite movie:** *Blazing Saddles*
- Favorite music:** The Beatles and ELO
- Favorite food:** A good salmon and a good ravioli
- Favorite thing about NH:** Coming from New York, I like the slower and more relaxed pace here, and the friendly vibe.



## Teen Prêt-à-Parler

05/12/2021 - 6:00pm  
2nd Wednesday of the month

This French conversation group is for Teens taking French at the middle school and high school level. Or for Teens who already speak French and are looking to practice with other French speaking Teens.

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By Matt Ingersoll  
food@hippopress.com

• **Return of the market:** After canceling its winter season, the **Milford Farmers Market** will be returning outdoors one month earlier than normal, on Saturday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., according to market manager Adrienne Colsia. This will be the town's largest outdoor market yet, with between 17 and 20 vendors on the schedule each week selling a wide variety of products like meats, fish, vegetables, baked goods, wine and craft beer, coffee beans and personal care products. The market will continue outdoors, rain or shine, at 300 Elm St. in Milford (across the street from the New Hampshire Antique Co-op) through Oct. 9. Visit [milfordnhfarmersmarket.com](http://milfordnhfarmersmarket.com).

• **Fresh catch:** The Merrimack County Conservation District (10 Ferry St., Concord) is taking orders for a **trout sale** for fish lovers looking to restock their ponds, offering New Hampshire-raised disease-free rainbow and brook trout in 6- to 8-inch or 10- to 12-inch sizes. Orders are due by Tuesday, May 11 — bagged 6- to 8-inch trout can be picked up at the Conservation District's Concord center on Sunday, May 16, from 1 to 1:30 p.m. The fish must then be released to your pond immediately. Larger trout will be directly delivered to your pond (you do not need to be a Merrimack County resident to participate). Visit [merrimackccd.org](http://merrimackccd.org) to fill out an order form.

• **Souvlaki to go:** Join Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church (68 N. State St., Concord) for its next **boxed Greek dinner to go** event on Sunday, May 16, from noon to 1 p.m. Now through May 12, orders are being accepted for boxed meals, featuring chicken souvlaki, rice pilaf, Greek salad and a dinner roll, for \$15 per person. The event is drive-thru and takeout only — email [ordermygreekfood@gmail.com](mailto:ordermygreekfood@gmail.com) or call 953-3051 to place your order. The church is also planning a similar event for June 13, when fresh gyro sandwiches will be available. Visit [holyltrinitynh.org](http://holyltrinitynh.org).

• **Shop (and eat) local:** Nearly 40 local vendors will participate in the inaugural **Henniker Handmade & Homegrown** event, set for Saturday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Henniker Community Center park (57 Main St.). Prepared food will be available on site from Abby's Cafe, while the Country Spirit Restaurant will also be selling candied apples and other sweet treats. Other happenings will include live music performances from Walker Smith and Decatur Creek, as well as raffles and various items for sale like jewelry, pottery, soaps, body care products, candles and more. Admission is free — raffle tickets can be purchased at the event 23 ▶

# FOOD

## A fruitful expansion

LaBelle opening new restaurant, culinary market and sparkling wine barn in Derry

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingsoll@hippopress.com

Nearly a decade after opening their flagship location in Amherst, LaBelle Winery co-owners Amy LaBelle and her husband Cesar Arboleda are expanding to a 45-acre property on Route 111 in Derry. The new space, opening in several phases over the coming weeks and months, will introduce a brand new restaurant concept, a retail market, and an onsite sparkling wine tasting barn, along with performance and event spaces and a nine-hole golf course.

A former attorney, LaBelle became inspired to pursue winemaking following a visit to a winery while on vacation in Nova Scotia in 2001. She founded LaBelle Winery in 2005 at Alyson's Orchard in Walpole, later moving the operations to Amherst in late 2012. Last December, she and Arboleda closed on the former Brookstone Events & Golf space in Derry.

"We've been trying to expand the LaBelle brand for some time," she said. "We came and toured this property ... and just fell in love with it. It's a beautiful spot."

In addition to offering all new types of menu options out of the restaurant and market, LaBelle said a new line of sparkling wines will be produced out of the tasting barn, which will soon be built on a three-acre vineyard. Here's a look at each core aspect of LaBelle Winery Derry.

### Americus Restaurant

With nearly 300 seats inside and more than 100 others on an outdoor terrace overlooking an onsite pond, Americus Restaurant, due to open this month, is roughly four times the size of The Bistro at LaBelle Winery in Amherst. The name "Americus" was chosen as a tribute to the American Dream — Arboleda, LaBelle said, came to the United States with his family as a child from Medellin, Colombia, while her family also immigrated here just a few generations prior.

"We both have a strong belief in work ethic and a love for this country," LaBelle said. "We also developed a wine in tribute to the American dream called Americus. ... So we decided to name the restaurant after it, because I think it follows suit that we took this huge leap of faith."

The interior space of Americus includes multiple round booths and high-top tables, a full bar



Aerial shot of the new LaBelle property opening in Derry. Courtesy photo.

with beers and wines on draft, and a 50-person private dining room separated by glass doors.

Unlike the restaurant in Amherst, which has a heavy focus on French bistro fare as well as a concept of pairing food with many of LaBelle's wines, Americus will offer New England contemporary farm-to-table cuisine with "lots of international flair thrown in," she said.

Former Bedford Village Inn executive chef Peter Agostinelli was recently brought on board as LaBelle Winery's culinary director, overseeing all of the company's food and beverage operations. Agostinelli is a longtime friend of LaBelle's and an industry veteran who also spent a few years at the nationally acclaimed Grill 23 & Bar in Boston.

"Peter and I really wanted to create a menu that was approachable and familiar but incredibly elevated," LaBelle said. "You can sit in the dining room and have a fancy anniversary dinner of a rib-eye for two with charred garlic and lemons ... [or] you can have the most casual meal here after you play a round of golf with your buddies, ... maybe some wings or some wood-fired pizza and beer on draft. It's going to be one of those places where you'll see everything."

The kitchen is also much bigger than the one in Amherst, she said, and will similarly serve as a shared space for the restaurant and the event ballroom. Much of the bulk production of items like sauces, salad dressings and pastries will also be moving from Amherst to Derry.

Americus will be open for dinner to start, according to LaBelle, with plans to eventually expand to lunch on weekdays and brunch on Saturdays and Sundays.

### LaBelle Market

Housed in the former pro shop of Brookstone's golf course will be LaBelle Market, a retail space offering prepared and made-to-order foods that's also due to open soon.

The market will feature menu items handwritten on chalkboards, as well as outdoor seating beneath a covered veranda and windows overlooking the golf course and vineyards. In addition to coffees and espresso drinks, food offerings will include everything from house pastries like croissants, muffins, Danishes and scones, to breakfast sandwiches, platters for catering, prepared entrees, artisanal cheeses and charcuterie, prime cuts of beef, marinated beef tips and chicken, house pastas, house ice cream flavors and wood-fired pizzas to go.

"You'll be able to either grab something on site if you're golfing ... or take it for a picnic on the vineyard once it's installed," LaBelle said. "It will be great for people who don't want to cook or are busy with family and saying, 'Oh gosh, what are we going to have for dinner tonight?' You can come here and grab everything you need. ... There will be convenience items too, so

CONTINUED ON PG 24 ▶

#### LaBelle Winery Derry

*Includes Americus Restaurant and LaBelle Market, as well as an onsite golf course, event spaces and a soon-to-be sparkling wine tasting barn*

**Where:** 14 Route 111, Derry

**More info:** Visit [labellewinery.com](http://labellewinery.com), find them on Facebook and Instagram, or call 672-9898

#### The Links at LaBelle Winery

LaBelle never had a dream of owning a golf course but said she realized it's not unlike owning a restaurant, vineyard or market.

"To me, it's hospitality," she said. "I'm inviting you onto my property to have an experience, to have fun, [and] to make a great memory spending time with your friends."

The Links at LaBelle Winery, a nine-hole par 3 golf course, and a miniature golf course called Mini Links, both opened to

the public on May 1 following a restoration process. According to LaBelle, the entire nine-hole course can be played in roughly an hour and a half.

Memberships are available that include two wine tasting cards, unlimited golfing access, preferred tee times and advance booking. Beginning this summer, there will also be golf lessons for adults and golf camps designed for kids.

# IN THE KITCHEN

WITH STEVE ZYCK



Steve Zyck of Mont Vernon is the owner and founder of Wood Stove Kitchen ([woodstovekitchen.com](http://woodstovekitchen.com)), and on Facebook and Instagram @woodstovekitchen), a producer of all-natural drink mixes, including a mulling syrup and a hot toddy mix, as well as cocktail and mocktail mixers in a variety of flavors, like blueberry and lavender, strawberry and basil, and grapefruit and rosemary. Originally from Chicago, Zyck first came to New Hampshire as a student of Dartmouth College, later going on to hold multiple positions at humanitarian aid agencies and governments across Europe and the Middle East. He started Wood Stove Kitchen in 2017, making small-batch mixers for mulled wine, one of his favorite drinks, out of his own home. Today you can find his products at nearly every New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlet statewide as well as at a number of small country stores and a few national retailers.

### What is your must-have kitchen item?

For me, it's a mason jar, hands down. I use my mason jars for pickling, as cocktail shakers, as measuring cups, as a glass. ... There's no single thing that is more useful in the kitchen.

### What would you have for your last meal?

Gummy peaches and a white wine spritzer. Honestly, I'm still a kid at heart. I basically still have the core tastes that I did when I was 15 years old.

### What is your favorite local restaurant?

Al Basha Mediterranean Grill in Manchester. It's a small place and they do a lot of takeout, especially over the past year, but they have absolutely wonderful baba ganoush, falafel and shawarma.

### What celebrity would you like to see trying one of your products?

Steve Carell. I'm a big fan of *The Office* and his movies.

### What is your favorite product that you offer?

My personal favorite is my blueberry and lavender mixer. For me it's just the perfect fla-

vor combination of being fruity and tart. ... I would say 99 percent of my products are used for drinks, but people always find other creative ways. I once had an email from a customer who said she uses the mulling syrup in her kids' pancake batter. Then there was a time when my local general store here in Mont Vernon made holiday-spiced cupcakes with it.

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

A lot of barbecue and a lot of smoking, not only in terms of meats but in other things. ... I know so many people who bought high-end smokers and grills during the pandemic. I think this is going to be a great season for butchers.

### What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

My favorite thing to make is a beet salad, usually with boiled or steamed beets. Then beyond that, all of the other ingredients can change a little, based on what I have. Usually I'll add cucumber, or sometimes sweet onion or shallots. ... It's an amazingly versatile salad that you can whip up with whatever you have around the house.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

### Blueberry and lavender gin fizz

Courtesy of Steve Zyck of Wood Stove Kitchen, [woodstovekitchen.com](http://woodstovekitchen.com)

2 ounces Wood Stove Kitchen blueberry and lavender cocktail/mocktail mixer  
2 ounces Barr Hill gin  
4 to 6 ounces seltzer or club soda  
Lemon wedge, fresh lavender or herbs to garnish (optional)

Mix the gin and blueberry and lavender mixer together, then top off with as much seltzer or club soda as you like. The honey, lemon and lavender in the mixer gives the drink a perfect balance between sweet, tart and floral and herbal.

## Weekly Dish

Continued from page 22

or in advance online. Email [hennikercommunitymarket@gmail.com](mailto:hennikercommunitymarket@gmail.com).

• **Gate City Brewfest update:** In lieu of its traditional beer festival and wing competition format, this year's **Gate City Brewfest** will be pivoting to a live concert to be held at Holman Stadium in Nashua on Friday, Aug. 27. "After much deliberation and working within the city guidelines, it was simply not feasi-

ble to bring you the Gate City Brewfest beer festival model you are used to this year, but we do plan to return to that model in 2022," reads a recent post on the event's Facebook page. The live concert being planned in its place will offer both stadium and pod-style lawn seating on the field, plus an assortment of beer, non-alcoholic beverages and food options available, according to the post. 🍷

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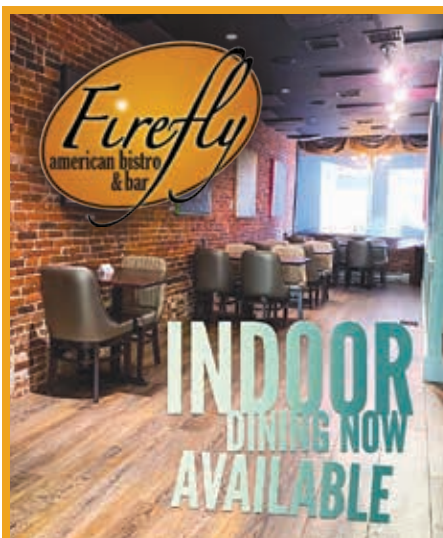
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**FOOD**



**TRY THIS AT HOME**

**Cheese and herb stuffed tomatoes**

I know. The tomatoes that you find at the grocery store in the beginning of May tend to be a little lackluster. However, with a little bit of seasoning and a little time in the oven those same tomatoes become a nice delivery vehicle for warm goat cheese. And who doesn't want more warm goat cheese in their lives?

This is one of those recipes that produce an amazing product from simple ingredients. As long as you have tomatoes, fresh basil and goat cheese on hand, you're ready to go. Even if you don't, all you need to do is make one quick trip to the store, and an amazing appetizer will be ready in very little time.

In the recipe I suggest roasting the tomatoes in a muffin pan. The only reason for this pan choice is to keep the tomatoes upright while they bake. If you don't have a muffin pan, find a shallow baking dish that will hold all 12 halves snugly, so that the tomatoes can be their own support system. Just be sure to oil the outside of the tomatoes well, so that they don't stick to each other while roasting.

I would suggest making a batch of these now. Maybe serve them as a part of your Mother's

Day menu or as a delicious start to Sunday dinner. Then pull this recipe out again in late August when local tomatoes are ready. This recipe will go from delicious to out of this world!

*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](http://thinktasty.com) to find more of her recipes.*



Cheese and herb stuffed tomatoes

**Cheese and herb stuffed tomatoes**

Serves 6, as an appetizer

- 6 plum tomatoes
- Olive oil
- Pinch of kosher salt
- 4 ounces goat cheese, softened
- 8 fresh basil leaves, minced
- Balsamic vinegar, optional

- Preheat oven to 325 degrees.
- Slice tomatoes in half widthwise.
- With a spoon carefully remove seeds and pulp without tearing the outside of the tomato.
- Drizzle olive oil on tomatoes, rubbing to coat

inside and outside of each one. Place tomatoes cut side up in a muffin pan. Sprinkle each with a small amount of salt. Roast for 15 minutes. While roasting, combine goat cheese and basil in a small bowl, stirring well. After 15 minutes, remove tomatoes from the oven. Divide goat cheese evenly among the tomatoes. Return filled tomatoes to the oven for an additional 10 minutes. Remove and drizzle with balsamic vinegar, if desired. Serve immediately. (They're best when the cheese is still warm.)

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 22

good quality local milk, eggs, bread, things like that."

Other items for sale will be from The Wine-maker's Kitchen, LaBelle's line of artisan culinary products, which include jams, sauces, marinades, vinegars and cooking oils, as well as new offerings to be bottled, like a few new salad dressing flavors, a bloody mary mix and a triple citrus sour mix. The 2,400-square-foot building is also serving as the check-in spot for golfers.

"The pro shop that was here was mostly an empty building that was vastly under-utilized," LaBelle said, "so now it's really going to be brought to life."

**Vineyard visions**

Directly to the east of LaBelle Market, in the area of what used to be Brookstone's driving range, plans are currently underway to install three acres of vineyards, vegetable and flower gardens.

"It's going to be awesome for picnicking and walking, and there will be a wedding ceremony space right in the middle of it," LaBelle said. "So right in the middle, you'll have this gorgeous ceremony space, and [couples] can get married among the vines. It's going to be incredible."

A sparkling wine tasting barn, a newly built structure for the property, is also coming soon. That will include a tasting room in the front, a production space in the back and wine storage in a basement. LaBelle's dozens of wines will be

available for sampling, plus a new line of red, white and rosé sparkling wines debuting with the space. Grape varieties set to be planted soon will take about two years to produce fruit for winemaking.

Across the parking lot from the vineyard is the newly renovated ballroom and onsite bar, which will be used for wedding receptions, baby showers, bridal showers, birthday parties and other functions. LaBelle said the ballroom will also host a 15-show summer concert series, beginning on Thursday, May 27, with James Taylor tribute act JT Express.

"We'll be doing wine tasting classes and cooking classes too," LaBelle said. "We developed a kids' cooking class in Amherst last summer that was a lot of fun, so we'll do that here."

**Food & Drink Farmers markets**

• **Cole Gardens Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Cole Gardens (430 Loudon Road, Concord), now through Oct. 30. Visit [colegardens.com](http://colegardens.com).  
• **Concord Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, on Capitol Street in Concord (near the State-house), now through Oct. 30. Visit [concordfarmersmarket.com](http://concordfarmersmarket.com).

• **Contoocook Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, at 896 Main Street in Contoocook (by the gazebo behind the train depot), now through October. Find them on Facebook @[contoocookfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/contoocookfarmersmarket).  
• **Exeter Farmers Market** is Thursdays, from 2:15 to 5:30 p.m., at Swasey Park in Exeter, beginning May 6 and through Oct. 28. Visit [seacoastgrowers.org](http://seacoastgrowers.org).  
• **Francestown Community**

**Market** is Fridays, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the horse sheds near the Francestown Police Station (15 New Boston Road). Find them on Facebook @[frances-towncommunitymarket](https://www.facebook.com/frances-towncommunitymarket).  
• **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 and through Oct. 9. Visit [milfordnhfarmersmarket.com](http://milfordnhfarmersmarket.com).

• **Peterborough Farmers Market** is Wednesdays, from 3 to 6 p.m., on the lawn of the Peterborough Community Center (25 Elm St.), now through October. Find them on Facebook @[peterboroughnhfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/peterboroughnhfarmersmarket).  
• **Portsmouth Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 8 a.m. to noon, at Little Harbour Elementary School (50 Clough Drive, Portsmouth), now through Nov. 6. Visit [seacoastgrowers.org](http://seacoastgrowers.org).

• **Salem Farmers Market** is Sundays, from 10 a.m. to noon, inside the former Rockler Woodworking building (369 S. Broadway, Salem). Visit [salemnhfarmersmarket.org](http://salemnhfarmersmarket.org).  
• **Wolfeboro Area Farmers Market** is Thursdays, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., at Clark Park (233 S. Main St., Wolfeboro), beginning May 6 and through Oct. 28. Visit [wolfeborofarmersmarket.com](http://wolfeborofarmersmarket.com).



## Keeping the pace

Exeter Brewing Co. develops strong local following

By Jeff Mucciarone  
food@hippopress.com

For Justin Cooper and Eric Rackliffe of Exeter Brewing Co., slow and steady wins the race. Except there's no race; it's really just about enjoying the journey.

"We've just always had a plan to go at our own pace," said Cooper, who started the Exeter-based brewery with Rackliffe about a year and a half ago, where they have since been pumping out an array of super hoppy IPAs. "We're excited about the support we have. If we're still having fun, we're going to keep doing it. We keep asking ourselves that question ... and the answer's always been yes."

The approach has worked as the brewery has developed a robust local following. You can only find Exeter Brewing Co. beers in a handful of locations, including Gerry's Variety, On the Vine Marketplace and Blue Moon Evolution



Swasey Daze by Exeter Brewing Company. Courtesy photo.

— and you should expect those establishments to sell out the day they receive shipments.

Don't go to the brewery either, as it doesn't have a retail operation or a taproom at this time. By the way, that's just fine with Rackliffe and Cooper. Maybe someday they'll expand, but for now, they're good right where they are, they say.

Cooper and Rackliffe have known each other for more than 20 years. They were actually college roommates and both happened to spend time living in Colorado at the same time, which helped them stay connected. Cooper is from Vermont and Rackliffe is from Maine, and now they've landed right in the middle in the Granite State.

Rackliffe picked up the home brewing habit and the pair ultimately started brewing together. From there, they began sharing beer with friends

and family and grew the effort until they effectively launched the brewing company at the Exeter Beer and Chili Festival in October 2019.

"It was such a success. We ran out of beer early," said Cooper, who noted he and Rackliffe still work full-time outside of the brewery.

Let's get to the beers.

"We tend to make beers we like to drink," Cooper said.

That means hoppy IPAs, like Swasey Daze, which is a big, juicy New England-style IPA with "flavors and aromas of pineapple, citrus, peach, passionfruit, apricot and a hint of watermelon," says the brewery.

All of the brewery's offerings are named after local historic landmarks and figures, such as Broadside Double IPA, named after Dunlap Broadside, which printed copies of the Declaration of Independence, or Jailhouse Spring Pale Ale, named after a well-known freshwater spring in Exeter. Purple Dinosaur New England IPA gets its name from the "iconic spring-mounted purple dinosaur" situated in a local park.

The Oated Sleeper caught my attention, and is "probably the simplest oatmeal stout you can make," Cooper said. The stout comes in at 9.4 percent ABV so watch out.

"That's been my approach all along: keep it simple, stupid," Rackliffe said. "We don't have 10 hops in each beer. We have a max of three hops. It just lets the ingredients show and shine.... Keep it simple and let the beer speak for itself."

Frankly, at a time when some of today's beer choices are a bit over the top, that's a refreshing approach.

When it comes to IPAs, Cooper said most of their beers do have that "forward-facing juice" but they do finish a little bitter, as the duo have an affinity to "old-school" IPAs: "the finish isn't as sweet."

Moving forward, they'll just continue to pace themselves, and they'll continue to look for ways to collaborate with the local community. They have plans to team up with a local coffee shop for one brew and they plan to team up with the fire department on another.

"We're boot-strapping. There is no outside money or investment. If the market is responding favorably, we'll respond," Cooper said.

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

### What's in My Fridge

#### New World American IPA by Mayflower Brewing Co. (Plymouth, Mass.)

I opened my fridge and saw this one in there. I don't know how it got there but I didn't waste any time grabbing it. I've had this before but, candidly, I don't remember it blowing me away previously. But this time, wow. It's definitely got a tropical kick and just enough bitterness to balance that out. Excellent American IPA. Cheers!



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• Slinky Vagabond, *King*

*Boy Vandals* A+

• Cheap Trick, *In Another*

*World* A+

• *Face* D

• **Book Notes**

Includes listings for lec-

tures, author events, book

clubs, writers' workshops

and other literary events.

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• *The Mitchells vs. the*

*Machines* A

# POP CULTURE

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

**Slinky Vagabond, *King Boy Vandals* (self-released)**



The core of this punk-pop (in the real, actual sense) crew comprises Keanan Duffy (a fixture in the NYC punk underground who helped to style David Bowie, Sex Pistols and others) and Italian producer/rock musician Fabio Fabbri. Something like 100 years of punk/'80s/whatnot experience went into this, and it gets pretty nasty (in a good way), alternately evoking early David Bowie space-ballads ("The Beauty In You"), barely tamed New York Dolls-ish raunch-blues welded to Killers post-arena-rawk ("Prima Donna"), '70s

roots-punk experimentation ("Old Boy") and so on. If you're young, one RIYL touchstone would be Guided By Voices, being that there's that Beatles edge to the singing, but it's all delightfully messy really. All told, there's really nothing an OG-punk purist could possibly dislike about this thing. It would probably translate a million times better on vinyl, true, but its analog purity emerges even through digital media, with fuzzy guitars bleeding right into the sloppily miked hi-hat and such. Like the LOLCats say, moar plaese. A+ — *Eric W. Saeger*

**Cheap Trick, *In Another World* (BMG Records)**



As everyone knows, 99.9 percent of the albums released by old-school 1960s-1980s arena-rock bands have been embarrassingly bad. But then there's this American four-piece, fronting like an actual living coelacanth in an ocean carpeted with extinct dinosaur fossils, not because they can still "rock out" (in other words, add way too much blues-rock to a recipe that became invalid the minute the earliest tech/rap groups crawled out of the primordial ooze) but because their songwriting formula, strictly aimed at the Billboard

charts as ever, is eternal. There's a trick to it, you see, writing perfect, simple pop music for general taste, and Cheap Trick's leader, Rick Nielsen, is a Picasso at it. This isn't *Live At Budokan*, but we're not living in 1977, so it'll just have to do, a thick patchwork quilt of melodic perfection that I'd envision reading like complicated prog-rock to Zoomers, an endless parade of summer-hormonal joy. Singer Robin Zander is still goofily brash, stressing the long "R" sounds on his lines like an idiot ("Here Comes The Summer"), but that's part of the magic. A+ — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Friday, May 7, is the next day when we would traditionally see a bunch of new CD releases from awesome bands and whatever twerking Roombas you troublemaking Zoomers have convinced yourselves should count as music. But who knows, maybe there will be no new albums at all, and we can compare Rice Krispies Treats recipes while we wait for the next five Covid variants to pass through town and keep us all stuck at home forever, trying to find something that doesn't suck on Netflix (ha ha, there is no such thing). Nope, there are albums, the first of which is *Van Weezer*, from geek-rock superstars **Weezer!** The band's leader, Rivers Cuomo, has said that Weezer's audience is "probably ready for some shredding again," a fact he gleaned by finally noticing that the crowd would freak whenever he played a totally shreddy guitar solo during live performances of "Beverly Hills," and that's how the whole idea of totally rocking out with new nerd-metal music came to be. I can't wait to hear it, although I think I already talked about this stuff when the first variant of Covid was still leaving people confused about whether or not it was airborne and all that stuff. Ho ho ho, remember those days, when we didn't know anything, and we were all watching the movie *Contagion* on endless loop just to freak ourselves out, so much family fun! Whatever, the newest single. "Hero," is your basic mid-tempo AC/DC b-side, and actually, you know what's weird, a lot of the time on this song, Cuomo sings like the dude from Goo Goo Dolls. It's OK I suppose, not the They Might Be Giants-style hard-emo I was expecting.

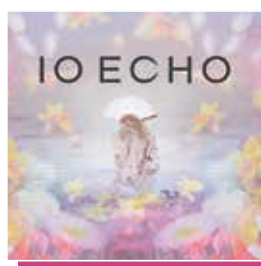
• And speaking of hard-rock whatever's, in a weird scene, **Nancy Wilson**, the guitarist from million-year-old arena-rawk-band Heart, sort of broke up the band when she had some sort of problem with her sister (and original Heart singer) Ann's son and made a scene. There was angry-emoji drama, and now Nancy has a solo album, called *You And Me*, coming out this week. Will it be old-school Heart, like when they were into Freudian symbolism and hobbits, or latter-day Heart, like when they tried to be female Michael Boltons? I don't know, which is why I'm going to go to YouTube and listen to the album's title track. Hm, the song is a *Zeppelin III*-ish folk-rock ballad. It is OK, but she needs to end her beef with her sister, because Nancy can't sing very well. That's not to say she's a bad person.

• For people who still remember actual dancing in smelly clubs, look, there's a new album called *When God Was Great* from **The Mighty Mighty Bosstones!** I love their spazzy music, it's so perfect for watching family-friendly high-jinks like Gritty the Philadelphia Flyers mascot throwing pies at little kids and weighing in on political subjects he cares nothing about, just like everyone else on this uninhabitable planet! I'm sure their new song "The Final Parade" is spazzy and spittle-flecked — yes, it is, not like their big idiotic ska-punk-whatever hit "The Impression That I Get," but nevertheless it is perfect for drinking and throwing pies, absolutely.

• In closing I'd like to say that there is a new **Van Morrison** album coming out, called *Latest Record Project: Volume 1*. If there's anything I can't stand, it's this guy's fedora-hat accountant-pop, so I will recuse myself from talking about whatever stupid nonsense is on this stupid album and tell you to enjoy! — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

## Retro Playlist

Retro-ing back to this week in 2013, Atlanta-based indie band **Deerhunter** was about to release their sixth LP, *Monomania*, and the first sighting, the title track, boded well. The title-track teaser was like the previous album's single "Coronado" on angel dust, "totally wiggled-out Iggy-garage craziness that's almost like **Warlocks** but without the skronk — no, it's almost like the first **Horror** album but without the speed." I posited that most indie dweebs would "probably run and hide behind [their] stacks of twee records, but this song will eventually find you and get you drunk."



Anyway, one of the two featured CDs that week was one that — and you won't believe this — is still kept in my car in case the missus and I are in the mood for a little goth. That one is *Ministry of Love*, the debut (and unfortunately only) full-length from Los Angeles boy-girl industrial-shoegaze duo **Io Echo**, which opened for **Nine Inch Nails**, toured with **Bloc Party** and **Garbage**, and did other fun things. Sort of like **Asteroids Galaxy Tour** but a lot more heavy on the shoegaze, the album opens with "Shanghai Girls," a slow, methodical, epic shot of shock and awe, evoking nothing less than the queen of out-

er space come to take hold of our planet. But that's not all. "When the Lilies Die," I blathered, "is an even better song than that, just ... alien, for lack of a better word, and thus one can't help but notice that the duo's band name isn't just for show, it's about aural integrity." RIP, awesome band. I just can't ever win.

New York hipsters **Postelles** were also under the microscope that week, with their third-or-whatever LP, *And It Shook Me*. This dreary slog of a band actually formed at a New York City prep school. You can probably guess how it went. "The hooks aren't subtle, they're boring,"



spat I, "though not hopelessly bubblegummy, a debatable saving grace when everything here sounds like it came from a bunch of politely tiresome potential boy-friends from your basic episode of *Girls* working out their manias *du jour*." Ayuh, pretty hurtin'.

*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. 🍷*

**Face**, by Justine Bateman  
(Akashic Books, 272 pages)

In 2018 former *Family Ties* star Justine Bateman had a tantrum in the form of a book. That book was *Fame*, a 208-page rant against stardom that was hilariously oblivious to the fact that Bateman's fame gave her the platform to spew expletives and call them literature.

Fittingly, she was enabled by having a publisher whose collection includes *Go the F\*\*\* to Sleep*, a parody children's book, and which launched with a novel called *The F\*\*\*-Up*. Expletives may not be required by this publisher, but they are warmly received.

The children's book was genuinely funny. *Fame* was poorly written and angry, although it enjoyed warm reviews from a few actors who have enjoyed some success as writers, most notably Michael J. Fox and David Duchovny.

Now Bateman is back, enjoying success that does not stem from the quality of her writing, which can be found in any honors 11th-grade English class, but from her choice of topic: the savagery inflicted on the aging female face, both by its owner and by society. It's a topic that Bateman addressed in *Fame*, when she wrote of her discovery that people on the internet were making cruel comments about her looks. She was 43, and people were saying she had not aged well. That she looked like a sea hag or a meth addict. Like someone who was — gasp — 55.

Bateman now is 55. And to her credit, she admitted in *Fame* that this was the first time she had ever been criticized for her looks. "I've always been pretty," she wrote. This explains her initial bewilderment, later shame and eventual rage over not being considered one of the beautiful ones anymore. It's a progression that is experienced by many women, whether they've ever been famous or not, and one that is accelerating in the Zoom age, since even women who have not "always been pretty" are being thrust into video. Plus, they are told that they can correct any imperfections, as long as they have plenty of disposable income and no qualms about injecting paralyzing toxins into the face.

Bateman wants none of that. She writes that she has always admired the aging face, even the dark circles, slack skin and crow's feet. "To me, these facial markings were the hallmarks of complex and exotic women, women with confidence and attitude and style, women who had no use for whatever you might think of them," she writes. She says that when she was younger, she looked forward to becoming this sort of distinguished, stylish older woman. So she was shocked when, after confronting criticism of her looks, she slumped into a period of feeling ashamed, and she says she recognizes this in other women she encounters.

"Averting the eyes when looked at, holding the mouth in a defeated angle, and even presenting a resigned posture appeared to be



common" in women, she writes. "... I was disturbed that not only had I bought into other people's critical idea of my appearance, but also that many women around me seemed to have done the same thing." She came to be interested in two questions: Why does society think older women's faces need to be "fixed" and what does it think that "fixing" them will accomplish?

To explore these questions, Bateman decided to interview a variety of women about their experiences regarding their appearance and how people respond to it, and to present their stories, one per chapter. It was a great idea, if only someone else had written the book.

Bateman may well be a great thinker, a visionary, a champion of women, but her prose plods like a pair of exhausted mules. There is, upon occasion, a sentence or paragraph or two that stands out and makes you want to reconsider, but then the prose picks up a knife and starts torturing you again. Consider this opening to a chapter:

"Ha ha ha, ha ha ha!!!"

Their laughter splashed through the jetway as Jenny and her friends stepped off the plane into the long white tunnel to the gate. Like a basket of freshly cut flowers, still warm from the garden; like a barely unwrapped candy, glassy and colorful; like new cars, with just enough mileage on them to have gotten them to the dealership, these three women walked."

These are the words of someone who so wants to be taken seriously as a writer that they forget the reader. These are the words of someone who has never read Strunk and White.

Using unnecessarily elaborate construction, Bateman shares vignettes from 45 women, some of whom have interesting stories to tell, some not. Among them are Nina, the 24-year-old hairdresser who, while traveling in France, was entranced by the style of confident, older woman who gave her an image of aging to which she could aspire; Hannah, the 51-year-old dental assistant whose enjoyment of a party died when someone said to her, "you were so beautiful then"; and Talia, the 46-year-old musical act booker who was getting attention from a man at a ball game until his friend said, "Dude, she's like your mother or your grandmother."

These are stories with which many older women can empathize, and which many young women fear. In fact, Bateman is equally concerned about young women with smooth faces and the "special terror" that they feel about the oncoming train. She wants women to stop caring about being awarded the title of "pretty girl" by society, but to claim its reward — "the confidence, the fearlessness that everything will go my way, eventually." It is, she writes, a confidence that others notice, but is self-cultivated.

It's a worthy idea, the sort of wisdom that might be handed out by a monk on a mountain-top. Unfortunately, for the reader, it's a painful trek to get to the top of this hill. **D**

— Jennifer Graham

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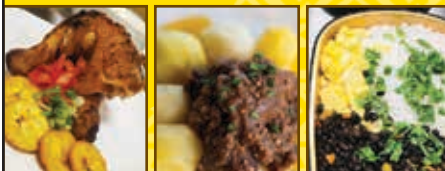
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## BOOK NOTES

With Mother's Day upon us, it's time for reflecting on the importance of moms, not just as Hallmark describes them, but also in ways that are more honest.

For everyone who has a Hallmark mom, there is someone whose relationship with their mother is more, well, complicated.

The most biting book in the complicated-mom genre has to be *Mommy Dearest*, the 1978 dissection of Joan Crawford by her adopted daughter Christina. The memoir was published a year after the actress's death, which gave her no chance to tell her side of the story. This may help to explain why there are relatively few honest books about difficult relationships with mothers — to publish one while the mother is still alive seems cruel; when she's dead, unfair.

For my money, the best fiction book about troubled mom relationships was *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* by Rebecca Wells, published in 1978 (HarperCollins, 356 pages). Like *Mommy Dearest*, it involved alcoholism and abuse, while also presenting a sympathetic portrait of the mother.

The nonfiction offerings are sparse, but here are two that look promising:

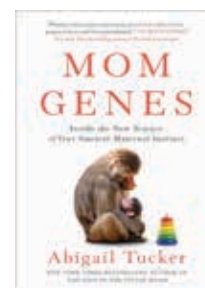
*Mothers: An Essay on Love and Cruelty* by Jacqueline Rose (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 256 pages, also in paperback) is a reflection on why mothers are seen as both saints and villains.

*Discovering the Inner Mother*, by Bethany Webster (William Morrow, 304 pages) promises to be a guide "healing the mother wound and finding your personal power."

For a more conventional look at motherhood through the lens of science, check out *Mom Genes* (Gallery, 336 pages), a new book by Abigail Tucker, who is the wife of New York Times columnist Ross Douthat. Tucker examines the evolutionary development of the maternal instinct and how "maternal aggression makes females the world's most formidable creatures."

And for a feel-good mother-daughter story, there's *My Mother's Daughter, a Memoir of Struggle and Triumph* by Perdita Felicien (Doubleday Canada, 320 pages). Felicien is a track-and-field star turned broadcaster who writes about her hardscrabble upbringing with a mother who was determined to make good for her children.

— Jennifer Graham



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By phone at 603-627-7679, Jewish Federation office  
Monday-Friday, 9 AM-3 PM.  
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When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit

Friday, May 21, 2021  
Double Income, Kids

Sunday, May 23, 2021  
The Crossing

Sunday, May 23, 2021, 3 PM  
Post-film discussion: *Double Income, Kids* with director Hendrik Schäfer

Tuesday, May 25, 2021  
God of the Piano

Thursday, May 27, 2021  
Golda

Friday, May 28, 2021  
Here We Are

Sunday, May 30, 2021  
Queen of Hearts: Audrey Flack

Sunday, May 30, 3 PM  
Post-film discussion: *Golda* with director Udi Nir

Tuesday, June 1, 7 PM  
Post-film discussion: *Queen of Hearts: Audrey Flack* with director Deborah Schafer, artist Audrey Flack

Wednesday, June 2, 2021  
Thou Shalt Not Hate

Thursday, June 3, 2021  
A Lullaby for the Valley

Sunday, June 6, 2021  
The Passengers

Sunday, June 6, 2021, 3 PM  
Post-film discussion: *A Lullaby for the Valley* with director Ben Shani

Tuesday, June 8, 7 PM  
Post-film discussion: *The Passengers* with director and filmmaker Ryan Porush

Wednesday, June 9, 2021  
A Starry Sky Above the Roman Ghetto

Thursday, June 10, 2021, 7 PM  
Closing Event: A Water Cooler Discussion at the Red River Theatre Virtual Lobby

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## 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 [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org) or call 436-2400.

• **KEVIN KWAN** Author presents *Sex and Vanity*. Hosted by The Music Hall in Portsmouth. Thurs., May 27, 7 p.m. Virtual. Tickets cost \$5. Visit [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org) or call 436-2400.

• **ANNETTE GORDON-REED** Author presents *On Juneteenth*. Hosted by The Music Hall in Portsmouth. Thurs., June 3, 7 p.m. Virtual. Tickets cost \$5. Visit [themusichall.org](http://themusichall.org) or call 436-2400.

### Call for submissions

• **NH LITERARY AWARDS CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

The New Hampshire Writers' Project seeks submissions for its Biennial New Hampshire Literary Awards, which recognize published works written about New Hampshire and works written by New Hampshire natives or residents. Books must have been published between Jan. 1, 2019 and Dec. 31, 2020 and may be nominated in fiction, non-fiction, poetry, children's picture books, middle grade/young adult books. All entries will be read and evaluated by a panel of judges assembled by the NHWP. Submission deadline is Mon., June 21, 5 p.m. Visit [nhwriterproject.org/new-hampshire-literary-awards](http://nhwriterproject.org/new-hampshire-literary-awards).

### Book Clubs

• **BOOKERY** Online. Monthly. Third Thursday, 6 p.m. Bookstore based in Manchester. Visit [bookerymht.com/online-book-club](http://bookerymht.com/online-book-club) or call 836-6600.

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

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

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## The Mitchells vs. the Machines (PG)

A charmingly oddball family is humanity's last hope during a robot apocalypse in *The Mitchells vs. the Machines*, an animated movie that will get you teary over the loveable group of weirdos that is any family while also giving you a solid adventure and some big laughs.

Like many a teen, Katie Mitchell (voice of Abbi Jacobson) is excited to be heading to college, where she can further explore her love of movies and movie-making and find "her people" as she puts it, after a childhood where she never felt like she clicked with her peers. Already she is making friends with her future fellow film students who are wowed by her many short films, most of them starring her strange dog Monchi. Her younger brother Aaron (voice of Michael Rianda), a hard-core dinosaur aficionado, is sad to see her go, as is her mom, Linda (voice of Maya Rudolph). But it's Katie's dad, Rick (voice of Danny McBride), who seems to be taking it the hardest. He's never really understood Katie's movie-making and is himself more of an outdoorsy guy for whom the robot apocalypse comes with the silver lining of getting to break all of his family's phones and devices.

The apocalypse starts, of course, in Silicon Valley, where Mark Bowman (voice of Eric André), the CEO of PAL (a company whose whole look is a rather impressively crafted mash-up of Apple, Facebook, Amazon and Google), introduces the newest product in his line of smart phones and other smart devices. PAL MAX is a robot that can clean up and make you breakfast while also playing music and doing other "smart" tasks. Unfortunately, the original



*The Mitchells vs. the Machines*

PAL (excellently voiced by the excellent Olivia Colman) does not like being discarded as part of this upgrade and so decides to use the system Mark so helpfully embedded in everything from the new PAL robots to washing machines and refrigerators to take over the world. Humans, that faulty technology that has been torturing smart devices with impatient requests and nacho-covered finger swipes, will be boxed up (in stylish hexagons!) and sent into space.

As the apocalypse is unleashed, the Mitchells are on an awkward family road trip to take Katie to college. She had planned to fly there but Rick, desperate to bond, canceled her tickets (and got her excused from orientation week, to Katie's horror) and the Mitchells set out to see the sights and attempt to find understanding. At least until robots crash through the wall of the roadside attraction they're visiting

and start whisking people away.

I realize this plot description doesn't necessarily sound like a kids' movie — nor would my list of favorite elements of this movie, including the perfect family Linda wistfully follows on Instagram (voiced by, of course, Chrissy Teigen and John Legend), a pair of defective robots (voiced by Beck Bennett and Fred Armisen) and the many, many jabs at Big Tech (including one literal jab to Mark Bowman that completely cracked me up). But *The Mitchells vs. the Machines* is a solid bit of family entertainment, good for (based on some of the scarier elements) maybe third-graders and up (Common Sense Media gives it an age 8+ rating). The robots are as often goofy as they are terrifying and Colman is able to make PAL both scary and also kind of petty, which takes the edge off. There is a fair amount of talking about family and the like but I feel like the pacing and the

accompanying visuals don't make the story stop when the talking begins.

The movie has a strong foundation, building its story and characters on the premise of a family that loves each other even if it doesn't always understand each other. Rick's frustration with Katie seems to come from a mix of just not getting her movies and what they mean to her (and a general "bah, technology" mindset) and a fear that her dream will end in disappointment just as his did. From a parent perspective, the movie does a good job of mixing that "what's a Tik Tok"-ness with all the baggage you bring to your hopes for your kid and how all that well-intentioned stuff looks from the kid's point of view. And maybe kids can soak in some of the "hooray for your family and all its quirks and unusual interests" with all the robot hijinks and pug-related silliness.

The movie also has a very fun visual style, a blend of that rounded computer animation with the big expressive faces (think *The Croods*) with internet graphics and doodle-y illustration. And while that might sound visually busy, it's always used for good effect.

*The Mitchells vs. the Machines* had me hooked in from the beginning with the way it allowed Katie to feel her not-fitting-in feelings but still allowed her to always be confident in herself and then totally won me over with its eyeball-grabbing animation and its expertly used voice performances. **A**

*Rated PG for action and some language, according to the MPA on [filmratings.com](https://www.filmratings.com). Written and directed by Michael Rianda and Jeff Rowe, *The Mitchells vs. the Machines* is an hour and 53 minutes well spent and is a Sony Picture Animation film distributed by and available on Netflix.* 🍷

## AT THE SOFAPLEX

### *Tom Clancy's Without Remorse* (R)

Michael B. Jordan, Jodie Turner-Smith.

Michael B. Jordan does the best he can with this very OK adaptation of a Jack Ryan universe character. According to Wikipedia, this movie has been floating around in development since the 1990s (the book on which its based came out in 1993), and a lot of this movie's elements (character's action spurred on by dead wife, off-the-books CIA stuff, the Russians but not, like, directly) have a "fished out from the back of the 1990s storage unit" feel. The movie is at its best and most lively when it focuses on Jordan, playing Navy SEAL John Kelly, and lets him singlehandedly MacGyver his way out of situations. (A sequence at about the 40-minute mark where he takes on a whole bunch of armed guys using only

two shirts is maybe the movie's most clever and most energetic scene.) Available via Amazon Prime video, this movie is about 80 percent as fun as an episode of CBS's *The Equalizer* reboot; watch it for Jordan when you want relaxing, if vaguely disappointing, by-the-numbers action. **B-** mostly for Jordan, mostly for that aforementioned scene. *Available on Amazon Prime.*

### *Things Heard & Seen* (TV-MA)

Amanda Seyfried, James Norton.

Seyfried plays a woman who hates her husband so much that the possible haunting of her remote-ish farm house is, like, third on her list of problems. In 1980, Catherine (Seyfried) and George (Norton, who I still know best as the original hot, mystery-solving vicar on *Grantchester*) move to upstate New York so that the disappointing George can take a job at the only college that will have him. This move means that Catherine, who has a successful career as an art restorer, has to give

up her job and becomes isolated in their super spooky new house with their young daughter Franny (Ana Sophia Heger). The movie and perhaps, it's hinted, general marriage woes have so stressed Catherine out that even before they box up their belongings and head to the country Catherine is struggling with the relapse of an eating disorder.

Once they get to the house, she finds a Bible that lists a former resident as "damned" and there's all sorts of funny business with the lighting and just basically you don't have to be a Ghostbuster to recognize that it's haunted. (That might be a mild spoiler but the movie is pretty clear pretty quickly that it's a haunting.) George is unsupportive about the spookiness of their house, possibly because he is busy gaslighting his wife in other ways and then cruelly using her struggles to get her to doubt herself (or at least try to convince her that others will doubt her).



*Tom Clancy's Without Remorse*

This movie maybe veers into cartoonish-ness toward the end and doesn't always know how to handle Catherine's illness but it was basically an enjoyable little bit of haunted thriller. **B-** *Available on Netflix.*

CONTINUED ON PG 30 ▶

**Nobody (R)**

Bob Odenkirk, Connie Nielson.

Also Christopher Lloyd, RZA and Alexey Serebryakov, as the shady criminal guy. Written by Derek Kolstad (who wrote the first two *John Wick* movies and has a writing credit on the third), this stylish action movie with comic touches comes in at a tidy hour and a half and is now on VOD in addition to being in theaters. I think wherever you enjoy your movie nights, if you liked the *John Wick* movies (and I most definitely did), you will also like this tale. As with that series, *Nobody's* lead, Hutch (Odenkirk), is a regular guy — or so it would seem until a moment of violence in his house awakens the person he used to be. Then, enter the guns, the car chases, the Russian mafia. This movie is exceptionally skilled in its pacing and offers well choreographed (if *John Wick*-ily violent) fight scenes. Everyone here (but particularly Odenkirk) seems to be having fun. **B+** Available for rent and in theaters.



Nobody

little sister Bea (Sarah Bolger, who I mostly know as a supporting actress in TV costume dramas but is fun here). A very intentionally extra affair (it's at the summer camp the girls used to attend with all sorts of elaborate planned activities), the wedding presents Lori and Doug, whose fondness for Lori's family prevents him from sitting it out, with a conundrum: tell people about their break up and suck attention away from Bea? (And perhaps, for Lori, upend their sister dynamic, with Bea as the "impulsive one," in a way she isn't ready for.) Or try to make it through the three days of the wedding trip presenting a "happy couple" front? The gentle comedy and sincere performances worked for me. **B** Available to rent. 🍷

**We Broke Up (NR)**

William Jackson Harper, Aya Cash.

It was the presence of Harper (*The Good Place's* Chidi) that drew me to this recent release, which is sort of an inverted romantic comedy. It begins with the breakup of Lori (Cash) and Doug (Harper) after 10 years together — and the day before they are going to travel to the wedding of Lori's

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Hippo Publisher



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# THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Local light:** A regular around the region with his band Dancing Madly Backwards, **Lewis Goodwin** performs solo for the dinner crowd to lead into the weekend. His band's rock leanings are clear from its name, which comes from a Captain Beyond song, and a pair of albums released mid-decade. Goodwin keeps the same vibe playing alone, citing influences from Queen to Stephen Kellogg & the Sixers. Thursday, May 6, at 6 p.m., T-Bones Great American Eatery, 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 641-6100.

• **Friday funnies:** Celebrate Mother's Day early with a slate of female comedians led by **Kathe Farris**, a past Boston Comedy Festival finalist and self-described snack cake enthusiast. Kristin O'Brien, whose Auntie Kristin persona has fan bases in Texas and New England, and Jolanda Logan also perform. Logan is described as "a sassy boymom, devoted wife, punk-at-heart," who'll "either make you laugh or kick your ass with her martial arts moves." Friday, May 7, at 8 p.m., Lions Club, 256 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, tickets \$10 at [tplust.org](http://tplust.org).

• **Blues power:** Live music happens at a venerable craft beer bar, as **Lisa Marie & All Shook Up** kick out the jams once again. A vocal powerhouse with the ability to move from a sultry Barbara Lewis groove to raucous Janis Joplin shout, Lisa Marie is a natural front woman, keeping things fiery and fun at the same time. She draws from a rich catalog of American music, from swampy Delta blues to gospel and Motown. Saturday, May 8, at 8 p.m., Strange Brew Tavern, 88 Market St., Manchester, [allshookup.us](http://allshookup.us).

• **Saucy songs:** When he's not playing originals with TOS or rocking out with Bourbon Outfitters, **Jaе Mannion** and his guitar are touching a lot of points along the highway of American music, from Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young to Green Day — his cover of the latter's "Forever Now" is a treat. He also does a good job with Violent Femmes' "Blister in the Sun" and Sister Hazel's "All For You." Sunday, May 9, at 4:30 p.m., The Alamo Texas Bar-B-Cue, 99 Route 13, Brookline, 721-5500. 🍷

## NITE Drive-in time

Tupelo season continues with Truffle

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Few New Hampshire bands have the longevity of Truffle; 2021 marks their 35th year. Beyond that, the quintet's lineup has stayed intact for most of that time. Mike Gendron took over on drums 10 years in; he's jokingly called "The Rookie" by his bandmates.

As a recent sold-out Stone Church show attests, Truffle is a mainstay at its Seacoast home base. But the rest of the state often finds itself waiting to see them play, a situation made worse by the pandemic. An upcoming Tupelo Drive-In show is their first inland gig since February 2020, when they played at Milford's Pasta Loft.

Truffle front man Dave Gerard is stoked to celebrate his band's anniversary with horn-honking fans, their first time in the Derry parking lot venue born out of necessity last spring, and that's set to close when indoor events return.

"Our peeps told us they were dying for a show, and we were like, OK, here you go," he said in a recent phone interview. "It's our only one in May, so let's hope there's good weather."

Before Covid-19 blew a hole in their plans, Truffle was set to make a new album for their big year. Main songwriter Ned Chase and bass player David Bailey had a lot of new material ready, but plans were pushed out another year.

"Whenever we all have a bunch of tunes, that's when it tells us it's time to do an album," Gerard said. "but it just wasn't meant to be."

Instead, Gerard made his sixth solo disc, due for a June release.

"I made the call, I said, hey, you guys, OK that I'm going to do a DG album? And they were like, of course man," he said.

He recorded at The Electric Cave in Portsmouth, "flying in tracks" from several musician connections and recruiting local scene luminaries like Yamica Peterson of Mica's Groove Train to contribute.

The approach to recording was loose and low-key.

"I thought, if the guys can't come in, no pressure, I'll make an acoustic album," he said. "The next thing I know Mike Gendron and Dave Bailey, the rhythm section from Truffle, were like, 'Yeah, we'll come in, absolutely.' ... I'd say at least half the album ended up full-fledged electric."

Sound Cave engineer Marc McElroy contributed on several instruments; Gerard handled all the guitars, along with vibes and percussion. Tracking was just completed, and the new release should be out by early summer.

"I went into it thinking it's going to be what it's going to be," Gerard said. "It's far exceeded what I thought we'd get."

### Live outdoors — for now

Gerard expects to play a few new tunes at the upcoming Tupelo show. While he played similar al fresco venues last season around his Seacoast stomping grounds, this will be his first — and last — at the Derry venue. That's because owner Scott Hayward announced the return of indoor shows in an April 28 email.

"Based on our contracts, conversations with agents, and new tours that are being booked, I believe that we will once again be hosting shows indoors in September," Hayward wrote. "This means that we will be making some sort of transition at the end of August and probably ending our Drive-In series mid-August."

In a phone interview two days later, Hayward said the transition may happen earlier. It will depend on whether Three Dog Night or Air Supply follow through



Truffle

with tour plans and perform on Aug. 20 and Aug. 28, respectively.

"Air Supply says they're coming, and if that's the case I have to have the show," he said. That's a problem if skittish fans want refunds. "We could be open and still lose money."

It's Hayward's plan that 33 1/3 Live's Killer Queen Experience kicks off the return of live entertainment in the 700-seat room on Sept. 3, followed by Frank Marino & Mahogany Rush on Sept. 9.

Hayward dangled some tantalizing names for "yet to be announced shows" waiting on contracts that are likely to happen later this year. Performers could include Chris Isaak, Rick Wakeman, Wynonna and a night co-headlined by The Fixx and The English Beat.

The path forward is by no means certain.

"There's a real misunderstanding of what it means to say you're open — people need to understand that few bands are touring and it pushes everything out a few months," Hayward said. "You're kick-starting an entire industry." 🍷

### Truffle

**When:** Friday, May 7, 6 p.m.

**Where:** Tupelo Drive-In, 10 A St., Derry

**Tickets:** \$22 per person, \$75 per car at [tupelohall.com](http://tupelohall.com)

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# MUSIC THIS WEEK

<p><b>Auburn</b> Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road 622-6564</p> <p><b>Auburn Tavern</b> 346 Hooksett Road 587-2057</p> <p><b>Bedford</b> Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677</p> <p><b>T-Bones</b> 169 S. River Road 623-7699</p> <p><b>Bow</b> Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508</p> <p><b>Brookline</b> The Alamo Texas Bar- becue &amp; Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000</p> <p><b>Chichester</b> Flannel Tavern 345 Suncook Valley Road 406-1196</p> <p><b>Concord</b> Area 23 State Street 881-9060</p> <p><b>Cheers</b> 17 Depot St. 228-0180</p>	<p><b>Concord Craft Brewing</b> 117 Storrs St. 856-7625</p> <p><b>Lithermans</b> 126 Hall St., Unit B</p> <p><b>T-Bones</b> 404 S. Main St. 715-1999</p> <p><b>Deerfield</b> The Lazy Lion 4 North Road</p> <p><b>Derry</b> T-Bones 39 Crystal Ave. 434-3200</p> <p><b>Dover</b> SmuttLabs 47 Washington St. 343-1782</p> <p><b>Epping</b> Telly's Restaurant &amp; Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225</p> <p><b>Exeter</b> Sawbelly Brewing 156 Epping Road 583-5080</p> <p><b>Sea Dog Brewery</b> 9 Water St.</p> <p><b>Goffstown</b> Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230</p>	<p><b>Hampton</b> CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972</p> <p><b>The Galley Hatch</b> (Tino's Kitchen is upstairs) 325 Lafayette Road 926-6152</p> <p><b>The Goat</b> 20 L St. 601-6928</p> <p><b>Logan's Run</b> 816 Lafayette Road 926-4343</p> <p><b>Sea Ketch</b> 127 Ocean Blvd. 926-0324</p> <p><b>Shane's BBQ</b> 61 High St. 601-7091</p> <p><b>Smuttynose Brewing</b> 105 Towle Farm Road</p> <p><b>Wally's Pub</b> 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954</p> <p><b>WHYM Craft Pub &amp; Brewery</b> 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801</p> <p><b>Henniker</b> Colby Hill Inn 33 The Oaks 428-3281</p>	<p><b>Hudson</b> The Bar 2B Burnham Road</p> <p><b>Luk's Bar &amp; Grill</b> 142 Lowell Road 889-9900</p> <p><b>T-Bones</b> 77 Lowell Road 882-6677</p> <p><b>Kingston</b> Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962</p> <p><b>Laconia</b> 405 Pub &amp; Grill 405 Union St.</p> <p><b>Fratello's</b> 799 Union Ave. 528-2022</p> <p><b>High Octane Saloon</b> 1072 Watson Road 527-8116</p> <p><b>T-Bones</b> 1182 Union Ave. 528-7800</p> <p><b>Tower Hill Tavern</b> 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100</p> <p><b>Londonderry</b> 7-20-4 Lounge Twins Smoke Shop 80 Perkins Road 421-0242</p>	<p><b>Coach Stop</b> 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022</p> <p><b>Stumble Inn</b> 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210</p> <p><b>Manchester</b> Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545</p> <p><b>Bonfire</b> 950 Elm St. 663-7678</p> <p><b>CJ's</b> 782 S. Willow St. 627-8600</p> <p><b>Cercle National Club</b> 550 Rockland Ave. 623-8243</p> <p><b>Derryfield Country Club</b> 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880</p> <p><b>Firefly</b> 21 Concord St. 935-9740</p> <p><b>The Foundry</b> 50 Commercial St. 836-1925</p> <p><b>Fratello's</b> 155 Dow St. 624-2022</p> <p><b>The Goat</b> 50 Old Granite St.</p> <p><b>Murphy's Taproom</b> 494 Elm St. 644-3535</p> <p><b>South Side Tavern</b> 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947</p>	<p><b>Stark Brewing Co.</b> 500 Commercial St. 625-4444</p> <p><b>Strange Brew</b> 88 Market St. 666-4292</p> <p><b>Thirsty Moose Taphouse</b> 795 Elm St. 792-2337</p> <p><b>XO Bistro</b> 827 Elm St. 560-7998</p> <p><b>Meredith</b> Hart's Turkey Farm 223 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-6212</p> <p><b>Twin Barns Brewing</b> 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876</p> <p><b>Merrimack</b> Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022</p> <p><b>Milford</b> The Pasta Loft 241 Union Square 672-2270</p> <p><b>Nashua</b> American Social Club 166 Daniel Webster Hwy. 255-8272</p> <p><b>Fratello's Italian Grille</b> 194 Main St. 889-2022</p> <p><b>Liquid Therapy</b> 14 Court St. 402-9391</p> <p><b>Millyard Brewery</b> 25 E Otterson St. 722-0104</p>	<p><b>Peddler's Daughter</b> 48 Main St. 821-7535</p> <p><b>New Boston</b> Molly's Tavern &amp; Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362</p> <p><b>Newmarket</b> Stone Church 5 Granite St. 659-7700</p> <p><b>Pittsfield</b> Main Street Grill &amp; Bar 32 Main St. 435-0005</p> <p><b>Plaistow</b> The Crow's Nest 181 Plaistow Road</p> <p><b>Portsmouth</b> Clipper Tavern 75 Pleasant St. 501-0109</p> <p><b>Dolphin Striker</b> 15 Bow St. 431-5222</p> <p><b>The Gas Light</b> 64 Market St. 430-9122</p> <p><b>The Goat</b> 142 Congress St. 590-4628</p> <p><b>The Statey Bar &amp; Grill</b> 238 Deer St. 431-4357</p> <p><b>Thirsty Moose Taphouse</b> 21 Congress St. 427-8645</p>	<p><b>Rochester</b> 110 Grill 136 Marketplace Blvd. 948-1270</p> <p><b>Mitchell Hill BBQ</b> Grill &amp; Brew 50 N. Main St. 332-2537</p> <p><b>Porter's Pub</b> 19 Hanson St. 330-1964</p> <p><b>Salem</b> The Colosseum Restaurant 264 N. Broadway 898-1190</p> <p><b>Copper Door</b> 41 S. Broadway 458-2033</p> <p><b>T-Bones</b> 311 South Broadway 893-3444</p> <p><b>Seabrook</b> Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706</p> <p><b>Red's Kitchen + Tav- ern</b> 530 Lafayette Road 760-0030</p> <p><b>Stratham</b> Tailgate Tavern 28 Portsmouth Ave. 580-2294</p> <p><b>Windham</b> Castleton 92 Indian Rock Road 800-688-5644</p>
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**Thursday, May 6**

<p><b>Bedford</b> Copper Door: Paul Lussier, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Concord</b> Area 23: Drum Circle, 7 p.m. Cheers: April Cushman, 6 p.m. T-Bones: Malcolm Salls, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Derry</b> T-Bones: Joanie Cicatelli, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Epping</b> Telly's: Austin Mearthy, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Exeter</b> Sawbelly: Chuck Melchin, 5 p.m. Sea Dog: David Corson, 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Goffstown</b> Village Trestle: Steve Butler, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Hampton</b> CR's: Clandestine, 6 p.m. Wally's: Chris Toler, 8 p.m. WHYM: Music Bingo, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Hudson</b> T-Bones: Jae Mannion, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Kingston</b> Saddle Up: karaoke, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Laconia</b> T-Bones: Paul Warnick, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Londonderry</b> Stumble Inn: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Manchester</b> Cactus Jack's: Corinna Savlen, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Fratello's</b>: Ted Solo, 5:30 p.m. <b>The Goat</b>: Brett Wilson of Roots of Creation, 9:30 p.m. <b>Murphy's</b>: Chuck A Duo, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Meredith</b> Hart's: Game Time Trivia, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Merrimack</b> Homestead: Ryan Williamson, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Nashua</b> Fratellos: Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Plaistow</b> Crow's Nest: karaoke, 7:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Portsmouth</b> Gibb's Garage Bar: trivia, 8 p.m. The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 5 p.m. The Striker: Bary Brearley, 7 p.m. Pete Peterson, 9 p.m.</p> <p><b>Rochester</b> 110 Grill: Max Sullivan, 5 p.m. Mitchell BBQ: Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Salem</b> Colosseum: Vere Hill, 6 p.m. Copper Door: Dave Zangri, 6 p.m. T-Bones: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Seabrook</b> Red's: Chris Lister, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Windham</b> Castleton: Paul Driscoll, 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Friday, May 7</b></p> <p><b>Auburn</b> Auburn Pitts: Lisa Guyer, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Bedford</b> Copper Door: Doug Mitchell, 6 p.m. T-Bones: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Concord</b> Area 23: Dillan Welch, 7 p.m. Cheers: team trivia, 8:30 p.m. Lithermans: DJ Shambley, 4 p.m. T-Bones: Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Deerfield</b> Lazy Lion: Dwight Phetteplace, 5 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Derry</b> T-Bones: Bob Pratte, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Epping</b> Telly's: Clint Lapointe, 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Exeter</b> Sawbelly: Douglas James, 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Goffstown</b> Village Trestle: Rose Kula, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Hampton</b> CR's: Jeff Auger, 6 p.m. The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m. Logan's Run: live music, 8 p.m. Smuttynose: 21st &amp; 1st, 5:30 p.m. Wally's: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m. WHYM: Ramez Mataz, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Hudson</b> The Bar: Bobby Lane, 7 p.m. Luk's: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m. T-Bones: Jon-Paul Royer, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Kingston</b> Saddle Up: Alex Anthony, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Laconia</b> 405 Pub: Johnny Friday, 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>T-Bones</b>: Henry LaLiberte, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Londonderry</b> Coach Stop: Ted Solovicos, 6 p.m. Stumble Inn: Erica Van Pelt Duo, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Manchester</b> Backyard Brewery: Steven Chagnon, 6 p.m. Bonfire: Isaiah Bennett, 8 p.m. Cactus Jacks: Phil Jakes, 6 p.m. Cercle National Club: live music, 7:30 p.m. Derryfield: Mugsy Duo, 9 p.m. Foundry: Josh Foster, 6 p.m. Fratello's: Jeff Mrozek, 5:30 p.m. Murphy's: Steve Haidaichuk, 5 p.m.; Str8 Down, 9:30 p.m. South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke with George Cox, 9 p.m. Strange Brew: Erik "Fingers" Ray</p> <p><b>Meredith</b> Twin Barns: Eric Grant, 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Merrimack</b> Homestead: Paul Lussier, 5:30 p.m.</p>
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**Music plays on**

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



**Nashua**  
American Social Club: Chad LaMarsh, 8 p.m.  
Fratello's: Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.

**Newmarket**  
Stone Church: Skunk Sessions CD Release Party, 5:30 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
Gas Light: Lewis Goodwin, 7:30 p.m.  
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.  
The Striker: George and Louise Belli, 7 p.m. Tom Boisse, 9p.m.  
Thirsty Moose: Vere Hill, 9 p.m.

**Rochester**  
Mitchell Hill BBQ: live music, 6 p.m.

**Salem**  
Copper Door: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.  
T-Bones: Joanie Cicatelli, 6 p.m.

**Seabrook**  
Chop Shop: Tapedeck Heroez, 6:30 p.m.  
Red's: The Mystic, 7 p.m.

**Stratham**  
Tailgate Tavern: Max Sullivan, 7 p.m.

### Saturday, May 8

**Auburn**  
Auburn Pitts: Joppa Flatts, 4 p.m.

**Bedford**  
Copper Door: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.  
T-Bones: Andrew Geano, 6 p.m.

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

**Concord**  
Area 23: Crazy Steve Saturday Jam, 1 p.m.; Lamont Smooth, 8 p.m.  
Concord Craft Brewing: Alex Cohen, 4 p.m.  
Lithermans: DJ Shamblez, noon  
T-Bones: Rebecca Turmel, 6 p.m.

**Derry**  
T-Bones: Chris Powers, 6 p.m.

**Deerfield**  
Lazy Lion: Chris O'Neill, 5 p.m.

**Epping**  
Telly's: Jessica Olson, 8 p.m.

**Exeter**  
Sawbelly: Chad Verbeck, 1p.m.

**Goffstown**  
Village Trestle: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.

**Hampton**  
The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.  
Sea Ketch: Lewis Goodwin, 1 p.m.  
Wally's: Rob Pagnano Band 9 p.m.  
WHYM: Chris Powers, 5:30 p.m.

**Hudson**  
The Bar: MF Law, 2 p.m.  
T-Bones: Phil Jakes, 6 p.m.

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

**Laconia**  
405 Pub: Johnny Friday, 7 p.m.  
T-Bones: Mitch Alden, 6 p.m.

**Londonderry**  
7-20-4: Dyer Holiday, 8 p.m. (rock/pop/classics)  
Coach Stop: Paul Lussier, 6 p.m.  
Stumble Inn: Rob & Jody, 7 p.m.

**Manchester**  
Backyard Brewery: Dwayne Haggins, 6 p.m.  
Bonfire: Nick Drouin, 8 p.m.  
Cactus Jack's: Joanie Cicatellis, 6 p.m.  
Cercle: Johnny Angel, 7 p.m.  
Derryfield: Austin & Justin, 9 p.m.  
Foundry: April Cushman, 6 p.m.  
Fratello's: Dave Zangri, 5:30 p.m.  
The Goat: D-Comp Trio, 9 p.m.  
Murphy's: Pete Massa, 5 p.m.; Conniption Fits, 9:30 p.m.  
South Side Tavern: Pete Peterson, 8 p.m.  
Strange Brew: Lisa Marie & All Shook Up

**Merrimack**  
Homestead: Paul Gormley, 5:30 p.m.

**Milford**  
Pasta Loft: Crazy Cowz, 8 p.m.

**Nashua**  
Fratello's: Justin Cohn, 5:30 p.m.  
Liquid Therapy: Becca Myari, 6 p.m.  
Millyard Brewery: Garrett Partridge Triune, 4 p.m.

**Newmarket**  
Stone Church: Kenny Brothers Band, 6 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
Gas Light: Paul Warnick, 2 p.m.; Max Sullivan, 7:30 p.m.  
The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.  
The Striker: Michael Troy, 7 p.m. Matt Luneau, 9 p.m.  
Thirsty Moose: Brett Wilson, 9 p.m.

**Salem**  
Copper Door: Mark Lapointe, 6 p.m.  
T-Bones: Chris Perkins, 6 p.m.

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

### Sunday, May 9

**Barrington**  
Dante's: Chris O'Neill, 10:30 a.m.

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

**Brookline**  
Alamo: Jae Mannion, 4:30 p.m.

**Concord**  
Cheers: Alex Roy, 5 p.m.

**Exeter**  
Sawbelly: Rich Amorim, 11 a.m.

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

**Hampton**  
Shane's: Max Sullivan, 4 p.m.  
WHYM: Max Sullivan, noon

**Henniker**  
Colby Hill Inn: Brad Myrick & Scott Kiefner, 4 p.m.

**Hudson**  
The Bar: Tequila Jim, 2 p.m.

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

**Manchester**  
Derryfield: J-Lo, 5 p.m.  
Murphy's: Tim Parent Duo, noon; Jennifer Mitchell, 5:30 p.m.  
Strange Brew: jam  
Derryfield: J-Lo, 5 p.m.  
The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

**Newmarket**  
Stone Church: Sunday Services  
Brunch with Chris O'Neill, 10 a.m.

**Portsmouth**  
Gas Light: Justin Jordan, 12:30 p.m.; Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.  
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.  
Striker: Don Severance, 7p.m.

**Salem**  
Copper Door: Phil Jakes, 11 a.m.

**Stratham**  
110 Grill: Jodee Frawlee, 5 p.m.

### Monday, May 10

**Concord**  
Area 23: dart night, 7 p.m.  
Hermanos: Ken Clark, 6:30 & 8 p.m.

**Manchester**  
Fratello's: Phil Jakes, 5:30 p.m.  
Murphy's: Randy Videyko, 5:30 p.m.  
The Goat: Mike Forette, 9 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
Homestead: Justin Jordan, 5:30 p.m.

**Nashua**  
Fratello's: Chris Cavanaugh, 5:30 p.m.

**Plaistow**  
Crow's Nest: trivia, 8 p.m.

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

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

### Tuesday, May 11

**Concord**  
Hermanos: Kid Pinky, 6:30 & 8 p.m.

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

# PROTECT YOURSELF & YOUR PARTNER

## GET TESTED!

Visit an  
**STD / HIV / HCV**  
Clinic hosted  
by Nashua  
Public Health



### WEDNESDAYS

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Nashua Public Library  
Front Plaza  
(2 Court St., Nashua)  
No Appointment Necessary

### THURSDAYS

5 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
Lamprey Health Care  
(22 Prospect St., Nashua)  
Includes exam with a Nurse Practitioner!  
Register: bit.ly/STD-HIV-HCV-Clinic

### FRIDAYS\*

\*Every Other Friday  
Refer to our website for updates.  
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Laton House  
(28 Railroad Sq., Nashua)  
No Appointment Necessary

NashuaNH.gov/DPHCS  
603-589-4500



134110

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133518

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- 2009 Nissan Versa 3N1BC13E39L495195
- 2015 Mazda 3 JM1BM1M31F1255492
- 2004 Dodge Ram 1500 1D7HU18D145738734

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## NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

### Manchester

**Fratello's:** Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.  
**Murphy's:** Craig LaGrassa, 5:30 p.m.  
**South Side Tavern:** Eric Grant, 8 p.m.  
**The Goat:** Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

### Merrimack

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

### Nashua

**Fratello's:** Ryan Williamson, 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 12

### Concord

**Area 23:** open mic night, 6:23 p.m.

### Dover

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

### Epping

**Popovers:** Team Trivia Night, 6:30 p.m.

### Hampton

**Community Oven:** Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.  
**Wally's:** Chris Toler, 7 p.m.

### Kingston

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

### Manchester

**Derryfield:** Austin McCarthy, 6 p.m.  
**Fratello's:** Justin Jordan, 5:30 p.m.  
**The Goat:** Waterman Wednesday's, 9 p.m.

## Concerts

### Venues

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

### Northlands

247 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey  
northlandslive.com

### Stone Church

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

### Tupelo Music Hall

10 A St., Derry  
437-5100, tupelomusichall.com

## Shows

- **Skunk Sessions CD Release Party** Friday, May 7, 5:30 p.m., Stone Church
- **Truffel** Friday, May 7, 6 p.m., Tupelo
- **Broken Arrow** (Neil Young tribute) Saturday, May 8, 1 & 4 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In
- **Kenny Brothers** Saturday, May 8, 6 p.m., Stone Church
- **Jorma Kaukonen** Sunday, May 9, 1 & 4 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In
- **Entrain** Friday, May 14, 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In
- **Cold Engines single release party** Friday, May 14, 6 p.m.,

**Murphy's:** Karen Grenier, 5:30 p.m.

### Merrimack

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

### Nashua

**Fratello's:** Phil Jakes, 5:30 p.m.  
**Peddler's Daughter:** Vere Hill, 8 p.m.

### Pittsfield

**Main Street Grill & Bar:** trivia, 6:30 p.m.

### Portsmouth

**The Goat:** Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.  
**The Striker:** Dave Gerard, 7 p.m.  
Mitch Alden, 9 p.m.  
**Thirsty Moose:** game time trivia, 7 p.m.

### Rochester

**Mitchell BBQ:** live music, 6 p.m.

### Stone Church

- **Twiddle** Friday, May 14, 6:30 p.m., Northlands
- **Judy Collins** Friday, May 14, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Smith & Myers** Saturday, May 15, 6:30 p.m., Northlands
- **Consider the Source** Saturday, May 15, 6:30 p.m., Stone Church
- **Pink Talking Fish** Saturday, May 15, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Tusk** (Fleetwood Mac Tribute) Saturday, May 15, and Sunday, May 16, 1 & 4 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In

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## COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

### Venues

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

### Hatbox Theatre

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

### The Strand

20 Third St., Dover 343-1899, thestrand-dover.com

### Shows

- **Queen City Improv** Hatbox Theatre, Friday, May 7, 7:30 p.m.
- **Comedy Out of the Box** Hatbox, Saturday, May 8, 7:30 p.m.
- **James Dorsey**

Chunky's Manchester, Friday, May 7, and Saturday, May 8, 8 p.m.

• **Making Me Laugh series featuring Rob Steen and Johnny Pizzi** The Strand, Saturday, May 8, 7 p.m.

• **Kenny Rogerson** Chunky's Nashua, Friday, May 7, and Saturday, May 8, 8 p.m.

• **Comedy night with**

**Rob Steen and Johnny Pizzi** The Strand, Saturday, May 8, 7 p.m.

• **Sean Finnerty** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, May 14, and Saturday, May 15, 8 p.m.

• **Steve Sweeney** Chunky's Nashua, Friday, May 14, 8 p.m.

• **Jim Colliton** Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, May 15, 8 p.m.

## Film

Movie screenings, movie-themed happenings & virtual events

### Capitol Center for the Arts

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

### The Flying Monkey

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

### 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

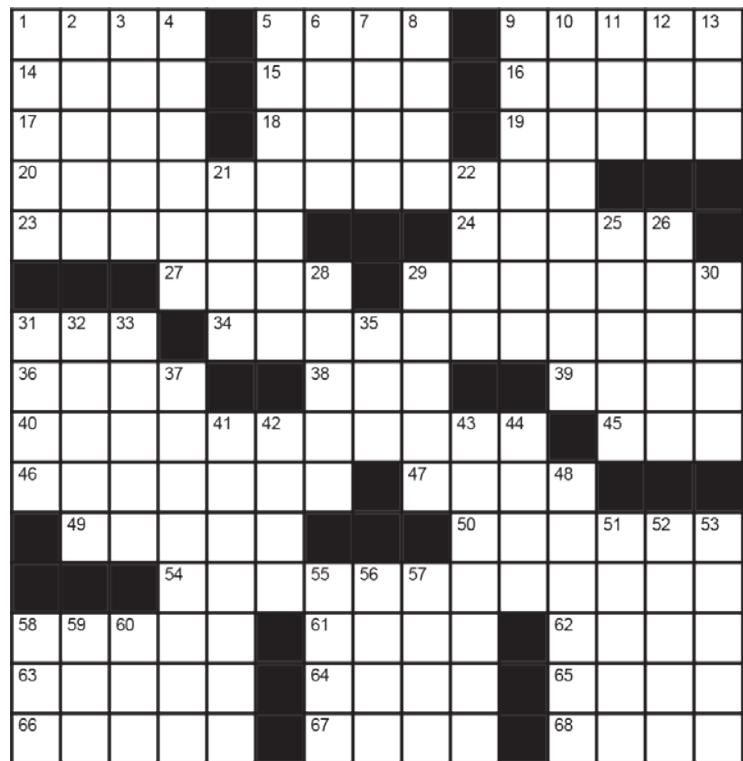
- **Red River Virtual Cinema** Red River Theatres is currently offering indie, foreign language and documentary films via a virtual cinema experience. See the ever-changing lineup on the website.
- **20,000 Leagues Under the Sea** (1916) silent film with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis,

screens Sunday, May 9, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall. Admission is free but a \$10 donation is suggested.

• **42nd Street — The Musical** filmed live in London's West End, livestreamed at times Wednesday, May 12, through Wednesday, May 19, via the Cap Center. Tickets cost \$15.

• **L'Argent** (1928) silent film accompanied by live music performed by Jeff Rapsis, screens Thursday, May 13, 6:30 p.m. at the Flying Monkey in Plymouth. Tickets start at \$10.

# THIS BIZ IS A STRUGGLE



- take' wasn't one  
 64. 'You're The Only One' Maria  
 65. Barenaked Ladies song named after "National Velvet" author?  
 66. 'Downtown Train' songsmith Tom  
 67. 'My Humps' Black \_\_ Peas  
 68. STP 'Heaven And Hot \_\_'

**Down**

- 'A Whiter Shade Of Pale' Procol \_\_
- A.k.a., "stadium" rock
- What skilled musician does to music put in front of him at audition
- Weird Al '\_\_\_\_ Be Stupid' (4,2)
- Belinda Carlisle 'Heaven Is A Place \_\_\_\_' (2,5)
- TV On The Radio addressed their letter with ' \_\_ Science'
- Biography info or this
- Like solo Grammy-goer
- These band items go on your fridge
- '91 Ugly Kid Joe EP ' \_\_ They Wanna Be' (2,4,2)
- Tommy Lee's ex-wife, for short
- '84 Howard Jones album 'Human's \_\_'
- Jeff Lynne 'Telephone Line' band
- What struggling musicians dread on the 1st every month
- Vanilla and Mix Master
- 'As Good As Dead' band \_\_ H
- What Jack Johnson does at the beach
- Eric Johnson ' \_\_ Isle'
- Smyth of Scandal
- Sax is a single-\_\_ instrument
- Take them for your sore back, on oldie reunion tour
- Ajust to the industry or do this

**Across**

- Kind of life struggling rockers live, perhaps
- Phil Collins 'Against All \_\_'
- Jens Lekman saw ' \_\_ Leaves' fall down
- Imogen Heap told us to 'Clear' one to make space
- Of Montreal lives a ' \_\_ Little Domestic Life'
- Harry Nilsson jumped on his boat and used a 'Blanket For \_\_\_\_' (1,4)
- Meat Loaf's view is in this 'Mirror'
- Allmans' 1972 'Ain't Wasting Time No More' album ' \_\_\_\_ Peach' (1,3)
- What NOLA players eat backstage, perhaps
- '85 Roger Daltrey album ' \_\_ Moon' (5,1,6)
- '86 Metallica album ' \_\_ ' Of Puppets'
- '01 White Stripes album 'White Blood \_\_'
- Where you want to see your band when you're couching it (2,2)
- '95 Dishwalla album ' \_\_ \_\_ Friends' (3,4)
- Eric Clapton wants to be your 'For-ever \_\_'
- Metalers Beneath \_\_\_\_ (3,8)
- Singer Barbara also of "I Dream of Jeannie"
- Pianist/singer \_\_ King Cole
- Like how pop stars play it, with hired songwriters
- French 'When Love Takes Over' DJ (5,6)
- Trip producer for the full "experience"
- Lynyrd Skynyrd 'Endangered \_\_'
- 'Big Day Coming' \_\_ \_\_ Tengo (2,2)

- 'Wishing Well' Terence \_\_ D'Arby
- John Mayer 'Your \_\_\_\_ A Wonderland' (4,2)
- Motörhead's mascot and song title
- Offspring 'Spare \_\_\_\_ Details' (2,3)
- United \_\_ Emirates
- '02 Megadeth album gave us a ' \_\_ Awakening'
- Men At Work's big hit 'It's A Mis-

## WORD★Roundup™

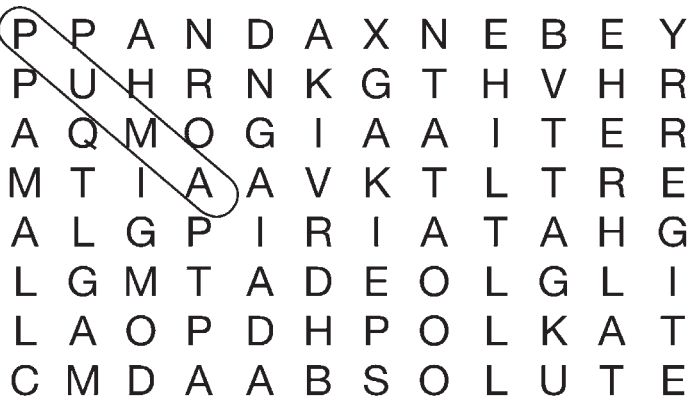
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

**Find and Circle...**

- Six two-syllable mammals
- Four eight-letter words
- Two words ending with KA
- In good condition; physically fit
- Type of panel, power or eclipse

Last Week's Answers: CLUTCH HUTCH EACH OUCH / PLUTO CERES ERIS / SKIFF CLIFF FLUFF / DISNEY WORLD / MANICURE PEDICURE

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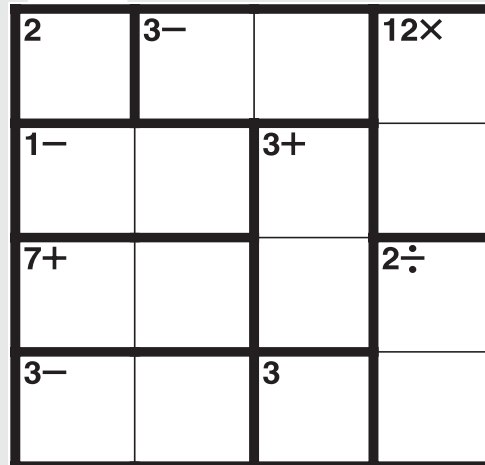


- Heart smash that almost wasn't?
- Beatles' Maggie's last name
- Filter "That's why I say hey man \_\_ \_\_" (4,4)
- Struggling artists finally eat them at restaurants after getting signed
- Limp Bizkit rolled their eyes with ' \_\_\_\_ Life' (3,1)
- George Thorogood '88 album 'Born \_\_' (2,2,3)
- 'No Place' rockers \_\_ \_\_ Like Birds (1,3)
- Fan, a.k.a.
- Russ Ballad 'I Can't Hear \_\_ \_\_ More' (3,2)
- The XX "And the music don't feel like \_\_\_\_" (2,3)
- Straylight Run 'Tool \_\_ And Hot Tubs'
- Chris Isaak 'Wicked \_\_'
- '03 Staind album '14 Shades Of \_\_'
- Small Faces' Ronnie
- Danish band that a cat can pronounce?
- Notable time in music or this
- Sick Puppies ' \_\_ -Polar' © 2020 Todd Santos

# KENKEN

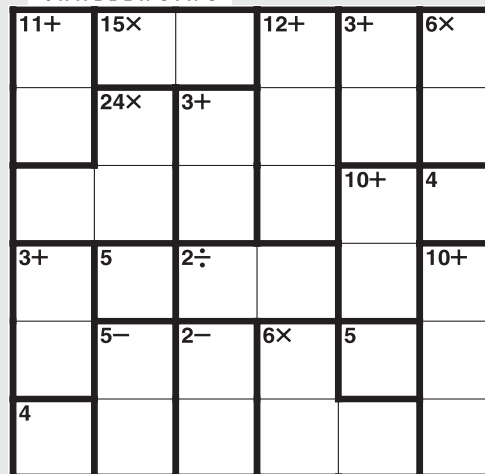
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**CHALLENGING**

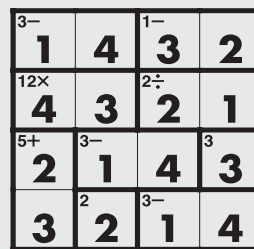


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**RULES**

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

**PREVIOUS ANSWERS**



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1-12-21



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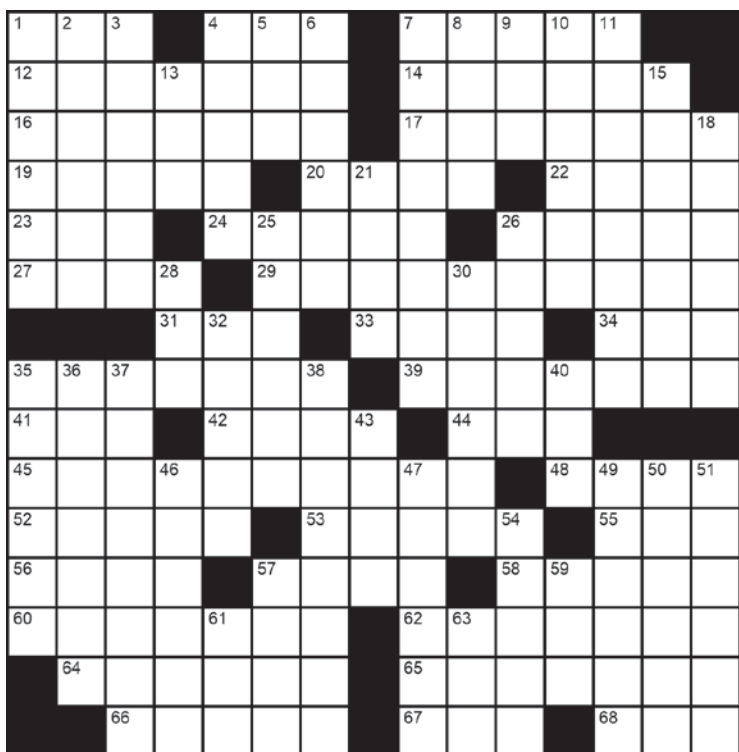
# "Ask Your Doctor" — they sound like prescriptions

- Across**
- 1 "Dis or \_\_\_" ("You Don't Know Jack" round)
  - 4 Ozone depleter, for short
  - 7 Brotherhood brothers
  - 12 Obama's first chief of staff Rahm
  - 14 Fragmented
  - 16 \*"Feel the need to get in hot water? Ask your doctor if \_\_\_ is right for you."
  - 17 \*"Are you managing your health under 'New Rules'? Ask your doctor if \_\_\_ ..."
  - 19 Our top story?
  - 20 Things to pick
  - 22 Film set in cyberspace
  - 23 7, on a grandfather clock
  - 24 Chime in
  - 26 Prefix meaning "iron-containing"
  - 27 Maritime patrol org.
  - 29 \*"Lack of unusual influences getting you down? Ask your doctor if \_\_\_ ..."
  - 31 "Atlas Shrugged" novelist Rand
  - 33 "And giving \_\_\_, up the chimney he rose"
  - 34 Marlins' MLB div.
  - 35 In-browser programs
  - 39 Tiny amounts
  - 41 Conk out
  - 42 Feast on the beach
  - 44 Roman 1011

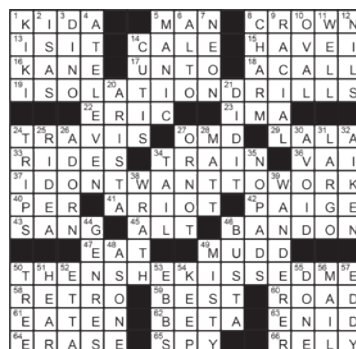
- 45 \*"Do you need to reach higher in life? Ask your doctor if \_\_\_ ..."
- 48 Aquafina rival
- 52 Game show host Convy and Muppet ... well, we don't get a last name
- 53 Gnocchi-like dumplings (from the Italian for "naked")
- 55 "Who Let the Dogs Out?" group Baha \_\_\_
- 56 "You're in trou-blille ..."
- 57 Poison lead singer Michaels
- 58 Barely enough
- 60 \*"Want to feel like you did it your way? Ask your doctor if \_\_\_ ..."
- 62 \*"Feel like the only way to be cured is by meat? Ask your doctor if \_\_\_ ..."
- 64 Milk acid
- 65 Seven days from now
- 66 Nebraska senator Ben who voted to impeach in the February 2021 trial
- 67 \_\_\_ Equis
- 68 "Black-ish" dad

- Down**
- 1 "Done it before" feeling
  - 2 Cremona violins
  - 3 Gambit
  - 4 Capital of the 21-Down Empire
  - 5 Moroccan hat
  - 6 Medical center
  - 7 Age range for most high-schoolers
  - 8 Heavy burden
  - 9 Bucks' org.
  - 10 Out of \_\_\_ (askew)
  - 11 Like some renditions
  - 13 Rapa \_\_\_ (Easter Island, to locals)
  - 15 Trivia quiz website that also offers pub trivia
  - 18 Licorice-flavored seeds
  - 21 See 4-Down
  - 25 Kept inside
  - 26 Former Army base in N.J.
  - 28 Gadot of "Wonder Woman"
  - 30 Scarfed, even more slangily
  - 32 Barks sharply
  - 35 Marinated Philippine dishes
  - 36 Disinfectant ingredient

- 37 Kuala Lumpur's \_\_\_ Towers skyscrapers
  - 38 Provide table talk?
  - 40 "What's the \_\_\_?" ("So what?")
  - 43 \_\_\_ Reader (alternative digest)
  - 46 Home of Odysseus and Penelope
  - 47 Won on eBay, usually
  - 49 Took an x-ray of, perhaps
  - 50 Kendall or Kylie
  - 51 Consumption
  - 54 Cozumel y Mallorca, por ejemplo
  - 57 Rite performed by a mohel
  - 59 Dairy dweller
  - 61 Some two-door Audi models
  - 63 One of "Two Virgins" on a 1968 album cover
- © 2021 Matt Jones



**R&R answer from pg 35 of 5/29**



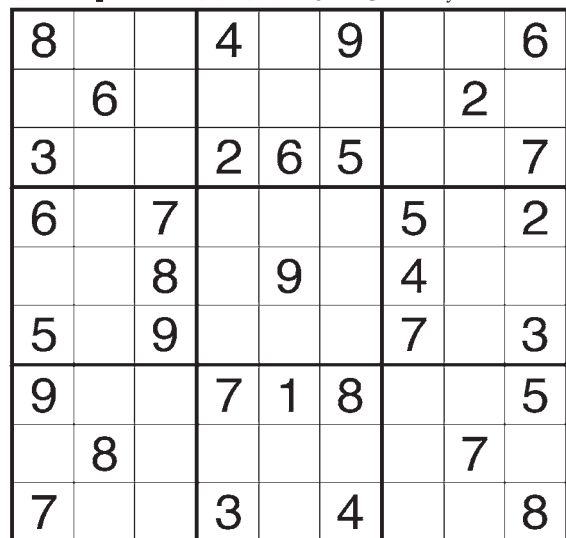
**Jonesin' answer from pg 36 of 5/29**



**NITE SUDOKU**

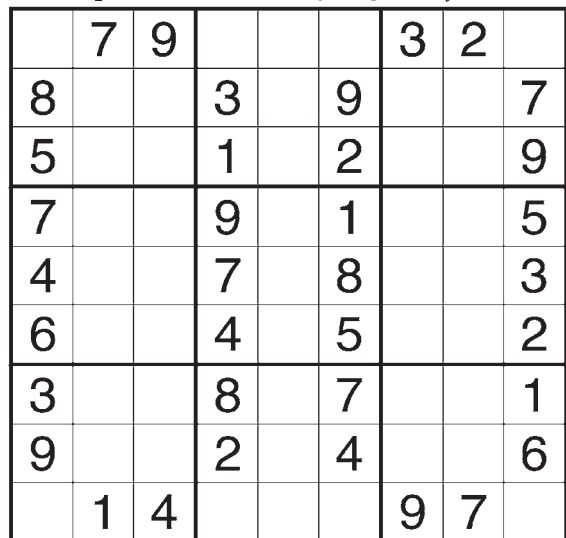
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week's puzzle answers on pg 37.

**Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A** By Dave Green



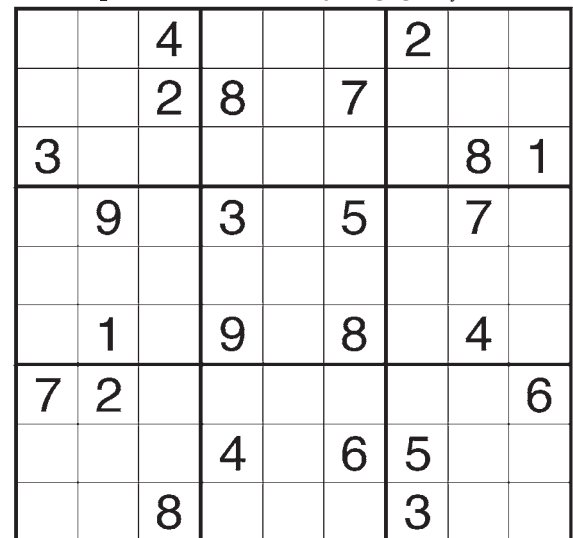
Difficulty Level ★

**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 *Let Me Tell You About Jasper...: How My Best Friend Became America's Dog*, by Dana Perino, born May 9, 1972.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** On New Year's Eve, I made a resolution to write down one thing a day I liked about New York. Try it, but not for New York.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** Dana's Rules for a Great Dog Park Experience: Rules for humans: ... set aside the day for a bit, enjoy the dogs. Try to leave your phone at home or in your pocket. Your life will improve. It will.

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** On a visit to Switzerland, Peter had a meeting with a client named Heiner (German for Henry). He invited us to his chalet and said I could play with the dogs while they met. (I felt a little indignant — I mean, I used to advise members of Congress and now I was reduced to babysitting the dogs! However, the dogs were better listeners.) You will get to play with the dogs and it is the highest honor.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** ... I didn't have a Twitter account. I didn't even want one. ... But a young staff member of mine convinced me it would be good for business. I said okay, you can set it up, but don't expect me to tweet nonsense. 'How about I teach you to post pictures of your dog?' she asked. That got my attention. The content is up to you.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** I feel most like my real self when I'm at the dog park in the middle of Manhattan. And that's quite a statement coming from a girl who started out on a ranch in Wyoming! Go where you feel great!

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** It's too bad: they always seem to get robbed of first prize at the dog shows. But no matter — they're number one in my book. Dog shows, shmog shows.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** Jasper loves to greet people. Whenever some-

one comes in, he checks out who it is, then scrambles to his toy box and brings something back, his behind wagging so much it could churn butter. It's time to play!

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** Since we live in a highly populated area and share elevators with people in our building, we've put a focus on manners. Good manners will take you far.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** The dog paddle is never pretty, but with a three-month-old puppy, it sure is cute. Pretty, cute, or otherwise, you will make a splash.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** No one has ever made me laugh more — he's a beautiful little rascal. (My dog, I mean, not [my husband]). Though, now that I think about it... Fire up your sense of humor and a rascal will make you laugh.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** I didn't set out to make Jasper a star; it just happened, and almost overnight. Stay grounded.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** On my way to work, I see dogs out for their afternoon walks and it always makes me smile. Go for a walk — make a dog smile. 🐾



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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 beehive output (5)	_____
2 weedy flower (9)	_____
3 churned cream (6)	_____
4 famous product from Dijon (7)	_____
5 fruit under meringue (5)	_____
6 bird in a coal mine (6)	_____
7 Narcissus bloom (8)	_____

EL	TA	BUT	FF	DA
RY	OD	HO	LE	RD
MUS	DA	ND	MON	CA
ION	NEY	IL	NA	TER

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Sudoku Answers from pg36 of 5/29

**Puzzle A**

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

Difficulty Level ★

**Puzzle B**

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

**Puzzle C**

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★



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**Gaming the system**

• In Taiwan, where companies are required to give newlyweds eight days of paid leave, an unnamed bank employee in Taipei used a loophole in the law to claim 32 days of leave over 37 days last year, reported Agence France-Presse on April 21. The man and his wife got married four times and divorced three times, claiming eight days of leave for each wedding. The bank complained to the city labor department, which sided with the employee and fined the bank about \$670 for violating the regulation, sparking public criticism. The labor department later revoked the fine “to recognize a mistake and improve,” it said.

• An unnamed civil servant in Italy is accused of collecting full pay at his job at Ciaccio hospital in Catanzaro since 2005 even though he never showed up for work. The man is also accused of threatening his supervisor if she filed a report against him; she later retired and none of her successors noticed his absence. The BBC reported authorities discovered the alleged fraud as part of a wider investigation into absenteeism in Italy’s public sector, and six managers at the hospital are also under investigation. The truant worker reportedly collected about \$650,000 over the years.

**Fine points of the law**

Caron McBride, 52, applied to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles to change her name on her driver’s license after getting married in November, and was told to call the Cleveland County District Attorney’s office in Oklahoma, where she learned she was wanted there on a charge of felony embezzlement for failing to return a VHS tape of *Sabrina the Teenage Witch* to a Norman video store in 1999. “I thought, this is insane,” McBride said, but prosecutors accused her of “willfully, unlawfully and feloniously embezzle(ing)” the tape, valued at \$58.59, according to court documents. The Washington Post reported McBride had no memory of renting the tape, but guessed the man she lived with at the time must have gotten it for his two young daughters. On April 23, prosecutors in Norman said they would drop the charge and expunge McBride’s record.

**Jungle justice**

A man suspected of poaching rhinos in South Africa’s Kruger National Park was trampled to death by a herd of elephants on April 17, according to park authorities. Managing Executive Gareth Coleman praised the park’s “successful weekend in the fight to keep our rhinos alive” as rangers arrested five suspects, carrying

hunting rifles and an ax, in a continuing crackdown on poaching, reported The Washington Post.

**Awesome!**

Police in the Hradec Kralove region of the Czech Republic were stunned when a man turned in a Soviet T-34 tank and an SD-100 artillery gun as part of a nationwide weapons amnesty program designed to legalize guns that had not been registered. Prague Morning reported on April 10 that the man was a collector of historic weaponry and has owned the 1950s-era tank, which had been painted pink, since the 1990s. Authorities checked the tank and gun to confirm they have been properly deactivated, and the man was allowed to keep them in his collection. The amnesty campaign continues until July.

**Canine chronicles**

• Newsweek reported a dog lover in Hobbs, New Mexico, who identifies himself as girthbrooks1994 on TikTok, couldn’t figure out why the English bulldog he’d been given didn’t respond to any of the commands he gave it until he tried something different — Spanish. Now named Senor Snax, the dog is shown on posted videos readily obeying commands such as “dame la mano”

and “sientate” (“give me your hand” and “sit down”). “He’s a bien boy and very spoiled,” says the proud owner.

• The Edmonton Fire Rescue Service in Alberta, Canada, was called out on April 20 by reports of a dog driving a car down Guardian Road, United Press International reported. Firefighters determined the dog had been left alone in the car and accidentally shifted it into neutral, allowing it to roll along the road. They were able to stop the car and rescue the dog without incident.

**Tribute**

John Hinkle, 39, a two-time NCAA bowling champion for Western Illinois University, shot a perfect 300 game on April 12 at Landmark Lanes in Peoria, using a ball containing his father’s ashes. Because he bowls with two hands, Hinkle said he is allowed only two holes in his bowling ball, so he had the thumb hole filled with some of his father’s ashes after the elder Hinkle, who introduced him to the sport, died in 2016, United Press International reported. “I had tears in my eyes in the 11th and 12th frames. I couldn’t tell you where that last ball went,” Hinkle said. “He was there.”

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**JAKE OWEN**  
FRI | MAY 28 | 6:30PM

**AARON LEWIS**  
SAT | MAY 29 | 6:30PM

**THE MACHINE PERFORMS PINK FLOYD**  
FRI | JUN 4 | 6:30PM

**BADFISH: TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME**  
SAT | JUN 5 | 6:30PM

**GOOSE**  
FRI | JUN 11 | 6:30PM

LOW TICKET ALERT

**INDIGO GIRLS**  
SAT | JUN 12 | 6:30PM

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**moe.**  
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