

the Hippo

JULY 15 - 21, 2021

MID-SUMMER
FLOWERS P. 16

VACATION
BEERS P. 26

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

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| 8/18 BEN RUDNICK & FRIENDS | 9/1 JENNY THE JUGGLER |
| | 9/2 THE YO-YO PEOPLE |

LowellSummerMusic.org/Kids

134679

GRANITE VIEWS **STEPHEN RENO**

Generous listening



Much of what passes for public conversation these days could well be likened to a poker game where each player slaps down a card and the others try quickly to put down one of higher value. Whether the topic is immigration, gun control/rights, or abortion, the exchange soon becomes heated and the pace frantic. What is lost, quite simply, is listening.

For 25 years, there had been a space in our lives where that was not the pattern. Rather than shouting, blustering assertions, or insulting innuendos, NHPR's *The Exchange* had been true to its name, a thoughtful, measured, and substantive exploration of issues and events among people with diverse and often deeply different views (NHPR discontinued the show last month).

Twenty-five years of *The Exchange* also brought us lighter fare about matters we didn't know we didn't know, such as the issues of pets along our hiking paths, developing alternatives to maple sugar syrups, and the curious doings of some of New Hampshire's long-ago governors.

These conversations, in the truest sense of that term, were moderated by Laura Knoy, host of the program since its inception.

Whether interviewing a U.S. presidential candidate on a swing through our state or hosting a three-way exploration of substance abuse, Laura consistently modeled her program on what she herself values, generous listening. The term first used by Rachel Naomi Remen and later by Krista Tippett is "listening that is powered by curiosity."

It is further suggested that this is "a virtue we can invite and nurture in ourselves to render it instinctive." For anyone who had consistently tuned in to *The Exchange* each weekday morning, it would be clear that generous listening is instinctive with Laura.

And that is the point about what so many of us will miss. The program not only facilitated a statewide forum for the examination of issues critical to our community but also modeled behavior by which civil conversations even about profoundly contentious and divisive matters can take place.

At a time of such polarization, we need many more such exemplars of what our "better selves" could be to one another.

You can contact Steve Reno at stepre-no@gmail.com.



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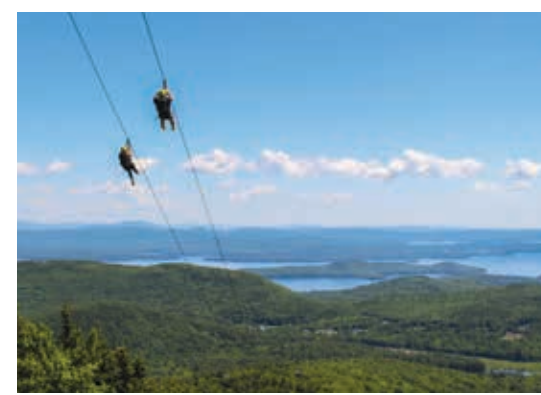
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Ziplining at Gunstock. Courtesy photo.

ON THE COVER

10 ADVENTURES IN THE AIR See New Hampshire's scenery from a whole new perspective when you soar above the trees in a hot air balloon, zoom through forests on a zipline or float along the coastline in a parasail.

ALSO ON THE COVER, discover the best mid-summer flowers to make your garden pop, p. 16. Find out where to go for pick-your-own blueberries, p. 22. And try lighter brews for more relaxing days, p. 26.

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NEWS & NOTES

Covid-19 news

State health officials announced 17 new positive cases of Covid-19 on July 12. The state averaged 28 new cases per day over the most recent seven-day period, an increase of about 17 compared to the week before. As of July 12, there were 197 active cases and 15 hospitalizations.

Also on July 12, officials announced the launch of the NH Mobile Vaccine Van, a new initiative in partnership with ConvenientMD in an effort to increase access to Covid-19 vaccines. According to a press release, the van is due to begin operation on July 15 and will run throughout the summer, offering all three of the FDA-authorized vaccines in addition to translation services. It's available to appear at local community events such as festivals, neighborhood block parties and farmers markets at no cost. The van is set to hold two upcoming vaccination clinics this week — at the Roundabout Diner in Portsmouth on Thursday, July 15, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and at the Sunapee Farmers Market on Saturday, July 18, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Housing stability

The Council on Housing Stability released its three-year Strategic Plan last week, according to a press release from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. The plan is a roadmap that coordinates actions and resources and seeks to increase housing availability by 13,500 units by 2024 to ensure that homelessness in New Hampshire is rare, brief and one-time whenever

possible. It includes a three-year actionable framework to address homelessness across the state, with an emphasis on the need for an increase in inventory of affordable housing, the release said. Recommendations include promoting new housing development, reducing barriers to affordable housing and using a data-driven approach to determine regional needs.

The New Hampshire Council on Housing Stability was established by Gov. Chris Sununu on Nov. 18, 2020, and includes stakeholders from across the state, including state leadership, local mayors, and people who have experienced homelessness. The plan is led by the Department of Health and Human Services, in partnership with the New Hampshire Department of Business and Economic Affairs and the Community Development Finance Authority, the release said.

ARPA funds

On June 7, the Manchester Board of Mayor and Aldermen voted to initially approve Mayor Joyce Craig's recommendations for the city's use of American Rescue Plan Act funds. According to a press release, most of the programs and positions are funded for the next five years, and during that time the city will measure program effectiveness to make sure it addresses the negative impacts of Covid-19 and helps build a strong recovery for the city. The recommendations will be discussed by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen's Finance Committee before a final vote. "Manchester residents overwhelmingly cited education as one of the areas to which

they would like to see ARPA funds allocated, and we look forward to working with Mayor Craig and the Board to help expand access to higher education for public school students in Manchester and to support local workforce needs," Paul LeBlanc, President and CEO of Southern New Hampshire University, said in the release. Greater Manchester Chamber CEO Mike Skelton said in the release that "The Greater Manchester Chamber, along with many community business leaders, support the proposed ARPA spending plan and the investments that will generate and support job growth, stimulate economic activity and expansion, and strengthen the city's ability to attract and retain its workforce."

Unemployment numbers

Last week, the New Hampshire Department of Employment Security issued a press release after the weekly unemployment report was released by the United States Department of Labor, stating that the numbers reported for New Hampshire were wrong "and present a misleading view of trends in the state's unemployment claims." According to the release, some claimants were counted twice — once when they received their last week of federal unemployment benefits and again as a new claim for state-level benefits the following week. New Hampshire ended participation in the federal pandemic unemployment programs June 19 and instead incentivized people to return to work with a \$1,000

A map of the Greater Manchester area in New Hampshire, showing major cities and towns. Callout boxes provide news items:

- CONCORD:** Aircrews from the New Hampshire Wing of Civil Air Patrol departed from airports in Concord, Laconia, Portsmouth and Nashua on July 10 during a statewide emergency response training exercise. According to a press release, the Air Force-assigned trainings focused on Civil Air Patrol's airborne search and aerial disaster assessment photography skills.
- MANCHESTER:** The Manchester School District announced July 11 that longtime district administrator Debora Roukey of Goffstown will be the new principal of Central High School. According to a press release, Roukey is the first female principal in Central's 175-year history.
- RAYMOND:** A \$50,000 Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act Local Drug Crisis Grant has been awarded to the Raymond Coalition for Youth, which works to reduce opioid, methamphetamine, and prescription drug misuse among youth and young adults in Raymond and its surrounding communities. According to a press release, the grant is provided by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, in cooperation with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and will be paid out over five years.
- HAMPSTEAD:** Isabel Povey of Hampstead will represent New Hampshire at the Miss America's Outstanding Teen Competition in Florida later this month. According to a press release, the Pinkerton Academy senior was crowned Miss New Hampshire's Outstanding Teen in February 2019 and has served as the state representative throughout the pandemic, volunteering with local food pantries, the NH Food Bank, and the international nonprofit organization Seeds of Hope. Preliminary competitions will be held July 29 and July 30, and the new Miss America's Outstanding Teen will be crowned Saturday, July 31, the release said.

bonus payment. The final week of benefits was included in the claims numbers reported by the Department of Labor, and some of those recipients may have qualified for benefits in the state's regular unemployment program during the week ending June 26 — meaning those same individuals were counted a second time by the Department of Labor, the release said, artificially inflating the state's numbers. "These numbers are wrong and give the misleading appearance of an increase from the prior week which has not occurred in the prior 3 months," Rich Lavers, Deputy Commissioner at Employment Security,

said in the release. "In reality when you compare claims filed by people in the regular state unemployment program, the weekly claims fell by 19 percent compared to the prior week and federal claims fell by 12 percent in the final week they were available." 🐾

Clarification

Page 29 of the Hippo's "Cool Things About New Hampshire" magazine should have said that Hayward's Homemade Ice Cream served chicken tenders, steamed hot dogs and fries in addition to its homemade ice cream flavors. It does not sell burgers.

Covid-19 update	As of July 2	As of July 12
Total cases statewide	99,555	99,770
Total current infections statewide	181	197
Total deaths statewide	1,372	1,375
New cases	100 (June 29 to July 2)	215 (July 3 to July 12)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	38	53
Current infections: Merrimack County	12	11
Current infections: Rockingham County	42	44

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July 18 | Bee Parks and The Hornets

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August 1 | The Wholly Rollers

August 8 | Cellists Jan Fuller and Harel Gietheim

August 15 | Suzuki Strings

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August 29 | Mink Hills Band

September 5 | Peabody's Coal Train

September 12 | Aurea Ensemble

September 19 | The Wholly Rollers



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NEWS & NOTES Q&A

Neigh-borly service

Volunteers needed at equine therapy center

UpReach Therapeutic Equestrian Center in Goffstown is looking for volunteers to assist with its equine therapy programs starting in September. Operations manager Kathryn Conway talked about the opportunity and how lending a hand at UpReach can make a difference in the lives of the program participants and the volunteers themselves.

Q: What does UpReach do?

Our mission is to improve lives with the power of the horse. We partner with horses to help people who [are living with] physical and cognitive disabilities or challenges; have experienced or witnessed trauma and are dealing with PTSD; are recovering from substance misuse; and people who want to augment their existing therapies and improve their health and wellness overall by working and connecting with horses. ... We're also running a program right now for frontline health care workers, first responders, caregivers and educators called Caring Connections, where you can come spend an hour in the peaceful company of our horses and ponies and just recharge, breathe and relax. You can brush them, lead them, come with colleagues, come by yourself — it's very unstructured. There's no cost; it's just our way of thanking everyone for the hard work they've been doing over the past year and a half.



Kathryn Conway. Courtesy photo.

where they can help people, and anyone who likes horses and wants to get up close and personal with horses and learn more about them. ... Even if [your level of interest in horses] is just, 'Well, I think they're really pretty,' you'll most likely end up falling in love with the horses. ... It's OK if you don't have horse experience, because we will train you.

Is there an age requirement?

The minimum age is 14, so it's great for high school kids ... and [college] students ... whose schools have a community service program; they can get their service credit hours by volunteering here.

What does training entail?

We have two training dates [to choose from] in August. ... The mandatory volunteer training is three hours long. For people who want to work with the horses directly, there's a supplemental training that's an hour and a half long. ... Most people who volunteer with us end up wanting to handle a horse at some point, so we highly suggest that volunteers just do both trainings right off the bat.

What are the benefits of volunteering at UpReach?

If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity [where you can] directly help make life better for somebody else, and you also happen to like horses, this is really a win-win. ... We have four miniature horses living here now, and they are such joyful little creatures; it's pretty hard not to smile when you're watching them. Being around horses just makes you feel better ... and can definitely give you an increased sense of wellness and happiness and peace. — Angie Sykeny

What kinds of volunteer opportunities are available?

We're looking for people to assist with lessons. Depending on the independence level of the individual [lesson] participants, we may use up to three volunteers to support a participant during a lesson: two [to walk beside] the horse on either side, and one to lead the horse. ... We also have a number of slots for people who aren't necessarily interested in working with a student in a lesson, but would rather do barn chores ... like help clean stalls, move hay around, clean water buckets and do some general maintenance around the property.

What is the time commitment?

We look for people who are willing to commit one to two hours a week for periods of six to eight weeks. If you're working on barn chores, it'll be closer to two hours. ... Some volunteers come a couple of times a week. ... It all depends on your schedule. Lessons usually run from 10 a.m. to sometimes as late as 6 p.m., so there's a lot of flexibility.

Who would be a good fit for this volunteer work?

Anyone interested in being part of a team

Volunteering at UpReach

To volunteer at UpReach Therapeutic Equestrian Center, complete and return a volunteering form, available at upreachtec.org/volunteerforms. Training sessions are offered on Saturday, Aug. 14, starting at 9 a.m., and Tuesday, Aug. 24, starting at 1 p.m. The term begins on Sept. 7. UpReach is located at 153 Paige Hill Road in Goffstown. For more information or to reserve your spot for a training session, visit upreachtec.org, call 497-2343 or email kathryn@upreachtec.org.

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Red Sox grades at 2021



With the restart of baseball set to go as the All-Star break ends, it's time to hand out grades for the first half of this surprising Red Sox season. We'll focus on key players or important parts of the team to start and leave the grades for the team and general manager until last.

Alex Cora: A+ The way he babies the pitchers still makes me crazy, but with him back in charge the karma seems so comfortable, which reduces angst when things are going bad for individuals, and that seems to make it easier for the team to do its job. If he's not the best manager in baseball he's darn close.

Middle of the Order: A With **Xander Bogaerts**, **Rafael Devers** and **JD Martinez** all deserving All-Stars they've done what was needed. Their projected numbers over 162 games gives context to the season each is having: Bogy .332, 26 (homers) and 97 (RBI), Raffy .282, 40 and 128, JD .299, 32, 110.

Matt Barnes: A Thanks to whoever convinced him to challenge hitters from the first pitch my frustration level from watching him pitch has dropped by about three area codes. It's turned him from a guy with tantalizing stuff who constantly made his job harder into an All-Star closer and the best pitcher on the team.

Nate Eovaldi: A- The brass took a lot of flak for spending big after his solid post season of 2018 and with him winning just six games since then it was justified. But by going 9-5 he has stepped up to be the ace the Sox needed without **Chris Sale** and through **Eduardo Rodriguez's** struggles. So bravo for that, but as the question always is for him, will it continue all year?

The Bullpen Overall: B How many times have we seen a starter come out in the fifth followed by the pen putting up doughnuts to close out a win? A lot more than most thought, and that's particularly important with Cora yanking his untested or less trusted starter regularly in the fifth or sixth because of his trust in the pen.

Bargain Basement/Reclamation Pickups: B When **Hunter Renfro**, **Christian Arroyo** and **Kiké Hernández** signed it didn't make a ripple. In fact, it amplified the Tampa Bay North vibe growing since **Chaim Bloom** left TB to be Sox GM. But the first two have made positive if unspectacular contributions, while the \$3 million per Renfro has been solid offensively since May 1 and leads baseball in outfield assists. Plus while everyone from the defensively versatile bench is hitting around the Mendoza line, **Marwin Gonzalez** and company have had their moments. And let's not forget **Garrett Whitlock**, whom Bloom took off the Yankees' hands for pennies before he delivered a 3-1, 1.44 ERA season as a major bullpen contributor.

Alex Verdugo: C+ The prize (outside of the payroll flexibility gained) from the **Mookie Betts** trade has been very good defensively, but at .273 and his 9 homers and 31 RBI in 304 at-bats he's projecting to just 16 and 55 over 162 games, so the offense hasn't met expectations.

The Defense: C It's shaky in spots, which can hurt when the margin of error gets tighter in big games. But shortstop and catcher (on offense as well) are solid and the outfield, where Verdugo's versatility gives Cora options, throws people out trying to get the extra base better than almost everyone. Not great, but probably good enough to let them get by.

E-Rod: C- I proclaimed after the first month he was none the worse for missing all last year. Well, I was wrong. He's been horrible at times, as evidenced by the team's losing all five of his May starts, and inconsistent at others, as they then won all five June starts, though they had to score 12, 10 and 8 runs twice to do it. History says he'll probably turn it around, but as of now the 5.52 ERA doesn't make it.

Bobby Dalbec: C- With him hitting .191 against right-handed pitching and on track to strike out nearly 200 times he hasn't been as solid as last year's 28-game debut suggested he might be. Still he's on track for 20 homers and 70 RBI, so maybe he'll pick it up as the rookie adjustments continue.

End of the Bullpen: C- While the ERA's of **Darwinzon Hernandez** (2.70) and **Hirokazu Sawamura** (2.45) are respectable, their 1.227 and 1.50 WHIPS give no confidence they'll throw strikes when it counts. Then there is **Matt Andriese** with the unsightly 6.05 ERA, 1.768 WHIP and team-leading 7 homers (tied with Sawamura) allowed in just 30 innings. They need improvement in two spots at least.

Chaim Bloom: B While the early returns from bargain pick-up making significant contributions are encouraging, what he does to help the team fill in the holes at the trade deadline will determine the year's final grade. So the question is with need for a lefty hitter, two bullpen slots and probably a starter (though Sale's return could be that) will he let all that slide in a bid to keep all his minor-league assets intact or smartly determine who the keepers are and use the rest to fill his holes as best he can?

The Team: A Overall they are flawed, entered the break after losing four of their last six and despite solid work from Eovaldi and **Nick Pivetta** in particular, I'm still not certain about the starters. But against all odds they're tied with Houston for the most wins in the league, lead the AL East by a game and a half over Tampa Bay, are eight ahead of the Yankees and on pace to win 97 games. And while in the words of Bloom they have not accomplished anything yet, it's hard to find fault with a team that has exceeded even the wildest expectations so far.

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SUSAN WERNER

SAT. SEPT. 11TH
 7:30PM

SCARAB
 THE JOURNEY EXPERIENCE

SAT. SEPT. 18TH
 7:30PM

134513

NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Massive soap bottle in Manchester

The world's biggest bottle of soap will make an appearance in Manchester on Saturday, July 17, part of a multi-city tour to raise awareness of the importance of hand hygiene. According to a press release, clean beauty company Soapbox will donate personal care products to communities in need during the tour. The 21-foot tall, 8.5-foot diameter, 2,500-pound metal and fiberglass bottle will be on view at Hannaford at 201 John E. Devine Dr. between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.



Score: +1

Comment: During the stop in Manchester, Soapbox will be donating pallets of soap to Families in Transition and hygiene kits to Webster House.

Fifty years of service

The Merrimack Rotary Club has been providing support to the community for 50 years now and celebrated its achievements earlier this month. According to a press release, even the pandemic didn't stop the Rotary from giving back and holding its weekly meetings — 58 total, via Zoom. It donated to a whole host of organizations and projects, including thousands of masks to Meals on Wheels, the Town of Merrimack and the Merrimack School District. It also provided support to the Wasserman Park Function Hall Sound Tile Project, the Watson Park Pavilion Staining Project and the Adopt-A-Roadside Clean-Up Project, among many other local contributions, the release said.

Score: +1

Comment: "Rotarians are proud to give of their time to benefit others in the community and such service was recognized this year with the ... Presidential Citation from Rotary International in honor of all our club has achieved," R. Brian Snow, Rotary Club of Merrimack President 2020/2021, said in the release.

Illegal fireworks

Illegal use of fireworks is on the rise, according to a press release from the Manchester Fire Department. After receiving numerous complaints from residents over the holiday weekend, both the Manchester Police and Fire departments issued a statement saying they expect fireworks usage to continue as the summer goes on and as such will be conducting enforcement efforts on various weekend nights throughout the season. According to the release, the joint effort is meant to be a proactive approach to remind people of the city ordinance that strictly prohibits the sale, possession or use of fireworks within the Manchester city limits.

Score: -1 for all the noise

Comment: A fire inspector and police officer will ride together from 8 p.m. to midnight on certain weekend nights to monitor fireworks usage, from now through August, the release said.

Big energy bills

New Hampshire is the 10th most energy-expensive state in the country, according to a report released last week by personal finance website WalletHub, which compared average monthly energy bills that accounted for multiple residential energy types: electricity, natural gas, motor fuel and home heating oil. The average monthly energy bill in the Granite State is \$355. It ranked fourth most expensive for the price of natural gas and sixth most expensive for the price of electricity.

Score: -1

Comment: The most energy-expensive state, with an average monthly bill of \$411, is Connecticut, and the least is District of Columbia, with a \$217 average monthly energy bill.

QOL score: 80

Net change: 0

QOL this week: 80

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

75

50

THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS JULY 15, 2021 AND BEYOND



Thursday, July 15

The Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org, 668-5588) will screen **two silent films starring Buster Keaton**

tonight starting at 7:30 p.m. The movies *Sherlock Jr.* (1924) and *Our Hospitality* (1923, pictured) will feature live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis. Admission costs \$10.

Friday, July 16

There are three days of **Nashua Silver Knights** games this weekend at Holman Stadium (67 Amherst St. in Nashua). Tonight's game against the Worcester Bravehearts starts at 6 p.m. and features post-game fireworks. Tomorrow's game (with the Brockton Rox) starts at noon

and Sunday's doubleheader with the Pittsfield Suns starts at 3 p.m. See nashuasilverknights.com.

Saturday, July 17

Browse the **Concord Arts Market** today from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Rollins Park (33 Bow St. in Concord). The market featuring pieces from artisans and fine artists is a monthly

event this summer (the third Saturday of each month), featuring more artists and artisan vendors (50 vendors at each market) as well as food, musicians and more, according to the event's website, concordartsmarket.net. Next month, the Concord Arts Market will be at Intown Concord's Market Days, Aug. 19 through Aug. 21 (10 a.m. to 8 p.m.).

Saturday, July 17

The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St. in Manchester; currier.org, 669-6144) will host a **free mini block party** today. The afternoon will include activities for all ages, according to the website, where you can make reservations for the 3 to 5:30 p.m. time block or the 5:30 to 8 p.m. time block. There will be ceramics-related activities and demonstrations, kids art activities, live music, a beer and wine tent, free access to the gallery and food for sale — an outdoor pizza kitchen, the Winter Garden Café and two food trucks, B's Tacos and Tim's Drunken Sauces and Rubs.

Sunday, July 18

"A family-friendly indie band hailing from Maine" is how **Bee Parks and The Hornets** is described in the lineup for the Music on the Meeting House Green Series at the Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road in Canterbury; shakers.org, 783-9511). Bring a picnic and a chair to enjoy the concert outdoors on the green, which starts at 4 p.m. There is a \$10 per person suggested donation, according to the website.

Or enjoy the sounds of the Piano Man with **Cold Spring Harbor: The Ultimate Billy Joel**

Tribute Band featuring Ben Eramo in Stark Park (550 River Road in Manchester), performing as part of the Friends of Stark Park 2021 summer music series (which runs Sundays through Aug. 29). The show starts at 2 p.m. See starkpark.com.



Save the date: Sunday, July 25

It's a **kitchen takeover at Chunky's Cinema Pub** (707 Huse Road in Manchester; chunkys.com) on Sunday, July 25, at 7 p.m. Chef Keith Sarasin of The Farmers Dinner will serve up the dinner paired with a screening of *Jaws*. Dinner costs \$65 per person, with options for a vegetarian meal and a wine pairing. Buy tickets in advance online.

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ADVENTURES IN THE AIR

A person is seen ziplining over a vast, green forested landscape. In the background, a large blue lake is visible, surrounded by rolling green hills and distant mountains under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. The zipliner is positioned on the right side of the frame, suspended by ropes. The overall scene is bright and scenic, capturing the essence of outdoor adventure.

GET A NEW VIEW OF THE WORLD WHILE ZIPLINING ABOVE THE TREES, SOARING IN A HOT AIR BALLOON OR PARASAILING OVER THE WATER

Ziplining at Gunstock. Courtesy photo.

By Meghan Siegler
msiegler@hippopress.com

You've seen New Hampshire's forests, mountains and seacoast, but have you seen them from above? Get a new view with a relaxing flight in a hot air balloon, an adrenaline-filled zipline tour or a gentle but exhilarating parasail ride along the coast.

HOT AIR BALLOONING

Heading toward the sky in a hot air balloon is a much smoother and quieter ride than most people expect, says Tony Sica of High 5 Ballooning in Derry.

"When we launch, [passengers] don't even know we're leaving the ground," Sica said. "There's no g-force; we're just gently drift-

ing off the ground."

For every launch, riders meet half an hour before sunrise at 15 Ermer Road in Salem, then Sica and his crew pick one of five launch locations, depending on which way the wind is blowing.

"We're trying to launch from a location that's going to take us into a decent landing," Sica said. "You land wherever the wind takes you."

Once they arrive at the launch site, anyone who wants to help prepare the balloon for inflation is welcome to. Then the gentle ascent begins.

"There's absolutely zero motion — unless I'm dancing, which I do sometimes," Sica joked.

The balloon stays right above the trees and maintains a profile up and down the treeline, which Sica referred to as contour flying.

A three- to five-mile ride is typical, though Sica said he's gone as far as eight miles when the wind is moving quickly. But he prefers to stick to that three to five miles that he says he knows like the back of his hand, because that takes his passengers over the most scenic areas.

"We try to keep it as natural as possible," Sica said. "When we go over water or wetlands, I'll get right down in there ... so people can take those great reflection [photos]."

There's also a crew following the passenger balloon that takes photos along the way. Sica said he likes to go for "the money shot," flying over Melville Lake or Alexander Pond. If they're in the smiley face balloon — his most popular option — he'll spin it around and bring the basket down to the water so the crew behind him can capture both the balloon and its reflection on the water.

Once they land, passengers can help squeeze the air out of the balloon if they want, and then they head with the ground crew back to the meeting site for a Champagne celebration. The flight is an hour, but the whole experience is about two and a half hours, Sica said.

For people who think they have a fear of heights, Sica said most actually have a fear of falling, and since you're surrounded by the basket's four solid walls, that fear usually isn't triggered.

He said the most scared passenger he's ever flown, Paul, got in the basket and the whole thing was shaking because he was so nervous. Two months later, Sica got a letter from Paul's wife thanking him for helping him overcome his fears — they'd just been on their honeymoon, where they went parasailing, and Paul had gone skydiving too.

"Another success story," Sica said.

Plus, ballooning is the safest form of aviation in the world, he said. Any accident has been pilot-related, "people doing stupid things," he said. "You have to be willing to walk away [if conditions aren't safe]. Don't ever put your wallet in front of your safety."

Sica has owned High 5 Ballooning since 1999; when he opened, there were 27 ballooning companies in New Hampshire, and now there are three.

"I can't even tell you how busy we are," he said. "It's insane."

High 5 is currently booking into September and October. Sica can take as many as eight passengers; if you want a private flight, you can pay the \$1,600 to be alone (you're paying for all eight spaces), but Sica said most people realize it's more fun with a group of people, even if they're all strangers at the beginning.

"It's an adventure sport and part of that adventure is sharing the experience with other people," he said.

High 5 Ballooning

Where: 4 Joseph St., Derry (office); meeting place is 15 Ermer Road in Salem

When: Half an hour before sunrise, seven days a week

Cost: \$200 per person. Prices are subject to increase for private flights, for passengers weighing more than 200 pounds, and for couples who weigh more than a combined 400 pounds.

To book a flight, call 893-9643 or visit high5ballooning.com.

A&A Balloon rides

Where: 7 E. Derry Road, Chester (office); meeting place is 15 Ermer Road in Salem

When: Half an hour before sunrise

Cost: Sunrise flights are \$250 for adults and \$125 for children who are 12 or older or who weigh more than 100 pounds. The cost includes Champagne, crackers and cheese for after the flight. Private flights and events are also available. Costs are subject to increase for passengers weighing more than 200 pounds.

To book a flight, call 432-6911 or visit balloonridesnh.com.

ZIPLINING

For a more intense adrenaline rush above the treetops, ziplining will get you from Point A to Point B much faster than a hot air balloon floating through the sky.

"The zipline is great for people who have the need for speed," said Jen Karnan, who started working at Gunstock Mountain Resort as a zipline instructor back in 2012 and is now the communications coordinator. "You can get up to 65 mph. ... It gives you that wind in the hair sensation."

But there's still an element of control, she said — there's a brake, so you're in charge of your own speed.

"We actually get a lot of people who come up here to conquer their fear of heights," Karnan said. "They go from 'I can't do this' to 'I can't wait to do this again!'"

Gunstock's guides get you started on the ground level of the main lodge, going through safety instructions while you put on your helmet and harness and pick up your trolley. The trolley weighs about 18 pounds and is the main piece of equipment you'll be suspended from (or carrying in a backpack) during the tour. Athleticism is not required, but you do need to be able to walk up to 3/4 of a mile and ascend two 50-foot staircases while carrying the trolley, according to the Gunstock website.

Gunstock's zipline tour has five lines, starting with a 45-foot demo line, then a 450-foot training line, which allows you to get the sensation of ziplining and practice using the brake, Karnan said. Next up is the Summit Zip; you take a chairlift to the top, then zip down 273 feet. It's kind of a last call, Karnan said, to make sure you want to move on to the final two lines. Recoil Zip is 140 feet off the ground and one of the longest in the country at 3,981 feet long, with a 688-foot vertical drop. The Pistol Zip is 3,804 feet and is 50 feet off ground.

On the longer zips, it'll take a couple minutes to get down depending on how fast you're going. Karnan said a lot of people like to race, since they're going down next to someone,

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Sat., Aug. 14!



Yes! Young people age 8-17 can get a FREE short plane ride with local pilots at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport.

On Saturday, Aug. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., EAA Chapter 106 will offer a Young Eagles program at the Aviation Museum of N.H., 27 Navigator Road, Londonderry, N.H.

The Young Eagles program, with local pilots donating their time and aircraft, is a great way for kids to discover the magic of aviation. Participants must register in advance online at young eaglesday.org/?2157. Parent/guardian must be present at time of flight.



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Ziplining at Gunstock. Courtesy photo.

and there are a few tricks with positioning and steering that can speed up the descent.

"Our zipline guys have some good hacks for that kind of stuff," she said.

But it's not all about speed.

"The zipline really forces you to be in the moment ... take in the surroundings, kind of enjoy the nature," Karnan said. "We have unmatched views of Lake Winnepesaukee. You might see Mount Washington on a clear day — if it's clear enough, you can see up to the observatory."

She said a lot of people just want to try it once, for the experience, but many come back.

"It's really a bucket list item, and once you've done it, it's hard not to want to do it again," Karnan said. "It's such an adrenaline rush."

At Candia Springs Adventure Park in Candia, the guided zip tour has six lines that stretch out over about 3,000 feet of cable, according to Clarissa Coppin. Guests zip from platform to platform, she said, and trained guides are in charge of the guests' trolley and braking.

"We have varying heights of up to 40 feet," Coppin said in an email. "The best part is at the end; [it] finishes at the 1,000-foot zipline that stretches over the entire park and over the pond."

Candia Springs also has an Aerial Adventure course with bridges, climbing ladders, scales, obstacles and crossing ziplines.

"We have had many guests cross off their bucket list items here, face their fears, and even get engaged," Coppin said in the email.

Gunstock Zipline Tour

Where: Gunstock Mountain Resort, Gilford

When: The Adventure Park is open through the end of October, and zipline tours are available Friday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: \$75 for ages 10 and up

You have to be between 4 feet and 6 feet, 8 inches, and between 50 and 260 pounds to ride the ziplines. Children 10 through

15 must be accompanied by a participating adult. Closed-toe and closed-heel shoes are required.

Candia Springs Adventure Park

Where: 446 Raymond Road, Candia

When: Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday until Sept. 6. The Zipline Tour and Aerial Forest stays open until Oct. 31 on weekends only, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$41 for the Zipline Tour, and \$41 for the Aerial Forest. Advance reservations are recommended. Visit candasprings.com or call 587-2093.

For both adventures, the minimum age is 7, minimum weight is 50 pounds and minimum height is 48 inches. The maximum weight is 250 pounds.

PARASAILING

If you'd rather soar above water, parasailing offers scenic views along with an up-in-the-air experience that feels like sitting on a swing with a friend, says Captain Craig Schreck, owner of Hampton Beach Parasail.

"You can see the whole coast of New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, the Isles of Shoals. On a clear day you can see the White Mountains," Schreck said. "It's a very visual, scenic, relaxing ride up there."

Hampton Beach Parasail offers rides with either 500 or 1,000 feet of line — the more line, the better the views, Schreck said. Passengers get harnessed to the parasail, usually two or three at a time, then take off from the back of the boat, ascending slowly as the boat takes off. They're up in the air for about 10 minutes.

"It's basically like I'm flying a big kite with people in it," Schreck said.

One of the best things about parasailing, he said, is that pretty much anyone can do it. He recently took a woman who was celebrating her 80th birthday with a friend who was in her 70s, and he took his own kids



Hampton Beach Parasail. Courtesy photo.

when they were 7 and 9. He said parasailing isn't so much like an amusement ride as it is a relaxing experience — even for people who are initially nervous.

“We get a lot of people who are afraid of heights [but] it's a gradual increase [and] because you're over the water you don't necessarily feel how high you are,” he said.

He said 99 percent of people who are afraid of heights end up loving it.

“We take pictures too, and sometimes you see that first picture and you can see the nervousness in their eyes and then the next two pictures, all of a sudden [you can see] the relief and excitement,” he said.

There's no need to be afraid of the boat ride either, Schreck said.

“If it's really windy, we don't go very fast at all,” he said. “If it's not windy, we get up to about 15 miles per hour. ... The [faster] part of the boat ride is going in and out of the harbor.”

Passengers start out at Hampton Beach Parasail's office in Hampton Harbor, then walk to the boat and take off from the state pier. The boat holds up to 12 people, so it's typically Schreck, his “mate,” who helps harness the passengers into the parasail, and about eight to 10 passengers. The whole ride is about an hour.

Rides start at 8 a.m. and run every hour until the last trip at 6:30 p.m. Schreck said he prefers the last couple of rides of the day.

“The evenings are nice,” he said. “It's usually really calm and the sun's starting to go down.”

Schreck has been parasailing off and on for years; he used to drive a parasail boat in Hampton when he was younger, and then later in Miami, Cape Cod and Newport, Rhode Island. The best part of driving the boat, he said, is seeing how excited people are when they land. And when he goes up himself, which he still does a handful of times each summer, he thinks it's cool to look down and see all the people on the beach. But no matter how many times he goes up, he has the same thought: “I forgot how high this is!”

Hampton Beach Parasail

Where: 1 Ocean Boulevard, Hampton

When: Open seven days a week until the Hampton Beach Seafood Festival (Sept. 10 through Sept. 12 this year), and then weekends and reservations until October.

Cost: \$99 per person for a 500-foot line, \$139 per person for the 1,000-foot line

Reservations are recommended but not required. Visit hamptonbeachparasail.com or call 929-4386.

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Acting normal

Marriage comedy opens at the Majestic Theatre

By Angie Sykeny
 asykeny@hippopress.com

As life steadily returns to normal, the Majestic Theatre presents a play about the normal things in life — home, marriage, career — but with a farcical twist.

'Til Beth Do Us Part opens for its two-weekend run at the Majestic Studio Theatre in Manchester on Friday, July 16.

Written by Jesse Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten — the comedy playwright trio known as Jones Hope Wooten — the show is, as director Joe Pelonzi describes it, “a situational comedy, where things don’t go as planned.”

“There are a lot of surprises, a lot of twists and turns, a lot of misdirection and comedy that’s predicated on timing,” he said. “It’s kind of in the same vein as a lot of the British farces, but without all the slamming doors.”

Married for 27 years, Suzannah and her husband Gibby find themselves in a state of complacency as they adjust to life in their newly empty nest. Suzannah hopes to advance her career but is bogged down by household duties, with which she gets no help from Gibby. Enter Beth, an assistant Suzannah hires to get her house — and her husband — back in order. Under the nose of an oblivious Suzannah, Beth begins weasel-

ing into other aspects of the couple’s life, taking a special interest in Suzannah’s career, and in an upcoming business dinner that could be a big step forward for Suzannah. It becomes a battle of wits between Beth and Gibby as Beth tries to derail the marriage and Gibby, who has caught on to Beth’s ulterior motives, becomes more determined than ever to save it.

“It’s full of normal situations that most people have been in before and can really relate to,” Pelonzi said, “except, in the play, those normal situations end up going in a more comic direction.”

“It’s the perfect [show] to come see after a year and a half of being deprived of our normal interactions and normal life,” actor Judy Mitchell added.

Mitchell, who has been acting in New Hampshire on and off for nearly 30 years, will reprise the role of Suzannah, which she played in a past production of *'Til Beth Do Us Part*, also directed by Pelonzi, for Bedford Off Broadway.

“It’s a fun show, and I had a lot of fun playing Suzannah,” Mitchell said. “I was happy to do it again when Joe [Pelonzi] asked me.”

As is traditional for a farce, the characters in *'Til Beth Do Us Part* are “a little bit over the top, almost caricatures,” Mitchell said, which calls for a less conventional act-



The Majestic Theatre presents *'Til Beth Do Us Part*. Courtesy photo.

ing approach.

“Rather than [reflecting on] my own personal experiences or looking at the depth of emotion like I would for a more realistic type of character, I look more at [Suzannah’s] actions and reactions,” she said. “The facial expressions and body language play as much of a part as any emotional development would for a character [in a non-farce].”

'Til Beth Do Us Part is the Majestic Theatre’s second in-person show since the pandemic, and Mitchell’s first time back on stage.

“It’s a little anxiety-producing to get out in front of people again, so I kind of had to

push myself and talk myself into doing it,” she said, “but I’m very glad I did, because I needed this. [Theater] is as much a part of me as breathing.” 🌿

'Til Beth Do Us Part

Where: Majestic Studio Theatre, 880 Page St., Manchester

When: July 16 through July 25, with showtimes on Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$20 for adults, and \$15 for seniors age 65 and over and youth age 17 and under.

More info: Call 669-7469 or visit majestictheatre.net.

Art

Exhibits

- **“FRESH PERSPECTIVES”** Exhibit features works by New Hampshire artists Peter Milton, Varujan Boghosian, Robert Hughes and others. New Hampshire Antique Co-op (323 Elm St., Milford). On view through Aug. 31. Visit nhan-tiquecoop.com.
- **“FASHION FORWARD: AFRICANA STYLE”** Exhibit showcases Black fashion and explores connections between African American and African design aesthetics from past to present. The Seacoast African American Cultural Center (located inside the Portsmouth Historical Society, 10 Middle St., Portsmouth). On view through Sept. 1. Gallery hours are Monday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; visitors must reserve a 45-minute time slot in advance. Walk-in guests will be accommodated as space permits. Tickets cost \$10 for the general public and \$5 for Historical Society members and are available through eventbrite.com. Visit saacc-nh.org.
- **“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 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.

• **“TWILIGHT OF AMERICAN IMPRESSIONISM”** Exhibit showcases New England painters and masters of impressionism Alice Ruggles Sohier and Frederick A. Bosley. On view through Sept. 12. Portsmouth Historical Society (10 Middle St., Portsmouth). Gallery hours are daily, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission costs \$7.50 for adults and is free for kids under age 18, seniors age 70 and older and active and retired military. Admission is free for all on the first Friday of every month. Visit portsmouth-history.org.

• **“TENSION: PROCESS IN THE MAKING”** The Surface Design Association’s (SDA) New Hampshire Group presents an exhibit featuring fiber art and textiles by New Hampshire artists. July 24 through Sept. 4. Twiggs Gallery (254 King St., Boscawen). Visit twigsgallery.wordpress.com or call 975-0015.

Fairs and markets

- **CONCORD ARTS MARKET** Outdoor artisan and fine art market.

Third Saturday each month, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Now through October. Rollins Park (33 Bow St., Concord). Visit concordartsmarket.net.

• **ARTS ON THE GREEN** Arts and crafts fair will feature painters, potters, artisan jewelers, stained glass makers, bead workers, photographers and metal crafters. Presented by The Center for the Arts Lake Sunapee Region. Sunapee Harbor. Sat., July 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit centerfortheartsnh.org.

Theater

Auditions

- **HEATHERS THE MUSICAL** Presented by Cue Zero Theatre Company. Auditions held Tues., July 27. Granite State Arts Academy, 19 Keewaydin Drive, Salem. Performers must be age 18+. Signups for a time slot in advance are required. Visit cztheatre.com.

Shows

- **PETER PAN** The 2021 Bank of New Hampshire Children’s Summer Series presents. Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester). Wed., July 14, and Thurs., July 15, 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$10. Visit palacetheatre.org.
- **SLEUTH** The Winnepesau-

kee Playhouse presents. 33 Footlight Circle, Meredith. Now through July 17, with showtimes Wednesday through Saturday, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 to \$37. Visit winnepesaukeplayhouse.org.

• **DANI GIRL** The Winnepesaukee Playhouse presents. 33 Footlight Circle, Meredith. Now through July 31, with showtimes Tuesday through Saturday, at 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$29 to \$39. Visit winnepesaukeplayhouse.org.

• **PIPPIN** The Seacoast Repertory Theatre PAPA Jr. presents. Virtual and in person at 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. Now through July 18. Visit seacoastrep.org or call 433-4472.

• **YOU’RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN** Prescott Park Arts Festival (105 Marcy St., Portsmouth). Now through Aug. 15, with shows daily at 7 p.m. More information is

TBA. Visit prescottpark.org.

- **WIZARD OF OZ** The 2021 Bank of New Hampshire Children’s Summer Series presents. Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester). Tues., July 20, through Thurs., July 22, 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$10. Visit palacetheatre.org.
- **CABARET** The Seacoast Repertory Theatre presents. 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. July 22 through Sept. 5. Visit seacoastrep.org or call 433-4472.



FROM COMIC STRIP TO STAGE

The Prescott Park Arts Festival (105 Marcy St., Portsmouth) summer theater production *You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown* is going on now through Aug. 15, with showtimes on Thursdays and Sundays at 7 p.m., and on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. (no shows on Fridays, July 23 and July 30.). The show, presented by Wilcox, features a revue of songs and vignettes based on Charles Schulz’ beloved comic strip. General admission is a \$5 donation at the gate, or reserved seating is available for \$49 to \$99. Visit prescottpark.org.

THE ROUNDUP

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

• Saturday market:

This month's Concord Arts Market will take place on Saturday, July 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Rollins Park (off Broadway Street, with parking at 33 Bow St.). The outdoor artisan and fine art market features 50 vendors, live music and a food truck. It will continue on the third Saturday of each month through October, and during Intown Concord's Market Days Festival, when it will be held Thursday, Aug. 19, through Saturday, Aug. 21, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Main and Pleasant streets. Visit concordartsmarket.net/summer-arts-market.

• **Chorale reunited:** The Concord Chorale's virtual performance of *Carmina Burana* that premiered on July 10 is now available to stream on demand for free on the Chorale's YouTube channel. The piece, composed by Carl Orff in the 1930s, is based on a collection of medieval poetry of the same name, particularly on the text's recurring theme of "Rota Fortunae," the theoretical "wheel of fortune" that determines every person's fate. Its iconic opening movement, "O Fortuna," will be "familiar to essentially everybody," music director Jenny Cooper told the Hippo earlier this month. "It's incredibly dramatic," she said. "It's been used throughout pop culture and in commercials and movies." Fifty chorale members performed the piece together in person, joined by guest vocal soloists Lisa Cooper, soprano; Cailin Marcel Manson, baritone; and AJ Coppola, tenor; pianists Molly Lozeau and Elizabeth Blood; and a group of percussionists including timpanist Jonathan Hess and principal percussionist Matt Sharrock. The virtual



"Perspectives," a mixed-media sculpture by Philip Gauthier. Courtesy photo.

concert also features the voices of chorale members who were not able to perform with the group in person; recorded audio of them singing at home was mixed into the audio of the performance video. Now rehearsing regularly in person, the Concord Chorale plans to perform for a live, in-person audience for their next concert in September. Visit concordchorale.org or call 333-5211.

• Thriller author:

The Music Hall in Portsmouth presents a virtual event with New York Times bestselling author Megan Miranda on Tuesday, July 20, at 7 p.m. as part of its virtual Writers in The Loft series. Miranda will discuss her new novel, *Such a Quiet Place*. The thriller centers on Hollow's Edge, a once idyllic, close-knit neighborhood reeling after the shocking murder of two people. The resident implicated in the crime has returned home, having had the conviction overturned. Now, everyone is a suspect, and a series of mysterious notes suggests that it won't be long before the killer strikes again. The author discussion will be moderated by local young adult novelist Paul Durham. An audience Q&A will follow. Tickets cost \$5 to access the event, which will be livestreamed on Zoom via Eventive. Visit themusichall.org or call 436-2400.

• **Outdoor opera:** The Manchester-based Piccola Opera presents its Summer Festival, with two shows at two outdoor venues in Rindge. First, the Piccola Youth Opera will perform a musical theater and light opera show, *The Wonderful World of Music*, on Friday, July 16, at 6 p.m. at Cathedral of the Pines (10 Hale Hill Road), and Saturday, July 17, at 2 p.m. at Franklin Pierce University (40 University Drive). The Piccola Emerging Opera will perform a classic opera, *Purcell to Puccini — Operatastic!*, on Friday, July 23, at 6 p.m., at Franklin Pierce University, and Saturday, July 24, at 2 p.m. at Cathedral of the Pines. Tickets cost \$15. Call 781-5695 or visit piccolaopera.net.

— Angie Sykeny 🍀

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Mid-summer blossoms

It's a quiet time for flowers

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

— THE — GARDENING — GUY —

Mid-summer is often a quiet time for flowers; many gardens have fewer dramatic blossoms than in the spring. I have made an effort to have plenty blooming now. It's true that my Japanese primroses, peonies and Siberian iris have gone by. But I have many others, both old favorites and lesser-known beauties.

Bee balm has started early this year for me. Contrary to what most gardening books say, bee balm does not need full sun. In fact, full sun makes it dry out and go by more quickly. It does well in moist, rich soil but will grow anywhere. This year I planted some wild bee balm, a native prairie plant. Its scientific name is *Monarda fistulosa*, and some better garden centers are selling it now, even though it is not as flashy as its domesticated cousin. It's a light lavender in color, and shorter than the standard varieties. It is terrific for butterflies and bees.

Just finishing up for me is one of the bellflowers, clustered bellflower. It stands about 24 inches tall with purplish-blue globes of small blossoms. It is a fast spreader but pulls easily if it gets out of its place. A relative, peach-leaved bellflower, is preferred by some as it is better-behaved. It has flowers growing up its tall stems and comes in blue or white. Both species are good cut flowers.

Feverfew has been used traditionally to cure many things, but I like it as a white cut flower with a yellow center. Each blossom is small — say half an inch — but there can be hundreds on a big plant. It is rambunctious. It sows seeds and shows up around my garden,

but it is easily pulled. It keeps well in an arrangement.

Betony is in bloom now, too. It is in the same genus as lamb's ears but has green, not silvery, leaves and sends up lovely purplish flowers on stiff stalks that look great in a vase. The best variety is one called Hummelo, named after the Dutch hometown of Piet Oudolf, designer of the High Line Gardens in NYC. But Hummel means bumblebee in German, which is appropriate — it attracts bees over its long bloom time. Small flowers appear all along its tall stems.

An uncommon flower in bloom for me now is called false hydrangea because the leaves are similar to those of the PeeGee hydrangea, although the flowers are totally different. This gem grows in full to part shade in moist, rich soil. It has small bluish-lavender cup-shaped flowers.

There is another false hydrangea, *Deinanthef bifida*, which has white flowers. Both are rated as hardy to Zone 5. I am in Zone 4 and have lost some plants, but others have survived.

A huge, dramatic plant is the giant fleece flower. The blooms are a bit like astilbe flowers on steroids. The hollow stems stand up to 8 feet tall, and flower panicles are sometimes 18 inches from top to bottom. It does not spread by root, but each year the clump gets larger. I just cut back a good portion of mine, as the plant was shading out nearby plants. It would take a pickaxe and a strong back to dig it up — which I have, on one occasion. It likes moist soil and full sun,

Moist soil is also good for Japanese iris. In fact, it is often grown in shallow water. I have one clump that has just begun blooming, after all the others. Its foliage is similar to Siberian iris, but the "falls" or petals lie back flat, looking up. It does not like the competition of weeds, I have learned, as we weeded



Betony 'Hummelo' is a good cut flower. Photo courtesy of Henry Homeyer.



Campanula glomerata spreads by root. Photo courtesy of Henry Homeyer.



False hydrangea comes in blue or white blossoms. Photo courtesy of Henry Homeyer.



Japanese iris love wet places to grow. Photo courtesy of Henry Homeyer.

it well early on, and it is going to bloom dramatically this year.

Great masterwort has small domed blossoms in white or pinky-purple that look like pins stuck in a small pin-cushion, surrounded by delicate bracts (petal-like structures). Deer won't eat it, and it blooms for weeks, preferably in moist, sunny locations. Each year my clumps get bigger and more wonderful.

At the front of a prominent flower bed I have installed lady's mantle, a tidy plant with lacy clusters of chartreuse flowers, a color that accents others nicely in a vase, or in the garden. It is probably best known for its tidy foliage which traps rain drops or dew and shows them off. It works as a ground cover, spreading a bit each year and providing dense foliage that helps reduce weeds. It will grow in full sun or light shade but does

not thrive in hot, dry soil.

In addition to perennials, each year I grow some annuals. Last year we started many dahlia tubers for their big, colorful blossoms, and saved the tubers indoors to reuse this year, and to share with others.

This year we bought some canna lilies for their interesting foliage — one variety has deep purple leaves — and bright orange or yellow flowers. They stand from 2 to 6 feet tall and have been blooming consistently for a month so far.

If your garden is a bit short of flowers just now, try some of those mentioned above. There is always space for a few more.

You may reach Henry at PO Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746 or by email at henry.homeyer@comcast.net. 🍌

TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

I have this basket that is probably 100 years old from my mother; I think it was for a baby. I would love to know if it has value and am also looking for ideas for places that might like this, or to find out if there is no real value other than as a family item.

Martha

Dear Martha,

I'm not sure if your basket is for a baby; it could be a gathering basket as well. It doesn't show any signs of interior wear or

of any cloth or liner.

I also can say I have never seen one made out of grapevine. Maybe it's not American. I don't have any expertise in this area. I'm giving you my gut feeling after doing a bit of research as well.

My advice is to bring it to an antique shop and have someone look at it directly. That sometimes can help.

I'm sorry to not be much help to you and hope you do find out more. Please share with me if you do, as I am always looking to learn more myself.

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. 🍌



INSIDE/OUTSIDE
KIDDIE
— POOL —
 Family fun for whenever

Summer of movies

Head to Greeley Park (100 Concord St. in Nashua) on Friday, July 16, at dusk for a screening of *Abominable* (PG, 2019), an animated movie about a girl and her friends in Shanghai who help a Yeti return to his family in the Himalayas. The screening is part of Nashua's SummerFun lineup of activities; see nashuanh.gov.

Check out *Space Jam: A New Legacy* (PG, 2021), the update on the 1990s mix of Looney Tunes characters and live human basketball players that opens on Friday, July 16 (in theaters and on HBO Max). See a **sensory-friendly screening** on Saturday, July 17, at 10 a.m. at O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square in Epping (24 Calef Highway; 679-3529, oneilcinemas.com). The screening takes place in a theater where the sound is down and the lights are up.

O'neil's summer kids movies series continues by celebrating Christmas in July with *Elf* (PG, 2003) screening Monday, July 19, and Wednesday, July 21, at 10 a.m. Tickets to the screening cost \$2 for kids ages 11 and under and \$3 for ages 13 and up. A \$5 popcorn and drink combo is also for sale.

Before the fourth movie (*Hotel Transylvania: Transformania*) comes out this October, check out the original *Hotel Transylvania* (PG, 2012), featuring the voice work of Adam Sandler, at Chunky's Cinema Pub (707 Huse Road in Manchester; 151 Coliseum Ave. in Nashua; 150 Bridge St. in Pelham, chunkys.com) on Wednesday, July 21, at 11:30 a.m. The screening is a "Little Lunch Date," with kid-friendly lighting. Reserve tickets in advance with \$5 food vouchers.

This weekend at all three Chunky's, try to win some sweet prizes at **Theater Candy Bingo** on Sunday, July 18, at 6:30 p.m. Admission costs \$4.99 plus one theater candy.



Space Jam: A New Legacy

Summer of performances

The Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org, 668-5588) continues its 2021 Bank of New Hampshire Children's Summer Series. Finishing up this week's run, catch *Peter Pan* on Thursday, July 15. Next week, the production is *Wizard of Oz*, Tuesday, July 20, through Thursday, July 22. Showtimes are at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and tickets cost \$10 per person.

The **Everlasting Characters**, a group of fairytale character performers, will present "Royal Ball," a free show at the Pelham Village Green (in front of the library at 24 Village Green) on Wednesday, July 21, from 6 to 8 p.m. Meet the characters, take a photo with them and play games, according to the website pelhamcommunityspirit.org/sponsored-events/concerts-on-the-village-green. The event is free and kids are encouraged to come in their favorite fairytale outfits, the site said.

Or check out children's musician **Steve Blunt**, who will perform a free kids concert at Ordway Park (Main Street in Hampstead) on Wednesday, July 21, at 6 p.m. See hampsteadconcerts.com/concert-series for more about the events; find out more about the Nashua-based Blunt at steveblunt.com, where you can find videos of some of his songs. 🎶



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To idle or not to idle — it all depends



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:
 When my sister and I shop, we save time by having lunch in the car. When she drives, if it is winter or summer, she will leave the car running for the half hour we eat, so she can run the heat or air conditioning. When I drive, I think that practice is not good for the car, so we suffer with the motor off.

Is it acceptable to idle the car so we are comfortable? Thank you. — Annette

Idling doesn't harm the car at all. If your sister starts idling near the mall, that's another issue. But idling is no problem for your engine.

As long as your cooling system is working (and you'd know if it wasn't because you'd see a "HOT" warning light on the dashboard), cars can idle indefinitely. Or until they run out of gas.

Idling is actually easier on the car than driving. The engine is doing very little work. I guess that's why they call it idling.

But there are two concerns, and they're related. One is pollution. When you sit there idling, the engine is still putting out carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, unburned hydrocarbons and nitrous oxide compounds.

And because of that pollution, the second concern is that many towns and cities now have anti-idling ordinances. Those limit the amount of time you can legally let a vehicle idle without shutting it off. So check your local regulations.

That said, if your teeth are chattering, or sweat is dripping off your chin onto your fish tacos, there's no reason to suffer. You don't want to be wasteful, but you also don't want to end up with frost bite or heat stroke.

So the real question is: Is there room for compromise, especially when the weather is more moderate?

If it's, say, 80 degrees out, you can idle the car and run the AC for five minutes and then shut it off until you feel uncomfortably warm again. Or you can open the windows from the outset and run the blower fan without the AC in the car's battery mode.

And if it's 50 degrees out, you can run the engine and the heater until you're toasty and then shut it off until you need some more heat. And on days when the weather is more extreme — here's an idea — you can go into a restaurant, live it up, and use the bathroom, too.

Dear Car Talk:
 I love your column, and thanks for helping us all out with the poltergeists in our cars!
 I have a 2018 Chevy 2500HD Silverado with

a 6.0 V8 and the trailering package. I pull a 6,000-pound trailer with it.

After I get gas, hitch up my trailer, and hit the open road, within about 30-40 miles, the poltergeist in my truck turns on the "check engine" light. Since I have OnStar, I have them run a diagnostic, and it's always the same code: "P0324 ECM Engine System." This has happened three times. After I unhitch the trailer and get more gas, the "check engine" light turns off.

Since my truck is under warranty, I took it to the dealer (twice), and they told me it is "bad gas." How can that be? I know I am a young chick, but I feel that they just don't want to fix it. Could it be a bad knock sensor? They did say they checked everything, and it's fine.

Can you do a paranormal investigation and tell me what my issue is? — Gena

When I have bad gas, it doesn't cause my "check engine" light to come on. But it does cause my houseguests to say "goodnight" early.

It could be bad gas, but if it's happened three times and, I'm assuming, with gas from different gas stations, it sounds like they're just trying to get rid of you. Or they don't know how to fix this.

You can humor them by trying different gas if you haven't already, but when that doesn't help — and before your warranty runs out — go back to the dealer and tell them they need to

look harder.

"P0324" is the code for a knock sensor malfunction. Bad gas (with too low an octane rating) could cause knocking, which might turn on the "check engine" light. But it's also possible the knock sensor is faulty. And it may malfunction only under "load," or high-stress conditions.

For example, if they tested the knock sensor at the dealership, it may have tested fine. But when you're driving uphill at 65 mph, in 80-degree heat, pulling a 6,000-pound trailer, the sensor misbehaves.

So they should start by swapping out your knock sensor. It's also possible your whole engine control module is bad. The knock sensor "reports to" the ECM. So that'd be next on my list.

Either way, this truck shouldn't be knocking when you pull 6,000 pounds, since its towing capacity is more than twice that. So they're going to have to make a more serious effort to fix this for you.

I'm going to guess that you're pulling horses with this trailer, Gena. That would be perfect. Next time you go to the dealer about this, feed the horses first, then take them into the showroom with you, sit down and tell them "you'll wait" while they figure it out. Good luck.

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ON THE JOB

ZACHERY PALMER HOUSING COOPERATIVE SPECIALIST

Zachery Palmer is a housing cooperative specialist for ROC-NH, a program that works to build and strengthen resident-owned communities in the state. ROC-NH is overseen by New Hampshire Community Loan Fund, a nonprofit community development financial institution that provides loans, capital and finance education to New Hampshire people and families with low and moderate incomes.

Q: *Explain your job.*
I help manufactured home residents and manufactured home park owners, cooperative or private, with their day-to-day business, whether it's helping them figure out their new budget for the year or ... [answering] a resident's question about what their board of directors is doing or where their rent should go. I help people who are looking to buy manufactured homes ... and I connect them with our Welcome Home Loans department, which ... does real estate mortgages for manufactured homes in ROC residential communities or on private land. I help residents in private parks turn [their parks] into cooperative parks, [which

they can do by] purchasing the land underneath their homes from the private owner and running it as a board-of-directors cooperative. ... I also help [parks] with infrastructure projects, like replacing water and sewer lines systems.

How long have you had this job?

Two years.

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

I was a bank teller ... and I got introduced to the commercial lending world from there. Through a mentor of mine, I found out about the New Hampshire Community Loan Fund and

all the interesting and creative financing programs that have spun out of it since its inception.

What kind of education or training did you need?

I graduated from SNHU in 2017 and got my undergraduate degree in business administration. ... I also had to study parliamentary procedure and cooperative principles and commercial underwriting.



Zachery Palmer

What do you wish other people knew about your job?

Affordable housing is a high need right now in the state of New Hampshire, and manufactured homes are truly affordable housing. There are 136 resident-owned communities throughout the state. ... It's one of the most affordable living options for people to build equity and actually purchase a home.

Look at the price of a manufactured home versus a stick-built home right now; it's considerably cheaper.

What is your typical at-work uniform or attire?

A button-up shirt and khakis and ... either running shoes or boots, because I travel all around the state to visit manufactured home parks. Some parks have nice, paved roads; some have dirt roads; some are going through infrastructure projects ... so I have to be ready for anything.

How has your job changed over the last year?

Like everyone else, we've had to adapt to online meetings, internally, as a team, with external partners, and with the cooperatives' residents and board members themselves. I've also been working remotely for the last year and a half.

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

To be open-minded and roll with the punches, but stay determined.

What was the first job you ever had?

I worked at Subway in high school.

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

Never surrender your curiosity. You have to satisfy it for yourself. — Angie Sykeny 🍌

Five favorites

Favorite book: *As a Man Thinketh* by James Allen

Favorite movie: *I Am Legend*

Favorite music: Snarky Puppy, a jazz-funk band

Favorite food: Steak and cheese sub

Favorite thing about NH: Every part of it is different, from the seacoast to the mountains to the west.



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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Tastes of the Caribbean:** Get your tickets now for an al fresco **Caribbean dinner** at the Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way) on Thursday, July 22, at 6 p.m., the second event of its summer dinner series. Held on the Inn's Grand Terrace, the five-course meal will feature Caribbean-inspired options, as well as a rum tasting and hand-crafted tropical cocktails that will be paired with each course. Items will include passed appetizers like tostones, saltfish fritters with sweet chili sauce, Jamaican beef patties and fried whitefish with pepper jelly. Other courses to be served will be curry coconut prawns, oxtail stew with butter beans and fried okra, jerk chicken thighs and pork belly, and hummingbird cake for dessert. Tickets are \$125 per person (event is 21+ only). Visit bedfordvillageinn.com.

• **A piece of the pie:** Join the Amherst Town Library (14 Main St.) for **Summer Berry Pies and Tarts**, a virtual program featuring Chef Liz Barbour of The Creative Feast in Hollis, taking place via Zoom on Tuesday, July 20, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Barbour will demonstrate her favorite pie dough recipe and prepare a seasonal fruit pie and tart, and she'll talk about her favorite pie baking tools, ingredients and preparation methods. Registration is required — visit amherstlibrary.org to sign up, where you'll then receive a confirmation email with information on how to join the webinar. Barbour has several other upcoming virtual events planned in collaboration with local libraries later this summer. Visit thecreativefeast.com for a full schedule.

• **Handcrafted chocolates and more:** A two-day grand opening celebration for **Sweet Boutique**, a new handcrafted chocolate and candy shop in Bedford, is planned for Saturday, July 17, and Sunday, July 18. The shop is in the former Triolo's Bakery space at 21 Kilton Road and offers everything from specialty barks and truffles to peanut butter cups, fudge and a line of sugar-free products sweetened with monk fruit. Also featured during the summer are colder options like fruit smoothies, acai bowls and gelato cookie sandwiches. Sweet Boutique is run by owners Michael Pais and his partner, Lynn Mackenna, a chocolatier with more than 30 years of experience working at the former Willey's Candy Shop on Salisbury Beach. Its current hours are Tuesday through Friday, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit visitsweetboutique.com, follow them on Instagram @sweetboutique_chocolates or call 222-1521. 🍫

FOOD

Blueberry blitz

Pick-your-own season is underway



Blueberries at Grounding Stone Farm. Courtesy Photo.



Blueberry picking at Berrybogg Farm. Courtesy photo.



Blueberries at Blue Moon Berry Farm. Courtesy photo.

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

The recent stretch of rain over the Fourth of July weekend has given local blueberries a boost, as several New Hampshire farms are already underway with pick-your-own. Most will continue to produce blueberry varieties through the end of July or into August.

Berrybogg Farm in Strafford opened for the season on July 6, about a week ahead of schedule, according to owner Julie But-

terfield. The 7-acre farm is now in its 45th season and grows nine varieties of blueberries over a period of roughly six weeks.

"We were a little worried with the drought in June, although we've got irrigation, [but] this recent rain was really beneficial for us," Butterfield said.

Certain blueberry varieties can be more favored for either eating on their own or for baking with. Among the most popular varieties at Berrybogg Farm, Butterfield said, are a medium-sized tart blueberry called the Bluetta, as well as the Blueray and the

Bluecrop.

"The Blueray and the Bluecrop varieties are very large and are great eating berries," she said. "Then you have Northlands, which are smaller and very sweet. They're better for baking."

David Miller of Grounding Stone Farm, a 13-acre certified organic blueberry farm in Contoocook, was also able to open a week earlier than normal for pick-your-own.

"All berries love the hot weather, but they also need water," Miller said. "The rain was extremely welcome. After it rained, everything just turned so blue. ... We had to open, because the berries were literally ripening and falling off the bushes."

Grounding Stone Farm grows Blueray and Bluetta blueberries, as well as a larger variety called the Patriot that Miller said can grow to the size of a quarter coin.

Apple Hill Farm in Concord, which grows 15 blueberry varieties, opened for pick-your-own on July 5. Co-owner Diane Souther said picking is available six days a week from Monday through Saturday, with the patches closed on Sunday to allow the berries to ripen.

"Overall they're looking good," Souther said of this year's blueberry crop. "They're plumping up and getting nice and juicy. ... We'll have varieties that will keep going through August."

Blue Moon Berry Farm in Warner began its pick-your-own blueberry season on July 9 and is now open every day except Monday. According to Heidi Crozer, whose family runs the farm, there are a total of 12 blueberry varieties available for picking throughout the season.

"The last couple of seasons have been really short because of the drought," Crozer said. "Last year it was only four weeks, and the year before it was five weeks. ... Everything is weather-dependent so it's hard to gauge the season, but we're hoping for temperate weather." 🍫

Blueberry maple syrup

Courtesy of Diane Souther of Apple Hill Farm in Concord

- 2 cups frozen or fresh blueberries
- ¾ cup maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon grated orange peel
- 1 Tablespoon cornstarch
- ½ teaspoon vanilla
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon

In a small saucepan, combine blueberries,

maple syrup and orange peel. In a small cup, dissolve cornstarch in 2 tablespoons of water, then add to the blueberry mixture. Cook, stirring constantly, until the mixture boils. Reduce heat and simmer until the mixture thickens (about one minute). When thickened, add vanilla and cinnamon. Serve warm over pancakes, French toast or waffles.

Blueberry lemon muffins

Courtesy of Julie Butterfield of Berrybogg Farm in Strafford (makes about one dozen regular-sized muffins, or six extra-large muffins)

- 3½ cups flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 eggs
- 2 cups buttermilk
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¾ cup sugar
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons lemon zest
- 2 cups blueberries

For the glaze:

- Juice of a lemon (about ¼ cup)
- ½ cup sugar



Blueberry muffins at Berrybogg Farm. Courtesy photo.

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Mix flour, baking powder, ½ cup of sugar and salt in a large bowl. Beat eggs in a separate bowl. Add buttermilk and melted butter and mix well. Mix ¾ cup sugar, oil, lemon zest and blueberries in another bowl. Add egg mixture and blueberry mixture to the flour mixture. Mix thoroughly and add to muffin tins. Bake for 25 minutes.

Where to pick your own blueberries

Check out this list of where to pick your own blueberries in southern New Hampshire — most of these farms will continue with blueberry varieties through the middle or the end of August, depending on the weather conditions. Be sure to contact the farm directly for the most up-to-date information.



Blueberries at Apple Hill Farm. Courtesy photo.

Apple Hill Farm

580 Mountain Road, Concord, 224-8862, applehill-farmnh.com

Cost: \$3.50 per pound

Picking hours: Monday through Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to noon

Bartlett's Blueberry Farm

648 Bradford Road, Newport, 863-2583, bartletts-blueberryfarm.com

Cost: \$3.10 per pound

Picking hours: Hours are generally 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. but may vary depending on the crop

Bascom Road Blueberry Farm

371 Bascom Road, Newport, 359-7703, bascom-roadblueberryfarm.com

Cost: \$20 per gallon or \$11 per half-gallon

Picking hours: Current hours are Thursday through Sunday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., but hours will likely expand mid-season

Berry Good Farm

234 Parker Road, Goffstown, 497-8138, [find them on Facebook](http://findthem.on.facebook)

Cost: \$3.29 per pound

Picking hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to

2 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Berrybogg Farm

650 Province Road, Strafford, 664-2100, berryboggfarm.com

Cost: \$2.85 per pound (\$2.75 per pound for seniors ages 65 and older)

Picking hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Blueberry Bay Farm

38 Depot Road, Stratham, 580-1612, blueberry-bayfarm.com

Cost: \$4.20 per pound

Picking hours: Daily, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Blue Moon Berry Farm

195 Waldron Hill Road, Warner, 410-9577, [find them on Facebook](http://findthem.on.facebook)

Picking hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Brookdale Fruit Farm

41 Broad St., Hollis, 465-2240, brookdalefruit-farm.com

Cost: \$3.50 per pound

Picking hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Carter Hill Orchard

73 Carter Hill Road, Concord, 225-2625, carterhillapples.com

Cost: \$3.25 per pound

Picking hours: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., when blueberries are available, which will likely be around mid-July; calling ahead is recommended

Grandpa's Farm

143 Clough Hill Road, Loudon, 783-4384, grandpasfarmnh.com

Cost: \$3 per pound

Picking hours: Now available daily, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Grounding Stone Farm

289 Maple St., Contoocook, 746-1064, groundingstonefarm.com

Cost: \$5 per pint

Picking hours: Daily, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Kimball Fruit Farm

Route 122, on the Hollis and Pepperell, Mass., border, 978-433-9751, kimball.farm

Picking hours: Daily, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; blueberries will likely be available around mid-July

Lavoie's Farm

172 Nartoff Road, Hollis, 882-0072, lavoies-farm.com

Cost: \$4.49 per pound

Picking hours: Daily, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Norland Berries

164 N. Barnstead Road, Barnstead, 776-2021, norlandberries.com

Cost: \$2.75 per pound (\$2.50 per pound for seniors)

Picking hours: Daily, 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Rossview Farm

85 District 5 Road, Concord, 228-4872, rossviewfarm.com

Cost: \$3.20 per pound

Picking hours: Sunday and Monday, 8 a.m. to noon, and Tuesday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saltbox Farm

321 Portsmouth Ave., Stratham, 436-7978, [find them on Facebook](http://findthem.on.facebook)

Cost: \$5 per pound

Picking hours: Daily, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Stark Farm

30 Stark Lane, Dunbarton, 854-2677, stark-farmblueberries.com

Picking hours: Sunday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; calling ahead the day of or the night before is recommended

Sunnycrest Farm

59 High Range Road, Londonderry, 432-7753, sunnycrestfarmnh.com

Cost: \$3.75 per pound

Picking hours: Daily, 7 a.m. to noon



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IN THE KITCHEN WITH **LISA KINGSBURY**

Lisa Kingsbury of Derry is the owner of Lush Confections (find her on Facebook @lushbakedgoods), a homestead business offering fresh cookies baked in small batches. Her signature flavor is a triple chocolate chunk, made with white, dark and milk chocolate, and other versions include walnuts and Heath candy bar pieces. She also bakes lemon yogurt cookies with fresh lemon juice and lemon zest, as well as a dark chocolate brownie with a dark chocolate gaze, and chocolate raspberry rugelach with walnuts. Find her cookies at the Derry Homegrown Farm & Artisan Market (1 W. Broadway) on Wednesdays from 3 p.m. to whenever she sells out. The triple chocolate chunk cookies are also regularly available at the East Derry General Store (50 E. Derry Road).



What is your must-have kitchen item?

I would say that a kitchen scale is the most important thing in my kitchen. ... There's also always a bench scraper nearby, without a doubt.

What would you have for your last meal?

Whatever my husband decides to make. He is fabulous in the kitchen.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

My personal favorite is Janie's Uncommon Cafe in Londonderry. They are really nice people, and everything is delicious. I love their avocado toast.

What celebrity would you like to see ordering from you?

I'm really not too driven by the whole celebrity culture. ... Right now, I think my biggest compliment is when somebody compares my cookie to that of someone's that they love. That, to me, is such a huge compliment when there's that nostalgia applied to it.

What is your favorite cookie flavor that you offer?

The chocolate raspberry rugelach, because it's a cookie that you really don't find anywhere. It's a perfect balance of sweet and savory.

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

I think restaurateurs in New Hampshire have done such an amazing job pivoting their operations over the last year and a half, regardless of what their business model is. ... I think they are more open to different possibilities than they would have otherwise been.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

I am definitely a seasonal shopper. So for example, when clamming season is open, I just want to eat fresh clams. Now that it's warmer, I love to garden.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

Olive and Cooper's homemade soft dog cookies

From the kitchen of Lisa Kingsbury of Lush Confections in Derry

- 1 cup creamy peanut butter
- ¾ cup milk
- 1 egg
- 1 large carrot, shredded
- 2½ cups all purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. In a large bowl, combine the peanut butter, milk, egg and carrot. Add the dry ingredients and mix

until combined. Turn the dough out onto a floured work surface. Using a floured rolling pin, roll the dough out into ¼-inch thickness. Using a pizza cutter, cut into two-inch squares. Bake for 15 minutes, remove from the oven, flip the treats and bake on the other side for 10 more minutes. Allow to cool completely before serving. This recipe yields about 40 treats, which can then be frozen and taken out as needed.



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TRY THIS AT HOME

Healthy ramen slaw

Coleslaw is a regular item on summer cook-out menus. Typically it's mainly a combination of cabbage and some sort of mayonnaise-based dressing. I went to introduce you to a fun yet simple spin on regular slaw.

This slaw starts with a base of coleslaw mix. Sure, you could buy a head of cabbage and slice it yourself, but the mix will save some prep time. Plus, you'll most likely get a mix of red and green cabbage, as well as some shredded carrots, for zero effort. That's a double win.

Then that cole slaw is combined with a sweet and tangy vinegar-based dressing. For additional flavor and texture, dried cranberries, slivered almonds and crushed up ramen noodles are added.

You may wonder about the ramen noodles. Trust me. They add a fun component to this dish.

Because the ramen noodles are thin, just a few minutes in the dressing transforms them into a tender yet crunchy state. In fact, I'd highly recommend adding the ramen just



Healthy ramen slaw. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

before serving. The texture of the ramen is a key part of the salad.

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

Healthy ramen slaw

Serves 4

- 1/4 cup water
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 Tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 14-ounce package coleslaw mix
- 1/3 cup slivered almonds
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries
- 1 3-ounce package ramen, vegetarian or chicken flavor recommended

Combine water and sugar in a small microwave-safe bowl or measuring cup. Microwave on high for 30 seconds; stir well. Repeat in additional 10-second increments until sugar is fully dissolved.

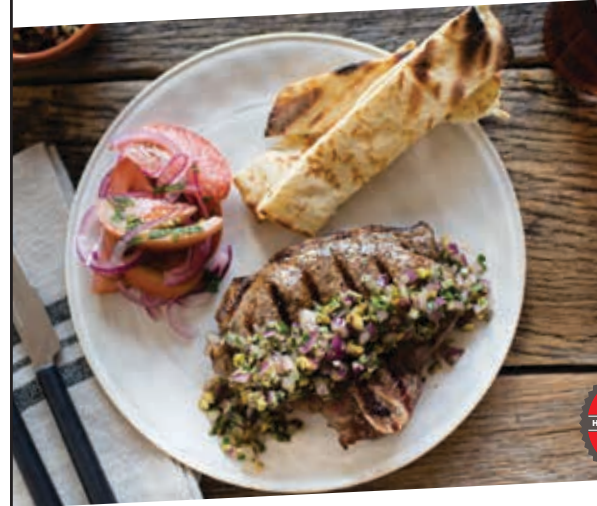
- Allow sweetened water to cool slightly.
- Add vinegar, olive oil and ramen flavoring packet to sweetened water.
- Mix dressing ingredients well, then refrigerate for about 30 minutes to allow sauce to cool.
- Combine cole slaw mix, almonds and cranberries in a large bowl.
- Pour sauce over salad mixture, toss well.
- Break ramen into smaller pieces, and add to the coleslaw mixture; mix well.
- Serve salad.

Notes
Leftover salad can be refrigerated in a sealed container. However, the ramen noodles will become softer, and the salad will lose a bit of its toothsome texture.



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FOOD



Vacation beers

Take it easy

By Jeff Mucciarone
food@hippopress.com

I want to say that you deserve a vacation, but honestly, I don't know that you do.

Don't get me wrong, you might. Maybe you've been going crazy putting in extra time and making yourself available at all hours of the day. Then again, maybe you've mailed it in over the past year-and-a-half "working from home"? I just don't know.

The reality is, whether or not I think you deserve a vacation, you're probably going to take some time off this summer. And whether you deserve it or not, you're going to need some beer.

I find I end up drinking really random stuff on vacation. I think part of it is this all-consuming pressure that all dads feel to eat and drink everything in the cooler during the vacation. That seems to leave me knocking down some brews I might otherwise stay away from. I'm looking at you, Leinenkugel's Summer Shandy.

Vacations, whether you're hitting the beach, the mountains, the lake or somewhere tropical, are all about taking it easy and your beer should mirror that feeling. I gravitate toward lighter styles, like Pilsners, for screaming hot days at the beach and I tend to follow that up with darker, but not too heavy, brews for cool, breezy vacation evenings.

Let's be honest, you're on vacation, so you're probably going to be having several beers, and you don't want your beer to bog you down. I tend to stay away from big double IPAs — they taste great but sometimes leave me ready for nap time a little too early in the day.

If you can find something local on your vacation that fits the bill, all the better. You don't want to neglect your family, but I give you permission to explore — it seems like there are great breweries wherever you go now. I discovered Cigar City Brewing in Tampa on a family vacation to Florida years ago, and, while it's easily accessible nationally now, I now consider that brewery a go-to for vacations and just normal life.

For years Sam Adams Summer Ale was my go-to summer beer: easy, flavorful and light. There was just something about the beer that solidified for me that I was, in fact, on vacation. Find your vacation beer.

Here are a few beers to enjoy wherever your vacation takes you.

Smuttnose Lager by Smuttnose Brewing Co. (Hampton)

It's just a beer. You don't need to think about it. This new offering by Smuttnose is light,



Patina Pale Ale by Austin Street Brewery.

crisp and refreshing, and — not that I'm recommending this — you could probably drink a million of these in a single weekend away.

Patina Pale by Austin Street Brewery (Portland, Maine)

I had this beer during a Portland brew bus tour several years ago and it blew everyone away. Right at the brewery, I think the freshness just hit us right in the face. This is delightfully hoppy with notes of pine and citrus in a light, easy-drinking package that is perfect for getting your hops fix on vacation.

Golden Hour Sour by Granite Roots Brewing (Troy)

Mango and passion fruit combine to produce a fruity, tropical-tasting sour that pairs perfectly with the beach. If you're a little wary of sours, this is a great choice as the tartness isn't overly pronounced.

Maduro Brown Ale by Cigar City Brewing (Tampa, Fla.)

I had to give Cigar City some love — this beer features light flavors of toffee, coffee and chocolate in a very, very smooth package. This is the one I want on a cool evening sitting by a fire on the beach.

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

What's in My Fridge

Greylock Imperial New England IPA by Greater Good Imperial Brewing Co. (Worcester, Mass.)

This might be the most dangerous beer I've ever had. Named after Massachusetts' highest peak, this brew comes in at 12 percent ABV but you'd never guess that drinking it. You've been warned. This brew is quadruple dry-hopped, producing a smooth finish bursting with huge citrus flavor. Cheers!

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- *Black Widow B+*



Debut album from Boston-based folkie T. McWilliams, whose target audience is the weird-bearded acoustic-guitar set that lumps together such debatably disparate acts as Mississippi John Hurt and Nick Drake. He's lived in a lot of places, including Los Angeles, New York City, Shanghai and Scotland, which would explain the boho feel of these pieces, but it's nevertheless not a fluffy record at all. There's real precision in play when McWilliams is plucking his steel and nylon strings and applying his delicate croak to such vivid lyrics as "I entered the garden of scarlet chrysanthemums opening wide" ("The Mighty Kingdom"), and sure, we've heard that kind of thing before, but McWilliams' layering is often divine: It's not often that one hears incidental finger-picked arpeggios used so decisively that one gets the sense that they're listening to high-end guitar-tronica, not just another contender for Nick Drake's throne (not that you'd want to miss this if Drake's your thing, certainly). Brilliant stuff. **A-** — *Eric W. Saeger*

Styx, *Crash Of The Crown* (UME Records)



If we're gonna be real about this legendary Chicago arena-rock band, the default diss has always been that they're a lite version of Yes. But you know what, they do try, and always have, and shut up anyway, because they didn't have Bill Bruford or Chris Squire, and neither does your band, so chill. I was surprised to see so many other reviewers pointing out that original keyboardist Dennis DeYoung (the guy who sang "Mr. Roboto," "Come Sail Away" and all the original hits) is gone, being that it's been 21 years already, but they have their word quotas to fill, and besides, they're still a fun band to see live. This is their 17th album, and actually quite the inspired effort. Once you get to the middle of the second tune ("The Monster") you can't help noticing that this thing is something of an homage to Yes's *Close To The Edge*: woozy, busy keyboards; similar level of riffing; epic-gentle vocal harmonies, and hold it, the drummer is doing some very cool stuff. They're still kickin', folks. **A+** — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

• July 16 is the next all-important date for album releases, only I'm not supposed to call them "albums" anymore, because otherwise I'm a boomer. What that means is that I'm simply going to have to keep calling them albums, because the level of senility in my current boomer state allows me, by law, to act in accordance with my own desires, whether it be calling mixtapes "albums" or throwing a fit at the 7-Eleven if someone's ahead of me in line buying a million lottery tickets. In other words I can start howling at the ceiling and eating a copy of the newest issue of Teen Vogue magazine until the awkward 20-something clerk comes over and asks me if I'm OK, and *nothing will happen other than that* because I am a boomer who loves hitting pause on the DVR machine so I can read the hundred-billion warnings on every pharmaceutical ad, and I remember when albums were called albums, and music was awesome, like the mellow tunes of Pat Boone and Spanky & Our Gang! I remember Donny and Marie Osmond too, all you 4chan trolls, secretly making fun of my words! Well, let's see you make fun of all the edgy and groovy words I'm going to use in my first review this week, as I discuss *Hideaway*, the new album from skinny San Diego hipster trio **Wavves**! This is their seventh mixtape — oh wait, they call their records "albums," not mixtapes, silly me, does anyone have a box of prunes I could borrow, for my digestive health? Whatever, I've heard a few of their things, but if I recall, their songs are only slightly more compelling than Grizzly Bear, but I may be wrong, because I'm so totally old and crazy! The band's last record, *You're Welcome*, climbed to No. 95 on the Billboard charts, not that that's much of an achievement, now that there are only 98 people left in the U.S. who still actually buy albums, but congratulations, guys! Wow, check that out, I wasn't expecting the title track to be jagged and grungy, but it's definitely cool, sort of like *Nevermind*-era Nirvana but without Kurt Cobain's raw/edgy voice. Spoiler alert, what'll happen here is a bunch of people will read some stupid review in Nylon or whatnot and start to believe Wavves is awesome, and then they'll hear actual grunge songs from the '90s and realize they were lied to, because all the writers at Nylon are corporate-paid hacks, and then we'll see that long-overdue '90s music revival, while I sit here eating bowls of pudding and pharmaceuticals and cackling like a witch at all of — what was I saying again?

• Canadian indie quartet **The Zolas** releases *Come Back To Life* on Friday! It's taken them five years to put this album out, their first since 2016's *Swooner*, so it's probably awesome! Nope, it isn't. The title single is like Grizzly Bear trying to sing through kazoos. My stomach is lurching, it really is.

• Oh great, a new **Barenaked Ladies** album! Boy, how did music ever survive this long without a new mixtape or cassette or whatever from the millionth band to repackage Peter, Paul and Mary and resell it to the '90s-college-rock crowd? Right, the new LP is *Detour de Force*, whose single is "New Disaster," an ornate tapestry of 1980s Police-ripoff stuff. Moving on.

• Finally, it's **John Mayer**, with his latest LP, *Sob Rock!* Teaser single "Last Train Home" rips off everything to do with Blue Oyster Cult's "Shooting Shark," but Mayer will get away with it, because anyone who's old enough to recognize "Shooting Shark" is either in a rest home or babbling erroneous nonsense about mixtapes in this newspaper. — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

Retro Playlist

Reminiscing back almost-exactly-what-ever eight years ago to 2013, the first order of business was giving a quick exam to Gypsy-punkers **Gogol Bordello**'s then-spanking-new LP, *Pura Vida Conspiracy*, their seventh. The album's single, "Lost Innocent World," is "a rather subdued version of their usual 'oi oi oi' spazzings, not that lead singer Eugene Hütz doesn't sound the same as always, specifically what **Serj Tankian** would sound like if he were sort of fun."

That and a few other review-snippets



aside, I was forced by job description to deal with an entire album from Kentucky band **Seabird**, called *Troubled Days*. I think I disposed of it rather fairly and adroitly, to wit: "More clean-teen mall-indie for the overhead speakers at TGI Fridays. The intentions of these two Kentuckians couldn't be more obvious;

maybe a 'big time' Budweiser commercial spot featuring one of their tunes and they'd call it a rock star career, whether it be one of their more **Strokes**-like tunes or maybe even one of the debatable curveballs, the tricks to which generally involve mildly

interesting guitar sounds more than anything else." In other words you've heard this kind of nonsense a billion times at restaurants, and we can start wrapping up here.

The other "attraction," for lack of a secret code word with which I could handily signify my displeasure to you, was **Eric & Magill's Baggage and Clothes**. "Nerd-indie of a sort that deepens the immersive feel of **Animal Collective's** trip," I yawned, spit spraying everywhere, "this accomplished by incorporating a different, more mellow notion of swirly layering and a few elements of **Simon and**



Garfunkel's mawkish solitude." (If it's any consolation to any E&M band members who might be reading, I wouldn't have ever thought of you again if it hadn't been for this little stroll down memory lane.)

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@cybertonix.com. 🍷

The Plot, by Jean Hanff Korelitz (Cele-don Books, 320 pages)

Writers, for the most part, live boring lives. We sit at our desks and imagine a world that may or may not exist. The last time we read about a writer having an “adventure” was in *Misery* by Stephen King.

And we all know how that one turned out — ouch.

Still, writers are my people, they are my tribe and if a fictional suspense thriller comes out where the main protagonist is a writer? I’m in. Such is the case with *The Plot* by Jean Hanff Korelitz.

The plot of *The Plot* is a bit convoluted, but that’s what makes it so interesting. A one-hit wonder novel writer named Jacob (Jake) Bonner stalls on writing his next book for years. He admits that for a writer, his best days may be behind, which sends him into a depressive spiral. To make money and barely survive he “teaches” (read shows up) at an MFA program for writers.

Part of what Jake teaches about writing fiction is plot. Writers all know that there are only so many plot lines out there. The quest, the voyage and return, coming of age, overcoming the monster, etc. All plots fall within those boundaries and we are taught that no other plot lines exist.

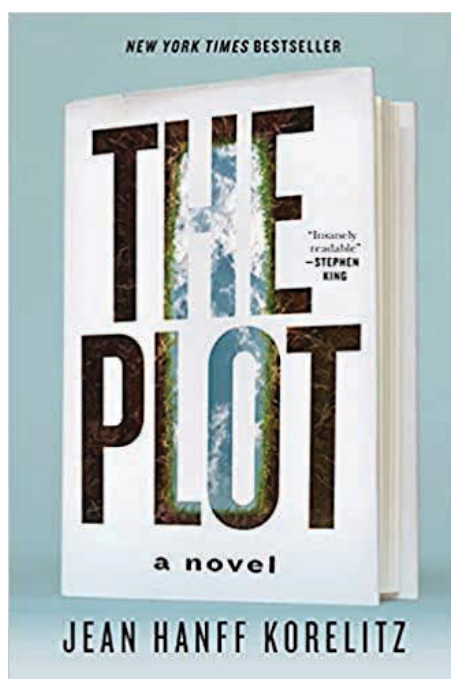
One of his students, a brash, rather uneducated brute, tells Jake his idea for a book. The plot, he insists, is one that has never been written before and is so good that it won’t matter if the writing is not proficient — the book will sell.

Hmm, that must be one heck of a plot. The student tells Jake his story’s plot and Jake has to agree: It’s a plot line that has never been identified. It’s really good. The student is right to be cocky; he’s going to make a lot of money from the book. Even if it’s poorly written.

After the program, the student moves on and Jake continues to sink into a depression.

Years later, Jake wonders why there has never been any talk about his student’s book with the unique plot. After doing a little research he discovers that his former student had died a few months after the writer’s program. The book was never written.

So Jake writes his student’s story. It’s important to note that he doesn’t plagiarize the words of his student, but he does use the idea of his plot, in much the same way that *The Lion King* uses the plot of *Hamlet*. Just like the cocky student predicted, the plot of the story is so good that, especially when done by an accomplished writer, the book zooms to the top of every best seller list. Jake is in hot demand, he’s on TV, a movie by an A-list director is optioned. Everything is wonderful! Jake even finds a support-



ive fan girlfriend who seems to fill in all the holes in his world. Life is definitely good.

Until Jake gets a mysterious email with the message: “I know what you’ve done, you stole someone else’s story.” This is where the real action starts. We get to watch a writer devolve from guilt (the absolute worst thing you can accuse a writer of is plagiarism, even if technically it’s not true).

The messages keep coming. Jake begins to investigate. If the original student with the plot idea is dead then who is sending the messages? What follows are twists and turns and unexpected happenings that will keep you flipping those pages.

And yes, *The Plot* is a twist in itself. As it is told, it appears to contain what could be a new plot structure (or at the very least plot device) because at the very end, the one thing that is never supposed to happen in a hero’s tale happens. I literally gasped because we are all taught you just can’t do that.

While you don’t need to be a writer to enjoy this book, having some literary background on plot construction makes it that much more enjoyable.

Short chapters that switch between the current story and the book that Jake wrote work together to weave a series of events that you don’t necessarily know are connected until the very end. While I did suspect something was “wrong” I did not figure out what was going on until it was explained, making this a truly suspenseful read.

I love page-turners and this book was one for me. Started it one evening, finished it the next.

Intelligent, entertaining, swiftly moving — I wouldn’t be surprised if life imitates written art and a movie is made out of this thought-provoking one. A

— Wendy E. N. Thomas 🍀

BOOK NOTES

Here’s a tip: If you want to know how a book is really selling, pay no mind to the rating that crops up at the top of the page on Amazon: the one that says a book is No. 1 in a specific category such as “pillow manufacturers for Donald Trump.”

It’s the rating under “Product Details” that tells you how a book is performing, and sometimes this is even more reliable than what the New York Times bestseller list says, a publisher told me this week. No. 1, of course, is best, but anything up to 1,000, give or take a few hundred, is decent.

That said, books that suddenly show up in the top 10, such as last week’s debut of *How I Saved The World* by Jesse Waters (Broadside, 320 pages), can leave some people scratching their heads. If you’re a Fox News viewer, you know Waters as a co-host of *The Five*; if not, you’ve likely never heard of him.

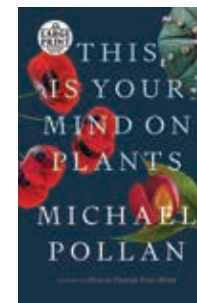
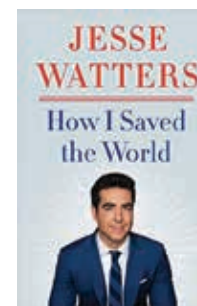
Similarly, people who vaguely know Bill O’Reilly as someone who was supposed to be disgraced may be surprised to see him holding forth on The New York Times’ bestseller list for the past month with *Killing the Mob* (co-written with Martin Dugard, St. Martin’s Press, 304 pages).

Fox News did fire O’Reilly in 2017 after charges of sexual harassment, but he now has a podcast and evidently a loyal following for his series of “Killing” books, which include *Killing Kennedy*, *Killing Patton*, *Killing Jesus*, *Killing Reagan*, *Killing Crazy Horse* and so forth. The most recent sales show there’s plenty of life left in this series.

Other interesting fare out this month includes a provocative new book by Michael Pollan: *This is Your Mind on Plants* (Penguin, 288 pages), which is not, as it seems, about a plant-based diet, but about the mind-altering properties of caffeine, opium and mescaline. His latest interest in hallucinogens is a sharp turn from his early, more mainstream books such as *The Omnivore’s Dilemma* (Penguin, 464 pages) and *In Defense of Food* (Penguin, 256 pages).

And a novel based on the 2019 film *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*, written by director Quentin Tarantino, is out in paperback (Harper Perennial, 400 pages). It’s Tarantino’s first week of fiction and is described by the publisher as “hilarious, delicious and brutal” — just like his films.

— Jennifer Graham



Books

Author events

• **MEGAN MIRANDA** Author presents *Such a Quiet Place*. Hosted by The Music Hall in Portsmouth. Tues., July 20, 7 p.m. Virtual. Tickets cost \$5. Visit themusichall.org or call 436-2400.

• **JOYCE MAYNARD** Author presents *Count the Ways*. Toadstool Bookstore, 12 Depot Square, Peterborough. Sat., July 24, 11 a.m. Visit toadbooks.com or call 924-3543.

• **GIGI GEORGES** Author presents *Downeast: Five Maine Girls and the Unseen Story of Rural America*. Toadstool Bookstore, Somerset Plaza, 375 Amherst St., Route 101A, Nashua. Sat., July 24, 2 to 4 p.m. Visit toadbooks.com or call 673-1734.

• **JESS KIMBALL** Author presents *My Pseudo-College Experience*. Virtual event, hosted by Toadstool Bookstores, located in Nashua, Peterborough and Keene. Tues., July 27, 6 to 7 p.m. Visit toadbooks.com or call 673-1734.

• **CATHLEEN ELLE** Author presents *Shattered Together*. Virtual event, hosted by Toadstool Bookstores, located in Nashua, Peterborough and Keene. Thurs., July 29, 6 p.m. Visit toadbooks.com or call 673-1734.

Poetry

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

• **SLAM FREE OR DIE** Series of open mic nights for poets and spoken-word artists. Stark Tavern, 500 N. Commercial St., Manchester. Weekly. Thursday, doors open and sign-ups beginning at 7 p.m., open mic at 8 p.m. The series also features several poetry slams every month. Events are open to all ages. Cover charge of \$3 to \$5 at the door, which can be paid with cash or by Venmo. Visit facebook.com/slamfreeordie, e-mail slamfreeordie@gmail.com or call 858-3286.

Book Clubs

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

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

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

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

• **NASHUAPUBLICLIBRARY** Online. Monthly. Second Friday, 3 p.m. Call 589-4611, email information@nashualibrary.org

Black Widow (PG-13)

The Avengers' Black Widow finally gets her stand-alone, sorta-origin movie with *Black Widow*, the first movie to return to the Marvel Cinematic Universe since 2019's *Spider-Man: Far From Home*.

You don't have to be a total MCU completist to enjoy this movie but it does help when it comes to orienting this movie in the MCU timeline. If you've seen *Avengers: Endgame* and are wondering how Black Widow is having any kind of adventure, stand-alone or otherwise, this movie's "present" quickly sets up that we are immediately post-*Captain America: Civil War* and a while pre *Avengers: Infinity War*. There are actually five movies (*Dr. Strange*, *Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2*, *Spider-Man: Homecoming*, *Thor Ragnarok* and *Black Panther*) that come between those two Avengers-heavy films and you could easily imagine a world in which *Black Widow* was also sandwiched in there. It could have given more oomph to her *Infinity War* and *Endgame* character arc and helped make Scarlett Johansson's Natasha Romanoff/Black Widow feel like a more fully rounded member of the Avengers and not just an "and also."

Here, we see not the beginnings of Natasha, who we've learned previously was an assassin trained by some kind of quasi-governmental (like S.H.I.E.L.D.?) Russian spy entity, but the origin story of her sense of the importance of family. In 1995 Ohio, a tween/young-teen Natasha (Ever Anderson) is living a boring suburban life with her 6-year-old "sister" Yelena (Violet McGraw) and their "mom" Melina (Rachel Weisz) and "dad" Alexei (David Harbour). But, as we realize when the family suddenly has to flee,



Black Widow

their boring suburban life was actually a boring suburban cover and all of these unrelated people are secret agents.

Years go by and Natasha becomes the S.H.I.E.L.D. agent turned Avenger turned anti-Sokovia-Accord fugitive we know from MCU movies past. Yelena (Florence Pugh) meanwhile has grown up to become what Natasha once was, a Widow who still works for the shadowy Russian organization mostly as an expert assassin. We see her chase a target who has been marked for assassination and who has a case Yelena is meant to retrieve. But as she's getting the case, the target, who is herself a former Widow, sprays Yelena with a red mist. Yelena and all the Widows are acting under the influence of some kind of mind control and the spray has released Yelena from it.

The two women reunite and decide to

work together to bring down Dreykov (Ray Winstone), the man who runs the Red Room, the organization that turns vulnerable girls, like Natasha and Yelena, into super soldiers (the ones who survive training) and continues to control not only all their life choices but their minds.

Helping women regain their agency — someone smarter than me can write a thesis about how this mission fits in the MCU worldview and what it says about the MCU's attempt to course-correct from putting its Strong Female Characters on the sidelines until, like, 2019 and *Captain Marvel*. But I enjoyed it. Enjoyed it a lot, actually. I feel like this is a really solid examination of this character we didn't get to know as well in previous movies. It makes sense with what we know about Natasha, it helps us understand her motivations (all the desire to atone

and importance of family that was part of her arc in previous movies) and it actually gives more depth to how her story plays out in *Endgame*.

Johansson of course does a good job with what she's given here. I say of course because she's been playing this character since 2010's *Iron Man 2*. But she's also able to bring more to Natasha, more than that goofy "lot of red on my ledger" speech from *The Avengers* and her sorta romance with Hulk. I wish we could see more of *this* Black Widow (I mean, I guess we could, conceivably, with a post-this-pre-that sequel, *Fast & Furious* style).

I also hope there's a way to see Pugh's Yelena again. Pugh matches Johansson's energy and creates an intriguing character of her own. The women have solid sisterly and buddies-on-a-mission energy.

And there is a post-credits scene (of course there is) that suggests how this slice of the MCU can continue (also, if you haven't caught up on all the Disney+ Marvel TV shows, the post-credits scene might be the incentive you need).

Black Widow is one of the better examples of Marvel's ability to balance sentiment, humor and action; fill in a narrative hole, and create something that is an overall good time. **B+**

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence/action, some language and thematic material, according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Directed by Cate Shortland with a screenplay by Eric Pearson, Black Widow is two hours and 13 minutes long and distributed by Walt Disney Studios in theaters and on Disney+ for \$29.99. It will be available on Disney+ without the extra fee on Oct 6. 🍷

AT THE SOFAPLEX***Fear Street Part 1: 1994 & Fear Street Part 2: 1978* (R)**

Kiana Madeira, Benjamin Flores Jr.

Also Olivia Scott Welch, Julia Rehwald, Fred Hechinger, Ashley Zukerman and, primarily in the second movie, Gillian Jacobs.

In 1994, the town of Shadyside is once again dealing with the sudden and gruesome deaths of a group of people — in this case, several people at the local mall — at the hands of someone who never showed any particular kill-y tendencies before. It's the Shadyside curse, say residents; the town has seen serial killers before, one every couple of decades it seems. For Deena (Madeira), it's just further proof that she lives in a cruddy town and has a go-nowhere future, especially since her girlfriend Sam (Welch) moved to neighboring Sunnyvale, a town full of big homes and rich kids and seemingly zero serial killers. Even though the mall killer is shot and killed after

his initial spree, a sense of danger still pervades the town, especially after Sunnyvale kids start to torment the Shadysiders with a skeleton mask similar to the one found on the killer. When the skeleton mask figure continues to appear, Deena and her friends start to wonder if it's really a prank or if, in the words of a note slipped by Sheriff Nick Goode (Zukerman) into the mail slot of the reclusive C. Berman (Jacobs), "it's happening again" and all the killings are a part of the legend of Sarah Fier, a woman hanged as a witch in the area centuries earlier.

Certainly, that's what some of the kids thought in 1978. As Deena, Sam, Deena's brother Josh (Flores) and others fight the skeleton masked killer, they find a mention of C. Berman, the person who survived the last round of serial killings in Shadyside. They reach out to try to get some advice for how to fight whatever it is they're fighting.

In 1978, several kids were murdered at Camp Nightwing (I mean, of course they were, with a name like that). Sisters Cindy (Emily Rudd) and Ziggy (Sadie Sink) Berman were at the camp, Cindy as a counselor and

Ziggy as a much-bullied camper. As the camp prepares for the "uhm, huh"-ily named camp game Color War (a kind of Capture the Flag that pits Sunnyvalers against Shadysiders), camp nurse Mary Lane (Jordana Spiro) seems to have some kind of mental break and tries to kill camp counselor and Cindy's boyfriend Tommy Slater (McCabe Slye), saying that one way or another he's going to die that night anyway. Ziggy is sad to see this happen to Mary, one of the few people in camp who has been nice to her, and is drawn to a notebook on Mary's desk that has notes and maps related to Sarah Fier. Mary's daughter Ruby Lane (Jordyn DiNatale) was the serial killer during a spate of killings in the 1950s and Mary seems to have been investigating the town's murderous history and the curse that Sarah Fier supposedly put on what was then the town of Union before it separated into Sunnyvale and Shadyside. As the sisters, Tommy and fellow counselors start to look into Mary's findings, murder once again takes hold of someone.

These classic slashers are not typically my kind of movie and this is very much a classic slasher, with some real gory, red corn syrupy



Fear Street Part 2: 1978 (R)

deaths. But there is a pluckiness to these movies, sort of like the *Scream* movies without the self-conscious meta commentary. The leads — Deen, Josh, Sam and their buddies in the first movie, the Berman sisters and some other camp counselors in the second — are appealing and are able to balance the tension and jokiness that give these movies their energy. I was also impressed by how the first two movies fit together and tease the third, *Fear Street Part 3: 1666*, which will be released Friday, July 16, on Netflix. So far, these movies are two solid entries in a potential triple feature. **B+** Available on Netflix. 🍷

Film

Movie screenings, movie-themed happenings & virtual events

Venues

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

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

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

O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square
24 Calef Highway, Epping
679-3529, oneilcinemas.com

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

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

Shows

• **Midsummer Silent Film Comedy** with *Sherlock Jr.* (1924) and *Our Hospitality* (1923), both silent films starring Buster Keaton, on Thursday, July 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rex in Manchester, featuring live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis. Admission

costs \$10.

- **Disney Villains 21+ trivia night** at Chunky's in Manchester on Thursday, July 15, at 7:30 p.m. Admission costs \$5, which is a food voucher.
- **Road Runner: A Film About Anthony Bourdain** (R, 2021) screening at Red River Theatres in Concord Friday, July 16, through Sunday, July 18, at 12:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
- **Pig** (R, 2021) screening at Red River Theatres in Concord Friday, July 16, through Sunday, July 18, at 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
- **Summer of Soul (...Or When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)** (PG-13, 2021) screening at Red River Theatres in Concord Friday, July 16, through Sunday, July 18, at 4 & 7 p.m.
- **Dream Horse** (PG, 2021) screening at Red River Theatres in Concord Friday, July 16, through Sunday, July 18, at 1 p.m.
- **Space Jam: A New Legacy** (PG, 2021) a sensory friendly flix screening, with sound lowered and lights up, on Saturday, July 17, 10 a.m. at O'neil Cinema in Epping.
- **Theater Candy Bingo** family-friendly game at Chunky's in Manchester, Nashua and Pelham on Sunday, July 18, at 6:30 p.m. Admission costs \$4.99 plus one theater candy.
- **Elf** (PG, 2003) at the O'neil Cinema in Epping on Monday,

- July 19, and Wednesday, July 21, at 10 a.m. as part of the summer kids series. Tickets to the screening cost \$2 for kids ages 11 and under and \$3 for ages 13 and up. A \$5 popcorn and drink combo is also for sale.
- **Hotel Transylvania** (PG, 2012) a "Little Lunch Date" screening at Chunky's in Manchester, Nashua & Pelham on Wednesday, July 21, at 11:30 a.m. Reserve tickets in advance with \$5 food vouchers. The screening is kid-friendly, with lights dimmed slightly.
- **Grease** (PG, 1978) a senior showing on Thursday, July 22, at 11:30 a.m. at Chunky's in Manchester, Nashua and Pelham. Free but reserve tickets in advance with \$5 food vouchers.
- **21+ Scratch Ticket Bingo** on Thursday, July 22, at 7 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester and Nashua. Admission costs \$10.
- **The Sandlot 21+ trivia night** at Chunky's in Manchester on Thursday, July 22, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is a \$5 food voucher.
- **21+ "Life's a DRAG" Show** on Saturday, July 24, at 9 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester. Tickets cost \$25.
- **Branded a Bandit** (1924) and **The Iron Rider** (1926) silent film Westerns with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, on Sunday, July 25, 2 p.m., at Wilton Town Hall Theatres. Screenings are free but a \$10 donation per person is suggested.



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THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Rolling on:** One band hit hard by the recent pandemic was **Enter the Haggis**. Formed in Toronto with musicians from Portland and Philadelphia, the Celtic-flavored rockers were three shows into a celebratory release tour for their new album *The Archer's Parade* when the curtain fell. They livestreamed a few shows, but now they're back where they belong and where they've been for over two decades, on the road. Thursday, July 15, 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In, 10 A St., Derry. \$75 per car, \$20 per person (table) at tupelohall.com.

• **Music romance:** Betsy Green and Scott Heron formed **Green Heron** after meeting when their respective bands played a gig together, jamming all night and falling in love. Following two albums with mostly original songs — 2018's *Folk Heroes* and 2019's *New Pair of Shoes* — the pair recently completed *Feet on the Floorboards*, blending in covers to better reflect their onstage sound. Friday, July 16, 6 p.m., Twin Barns Brewing Co., 194 Daniel Webster Hwy., Meredith, facebook.com/twinbarnsbrewing.

• **Hopeful man:** A State Department cultural ambassador with a TED Talk to his credit, **Seth Glier** has an atypical resume for a musician. His newest album, *The Coronation*, is due on August 20. Its title track was inspired by an optimism he felt during lockdown, a belief that “the x-ray of Covid” on society offered an “invitation for all of us to experience this new world, to try to build back even better.” Saturday, July 17, 6 p.m., Fletcher-Murphy Park, 28 Fayette St., Concord, tickets \$12 (\$8 livestream) at ccanh.com.

• **Hot hybrid:** Few combos boast a blend of genres like **High Step Society**, which lives at the intersection of The Cotton Club and Electric Daisy Festival. Eugene Weekly wrote, “they take it to the next level with a live horn sections, sultry singers and energetic dance beats that capture the excitement of the jazz age and rocket launch it a century into the future.” Funky favorites The Trichomes open the show. Sunday, July 18, 6 p.m., Jewel Music Venue, 61 Canal St., Manchester, tickets \$15 at eventbrite.com.

NITE Suite home

Concord show celebrates new jazz album

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Scott Solsky has been a fixture in the Capital City since releasing his eponymous debut album in 2003. He's taught music at Shaker River School for nearly two decades and played in multiple bands and as a solo performer. His upcoming indoor concert at Concord's Bank of New Hampshire Stage marks the release of the second record with his name on the cover, *Home*.

After laying down the basic tracks at Dover's Noise Floor studio, Solsky finished the all-instrumental, ambient jazz album in his house in Concord. This was primarily due to the pandemic, but the record's title was chosen pre-Covid, indicative of the many area musicians who played with him on the disc.

In a recent phone interview, Solsky spoke of a “this is your life” aspect to *Home*.

“That's intentional,” he said. “I've been very fortunate to be surrounded by really amazing musicians. At the end of the day, they made this album what it is.”

Those include the members of his original soul group Trade — drummer George Laliotis, Chris Noyes on bass, Chris Sink behind the keys, and horn players Zack Jones and Jamie Boccia — along with Jared Steer and fellow Shaker Road staffer Mike Walsh on drums, and Chris Stambaugh on bass.

“He's also the person that built my guitars,” Solsky said of the latter. “My son Nathan plays on one of the tracks and he has a Stambaugh guitar as well. So with the exception of one bass, all the stringed instruments were Stambaughs.”

Nick Phaneuf crafted the middle section of “Home Suite,” which opens the album.

“I recorded the first and second parts,

and then I gave that to Nick; he took those and made that center section,” Solsky said. “I label the music as jazz-tronica, neo-soul and certainly some funk, but he definitely made the electronica part of that.”

The tracks alternate between Trade (“anything with horns is them”) and a guest band with Walsh, Sink and Stambaugh. For the Bank of New Hampshire Stage show, the new album will be played from start to finish, using all the musicians. After a break, everyone will return for an eclectic set to close the night.

Two drum kits will be on stage.

“The drummers have very specific sounds,” Solsky said. “At one point I thought they'd share a set, but I don't think that's going to do it justice. They should be up there expressing themselves with the sound that they feel comfortable with.”

Solsky channeled his inner Stevie Wonder on the new disc, playing flute, melodica, percussion, bass and keys in addition to guitar. That's an outgrowth of his solo shows, where he does a lot of looping, including drums when Laliotis isn't with him.

This also sparked an urge to make *Home*; at more than one gig, people have approached him asking to buy a CD.

“It happened frequently enough where I realized I really needed to actually have music available,” he said. “But a whole album of me just looping? That's going to get really old, really fast. And why wouldn't I include all these great musicians that I play with regularly? That was a catalyst for it.”

Fortunately, the guest players did their parts just in time, working at Noise Floor on a weekend just before lockdown.

“I was going to go back to the studio and do my parts on another weekend.



Scott Solsky. Courtesy photo.

Then the pandemic hit,” Solsky said.

So he bought a basic recording setup.

“I knew I wasn't going to put it out until I could actually have a concert — that was really important to me,” he said. So, fine tuning went on for months. “I could take my time with it, which was a blessing but also a challenge. I had access to record it here, so I had a hard time stopping.”

Scott Solsky Album Release Party

When: Friday, July 16, 8 p.m.

Where: Bank of NH Stage, 16 S. Main St., Concord

Tickets: \$15 tickets, \$10 livestream at ccanh.com

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MUSIC THIS WEEK

Alton Bay Dockside Restaurant 6 East Side Drive 855-2222	Averill House Winery 21 Averill Road 371-2296	Penuche's Ale House 16 Bicentennial Square 228-9833	Railpenney Tavern 8 Exeter Road 734-2609	Bogie's 32 Depot Square 601-2319	WHYM Craft Pub & Brewery 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801	Laconia The Big House 322 Lakeside Ave. 767-2226	Manchester Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545
Auburn Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road 622-6564	Canterbury Canterbury Shaker Village 288 Shaker Road 783-9511	Shara Vineyards 82 Currier Road	Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225	Cascade 3 D St. 926-5988	Henniker Angela Robinson Bandstand Community Park, Main Street	Cactus Jack's 1182 Union Ave. 528-7800	Bonfire 950 Elm St. 663-7678
Bedford Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677	Concord Area 23 State Street 881-9060	T-Bones 404 S. Main St. 715-1999	Exeter Sawbelly Brewing 156 Epping Road 583-5080	Community Oven 845 Lafayette Road 601-6311	Colby Hill Inn 33 The Oaks 428-3281	Fratello's 799 Union Ave. 528-2022	CJ's 782 S. Willow St. 627-8600
Murphy's Carriage House 393 Route 101 488-5875	Cheers 17 Depot St. 228-0180	Deerfield The Lazy Lion 4 North Road	Gilford Patrick's 18 Weirs Road 293-0841	CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972	Hampton Beach Sea Shell Stage Events are on southern stage	Hooksett Big Kahunas Smokehouse 1158 Hooksett Road 935-7500	Cercle National Club 550 Rockland Ave. 623-8243
T-Bones 169 S. River Road 623-7699	Concord Craft Brewing 117 Storrs St. 856-7625	Derry LaBelle Winery 14 Route 111 672-9898	Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230	The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928	Hampton Beach Sea Shell Stage Events are on southern stage	Hudson The Bar 2B Burnham Road	Crown Tavern 99 Hanover St. 218-3132
Bow Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508	Courtyard by Marriott Concord 70 Constitution Ave.	T-Bones 39 Crystal Ave. 434-3200	Hampton Ashworth by the Sea 295 Ocean Blvd. 926-6762	Shane's BBQ 61 High St. 601-7091	Sea Dog Brewery 9 Water St.	Luk's Bar & Grill 142 Lowell Road 889-9900	Currier Museum of Art 150 Ash St. 669-6144
Brookline The Alamo Texas Barbecue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000	Hermanos Cocina Mexicana 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669	Epping Popovers at Brickyard Square 11 Brickyard Square 734-4724	Bernie's Beach Bar 73 Ocean Blvd. 926-5050	Smuttynose Brewing 105 Towle Farm Road	Gilford Patrick's 18 Weirs Road 293-0841	T-Bones 77 Lowell Road 882-6677	Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880
	Lithermans 126 Hall St., Unit B			Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962	Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210	Firefly 21 Concord St. 935-9740
						Firefly 21 Concord St. 935-9740	The Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925
							Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022

Thursday, July 15

Auburn Auburn Pitts: open mic jam, 6:30 p.m.	Exeter Sawbelly: Brian Walker, 5 p.m. Sea Dogs: Arty Francoeur, 5 p.m.	Londonderry Stumble Inn: Jodee Frawlee Duo, 7 p.m.	Northfield Boondoxz Pub: trivia night, 6:30 p.m.	Concord Area 23: Veggie Burger with Bacon, 8 p.m. Cheers: Team Trivia, 8:30 p.m. Shara: River Sister, 6 p.m. T-Bones: Dave Zangri, 6 p.m.	Wally's: Tool Schism, 9 p.m.
Bedford Copper Door: Paul Lussier, 7 p.m. Murphy's: Chad LaMarsh, 5:30 p.m. T-Bones: Joanie Cicatelli, 6 p.m.	Goffstown Village Trestle: Clinton Lapointe, 6 p.m.	Manchester Cactus Jack's: Ryan Bossie, 6 p.m. Crown Tavern: live music, 5 p.m. Currier: Alli Beaudry & Nick, 5 p.m. Derryfield: D-Comp, 6 p.m. Firefly: Chris Lester, 6 p.m. Fratello's: Ted Solo, 5:30 p.m. KC's: Jeff Mrozek, 5:30 p.m. Murphy's: Chris Powers, 5:30 p.m.	Portsmouth The Gas Light: Pete Peterson, 7:30 p.m. The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m. Striker: Max Sullivan, 9 p.m.	Deerfield Lazy Lion: Chris O'Neil, 5 p.m.	Henniker Pats Peak: Kimayo, 6 p.m.
Brookline Alamo: Matt Borrello, 4:30 p.m.	Hampton Bernie's: LuFFKid, 7 p.m. CR's: John Irish, 6 p.m. Sea Ketch: Austin McCarthy, 1 p.m., Alex Roy, 8 p.m. Sea Shell Stage: Angela West, 7 & 8:30 p.m. Smuttynose: 21st & 1st, 6:30 p.m. Wally's: Highway Souls, 9 p.m. WHYM: music bingo, 6 p.m.	Rochester 110 Grill: Kaia Mac, 5 p.m. Mitchell BBQ: Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.	Salem Copper Door: Dave Zangri, 7 p.m. Smuttynose: Lisa Guyer, 6 p.m. T-Bones: Tim Dion, 6 p.m.	Hudson The Bar: Bobby Lane, 7 p.m. T-Bones: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.	Hooksett Big Kahunas: Corinna Savlen, 5 p.m.
Concord Area 23: Bass Drop with DJ Lance, 7 p.m. Cheers: Lewis Goodman, 6 p.m. Hermanos: Michael Walsh, 6:30 p.m. Penuche's: open mic night w/ Brian Burnout, 8 p.m. T-Bones: Jae Mannion, 6 p.m.	Hudson T-Bones: Bob Pratte, 6 p.m.	Merrimack Homestead: Rick Watson, 6 p.m.	Windham Castleton on Cobbetts: Eric Lindberg, 6 p.m. Old School: OffRamps, 6 p.m.	Epping Telly's: Tim Theriault, 8 p.m.	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon: Eric Grant Band, 8 p.m.
Derry T-Bones: Phil Jakes, 6 p.m.	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon: karaoke with DJ Jason, 7 p.m.	Milford Fuel: Tanya Dutt & Brad Myrick, 6 p.m. Riverhouse Café: Tanya Dutt & Brad Myrick, 6 p.m. Stonecutters Pub: Blues Therapy, 8 p.m.		Exeter Sawbelly: Double Shotz, 5 p.m.	Londonderry Coach Stop: Paul Lussier, 6 p.m. Stumble Inn: Rob & Jody, 7 p.m.
Epping Telly's: Corinna Savlen, 7 p.m.	Laconia Fratello's: Joe Winslow, 6 p.m. T-Bones: Eric Grant, 6 p.m.			Gilford Patrick's: Don Severance, 4 p.m.	Manchester Backyard Brewery: Maddi Ryan, 6 p.m. Bonfire: Isaiah Bennett, 8 p.m. Cactus Jack's: Sean Coleman, 6 p.m. Derryfield: Chris Taylor Duo, 7 p.m. Firefly: Jordan Quinn, 6 p.m.

Music plays on

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

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St. 627-RIBS	Merrimack Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022	New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362	Mitchell Hill BBQ Grill & Brew 50 N. Main St. 332-2537
McIntyre Ski Area 50 Chalet Ct. 622-6159	Milford Fuel 167 Union Square 554-0646	Newmarket Stone Church 5 Granite St. 659-7700	Porter's Pub 19 Hanson St. 330-1964
Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St. 644-3535	The Hills 50 Emerson Road 673-7123	Northfield Boonedoxz Pub 95 Park St. 717-8267	Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway 458-2033
South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947	The Riverhouse Cafe 167 Union Square 249-5556	Pittsfield Main Street Grill & Bar 32 Main St. 435-0005	T-Bones 311 South Broadway 893-3444
Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St. 625-4444	The Pasta Loft 241 Union Square 672-2270	Portsmouth The Gas Light 64 Market St. 430-9122	Seabrook Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706
Stark Park Bandstand River Road	Stonecutters Pub 63 Union Square 213-5979	Gibb's Garage Bar 3612 Lafayette Road	Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road 760-0030
Strange Brew 88 Market St. 666-4292	Nashua Fratello's Italian Grille 194 Main St. 889-2022	The Goat 142 Congress St. 590-4628	Stratham Tailgate Tavern 28 Portsmouth Ave. 580-2294
Mason Marty's Driving Range 96 Old Turnpike Road 878-1324	Liquid Therapy 14 Court St. 402-9391	The Stately Bar & Grill 238 Deer St. 431-4357	Warner Cafe One East 1 E. Main St.
Meredith Hart's Turkey Farm 223 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-6212	Millyard Brewery 25 E. Otterson St. 722-0104	Thirsty Moose Tap-house 21 Congress St. 427-8645	Windham Castleton 92 Indian Rock Road 800-688-5644
Twin Barns Brewing 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876	Peddler's Daughter 48 Main St. 821-7535	Rochester 110 Grill 136 Marketplace Blvd. 948-1270	Old School Bar & Grill 49 Range Road 458-6051

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

The Foundry: Chad Verbeck, 6 p.m. Fratello's: Rick Watson, 5:30 p.m. The Goat: Fast Times, 8 p.m. KC's: Jonny Friday, 6 p.m. McIntyre Ski Area: Chris Perkins, 5:30 p.m. Murphy's: Everett Pendleton, 5 p.m., State of Emergency, 9:30 p.m. South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke with George Cox, 9 p.m. Stark Brewing: karaoke with DJ Paul Roy, 7 p.m. Strange Brew: Ken Clark Organ Trio	Nashua Fratello's: Tom Rousseau, 5:30 p.m. New Boston Molly's Tavern: Joe Birch, 7 p.m. Newmarket Stone Church: Slack Tide, 6 p.m. Northfield Boonedoxz Pub: karaoke night, 7 p.m. Portsmouth Gas Light: Justin Jordan, 7:30 p.m. Gibb's Garage Bar: trivia, 8 p.m. The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m. Thirsty Moose: Sam Hastings, 9 p.m., Cover Story, 9 p.m.	Jocelyn's: Brian Walker, 8 p.m. Smuttynose: April Grenon, 6 p.m. T-Bones: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m. Seabrook Chop Shop: HitSquad, 6:30 p.m. (doors open) Stratham Tailgate Tavern: Elijah Clark, 7 p.m. Windham Old School Bar: Mo Bounce, 6 p.m.
Meredith Hart's: John Stanley Shelley, 5 p.m. Twin Barns: Green Heron, 6 p.m.	Merrimack Homestead: Pete Massa, 6 p.m. Milford Pasta Loft: Horizon, 9 p.m. Riverhouse Café: Amanda Adams, 6 p.m.	Saturday, July 17 Alton Bay Docks: David Hoffman, 8 p.m. Auburn Auburn Pitts: Pizzastock: James, Jenna Sullivan, Rock Bottom, The Second to Last Minute, Castle Island, Cozy Throne, Cresendo's Gate, and Fourth Degree, 3 p.m. Bedford Copper Door: Mark Lapointe, 7 p.m.

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Murphy's: Jordan Quinn, 7:30 p.m.
T-Bones: Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.

Bow

Chen Yang Li: Alex Cohen, 7 p.m.

Brookline

Averill House: Matt Borrello, 1 p.m.

Concord

Area 23: Jam with Ross, 2 p.m.; SuperNothing, 8 p.m.
Concord Craft Brewing: Andrew North, 4 p.m.
Hermanos: Ken Clark 6:30 p.m.
T-Bones: Andrew Geano, 6 p.m.

Derry

T-Bones: Joe Winslow, 6 p.m.

Epping

Railpenny Tavern: Whiskey Horse, 6 p.m.
Telly's: Dou Mitchell Duo, 8 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Dean Harlem, 1 p.m., Todd Hearon, 5 p.m.

Gilford

Patrick's: George & Louise Belli, 4 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Other Brother, 6 p.m.

Hampton

Bernie's Beach Bar: Chris Toler, 1 p.m., Zach Lovering, 7 p.m., Adam Lufkin Trio, 8 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Justin Jordan, 1 p.m., Clint Lapointe, 8 p.m.
Sea Shell Stage: Neurotic Gumbo, 7 & 8:30 p.m.
Smuttnose: April Cushman Band, 1 p.m., Chris Fitz Band, 6:30 p.m.
Wally's: Fortune, 9 p.m.

Hooksett

Big Kahunas: Jae Mannion, 5 p.m.

Hudson

The Bar: EXP, 7 p.m.
Luk's: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.
T-Bones: Ramez Matatz, 6 p.m.

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Ryan Palma, 8 p.m.

Laconia

Fratello's: John Shelley, 6 p.m.
Naswa: Bob Pratte, 4 p.m.
T-Bones: Mitch Alden, 6 p.m.
Tower Hill: Brandy NH band, 9 p.m.

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Tom Rousseau, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: On2, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Backyard Brewery: Charlie Chronopoulos, 6 p.m.
Bonfire: Maddi Ryan, 8 p.m.
Cactus Jack's: Joanie Cicatelli, 6 p.m.
Cercle National Club: Chad LaMarsh, 7:30 p.m.
Derryfield: Dave Ayotte Duo, 7 p.m.; Chris & Jimmy's Down, 9 p.m.
Firefly: Matt Luneau, 6 p.m.
The Foundry: Tanya Dutt & Brad Myrick, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Chris Cavanaugh, 5:30 p.m.
KC's: Chris Fraga, 6 p.m.
Mcintyre Ski Area: Jonny Angel, 5:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Pete Massa, 5 p.m., Mo Bounce, 9:30 p.m.
South Side Tavern: Ralph Allen, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: Peter Poirier

Merrimack

Homestead: Corinna Savlen, 6 p.m.

Milford

Fuel: Alex Cohen, 6 p.m.
Pasta Loft: Brian James Duo, 8 p.m.
Riverhouse Café: Alex Cohen, 7 p.m.

Nashua

Fratello's: Paul Gormley, 5:30 p.m.
Liquid Therapy: Quincy Lord, 9 p.m.
Millyard Brewery: Bacchus, 4 p.m.
The Peddler's Daughter: Sweet & Co. Trio, 9 p.m.

New Boston

Molly's: Crazy Crows, 7 p.m.

Newfields

Fire and Spice Bistro: Chris O'Neill, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Bearly Dead Matinee, 3 & 6 p.m.

Portsmouth

Gas Light: Paul Warnick, 2 p.m.; Matt Langley, 7:30 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Them Apples, 9 p.m., Steve Dennis, 9 p.m.

Salem

Copper Door: Phil Jakes, 7 p.m.
Smuttnose: Grenon, 6 p.m.
T-Bones: Jessica Olson, 6 p.m.

Seabrook

Chop Shop: All That '90s, 6:30 p.m. (doors open)

Somersworth

Speakeasy: karaoke, 7 p.m.

Windham

Old School: Evan Jamieson, 6 p.m.

Sunday, July 18

Alton Bay Docksides: Clandestine, 4 p.m.



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Chunky's

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

Hatbox Theatre

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

LaBelle Winery Derry

14 Route 111, Derry
672-9898, labellewinery.com

Lakeport Opera House

781 Union Ave., Laconia, 519-7506, lakeportopera.com

McCue's Comedy Club at the Roundabout Diner

580 Portsmouth Traffic Circle, Portsmouth
mccuescomedyclub.com

Rex Theatre

23 Amherst St., Manchester
668-5588, palacetheatre.org

Shows

• **Queen City Improv** Hatbox Theatre, Thursday, July 15, 7:30 p.m.
• **Christine Hurley** Rex Theatre, Friday, July 16, 7:30 p.m.
• **Joey Yannetty** McCue's, Friday, July 16, 8 p.m.
• **Frank Santos Jr. Live R-Rated Hypnotist** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, July 16, 8:30 p.m.
• **Comedy Night with Kelly Macfarland** Averill House Vineyard, Saturday, July 17, 7 p.m.

• **Jim McCue** McCue's Comedy Club, Saturday, July 17, 8 p.m.
• **Chris Zito** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, July 17, 8:30 p.m.
• **Kevin Lee** Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, July 17, 8:30 p.m.
• **Frank Santos Jr. Live R-Rated Hypnotist** Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, July 17, 8:30 p.m.
• **Corey Rodrigues** McCue's, Wednesday, July 21, 8 p.m.
• **Jimmy Dunn** Rex Theatre, Friday, July 23, 7:30 p.m.
• **Erin Maguire** McCue's, Friday, July 23, 8 p.m.
• **Chris Zito** McCue's, Saturday, July 24, 8 p.m.
• **Brad Mastrangelo** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, July 24, 8:30 p.m.
• **Sebastian Maniscalco** Casino Ballroom, Thursday, July 29, 7 & 9 p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 1, 5 & 8 p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 8, 5 & 8 p.m.

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Auburn

Auburn Pitts: Nicole Knox Murphy, 4 p.m.

Bedford

Copper Door: Yvonne Aubert, 11 a.m.
Murphy's: Justin Jordan, 4 p.m.

Brookline

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

Canterbury

Shaker Village: Bee Parks and the Hornets, 4 p.m.

Concord

Cheers: Lisa Guyer, 5 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Gabby Martin, 11 a.m., Slack Tide, 3 p.m.

Gilford

Patrick's: Mike Rossi, 4 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Bob Pratte w/ Steve Roberge on sax, 3:30 p.m.

Hampton

Ashworth: Honey Bees Trio, 4 p.m.

Bernie's: Zach Lovering, 1 p.m., Chris Toler, 7 p.m., Zeme Libre, 8 p.m.

CR's: Rico Barr Duo, 4 p.m.

Sea Ketch: Ray Zerkle, 1 p.m.; Jasper White, 8 p.m.

Sea Shell Stage: Acoustic Radio, 7 & 8:30 p.m.

Smuttynose: Swipe Right, 5:30 p.m.

Wally's: Over the Bridge Duo, 8 p.m.

WHYM: Max Sullivan, noon

Henniker

Colby Hill Inn: Tanya Dutt & Brad Myrick, 4:30 p.m.

Hudson

The Bar: Eddie Sands

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Video Music Bingo, 5 p.m., Bite the Bullet, 8 p.m.

Laconia

The Big House: Leaving Eden, 2 p.m.

Fratellos: Joe Winslow, 6 p.m.

Naswa: Bob Pratte, 4 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Jonny Friday Duo, 5 p.m.

Manchester

Cerle National Club: Jodee Frawlee, 2:30p.m.

Derryfield: 603's, 5 p.m.

KC's: April Cushman, 3 p.m.

Murphy's: Chuck A Duo, noon, Max Sullivan, 5:30 p.m.

Stark Park Bandstand: Cold Spring Harbor (Billy Joel Tribute), 2 p.m.

Strange Brew: jam

Mason

Marty's: Big Soul, 3 p.m.

Milford

Riverhouse Café: Eric Lindberg, 11 a.m.

Stonecutters Pub: Vere Hill, 4 p.m.

New Boston

Molly's Tavern: Austin McCarthy (on the lawn stage), 1 p.m.

Newmarket

The Stone Church: Sunday Services w/Jon Ross, 11 a.m., Jake Davis & the Whiskey Stones, 3 p.m.

Northfield

Boondoz Pub: open mic, 4 p.m.

Portsmouth

Gas Light: Henry LaLiberte, 12:30 p.m.; Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Rochester

110 Grill: Michael Scharff, 3 p.m.

Salem

Copper Door: Nate Comp, 11 a.m.

Smuttynose: Brett Wilson, noon, Darren Bessette, 4 p.m.

Warner

Cafe One East: Ariel Strasser, 1 p.m.

Windham

Old School Bar: Whiskey 6, 3 p.m.

Monday, July 19

Bedford

Murphy's: Chris Powers, 5:30 p.m.

Concord

Tandy's: trivia night, 7 p.m.

Deerfield

Lazy Lion: trivia, 7 p.m.

Hampton

Bernie's: MB Padfield & Chris Toler, 7 p.m.

The Goat: Maddie Ryan, 9 p.m.

Sea Ketch: Ray Zerkle, 1 p.m.

Sea Shell Stage: The Apathetics, 7 & 8:30 p.m.

Gilford

Patrick's Pub: open mic w/ Paul Luff, 6 p.m.

Laconia

Fratellos: Paul Warnick, 6 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Lisa Guyer Duo, 5 p.m.

Manchester

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

Murphy's: Jonny Friday, 5:30 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.

Nashua

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

Plaistow

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

Portsmouth

Gas Light Deck: Tim Theriault, 7:30 p.m.

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

Seabrook

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

Tuesday, July 20

Bedford

Murphy's: Jonny Friday, 5:30 p.m.

Concord

Area 23: trivia, 7 p.m.



FIRST SIGNAL

First Signal, a movie with the tagline "An Alien Satellite. A Government Conspiracy," was shot in part at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (2 Institute Drive in Concord; starhop.com, 271-7827), where it will screen as part of the Summer Movie Nights line up on Friday, July 16. The screening starts at 8:30 p.m. (Admission is by donation.) Bring picnic blankets and camp chairs; snacks and drinks will be on sale, according to the website. Find out more about the movie at firstsignal-

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Hermanos: Craig Jaster, 6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: open mic night, 8 p.m.

Derry
LaBelle: Moondance (Van Morrison tribute), 6:30 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: Chris Toler, 7 p.m., Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.
The Goat: Zach Lovering, 9 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Ross McGinnes, 1 p.m.
Sea Shell Stage: Gumbo, 7 & 8:30 p.m.
Shane's: music bingo, 7 p.m.
Wally's: Musical Bingo Nation, 7:30 p.m.

Henniker
Angela Robinson Bandstand: Peabody's Coal Train, 6:30 p.m.

Laconia
Fratellos: Gabby Martin, 6 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Corinna Savlen, 5 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.
KC's: Erika Von Pelt, 7 p.m.
Murphy's: Abrielle Scharff, 5:30 p.m.
Stark Brewing: open mic w/ Brian M, 7 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Chris Powers, 6 p.m.

Nashua
Fratello's: Chris Gardner, 5:30 p.m.
Peddler's Daughter: trivia, 8:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Jodee Frawlee, 7:30 p.m.
The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

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

Hampton
Bernie's: Zach Lovering 7 p.m.
Community Oven: Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.
The Goat: MB Padfield, 9 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Lewis Goodwin, 1 p.m.
Sea Shell Stage: The Continentals, 7 & 8:30 p.m.
The Smuttynose: trivia, 6 p.m., Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.
Wally's: live band karaoke, 8:30 p.m.

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

Laconia
Fratellos: Chris Powers, 6 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Ralph Allen, 5 p.m.

Manchester
Derryfield: Jessica Olson, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.
Stark Brewing: karaoke with Cox Karaoke, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: open mic w/ Howard & Mike

Merrimack
Homestead: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.

Milford
Stonecutters Pub: open mic, 8 p.m.

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

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

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Justin Jordan, 7:30 p.m.
The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Game Time Trivia, 7 p.m.

Rochester
Mitchell BBQ: live music, 6 p.m.
Porter's: karaoke night, 6:30 p.m.

Somersworth
Speakeasy: open mic night, 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 22
Auburn
Auburn Pitts: open mic jam, 6:30 p.m.

Bedford
Copper Door: Rick Watson, 7 p.m.
Murphy's: April Cushman, 5:30 p.m.
T-Bones: Joe Winslow, 6 p.m.

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

Concord
Cheers: Pete Peterson, 6 p.m.
Hermanos: Krimson Krewe, 6:30 p.m.
Penuche's: open mic night w/ Brian Burnout, 8 p.m.
T-Bones: Bob Pratte, 6 p.m.

Derry
T-Bones: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Chris Lester, 7 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbelly: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.
Sea Dogs: Dean Harlem, 5 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: Zach Lovering, 7 p.m., Mihali, 8 p.m.
CR's: Don Severance, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Haley Chic, 9 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Paul Lussier, 1 p.m., Clint Lapointe, 8 p.m.
Sea Shell Stage: Darren Besette, 7 & 8:30 p.m.
Smuttynose: Rob & Jody, 6:30 p.m.
Wally's: Maddie Ryan, 9 p.m.
WHYM: Music Bingo, 6 p.m.

Hudson
T-Bones: Jon-Paul Royer, 6 p.m.

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

Laconia
Fratellos: Rebecca Turmel, 6 p.m.
T-Bones: Rory Scott, 6 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Mica Peterson Duo, 7 p.m.

Manchester
Cactus Jack's: Jessica Olson, 6 p.m.
Crown Tavern: live music, 5 p.m.
Currier: River Sisters, 5 p.m.
Derryfield: Jordan & Byron, 6 p.m.
Firefly: Chris Perkins, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Tim Kierstead, 5:30 p.m.
KC's: Phil Jakes, 5:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Lewis Goodwin Duo, 5:30 p.m.
Stark Brewing: open mic, 7 p.m.

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

Merrimack
Homestead: Chris Gardner, 6 p.m.

Milford
Fuel: Justin Cohn, 6 p.m.



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JULY 16

Martin & Kelly



JULY 22

Moondance: Ultimate Van Morrison Tribute



JULY 29

No Shoes Nation Band
Kenny Chesney Tribute



AUGUST 6

Introduction: The Chicago Experience



AUGUST 12

Comedian
Christine Hurley



AUGUST 19

The Eagles Experience



AUGUST 26

Changes in Latitude:
Jimmy Buffet Tribute



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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Riverhouse Café: Justin Cohn, 6 p.m.

Stonecutters Pub: Blues Therapy, 8 p.m.

Nashua
Fratellos': Josh Foster, 5:30 p.m.

Northfield
Boondoxx Pub: trivia night, 6:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Gas Light: Max Sullivan, 7:30 p.m.
The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

Rochester
110 Grill: TTom Boisse, 5 p.m.
Mitchell BBQ: Game Time Trivia, 6 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Chad Lamarsh, 7 p.m.
Field of Dreams: Fast Times
Smuttynose: Dwyane Haggans, 6 p.m.
T-Bones: John Chouinard, 6 p.m.

Windham
Old School: MB Padfield, 6 p.m.

Friday, July 23

Auburn
Auburn Pitts: Tapedeck Heroez, 7 p.m.

Bedford
Copper Door: Chris Powers, 7 p.m.
Murphy's: Clint & Jordan, 7:30 p.m.
T-Bones: Chris Perkins, 6 p.m.

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

Concord
Area 23: Beefstu, 8 p.m.
Cheers: team trivia, 8:30 p.m.
Shara: DJnZadzi, 6 p.m.
T-Bones: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.

Derry
T-Bones: Bob Pratte, 6 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Erika Von Pelt Duo, 8 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbelly: Artty Francouer, 5 p.m.

Gilford
Patrick's: Matt Langley, 4 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Chris Chronopoulos, 6 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: Zach Lovering, 7 p.m.
CR's: Ross McGinnes, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 8:30 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Jodee Frawlee, 1 p.m., Ray Zerkle, 8 p.m.
Sea Shell Stage: Salem Boyz, 7 & 8:30 p.m.
Smuttynose: Dapper Gents, 6:30 p.m.
Wally's: Schism, 9 p.m.

Henniker
Pats Peak: Josh Foster, 6 p.m.

Hooksett
Big Kahunas: Sean Coleman, 5 p.m.

Hudson
The Bar: Mitch Pelkey, 7 p.m.
T-Bones: Malcolm Salls, 6 p.m.

Kingston
Saddle Up: Whiskey 6, 8 p.m.

Laconia
The Big House: Saving Abel, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Matt Langley, 6 p.m.
Naswa: Bob Pratte Band, 4 p.m.
T-Bones: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Ramez Gurung, 6 p.m.

Stumble Inn: D-Comp, 7 p.m.

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Josh Foster, 6 p.m.
Bonfire: FatBunny Band, 8 p.m.
Cactus Jack's: Austin McCarthy, 6 p.m.
Derryfield: 21st & 1st, 7 p.m.,
Firefly: Chris Taylor, 6 p.m.
Foundry: Justin Cohn, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Johnny Angel, 5:30 p.m.

KC's: The Deviant, 6 p.m.
McIntyre Ski Area: Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Jennifer Mitchell, 5 p.m., Connoption Fits, 9:30 p.m.
South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke with George Cox, 9 p.m.
Stark Brewing: karaoke with DJ Paul Roy, 7 p.m.
Strange Brew: The Humans Being

FAMILY FUN



Round up the little ones for an outdoor performance from **Steve Blunt**, a singer-songwriter well-known for music that “never wavers from his kid’s-eye view of the world.” Blunt began writing children’s music in the 1990s. Similar to fellow Granite State native Dan Zanes, he was inspired by his own children. It blossomed into albums like *Kangaroos & Didgeeridoos* and the Halloween-themed *There’s a Vampire at My Door!* Wednesday, July 21, 6 p.m., Ordway Park, 11 Main St., Hampstead, steveblunt.com.

Pictured Steve Blunt

Concerts

Venues
Bank of NH Pavilion
72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford
293-4700, banknhpavilion.com

Bank of NH Stage in Concord
16 S. Main St., Concord
225-1111, banknhstage.com
Outdoor venue: Fletcher-Murphy Park (28 Fayette St. in Concord)

Capitol Center for the Arts
44 S. Main St., Concord
225-1111, ccanh.com
Outdoor venue: Fletcher-Murphy Park (28 Fayette St. in Concord)

Castle in the Clouds
455 Old Mountain Road, Moultonborough, 476-5900

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

Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom
169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach
929-4100, casinoballroom.com

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

Lakeport Opera House
781 Union Ave., Laconia
519-7506, lakeportopera.com

The Loft
131 Congress St., Portsmouth
436-2400, themusichall.org

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

Northlands
247 Monadnock Hwy., Swanzey
northlandslive.com

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

Rex Theatre
23 Amherst St., Manchester
668-5588, palacetheatre.org

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

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

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

The Word Barn
66 Newfields Road, Exeter
244-0202, thewordbarn.com

Shows

- **Enter the Haggis** Thursday, July 15, 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In
- **Little River Band with Kerri Powers** Thursday, July 15, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **Pigeons Playing Ping Pong** Friday, July 16, 6:30 p.m., Northlands
- **Tedeschi Trucks** Friday, July 16, and Saturday, July 17, 7 p.m., Bank of NH Pavilion
- **Jason Spooner Band** Friday, July 16, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- **Martin & Kelly** Friday, July 16, 7:30 p.m., LaBelle Winery Derry
- **Asleep at the Wheel** Friday, July 16, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Scott Solsky album release party** Friday, July 16, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage in Concord
- **Kasim Sulton** Saturday, July 17, 3 & 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In
- **Bearly Dead** Saturday, July 17, 3 & 6 p.m., Stone Church
- **Dancing Dream: ABBA Trib-**

- ute** Saturday, July 17, 4 & 8 p.m., Lakeport
- **Martin Sexton** Saturday, July 17, 5 & 8 p.m., Word Barn
- **Seth Glier** Saturday, July 17, 6 p.m., Cap Center Music in the Park Series at Fletcher-Murphy Park (livestream also available)
- **The Machine Performs Pink Floyd** Saturday, July 17, 6:30 p.m., Northlands
- **David Clark's Songs in the Attic (the music of Billy Joel)** Saturday, July 17, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre
- **Peter Cincotti** Saturday, July 17, 7:30 p.m., Castle in the Clouds
- **The Weeklings** (Beatles tribute) Sunday, July 18, 3 & 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In
- **Buddy Guy** Sunday, July 18, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **Hawktail** Thursday, July 22, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- **Moondance: The Ultimate Van**

- Morrison Tribute** Thursday, July 22, 7:30 p.m., LaBelle Winery Derry
- **Aaron Lewis** Thursday, July 22, and Friday, July 23, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **JT Express** (James Taylor tribute) Friday, July 23, 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In
- **Vapors of Morphine** Friday, July 23, 6 p.m., Stone Church
- **Umphrey's McGee** Friday, July 23, and Saturday, July 24, 6:30 p.m., Northlands
- **Sierra Ferrell** Friday, July 23, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- **Joan Osborne** Friday, July 23, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Saving Abel** Saturday, July 24, 3 & 6 p.m., Tupelo Drive-In
- **The New Motif** Saturday, July 24, 6 p.m., Stone Church
- **The Black Crowes: Shake Your Money Maker** Saturday, July 24, 7 p.m., Bank of NH Pavilion

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Thurs. July. 15th - Clinton Lapointe

Fri. July. 16th - Jeff Mrozek

Sat. July. 17th - Brother Other

Every Sunday, 3:30-6:30

July. 18th - Bob Pratte with guest Steve Roberge on Sax

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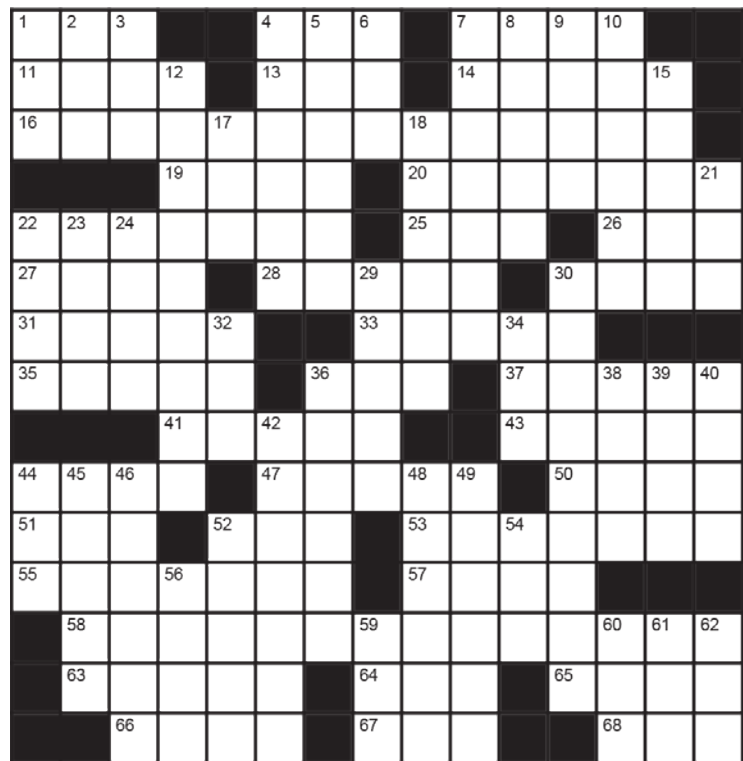
FREE DOG PARK

TRAINING

DAYCARE

BOARDING

IT'S ALL BEEN PUZZLED



- 65. Naturalness
- 66. Lucky Boys Confusion ‘ ___ Astaire’
- 67. Ronnie Milsap ‘ ___ Day Now’
- 68. XTC ‘Fruit ___’

Down

- 1. Company that owned Blue Note
- 2. Don’t ___ Me Be Misunderstood
- 3. Death Cab For Cutie ‘We Have The Facts And We’re Voting ___’
- 4. Like Nina Nesbitt when she steps out into the winter air
- 5. ‘03 John Mayer hit ‘Bigger Than ___’ (2,4)
- 6. ‘Jive Talkin’ ___ Gees
- 7. ‘Metal Magic’ band
- 8. Iron Maiden’s famous mascot
- 9. ‘No Place’ rockers ___ ___ Like Birds (1,3)
- 10. Jets’ misspelled ‘ ___ All My Love’
- 12. Perth prog rockers
- 15. The Who ‘Love, ___ O’er Me’
- 17. Canadian ‘Songs Of Love And Hate’ sing/songwriter Cohen (abbr)
- 18. Dexy’s Midnight Runners ‘Come On ___’
- 21. Mike Watt & Kira Roessler band meaning 2 in Spanish
- 22. Aka, glitter rock
- 23. Video part
- 24. Fan’s favorite
- 29. Echo & The Bunnyman ‘Cut And ___’
- 30. ‘13 Queens Of The Stone Age single ‘ ___ Ocean
- 32. 80s band Split ___
- 34. Cali punk band Death By Stereo

Across

- 1. Springsteen pal Joe
- 4. Color Me Badd’s acronymous album
- 7. ‘I Gotta Feeling’ Black Eyed ___
- 11. ‘Telstar’ producer/writer Joe
- 13. Santana ‘ ___ Como Va’
- 14. Steven of Guns And Roses
- 16. 90s Barenaked Ladies hit (3,3,4,4)
- 19. Take 2
- 20. Car Seat Headrest “Managed to touch __, __ not seem interested” (2,2,3)
- 22. Smiled or did this at funny performer
- 25. Van Halen frontman’s middle name
- 26. Travis Tritt ‘Down The Road ___’ (1,2)
- 27. Where CCR was stuck
- 28. Shaun of Happy Mondays
- 30. Places to overnight
- 31. J Geils ‘Looking For ___’ (1,4)
- 33. What musician does to music put in front of him at audition
- 35. Shannon Hoon band Blind ___
- 36. Reids of The Proclaimers, for example
- 37. T. Rex ‘ ___ Gong (Get It On)’ (4,1)
- 41. Ace Frehley song about an Earth layer?
- 43. Ozzy ‘ ___ Away (The Night)’
- 44. Foreigner ‘Say You ___’
- 47. Central position on charts
- 50. What Walmart does to explicit albums
- 51. Revolution Renaissance welcomed a ‘New ___’
- 52. ‘Can’t Wait One Minute More’ one-hitters

- 53. ‘12 Soundgarden hit ‘Been ___ Long’ (4,3)
- 55. Might have a contractual fight or this
- 57. Let opening guy borrow your axe or did this
- 58. ‘04 Lostprophets album (5,9)
- 63. George Harrison ‘Dark ___’
- 64. Pink Floyd “Just ___ if you can hear me”

WORD★Roundup™

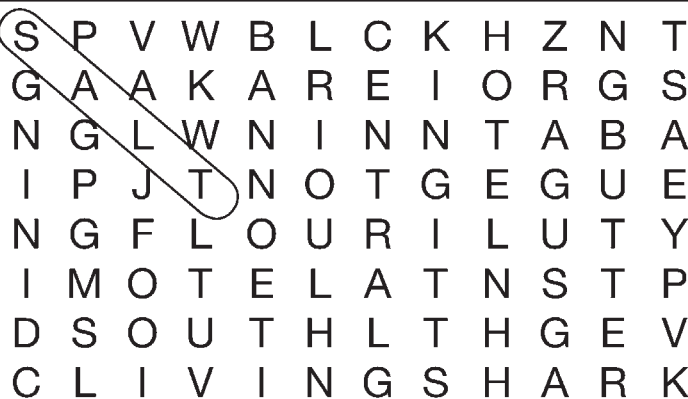
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Five common bread ingredients
- ___ room
- ___ America
- Two chess pieces
- Mako or hammerhead

Last Week’s Answers: MAGENTA ORANGE VIOLET GREEN BLUE PINK / ZESTY ZILCH ZEBRA / FIRST SECOND THIRD / PENGUIN OSTRICH / ASIA

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3/16

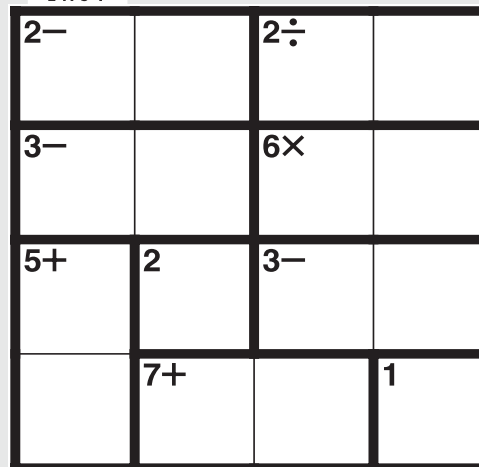
- (abbr)
- 36. Therapy? song about cutlery, perhaps
- 38. Of Montreal ‘ ___ Little Domestic Life’
- 39. Gordon of Violent Femmes
- 40. The French Kicks ‘ ___ Ran’
- 42. Left out facts in interview or did this
- 44. What Ronnie Wood did with gal Jo
- 45. Like Thin Lizzy or U2
- 46. Cher ‘You Haven’t Seen The ___ Me’ (4,2)
- 48. Kind of fishy Chemical Brothers ‘Dance’
- 49. Jeff of Uncle Tupelo
- 52. ‘04 Atreyu album ‘The ___’
- 54. ‘Anthology’ Alien ___ Farm
- 56. 80s ‘Naughty Naughty’ John
- 59. Teena Marie ‘Out ___ Limb’ (2,1)
- 60. Gillan of Deep Purple
- 61. ‘66 Cream opener on ‘Fresh Cream’
- 62. Barenaked Ladies told us to ‘ ___ In Line

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KENKEN

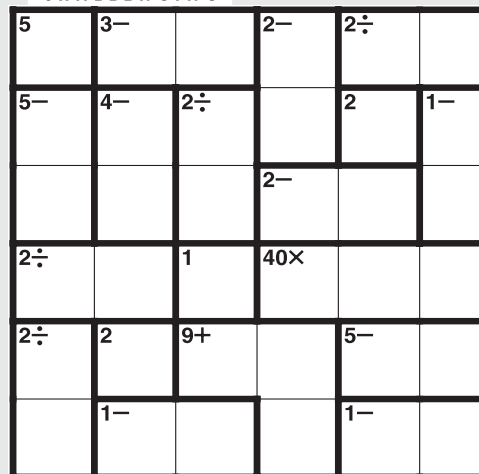
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CHALLENGING

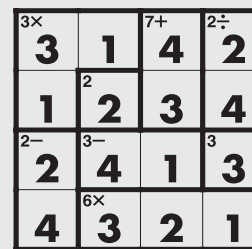


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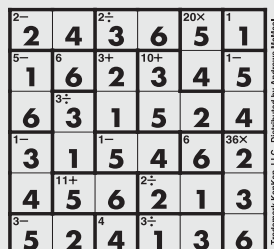
RULES

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

PREVIOUS ANSWERS



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“Get It Together” — it’s a tie game

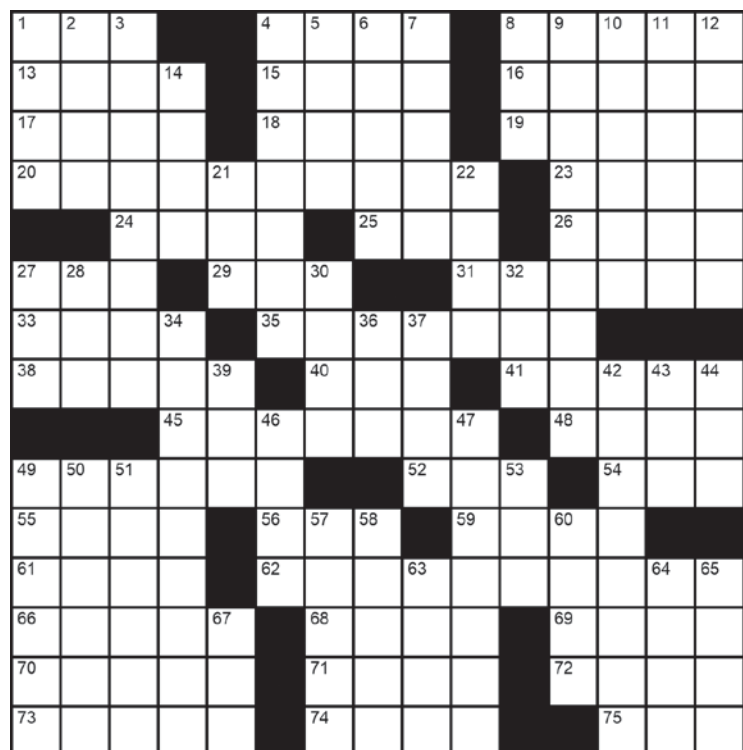
- Across**
- 1 Italian pies, if you're a Scrabble player (and trapped in the 1980s)
 - 4 Backtalk
 - 8 Fastener with a slotted head
 - 13 Kappa preceder
 - 15 Hardly any
 - 16 TV intro music
 - 17 Election Day day (abbr.)
 - 18 Scruff of the neck
 - 19 Gulf of Aden country
 - 20 Disinfected / Completely wasted attempt to make angry?
 - 23 Hospital section
 - 24 “Star Wars” character who kills Jabba
 - 25 Yodeler’s mountain
 - 26 Jigsaw puzzle starting point, often
 - 27 Furious state
 - 29 1970s guerrilla org.
 - 31 Positively
 - 33 Catch a wave
 - 35 Toy racer on a track
 - 38 Electric car company
 - 40 Yes, in France
 - 41 Total prize money
 - 45 Blogger’s personal bio section
 - 48 Floating harbor marker
 - 49 Bed grower
 - 52 ___ Paulo, Brazil
 - 54 “Catch ya later!”
 - 55 Bowling alley rental

- 56 Group with the #1 hit “Butter”
- 59 Abbr. on a letter to Spain
- 61 Like some coffee or tea
- 62 Stabilizing, with “up” / Got out a piece of jewelry?
- 66 Horse noise
- 68 Japanese sashes
- 69 “Is that ___ or nay?”
- 70 English royal house after York
- 71 Delhi garment
- 72 Sleep in a tent
- 73 Bridge measurements
- 74 Biblical garden
- 75 Foot feature

- 9 Angelic figure / Ate the spice mix before preparing the meat?
- 10 Did a cover of
- 11 Come into existence
- 12 Proceeded
- 14 “... long ___ both shall live”
- 21 Ice, in a Berlin bar
- 22 Huge, story-wise
- 27 Suffix for art or humor
- 28 Regret deeply
- 30 Surname of three baseball brothers
- 32 A few Z’s
- 34 Drinking vessel at Renaissance Fairs / Imperfect geometric shape?
- 36 LGBTQ+ travel, fashion and culture magazine
- 37 Curry and Rice, for two
- 39 Homer’s father, on “The Simpsons”
- 42 Omar Khayyam’s poetry collection
- 43 ___ latte
- 44 Needle opening
- 46 Spheres

- 47 Enters carefully
 - 49 Fire-striking stones
 - 50 Tie, as sneakers
 - 51 Flatware company named after a New York tribe
 - 53 Airport code for O’Hare
 - 57 “___ Were the Days”
 - 58 “It’s ___ it’s good”
 - 60 ___ Fone Wireless (prepaid mobile phone provider)
 - 63 Down to the ___
 - 64 Lost fish in a Pixar film
 - 65 Open-mouthed stare
 - 67 Divs. of days
- © 2021 Matt Jones

- Down**
- 1 Trouble spots for teens
 - 2 August, in Paris
 - 3 Pittsburgh players
 - 4 Some beachwear
 - 5 To the ends of the earth
 - 6 Old photo tinge
 - 7 Hunky-dory
 - 8 Pig pen



R&R answer from pg 39 of 7/8



Jonesin’ answer from pg 40 of 7/8



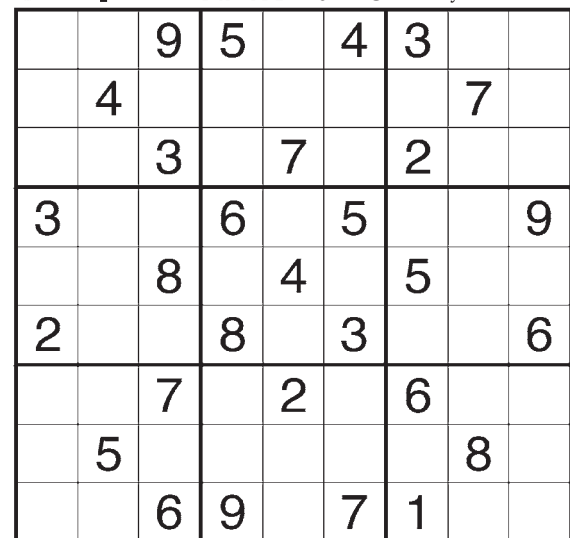
Jonesin’ Classic answer from pg 42 of 7/8



NITE SUDOKU

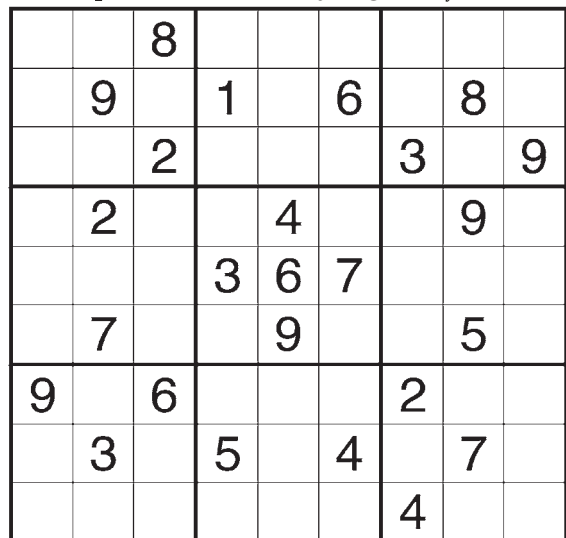
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week’s puzzle answers on pg 41.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A By Dave Green



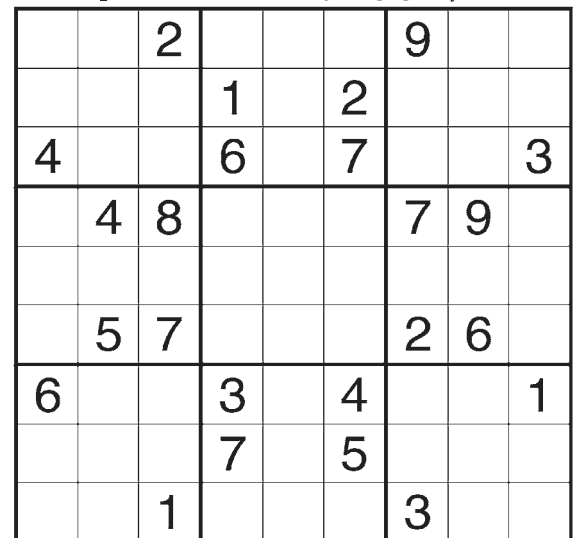
Difficulty Level ★★

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 *Onward: How Starbucks Fought for Its Life without Losing Its Soul*, by Howard Schultz, July 19, 1953.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) I requested a blend that was distinctively Starbucks but like nothing we'd ever produced. Go for a new blend!

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) After all, coffee doesn't lie. It can't. Be nice to your coffee.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) As one Starbucks partner expressed, it was as if we were running a race but no longer knew what we were running for. Keep goals in mind.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) Unfortunately, in the name of efficiency, our company had created some bad habits among our baristas. Efficiency isn't everything.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) For more than three decades, coffee has captured my imagination because it is a beverage about individuals as well as community. A Rwandan farmer. Eighty roast masters at six Starbucks plants on two continents. Thousands of baristas in 54 countries. You are part of a community.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) Every once in a while, I penned a memo out of a spontaneous desire to share what I was thinking. Share!

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) If the espresso was not good enough ... they had my permission to pour it out and begin again. It's OK to take time to get your espresso right.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) Once again we would grind beans in our stores, a ritual we'd abandoned in order to serve customers more quickly. ... no more would batches of brewed coffee sit for up to an hour before being served. Thirty minutes was the new maximum "hold time." Keep it fresh.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) ... every time I smacked a baseball high and clear across the asphalt yard and crossed home plate, or powered my way to a touchdown, passing boys who were bigger and stronger and faster than me, anything seemed possible. ... I

wanted nothing less than a home run. The coffee I had just sipped had the potential to be just that. A well-placed ground ball can also do wonders.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) I felt as if the team and I were racing to fix a sinking ship while at the same time charting its course and setting sail. Don't try to do too many things at once.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) ... I felt very strongly that many of us at Starbucks had lost your attention to the details of our business. ... We thought in terms of millions of customers and thousands of stores instead of one customer, one partner, and one cup of coffee at a time. Focus on the cup of coffee you're making while you're making it.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) One day I walked into a Seattle Starbucks and immediately felt frustrated because burnt cheese had, once again, enveloped the store. I spoke to the manager about it. But she did not understand my concern because, she told me, the store had already far exceeded its sales goals for sandwiches for that week. I left the store depressed. What would be next? Hash browns? If you only focus on the numbers, you will end up with burnt hash browns. ☹️

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 eleventh month (8)	_____
2 NBA star Oladipo (6)	_____
3 common ballroom dance (7)	_____
4 standard team wear (7)	_____
5 Brown of "Peanuts" (7)	_____
6 Montreal's province (6)	_____
7 metric measure of mass (4)	_____

XT	QU	ROT	KI	CT
OR	UN	CH	RM	IE
VEM	VI	ARL	NO	EC
LO	BER	IFO	FO	EB

7/11
Last Week's Answers: 1. PATELLA 2. SCAPULA 3. CLAVICLE 4. FEMUR 5. FIBULA 6. MANDIBLE 7. HUMERUS

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Sudoku Answers from pg 40 of 7/8

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty Level ★★

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

The way the world works

Workers at a McDonald's restaurant in California made a splash on social media on June 27 with their extreme and unusual resignation. They left a blunt handwritten note behind: "Everyone quit. We are closed," then posted a video of the empty restaurant on TikTok. The Daily News reported that TikTok user @zoey.isback clarified: "Y'all, we didn't quit from our pay. The store was [run] by teenagers and it was a terrible workspace."

Bad juju?

Chris Langston, 48, a metal detectorist in Oswestry, England, stumbled upon a creepy find as he was exploring the woods near his home on June 30. Langston first saw a pile of broken dishes, but upon further digging, he unearthed a clear bottle that appeared to contain urine, along with hair and a human tooth. According to Metro News, archaeologists say such bottles were used to keep spells and curses from entering homes as long ago as the 1600s. "I had my camera in my hand and in the video you can see me shaking as I just wanted to put it down," Langston said. "I did a bit of research online and discovered it was a witch bottle. I went back the following day and placed it in an undisturbed part near the area where I found it and buried it slightly just to

avoid any bad juju. I did get a bit creeped out by it all."

Unclear on the concept

The Bloomington (Minnesota) Police Department is having the books thrown at it after calling people who take volumes from Little Free Libraries "thieves." In early July, the department posted on Twitter: "After some thefts from little libraries in our city, officers and staff came together to donate a bunch of books to the libraries. Now people can use and enjoy them again." But Fox News reported that people weren't buying it: "How can you steal something free, officers?" one responder wrote. The BPD also tweeted that someone had been taking the books to sell for profit, which also invited scorn. Finally, the department admitted that using the word "theft" was "a human error," and apologized.

A woman from West Yorkshire, England, called in sick to work so that she could attend the Euro semifinal soccer game in London on July 7, Metro News reported. Nina Farooqi, 37, thought her company would be short-staffed that day, and therefore probably wouldn't let her have the day off. But when her photos popped up on the BBC, her employer called her and said not to bother coming in the next day. "I didn't get any sympathy at

all and they said 'That's it.' We're through to the final, I'm still on that high, but I've also lost my job," Farooqi said. "I'd do it all over again. Football is my life."

Latest religious message?

In Los Angeles on July 7, an unidentified man climbed atop the St. Mary's Catholic Church bell tower and set fire to a cross, then eluded police as he jumped from roof to roof and rappelled down buildings, Fox News reported. The man, who was shirtless and missing one sock, also used wires above the area to climb up buildings. Finally, police caught up with him and he was transferred to a local hospital.

Drunk buffalo

The RTE reported on July 7 that three farmers in the Gujarat state of India were arrested for selling alcohol, and their buffalo gave them away. Police official Dilipsinh Baldev said the animals were acting "strangely and their mouths started frothing," so one of the men called the veterinarian. The vet took a look at the water trough where the buffalo had been drinking and noticed the water was colored and had a "strange smell." Turns out the farmers had hidden their moonshine bottles at the bottom of the trough, but some had broken. The buffalo were

drunk. The vet informed police, who raided the farm and confiscated 100 bottles of alcohol.

Chutzpah

During the Scottish Open on July 9, a spectator allegedly "entered the 10th tee area" and removed a golf club from Rory McIlroy's bag, then took a few swings with it, the Associated Press reported. McIlroy reportedly watched, bemused, before the man was escorted from the course by security officers. Golfers Jon Rahm and Justin Thomas were also on the tee. One witness told The Scotsman newspaper, "The players laughed it off, saying they knew he wasn't a golfer when they saw his grip."

New world order

Ailurophobia sufferers, beware! In Tokyo, just in time for the 2021 Olympics, an enormous 3D calico cat is towering over the street, CBS News reported. Every few minutes, the cat appears, seemingly in a box on the side of a building, flicking its tail, meowing and licking its lips. The feline, created by digital marketing firm Cross Space, has gained 17,000 followers on its Twitter account and can be seen in a livestream on YouTube.

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SAT | JUL 17 | 6:30PM



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FRI | JUL 23 | 6:30PM



UMPHREY'S MCGEE
SAT | JUL 24 | 6:30PM



GET THE LED OUT
SAT | JUL 31 | 6:30PM



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SAT/SUN AUG 21-22



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