

the Hippo

MARCH 3 - 9, 2022

A HIKE IN
HOOKSETT P. 14

FOOD
NEWS P. 26

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

FREE



Whoopie!

A DEEP DIVE INTO THE NOSTALGIC TREAT
AND ITS MANY SWEET VARIATIONS

INSIDE: LIVE MUSIC FOR YOUR WEEKEND

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Very like mine



Their kitchen is very like mine: a coffee maker, bowl of fruit, and a shelf of spices, under a window that looks outside. On their counter is a small TV or computer screen. Yes, it almost exactly mirrors my kitchen here in New Hampshire, but theirs is in an apartment building in Kyiv and one whole wall of their kitchen has been blown out from a Russian missile yesterday morning.

Their family is very like mine. Together today, we are three generations: my wife, our son and our daughter-in-law, and our two grandchildren. They are having breakfast at our house, stopping here on the way to Logan airport for a two-week vacation. I've been playing number games with my grandson and our granddaughter is learning to say "Aloha." As a family, we look very much like them, but they, with their small children, are taking shelter in a subway station as the air raid sirens wail and the sounds of nearby shelling shakes the benches they are sitting on. I see joy and expectation in the face of my grandchildren and fear in the faces of that Ukrainian family. Mine knows where they are going. They have no idea where or when they will be safe.

Their neighborhood is very like mine. The houses are along a tree-lined street with cars parked outside. My neighbors are cleaning up after a snow storm, grumbling when the town snowplow deposits a plug of ice at the end of their newly cleared driveways. But the family outside Lviv is outside trying to halt a line of Russian tanks making its way through their otherwise quiet neighborhood.

Their neighbors are very like mine. Across my street lives a physician, next door is the owner of a construction company, further down is a retired school superintendent and a business executive, and beyond the owner of a tech company. Even in Covid times, we gather in one of our driveways to share a beverage in the evening and catch up on local news. But in Kharkiv, the neighbors gather to collect empty bottles — just like the ones we have — to make Molotov cocktails. And there, too, the counterparts of my neighbors — a physician, a builder, an executive, a retired superintendent, don makeshift uniforms and take rifles into their hands, many of which have never even held a weapon before. Why? Because their country means so much to them.

Empathy is the very human capacity to feel as another person might. The Russian invasion of Ukraine is like no other war in my experience. I do not read about it in a newspaper 24 hours later. Instead, it is broadcast live into my kitchen as it is happening and through those media relays from Ukrainian kitchens, families, neighbors and neighborhoods so very like mine, I am drawn deeply into their plight because it is now so possible to imagine what such a conflict would entail in my otherwise safe life.

They are fighting for democracy and their country. They are also fighting for us. We must help in any way we can.

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Funny Bone whoopie pies from The Cake Fairy in Hooksett. Courtesy photo.

ON THE COVER

22 WHOOPIE! From the traditional chocolate with vanilla or marshmallow filling to a more adventurous riff with flavors like maple bacon or pineapple upside-down cake, the whoopie pie is one of those find-them-everywhere New Hampshire treats. Matt Ingersoll takes a closer look at the whoopie pie and tells you where to go for your own whoopies.

ALSO ON THE COVER: Dan Szczesny takes a hike to a really cool rock in Hooksett; see page 14. In the food section, the Weekly Dish includes news on the start of Maple Month, as well as a soup and chili event that can take care of your dinner on Monday, and some other upcoming foodie fun; see page 26. And, looking for some music this weekend? Check out the Music This Week listing of live music at area bars and restaurants. It starts on page 35, just after Michael Witthaus' story about The Brit Pack, a band playing the music of several waves of British Invasions — from the Rolling Stones and the Beatles to Oasis and Adele (find that story on page 34).

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NEWS & NOTES

Covid-19 news

State health officials reported just 93 active hospitalizations due to Covid-19 on Feb. 23 — that's down from more than 400 back in early January and also the first time since the early fall that it has dipped below 100. "The omicron surge is decreasing, both in New Hampshire and nationally," state epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan said during a press conference that day. "As population immunity has increased, there's also been a notable decline ... in the severity of disease from Covid-19, and largely due to the availability of vaccines." In response to the continued downward trend of cases and hospitalizations, Chan announced new updates to the state's mask recommendations. "At this point ... we are no longer recommending universal face masks for people in indoor, public locations, unless a person is required to wear [one] for their specific situation," he said. Chan noted that this change does not apply to certain situations where face masks are still required under federal guidance or regulations, such as while someone is on board public transportation or when inside of a health care facility.

As of Feb. 25 there were 2,130 active infections and 92 hospitalizations. The state averaged 290 new cases per day over the most recent seven-day period, a decrease of 27 percent compared to the week before. All 10 counties remain at substantial community transmission levels.

Governor veto

Last week, Gov. Chris Sununu vetoed HB 319, which would have required students in the university and community college systems of New Hampshire to pass the United States Citizenship and Immigration

Services civics naturalization test. In his veto letter, Sununu said that last year he passed SB 320, which implements a similar civics competency exam for high school students that goes into effect in 2023 "and will help continue the Granite State tradition of a citizenry actively engaged in self-government. As such, House Bill 319 would serve to address the lack of civics education only in out-of-state public post-secondary students. House Bill 319 would also represent the first time the legislature has imposed a universal graduation requirement for students at our public colleges and universities. I am concerned that this would create a precedent for future legislatures to mandate extreme requirements."

State settlements

New Hampshire is expected to receive its full share of settlement funds — approximately \$115 million paid over 18 years — following the final approval of the \$21 billion opioid agreement with the nation's three major pharmaceutical distributors: Cardinal Health, Inc., McKesson Corporation, and AmerisourceBergen Corporation. According to a press release from the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, the defendants will start releasing funds to a national administrator on April 2, and states will start getting funds in the second quarter of 2022. Under state law, all of the funds will be used for opioid abatement purposes to support treatment, recovery, harm reduction, and other strategies to address the opioid epidemic, with 85 percent of those funds going directly into a dedicated opioid abatement trust fund, the release said.

The State has also entered into a settlement agreement with the Monsanto Company, Solutia Inc., and Pharmacia regarding polychlorinated bi-phenyl contamination of state waters and other state property.

According to a press release, the old Monsanto Co. marketed and sold numerous products containing PCBs knowing that PCBs caused harm to human health and the environment from 1929 to at least 1977. This caused 104 state water bodies to be impaired with PCBs and has required the state to issue numerous fish advisories. Monsanto has agreed to pay \$25,000,000 to resolve this case, and the State will get \$20,000,000 of that after paying attorneys' fees, the release said.

Lottery app

The New Hampshire Lottery has launched a new mobile app, allowing players to check their tickets, find retail locations, stay up to date on new promotions and customize the app to their preferences to show their favorite games and winning numbers. According to a press release, the app is available on iOS and Android devices, giving users an easy way to stay up to date with the latest news from the New Hampshire Lottery, including winning numbers, jackpot amounts, current scratch ticket games and results. A Ticket Checker lets players see if they are winners by scanning the barcode from the bottom front of scratch tickets and Powerball, Mega Millions, Lucky For Life, Tri-State Gimme 5, KENO 603 and other games, the release said. Players can also purchase Fast Play tickets from any Lottery vending machine by scanning the QR code.

No Russian spirits

On Feb. 26, Gov. Chris Sununu issued Executive Order 2022-2, an order instructing all of the state's Liquor & Wine Outlets to immediately remove all Russian-made and Russian-branded spirits from

The **Raymond** Coalition For Youth is partnering with Unite Us to expand Unite Us in New Hampshire, a coordinated care network that aims to address the unmet needs of people and families throughout the state. According to a press release, Unite Us helps connect people to mental and behavioral health services, youth and family resources, and financial assistance. By partnering with Unite Us, the Raymond Coalition For Youth will offer a central point of contact where health care providers, social service organizations and individuals can access and refer people to needed services while monitoring progress.

The public is invited to the **Manchester** Land Use Code Code-a-Palooza on Monday, March 7, and Tuesday, March 8, at the Palace Theatre's Spotlight Room. Put on by the City of Manchester and Town Planning and Urban Design Collaborative, the event is a chance for residents to talk with community members, city staff and planners to share ideas, hopes and concerns about the future of the Queen City's sustainability, character, housing, and development, according to a press release. A schedule of meetings can be found at manchesternh.gov/landusecode.

Rev. Andrew Armstrong, Senior Minister of The First Church **Nashua**, plans to travel approximately 2,000 miles from Nashua, Iowa, to Nashua, New Hampshire, to raise awareness and funds for repairs to the 129-year old church bell tower. According to the press release, the church has started a GoFundMe page to support Armstrong's ride and the restoration of the historic New England landmark.

store shelves until further notice. The order is one of several similar measures taken by state governors as a show of solidarity with Ukraine against Russia's invasion of the country just days earlier. "New Hampshire stands with the people of Ukraine in their fight for freedom," Sununu said in a statement on social media. Brands include Stolichnaya, Russian Standard and Hammer and Sickle — according to a statement from the New Hampshire Liquor Commission, sales have been suspended at each store per the governor's order, and updates on each product's availability will be provided "as the situation evolves." Visit liquorandwineoutlets.com.

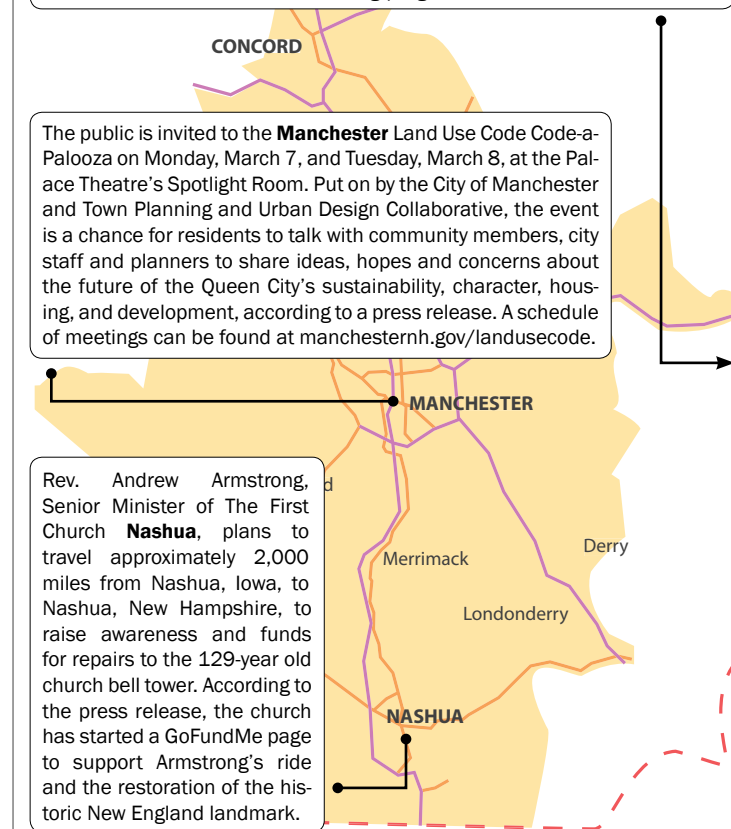
Dining with dogs

Sununu also signed SB 17, an act relative to permitting dogs in outdoor dining areas of restaurants, last week. The bill will go into effect on April 25, according to a report from NHPR. It allows restaurants to permit dogs in outdoor dining areas alongside their owners if the restaurants follow certain guidelines, like putting up

a sign so patrons know where dogs are allowed, taking food safety measures, ensuring dogs are under their owners' control, and not allowing restaurant staff to play with or pet the dogs.

Travel board

State Division of Travel and Tourism director Lori Harnois has been elected to serve on the U.S. Travel Association's Board of Directors. According to a press release, Harnois will serve a two-year term beginning this month. "It is an honor to be elected to serve in this capacity," Harnois said in a statement. "I'm looking forward to being more involved in national issues ... and elevating New Hampshire's presence on a national level." Based in Washington, D.C., the U.S. Travel Association represents all components of the travel industry and produces research in the form of travel data, analysis and insights to keep the industry and lawmakers informed. According to the release, the newly elected directors will convene for the first time in person at a meeting in Washington, D.C., in April. 🐾




Covid-19 update	As of Feb 18	As of Feb 25
Total cases statewide	293,697	297,729
Total current infections statewide	3,073	2,130
Total deaths statewide	2,333	2,373
New cases	5,506 (Feb. 12 to Feb. 18)	4,032 (Feb. 19 to Feb. 25)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	749	588
Current infections: Merrimack County	286	163
Current infections: Rockingham County	439	310

Information from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

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NEWS & NOTES Q&A

Care for carers

SNHMC welcomes new chief nurse

Meet Susan Santana, the new vice president of patient care services and chief nursing officer at Southern New Hampshire Medical Center in Nashua.

Q: What is your background in health care?

I came from Lowell General Hospital, and I've been a nurse for over 30 years in various leadership positions. I have extensive experience driving and improving nursing practice. ... I have a lot of experience in the Magnet designation program and the American Nurses Credentialing Center's program, which is a designation for excellence in patient care, and that has really been the footprint that has driven much of what I've done as a leader in nursing. ... I would say that, as a leader, I'm compassionate, visible, accessible and approachable. I'm focused on the work environment for nurses and also, more broadly, for all health care workers. My No. 1 professional passion is to create an environment that empowers the voices of the nurses so that they can provide quality care for patients, and to create a culture of teamwork and shared decision-making.



Susan Santana. Courtesy photo.

What do you hope to accomplish in your role?

To bring pride and excellence to the nursing division, to continue the good work that's been started by this organization and to create a work environment that is a magnet for people to want to work in. ... My vision is to have an engaged workforce that simply enjoys and loves the work that they do, and a workforce that is driven by the outcomes of their patients and in being involved in making a difference by improving the care of the patients.

What do you find rewarding about your work?

Helping to grow our young nurses and to mentor them as young leaders. Seeing that growth is very rewarding, and you don't see it everywhere. The culture here at [SNHMC] is very special, and the teamwork and commitment of its employees is really second to none, so being in an environment like that is certainly rewarding, as well.

Why should someone consider a career in nursing?

I would say that nursing is one of the most rewarding fields that you can go into. There are endless opportunities as a nurse in this health care environment. There's nursing inside of health care organizations, nursing in the community, the business side of nursing — there's something for everyone in the nursing profession. — *Angie Sykeny*

What does your job entail?

I oversee all of the nurses and their practice at Southern New Hampshire Health. I'm visible to the frontline nursing department, and I work collaboratively with the non-clinical departments, as well, with the goal of improving care for our patients [at SNHMC], and patients within our community. I'm involved in driving strategy that makes for a very strong Patient Care Services Division and positioning us to be the best place to work and the best place to practice medicine.

What are some of the biggest challenges in the nursing field right now?

I would say that the biggest challenges are staffing and the impact that the pandemic has had on the health care environment as a whole. There is a shortage of nurses. Many people are deciding to leave health care due to the effects of the pandemic. We're working very closely on recruitment, retention and growing our workforce. Workforce development and professional development of our employees is of great importance, so we're making sure that we're partnering with human resources and posting those positions. ... Also, because there aren't enough nurses, the nurses are often working overtime, and they do get tired, so it's very important that we support those nurses who are working tirelessly to care for our patients.

ESPN ranks NBA's top 75



Last weekend ESPN released its ranking of the 75 players on the NBA's 75th Anniversary Team, and as you might expect I have some thoughts.

Given the evolution of the skills it's hard to compare the pioneers with the players in the uber-athletic, crazy shooting 21st-century game. So these thoughts are based on how players dominated their era. Bonus points are given to their impact on winning in the playoffs and after joining a team. Like for **Larry Bird**, **Kareem Abdul-Jabbar** and **Shaq**, when the C's, Bucks and Magic went from 29 to 61, 27 to 56 and 21 to 41 wins respectively the year they arrived in town.

Doesn't belong

Carmelo Anthony (69): He scored a lot of points, 28,042 and counting. But so did **Dan Issel (27,482)**, **Vince Carter (26,728)**, **Alex English (25,613)** and **Artis Gilmore (24,941)**, who also was a great rebounder, while Melo is a ball hog non-defender with zero playoff success.

Anthony Davis (71): His high is pretty high, but it's too early to be here. Especially since he made the playoffs just twice in his first seven seasons, has no MVP and his title came as the second dog to LeBron.

Let me think about this

Russell Westbrook (68): Super stats, but hard to play with because he never gave it up until he couldn't get his shot and that's why he's won bupkis.

James Harden (50): The most effortless scorer I've ever seen. But he doesn't even try on defense and rewarding that goes against my grain Plus, while it's irrational, I really hate the beard.

Who's missing

The candidates are the four mentioned above, along with **Bernard King**, **Pau Gasol**, **Bob Lanier**, **Chris Mullen**, **Joe Dumars**, **Dennis Johnson**, **Jo Jo White**, **David Thompson**, **Dwight Howard** and **Klay Thompson**. All were/better than Melo. On highest peak I'll add King.

Surprising, but they deserve to be here

Dennis Rodman (67): Say what you will about him, but he personified the fact that greatness doesn't have to be about scoring. He was vital to five championship teams when he was a smothering defender who gave Bird fits with Detroit and later was arguably the best post-Chamberlain/Russell rebounder the NBA has seen.

Bob McAdoo (45): All the injuries fog how dynamic he was with Buffalo when the under-sized centers battle between **Dave Cowens (61)** and him was so cool to watch. Then as the show-time Lakers' sixth man he juiced the fast break to be even crazier when he replaced Kareem.

Too high

Giannis Antetokounmpo (18): But only because he's just at mid-career with one title and two MVPs. So can't see him yet ahead of the early dominance of **George Mikan (28)**, who won seven titles in 10 (NBA/BAA) seasons, or later

Lakers **Jerry West (19)** and **Elgin Baylor (20)**.

Pete Maravich (54): Truly unbelievable in college, but not so in the NBA. Belongs in high 70s, maybe.

Kevin McHale (39): We all love Kevey, whose defensive versatility was vastly underrated and who for a few years was downright unstoppable. But **Cedric Maxwell** was more important to two of his three title teams and I've got him just eighth on my all-time Celtics list behind Cowens, **Paul Pierce (62)**, **Sam Jones (60)** and **Robert Parish (63)**. Sorry, **Bob Ryan**, **Elvin Hayes (58)** was better for much longer too.

Chris Paul (29): With him still looking for his first title, with no MVP or even being over .500 in the playoffs, he's certainly not better than **Steve Nash (37 — two MVPs)**, **Bob Cousy (34 — six titles, one MVP, who invented what everyone does today in real time on the fly)** or **Allen Iverson (31)**.

Are you kidding me?

Willis Reed (57): **Earl Monroe (55)** is my favorite Knick ever and I loved watching **Walt Frazier (41)** grow from the pilfering, defense-first player he came to the NBA as to the unstoppable scorer he became. But even with Clyde actually being the real star of the Willis Reed game (36 points, 18 assists, 10 steals), sorry, those guys weren't better than the Captain. Are they daft? Reed was the heart and soul of the golden era '70s Knicks and the Finals MVP on both championship teams. No blanking way.

Reed was also better than his somehow ranked 48 rival **Wes Unseld** (teammate The Big E was better than big Wes too) and especially stat boy but no titles and no MVP **Patrick Ewing (40)**. Reed is the greatest Knick ever and it ain't close.

The Top 10: You can quibble with a place or two, like I'd flip **Kobe (10)** and **Shaq (11)** because it's not a coincidence the big fella was the Finals MVP for all three of their shared championships. But aside from one glaring mistake they mostly got it right with, from 1 to 11: **Jordan**, **LeBron**, **Kareem**, **Magic**, **Wilt**, **Russell**, **Bird**, **Duncan**, **Big O**, **Kobe** and **Shaq**.

The Big Mistake: Superior talent, great stats and major awards are nice. But the only stat that actually matters is winning and a guy's impact on that. Jordan won six MVPs and six titles (which might have been eight straight if he hadn't retired the first time). Kareem matched both and is the all-time scorer. But **Bill Russell** matched the MVPs while winning 11 titles in 13 years and never lost a deciding Game 7. And no, he didn't always play with the most talent. His final title came when he was at the end (averaged under 10 points a game) and, beyond a prime-of-life **John Havlicek**, was playing with aging starters and a bench full of scrubs against L.A. with three from the Top 75. But thanks to the incomparable will to win he still won. The winning started when he arrived and ended when he left. They now call him the greatest winner ever. But in my book, if you're the "greatest winner" that also means you're the greatest player.

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Nashua, 175 Coliseum Ave.

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To check Brittany's availability, please call the store or review her schedule at the store or on our website.
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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Not so sinful

New Hampshire is the sixth least sinful state in the country, according to a report from WalletHub. The personal finance website compared all 50 states in the country based on several of what it calls "key indicators of immoral or illicit behavior," including anger and hatred, jealousy, excesses and vices, greed, vanity and laziness (measured by looking at data such as thefts and fraud to gauge jealousy or percentage of adults not exercising as part of gauging laziness — to which QOL responds, hey, maybe some of us are busy doing other things). To read the full report, visit wallethub.com/edu/most-sinful-states/46852.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *The study found the Granite State to be the least angry, with Massachusetts ranking as the second least angry. Perhaps the study's authors have never seen us share a highway headed north on a long weekend.*

DEI training for businesses

The New Hampshire Tech Alliance and the Center for Women and Enterprise are partnering up to offer ongoing virtual or in-person Diversity Equity and Inclusion office hours, open to any interested Granite State businesses. According to a press release, participants will work directly with Equity and Racial Justice consultant Kile Adumene, a local community organizer and native of Nigeria who has lived in New Hampshire for more than 20 years. Adumene is the co-founder and facilitator of the Manchester Community Action Coalition, which hosts regular meetings for people of color, immigrants and others to come together on civic and community matters.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *"This partnership ... will help small businesses from all sectors access the guidance and support they need to navigate their own DEI challenges at no cost," Center for Women and Enterprise director Chandra Reber said in a statement.*

Housing supply

The state's Department of Business and Economic Affairs recently released its annual report on housing supply from its office of planning and development, according to a press release. As of 2021, the total housing supply in the state is estimated to be 642,800 units, seven-tenths of a percent higher than the number of housing units recorded during the 2020 census. According to the release, New Hampshire added 4,446 units to its housing supply in 2020, slightly less than in 2019, when the housing stock increased by 4,483. Data from the U.S. Census report shows that New Hampshire saw a population growth of 5,500 between July 2019 and July 2020, with the state registering the fourth-highest percentage (61.6 percent) of inbound moves in the country that year.

QOL Score: 0

Comment: *"This report is a reminder that New Hampshire's appeal and pro-growth economy requires that we continue working on solutions to provide housing to meet the demand," BEA commissioner Taylor Caswell said in a statement.*

New EMTs

Sixteen newly trained EMTs have completed American Medical Response (AMR)'s Earn While You Learn program in Manchester, according to a press release. They were recently celebrated at the Manchester Fire Department; eight of them were hired as full-time EMTs and eight are part-time for AMR Manchester. Over the last 12 weeks, many of the Earn While You Learn classes were taught at various fire stations across the city. Participants are hired as employees and compensated while attending the EMT-Basic certification course.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *"It has been a privilege to work alongside these future lifesavers who have demonstrated a strong commitment to our citizens and community," said Manchester Deputy Fire Chief Ryan Cashin, who was on hand for the celebration.*

QOL score: 60

Net change: +3

QOL this week: 63

What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire?

Let us know at news@hippypress.com.

THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS MARCH 3 AND BEYOND

Thursday, March 3

Local musicians unite to honor the spirit of the **Green Martini**, a Concord nightlife spot that burned down about 10 years ago, tonight at 8 p.m. at the Bank of NH Stage (16 S. Main St. in Concord; ccanh.com). Tickets cost \$15 for general admission (plus fees). The line-up for the evening is slated to include more than a dozen musicians. Michael Witthaus spoke to the Green Martini's former owners



Rachel Burlock. Courtesy photo.

about the show and the bar in last week's Hippo. Find the e-edition at hippopress.com and go to page 41.

Friday, March 4

Bedford Off Broadway will kick off its two-week presentation of **The Senator Wore Pantyhose**, a comedy by Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore, tonight at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 general admission, \$12 for seniors or students. The show will also run Saturday, March

5; Friday, March 11, and Saturday, March 12, at 8 p.m. And Sundays, March 6 and March 13, at 2 p.m.

Friday, March 4

Another comedy hitting a local stage: **The Philadelphia Story** presented by the Milford Area Players at the Amato

Center (56 Mont Vernon St. in Milford). See the show tonight and Saturday, March 5, (and next Friday, March 11, and Saturday, March 12) at 8 p.m. and Sundays, March 6 and March 13, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students. See milfordareaplayers.org.

Saturday, March 5

See **Dyer Holiday** play at Liquid Therapy (14 Court St. in Nashua; liquidtherapynh.com) tonight at 6 p.m. Find more live music at area bars and restaurants in our Music This Week listing on page 35.

Saturday, March 5

Steve Sweeney is the featured comedian at tonight's Tupelo Night of Comedy, which starts at 8 p.m. At Tupelo Music Hall (10 A St. in Derry; 437-5100, tupelomusic hall.com). Tickets cost \$25. Find more comedy happening this

weekend in the Comedy This Week listing on page 34.

Sunday, March 6

Enjoy an evening with **Dolly Parton and James Patterson**, who co-authored the new book *Run Rose Run*, tonight at 7:30 p.m. via Gibson's Bookstore. The virtual event precedes the March 7 release of the book; a new Dolly Parton album of the same name is slated for release Friday, March 4. Access to the event starts at \$30 (plus

fees) and includes a copy of the book. See gibsonsbookstore.com. The Bookery in Manchester is also selling tickets to the event; see bookerymht.com.



Save the date: March 11

Tickets are on sale now for the Palace Theatre's (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org, 668-5588) next big show: **Bye Bye Birdie**, which starts Friday, March 11. The musical, which features such classics as "A Lot of Livin' to Do" and "Put on a Happy Face," features an Elvisish rock star headed to the Army and the publicity stunt that has him give "One Last Kiss" to an everygirl fan. The production runs through Sunday, April 3, with shows Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and Sunday at noon. Tickets for adults cost \$39 and \$46.

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Embodying emotions

Deadly brings the seven sins to life on stage

By Meghan Siegler
msiegler@hippopress.com

Seven actors, seven sins — that’s the idea behind *Deadly*, the newest all-original production from Cue Zero Theatre Company.

“It’s an original movement piece that takes the classical deadly sins and kind of examines them through a more modern lens, with an interesting twist [that makes them more] accessible and relatable,” Cue Zero founder Dan Pelletier said.

The production was written and is directed by Merrimack native Crystal Rose Welch, and it’s set entirely to music, with no spoken words.

“I think we assume that verbal language is the most important thing [but] people can communicate in other ways,” she said. “I wanted to create theater that felt accessible when words aren’t accessible, for when the feelings are too big.”

Welch said movement theater is a relatively new and misunderstood form; most people think it’s like dance, but it’s not.

“You are crawling and dragging and basically embodying the emotions,” Welch said.

Welch came up with the idea for the play back in 2016, when she was still in college.

“It’s changed and evolved a lot. There’s a whole different soundtrack because copyright is awful,” she laughed.

The way that the seven deadly sins are expressed is pretty different from her original idea too; it began as a production about one person experiencing all of the sins, Welch said.

“I think having just more experience in life and the world [helped it evolve]; since I came up with it I have graduated college, I’ve fallen in love and gotten married ... we’ve been through a pandemic,” she said. “[I’ve realized] no one person is experiencing all of the ‘sins,’ and there is no ‘sin’

— that’s just a dirty word to make you feel guilty.”

The way the “sins” are portrayed, then, is designed not to show the “bad” sides of people, but to show the struggles that all humans go through.

Pelletier, for example, is sloth.

“We look at it kind of through the lens of depression, so my character ... ends up coming off looking lazy and slothful but you see it’s because of how beat down and exhausted [he] becomes from the challenges of life,” Pelletier said. “The depression to the outside observer looks like sloth but it’s due to this serious mental illness.”

Gluttony is portrayed through alcoholism, and technology plays a big role in lust. But the emotions behind people’s behaviors is the real message.

“Fear [for example] is something we all feel in different ways,” Welch said. “We have a song about what it is like to live with social anxiety, so someone comes to ask for directions [and the character] is freaking out. I wanted to use movement to show a modern version of something that is actually deadly, something that divides us and keeps us away from community and keeps us from feeling our best.”

Pelletier said the soundtrack of modern music adds to the show’s emotional vibe and helps make it “a very exciting, very high-energy piece.” And relying on movement rather than spoken word allows plenty of room for the audience to have their own feelings.

“It tells a story, but we leave some things where people can interpret them in their own way,” he said.

And that’s exactly what Welch is going for.

“I want to help people process emotions and open doors for conversation — this, this is what I feel. That’s how I feel when I’m scrolling through the news and I’m just get-



Deadly. Courtesy photo.



Deadly. Courtesy photo.

ting more and more depressed,” she said.

Despite the intense emotions, though, Welch said the production is not doom and gloom.

“I want people to be open to feeling things and not be afraid that this show is going to wreck them for the night,” she said. “You shouldn’t leave this feeling worse. If people are looking for some hope, this show can provide it.” 🌱

Deadly

Where: Granite State Arts Academy, 19 Keewaydin Drive No. 4, Salem

When: Friday, March 4, and Saturday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, March 6, at 2 p.m.

Cost: \$15, for in-person or livestream

Visit: cztheatre.com

Art

Exhibits

• **“FOR THE LOVE OF IMPRESSION”** Art exhibition features prints that were created using traditional techniques and materials, combined with contemporary aesthetics, new materials, and technology by eight local artists, all of whom are members of the artist group New Hampshire Printmakers. Bates Building (846 Main St., Contoocook). On view now through March 5. All of the pieces in the exhibition are for sale. Current gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m. Visit two-villagesart.org or call 413-210-4372.

“CONNECTING THREADS”

New Hampshire Art Association fiber art invitational exhibition features hand-dyed fabrics, Japanese weaving, fine art quilting, embroidery and felting by New England fiber artists. NHAA’s Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery, 136 State St., Portsmouth. On view now through March 27. Opening reception at the gallery on Fri., March 4, from 5 to 8 p.m. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, from noon to 5 p.m. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **“AWAKENING”** New Hampshire Art Association

exhibition features members’ works inspired by the natural or inner world. NHAA’s Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery, 136 State St., Portsmouth. On view now through March 27. Opening reception at the gallery on Fri., March 4, from 5 to 8 p.m. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, from noon to 5 p.m. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **“SETTING THE STANDARD”** exhibition features new work from League jurors in all media areas. League of New Hampshire Craftsmen headquarters, 49 S. Main St.,



NATURE TEXTILES

The New Hampshire Art Association presents an exhibition “Stitched Together - Elements of Nature from Textile Fragments,” featuring the work of Cheryl Miller, at the Greater Concord

Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center (49 S. Main St., Concord) now through April 15. Miller, a textile artist, creates fabric collages using hand dyed cottons, batik and machine-stitched vintage fabrics.

The exhibit includes a series of her textile collages inspired by the colors in nature. “The compositions are mostly abstract but also incorporate some elements of landscape, trees or leaves,” she said in a press release. “The idea

of these pieces is to evoke a mood through the use of color and focus on small details in nature.” Gallery hours at the Chamber are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. All works are for sale. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

THE ROUNDUP

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

• **Printmaking exhibition:** Catch Two Villages Art Society's exhibition "For the Love of Impression" at the Bates Building (846 Main St., Contoocook) before it's gone on Saturday, March 5. The exhibition features eight local artists who are members of the group New Hampshire Printmakers. Their work utilizes traditional techniques and materials, combined with contemporary aesthetics, new materials and new technology. "Printmaking is a time-honored artistic process in which images are transferred from a wooden, metal or glass matrix onto another surface, such as paper or fabric," Two Villages Art Society president Alyssa McKeon said in a press release. All pieces are for sale. Gallery hours are Thursday through Saturday, from noon to 4 p.m. Visit twovillagesart.org or call 413-210-4372.

• **Auditions for *Macbeth*:** Manchester-based Cue Zero Theatre Co. is looking for actors for its June production, an original female-driven interpretation of William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* by Cue Zero's artistic director Dan Pelletier. "It can be argued that all of the important action of the play is motivated by the ambitions and desires of Lady Macbeth," Pelletier said in a press release, "and I want to lean into that; make her the central focus and maybe even the cause of every plot point." Auditions will be held on Sunday, March 13, from 3 to 6 p.m., and Tuesday, March 15, from 6 to 9 p.m., with callbacks, if needed, on Thursday, March 17, from 6 to 9 p.m., and will take place in person at Granite State Arts Academy (19 Keewaydin Drive, No. 4, Salem). Performers should sign up for a timeslot in advance on the Cue Zero website and prepare two contrasting Shakespearean monologues totaling no more than four minutes combined. Actors will rehearse three days a week between Sunday and Thursday based on their availability. The performance is planned for Friday, June 17, through Sunday, June 19, at the Derry Opera House. Visit cztheatre.com or email cztheatre@gmail.com.

• **High standards:** The League of New Hampshire Craftsmen's triennial exhibit "Setting the Standard" is on view now through March 31 at its headquarters gallery (49 S. Main St., No. 100, Concord). The exhibit features new works by 45 League jurors, master craftsmen who volunteer to work with League hopefuls and review their work to uphold the League's standard of artistic excellence. A variety of media is represented, including wood, textile, clay and metal. "These works ... will reflect the spirit of the maker," League executive director Miriam Carter said in a press release. "Given the difficulties faced during the past several months, the work of our members takes on an almost indomitable nature, mixing



Bedford off Broadway presents *The Senator Wore Pantyhose*. Courtesy photo.



"Blue Tree" by Katy O'Gorman Rhodebeck, featured in "For the Love of Impression" exhibition. Courtesy photo.

the strength and resilience of the artists with the vulnerability that we have all experienced," Gallery hours are Tuesday through Thursday from noon to 4 p.m. Pieces are for sale and can be picked up when the exhibit closes. Visit nhcrafts.org or call 224-3375.

• **Little Women on stage:** The Franklin Footlight Theatre presents a production of *Little Women* at the Franklin Opera House (316 Central St., Franklin) with showtimes Thursday, March 10, through Saturday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, March 13, at 2 p.m. Based on Louisa May Alcott's classic 1869 novel, the play follows the adventures of four sisters living with their mother in Massachusetts while their father is fighting in the Civil War. Tickets cost \$16 for adults and \$14 for students and seniors. Visit franklinoperahouse.org or call 934-1901.

• **Political comedy:** Theater company Bedford off Broadway presents *The Senator Wore Pantyhose* at the Bedford Old Town Hall (70 Bedford Center Road, Bedford) from March 4 through March 13, with showtimes on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. The comedy by Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore centers on a failing presidential campaign where the candidate's unwavering integrity and honesty are set against a sleazy campaign manager who will do whatever it takes to win votes. Tickets cost \$15 for general admission and \$12 for seniors and students. See "Bedford off Broadway" on Facebook. — *Angie Sykeny* 🍷



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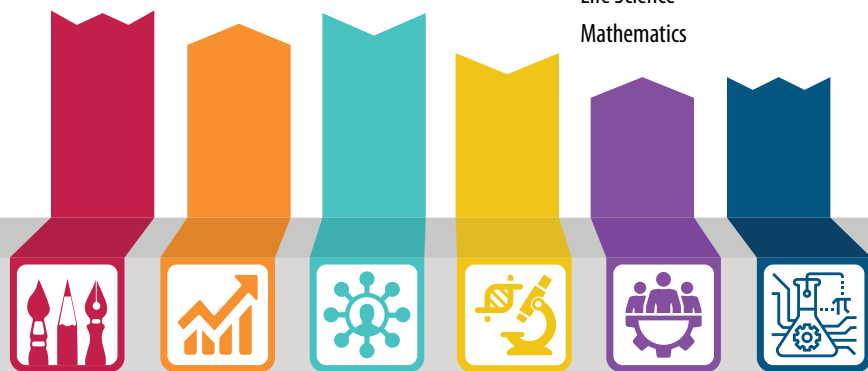
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ARTS

#100, Concord. On view now through March 31. Regular exhibition hours are Tuesday through Thursday, noon to 4 p.m. Visit nhcrafts.org.

• **“STITCHED TOGETHER - ELEMENTS OF NATURE FROM TEXTILE FRAGMENTS”** New Hampshire Art Association exhibition features the textile collages of Cheryl Miller, inspired by the colors in nature. On view now through April 15. Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. All work is for sale. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **“APPEAL OF THE REAL: 19TH CENTURY PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD”** exhibition features photographs taken throughout the Mediterranean to record the ruins of ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome. The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester). On view now through June 12. Museum admission costs \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, \$10 for students, \$5 for youth ages 13 through 17 and is free for children under age 13 and museum members. Current museum hours are Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Monday through Wednesday. Call 669-6144 or visit currier.org.

• **“WARHOL SCREEN TESTS”** exhibition features 20 films from Andy Warhol's silent black and white Screen Tests, shown in loops across four large-scale projections. The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester). On view March 31 through July 3. Museum admission costs \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, \$10 for students, \$5 for youth ages 13 through 17 and is free for children under age 13 and museum members. Current

museum hours are Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Monday through Wednesday. Call 669-6144 or visit currier.org.

• **“ARGHAVAN KHOSRAVI”** Artist's surrealist paintings explore themes of exile, freedom and empowerment; center female protagonists; and allude to human rights issues, particularly those affecting women and immigrants. The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester). On view April 14 through Sept. 5. Museum admission costs \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, \$10 for students, \$5 for youth ages 13 through 17 and is free for children under age 13 and museum members. Current museum hours are Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Monday through Wednesday. Call 669-6144 or visit currier.org.

• **“ECHOES: ABSTRACT PAINTING TO MODERN QUILTING”** exhibition features abstract paintings inspired by the bold colors, asymmetry, improvisational layout, alternate grid work and negative space in composition of modern quilting. Two Villages Art Society (46 Main St., Contoocook). April 22 through May 14. Visit twovillagesart.org.

• **“NATURE AT NIGHT: PAINTINGS BY OWEN KRZYZANIAK GEARY”** Two Villages Art Society (46 Main St., Contoocook). May 27 through June 18. Visit twovillagesart.org.

• **“NEW HAMPSHIRE NOW”** A collaborative photography project presented by the New Hampshire Historical Society and the New Hampshire Society of Photographic Artists, on display in eight exhibitions at museums and historical societies across the state. Nearly 50 photographers

participated in the project, taking more than 5,000 photos of New Hampshire people, places, culture and events from 2018 to 2020 to create a 21st-century portrait of life in the Granite State. Exhibition locations include Belknap Mill Society in Laconia; Colby-Sawyer College in New London; Portsmouth Historical Society; Historical Society of Cheshire County in Keene; the Manchester Historic Association; Museum of the White Mountains at Plymouth State University; and the Tillotson Center in Colebrook; with the flagship exhibition at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord. Visit newhampshirerow.org and nhhistory.org.

• **ART ON MAIN** The City of Concord and the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce present a year-round outdoor public art exhibition in Concord's downtown featuring works by professional sculptors. All sculptures will be for sale. Visit concordnhchamber.com/creativeconcord, call 224-2508 or email tsink@concordnhchamber.com.

Tours

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

Workshops and classes

• **WINTER ART CLASSES** Art classes for teens and adults, including Pottery, Stained

ANCIENT WORLD PHOTOGRAPHS



The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) presents an exhibition, “Appeal of the Real: 19th Century Photographs of the Ancient World,” now through June 12. It features photographs of the ruins of ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome, taken prior to when tourists could take their own photographs, often at the request of wealthy

European and American tourists. Museum admission costs \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, \$10

for students, \$5 for youth ages 13 through 17, and is free for children under age 13 and museum members. Current museum hours are Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Monday through Wednesday. Call 669-6144 or visit currier.org.

ARTS

Glass, Intermediate Watercolor and Clay Hand Building. Studio 550 Art Center (550 Elm St., Manchester). Five-week sessions. Classes met for two hours a week. Call 232-5597 or visit 550arts.com for the full schedule and cost details.

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

• **GENERAL ART CLASSES** Weekly art classes are offered for both kids and adults of all skill levels and cover a variety of two-dimensional media, including drawing and painting with pastel, acrylic, watercolor and oils. Classes are held with small groups of three to eight to five students. Diane Crespo Fine Art Gallery (32 Hanover St., Manchester). Kids classes, open to kids ages 10 and up, are held on Thursdays and Fridays, from 4:15 to 5:45 p.m. Adult classes are held on Thursdays, from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m., and on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Tuition is pay-as-you-go at \$20 per student per class and is due upon arrival. Call 493-1677 or visit dianecresposfineart.com for availability.

Theater

Auditions

• **THE BALD SOPRANO** The Community Players of Concord holds open auditions for its June production of *The Bald Soprano*. Mon., March 21, 7 p.m., Players' Studio, 435 Josiah Bartlett Road, Concord. Visit communityplayersofconcord.org/auditions.

Shows

• **LIFESPAN OF A FACT** Produced by Lend Me a Theater. The Hatbox Theatre (Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord). Now through March 6. Showtimes are on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost

\$22 for adults, \$19 for students, seniors and members and \$16 for senior members. Visit hatboxnh.com.

• **DEADLY** Cue Zero Theatre Co. presents an original movement-based theater piece by Crystal Rose Welch. Granite State Arts Academy (19 Keewaydin Drive, No. 4, Salem). Fri., March 4, through Sun., March 6. Visit cztheatre.com.

• **THE SENATOR WORE PANTYHOSE** Bedford off Broadway presents. March 4 through March 13, with showtimes on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for general admission and \$12 for seniors and students.

• **CONFERENCE OF THE BIRDS** Multimedia movement theater work inspired by the epic poem of Farid Ud din Attar embodying modern-day stories of migration. Tues., March 8, 7 p.m. Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. Tickets range from \$5 to \$30. Call 437-5210 or visit stockbridgetheatre.com.

• **LITTLE WOMEN** The Franklin Footlight Theatre presents. Franklin Opera House (316 Central St., Franklin). Thurs., March 10, through Sat., March 12, 7:30 p.m.; and Sun., March 13, 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$16 for adults and \$14 for students and seniors. Visit franklinoperahouse.org or call 934-1901.

• **BYE BYE BIRDIE** Mainstage production by The Palace Theatre. 80 Hanover St., Manchester. March 11 through April 3. Tickets range from \$25 to \$46. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

• **CHICKEN LITTLE** presented by Upside Arts. The Players' Ring Theatre (105 Marcy St., Portsmouth). March 12 through March 20, with showtimes on Saturday and Sunday at 10 a.m. Tickets cost \$18 for adults and \$15 for kids under age 12. Visit playersring.org or call 436-8123.

• **PIPPIN** The Pinkerton Players present. Fri., March 25, and Sat., March 26, at 7 p.m., and Sun., March 27, at 2 p.m. Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. Tickets cost

\$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors and students. Call 437-5210 or visit stockbridgetheatre.com.

• **PUFFS! OR SEVEN INCREASINGLY EVENTFUL YEARS AT A CERTAIN SCHOOL OF MAGIC AND MAGIC** Cue Zero Theatre Co. presents. Granite State Arts Academy (19 Keewaydin Drive, No. 4, Salem). Fri., April 29, through Sun., May 1. Visit cztheatre.com.

• **MUSICAL MOM** Produced by the Community Players of Concord. The Hatbox Theatre (Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord). May 5 through May 15. Showtimes are on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 for adults, \$22 for students, seniors and members and \$19 for senior members. Visit hatboxnh.com.

• **LAST GAS** Produced by the Community Players of Concord. Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Fri., May 6, through Sun., May 8. Tickets cost \$18 for adults, \$16 for youth ages 17 and under, \$16 for seniors age 65 and up. Visit communityplayersofconcord.org.

• **THE BALD SOPRANO** Produced by the Community Players of Concord. The Hatbox Theatre (Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord). June 17 through June 26. Showtimes are on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$22 for adults, \$19 for students, seniors and members and \$16 for senior members. Visit hatboxnh.com.

Classical

• **WINTER MAINSTAGE CONCERT** The Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra performs. The Music Hall Historic Theater, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Sun., March 13, 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 to \$35 for adults, \$20 for students and \$25 to \$30 for seniors age 60 and up. Call 436-2400 or visit themusichall.org.

• **DRAWN TO THE MUSIC 2022 - STORIES IN MUSIC** The New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra performs. Seifert Performing Arts Center, 44 Geremonty Drive, Salem. Sat., April 9, 2 p.m., and Sun., April 10, 2 p.m. Visit nhphil.org.

POETIC MOVEMENT

ANIKAYA Dance Theater will perform *Conference of the Birds* at the Stockbridge Theatre (Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry) on Tuesday, March 8, at 7 p.m. The multimedia movement theater work, created by a team of artists from 10 different countries, tells modern-day stories of migration through the lens of the Persian epic poem of the same name by Farid Ud din Attar. Tickets range from \$5 to \$30. Call 437-5210 or visit stockbridgetheatre.com.

Photo by Gary Alpert



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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

A little dirt, a little risk

Learning and fun on Head's Pond Trail in Hooksett

By Dan Szczesny
danszczesny@gmail.com

TRAIL MIX

I can't think of a better word than feral to describe my daughter's love for the outdoors, so for now, I'm going with that.

We've raised Little Bean to be as unafraid of the traditional challenges of nature as possible. Mud. Wind. Snow. Dirt under the fingernails. All fair game.

The constraint of goal-setting when on the trail can often stifle exploration. The mountaintop will always be there, but hey, look at that cool rock! That sort of thing.

There's a whole line of child psychology, in fact, that studies a developing field called Risky Play. Remember when you were a kid and you spent basically the whole day outside, unsupervised, doing things that adults today would be horrified to learn you were doing? Well, folks like Mariana Brussoni, a professor at the University of British Columbia, remembers. She says it was good for you, and a little of that today would also be good for kids.

Risky Play done in the context of a rel-

atively safe space is "really a fundamental way for them to figure out the world — how the world works, how their body works," she says.

This was on my mind recently during a hike with Little Bean along the Head's Pond Trail in Hooksett. This amazing little jewel of a rail trail sits right off Route 3 and is built along a 1.7-mile section of the old Portsmouth and Concord Railroad line, which dates back to 1847. Back then, it connected the coast to the capital and ran right through Hooksett. Today, it's a super fun family hike during any season. Flat. Wooded. Water and rocks all over.

We love this trail, in part because it's the home of Sheep Rock, a huge glacier erratic that looks like a sheep head, and a rock that we included in our Field Guide *NH Rocks That Rock*. On this trip, we were thrilled to have a crew from New Hampshire Public Radio accompany us to the rock.

All that was great. Except for the ice. And except for the fact that my daughter wanted badly to engage in Risky Play, the one thing we taught her to do and the

CONTINUED ON PG 15 ▶



The author's daughter sits atop Sheep Rock, just off the Head's Pond Rail Trail in Hooksett. Sheep Rock is listed in the *NH Rocks That Rock 25* field guide, a collection of the state's most famous and historic rocks and boulders.

If you go

The Head's Pond Trail (formerly known as Hooksett Rail Trail) is a 1.9-mile rail trail that takes the hiker past two pleasant ponds, including Head's Pond. History and nature fans will enjoy interpretive signs along the way that tell the story about the trail and the local flora and fauna.

A trailhead with ample parking on Route 3 is the best place to begin. A steep and rocky access path leads downhill from the parking lot, but once you're on the trail, it's flat over its entire length.

Parking and trail access

To reach the trailhead and parking in Hooksett from Interstate 93, take Exit 11. From the toll plaza, turn left onto Hackett Hill Road, go 0.2 mile and turn left onto West River Road (Route 3A). Go 0.6 mile, and turn right onto Main Street. In 0.4 mile stay straight onto College Park Drive. Go 0.5 mile, and turn left onto Route 28 (Hooksett Road). Go 1.1 miles, and look for parking on the right.

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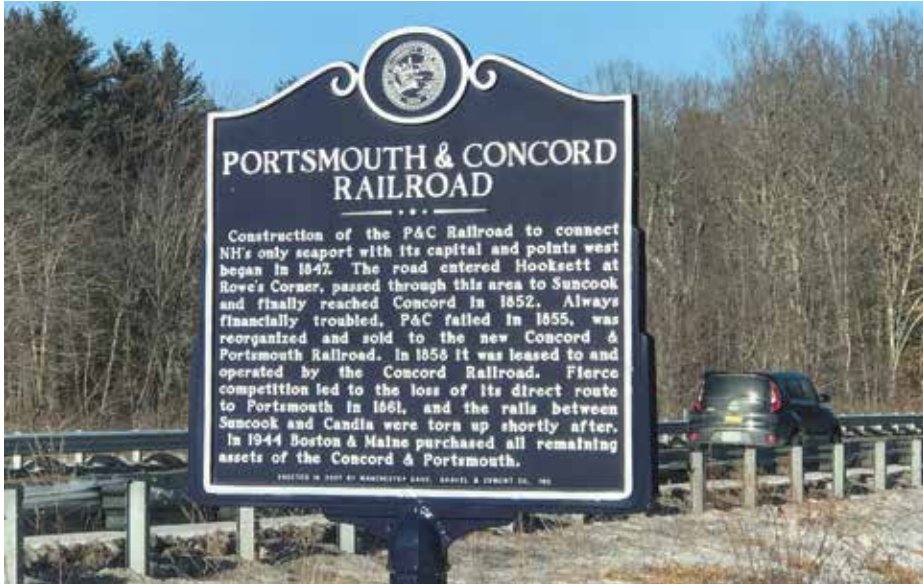
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The Head's Pond Rail Trail runs along a 1.7-mile section of the famous Portsmouth and Concord Railroad line. Between 1847 and 1861 the line connected New Hampshire's Seacoast to Concord. Photos by Dan Szczyzny.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 14

one thing I wished, just this once, she wouldn't!

How would this group of professionals with microphones and an itinerary react to my daughter taking great running head starts and sliding on the ice on her knees, screaming at the top of her lungs? How would they react to her being distracted by a cool branch or an icicle in the middle of asking her a question about rocks?

Well, pretty well, it turns out.

To their credit, the crew took their cues from Little Bean, letting her lead in her own way, letting her be a little crazy because sometimes crazy just means joyful and joyful is OK.

Push too hard and you'll lose them. Keep them boxed up and they won't come

back. Let them be in a little bit of controlled danger to find their own footing.

There's a more universal lesson here as well about the power of creating your own story, of building memory and self-worth. There's lots of places to do this, but hiking with kids, I've found, lends itself best to forging bonds, building a history and boosting confidence.

But you need to be patient. And you need to exist in the same space as your kid, not the other way around.

We reached our destination that day, and by the time Little Bean sat atop that rock shaped like a sheep, her knees were filthy, her hair was a tangled web and she had bruises on both elbows. In other words, it was a good hike, and more importantly, it was *her* hike. 🍀

TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,
I'm hoping you can provide me some help. I have three of these antique cast iron brackets. I would like to use them but would need to have a fourth. Can you shed any light on where to find a match?
Charles



Dear Charles,
Your Victorian-era shelf brackets look to be in great condition. The design is sweet! Finding a match could be tough but you might get lucky.

I think there are several ways to search. Today with the internet right at our fingertips, some difficult finds can be easier. I would start there looking for Victorian-era cast iron brackets. You know the measurements, so look carefully and see if you come up with one or even several.

Next I would look in antique shops, flea markets, thrift stores, etc. The hunt can be fun. It just depends on what you

feel comfortable with. All of it could be necessary to find that exact one you are looking for. Good luck in your hunt, and I too will keep my eyes open if you can send me dimensions. Who knows, maybe even a reader has one or another pair.

As far as what you might expect to pay, a single one would be around \$10. A pair is tougher to find so expect to pay \$30 to \$40 depending on size.

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

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Let's get it started

Plant your seeds indoors

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

By now many gardeners are fed up with winter: icy sidewalks, misplaced mittens and dogs that need to go out at 5 below zero. But it will soon be time to start planting seeds indoors, so you might want to start getting ready now.

It's true that greenhouses and garden centers do a nice job of starting plants if you are not interested in babying seedlings along for 8 to 12 weeks. I do let them start some for me but find that there are plenty of things I want to grow that are not available. So I do both. I start some now and buy others later.

In order to be successful with your seed-starting efforts, you will need supplemental lights. If you try to save money and just start a few seedlings on a sunny windowsill, you will most likely be disappointed. Even under the best conditions, direct sun only reaches your seedlings about six hours a day, much less than they need.

Fluorescent lights are the least expensive solution to the need for supplemental light. My fixtures are 4 feet long and use two T-8 tubes each. The fixtures are available at hardware and big box stores, and cost from \$16 to \$40 each, depending on where you buy them.

T-8 tubes use 32 watts of energy per hour, while older-model T-12 tubes use 40 watts. This

year I bought some LED bulbs that fit my 4-foot fluorescent fixtures but use only half the electricity. I'm switching over to LED for the sake of the environment, but as the tubes cost about \$8 each, I am spreading out my purchases over a few years. If you want to make the switch, make sure the package says they do not require any rewiring of the fixtures (older models did require that). One nice thing about the LED lights is that they don't break if you bump them hard or drop them. Select lights that are 4000K or 5000K color spectrum, which are close to daylight color.

I use a biodynamic calendar called Stella Natura to help decide on planting dates. It uses the sun, moon and stars to determine the best time and day to plant four categories of plants: flowers, fruit, leaf and root. It also has "blackout" days when nothing should be done. I am not 100 percent convinced that this calendar really works, but have done some informal experiments planting seeds on their suggested days, and on blackout days, and it seemed to make a difference.

Read the seed packages carefully if you are new to starting indoors. Onion-family plants and peppers take a long time to develop, so most people start them in early March, though I started my onions and scallions on Feb. 20 this year. Tomatoes I start around April 10 — I don't want them to get root-bound or too tall before I put them out on June 10. If you plant outside

earlier, start seeds earlier.

Not everything needs to be started indoors. Most root crops are direct seeded in the garden, though you can start beets indoors. Some flowers hate to be transplanted — larkspur, for example, which also needs cold temperatures after planting. Lettuce can be planted indoors or out, or both. I like to get some started early indoors. All the cucumber family plants I start indoors four to five weeks before planting outside as this protects them from striped cucumber beetles when they first germinate.

An important key to success with your seedlings is to water properly. If seeds dry out before they germinate, or when they are tiny, they are likely to fail. On the other hand, keeping seeds soggy all the time can lead to root rot. Check them every day. If you see the planting mix turn a lighter color or if it feels dry to the touch, water. I water with a dilute solution of fish or seaweed fertilizer once a week.

To get seedlings to wake up and start to grow, I use heat mats sold for that purpose. They plug in and gently warm the seed flats. But I only use them until most seeds have germinated as too much heat for seedlings is bad. For one thing, the "soil" dries out fast with extra heat. I prevent that by using clear plastic covers sold to fit over the flats, creating mini-greenhouses that hold in the moisture.

I mostly use flats with 32 cells per trays that are roughly 9 by 18 inches, although others are



Photo courtesy of Henry Homeyer.

sold with up to 108 cells per flat. I want plenty of room for roots to grow, so I buy cells that are as deep as I can find. I plant two or more seeds in each cell, just in case one seed does not germinate. For onions, I plant three or four seeds per cell, as they don't mind a little crowding.

Most seeds germinate about 90 percent of the time. For tomatoes

I sometimes snip off one plant when young, other times I let both grow, and separate them and replant both in bigger pots when they are 4 to 6 inches tall. For me, it's hard to kill seedlings by snipping them off and I can always share seedlings with others.

Garden centers and catalogs sell a variety of stands with lights for growing seedlings. Most are quite expensive. You can also go to my website, gardening-guy.com, and search for "Building a Plant Stand." That will give step-by-step directions for building an inexpensive A-frame plant stand that will hold six flats, and have room below it for four to six more flats on the floor.

Starting seedlings is not rocket science. It involves some investment, but the lights and plant stands last nearly forever. And, as the bumper sticker says, "Growing Tomatoes Is Cheaper than Therapy — and You Get Tomatoes!"

Henry is the author of four gardening books and a long time UNH master Gardener. You may reach him by e-mail at henry.homeyer@comcast.net. He lives and gardens in Cornish Flat.



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Aviation Thursday

• The **Aviation Museum of New Hampshire** (27 Navigator Road in Londonderry; aviationmuseumofnh.org, 669-4820) will open on Thursday, March 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. — a vacation week addition to the regular hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays. Admission costs \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 6 to 12 and free for children 5 and under.



The full-size cockpit of an Embraer 110 aircraft at the Aviation Museum of N.H. Courtesy photo.

the store's website. After stories, attendees can make rainbows out of paper plates, the website said.

On stage

• **Disney's *The Aristocats Kids***, featuring a cast of student actors in grades 2 through 12 from the Palace Youth Theatre's vacation camp, will hit the stage at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org, 668-5588) on Saturday, March 5, at 11 a.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$12.

• On Wednesday, March 9, head to the Music Hall (28 Chestnut St. in Portsmouth; 436-2400, themusichall.org) to spend some time with Rosie Revere, engineer, and her buddies Iggy Peck, architect, and Ada Twist, scientist. The musical stage show ***Rosie Revere, Engineer, and Friends*** will feature the characters from the popular books by Andrea Beaty and will be presented at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. The shows last about an hour and tickets cost \$7, according to the website.

Save the date: for that first gig

• NH Music Collective and the Belknap Mill (25 Beacon St. in Laconia; belknapmill.org, 524-8813) hold a **Young Performers Open Mic** at the Mill on the fourth Sunday of each month at 2 p.m. The open mic sessions will run for two hours and are open to all middle and high school students, according to a press release. The events will run through May 22 and are family friendly, according to the press release.

More summer camp

• The Children's Theatre Project of the Community Players of Concord will hold a **summer camp for young actors** ages 8 to 14, Sunday, July 31, through Friday, Aug. 5. The kids will rehearse Peter Pan Jr. which will be presented on Friday evening, according to a press release. The camp begins with a meeting at The Players Studio (435 Josiah Bartlett Road in Concord) on July 31 from 1 to 3 p.m. and then runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 1, through Thursday, Aug. 5 p.m. On Friday, the camp moves to the Concord City Auditorium from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$225; see communityplayer-sofconcord.org or email k.braz@comcast.net with questions, the release said. 🍌

Science Friday

• And if you want more fun with a side of learning, go to the **Children's Museum of New Hampshire** (2 Washington St. in Dover; childrens-museum.org, 742-2002) on Friday, March 4, for their "Science Friday" programming, part of the regular admission to the museum, which is open Tuesdays through Sundays, with sessions from 9 a.m. to noon all six days as well as from 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. Admission costs \$11 per person, \$9 for 65+ (no charge for children under 1). Reserve admission online.

• The **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center** (2 Institute Drive in Concord; starhop.com, 271-7827) is open daily through Sunday, March 6, with sessions from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1:30 to 4 p.m. There will be four planetarium shows daily, according to the website, which recommends purchasing timed tickets in advance. Admission costs \$11.50 for adults, \$10.50 for students and seniors and \$8.50 for kids ages 3 to 12 (admission is free for children 2 and under; masks required for visitors over the age of 2). Planetarium show tickets cost \$5 per person (free for children 2 and under); see the website for the schedule of planetarium shows. And after a day in person at the center, get an extra helping of science programming with this month's **Super Stellar Fridays** online event, "The Dinosaurs and Geology of Thermopolis, Wyoming." In this presentation, Discovery Center educator Brendan Clement will discuss his summer internship at the Wyoming Dinosaur Center, according to the website. The event starts at 7 p.m. and is free but online registration is required.

Story Saturday

• The Bookery Manchester (844 Elm St. in downtown Manchester; bookerymht.com) will feature a **St. Patrick's themed story time** on Saturday, March 5, at 11:30 a.m. with the books *Tim O'Toole and the Wee Folk* by Gerald McDermott and *Three Ways to Trap a Leprechaun* by Tara Lazar and illustrated by Vivienne To, according to



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Smaller crossovers are a great fit for comfort and visibility



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk: I bought a brand-new, 2019 Honda Fit Sport with a sunroof in the fall of 2018. I had a 2010 Fit that I loved very much, but I wanted updated safety features.

I was a spry 73-year-old when I bought the 2019 Fit. Since then, the Old Age Bus has run me over. I've been to the parts store and gotten two knees and a hip, none of which I like very much.

In the past six months, I've noticed that the driver's seat is either getting closer to the ground or I'm shrinking, making right-hand curbs and other important objects difficult to see.

I also feel that everyone else on the road is an elephant trying to squish me in my little Fit.

My daughter has a well-cared-for 2015 Subaru Forester with 120,000 miles that I can get in and out of easily and drive with confidence. She wants to buy a new car.

Does it make sense for me to sell the Fit (it has 25,000 miles on it) and buy her car? I'm not sure I want to spend money on a new car again. If buying her car is dumb, what would you recommend? Thanks oodles. — Marta

I think buying your daughter's car is a great solution.

Like a lot of people, Marta, you've discovered that falling down into your car every day and then climbing up out of it is not that much fun. That's a big reason why smaller crossovers, like the Forester, Toyota RAV4, Honda CR-V and Ford Escape have become so popular.

Their seats are at "seat height," making it easy to get in and out of. What a concept, huh? The higher ride height also gives you a good view of the road. And the Forester has the best all-around visibility of all the small crossovers.

There might be some safety features on your new Fit that are not on your daughter's 2015 car. So, you might be giving up a few things.

But you can always drive the 2015 Forester for a few years, and when the current computer chip/supply chain crisis is over and you're ready for your next car, you can get a new 2025 Forester, which will have even more safety advances.

For now, being comfortable and confident in the driver's seat, and being able to see all around you will be huge enhancements to your safety.

So, make a deal with your daughter. Add up what it costs you to put her through school, then let her know how much she owes you, in addition to the 2015 Forester. Enjoy, Marta.

Dear Car Talk:

I love your column — it is the first thing I turn to every week, much to my spouse's consternation! You are able to explain mechanical things

in a way I understand.

I have a question about regenerative braking. I have a 2019 Subaru Crosstrek plug-in hybrid, which I love. It has a regenerative braking option, which I generally use around town but have to turn off in order to use cruise control.

My question is: How does regenerative braking work? Am I doing more harm than good by using it most of the time? Am I wearing out my brakes faster, and how much does it really charge the battery? Is it worth using? I appreciate hearing your erudite answer! — Kelly

The great thing about electric motors, Kelly, is that they work in two directions. Every electric motor is also a generator.

So, you can put electricity in one end and have motion come out the other end. Or you can put motion in one end and have electricity come out the other. That's what regenerative braking does.

Hybrids have two kinds of brakes. They have traditional "friction" brakes, where two pads at each wheel squeeze against a spinning disc. That slows down the car and produces heat and brake dust — neither of which is particularly useful.

Then you have regenerative brakes. They use the rolling motion of the wheels to spin the electric motor/generator and produce electricity to recharge your battery. Essentially, they use your already-spinning wheels as a power plant.

And the reason that slows your car is because

the more electricity you ask the wheels to create, the harder it is to turn the motor/generator. So, by adjusting the amount of electricity the wheels are producing at any moment, you can adjust the stopping power of the "regenerative brakes."

Most hybrids work this way: When you step on your brake pedal, the car engages your regenerative braking first.

So even though you think you're using traditional brakes by stepping on the brake pedal, most of the time, you're using the regenerative braking.

At some point, if the car needs more stopping power than the regenerative brakes can provide, the car switches over to — or adds in — your friction brakes. Software is supposed to make the switch undetectable to you.

And unlike brake pads, which are supposed to work by wearing themselves out and turning themselves into dust, regenerative braking doesn't wear out anything. You're just recapturing the extra kinetic energy of the car and making electricity with it. How much? Some cars can recoup 90% or more of rolling energy and turn it back into electricity.

In fact, it's not unusual for us to see 80,000-mile hybrid cars with brakes that look brand new.

So, actually, now that I think about it, your regenerative brakes are putting a real dent in my IRA, Kelly. So please feel free to use them less.

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ON THE JOB

LOU SAVIANO COMPOST COLLECTOR

Lou Saviano and his fiancée, Meagan Boucher, are the owners of Renewal Garden & Compost, a residential compost pick-up business serving the greater Manchester area.

Q: *Explain your job.*
Primarily, we collect food scraps from households, businesses and events [and] process the food scraps into compost to be used as a soil additive at farms and for gardening. ... We [also] offer backyard raised garden builds and vegetable and meat CSA delivery. Our goal is to divert waste from going into landfills and turn it into nutrient-rich soil ... to help support local farms.

How long have you had this job?
We started Renewal one year ago.

What led you to this career field and your current job?
I studied environmental science at the University of New Hampshire. When workplaces

started to shut down ... [and] my place of work quickly switched from an office to remote ... I gave the work-from-home a chance, which gave me a lot of time to reflect. ... I remembered why I had chosen to study environmental science. I wanted to work outdoors, but here I was, sitting at a computer. I realized I needed a change, and we started talking about starting our own business. ... There's a need for compost pick-up in Manchester and surrounding towns; many people don't have the space to do it themselves. It all seemed like a natural fit to begin this journey.

What kind of education or training did you need?
Although it wasn't necessary for starting a compost business, [studying at] UNH did provide a foundation for this passion. I was for-

tunate enough to work on both the organic and conventional dairy farms. What's required for starting a business is patience and perseverance. I've also obtained my certificate in solid waste management in order to process compost, according to New Hampshire DES rules.



Lou Saviano and fiancée Meagan Boucher. Courtesy photo.

What do you wish other people knew about your job?
Many people have heard about composting but aren't yet aware that we'll do the work for them. Our job is to make composting easy for households and businesses. Also, I'd like people to think of food scraps as useful material. If you switch to that mindset, we can

What is your typical at-work uniform or attire?
Wrangler [jeans in] Cowboy Cut, a Renewal T-shirt, good dirt-working boots, Darn Tough socks, a ballcap, sunglasses if it's hot and a flannel if it's cold.

divert waste from filling our landfills ... and turn it into nutrient-rich material.

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

What was the first job you ever had?
Market Basket cart collector extraordinaire.

Part of the fun of owning our own business is figuring out how we're going to solve problems that arise. One thing that has been interesting to troubleshoot is frozen compost in 64-gallon totes. ... In extremely cold temperatures, not all of the material can be emptied. At first we tried using hand tools to chip away at the frozen compost but quickly realized it was more efficient to invest in extra containers and switch the frozen ones out for empty ones, then store the frozen containers and wait until a warmer day [to empty them]. [Challenges] like this are what make the job interesting.

What's the best piece of work-related advice you've ever received?
No matter what it is [that you do], choose it.
— Angie Sykeny 🍌

Five favorites

- Favorite book:** *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* by Stephen Covey
- Favorite movie:** *The Fighter*
- Favorite music:** Country, [especially] Toby Keith
- Favorite food:** Lobster
- Favorite thing about NH:** The outdoors. We're so fortunate to have a ton of outdoor activity options with the White Mountains, the Atlantic Ocean and so many lakes, ponds and rivers all right here in the state.

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Whoopie!

A DEEP DIVE INTO THE NOSTALGIC TREAT AND ITS MANY SWEET VARIATIONS



Funny Bone whoopie pies from The Cake Fairy in Hooksett. Courtesy photo.

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

It started as a way to raise money for her daughters' synchronized swim teams — Heather Pfeifer of Goffstown made whoopie pies and presented them at bake sales to rave reviews. Eventually, she began serving pumpkin maple whoopie pies at the annual Goffstown Pumpkin Regatta; last year she sold out of nearly 1,000 before the event was over.

"People [in town] were going up to me and being like, 'Are you the pumpkin maple whoopie pie lady?' or they'd say, 'They're so good, where can I get them?'" Pfeifer said, "and I was just like, 'Well I don't know, I can bake some if you want.' ... I was cooking out of my kitchen for fun, but so many people were requesting where they could get them. So I started pursuing that."

Pfeifer is now the owner and founder of Granite State Whoopie Pies and takes weekly pre-orders of the nostalgic treat in all kinds of flavors. She works out of the prep kitchen at White Birch Eatery in Goffstown, mostly on Mondays and Tuesdays when it's closed for the day, and accepts requests to make any of her whoopie pies gluten-free, dairy-free or vegan.

With a regular offering of classic chocolate and vanilla or peanut butter, as well as two new special flavors released every two weeks, Pfeifer is proving that the whoopie pie can lend itself to all sorts of fun variations. Currently, she's celebrating St. Patrick's Day with chocolate and mint grasshopper and chocolate mocha Irish cream whoopie pies, while other flavors she's previously dabbled in have included black forest, milk and cookies, red velvet, and peanut butter and jelly. Sometimes

she'll incorporate local ingredients — her maple bacon whoopie pie, for instance, featured bacon crumbles from Shaker Road Provisions of Loudon, while just last month she made chocolate milk stout whoopie pies using the Summit stout from Goffstown's Mountain Base Brewery.

"I have a list of probably about 50 or 60 flavors ... and more come to mind every day," she said.

Similar whoopie pie flavor experiments have been going on in the kitchen of Angela's Pasta & Cheese Shop in Manchester. There you'll find all kinds of whoopie pie flavors on the shelf, and you never know what bakers Laura and Adam Rexford will come up with next, like lemon poppy strawberry, Fireball whiskey pumpkin, tiramisu, pineapple upside-down cake and more.

"This year, people have been buying whoopie pies like crazy," Laura Rexford

said. "I can't tell if it's that we're being more adventurous with flavors, or if people just want more comfort foods. ... I feel like a whoopie pie is so much easier to eat than a cupcake, because of the distribution of cake to frosting. It's almost like a sweet hamburger. The frosting is more contained."

From the treat's delicious creamy filling to the cakes surrounding it — which Pfeifer calls the "whookies," or "whoopie cookies" — we take a look at how some local whoopie pies are made, and also attempt to trace back its origins as a New England staple.

Flavors and fillings

Today, the most common whoopie pie filling features a vanilla or marshmallow buttercream. Jordyn Hotchkiss of The Cat's Pajamas, a home bakery based in Weare, said hers have a mixture of butter, confectioner's sugar, marshmallow Fluff and a



Photo courtesy of Granite State Whoopie Pies of Goffstown.



Photo courtesy of Angela's Pasta & Cheese Shop in Manchester.



Photo courtesy of The Cake Fairy in Hooksett. Courtesy photo.



Photo courtesy of The Cat's Pajamas of Weare.

little bit of vanilla. The filling for her peanut butter whoopie pies uses those same ingredients, in addition to creamy peanut butter, kosher salt and milk — both flavors are stocked weekly at the Weare Real Food Farmers Market.

Pfeifer's whoopie pies, meanwhile, have a roux-based filling, or a milk and flour thickener that's mixed with granulated sugar, vanilla, butter, Crisco and a little bit of salt.

"I would equate the flavor ... to almost like a Devil Dog," she said. "The granulated sugar actually melts right into the roux ... and what it does is it whips up so nice and fluffy, but it's not overpoweringly sweet. ... It creates this very light and creamy filling. It's a more traditional way, but it's not the most common way because it's not the most shelf-stable."

Pfeifer described her "whookies" as a thicker version of a muffin top, with a proper consistency resembling a brownie batter and a total baking time of around 10 to 12 minutes. Her roux is made first so that it has time to cool down once the cakes are baked.

Depending on the flavor she's working with, additional ingredients are added to either the cakes or the filling. As for the diet-friendly options, she'll substitute oat milk and plant-based butter for the dairy-

free pies, and Bob's Red Mill brand 1-to-1 flour blend for the gluten-free pies.

At Angela's, classic chocolate and vanilla or peanut butter whoopie pies are always in stock, each of which is made with a house buttercream recipe. Those are sold individually, or you can try one of the shop's themed duo packs — last month's, dubbed "The Romance Package," featured candied maple bacon and raspberry Frangelico-flavored whoopie pies. Currently available is the "Luck of the Irish" whoopie pie duo, with crème de menthe and milk chocolate Irish cream flavors. The shop also puts out bite-sized miniature whoopie pies in an assortment of flavors, sold in packs of a dozen each.

"Those have had a huge response," Rexford said. "I think people feel a little less guilty about the mini whoopie pies, because you can just pop them in your mouth. They're like little Munchkins."

In Hooksett, The Cake Fairy has been baking whoopie pies since before it even had a storefront, back when it had a booth at the Deerfield Fair, manager Brianna Luciano said.

"My mom would make these behemoth whoopie pies, like the size of a man's hand, and people would walk around the fair with them, and others would say, 'Oh, my gosh,

Homemade whoopie pies

Recipe courtesy of Jordyn Hotchkiss, owner and baker of The Cat's Pajamas in Weare (yields about nine or 10 whoopie pies, depending on your desired scoop size)

For the cake:

- ½ cup Crisco
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups flour
- 1½ teaspoons baking soda
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- ½ cup cocoa powder
- ½ teaspoon salt

Cream the Crisco, sugar and eggs. Add the milk and vanilla. Stir in the flour, baking soda, baking powder, cocoa powder and

salt. Use the desired size scoop to drop on cookie sheets with silicone baking sheets or parchment paper. Bake at 425 degrees for 10 minutes.

For the filling:

- 1 cup margarine
- 2 cups confectioner's sugar
- 2 cups marshmallow Fluff
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Cream the margarine and confectioner's sugar. Add the Fluff and vanilla.

Put together your whoopie pies and cream filling.



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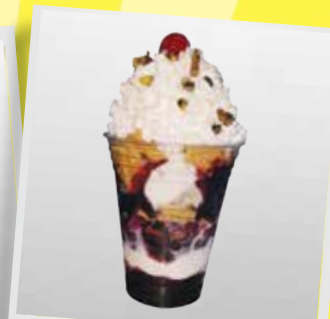
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where did you get that?” she said. “It got to the point where we’d get a delivery, and people were just taking them out of the box because we couldn’t even get them on the table fast enough.”

They no longer sell at the fair, but you can still get that familiar gigantic “Deerfielder” whoopie pie at the bakery, along with a few smaller sizes. In addition to the classic, there’s a Funny Bone whoopie pie with a chocolate cake and peanut butter filling, and a Boston cream whoopie pie with a

vanilla cake, chocolate ganache and a custard buttercream.

At The Cannoli Stop at The Candy Shop in Concord, owner Melinda Sergi has a regular assortment of fillings for her whoopie pies, from vanilla or chocolate cream to raspberry, peanut butter or pistachio. But she also takes things a step further by making whoopie pies with any one of the shop’s more than 50 flavors of cannoli fillings — those options run the gamut from cake batter and cookie dough to red velvet, bubble gum,

cotton candy, salted caramel and more.

Lemon cake whoopie pies are part of the regular lineup of products at Fabrizia Lemon Baking Co., an online-only bakery based in Salem featuring uniquely crafted limoncello-infused treats. Also in Salem, Chatila’s Sugar Free Bakery offers an assortment of sugar-free and dairy-free whoopie pie flavors using a fluffy French creme-based filling.

Competing claims

Multiple U.S. states claim to be the birthplace of the original whoopie pie. Two of those states in particular — Pennsylvania and Maine — are notably linked by their Amish heritage, Pfeifer said.

While there are several theories, according to at least one edition of *The Oxford Companion to American Food and Drink*, an encyclopedia edited by Andrew F. Smith and published by Oxford University Press,

Where to get whoopie pies

Check out this list of local bakeries, shops, homestead bakers and other businesses offering homemade whoopie pies, from the classic chocolate and vanilla or peanut butter to all kinds of unique flavors. Some have them on hand all the time, while others will rotate their whoopie pies out with other pastries and treats from their bakery case — be sure to contact each establishment directly for the most up-to-date availability on their products.

- **Angela’s Pasta & Cheese Shop** (815 Chestnut St., Manchester, 625-9544, angelaspastaandcheese.com) offers both large-sized whoopie pies and mini pies that are sold by the dozen, and you never know which flavors bakers Laura and Adam Rexford will be working on next. Classic and peanut butter are usually available, while other options have included lemon poppy strawberry, Fireball whiskey pumpkin, tiramisu, pineapple upside-down cake and more. Angela’s has also recently begun offering themed duo packages of whoopie pies — the current one available, a St. Patrick’s Day-themed duo called “Luck of the Irish,” features crème de menthe and milk chocolate Irish cream flavors.

- **Baked Downtown Cafe & Bakery** (1015 Elm St., Manchester, 606-1969; 249 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, 856-8871; bakeddowntown.com) offers classic, peanut butter and seasonal whoopie pie flavors.

- **The Bakeshop on Kelley Street** (171 Kelley St., Manchester, 624-3500, thebakeshoponkelleystreet.com) offers classic and brown sugar maple whoopie pies, as well as several specialty flavors throughout the year, like pumpkin, red velvet, pineapple upside-down cake and a Bailey’s-filled chocolate Guinness whoopie pie for St. Patrick’s Day.

- **Bearded Baking Co.** (819 Union St., Manchester, 647-7150, beardedbaking.com) offers multiple sweets treats out of its bakery case, usually including whoopie pies.

- **Benson’s Bakery & Cafe** (203 Central St., Hudson, 718-8683, bensonsbakeryandcafe.com) offers classic whoopie pies, in addition to seasonal specials for flavors.

- **Bite Me Kupcakez** (4 Mound Court, Merrimack, 674-4459, bitemekupcakez.com) has a variety of pastries and sweet treats out of its bakery case, usually including whoopie pies.

- **The Black Forest Cafe & Bakery** (212 Route 101, Amherst, 672-0500, theblackforestcafe.com) offers classic whoopie pies, as well as seasonal specials.

- **Buckley’s Bakery & Cafe** (436 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack, 262-5929; 9 Market Place, Hollis, 465-5522; buckleysbakerycafe.com) offers whoopie pies with whipped marshmallow frosting at both locations.

- **The Cake Fairy** (114 Londonderry Turnpike, Hooksett, 518-8733, cakefairynh.com) offers whoopie pies in a variety of flavors, like classic, Funny Bone, Boston cream and more, all in several sizes. The “Deerfielder” size is a throwback to the bakers’ days selling oversized whoopie pies at the Deerfield Fair, manager Brianna Lucciano said.

- **Candia First Stoppe Country Store** (285 Old Candia Road, Candia, 483-4888, candiafirststoppe.com) offers classic whoopie pies in small and medium sizes, as well as larger whoopie pies that are made to order.

- **The Cannoli Stop at The Candy Shop** (239 Loudon Road, Concord, 224-9706, thecannolistop.com) offers whoopie pies with a variety of fillings, from vanilla or chocolate cream to raspberry, peanut butter or pistachio. You can also order whoopie pies with any one of the shop’s more than 50 cannoli fillings, like cookie dough, red velvet or salted caramel.

- **The Cat’s Pajamas** (available at the Weare Real Food Farmers Market, 65 N. Stark Hwy., Weare, catspajamasnh@gmail.com, and on Facebook @catspajamasnh) offers classic and peanut butter whoopie pies, as well as a pumpkin whoopie pie that’s available seasonally.

- **Chatila’s Sugar Free Bakery** (380 S. Broadway, Salem, 898-5459, sugarfreebakery.net) has several sugar-free whoopie pie options, like classic, pumpkin spice, red velvet and more.

- **Crosby Bakery** (51 E. Pearl St., Nashua, 882-1851, crosbybakerynh.com) has whoopie pies available most days, as part of its lineup of freshly baked pastries and sweet treats.

- **The Crust and Crumb Baking Co.** (126 N. Main St., Concord, 219-0763, thecrustandcrumb.com) usually offers three or four whoopie pie flavors to choose from daily, like classic and salted caramel, as well as a blueberry cake with lemon filling and a raspberry cake with coconut filling. Ice cream-filled whoopie pies are also available seasonally.

- **Dulces Bakery** (87 Amherst St., Manchester, 606-2613, find them on Facebook @dulcesbakerynh) offers multiple options on its pastry menu, usually including whoopie pies.

- **Duston’s Bakery & Deli** (153 Portland Ave., Dover, 742-2506, dustonsmarket.com) has classic whoopie pies, as well as pumpkin

seasonally, in addition to a few other flavors.

- **Fabrizia Lemon Baking Co.** (Salem, fabrizialemonbakingcompany.com) offers lemon cake whoopie pies, baked with Fabrizia Spirits limoncello worked into the batter. They’re wrapped two per pack and available for online ordering only.

- **Frederick’s Pastries** (109 Route 101A, Amherst, 882-7725; 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 647-2253; pastry.net) offers several flavors of whoopie pies, including dark chocolate and chocolate chunk cookie. Miniature whoopie pies are also available.

- **Good to the Last Krumb** (Hudson, find them on Facebook @goodtothelastkrumbnh) offers multiple sweet treats available for pre-order, including whoopie pies. They can also usually be found at Mack’s Apples (230 Mammoth Road, Londonderry) and Estey’s Country Store (9 Old Nashua Road, Londonderry).

- **Granite State Whoopie Pies** (Goffstown, granitestatewhoopiepies.com) offers classic and peanut butter whoopie pies, as well as a selection of two specialty flavors that rotate out every two weeks, available for pre-order by the dozen as regular or miniature sizes. Currently available are chocolate and mint grasshopper and chocolate mocha Irish cream whoopie pies. Any flavor can also be made gluten-free, dairy-free or vegan. Weekly orders are due by Friday for pickup the following Wednesday through Saturday, between 7 a.m. and 1 p.m., at White Birch Eatery (571 Mast Road, Goffstown). Single-serve pies are also available for purchase there, as well as at Little Red Hen Farm & Homestead (85 Norris Road, Pittsfield). Find owner and founder Heather Pfeifer with her whoopie pies at Mountain Base Brewery (553 Mast Road, Goffstown) on Thursday, March 17, from 4 to 8 p.m., and at the Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market (7 Eagle Square) on Saturday, March 19, from 9 a.m. to noon.

- **Harvey’s Bakery and Coffee Shop** (376 Central Ave., Dover, 742-6029, harveysbakery.com) offers several specialty pastries and sweet treats, including whoopie pies.

- **It’s All Good in the Kitchen** (184 N. Broadway, Salem, 458-7434, itsallgoodgf.com) is a specialty gluten-free bakery offering a wide array of treats, usually including whoopie pies.

- **Just Like Mom’s Pastries** (353 Riverdale Road, Weare, 529-6667, justlikemomspastries.com) offers dozens of traditional and specialty whoopie pie flavors and flavor combinations.

- **Klemm’s Bakery** (29 Indian Rock Road,



Photo courtesy of Sully’s Superette in Allenstown.

Windham, 437-8810, klemmsbakery.com) offers a wide array of pastries and sweet treats daily, usually including whoopie pies.

- **Purple Finch Cafe** (124 S. River Road, Bedford, 232-1953, purplefinchcafe.com) offers several specialty flavors of whoopie pies that are usually rotated out, from chocolate chip with vanilla to red velvet, maple cream and more.

- **The Red Arrow Diner** (61 Lowell St., Manchester, 626-1118; 112 Loudon Road, Concord, 415-0444; 137 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, 552-3091; 149 Daniel Webster Hwy., Nashua, 204-5088; redarrowdiner.com) offers classic whoopie pies, as well as red velvet and pumpkin whoopie pies that are available seasonally.

- **The Red Blazer Restaurant & Pub** (72 Manchester St., Concord, 224-4101, theredblazer.com) offers both large and small whoopie pies on its dessert menu, as well as a whoopie pie cake on its bakery menu, featuring chocolate cake layered with the classic whoopie pie filling and finished with chocolate ganache and a white chocolate drizzle.

- **Sully’s Superette** (39 Allenstown Road, Allenstown, 485-9955; 10 N. Mast St., Goffstown, 497-8176; sullysuperette.com) offers classic whoopie pies at both locations.

- **Wild Orchid Bakery** (836 Elm St., Manchester, 935-7338, wildorchidbakery.com) has a rotating selection of pastries and sweet treats out of its bakery case, including whoopie pies.

- **Zizza Authentic Pizzeria** (653 Elm St., Milford, 249-5767, zizzapizza.com) offers multiple flavors of whoopie pies on its dessert menu. 🍷

it's generally accepted that the first whoopie pie originated around the era of the Great Depression. The story goes that the cakes were made from a leftover batter, contributor Susan McLellan Plaisted writes, and, according to Amish legend, kids would find the cream-filled treats in their lunch bags and yell "whoopie!" with delight, giving them their name.

A bakery in Lewiston, Maine, called Labadie's claims to be "the home of Maine's first whoopie pie," with a recipe dating back to 1925, according to its website. Another possible clue into how the treat became so popular in New England involves the Massachusetts-based Durkee Mower Co., the manufacturer of marshmallow Fluff. According to its website, an episode of a 1930s weekly radio show called "Flufferettes" promoted *The Yummy Book*, a book of various recipes using Fluff as the cornerstone ingredient — one of those was, of course, for whoopie pies.

But who exactly was the first to create the sweet treat, and where, is likely lost to history.

"It's like saying who made pizza first," Lucciano said. "In reality, it's a form of chocolate cake and a delicious filling. We all had the same ingredients, but whose grandmother did it first?"

Both Pennsylvania and Maine hold annual whoopie pie festivals — Maine's is set to return on June 25 to the town of Dover-Foxcroft, featuring samples from various bakers across the state, while Pennsylvania's is held at the Hershey Farm Restaurant & Inn in Lancaster County in September. Since 2011, the whoopie pie has been honored as Maine's official "state treat."

While there are no large whoopie pie-centered festivals in the Granite State, Pfeifer does have a few upcoming local appearances where you can go to enjoy her whoopie pies. Find her at Mountain Base Brewery on Thursday, March 17, from 4 to 8 p.m., serving her classic, peanut butter, grasshopper and Irish cream flavors. Then on Saturday, March 19, she'll be participating in the Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to noon. More events are in the works for the coming weeks and months.

Whoopie pies at home

A simple whoopie pie recipe uses ingredients easily within reach in your kitchen.

"It's a process ... because you have the two separate parts of it," Hotchkiss said. "I use Crisco, sugar, eggs, milk, vanilla, flour, baking soda, baking powder, cocoa powder and a little bit of salt, and that's just for the cake itself. ... The oven actually gets pre-heated to 425, so it's a bit of a hotter bake, and they only have to bake for about 10 minutes each."

When baking them at home, Hotchkiss said, it's important to make sure the cakes are spaced out enough so that they don't spread into each other. She places either a silicone baking sheet or a piece of parch-



Photo courtesy of Chatila's Sugar Free Bakery in Salem.



Photo courtesy of The Cannoli Stop at The Candy Shop in Concord.

ment paper on the baking pan to prevent sticking and help with their removal.

"Generally, once I get the cake part of it all done, I let them cool for a few minutes and then I start with my filling," she said, "because they need to be fully cooled before you put them together; otherwise the filling will just start to melt. ... Personally, I love having Fluff in them."

Rather than spreading the filling over both cake halves, Hotchkiss said she likes to scoop it on just one and pushes the two parts together to finish the whoopie pie.

"It just makes for a good ratio, in my opinion," she said. "Everyone has their own viewpoint of how much cream to cake there should be ... but for the most part they're relatively even."

The pies remain fresh when wrapped for roughly a week, or you can freeze them.

"A friend of mine actually discovered that they freeze really well, so that was good to find out," Hotchkiss said. "So if you don't want to eat them right away, they can go in the freezer and then, when you're ready to eat it, it will thaw out no problem." 🍓

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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Make it maple:** It's **New Hampshire Maple Month**, and several farms and sugarhouses across the Granite State will once again be welcoming visitors for multiple weekends of tours, demonstrations, tastings and family activities, all revolving around local maple syrup production. At Ben's Sugar Shack (83 Webster Hwy., Temple), for instance, maple sugaring tours start the weekend of Saturday, March 5, and Sunday, March 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with free tours of the premises beginning every 15 minutes. Samples will be provided and items will be available inside the gift shop, including everything from maple syrup to maple cotton candy, fudge, roasted nuts, doughnuts and more. For a walk back through time, check out one of the sugar camp hiking tours being offered at Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road) on Saturdays, March 12, March 19 and March 26, at 1 p.m. Local land surveyor Mark Stevens will lead guests on a tour to the Shakers' remote sugar camp, where they produced maple syrup each year. A full list of local sugarhouses participating in New Hampshire Maple Month (including New Hampshire Maple Weekend, set for Saturday, March 19, and Sunday, March 20) can be found on the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association website at nhmapleproducers.com.

• **Bowlfuls of deliciousness:** The ninth annual **soup/chili/chowder cook-off** is happening at Epsom Central School (282 Black Hall Road, Epsom) on Monday, March 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. Dozens of local soup, chili and chowder makers will participate in this friendly competition to raise money for various student activities at the school. Winners from each of the three categories receive a "Souper Bowl" trophy, and the top vote getter also wins a \$50 Visa gift card. Two People's Choice recipients from each category are awarded ribbons. The cost to attend the cook-off as a taster is \$8 for adults and \$6 for kids ages 10 and under, and includes access to up to 10 four-ounce sampling cups for adults and up to five samples for kids, along with sides of cornbread. Tickets will be sold at the door while supplies last. For more details, see "9th annual ECS Soup/Chili/Chowder Cook-off" on Facebook, or find our story about the event on page 25 of the Hippo's Feb. 10 issue.

• **New date for Amherst chili cook-off:**

A new date has been set for the Amherst Lions Club's annual **Fire & Ice chili cook-off and ice cream social**, which was originally scheduled for Feb. 4 but postponed due to rising Covid numbers. Amherst Lion Joan Ferguson said the event will now be held on Friday, March 11, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Amherst Middle School (14 Cross Road). This will be the first in-person cook-off in two years following last year's pre-recorded "virtual" event. Local restaurateurs and community members compete for the title of the best chili in one of three categories, and winners are awarded an engraved trophy and bragging rights for a year. Admission is \$8 for adults and free for kids under 5, or \$25 per family of four, with proceeds benefiting local charities selected by the Lions Club. Visit e-clubhouse.org/sites/amherstnh or follow them on Facebook @ [amherstnhlionsclub](https://www.facebook.com/amherstnhlionsclub).

• **Spring into healthy eating:** Local Baskit (10 Ferry St., Suite 120A, Concord) is offering its next **Instant Pot series**, a seven-week program featuring various pressure cooker meals, from the week of March 7 through April 18. The theme is "spring and speed," with quick and healthy options designed for those with busy and active lifestyles. The seven-week series includes all of the pre-measured (and, in some cases, pre-chopped) ingredients for each meal, along with complete instructions and a tested recipe serving three to five. Meals include teriyaki chicken, butternut squash farro risotto, lemon mustard chicken with potatoes, vegan white bean stew, cashew chicken, curried spring vegetable potato chaat, and fig and pig quiche. The cost is \$64 for the full seven weeks. Dinners can be picked up at Local Baskit or can be delivered to select towns on Tuesdays or Wednesdays — visit localbaskit.com for the full list of drop-off locations.

• **Tastes from the trucks:** Tickets to this year's **Great Bay Food Truck Festival** will go on sale beginning Monday, March 7. The second annual event will return for the first time since 2019 on Saturday, May 7, from noon to 5 p.m. at Stratham Hill Park (270 Portsmouth Ave., Stratham). The rain-or-shine festival is being organized by the Stratham Parks and Recreation department in conjunction with the Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce, and will feature dozens of food trucks and vendors, as well as lawn games, live music and more. Admission starts at \$5, while all available foods and drinks are priced per item. Visit greatbayfoodtruckfestival.com. 🍷

IN THE KITCHEN
WITH **MATT ROMANO**



Matt Romano of Manchester is the owner of Grace's Kitchen Pizza Truck (find them on Facebook @graceskitchen603), which launched last fall. Named after Romano's paternal grandmother, a major influence on his life and cooking, Grace's Kitchen Pizza Truck features a menu of specialty pizzas available in a variety of flavors, as well as other items like hand-breaded chicken tenders, loaded Tater Tots, french fries and fried Oreos. The truck has parked at multiple spots across southern New Hampshire, like J&F Farms in Derry and Over the Moon Farmstead in Pittsfield, as well as in the Merrimack Valley and North Shore areas of Massachusetts. Romano is also booked to appear at several upcoming festivals this spring and summer, including Intown Concord's annual Market Days Festival this June. Weekly posts on the truck's whereabouts are updated on its Facebook page. Grace's Kitchen Pizza Truck is also available to book for private events and parties.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

I would say a ladle. Especially with pizza, a ladle is very important when it comes to spreading on the sauces, and then I also use it for other menu items, whether it's covering chicken tenders in Buffalo sauce or teriyaki sauce, or covering tater tots in cheese or gravy.

What is your favorite thing on your menu?

That would be one of our specialty pizzas, which is called the Mac 10. It's a spinoff of a fast food favorite with a little bit of a kick. ... We do 19-inch round pizzas and we sell them by the slice.

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

I don't know if it's just me being new to the market, but it seems like food trucks are on fire this year. ... The reason why I got into them was because I love how they give people a chance to really show off their menu to a large crowd in a small area. You go to a food truck festival and you can choose from 20 to 30 different types of food ... and each chef is homing in on whatever they want and making it the best that it can possibly be.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

I love making my own Greek marinated chicken and making some sort of kebab or healthy salad with it from scratch.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

What would you have for your last meal?

My mom's macaroni pie. It's a recipe that's been passed down a couple of generations, starting with my nana, down to my mom, and now I've been tweaking it.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

The Crazy Noodle [House] in Londonderry. The food there is awesome, it's always so fresh, and the service is always great. ... I take my niece and nephew there usually about once a month or so, and they love it.

What celebrity would you like to see ordering from your truck?

Jon Favreau. He had that movie, *Chef*, which revolves around a food truck, and he's got a great TV show on Netflix too that's based off of that.

Easy chicken broccoli alfredo casserole

Courtesy of Matt Romano of Grace's Kitchen Pizza Truck

- 1 pound chicken breast, cut into one-inch pieces
- 2 broccoli crowns, chopped
- 1 pound penne or similar pasta
- 3 cups alfredo sauce
- 2 cups ricotta
- 2 cups mozzarella
- ¼ cup grated Parmesan
- Salt and pepper to taste

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Boil pasta to al dente. Saute chicken in a pan. Combine chicken, pasta, broccoli, alfredo sauce and ricotta in a large bowl and mix thoroughly. Add mixture to a casserole dish. Layer mozzarella and then Parmesan on top of the casserole. Bake for 40 minutes or until the top begins to brown.



TRY THIS AT HOME

Frosted apricot biscotti

This week is Recipe No. 2 in my three-week biscotti series. Last week was all about maple syrup season; this week is an any-time-of-year recipe. The focal flavor in the biscotti is apricot. What makes it a year-round recipe is that it uses dried fruit.

You may think to yourself, "Let's be creative and use fresh apricots!"

That is the one caveat to this recipe. You must use dried apricots. Biscotti are meant to be fairly dry cookies. If you use fresh fruit, it imparts too much moisture, which negatively affects the structure of the dough.

Speaking of the dryness of biscotti, I have met a person or two who prefers a slightly softer cookie. There is a simple way to remedy that. In the second phase of baking, when the biscotti are cut into slices, you can reduce the time by a minute or two per side. The only tricky part is to make sure the slices are fully baked. You want some softness, not raw treats.

Whether you like your biscotti tradi-



Frosted apricot biscotti. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

tionally dry or slightly softer, this recipe produces a nice apricot-centric snack.

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.

Frosted apricot biscotti

Makes 28

- 1/3 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1 1/4 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup diced dried apricot
- 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 Tablespoon milk

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Beat butter and sugar in the bowl of a stand mixer on speed 2 for 2 minutes.

Add eggs, one at a time, beating until smooth.

Stir in vanilla extract.

In a separate bowl, combine flour, baking powder and salt.

Add flour mixture to wet ingredients and blend until fully combined.

Stir diced apricots into dough.

Divide dough in half.

Shape each half into a 10" x 3" rectangle, using floured hands.

Set loaves 4 inches apart on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet.

Bake for 30 minutes or until the dough is set.

Leaving the oven on, remove the biscotti loaves and cool for 15 minutes on the baking sheet.

Using a butcher knife, cut the loaves into diagonal slices, 1/2" thick.

Place the slices on the baking sheet with the cut sides down.

Bake for 9 minutes.

Turn over slices, and bake for 8 to 9 minutes more.

Remove biscotti from the oven, and allow to cool completely on a baking rack.

Place powdered sugar in a small bowl, and add milk, 1 teaspoon at a time, until a thick glaze is formed.

Coat each biscotti slice with glaze.

Allow glaze to set, placing in the refrigerator to speed the set, if desired.

Store in a sealed container.

Food & Drink Local farmers markets

• **Contoocook Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, at Maple Street Elementary School (194 Maple St., Contoocook). Find them on Facebook @ [contoocookfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/contoocookfarmersmarket).

• **Deering Winter Market** is Fridays, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the

Deering Fish & Game Club (Long Woods and Fish and Game roads).

Find them on Facebook @ [deering-wintermarket](https://www.facebook.com/deering-wintermarket).

• **Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, at 7 Eagle Square in Concord, through April. Find them on Facebook @ [downtownconcordwinterfarmers-market](https://www.facebook.com/downtownconcordwinterfarmers-market).

• **Milford Farmers Market** is every other Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., inside the Milford Town Hall Auditorium (Union Square), through April 9. The next one is March 12. Visit milfordnhfarmersmarket.com.

• **Salem Farmers Market** is Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at LaBelle Winery (14 Route 111, Derry), through April 24. Visit salemnhfarmersmarket.org.

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FOOD



DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

Lion with a straight face

It's not spring yet.

Count on spring at this point, and you'll only get your heart broken. There are at least two more blizzards and a lot of mud before spring gets here.

But there are hints. Whispers of hints. Whispers of innuendos of hints.

An afternoon where you can get the mail in shirtsleeves.

Old guys in the library parking lot talking about sugaring equipment.

Parts — only parts at this point, don't get too excited — of your front steps are bare of snow and dry.

We're still in the lion part of "In like a lion; out like a lamb."

So I went looking for a lion-themed cocktail, and found something promising called a Lion's Tail — a sort of a cross between a whiskey sour and a daiquiri, with front notes of bourbon and hope, and back notes of loneliness and bitter disappointment.

It's good — very good — but with two small issues:

(1) It calls for bourbon, which is a good idea. Bourbon can be caramel-y and delicious and add a note of class to the proceedings. But I'm out of bourbon, and I can't afford the good stuff, anyway. (You can fake your way through a lot of drinks with bottom-shelf rum or gin, but in my experience, most bourbon doesn't get good until it is physically painful to pay for.)

(2) It calls for a specialty liqueur called allspice dram — a low-octane but very flavorful ingredient. As it turns out, I do have a bottle of it at the very back of my liquor cabinet — a relic of a short-lived but intense tiki phase I went through a year or so ago — but seriously, who else is going to have this kicking around?

So let's see what we can do to replicate this with more proletarian ingredients:

Step 1 — Make the original cocktail with more-or-less original ingredients.

** Sound of clattering. "Mumble, mumble ..." Measuring ... **

"Google, how many dashes to fluid ounce?"

"Blah, blah ... Was this answer helpful to you?"

"No! Not even a little bit! ... Wait! I meant teaspoons..."

** More clattering, mumbling. Finally, the sound of a cocktail shaker, then pouring. **

Verdict: This is very good. The allspice is a big deal. Huh, go figure.

Step 2 — Replicating the recipe

Lion's Butt Cocktail

Ingredients

Syrup — ¼ cup sugar, ¼ cup water, 20 allspice berries, cracked in a mortar and pestle
2 ounces rye



Photo by John Fladd.

¾ ounce allspice syrup
½ ounce fresh squeezed lime juice
¼ tsp. angostura bitters

Combine sugar, water and allspice berries to a very small saucepan and stir, bring to a boil. Remove from heat and allow to steep for 30 minutes. Strain and set aside.

Combine rye, allspice syrup, lime juice and bitters with ice in a cocktail shaker.

Shake thoroughly, until you hear the ice splintering.

Strain into a coupé glass.

Verdict: Very nice, indeed.

The original cocktail was heavy on the allspice, which totally works — especially this time of year. For a tropical spice, it suits winter weather very well. This — I won't say "knockoff" — er, *tribute* version is a little more lime-forward and a skosh less sweet. (I've grown to really like rye. I'm not sure why that's surprising to me, but it is. But then again, almost-spring is a surprising time of year.) The rye works well with the lime, which works well with the slightly spicy syrup. Could this be slightly cloying and too sweet? Yes, but it is saved by the bitters swooping in, wearing a cape, and deflecting the sweetness.

If you find yourself with a warm afternoon, you might want to call in sick to that last video conference of the day, drag an easy chair out to the deck, and drink three of these while listening to songs you listened to while making questionable decisions in your youth.

The kids can eat cereal.

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

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Embrace the blend

A mix of grapes can produce one interesting bottle

By Fred Matuszewski
food@hippopress.com

We are all familiar with wines classified by the grapes used to make them — merlot, cabernet sauvignon, sangiovese — and wines named by their place of origin — Rhine, Bordeaux — but what does a label that reads “red blend” mean?

As its name implies, it is a wine produced from the blending of two or more varietals of grapes. The blending of grapes is steeped in the history and tradition of European winemaking, dating to at least the 17th century with the origin of modern wines as we know them today. Bordeaux wines are classic blended wines, the reds consisting of combinations of merlot or cabernet sauvignon, along with cabernet franc and petit verdot added in smaller quantities, and the whites generally consisting of sauvignon blanc, to which semillon is added to temper the citric, and more specifically grapefruit, notes of the sauvignon blanc. These blends date to the 18th century.

The concept and development of single varietal wines in America in the second half of the 20th century migrated to Europe, South Africa and Australia. To the extreme, some vintners have produced single vineyard varietals to showcase the strengths they feel those particular vineyards have. This is all a matter of opinion, and all these wine-making styles are welcome to the table. In a good wine, the blending of varietals is intended not to cover the deficiencies of the “lead varietal” but to add to the complexity of the whole. The blending of varietals is both a science and an art. The vintner must know the strengths of the grapes before him, but the vintner must also be able to know when to blend — at the fermentation of the grapes, or after they have become wine. The vintner must also have a deft touch to know just how much of which varietal to add to create not only a drinkable wine but a memorable wine.

Our first blended wine is the **2017 Domaine du Grand Montmirail Gignondas ‘Le Coteau de Mon Rêve’** (at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets, originally priced at \$59.99, reduced to \$25.99) is a blend that comes from the Rhone River Valley of Southern France. With a dark red color and nose of cherry and plum, this wine comes to the tongue with a full mouth feel of blackberry, plum and cherry, with notes of chocolate and a bit of leather. It is composed of 75 percent grenache, 20 percent syrah and 5 percent mourvèdre.



Denis Cheron acquired the Domaine du Grand Montmirail in the 1960s. The estate vineyards are 59 acres, set on terraces, planted in 50-year-old grenache vines, along with 20-year-old syrah and mourvèdre vines. This is a sophisticated, plush wine to be enjoyed with beef, lamb or game, now, or it can be cellared over the coming decade.

Our second blended wine is the **2016 Darcie Kent Vineyards Firepit Red** (available at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets, originally priced at \$40.99, reduced to \$19.99), a blend that comes from Livermore, just east of the San Francisco Bay. To the nose we sense raspberry, blackberry and cherry flavors that carry to the tongue with additional notes of oak and spices. Gentle tannins persist to a long finish of cassis and nutmeg. The oak nuances come from 24 months in new and used French oak barrels.

This is a blend of malbec, zinfandel, cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, petite sirah and merlot. The proportions may vary from year to year. The zinfandel gives the wine its spiciness; the petite sirah its concentration of tannins. In fact, many makers of zinfandel add petite sirah to quiet the pepper in the zinfandel. It should be noted that the petite sirah grape has nothing in common with the syrah grape of our first wine!

So the blending of grapes and of the wine from those grapes opens new opportunities, new flavors, and other characteristics to be explored and savored. Try a blended wine with your next purchase. You will welcome the experience.

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

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- The Waymores, *Stone Sessions* A

- Howless, *To Repel Ghosts* A+

BOOKS pg31

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FILM pg32

- *Cyrano* B

The Waymores, *Stone Sessions* (Chicken Ranch Records)

I'm not big into latter-day "country music" (or so they call it) because it's usually so awful, evoking noisy tuneage for NASCAR commercials or WWE wrestler entrances, but if you've read this space for any amount of time, you know for a fact that I have the utmost reverence for things like genuine bluegrass and such. I'm not a monster; there are hallowed genres that are completely unassailable, and I

count traditional C&W in that number, including the vanishing breed of coed duos whose achievements are historic, like Johnny Cash/June Carter and Loretta Lynn/Conway Twitty. This LP aims for a similar down-home honky tonk/country-pop vibe, and though it's professed to have blues and folk elements, it's more like a sonic homage, songs about whisky, cheating, road life and all that stuff, and it does nail it with some great songs. "Asleep At The Wheel" fiddler Katie Shore helps out on "Caught." A — *Eric W. Saeger*

Howless, *To Repel Ghosts* (Static Blooms Records)

Wow, my favorite new record of this young year, right here. This female-fronted Mexico City quartet offers a noise-pop/dream-pop style that's part Jesus And Mary Chain, early Cure and New Order, dipped in 24-karat gold production values and — this is the best part — born of a certain innocent, anti-punk Go-Go's-ish je ne sais quoi. The guitars sparkle like an autumn river over

heavily saturated synth layers, all driven by the faraway, shoegaze-ish singing of Dominique Sanchez and Mauricio Tinejro, altogether just the system you'd want if you were trying to resurrect '80s alt-pop but keep it fresh, gorgeous and no-nonsense. Lyrically it's about such things as "questioning our place on earth," "the bit-terness of saying goodbye to someone who hasn't yet left your psyche," and "human self sabotage" — no dummies, these people, and that's a rare thing in an indie scene overrun with bored hipsters who just bought their first guitars a week ago. Fantastic stuff all around. A+ — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

- March 4 is dead ahead, y'all, and the warm weather isn't too far away, all you have to do is get through a few weeks more! So let's get to the albums that will be released on that fateful day, oh great, look, there's not a lot, but I shall make do with what little nonsense has been handed to me, starting with *Oochya*, the new LP from Welsh indie-rawk band **Stereophonics**! You may be familiar with this band from their 2003 single "Maybe Tomorrow," which rose to No. 5 on Billboard's U.S. Adult Alternative Songs chart. If you're not sure what that is, picture Rod Stewart singing the most boring Black Crowes/Train mashup you could imagine, and then picture it being even more tuneless. Yes, that tune, please try to stay awake so we can talk about this new album, which has a single, called "Hanging On Your Hinges." The video has a bunch of cheap art that's sort of playing-card oriented, like there are art deco devils and waitresses and whatever this other stuff is, and the music is sort of throwback boogie, like if Jet spent too much time listening to Bo Diddley but was trying to be as cool as The Hives, something like that. As always, there is little in the way of melody here, just empty-calorie music for Uber drivers to fall asleep to while waiting for their fares to get their acts together. The only comparable song that comes to mind is like a rockabilly version of Ramones' "Freak Of Nature," but you readers have probably never heard that song — my god, why am I even bothering trying to describe this stupid song, let's forget this ever happened and move on to something else, anything that isn't the Stereophonics.

- Oh, no. No. If you could see me right now, you'd see that I am clutching my chest like Fred Sanford from *Sanford & Son*, because "Elizabeth, I'm comin' to ya," things just got even worse: Just when I was recovering from the new Stereophonics album, will you look at this, now I have to pretend to care about Vancouver-based surf-indie Bonnaroo-bums **Peach Pit**, whose third album, *From 2 To 3*, is here. OK, let's calm down, the single "Vickie" isn't all that bad, it's jangly and has a stupid tremolo-or-something effect going on in one of the guitar layers, and it's a happy song about walking around on a sidewalk or something. The singer kind of sounds like Kermit the Frog. You know, if you ever went back in time to the 1980s or before that and played this idiotic waste of musical notes to someone and told them people would be buying this record, you would have been locked up in a padded cell. I can't believe how much lower the bar goes every single week, people, I mean it's — haunting. Next.

- Yay, guys, it's **Nilüfer Yanya**'s new album, *Painless*, I'm not kidding! And who is Nilüfer Yanya? I don't know, let's find out together! Here it is, she's a singer from London, and she turned down a gig in a girl-group that was going to be produced by Louis Tomlinson of One Direction. Hm, we may have something here, supposedly she sounds like Siouxsie from Siouxsie and the Banshees, so let's give a spin to the tune "Stabilize," maybe it's like "Hall Of Mirrors" or something else cool. Nope, she doesn't sound like Siouxsie, she sounds like Lorde but mumbly and sleepy. The beat is spazzy but aimless, like a British grime fan's idea of Siouxsie if Siouxsie had been into skateboarding and whatever.

- We'll close with *Crystal Nuns Cathedral*, the 228th album in the past five months from **Guided by Voices**, in other words the last bunch of crummy demos from songwriting-addicted Robert Pollard. Yup, as I expected, the single "Excited Ones" is boring and stupid, sounding like an old demo The Cars made and then recorded over because they hated it. If Pollard ever writes a good song I'll weep with joy. — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

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How to Be Perfect, by Michael Schur (Simon & Schuster, 265 pages)

As television sitcoms go, *The Good Place* was rather remarkable. The NBC show, which premiered in 2016 and aired for four years, had all the typical goofiness of low-brow comedy but was based on high-brow ideas: What does it mean to be a good person? Why should we care? And, of all the prevailing philosophical schools of thought on the matter, which ones are true and most relevant today?

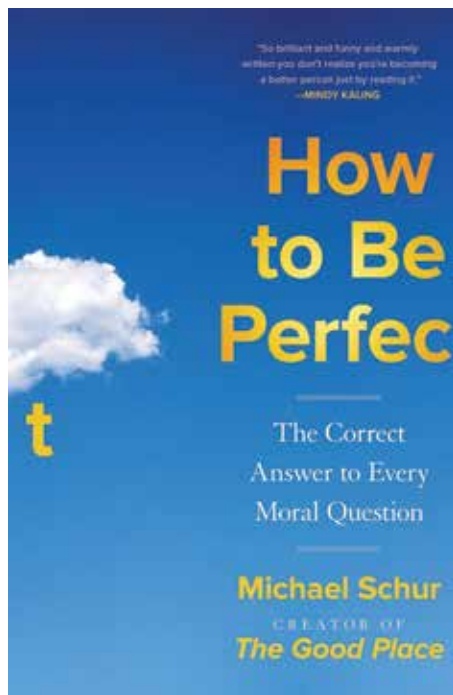
These are tough themes to take on in 30 minutes minus commercials, but Michael Schur succeeded in creating a star-making show that worked on both levels and managed to elevate relatively obscure philosophy books into the mainstream (most notably, retired Harvard professor T.M. Scanlon's *What We Owe To Each Other*). Now Schur has written a book of his own, a summary of the ethical frameworks he studied when developing *The Good Place*. It is, in many ways, a sitcom of a book, as Schur applies a vaudevillian touch to topics rarely taken that lightly: among them, existentialism.

Parts have a slapstick quality that would quickly grow tiresome but for Schur's true comic gifts and his willingness to question his own moral judgments, among them his struggle to reconcile his admiration of Woody Allen's work with revelations of the filmmaker's personal life.

The punchlines begin on the book's cover, in which the title is hysterically imperfect; it leaves off the "t" in "perfect." (The subtitle, "the correct answer to every moral question," also reveals itself to be a joke, because Schur's ultimate aim isn't to answer all the big questions, but rather to give readers the framework for thinking about them, and in fact, to insist that we think about them.) They continue through the acknowledgments, in which Schur peppers his thanks to friends and colleagues with random facts. (Einstein used a \$1,500 check as a bookmark, then lost the book; moose in the Western Yukon appear to have parties for each other.)

Along the way, Schur unpacks the thinking of the likes of Immanuel Kant, Bertrand Russell, Maimonides, Aristotle, William James, Jean-Paul Sartre, Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill, all names with which any graduate of a U.S. high school should have at least a passing familiarity. He applies their ethical concepts to modern first-world dilemmas — Should I cheer for sports teams that have problematic names? Should I eat at Chick-Fil-A? Should I eat meat at all? — injecting personal anecdotes along the way, such as the angst he felt after spending \$800 for a baseball bat autographed by Red Sox players as a Christmas gift for his son.

In another story, he reveals that his interest in ethics pre-dates *The Good Place* by at least a decade. In 2005, the year of Hurricane Katrina, Schur's then fiancée (now wife) had a fender bender that resulted in an \$836 claim, despite the fact that the claimant's bumper



was barely scratched and the responding police officer said there was no damage. Schur was furious and offered to donate \$836 to Katrina relief if the man would drop the claim and continue to live with the indignity of having a scratch on his bumper.

While the man was thinking it over, Schur took his outrage to the internet and raised \$20,000 in pledges for Katrina relief if the bumper went unreplaced. "I had dreams of rescuing New Orleans all by myself, armed with nothing but a keyboard and a brilliant masterstroke of moral reasoning," he wrote. "And then I started to feel sick."

The "chirpings" of conscience began to nag at Schur and his fiancée, and he started consulting ethics books and philosophy professors about why his actions felt wrong and what he should do. While he still believed that the other driver was wrong to insist on replacing a barely scratched bumper, he came to believe that he was also wrong to subject the man to public shaming even if an auxiliary outcome (Katrina relief) was good. This experience led Schur into the rabbit hole of ethics that resulted in *The Good Place* and ultimately this book.

In 2019, Schur was asked to write the introduction to the re-release of controversial ethicist Peter Singer's book *The Life You Can Save*, and he wrote of it, "More important than what you feel when you read this book is what you will not feel: complacency. You will not feel like other people don't matter."

The same can be said of Schur's book, which may seem superficial (2,500 years of complex moral philosophy condensed into 265 pages — with jokes!) but in fact achieves the author's aim: to get us to think consciously about the mass of decisions that comprise our days, and to consider the ideas that could help us choose more wisely. Not because we think this might get us to a "good place" — this is a secular book, as was the show — but because, as Harvard's Scanlon said, this is something that we owe each other.

B+ — Jennifer Graham

BOOK NOTES

Some people choose books to read because they like the author; others, because they like the premise of the book. But have you ever chosen a book based on something the author said?

That happened to me this week when I read an interview with Brendan Slocumb, the author of the new novel *The Violin Conspiracy* (Anchor, 352 pages). I'd seen the book mentioned before, but it didn't catch my attention until I read in Publishers Weekly that Slocumb said, "I wanted to pull back the curtain and let everybody know this is how the sausage is made. Classical music is a very cutthroat profession, though it's especially tough for people of color."

Classical music a "very cutthroat profession"? Who knew? Suddenly I was interested. Slocumb, who lives in D.C., is a music educator and professional violinist who also founded a nonprofit and plays in a rock band. Yet he found the time to write a novel. Definitely worth checking out.

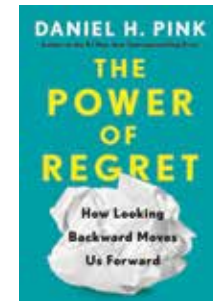
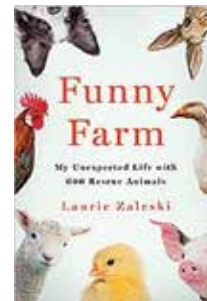
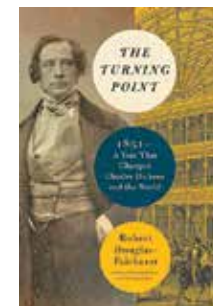
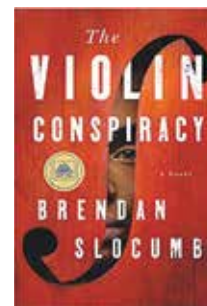
Other new releases of interest:

Fans of Charles Dickens will be interested in *The Turning Point* (Dekle Edge, 368 pages), nonfiction by Robert Douglas Fairhurst that examines how the events of one year — 1851 — changed and shaped the beloved novelist's career.

Funny Farm (St. Martin's Press, 256 pages) is Laura Zeleski's memoir of "my unexpected life with 600 rescue animals" and the story of how she, a graphic designer with government contracts, fulfilled her dying mother's dream of running a rescue.

Daniel Pink sorted through more than 15,000 self-reported regrets of people around the world and found something resembling redemption, chronicled in *The Power of Regret* (Riverhead, 256 pages). If nothing else, reading the regrets of others might make you feel better about your own.

And finally, this is not a new release, but worth checking out given recent world events: Anne Applebaum's *Red Famine* (Anchor, 466 pages), which examines another heartbreaking part of Ukraine's history, when Josef Stalin intentionally starved more than 3 million people in the region through sinister agricultural policies. — Jennifer Graham



Books

Author events

• **AZAR NAFISI** Author presents new book *Read Dangerously: The Subversive Power of Literature in Troubled Times*, in conversation with Jacki Lyden. Ticketed virtual event hosted by Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. Sat., March 19, 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$27 to \$31 and include a copy of the book. Held via Zoom. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com or call 224-0562.

• **HOWARD MANSFIELD** Author presents new book *Chasing Eden*. Sat., March 19, 9:45 to 11:45 a.m. Peterborough Town Library, 2 Concord St., Peterborough. Visit monadnockwriters.org.

• **EMMA LOEWE** Author presents new book *Return to Nature: The New Science of How Natural Landscapes Restore Us*, in conversation with author Hannah Fries. Virtual event hosted by Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. Wed., April 13, 7 p.m. Registration is required. Held via Zoom. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com or call 224-0562.

• **BECKY SAKELLERIOU AND HENRY WALTERS**

Becky Sakelleriou presents new book *The Possibility of Red*. Henry Walters presents new book *Field Guide A Tempo*. Sat., April 16, 9:45 to 11:45 a.m. Peterborough Town Library, 2 Concord St., Peterborough. Visit monadnockwriters.org.

• **ANNE HILLERMAN** Author presents new book *The Sacred Bridge*. Virtual event hosted by Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. Tues., April 19, 7 p.m. Held via Zoom. Registration is required. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com or call 224-0562.

Poetry

• **REBECCA KAISER** Poet presents *Girl as Birch*. Virtual event hosted by Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. Mon., April 11, 7 p.m. Held via Zoom. Registration is required. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com or call 224-0562.

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

Book Clubs

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cyrano (PG-13)

Peter Dinklage is the poet who woos with his words but fears he repels with his looks in the Joe Wright-directed *Cyrano*, an uneven but interesting adaptation of a stage musical.

Peter Dinklage has, of course, been charming as all heck since before he was fan favorite Tyrion Lannister on *Game of Thrones* so it's kind of a "nerd girl takes off glasses to reveal she's a supermodel"-level suspension of disbelief that women in general and Roxanne (Haley Bennett) in particular, portrayed here as kinda flighty and romantic in a way that would seem to make her attuned to men who adore her, wouldn't be smitten with the titular Cyrano.

But people are also singing and dancing in the streets, so it's one of a few things you gotta just go with here.

You probably know the outlines of the story: In olden days France, noted poet, wit and swashbuckling dueler Cyrano loves Roxanne, an orphan who needs one of those advantageous marriages to stay financially solvent but who dreams of True Love. And she thinks she's found it when she falls in love at first sight with Christian (Kelvin Harrison Jr.), a new guy in Cyrano's regiment. She rushes to tell her dear friend Cyrano about this romantic thunderbolt — breaking Cyrano's heart just a little because he clearly hoped that maybe her romantic realization was her love for him. But Cyrano is so in love and so friendzoned that he agrees to help Roxanne meet Christian and look after him as the new guy in the army barracks.

Christian, who was also enchanted when he first saw Roxanne, is delighted with Cyrano's help. But he doesn't have the words to win Roxanne over, so he takes help from Cyrano — using Cyrano's sincere love letters to Roxanne (Christian doesn't quite



Cyrano

realize how sincere) and the lines Cyrano feeds Christian when he talks to Roxanne from beneath her window balcony, *Romeo & Juliet* style. Cyrano is willing to do it because he feels like his height gives him no chance with Roxanne.

So, basically, these two guys are olden days catfishing Roxanne but as they are both pretty decent we're OK with it? Her bigger problem is her relationship with powerful noble De Guiche (Ben Mendelsohn). He's a vindictive, grabby jerk whom she's reluctantly been hanging out with and he has the power to put both Cyrano and Christian in harm's way.

"Nimble" was how I found myself thinking of this movie's wordplay and general mood (and Dinklage's overall performance), especially in scenes between Roxanne and Cyrano or Christian and Cyrano, where the dramatic irony gives us a Cyrano's-eye-view at everybody's thoughts and feelings and gives an extra bit of double-edged wit to his lines. It's subtle and delicate in a way that gives a lightness even to heartbreak.

These elements also at times feel stagey in a way that I think would work if it were on an actual stage, with an audience's laughter and responses serving as the setting of this party and pulling it all together. On screen, you sometimes get punchlines going out into the quiet void (especially if you tend to go to emptier screenings). It's sort of — missing something. The movie isn't quite as rooted in a real world as, say, *In the Heights* but it isn't on a literal stage the way the *Hamilton* filmed version was (to use two Lin-Manuel Miranda plays as an example). I feel like if it were presented in a way that could give us some of that live theater energy it would make the first chunk of the movie more of a musical-theater good time.

The second chunk of the movie is tonally quite different, with the love triangle taking a back seat, at least in terms of on-screen action, to Cyrano and Christian at war. This section of the movie includes a surprisingly earnest and affecting song called "Wherever I Fall." It's a really heartrending moment

of men facing battle, fairly certain they're going to die, and thinking of the people they're leaving behind. The three on-screen singers taking the lead on the song include Glen Hansard of *Once* fame. But this really grab-you-by-the-throat moment does not include either Dinklage or Harrison, an odd choice that puts you in the story of the men in the song but pulls you out of the story of the movie itself. The movie frequently does odd little things like this or the way that Cyrano and Roxanne are positioned in the shot of some of their more emotional scenes that undercut some of the emotion we should be getting from the relationships that make up the core of the movie.

For all this unevenness, the performances of that core trio of characters are thoroughly engaging. Bennett is hampered with some flightiness in her character (but is given some really great costuming and makeup; the movie's sole Oscar nomination is for costuming) but manages to make her Roxanne seem appealing enough as a person that it is believable that both of these nice-seeming dudes would be so gaga for her. Harrison is sweet in exactly the right way; I feel like in the stories that have riffed on this idea, that character tends to be painted a little more meatheaded than he is here. Here, Christian is a nice guy you are also rooting for. Of course, above all we root for Dinklage, who is just thoroughly appealing and attention-grabbing throughout, even when the movie doesn't fully build the case for whatever it's doing with his character. **B**

Rated PG-13 for some strong violence, thematic and suggestive material, and brief language, according to the MPA on film-ratings.com. Directed by Joe Wright with a screenplay by Erica Schmidt, Cyrano is two hours and four minutes long and distributed by MGM in theaters. 🍷

AT THE SOFAPLEX

***Texas Chainsaw Massacre* (R)**

Sarah Yarkin, Elsie Fisher.

And by "rated R" I mean hard R, with people cut in half and Bellagio-in-*Oceans 11*-style fountains of blood. Very R.

I know I have seen some previous *Chainsaws* — could not even begin to tell you which ones or what happened in them — but the movie doesn't seem to be some mid-arc entry into the franchise and feels more like it is going the route of the recent *Halloween* entries, with some connection to the 1970s original but easy enough to follow for new joiners.

Melody (Yarkin) and Dante (Jacob Latimore) are chefs and partners in a plan to colonize with hipsters a small, nearly desolate Texas town where every interaction with the locals seems vaguely hostile but at least

the real estate is super cheap. Their plan is to open a restaurant, an art gallery owned by Dante's fiancée, Ruth (Nell Hudson), and maybe even a comic book store owned by Lila (Fisher), Melody's sister — you know, zhuzh up this deserted-during-the-Dust-Bowl looking town. Hey, cool, says Lila, but I'm still getting over my trauma from surviving a school shooting and this place is seven hours from my friends so, like, maybe not? But Melody and Dante have a busload of "investors" coming and so they are charging ahead with their plans, even when Melody gets into a spat with Richter (Moe Dunford), a contractor and mechanic who doesn't enjoy being patronized by hipsters, and Dante is fed up with the woman (Alice Krige) who seems to be squatting in one of the buildings despite having been evicted by the bank weeks earlier. Also, she's flying a Confederate flag outside her building, which he feels like will not be so great for business with the from-this-century young people he's got coming to check the town out.

That woman claims she squared everything with the bank and has run that home, the town orphanage, for decades. There is one last person in her care — she calls him baby (Mark Burnham), I think — and he doesn't do so well out in the world so they need to stay. We never get a good straight-on look at Baby; we mostly see his hulking person in shadow. But we, and Melody, get enough of a look at him to know that something bad will come of their removal, especially when it leads the woman to have some kind of medical emergency.

This movie is mostly a straightforward "run, stab, run, stab" affair (well, actually, it's more like "run, bludgeon, run, hack, run, chainsaw"). And if you like that sort of thing, with the gore and the screaming, this would seem to deliver the basics. But it doesn't really do more and, similar to those recent *Halloween* installments, for me it quickly gets kind of, well, boring seems like the wrong word but — tedious? Repetitive? Fast-forwardable?



Texas Chainsaw Massacre

The movie does have some funny moments, not laugh out loud but more like a "ha." And maybe it has some messaging — anti-gentrification? pro-gun? — but I feel like it more has "ideas about ideas" than it has actual ideas. Maybe there is some sense that having more than just slashing and screaming brings in a bigger crowd

POP CULTURE FILMS

but it doesn't really put forth a lot of baked-in-the-story effort in that direction. Genre die-hards might have a different opinion, but for me, for the horror agnostic, it's a C Available on Netflix.

The Royal Treatment (TV-PG)
Mena Massoud, Laura Marano.

You know Massoud from playing Aladdin in the Guy Ritchie live-action remake and Marano from, like, around (she's a singer, she was on a Disney Channel show, she was in *The War with Grandpa*). Here, they are the couple from opposite worlds: he's Prince Thomas from Lavana, a country with a vague "International Location" aesthetic, and she's Izzy, a hairstylist and wannabe world traveler from New York. When a Siri mistake has his butler-type guy Walter (Cameron Rhodes) call her (instead of some similarly named chi-chi salon), Izzy is at first delighted to cut hair for about 10 times her normal rate. But when she witnesses Thomas' handler, Madame Fabre (Sonia Gray), being rude to a hotel staffer, she takes Thomas to task for not intervening on the staffer's behalf. He apparently likes this check on his privilege because he eventually hires Izzy and two of her fellow stylists to come to Lavana to do hair and makeup for his forthcoming wedding



The Royal Treatment

to Lauren (Phoenix Connolly), a woman he barely knows but whom his parents are really keen for him to marry because her parents "own half of Texas."

Though it's been decades since I've seen it, this light and friendly rom-com called to mind *The Beautician and the Beast* (and also the TV show *The Nanny*, both Fran Drescher vehicles) with notes of *The Princess Diaries* (there is a fun mention of Genovia) and your standard Cinderella story. Nobody is all that evil, no comeuppance is all that harsh, nobody is all that compelling, but they are all perfectly pleasant to spend time with if you just need a little cotton candy fairy tale.

B- Available on Netflix. 🍷

Film

Movie screenings, movie-themed happenings & virtual events

Venues

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

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

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

The Park Theatre
19 Main St., Jaffrey 532-9300, theparktheatre.org

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

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

Shows

• **Oscar Nominated Documentary Shorts** (2021) screening at the Music Hall in Portsmouth on Wednesday, March 2, at 7 p.m.
• **Cyrano** (PG-13, 2021) screens at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, March 3, at 3:45 and 6:45 p.m.; Friday, March 4,

through Sunday, March 6, at 12:45, 3:45 and 6:45 p.m.; Thursday, March 10, at 3:45 and 6:45 p.m.

• **Oscar Nominated Animated Shorts** — **Animated** (2021, 97 minutes) a program featuring the five short animated films nominated for an Oscar this year will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, March 3, at 4:45 p.m.; Friday, March 4, at 2 and 7:25 p.m.; Saturday, March 5, at 2 p.m.; Sunday, March 6, at 2 and 7:15 p.m.

• **Oscar Nominated Live Action** (2021, 121 minutes) a program featuring the five short live-action films nominated for an Oscar this year will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, March 3, at 7:15 p.m.; Friday, March 4, through Sunday, March 6, at 11:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.; Thursday, March 10, at 3:15 p.m.
• **Dog** (PG-13, 2022) screens at the Park Theatre in Jaffrey on Thursday, March 3, at 7 p.m.
• **Oscar Nominated Live Action** screens at the Park Theatre in Jaffrey on Thursday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m.
• **The Batman** (2022) screening at Chunky's in Manchester on Thursday, March 3 (21+) and Fri-



The Winning of Barbara Worth

day, March 4, at 6 and 7 p.m.

• **Oscar Nominated Documentary** (2021, 160 minutes) a program featuring the five short documentary films nominated for an Oscar this year will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Saturday, March 5, at 7:15 p.m. and Thursday, March 10, at 6:15 p.m.

• **Oscar Nominated Animated** (2021) on Saturday, March 5, at 3 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.
• **Oscar Nominated Live Action** (2021) on Saturday, March 5, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.

• **The Royal Ballet: Romeo & Juliet** screens at the Park Theatre in Jaffrey on Sunday, March 6, at 2 p.m.

• **The Winning of Barbara Worth** (1926), a silent film with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, screening on Wednesday, March 9, at 6:30 p.m. at the Flying Monkey.
• **Smilin' Through** (1922) on Sunday, March 13, at 2 p.m. at the Wilton Town Hall Theatre. Suggested donation \$10.

• **Women's Adventure Film Tour** (2021) on Wednesday, March 16, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.

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SAT. MAR. 19
7:30PM



THURS. MAR. 24
10:00AM



THURS. MAR. 24
7:30PM



FRI. APR. 1
7:30PM



PRESENTS



FRI. MAR. 4
7:30PM



FRI. MAR. 11
7:30PM



FRI. MAR. 25
7:30PM

THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Beach mood:** With frigid temperatures lingering, the Kenny Chesney tribute act **No Shoes Nation** provides a glimpse into summer months ahead. Led by singer-guitarist Danny “Wray” Bergeron, the behatted band recreates the loose, laid-back vibe of a Chesney show, a popular bit at the winery they’re returning to after selling it out last year. Dinner reservations are available at LaBelle’s Americus Restaurant. Thursday, March 3, 7:30 p.m., LaBelle Winery, 14 Route 111, Derry, \$35 at labellewinery.com.

• **Country time:** A powerful double bill has headliner **Michael Ray** preceded by New England Music Award winner Annie Brobst. The Florida-born singer-songwriter is known for “Whiskey and Rain,” “Get To You,” “Kiss You In The Morning” and other hits; his latest release is *Higher Education*. Boston’s Brobst has received multiple NEMA plaques, most recently earning Act of the Year honors in 2021. Friday, March 4, 6 p.m., Granite State Music Hall, 546 Main St., Laconia, \$25 to \$75 at ticketweb.com (21+).

• **Boss band:** Taking their name from a *Born To Run* deep track, **The Last Of The Duke Street Kings** are a Montreal tribute act focused on Bruce Springsteen. Their repertoire includes the usual favorites, but a typical setlist offers rarities only found in completist box sets and bootlegs, and runs from his early days to newer selections like “Radio Nowhere.” Saturday, March 5, 8 p.m., Pasta Loft, 241 Union Square, Milford, \$10 at eventbrite.com (groups of four, six and 10, with 10 individual bar seats available).

• **Funny night:** With nearly five decades in the trenches, **Steve Sweeney** has earned the title King of Boston Comedy. He featured prominently in *When Stand Up Stood Out*, a documentary of the 1980s scene. Sweeney is also a successful actor, landing roles in movies like *Celtic Pride*, *There’s Something About Mary* and *Me, Myself & Irene*. He played himself as an aspiring talk show host in 2018’s well-reviewed *Sweeney Killing Sweeney*. Saturday, March 5, 8 p.m., Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry, \$25 at tupelohall.com.

• **Eighties redux:** Best known for providing a title song to teen rom com *Pretty In Pink*, **Psychedelic Furs** made a half dozen albums over the MTV decade. Hits like “Love My Way” and “The Ghost In You” charted generational angst via what one writer labeled “witty, poetic, pugnacious onslaughts seared out of punk then sashayed beyond New Wave.” In 2020, they released *Made of Rain*, their first new LP in nearly three decades. Wednesday, March 9, 7:30 p.m., Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, \$29 to \$49 at ccanh.com.

NITE

Union jacked

Brit Pack spans multiple eras

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Among a trove of tribute acts, the ’60s British Invasion is well represented. What sets The Brit Pack apart is that their target isn’t one band or decade but a wide breadth of music from across the pond. Sure, they’ll crank up “Satisfaction” or “Twist and Shout” with alacrity, but a typical set list will also include Led Zeppelin, Oasis or Adele.

Consisting of four Berklee grads, The Brit Pack reflects not just the first wave led by the Beatles and Rolling Stones, but a representation of artists that came in the ensuing years — the British Occupation, if you will.

“You get a whole journey through all of these bands,” guitarist Mark Johnson said recently. “That same energy a tribute act would give you, but with every single band you might know from the British Invasion through the modern days.”

Occasionally they veer away from strictly British, playing “Go Your Own Way” — though Fleetwood Mac’s makeup is similar to theirs. Johnson and drummer Will Haywood Smith are U.K.-born like Mick Fleetwood and the two McVies, while Matt Nakoa and Bryan Percival serve as the group’s Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks.

In a joint interview with Nakoa, Johnson offered some logic-bending to explain the inclusion of “Boys Are Back In Town” by Thin Lizzy.

“They’re a good Irish band,” he conceded, “but we figured they were close enough to the U.K. ... there’s probably some English blood in that band.”

Since forming in 2011, they’ve gone where the audience takes them, even when that finds lead singer Nakoa channeling Johnny



The Brit Pack

Rotten, as happened when they played one fan’s wedding. This led to a secret side project called The Sex Beatles.

“We deliver classics in the Sex Pistols manner,” Johnson said.

The bit was born in the days of playing late-night residencies in their New York City home base.

“Bleecker Street and the Village ... there’d be beers flying over the drum kit and random people sleeping on the stage,” Johnson said. “These days it’s a raucous show, but you won’t get hit by a flying amp or anything.”

While covering well-known songs, the group tries to put itself in the mindset of bands like Led Zeppelin or The Who.

“We improvise and really capture the essence of the songs, but we’re not doing it exactly like the record, because they wouldn’t have done it exactly like the record,” Nakoa said. “We own the music as if it was our own; unfortunately, we don’t get compensated that way.”

When they first set out, “It was the usual suspects, ‘Satisfaction’ and ‘Hard Day’s Night’ — but we were talking about doing Oasis and stuff,” Johnson said. “Through the years, people just keep requesting songs and we’re like, that’s a good idea, and there are times where we’re driving somewhere in

the car and we hear a record and say, these guys are British — or at least somebody in the room when the record being made was British.”

“What’s so great is it’s a liberal interpretation,” Nakoa said. “We’re only going where the audience tells us we should be going. I mean, we go where the reaction is.”

Asked to name some favorite songs from their set, Johnson quickly answered, “anything Queen or Zeppelin, for the simple reason that it’s really fun to play.” He voiced gratitude for having a capable band of friends and singled out Nakoa, whom he also supports as a solo artist.

“When you’ve got a singer who can do this stuff as well as he does ... as a performer, and as an audience member, it’s really a joy to be around,” he said. “It’s also very rare to get a chance where you can play it with a band this good. ... I just enjoy playing with these guys, because they make it sound so cool.”

The Brit Pack

When: Sunday, March 6, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St., Manchester

Tickets: \$23 at palacetheatre.org

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Venues

Capitol Center for the Arts — Elm St., Manchester
headlinerscomedyclub.com

Chubb Theatre

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

Chunky’s

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

Fulchino Vineyard

187 Pine Hill Road, Hollis
438-5984, fulchinovineyard.com

Hatbox Theatre

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

Headliners Comedy Club

DoubleTree By Hilton, 700

Elm St., Manchester
headlinerscomedyclub.com

LaBelle Winery

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

LaBelle Winery Derry

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

McCue’s Comedy Club

580 Portsmouth Traffic Circle, Portsmouth
mccuescomedyclub.com

The Music Hall

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

Rex Theatre

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

Events

• **Queen City Improv** Hatbox Theatre, Thursday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.

• **Paul Gilligan** Rex Theatre, Friday, March 4, 7:30 p.m.

• **Dan Crohn** McCue’s Comedy Club, Friday, March 4, 8 p.m.

• **Mitch Stinson/Mike McCarrthy/Paul D’Angelo** Fulchino Vineyards, Saturday, March 5, 7:30 p.m.

• **Dan Boulger** McCue’s Comedy Club, Saturday, March 5, 8 p.m.

• **Jody Sloane** Headliners, Saturday, March 5, 8:30 p.m.

• **Mike Donovan** Chunky’s Manchester, Saturday, March 10, 8:30 p.m.

• **Steve Bjork** Chunky’s Nashua, Saturday, March 10, 8:30 p.m.

• **Kelly MacFarland**, LaBelle Derry, Thursday, March 10, 6:30 p.m.

• **Lewis Black** Chubb Theatre, Thursday, March 10, 8 p.m.

• **Drew Dunn & Friends!** Rex Theatre, Friday, March 11, 7:30 p.m.

• **Ken Rogerson** McCue’s Comedy Club, Friday, March 11, 8 p.m.

• **Drew Dunn** McCue’s Comedy Club, Saturday, March 12, 8 p.m.

• **Jim Colliton** Headliners, Saturday, March 12, 8:30 p.m.

• **Harrison Stebbins** Chunky’s Manchester, Saturday, March 12, 8:30 p.m.

• **Bob Marley** The Music Hall, Saturday, March 12, 5:30 and 8 p.m.

• **Steve Scarfo** Chunky’s Nashua, Saturday, March 12, 8:30 p.m.



Jody Sloane. Courtesy photo.

• **Christine Hurley, Will Noonan, Graig Murphy** LaBelle Amherst, Thursday, March 17, 6:30 p.m.

• **Comedy Out of the Box** Hatbox Theatre, Thursday, March 17, 7:30 p.m.

• **St. Paddy’s Comedy and Dance Spectacular** Music Hall, Thursday, March 17, 8 p.m.

MUSIC THIS WEEK

Alton Bay Docksider Restaurant 6 East Side Drive 855-2222	Concord Area 23 State Street 881-9060	Derry Fody's Tavern 187 Rockingham Road, 404-6946	Sea Dog Brewery 9 Water St.	The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962	Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545	Great North Ale-works 1050 Holt Ave. 858-5789
Auburn Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road 622-6564	Concord Craft Brewing 117 Storrs St. 856-7625	LaBelle Winery 14 Route 111 672-9898	Gilford Patrick's 18 Weirs Road 293-0841	L Street Tavern 603 17 L St. 967-4777	Laconia Fratello's 799 Union Ave. 528-2022	Bonfire 950 Elm St. 663-7678	KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St. 627-RIBS
Bedford Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677	Hermanos Mexicana 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669	Epping The Oven in Epping Brickyard Square 24 Calef Hwy. 734-4543	Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230	Shane's BBQ 61 High St. 601-7091	Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100	Currier Museum of Art 150 Ash St. 669-6144	Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St. 644-3535
Bow Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508	Penuche's Ale House 16 Bicentennial Square 228-9833	Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225	Hampton Bogie's 32 Depot Square 601-2319	Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954	Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022	Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880	South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947
Brookline The Alamo Texas Bar- becue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000	Deerfield The Lazy Lion 4 North Road	Exeter Sawbelly Brewing 156 Epping Road 583-5080	Community Oven 845 Lafayette Road 601-6311	Whym Craft Pub & Brewery 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801	Game Changer Bar & Grill 4 Orchard View 216-1396	Firefly 21 Concord St. 935-9740	Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St. 625-4444
			CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972	Henniker Pats Peak Sled Pub 24 Flanders Road 888-728-7732	Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210	The Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925	Strange Brew 88 Market St. 666-4292
				Hudson The Bar 2B Burnham Road	Manchester Angel City Music Hall 179 Elm St. 931-3654	Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022	Meredith Twin Barns Brewing 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876
				Lynn's 102 Tavern 76 Derry Road 943-7832		The Goat 50 Old Granite St.	

Thursday, March 3

Bedford
Copper Door: Clint Lapointe, 7 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: open mic, 5 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: drum circle, 7 p.m.
Hermanos: Dan Weiner, 6:30 p.m.
Penuche's: live music, 7 p.m.

Derry
Fody's: music bingo, 8 p.m.
LaBelle Winery: No Shoes Nation Band, 6:30 p.m.

Epping
Community Oven: Brian Walker, 7 p.m.
Telly's: Lewis Goodwin, 7 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbelly: Chris Voss, 5 p.m.

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

Hampton
CR's: Steve Sibulkin, 6 p.m.

Wally's: Nita Strauss, 6 p.m.
Whym: music bingo, 6 p.m.

Hudson
Lynn's 102: karaoke with George Bisson, 8 p.m.

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

Laconia
Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Charlie Chronopoulos Duo, 7 p.m.

Manchester
Currier: Kevin Horan, 5 p.m.
Foundry: Tim Kierstead, 5 p.m.
Fratello's: Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.
KC's: Joanie Cicatelli, 6 p.m.
Strange Brew: Peter Higgins, 8 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.
Tomahawk Tavern: Jordan Quinn, 6:30 p.m.

Milford
Stonecutters Pub: Blues Therapy, 8 p.m.

Nashua
Fody's: DJ Rich karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
Fratello's: Justin Jordan, 5:30 p.m.
Stones Social: Ryan Williamson

Portsmouth
The Goat: Joe Birch, 9 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Chad Lamarsh, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 4

Auburn
Auburn Pitts: Wired For Sound, 7 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: live music, 5 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: Hank and friends, 8 p.m.
Penuche's: live music, 7 p.m.

Deerfield
Lazy Lion: NKMSings4u, 7 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Brian Johnson, 8 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Rose Kula, 6 p.m.

Hampton
CR's: Kaleidoscope, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.
Wally's: The 1999, 9 p.m.
Whym: Pete Peterson, 6:30 p.m.

Henniker
Pats Peak: Justin Cohn, 6 p.m.

Hudson
Lynn's 102: karaoke with George Bisson, 8 p.m.

Kingston
Saddle Up Saloon: Cory Malm, 8 p.m.

Laconia
Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m.
Tower Hill Tavern: DJ Kadence karaoke, 8 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Shop: Jeff Mrozek, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Rob & Jodee, 8 p.m.

Manchester
Angel City: Category 5, 8 p.m.
Backyard Brewery: Eric Marcs, 6 p.m.
Bonfire: Nick Drouin, 9 p.m.
Derryfield: D-Comp, 8 p.m.
The Foundry: Matt the Sax, 6 p.m.

Fratello's: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.
Murphy's: Jordan & Clint, 9:30 p.m.
South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Strange Brew: River Sang Wild, 9 p.m.

Meredith
Twin Barns: Kimayo, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Lou Antonucci, 6 p.m.

Milford
Stonecutters Pub: DJ Dave O with karaoke, 9 p.m.

Nashua
Fratello's: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's: live music, 7 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: The Honey Bees, 6 p.m.

Northfield
Boonedoxz Pub: karaoke night, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Dave Alves, 9 p.m.

Seabrook
Chop Shop: MoneyKat, 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 5

Alton Bay
Docksider: Matt Langley, 8 p.m.

Bow
Chen Yang Li: Eric Marcs, 7 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: live music, 5 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: John Farese, 2 p.m.; Diamond Joe, 8 p.m.
Concord Craft Brewing: Andrew North, 3 p.m.
Hermanos: State Street Combo, 6:30 p.m.
Penuche's: live music, 7 p.m.

Deerfield
Lazy Lion: live music, 7 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Joanie Cicatelli, 8 p.m.

Exeter
Sawbelly: Todd Hearon, 5 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Brother Seamus, 6 p.m.

Hampton
The Goat: Joe Birch, 9 p.m.
L Street: live music, 6:30 p.m.; karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.
Wally's: Jonny Friday Band, 7 p.m.
Whym: Sean Coleman, 6:30 p.m.



FRIDAY AT THE STONE CHURCH

Catch The Honey Bees as well as Marjorie Senet & the Broken Home Boys on Friday, March 4, at 8 p.m. at the Stone Church (5 Granite St. in Newmarket; stonechurchrocks.com, 659-7700). Tickets cost \$10 in advance, \$12 on the day of the show.

Music, live and in person

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.

Henniker
Pats Peak: Nick's Other Band, 5 p.m.

Hudson
Lynn's 102 Tavern: live music, 8 p.m.

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Merrimack Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022	Liquid Therapy 14 Court St. 402-9391	Northfield Boonedoxz Pub 95 Park St. 717-8267	Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway 458-2033
Tomahawk Tavern 454 Daniel Webster Hwy. 365-4960	Millyard Brewery 25 E. Otterson St. 722-0104	Portsmouth The Gas Light 64 Market St. 430-9122	Seabrook Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706
Milford The Pasta Loft 241 Union Square 672-2270	Peddler's Daughter 48 Main St. 821-7535	The Goat 142 Congress St. 590-4628	Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road 760-0030
Stonecutters Pub 63 Union Square 213-5979	Stones Social 449 Amherst St. 943-7445	Press Room 77 Daniel St. 431-5186	Somersworth The SpeakEasy Bar 2 Main St.
Nashua Fody's Tavern 9 Clinton St. 577-9015	New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362	Thirsty Moose Tap-house 21 Congress St. 427-8645	Windham Common Man 88 Range Road 898-0088
Fratello's Italian Grille 194 Main St. 889-2022	Newmarket Stone Church 5 Granite St. 659-7700	Rochester Porter's Pub 19 Hanson St. 330-1964	

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Sunday, March 6

Kingston Saddle Up Saloon: Down Cellah, 8 p.m.	Merrimack Homestead: Dave Zangri, 6 p.m.	Alton Bay Docksides: Mikey G, 4 p.m.
Laconia Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m.	Milford Pasta Loft: The Last of the Duke Street Kings, 9 p.m.	Bedford Copper Door: Jim Zaroulis, 11 a.m.
Londonderry Coach Shop: Justin Jordan, 6 p.m.	Nashua Fratello's: Doug Thompson, 6 p.m.	Brookline Alamo: live music, 3 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Dancing Madly Backwards, 8 p.m.	Liquid Therapy: Dyer Holiday, 6 p.m.	Bow Chen Yang Li: Chris Lester, 7 p.m.
Manchester Angel City: Angels & Devils Drag Show, 9 p.m.	Millyard Brewery: Corey Zwart, 4 p.m.	Goffstown Village Trestle: Bob Prette, 3:30 p.m.
Backyard Brewery: Malcolm Salls, 6 p.m.	Peddler's Daughter: live music, 9:30 p.m.	Hampton CR's: The Joy of Sax, 4 p.m.
Bonfire: The Eric Grant Band, 7 p.m.	New Boston Molly's: live music, 7 p.m.	L Street: live music, 6:30 p.m.; karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.
Derryfield: Chad LaMarsh, 8 p.m.	Newmarket Stone Church: The Silks, 8 p.m.	Whym: live music, 1 p.m.
Fratello's: Chris Gardner, 6 p.m.	Northfield Boonedoxz Pub: live music, 7 p.m.	Hudson Lynn's 102 Tavern: live music, 5 p.m.
The Foundry: Tyler Levs, 6 p.m.	Portsmouth Gas Light: live music, 9:30 p.m.	Laconia Belknap Mill: open mic, 2 p.m.
Great North Aleworks: Matt the Sax, 3 p.m.	Thirsty Moose: Fighting Friday, 9 p.m.; LU, 9 p.m.	Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m.
McIntyre Ski: Clint Lapointe, 5 p.m.	Seabrook Chop Shop: Casual Gravity, 8 p.m.	Tower Hill: live music, 1 p.m.
Murphy's: Zack Newbould Duo, 9:30 p.m.		Londonderry Stumble Inn: Chad LaMarsh, 3 p.m.
Strange Brew: Wiki 3, 9 p.m.		
XO Bistro: Duo w/Mica Peterson, 6 p.m.		
Meredith Twin Barns: Chris Lester, 5 p.m.		

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COMEDY IN THE VINEYARD

The Comedy Uncorked series returns to Fulchino Vineyard (187 Pine Hill Road, Hollis; 438-5984; fulchinovineyard.com) on Saturday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m. Boston comedy legends Mitch Stinson, Paul D'Angelo, and Mike McCarthy perform. Tickets cost \$29.



NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Manchester
Strange Brew: Becca Myari, 5 p.m.; jam, 7 p.m.

Northfield
Boonedoxz Pub: open mic, 4 p.m.

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

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

Kingston
Saddle Up Saloon: line dancing, 7 p.m.

Laconia
Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: John Chouinard, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.
KC's Rib Shack: Paul & Nate open mic, 7 p.m.
Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 7 p.m.

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

Nashua
Fody's: musical bingo, 8 p.m.
Fratello's: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Charlie Chronopoulos, 9 p.m.

Seabrook
Red's: Chad Verbeck, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9
Concord
Area 23: open mic, 6 p.m.
Hermanos: State Street Combo, 6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.

Hampton
Bogie's: open mic, 7 p.m.
L Street: karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.
Wally's: Chris Toler, 7 p.m.

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

Laconia
Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Lou Antonucci, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: country line dancing, 7 p.m.
Stark Brewing: Cox karaoke, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: Howard & Mike's Acoustic Jam, 8 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Max Sullivan, 5:30 p.m.

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

Nashua
Fratello's: Joanie Ciatelli, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Proelium, 7 p.m.

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

Rochester
Porter's: karaoke night, 6:30 p.m.

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

Thursday, March 10
Bedford
Copper Door: Lou Antonucci, 7 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: open mic, 5 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: karaoke with DJ Dicey, 8 p.m.
Hermanos: Andrew North, 6:30 p.m.
Penuche's: live music, 7 p.m.

Derry
Fody's: music bingo, 8 p.m.

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

Exeter
Sea Dog: Todd Hearon, 5 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Tom Boisse, 6 p.m.

Hampton
CR's: Ross McGinnes, 6 p.m.
Shane's Texas Pit: Brian Walker, 7 p.m.
Wally's: Adelitas Way with Gemini Syndrome, 6 p.m.
Whym: music bingo, 6 p.m.

Hudson
The Bar: Nicole Knox Murphy, 7 p.m.
Lynn's 102: karaoke with George Bisson, 8 p.m.

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



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MAR 3 DERRY No Shoes Nation Band



MAR 10 DERRY Comedian Kelly McFarland

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Comedian Christine Hurley

MAR 24 Studio Two: The Beatles Tribute

The Eagles Experience

MAR 31 Panorama: The Music of the Cars

APR 7 Blues Legend Joe Louis Walker

No Shoes Nation Band



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IMPROV NIGHT

Queen City Improv brings their act to the Hatbox Theatre (Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road in Concord; 715-2315; hatboxnh.com) on Thursday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$16 to \$22.



Trivia

Events

• **Wild Nights Trivia** set to music at Governors Inn Hotel & Restaurant (78 Wakefield St. in Rochester) on Thursday, March 3, doors open at 6 p.m., trivia starts at 7 p.m.

• **Trivia Night Live!** at the Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St., Manchester; rextheatre.org) on Saturday, March 5, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and teams of five encouraged. Bukk Seney hosts with house band featuring Alli Beaudry and Nick Phaneuf.

• **The Office Trivia** at Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com) on Thursday, March 10, at 7:30 p.m. Reserve a spot with a \$5 per person food voucher (teams can have up to 6 players).

• **Wild Nights Trivia** set to music at Governors Inn Hotel & Restaurant (78 Wakefield St. in Rochester) on Thursday, March 17, doors open at 6 p.m., trivia starts at 7 p.m.

• **Boondock Saints Trivia** at Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com) on Thursday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m. Reserve a spot with a \$5 per person food voucher (teams can have up to 6 players).

• **Disney Princess Trivia** at Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com) on Thursday, March 31, at 7:30 p.m. Reserve a spot with a \$5 per person food voucher (teams can have up to 6 players).

• **Wild Nights Trivia** set to music at Governors Inn Hotel & Restaurant (78 Wakefield St. in Rochester) on Thursday, March 31, doors open at 6 p.m., trivia starts at 7 p.m.

Weekly

• **Wednesday** The Greatest Trivia in the World at Revolution Taproom and Grill (61 N. Main St., Rochester, 244-3042; https://revolutiontaproomandgrill.com/upcoming-events/) at 6:30 p.m.

• **First Thursday of every month** trivia at Fody's (9 Clinton St. in Nashua; fodystavern.com) at 8 p.m.

• **Thursday Game Time** trivia at Mitchell BBQ (50 N. Main St., Rochester, 332-2537, mitchellhillbbq.com) at 6 p.m.

• **Thursday** trivia at Smuttlabs (47 Washington St., Dover, 343-1782, smuttynose.com) at 6 p.m.



Alli Beaudry. Courtesy photo.

• **Thursday** trivia at Great North Aleworks (1050 Holt Ave., Manchester, 858-5789, greatnorthaleworks.com) from 7 to 8 p.m.

• **Thursday Game Time** trivia at Hart's Turkey Farm (223 Daniel Webster Hwy., Meredith, 279-6212, hartsturkeyfarm.com) from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

• **Thursday** trivia Yankee Lanes (216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656, yankeelanesentertainment.com) at 7 p.m.

• **Thursday Kings** trivia at Game Changer Sports Bar (4 Orchard View Dr., Londonderry; 216-1396, gamechanger-sportsbar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.

• **Friday Team Trivia** at Cheers (17 Depot St., Concord, 228-0180, cheersnh.com) from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the lounge.

• **Friday** trivia at Gibb's Garage Bar (3612 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, gibbsgaragebar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.

• **Mondays** trivia at Crow's Nest (181 Plaistow Road, Plaistow, 817-6670, crowsnestnh.com) at 8 p.m.

• **Monday Trivia at the Tavern** at Red's (530 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-0030, redskitchenandtavern.com), signup at 8:30 p.m., from 9 to 11 p.m. Hosted by DJ Zati.

• **Tuesday** trivia at Fody's (187 Rockingham Road, Derry, 404-6946, fodystavern.com) at 7 p.m.

• **Tuesday** trivia at Reed's North (2 E. Main St. in Warner, 456-2143, reedsnorth.com) from 6 to 8 p.m.

• **Tuesday** trivia at Area 23 (254 N. State St., Concord, 881-9060, thearea23.com) at 7 p.m.

• **Tuesday** trivia at Lynn's 102 Tavern (76 Derry Road, Hudson, 943-7832, lynns102.com), at 7 p.m.

• **Tuesday Geeks Who Drink** trivia at Peddler's Daughter (48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlersdaughter.com), from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.

• **Wednesday** trivia at Community Oven (845 Lafayette Road, Hampton, 601-6311, thecommunityoven.com) at 6 p.m.

• **Wednesday** trivia at Smuttynose (105 Towle Farm Road, Hampton, 436-4026, smuttynose.com) at 6 p.m.

• **Wednesday** trivia at Fody's (9 Clinton St., Nashua, fodystavern.com) at 8 p.m.

• **Wednesday** trivia at The Bar (2b Burnham Road, Hudson, 943-5250) at 7 p.m.

• **Wednesday** trivia at Main Street Grill and Bar (32 Main St., Pittsfield; 435-0005, mainstreet-grillandbar.com) at 6:30 p.m.

• **Wednesday** trivia at Popovers (11 Brickyard Sq., Epping, 734-4724, popoversonthesquare.com) from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

• **Wednesday Kings Trivia** at KC's Rib Shack (837 Second St., Manchester; 627-7427, ribshack.net), sponsored by Mi Campo, in Manchester 7 to 9 p.m..

• **Wednesday** trivia at Millyard Brewery (125 E. Otterson St., Nashua; 722-0104, millyardbrewery.com) at 7 p.m.

• **Wednesday** Game Time trivia at The Thirsty Moose (21 Congress St., Portsmouth; 427-8645, thirstymoosetaphouse.com) at 7 p.m.

• **Wednesday World Tavern Trivia** at Fody's Tavern (9 Clinton St. in Nashua; fodystavern.com, 577-9015) at 8 p.m.

Concerts

Venues

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

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

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

Granite State Music Hall
546 Main St., Laconia
943-7832, granitestatemusichall.com

Jewel Music Venue
61 Canal St., Manchester
819-9336, jewelmusicvenue.com

Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club
135 Congress St., Portsmouth
888-603-JAZZ, jimmysoncongress.com

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

The Oven in Epping
24 Brickyard Square, Epping
734-4543, thecommunityoven.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

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

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

Shows

• **Brian Walker** Thursday, March 3, 6 p.m., The Oven in Epping

• **Tower of Power** Thursday, March 3, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Seamus Eagan** Thursday, March 3, 7 p.m., Word Barn



Celtic Angels Ireland. Courtesy photo.

• **Yoko Miwa Trio** Thursday, March 3, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club

• **Remembering the Green Martini** Thursday, March 3, 7:30 p.m., Bank of NH Stage, Concord

• **Michael Ray** Friday March 4, 6 p.m., Granite State Music Hall

• **Lich King/Stonecutters/Toxic Union** Friday, March 4, 7 p.m., Jewel Music Venue

• **Mallet Bros. Band** Friday, March 4, 6 and 9 p.m., Word Barn

• **Kashmir** (Led Zeppelin tribute) Friday, March 4, 7:30 p.m., Palace Theatre

• **Maysa** Friday, March 4, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club

• **The Honey Bees/Marjorie Senet & the Broken Home Boys** Friday, March 4, 8 p.m., Stone Church

• **Talisk** Friday, March 4, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage in Concord

• **Don Felder** Friday, March 4, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **The Tallest Man on Earth** Friday, March 4, 8 p.m., Music Hall

• **Laurie Berkner Solo!** "The Greatest Hits" Show Saturday, March 5, 11 a.m., Tupelo

• **Jon Cleary & the Absolute Monster Gentlemen** Saturday, March 5, at 7 and 9:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club

• **Celtic Angels Ireland** Saturday, March 5, 7:30 p.m., Palace Theatre

• **SUBDOCTA** Saturday, March 5, 8 p.m., Jewel Music Venue

• **Neon Wave and Lovesexy** Saturday, March 5, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage, Concord

• **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** Saturday, March 5, 7:30, Flying Monkey

• **The Brit Pack** Sunday, March 6, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre

• **Haley Heynderickx/Katie Jones** Sunday, March 6, 7 p.m., Word Barn

• **Arrival from Sweden (The Music**

of ABBA) Tuesday, March 8, and Wednesday, March 9, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Sara Gazarek** Wednesday, March 9, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club

• **The Psychedelic Furs** Wednesday, March 9, 7:30 p.m., Bank of NH Stage in Concord

• **Tossers/Crazy & the Brains/Gobshites** Wednesday, March 9, 8 p.m., Jewel Music Venue

• **Tim Daley** Thursday, March 10, 6 p.m., The Oven in Epping

• **Jane Bunnett & Maqueque** Thursday, March 10, 7 and 9:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club

• **Defeated Sanity/Skeletal Remains** Thursday, March 10, 6:30 p.m., Jewel Music Venue

• **Big Mountain and Mighty Mystic** Thursday, March 10, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage in Concord

• **It Was 50 Years Ago Today** (Beatles tribute feat. Todd Rundgren, Christopher Cross, and members of Badfinger) Thursday, March 10, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Adam Hawley** Friday, March 11, 7 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club

• **The Outlaws** Friday, March 11, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey

• **David Nail** Friday, March 11, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Roomful of Blues** Saturday, March 12, 7 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club

• **Actor|Observer|Godseyes** Saturday, March 12, 7 p.m., Jewel Music Venue

• **Jake Clemons** Saturday, March 12, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre

• **Ye Vagabonds and Kalos** Saturday, March 12, 7:30 p.m., Dana Center

• **Dirty Deeds** (AC/DC tribute) Saturday, March 12, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra** Sunday, March 13, 3 p.m., Music Hall

MICHAEL RAY

Singer-songwriter Michael Ray comes to the Granite State Music Hall (546 Main St. in Laconia; granitestatemusichall.com) on Friday, March 4, at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$25.

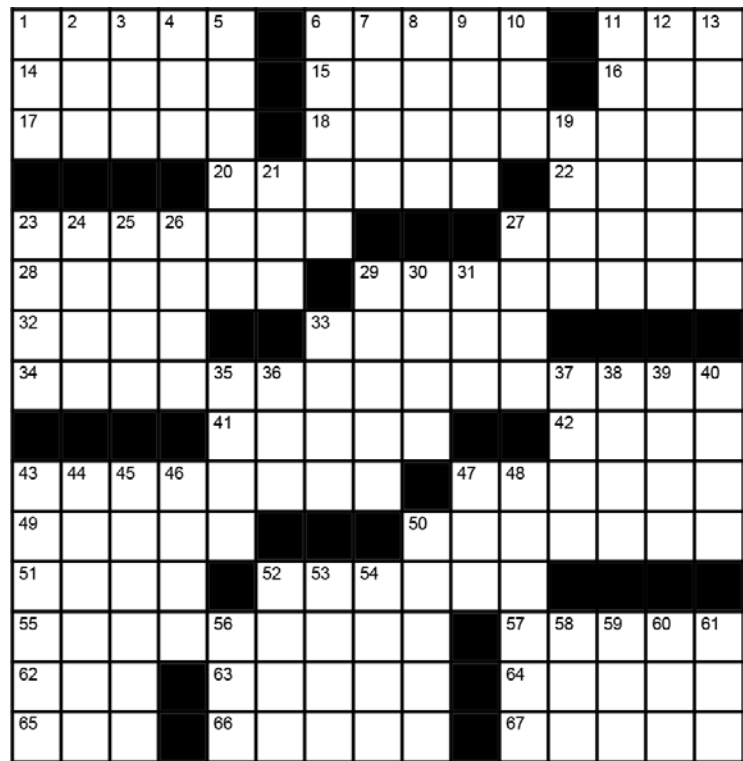


COMEDY NIGHT AT THE REX

New England comedy veteran Paul Gilligan touches down at the Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St., Manchester; 668-5588; palacetheatre.org) on March 4 at 7:30 p.m. for their weekly Friday Night Comics series. Tickets cost \$25 plus fees.



SHE'S TALKING IN HER SLEEP, IT'S KEEPING ME AWAKE



Down

1. Explosive AC/DC album from '75?
2. Goes with an "aah"
3. Repeated word in Ween 'Blamey Stone' chorus
4. Bryan Adams '___ Have To Say The Words?' (2,1)
5. Beach Boys misspelled '___ USA'
6. Actress/singer Susan
7. 'Hippiechick' English band for a London or Manhattan area
8. 'The Dark Saga' ___ Earth
9. Curves, as a career
10. She had a 'Fear Of Flying' in '00
11. Pixies 'Surfer Rosa' producer Steve
12. Balding rocker may sport facial one
13. What 'Some Days Are Better Than', to U2
19. What career did after peak
21. "My love is in league with the freeway": Robert Plant 'Big ___
23. Counting Crows "I better get a little ___ in me" (2,3)
24. Korn 'The ___ Of Totality'
25. Replacements 'Shiftless When ___'
26. Influential Canadian punkers The ___
27. 'Wolves' were at Senses Fail's this
29. What Slipknot wears
30. What career does with the flows
31. 'Walk On The Wild Side' Reed
33. Get bushed or this on tour
35. Western state Donny Osmond is from
36. XTC 'Fruit ___'
37. 'Ithyphallic' metalers named for Cairo's river
38. Klaxons rowed up to an '___ Of Her'
39. 'She Will Have Her Way' Finn
40. Half of 'How Deep Is Your Love'?

43. '99 Barenaked Ladies 'Stunt' single 'Call And ___'
44. Edwyn Collins 'Gorgeous ___'
45. Half of 'Closer To Fine' band
46. Record company "look-see" market
47. 'Taking Care Of Business' band (abbr)
48. Jonny Lang '___ Is Love' (2,4)
50. Blue October knows our '___ Glow'
52. Where cops throw you, if busted

53. What star may give from stage to fan, along w/a smile (1,3)
54. Number of inches of Trent Reznor's nails
56. Trail Of Dead '___ Of The Dead'
58. Kind of pint after UK show
59. 'Poison' Bell ___ DeVoe
60. Turner that sang w/Tina that sang w/ Bryan Adams
61. Pearl Jam 'Oceans' album

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Across

1. Lita Ford was 'Smokin' hoppers or these
6. Mary J Blige said we could leave it w/'Take Me ___' (2,1,2)
11. Black Lab 'Time ___'
14. Franz Ferdinand iPod ad song '___ Girls' (2,3)
15. "Don't shed no tears, no woman ___" (2,3)
16. Billy Joel "Lost a ___ of fights but it taught me how to lose okay"
17. Just Jack 'Starz In ___ Eyes'
18. The Clash smash 'Rock ___' (3,6)
20. Some benefits are for these deluges
22. House/club band of early 90s Deee-___
23. Michaela Anne 'If I Wanted Your ___'
27. Suzanne Vega ate at 'Tom's' this
28. Counting Crows 'Daylight ___'
29. The sweetest ones make the best songs
32. Hothouse Flowers '___ Be Easier In The Morning'
33. Buck-Tick album for a no-no
34. Simon/Garfunkel song on debut for a hot day (3,3,2,7)
41. Rod Stewart 'Young ___'
42. Counting Crows "When ___ you, a blanket of stars covers me in my bed" (1,3)
43. Disturbs, as a goer next to you
47. Michael Jackson's 'Jean' that is not his lover
49. 80s Cherry
50. Jim Croce 'Operator (That's Not The Way ___)' (2,5)
51. Spear Of Destiny '___ Law' was for backyard turf pieces, perhaps
52. Green Day "I ___ speak, I've lost my voice"
55. Elton John '___ The Stars' (7,2)

57. Chicago have a hard one To Break'
62. Kind of man John Lennon was, besides being a 'Walrus'
63. 'The Home Recordings Of Rivers Cuomo' title
64. Backstreet Boys was happy w/'That's The Way ___ It' (1,4)
65. Half of 'Ridin' The Storm Out' band
66. Like Slightly Stoopid, as time goes on
67. Nickel Creek saw all '___ Wonders'

KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

6X			4
2÷	5+	4	1-
1-		2÷	

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CHALLENGING

2-		2-		11+	6X
2÷	3÷	12+	3÷		
				48X	5
60X			1		
	4	3-		6+	
4	5-		3-		

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RULES

- 1 Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- 2 The numbers within the heavily

outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

- 3 Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

2÷	1	2	7+	4	2-	3
24X	2	4	3	1		
4	4	3	1	2		
2-	3	1	2	4		

36X	2	3	6	4	1	5
10+	4	2	3	5	6	1
120X	1	5	4	6	3	2
5-	5	6	1	3	2	4
3-	3	1	5	2	4	6
2-	6	4	2	1	5	3

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Potato
- Three four-letter felines
- ___ America
- Three five-letter birds
- Two numbers ending with Y

Last Week's Answers: STRIKE GUTTER ALLEY FRAME SPARE LANE BALL / GERMANY CANADA MEXICO / BELUGA GRAY BLUE / MONROE / PIRATE

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12/21

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

“Director’s Cut” — where do we go from here?

Across

- 1. Fashion mogul von Furstenberg
- 6. “And Winter Came...” singer
- 10. Sound-boosting devices
- 14. “Citizen Kane” director Welles
- 15. “High” places for pirates
- 16. “Who Let the Dogs Out?” group ___ Men
- 17. “Hairspray” director
- 19. Laugh-and-a-half
- 20. Like tough push-ups
- 21. Matriarch
- 23. Suffix after Insta- or auto-
- 26. Groups of quail
- 27. Arm muscle, informally
- 30. In addition

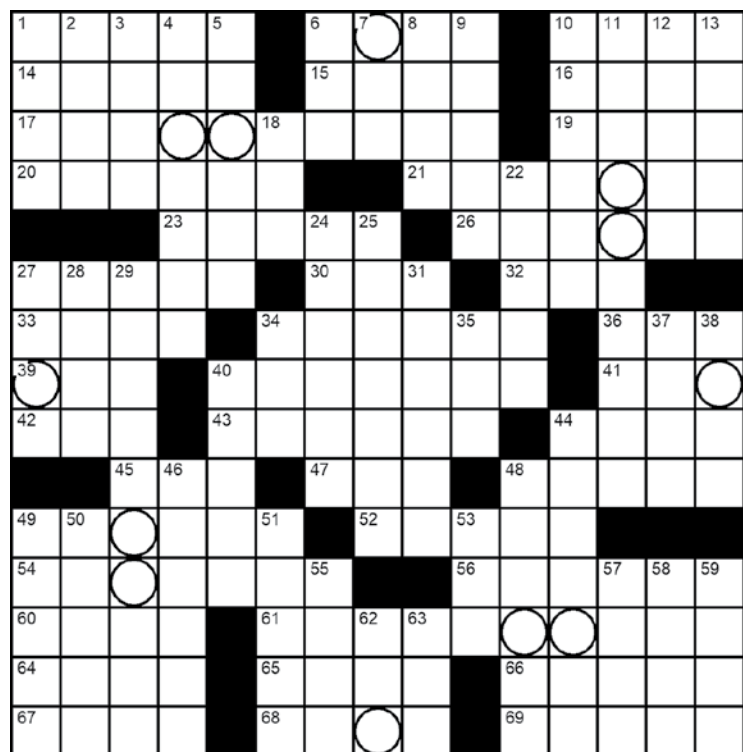
- 32. Uncompressed audio file format
- 33. Folk singer Phil
- 34. Flautist Jean-Pierre ___
- 36. HRE part
- 39. “___ is me!”
- 40. Colorful writing implements
- 41. “Bill ___ Saves the World” (Netflix series)
- 42. Abbr. at the bottom of a business letter
- 43. Birds, formally
- 44. “Heads up” abbr.
- 45. ___-One (“Sound of da Police” musician)
- 47. “___: Vegas” (rebooted TV series)

- 48. Actress Tyler of “Archer”
- 49. Become less intense
- 52. “Help!” co-star Ringo
- 54. Memorized perfectly
- 56. Fasteners that pop into place
- 60. Sandpaper quality
- 61. Neither wins nor loses
- 64. “Blues to the Bone” singer ___ James
- 65. Market order
- 66. “Dia de ___” (Shakira song)
- 67. “Fantastic Mr. Fox” author Roald
- 68. Graded item
- 69. Extra you may have to ask for at some drive-thru (due to state laws)

- 4. Obscure people
- 5. Swaddle
- 6. Yearbook superlatives ender
- 7. “Born,” in a Wikipedia bio
- 8. Fabric shop purchase
- 9. NBA component?
- 10. Brand used to treat cold sores
- 11. Big-ticket items
- 12. Counterfeit
- 13. Appeases fully
- 18. CPA’s entry
- 22. Cat noises at night
- 24. Underscore alternative
- 25. What the circled letters represent
- 27. Former heavyweight champ Riddick
- 28. Picture that can be dragged
- 29. Consults
- 31. “Let’s see what you got!”
- 34. Minister, for short

- 35. Ques. response
- 37. Ancient legend
- 38. “CHiPS” remake actor Michael
- 40. Fill the tank
- 44. Circulatory conduit
- 46. Apartment, typically
- 48. Comes to light
- 49. Having a border
- 50. Principal artery
- 51. “Blue Ribbon” beer brand
- 53. Vessel boarded by pairs
- 55. Sloth’s hangout
- 57. Loving or lasting leader?
- 58. Part of TB
- 59. Lots of it was created for the Beijing Olympics
- 62. South African golf legend Ernie
- 63. ___-newsweekly (paper you might be holding)

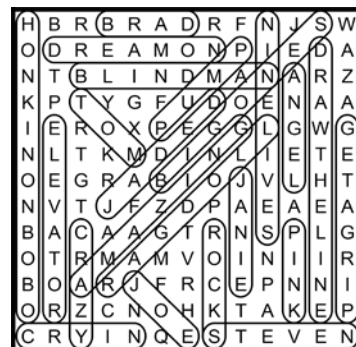
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Down

- 1. “Cobra Kai” school
- 2. Metal that can rust
- 3. NYC tennis stadium namesake

Music Word Search from pg 46 of 2/24



R&R answer from pg 47 of 2/24



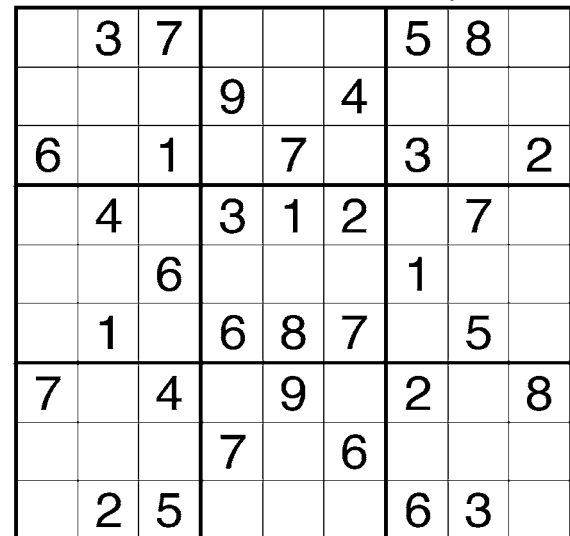
Jonesin’ answer from pg 48 of 2/24



NITE SUDOKU

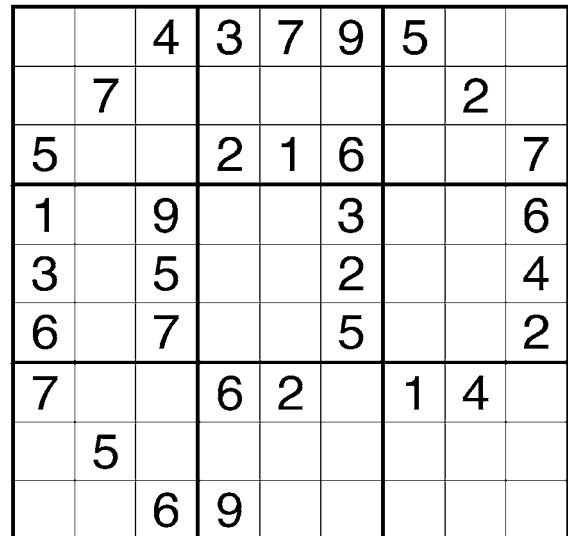
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week’s puzzle answers on pg 41.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A By Dave Green



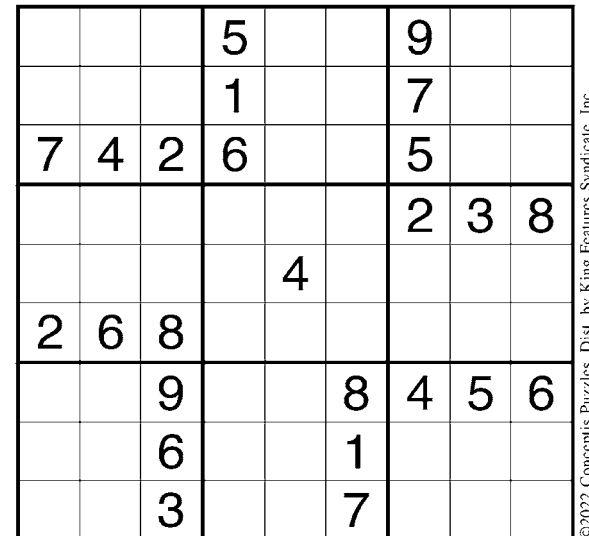
Difficulty Level ★

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 *Motherhood & Hollywood: How to Get a Job Like Mine*, by Patricia Heaton, born March 4, 1958.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) But I tell you, one more star or starlet talking about endless love and preordained bliss Their existence is so far from reality that they don't realize that dating prepares you for marriage and kids the same way watching television prepares you for running a marathon. Be prepared.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) The amount of chemistry, physics, math, and imagination that my boys have learned just by hanging out in the kitchen is not calculable. When Danny poured his OJ into his milk, we all learned about coagulation. Watch and learn.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) But the best part of all these jobs was the great people I met.... The busboys at the Faculty Club insisted on being called the bus dudes; they felt it conferred more dignity upon the job. Respect.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) They say you need leather balls to play rugby. Rugby's for babies. Auditioning for acting jobs is tough. Tough is as tough does.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) Now, some might not think that there is anything particularly special about running the Xerox machine at a magazine or taking dinner orders for a bunch of writers. Oh, but there is.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) You know what would be a nice thing to do? Take an actor to lunch. You don't know any? They're waiting tables at a restaurant near you. You know amazing people!

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) The counter guy would see me coming and holler, 'Cawfee regulah.' A regular coffee in Ohio was black. In New York it means cream and sugar. I'd say, 'No, I want cream and sugar.' The guy would holler, 'Cawfee regulah.' I thought the guy was messing with me. Eventually he smiled and explained things. Be patient and enjoy your coffee.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) Also, every single steel

beam on the subway platforms had the graffiti 'Jesus Loves You' on it. ... Who wrote all that? ... And what would Jesus think of someone defacing public property in His name? This is the kind of deep thinking that living in New York inspires. Or New Hampshire.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) Struggling as an actor for so many years gave me a real yearning to taste the finer things in life. Like food and toilet paper. So fine.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) Don't go for Cindee, the Malibu volleyball queen who graduated from the Cordon Bleu and just signed a million-dollar deal to design a line of lingerie — NO! Go for Gladys, the squat girl from the mall who eats her egg salad with her mouth open. Because eventually Cindee will turn into Gladys, and it's so much easier to know that going into it. Gladys is the queen.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) I came to Los Angeles with two advantages: some cash in my pocket, and an instinct that this was not the town in which to take a restaurant job. Use what you've got.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) And there is many an actor making a fine living just holding up a box of detergent. Harder than it looks.

PUBLIC AUCTION

1st Priority Auto & Towing, LLC will be auctioning for non-payment, impounded/abandoned vehicles per NH Law RSA 262 Sec. 36-40. To be liquidated:

- 2007 Acura RDX 5J8TB18247A004092
- 2005 Mercedes SLK55 WDBWK73F75F072992
- 2020 TaoTao Scooter LQNTCBAE7J1010306

Vehicles will be sold at Public Auction March 11, 2022 at 10:00 AM at 26 Mason St., Nashua NH. We reserve the right to refuse/cancel any sale at any time for any reason.

Flashback to the 90s **SATURDAY MARCH 5TH 4 - 6 PM**

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AT MILLYARD BREWERY

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Join Us for Dinner and Live Music

Live Music 6-9pm

Thurs, March 3rd - Ralph Allen
Fri, March 4th - Rose Kula
Sat, March 5th - Dan Morgan
Sunday, March 6th, 3:30-6:30pm

Acoustic Session with Steve Pratte

Fundraiser for Team Fire Battle of the Badges - for CHAD Raffles and 50/50

See our Menu at VillageTrestle.com • Dine in and Take Out Available
 25 Main St. Goffstown Village • 497-8230

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 ad on TV (10)	_____
2 "OK by me!" (6)	_____
3 Yo-Yo Ma, e.g. (7)	_____
4 do to do or fa to fa (6)	_____
5 up to it (7)	_____
6 "Do go on..." (8)	_____
7 la-di-da (11)	_____

MERC RE ABLE AG CONT
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Sudoku Answers from pg48 of 2/24

Puzzle A

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

Puzzle B

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

Puzzle C

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

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Bright idea

Robin Folsom, 43, the former director of external affairs for the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency, was indicted on Feb. 10 for faking multiple pregnancies in order to get paid leave from her position, The Washington Post reported. Folsom reported her latest pregnancy to human resources in October 2020 and allegedly gave birth in May 2021. The “father” of the newborn, Bran Otmembewe, emailed her bosses and said her doctor had called for seven weeks of leave following the birth, which she ordinarily would not have received. Pictures that Folsom shared with co-workers were found to be “inconsistent and depicted children with varying skin tones,” the inspector general’s report said. Co-workers also noticed that her baby bump seemed to be detached from her body. In addition, “a review of medical and insurance records found no indication that Folsom had ever delivered a child.” Folsom resigned after an October 2021 interview with investigators and is due back in court in April.

It’s nice to have a hobby

People have discovered all sorts of pastimes during COVID-19 lockdowns, and Tom Quirk, 36, is no exception, as Metro News reported on Feb. 23. Quirk, of the Forest of Dean in the United Kingdom, treated himself to a new Shark vacuum a couple of years ago and quickly realized that he could make great art with it. For example, Quirk made a stunningly realis-

tic portrait of Donald Trump in his living room rug, a frightening likeness of Jack Nicholson from “The Shining” (“Here’s Johnny!”) and a pretty good image of Slash. “You have to Hoover the rug all over in just one direction first so it gives you an all over light image,” Quirk said. “Then I remove the hose and add the thin attachment to the end and drag the long fibers the opposite direction to get the shadows of faces. It normally takes about 15 to 20 minutes, which isn’t bad considering it took Leonardo da Vinci four years to do the ‘Mona Lisa.’”

News that sounds like a joke

What you’ve been waiting for: cologne for your dog. Yes indeed, none other than the queen of England has released Happy Hounds Dog Cologne, a unisex scent for pups that smells of “coastal walks” and features a “rich, musky scent with citrus notes of bergamot,” Canoe reported. Dog owners can purchase the pooch perfume at Sandringham House, the monarch’s estate in Norfolk, England, for 9.99 English pounds. Queen Elizabeth II, 95, is a big fan of corgis and has had pet dogs since she was 18 years old.

Questionable judgments

• Welcome to Texas, where Sarah Stogner, 37, is running for railroad commissioner against Wayne Christian. Christian has amassed a war chest of \$766,000, and Stogner is apparently willing to bare all to win the contest, Canoe

reported on Feb. 23: “I have other assets,” she said. To prove it, Stogner posted a 5-second TikTok video of herself wearing only cowboy boots and hat and straddling an oil pumping jack as “Apache” by the Sugarhill Gang played. Unfortunately for her, the stunt may not have worked: She lost the endorsement of the San Antonio Express-News and rangled some religious conservative supporters. “I knew it would be controversial,” Stogner said. “I didn’t realize it would incite the rage and anger that it did from the press.”

• An unnamed 22-year-old student at Brigham Young University in Utah was busily trying to make 5 pounds of rocket fuel on Feb. 20 in his dorm kitchen when the mixture exploded, People reported. Flames “engulfed the walls and ceiling around the stove, and the intense heat tripped the fire sprinkler system,” BYU police said in a statement. Although no one was injured, 22 students were relocated while cleanup and repairs were undertaken. Lt. Jeff Long said the student was trying to re-create something he saw online. “He didn’t think this through,” Long said. Which is basically a subhead for every article about a college student.

News you can use

Toddler Locklan Samples of Roswell, Georgia, looks “like a little rock star” with his nearly white hair that stands straight out from his head, People reported on Feb. 23. But it was only by

chance that his mom, Katelyn, discovered what causes Lock’s unusual locks: uncombable hair syndrome. After hearing about the syndrome, the Samples visited a specialist at Emory Hospital, who said she’s only seen one case in 19 years. But after tests, they confirmed that Lock had the condition, which causes hair to grow with a soft and very breakable texture. Katelyn said she rarely has to wash his hair, because it doesn’t get greasy, and she hardly brushes it because it’s so fragile. “I just try ... not to mess with it unless I have to. It brings a smile to people’s faces,” she said.

Credit where credit is due

The Henry County (Virginia) Sheriff’s Office has offered kudos to a local resident who helped track down a person they were chasing on Feb. 13, the Martinsville Bulletin reported on Feb. 21. Capt. Scott Barker explained that Deputy David Parnell was trying to arrest a suspect for domestic assault when the suspect fled on foot, and Parnell gave chase. “A goat from the property joined Deputy Parnell,” Barker said, and chased the man into the woods. Another deputy on the other side of the woods and the goat then flushed the suspect out of the woods, and Parnell took him into custody. Barker could not say if any official commendation would be offered to the goat.

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