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MARCH 17 - 23, 2022

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195 McGregor St., Suite 325,
Manchester, N.H. 03102
P 603-625-1855 F 603-625-2422
hippopress.com
email: news@hippopress.com

EDITORIAL

Executive Editor
Amy Diaz, adiaz@hippopress.com
Managing Editor
Meghan Siegler,
msiegler@hippopress.com, Ext. 113
Editorial Design
Tristan Collins
hippolayout@gmail.com
Copy Editor
Lisa Parsons, lparsons@hippopress.com
Staff Writers
Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com, Ext. 130
Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com, Ext. 152

Contributors Michelle Belliveau, John Fladd,
Jennifer Graham, Henry Homeyer, Chelsea
Kearin, Michele Pesula Kuegler, Dave Long, Fred
Matuszewski, Jeff Mucciarone, Eric W. Saeger,
Michael Witthaus

Listings

Arts listings: arts@hippopress.com
Inside/Outside listings: listings@hippopress.com
Food & Drink listings: food@hippopress.com
Music listings: music@hippopress.com

BUSINESS

Publisher
Jody Reese, Ext. 121
jreese@hippopress.com
Associate Publisher
Dan Szczesny
Associate Publisher
Jeff Rapsis, Ext. 123
jrapsis@hippopress.com
Production
Tristan Collins, Jennifer Gingras
Circulation Manager
Doug Ladd, Ext. 135
dladd@hippopress.com
Advertising Manager
Charlene Nichols, Ext. 126
cnichols@hippopress.com
Account Executives
Alyse Savage, 603-493-2026
asavage@hippopress.com
Roxanne Macaig, Ext. 127
rmacaig@hippopress.com
Tammie Boucher, support staff, Ext. 150

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Photo courtesy of Ben's Sugar Shack in Temple.

ON THE COVER

10 TIME TO MAPLE Celebrate Maple Weekend at local
sugar shacks, find out where to find local maple prod-
ucts, and meet a maple-maker who went from producing
5 gallons of syrup four years ago to building a new sugar-
house in the hopes of producing 50 gallons this year.

ALSO ON THE COVER, spring is showing signs of life in
the garden, p. 18. Find farm-fresh foods and new brews
in Nashua (p. 24), and all kinds of slices at Ray Street
Pizza in Goffstown (p. 26). And Samantha Fish comes to
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LIFE'S TOO SHORT TO FAKE ORGASMS



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NEWS & NOTES

Covid-19 news

On March 8, the state Department of Health & Human Services announced in a press release that all of the state-managed Covid-19 testing sites will permanently close on Tuesday, March 15. Both PCR and antigen-based Covid tests remain easily accessible, including at all New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Outlet stores and at dozens of hospitals, health care practices, pharmacies and urgent care centers. See covid19.nh.gov for a full list of locations that offer tests.

Elliot Hospital also recently said goodbye to a team of 14 officials from the federal Department of Defense helping out with the latest Covid surge, according to a March 9 report from WMUR. The team, which included several nurses and technicians, as well as a physician and an advanced care provider, had been assisting hospital staff for the past two months.

State health officials announced 86 new positive Covid test results on March 11, surpassing the 300,000 mark for overall cases in New Hampshire since the start of the pandemic two years ago. Despite this milestone, numbers continue to trend downward — only 43 active hospitalizations were reported on March 14, the fewest since early August of last year. In a press release issued that same day, DHHS reminded people of the availability of two oral antiviral medications, Paxlovid and molnupiravir. According to the release, both can be prescribed by providers via phone or through a telemedicine visit and can be taken at home.

Trooper training

Eleven members from the New Hampshire Division of State Police have completed the national Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement Project, which provides training and support to help law enforcement agencies build a culture of peer intervention that prevents harm. According to a press release, those 11 designated instructors will now be able to provide ABLE training to all other New Hampshire state troopers. The Project's Board of Advisors is made up of civil rights, social justice and law enforcement leaders, and the strategies and tactics that are taught through the program aim to prevent misconduct, reduce mistakes and promote health and wellness, the release said. The training is consistent with the recommendations of the state's Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability, Community, and Transparency. "This training will ensure that we continue to provide the highest degree of law enforcement service throughout the state while maintaining our core values of professionalism, fairness and integrity," State Police Col. Nathan Noyes said in the release.

Courtroom equity

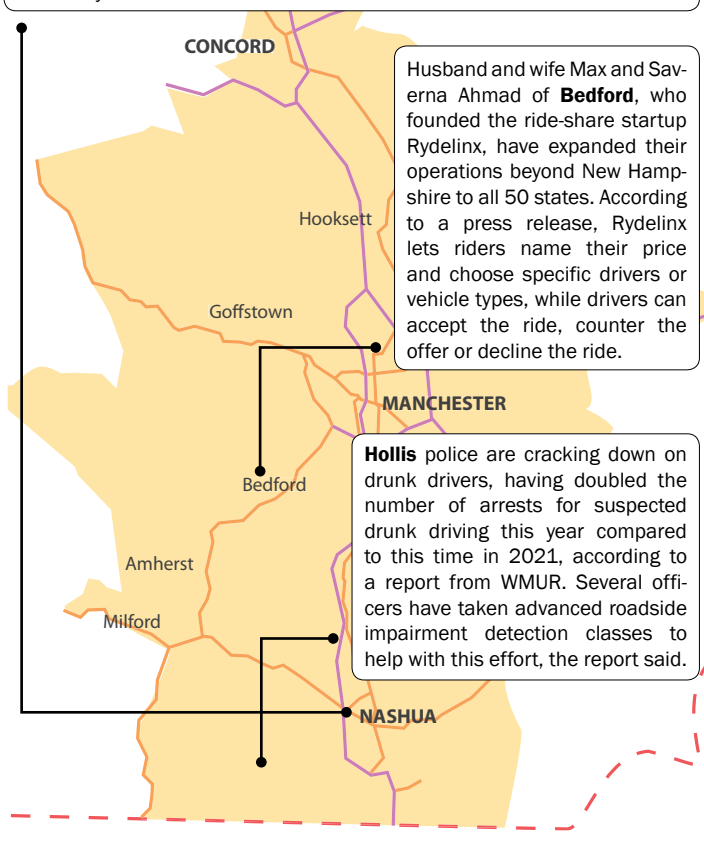
The New Hampshire Women's Foundation released a new Gender Matters report last week that explores the inequitable representation of women and people of color in the New Hampshire judicial branch, according to a press release. "Women in the New Hampshire Judiciary" points to the fact that 38 percent of all New Hampshire state court judges are women, with the ratios of female judges being even smaller in the state's Superior and Supreme

Courts. Only one person of color, a woman, is currently serving as a judge in the state judicial system. According to the release, governors' administrations play an important part in who makes up the judicial system; former Gov. Maggie Hassan's administration appointed the highest percentage of women during her tenure, at 48 percent. "Representation matters in all branches of government," Tanna Clews, CEO of the New Hampshire Women's Foundation said in the release. "We see many opportunities in New Hampshire to increase gender and racial diversity among New Hampshire judges." Some of the Foundation's policy recommendations to increase gender and racial diversity include urging governors to nominate more women and people of color; appointing more members with gender and racial diversity to the Judicial Selection Commission; and providing female attorneys a mentorship program that supports career trajectory, including judgeship.

University system chancellor

The University System of New Hampshire Board of Trustees voted last week to combine the university system's chancellor position with the role of the president of the University of New Hampshire on an interim basis for the next two-plus years. According to a press release, UNH President James W. Dean Jr. will serve as interim chancellor effective immediately, and the combined role will be in place through June 30, 2024. The board will evaluate the efficacy of the new position throughout that time. The chancellor role has remained vacant since for-

The Nashua Board of Education and the Nashua Teachers' Union have tentatively reached a four-year contract agreement. According to a press release, negotiating teams met last week and agreed to an average salary increase of 4.1 percent over four years for all teachers, totaling \$11,127,830. "Our teachers, nurses, counselors, school psychologists, and many others have been at the front lines of the Covid-19 pandemic these last two years and this agreement recognizes their efforts and honors their work with increased pay, benefits, and support," Superintendent Garth J. McKinney said in the release.



mer Chancellor Todd Leach departed in June 2021; since then, the board and administrative leadership have focused on "the economic stability, growth and transformation of its institutions" and explored various governance structure options to determine which might best secure those outcomes. In the new role, Dean will "lead and ensure the success of UNH, including the current merger of UNH and Granite State College, while working with the other campus presidents to advance the interests of KSC, PSU and the overall university system," the release said.

Preschooler support

Federal funds are being used to make the Waterford Upstart at-home program available to hundreds more pre-K-age children in New Hampshire. According to a press release, the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund will give more kids access to Waterford Upstart Summer Learning Path from

June to August. The program is designed to prepare young students for kindergarten, and many who complete it "will be reading at a nearly first-grade level," the release said. It offers positive parent-child interactions through personalized online instruction. The summer program has kids working on the curriculum for 20 minutes a day, five days a week. "Preschool is the ideal platform for children to build a strong academic foundation and enhance language and literacy — skills that are critical for school readiness," Christine Brennan, deputy commissioner of education, said in the release. New Hampshire families with a child entering kindergarten in the fall of 2022 or the fall of 2023 can register by calling 1-888-982-9898 or visiting WaterfordUpstart.org. "The Waterford Upstart program helps close the well-documented preschool access gap, providing proven school-readiness support for children most at risk of school failure," Frank Edelblut, commissioner of education, said in the release.

Covid-19 update	As of March 7	As of March 14
Total cases statewide	299,651	300,511
Total current infections statewide	1,045	821
Total deaths statewide	2,403	2,417
New cases	1,922 (Feb. 26 to March 7)	860 (March 8 to March 14)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	256	196
Current infections: Merrimack County	75	67
Current infections: Rockingham County	144	142

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

High school diplomas outdated?



What does a high school diploma get you? Some might say that someone with a high school diploma will earn more money over their lifetime than someone

who hasn't earned a diploma. That may be true, but do you credit the diploma for the extra earnings? Does that diploma tell you anything about the specific skills that an individual would bring to the workplace? I believe that the high school diploma has largely outlived its usefulness and that the end game in high school should no longer be to simply earn a diploma.

What does a high school diploma tell you about someone? For example, if someone got a B in biology, can anyone tell me what that person knows and is able to do with what he or she learned in biology? How did they get the B? Did they get it because they got a B average on their tests? Was it because they passed their homework in on time? Did they regularly participate in class discussions? Did they do well on the final exam? Maybe they were nice to the teacher. Whatever they did, it translated into a B. Even if we assume that they did fairly well in their biology class, how much of what they were taught will they actually retain even two weeks after the exam?

And what are colleges supposed to translate from your grades in high school? Why is it that 40 percent of college freshmen need to take remedial courses in either math or language arts? Can we assume that their high school transcripts were interpreted by the admissions officers to be that these students actually had skills in those areas? Then how come they had to take remedial courses?

I believe the high school diploma's usefulness is coming to an end, and that the new coin of the realm for high schools will be certifications and career credentials; something that will give confidence to anyone who has interest in someone holding one of these credentials that they have achieved the skills necessary to perform the associated tasks, be it a welder's license, a massage therapist's license, an associate's degree in a specific field, etc. These credentials not only give someone confidence that you have the requisite skills but they immediately carry weight in the marketplace when seeking specific jobs.

Career-related credentials are coming soon to a high school near you and they will be a welcome improvement over the outdated notion of a diploma.

Fred Bramante is a past chairman and member of the New Hampshire State Board of Education. He speaks and consults on education redesign to regional, state and national organizations.

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NEWS & NOTES Q&A

Going green

Meet Manchester's official leprechaun

The Manchester St. Patrick's Parade returns on Sunday, March 27, with Matt Casey, owner and operator of Casey Magee's Irish Pub & Music Hall in Nashua, as its new "official Leprechaun."

Q: *How did you land this official leprechaun gig?*

I opened up an Irish pub, Casey Magee's, in the middle of the pandemic, in June of 2020. ... The logo for the pub is actually [an image of] me as a leprechaun. ... I reached out to the organizers of the Manchester [St. Patrick's] Parade and explained to them that I wanted to participate. They accepted me and are going to allow me to promote my pub in the parade. The plan is for me to march in the parade every year as the official leprechaun.

What will you be doing in the parade?

I'll be walking. I try not to bring a cane or anything, because I like to have my hands free so that I can wave and shake everybody's hand. People like to put their arm around me and take a picture with me. ... This year it'll be just me, but eventually I'd like to have my pub staff join me with a banner.

How do you prepare?

I started growing a beard — a big, red beard — out in the fall. ... I bought a new hat [on which] I'm going to either sew or glue white letters that say 'Casey Magee's.' I also have a green corduroy jacket that I got four or five years ago, which is vintage from the '60s. I'm going to put 'Casey Magee's' on the jacket also, somehow. Then I have all the lapel pins to put on. I have at least 30, and about half of them I actually purchased myself in Ireland. ... [The night before the parade,] after I close the pub, I'm going to drive to Manchester. I rented a hotel room downtown. I'll check in at around 3 a.m., and get everything for my outfit laid out so that I know I'm not missing anything. I'll go to bed, wake up, put on my outfit and walk out the front door of the hotel as the leprechaun.

Do you have prior leprechaun experience?

Yes. I've been marching in St. Patrick's Day parades for roughly 20 years. ... I started in the Providence, Rhode Island, one. ... I was a Las Vegas leprechaun for about six years while I lived out there. I used to do the [St. Patrick's Day]



Matt Casey

toasts on the Las Vegas strip at midnight, and that was really fun. Then I was the leprechaun in the South Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade from 2017 to 2019.

How did you get your start?

I've always tried to [wear] everything-green on Saint Patrick's Day. When I was in college, I purchased a green coat, a hat, a bow tie and a vest, and I went to the local Irish pub. The Providence St. Patrick's Day parade was that weekend. The lady that [organized the parade] ran into me at the pub and said, 'Hey, we don't have a leprechaun; how would you like to be our leprechaun?' and I said, 'Of course, I will.'

What do you enjoy most about it?

It's so much fun to see everybody smile and wave ... and to see the looks on the kids' faces when I shake their hand, or I give them a high five, or I give them a little plastic gold coin. Honestly, it's the funnest day of the year for me, because I get to make everybody happy, and I get a lot of joy in doing that. I'll continue to do it for as long as I can and for as long as they'll let me do it. Somebody has to do it, right?

What does this opportunity mean to you, as someone with Irish heritage?

Celebrating my family's heritage and the history of Ireland is part of why I do it. ... New Hampshire has a large Irish population, so there's a lot of excitement for the parade, and I love to share that with everybody.

— Angie Sykeny

Manchester Saint Patrick's parade

Where: Downtown Manchester, North End of Elm Street

When: Sunday, March 27, noon

More info: Visit saintpatsnh.com and [facebook.com/saintpatsnh](https://www.facebook.com/saintpatsnh)

The week that was



News Item: Baseball Lockout Ends

I said last week that baseball's work stoppage would amount to a big nothing, and it did when a deal was struck on Thursday. Big whoop.

Although echoing the media hysteria mentioned last week was Boston Globe Sports Business Reporter **Michael Silverman** describing it as something that "infuriated fans." It did? Where's the evidence of that, pal?

There was some reporting on the financials, but they didn't seem to have much significance so you have to wonder what it was all about.

The dumbest part is that if the All-Star game is tied after nine innings the league that wins the Home Run Derby will now be declared the winner. How stupid is that? Just leave it a tie, Rob.

What was bargaining in mutually agreed upon changes like a universal DH throughout baseball, and the mechanism to address more changes for 2023. They include pace of play issues, possibly banning the infield shift and making the bases larger. Not sure if I'm for the ban, as major leaguers should learn to hit the other way to beat it, and I don't get what larger bases will do, but both sides working together to improve the game is progress.

News Item: Round 1 To Brooklyn

Brooklyn took the early lead in the debate over who won the **James Harden-Ben Simmons** trade.

Thanks to a complete 3-17, 11-point no show by Harden, Philly got smoked by 29 at home in the first match-up since the trade went down and Simmons didn't even play. But, to his credit, he did show up on the bench to get roasted and he gets a bonus point for that.

News Item: Stat Geekdom Finally Comes Up With Good One

Here's a stat from the new-age stat geekdom I can get behind. It's Celtics center **Robert Williams** holding everyone he defends to 6 percentage points below their normal field goal percentage. That means if the combined FG percentage of the guys he covers is 50, they only shoot 44 percent against him. That tells you what kind of man-on-man defender he is.

News Item: Ridley Suspended For Doing Something NFL Promotes

When I was in the PR business in the '90s and the NH Lottery was my client, a bill was advancing in the legislature to make football betting cards legal. I went one day with Lottery Director **Jim Wimsatt** to hear a young NFL PR flack, who my memory says was a young **Roger Goodell**, though a search couldn't verify that, testify before the committee considering it, to voice the NFL's opposition to the bill. After it was over Wimsatt, who loved talking to the press, did an impromptu press conference and predicted the NFL would be against betting on football until it could figure out how to get a piece of the action.

He was correct; that day has now arrived and their ongoing hypocrisy is worse than ever,

exemplified specifically by suspending wide receiver **Calvin Ridley** last week for at least a year for betting on a few games while he was sidelined with mental health issues. A suspension handed out by an organization that is the official sports betting partner of Draft Kings, in whom Patriots owner **Bob Kraft** was one of the early investors, and whose game broadcasts every Sunday are chock full of ads promoting legal betting on its games.

And while I have nothing against sports betting, it seems ludicrous to suspend an inactive player for doing what ads on their games are inviting viewers to do. So, Roger, is gambling good or bad?, 'cause your actions send a very mixed message.

News Item: NFL Free Agency Opens

To paraphrase the famed sideline rant by legendary Green Bay Coach **Vince Lombardi** during a breakdown for his five-time champion Packers, here's a question for **Coach B** as the new NFL year gets started: What The Heck Is Going On Down There?!

A year ago the Pats had the best secondary in football. But that was before he failed to get a long-term deal done with **JC Jackson** in advance of his free agency year even as he was throwing \$175 million around at lesser free agents. And that was before he screwed up the **Stephon Gilmore** stalemate. Now both are gone with no obvious successors.

No SB was won in the Brady era without a top-flight cornerback. **Ty Law** was there for the first three. Then you put up a doughnut for 10 years until **Darrelle Revis** arrived in 2014, followed by **Malcolm Butler** in 2016 and Gilmore in 2018.

News Item: Flores Lawsuit Gets Stronger

The lawsuit ex-Dolphins coach **Brian Flores** filed against the NFL for discriminatory hiring practices picked up a little ammo last week thanks to moves related to two big-name quarterbacks. Quarterback-needy (OK, QB-desperate) Denver's choice of **Nathaniel Hackett** and rejection of Flores was based on the notion the ex-Green Bay OC could bring disgruntled and wanting out of GB **Aaron Rodgers** with him to Denver to solve their QB ills. And since Flores couldn't make that happen, his interview was a sham, the latest bogus Rooney Rule forced interview. But Rodgers magically became un-disgruntled when the Pack made the reigning MVP the highest-paid player in history. Which I always suspected his phony disgruntled act was designed to produce all along. That forced Denver, ah, to punt, sending three players and a boatload of draft picks to Seattle for QB **Russell Wilson**. Since they could have done that no matter who the HC was, that weakened the rationale for taking Hackett in the first place, and should give his legal team an extra arrow in the quiver.

News Item: Brady Un-Retires

I don't care if you play or don't play. So our only question is, Hey, Tom, when did you become such an attention-seeker?

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Fun at the stadium

Celebrate chicken tenders, Marvel characters and *Northwoods Law*, among other fun themes, with the New Hampshire Fisher Cats this season. The team recently announced its promotional schedule for 2022, with Atlas Fireworks shows, giveaways, brand new theme nights, and the debut of Benny the Bat Dog (In Training) on May 13. According to a press release, Manchester Chicken Tenders Night will be Saturday, June 4, when the F-Cats will don specialty jerseys and chicken tender hats to honor Manchester's culinary history. Marvel's Defenders of the Diamond Night is Friday, June 17, featuring Marvel music, movie clips and Thor jerseys worn by the Fisher Cats. Hockey Night pays homage to the history of hockey in the state on Friday, June 24, with Manchester Monarchs-inspired jerseys, a mini stick giveaway and appearances from former NHLers including Derek Bekar and Jeff Giuliano. The stars of *Northwoods Law New Hampshire* return Friday, July 8, to meet fans; the first 1,000 fans will receive a replica conservation officer jersey. Star Wars Night returns on Saturday, July 23, with Star Wars characters, music, movie clips, intergalactic fireworks and Mandalorian jerseys featuring Baby Yoda.

Score: +1

Comment: *The Fisher Cats home opener is on schedule for Tuesday, April 12, against the Hartford Yard Goats, with a magnet schedule giveaway and a post-game fireworks show.*

Hey kids, want to be a governor?

After a Covid hiatus, the Governor for a Day initiative that was launched in New Hampshire in 2018 will return. According to a press release, the goal of the program is to "foster civic education and promote youth participation in government," and it's open to all middle and high school students in the state. Applicants are asked to submit a 250- to 500-word essay completing the sentence, "If I were governor for a day, I would..." One student will be selected to serve as "Governor for a Day," joining Gov. Chris Sununu for a day on the job.

Score: +1

Comment: *Submissions are due by April 22, and may be submitted to GovernorForADay@nh.gov, by mail or via Facebook Messenger.*

Here's hoping for a warm spring

The good news is that warmer temperatures are coming. The bad news is that a final oil-tank fillup this season is going to cost you. According to a report last week from WMUR, the prices for oil in most New Hampshire communities is more than \$5 a gallon. The price at Lemay's Oil Services in Manchester last week was \$5.32 a gallon, and owner Dan Lemay told WMUR he's never seen it like this. Rymes Propane and Oil in Concord had its price listed at \$5.29 a gallon on March 12; on March 15, the price had risen to \$5.54.

Score: -2

Comment: *QOL got an automatic delivery March 11 and was shocked to see the price had skyrocketed to \$5.29 per gallon. QOL will be canceling automatic deliveries for now, in the hopes that prices will be less heart-attack-inducing in the fall.*

Math is where it's at

Brainly, an online homework help community, surveyed 900 American students throughout the country about math in honor of Pi Day on March 14 to find out how they feel about the subject. According to a press release, New Hampshire ranks No. 3 for states where math is the students' favorite subject, with 37.6 percent of students preferring math over science, English, social studies or history, or "other." Students in New Jersey and Massachusetts like math the most, at 41.7 percent and 41.6 percent, respectively.

Score: +1

Comment: *QOL doesn't understand the "new math" they're teaching in schools these days but is all for it if it's making the subject more accessible — and even enjoyable — for kids.*

QOL score: 65

Net change: +1

QOL this week: 66

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THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS MARCH 17 AND BEYOND



Corned beef and cabbage from The Shaskeen Pub and Restaurant in Manchester. Courtesy photo.

Thursday, March 17

If you like **corned beef and cabbage**, this is your day. In last week's (March 10) issue of the Hippo, Matt Ingersoll gathered all the St.

Patrick's Day eats and treats plans from area restaurants, bakeries and more. Find that story on page 24 in the e-edition of the Hippo, available at hippypress.com.

Friday, March 18

The **Dueling Pianos** return to the Tupelo Music Hall (10 A St. in Derry; tupelomusic-hall.com, 437-5100) tonight at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$20. Find more concerts this weekend or beyond on page 41.

Saturday, March 19

Learn how to become an **Eastern Bluebird trail monitor** at the New Hampshire Audubon's Massabesic Center in Auburn. Register in advance for today's free event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring a lunch; the morning will be spent in the classroom and the afternoon on the trail, according to nhaudubon.org.

Wednesday, March 23

What is the **Postmodern Jukebox**? Watch the "Evolution of the *Friends* Theme Song 1920s-1990s" video on the Capitol Center for the Arts' website, ccanh.com, to see them take "I'll Be There For You" from flappers to a Freddy Mercury riff. The Postmodern Jukebox's Grand Reopening Tour comes to the Cap Center (Chubb Theatre, 44 S. Main St. in Concord; ccanh.com) tonight at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7 p.m.; tickets cost \$39 (plus fees).

be purchased in advance at eventbrite.com (search "Aviation Museum Fly Girls") or by calling 669-4877. 🍷

Thursday, March 24

Author Keith O'Brien will sign and discuss his book *Fly Girls*, about **aviation's female pioneers**, at the Aviation Museum of N.H. (27 Navigator Road in Londonderry; aviationmuseumofnh.org, 669-4820) tonight at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 or \$40 for admission plus a hardcover copy of the book, according to a press release. Tickets can

Save the date: March 31

The **New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival** kicks off on Thursday, March 31, with an in-person screening of the documentary *The Automat* (which will screen at the Rex Theatre in Manchester at 7 p.m.). The line-up includes 11 feature-length films, a five-film shorts program, five in-person screenings in a theater, and seven at-home film programs. A screening of the 1972 film *Cabaret* will close out the in-person portion of the festival on Sunday, April 10, at 3:30 p.m. at Red River Theatres in Concord. During a bonus week of the festival, April 11 to April 14, four of the in-person films will be available to view at home, according to the event's website, nhjewishfilmfestival.com, where you can buy individual tickets for films (\$12) or festival passes for either in-person and virtual events (\$130 for one person, \$180 for two people) or for virtual only events (\$118). In addition to *The Automat* (see the trailer, which includes Colin Powell, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Carl Reiner talking about their automat experiences over a recording of Mel Brooks singing an ode to automat coffee), the feature film line-up includes the documentary *Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen*, which focuses on the making of the 1971 movie *The Fiddler on the Roof*, a nice companion to the delightful documentary from the 2020 festival, *Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles*, about the musical theater play and its lasting impact (available for rent or purchase and on Amazon Prime).

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Time to Maple

CELEBRATE THE SWEET STUFF WITH SUGAR HOUSE VISITS AND MAPLE TASTINGS PLUS A LOOK AT ONE MAN'S JOURNEY INTO SYRUP MAKING

Maple sugaring tours at Ben's Sugar Shack in Temple. Courtesy photo.

Season of syrup

New Hampshire Maple Weekend returns

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

On March 5 and March 6 Ben's Sugar Shack in Temple kicked off the first two days of its maple touring season to a great turnout — and an overall “back to normal” type of feeling, operations manager Emily Sliviak said. Free tours are set to continue every weekend through April 3.

“This is the first year that we're starting to do samples again,” Sliviak said. “Everyone wanted a sample, and it was great to see that nobody really seemed uncomfortable or scared or anything, especially in the evaporator room, just because it is kind of a tighter space.”

Ben's is one of hundreds of sugarhouses across the Granite State gearing up for New Hampshire Maple Weekend,

New Hampshire Maple Weekend

When: Saturday, March 19, and Sunday, March 20

Where: Several participating sugarhouses and farms statewide

Visit: nhmapleproducers.com

happening on Saturday, March 19, and Sunday, March 20. Maple producers large and small traditionally hold open houses throughout the weekend — or all month long in March — for families to visit, take a free tour, and sample syrup and other maple goodies.

It's overseen by the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association, a nonprofit founded in 1943 that now represents roughly 350 maple purveyors statewide, president Andrew Chisholm said.

“Last year we decided to advertise it as Maple Month so that producers would have the option to spread everything out over the entire month and not have large groups come to sugarhouses, as is common on Maple Weekend,” said Chisholm, a maple producer himself who runs Chisholm Farm in Hampstead. “This year we're doing kind of a hybrid, so we're giving producers the option to advertise themselves as participating in Maple Month or Maple Weekend, and then my guess is that by 2023 we'll hopefully be fully back to ... calling it a Maple Weekend.”

Here's a look at how this year's maple

sugaring season has gone so far in southern New Hampshire and what you can expect when you visit a local sugarhouse on Maple Weekend.

Maple warm pudding

Courtesy of Ben's Sugar Shack in Temple.

Recipe by Mareh Bleecker

2½ cups whole milk
⅔ cup maple sugar
½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 Tablespoons cornstarch
2 Tablespoons unsalted butter, softened
Strawberry jam
Fresh whipped cream

In a small bowl, mix half a cup of cold milk with the cornstarch. Place the remaining two cups of milk, the maple sugar and the salt in a small saucepan over medium-low heat. Cook just until the mixture begins to steam. Add the cornstarch mixture and cook, stirring occasionally, until the mixture starts to thicken and barely reaches a boil, about 5 minutes. Immedi-

Tapping traditions

Tours are offered at Ben's every 15 minutes between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. and will typically last about half an hour depend-



Maple warm pudding. Photo courtesy of Ben's Sugar Shack.

ately reduce the heat to very low and stir for five minutes until thick. Remove the pudding from the heat and stir in the butter and vanilla extract. Spoon the pudding into individual jars or ramekins and let cool slightly. Top with jam, compote, fresh fruit and whipped cream.

ing on questions, Sliviak said. Attendees learn all about the process of collecting sap and the importance of daily maintenance of the trees, especially against windy or rainy weather conditions and the intrusions of animals like squirrels, bears and moose.

“We walk them across the woods to where they can see the modern way of collecting, which is through the tubing system and the vacuum system,” she said. “Then we’ll walk groups back over to where the trucks will bring the sap. We have a 10,000-gallon holding tank, and all of the sap from there will run into the reverse osmosis room, which is a fancy system that separates the water from the sugar molecules ... and that makes it much less work for the evaporator to boil.”

Depending on the sugar content levels and the time of the season, Sliviak said it takes roughly 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of maple syrup. After the reverse osmosis process, the sap then runs into the evaporator room, where tour attendees learn about the boiling, filtering and bottling of the syrup, as well as the grades that are produced and how each is different in taste.

Samples are provided at the conclusion of the tour, and a gift shop will also have various maple products for sale. Last weekend Ben’s began offering maple ice cream — that’s expected to continue through the last two weekends of the month, Sliviak said, in addition to their maple roasted nuts, maple cotton candy and their popular maple doughnuts.

“We’re just kind of easing into everything and gradually getting back into all of the other stuff that we normally would do with the tours,” Sliviak said.

In May, following the end of this year’s production season, Ben’s is expected to break ground on a new 16,000-square-foot building on the corner of Route 101 and Webster Highway in Temple, which Sliviak said will accommodate tours that much better by this time next year.

Chisholm will similarly open his operation up for free tours, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day of Maple Weekend. He’ll have maple ice cream sourced from Shaw Farm just over the state line in Dracut, Mass., as well as maple doughnuts and a variety of his own products available for sale.

“What I like to do that’s a little unique are infused maples, so I do a vanilla-infused maple and a cinnamon-infused maple, and then also some barrel-aged stuff,” he said.

Weathering the storm

Despite a slow start to the 2022 maple season, the temperatures over the last couple of weeks and the forecast have set the stage for an ideal Maple Weekend, according to Sliviak.

“A lot of times we’re able to produce a decent amount in January and even in February, and that was not the case this year,” she said. “We’re looking for warmer days and colder nights, ideally 40 degrees or 45

at the most, but definitely a slight freeze at night, so around 25 to 30 degrees. ... Overall it looks like it’s going to turn out really well, and one of the reasons is because of the amount of rain that we had in the past year, in the summer, fall and through the winter, even.”

It’s already shaping out to be a better season for sugarhouses compared to last year, which Chisholm said was widely classified as a disaster due to very warm and dry conditions.

“Most producers only made about 40 percent of what they would expect to make, myself included,” he said. “Last year was an early start and a very early finish. ... It warmed up real quick at the end of March, and I think for us down here in southern New Hampshire it never went below freezing. As a whole the 2021 season was a short crop across the entire region.”

Sugarhouses haven’t been immune to rising costs and supply chain issues impacting all kinds of industries in the pandemic’s wake, from plastic containers and glass bottles and jars to everything in between. But with that, Sliviak said sales of and demand for syrup are still up from before.

“We literally had some farm stands double their average sales with us last year,” she said. “I don’t really know what it’s from, whether people are more out and about or their kids are home more and they needed maple syrup, but we’re still seeing that upward trend.”

Visit a sugarhouse

Here are some local farms and sugarhouses participating in this year’s New Hampshire Maple Weekend, scheduled for Saturday, March 19, and Sunday, March 20. Some will be offering maple sugaring tours and demonstrations, while others will be selling and providing samples of a variety of maple-infused products. Be sure to contact each one directly for their most up-to-date plans for Maple Weekend. For a full list of sugarhouses, visit nhmapleproducers.com.

• **6 Saplings Sugarhouse** (31 Kearsarge Valley Road, Wilnot, 526-2167, find them on Facebook) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., offering tours, samples and products for sale, from maple syrup to maple cream, sugar, candied nuts and more.

• **Babel’s Sugar Shack** (323 Hurricane Hill Road, Mason, 878-3929, find them on Facebook) Open on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., for an open house, with samples and syrup for sale.

• **Beaver Brook Maple** (1 Beaver Brook Drive, Bow, 491-0500, find them on Facebook @bbmaple) Open on Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for maple demonstrations.

• **Beaver Meadowbrook Farm Sugar House** (402 Route 103 East, Warner, 224-2452, find them on Facebook) Visitors welcome any time, but calling ahead is recommended. Face masks are required when inside the sugar house.

CONTINUED ON PG 12 ▶

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• **Ben's Sugar Shack** (83 Webster Hwy., Temple; 693 Route 103, Newbury; 924-3111, bensmaplesyrup.com) Open on Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free maple sugaring tours are offered every 15 minutes and last about a half hour, depending on questions. Samples and products for sale include maple syrup, soft serve, doughnuts, roasted nuts and more.

• **Beyond the Horizon Farm** (19 Gillis Hill Road, Bennington, 588-6210, beyondthehorizonfarm.com) Open on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring complimentary maple cinnamon swirl rolls and doughnuts as well as coffee, cocoa and tea while supplies last.

• **Blueberry Hill Sugarworks** (31 Blueberry Hill Road, Raymond, 300-6837, wickedsappy.com) Open weekends during maple season; hours vary. Check back on the website or call for details.

• **Charmingfare Farm** (774 High St., Candia, 483-5623, visitthefarm.com) Open Saturday and Sunday for its annual Maple Express event, to be held at various times between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each day. Tickets start at \$22 and include horse-drawn and tractor train rides, maple syrup demonstrations and tours, taste testing, visits with the animals and more.

• **Chisholm Farm** (641 Main St., Hampstead, 421-4727, chisholmfarm.com) Open on Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tours will be conducted on an on-demand basis and a variety of products will be available, from maple ice cream and doughnuts to all kinds of infused syrups.

• **Chris-Mich 3 Farm** (285 Elm Ave., Antrim, 588-2157, find them on Facebook @chrismich3farm) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a variety of maple products available, from maple syrup to maple cream, sugar, candies, walnuts and more.

• **Connolly's Sugar House** (140 Webster Hwy., Temple, 924-5002, find them on Facebook) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., for tours. Connolly's, which is

also a family-owned dairy farm, will have its own maple ice cream made fresh on site with its syrup.

• **Dill Family Farm** (61 Griffin Road, Deerfield, 475-3798, find them on Facebook) Open on Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring maple syrup samples available, in addition to maple candy, cream and sugar for sale.

• **Fletcher & Family Sugar House** (2528 E. Washington Road, Washington, 340-4035, fletcher-farm.com) Open on Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring maple syrup, candy and sugar for purchase, in addition to some free samples. Coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts will be served in the morning and hot dogs and chips will be served for lunch.

• **Folsom's Sugar House** (130 Candia Road, Chester, 370-0908, folsomsugarhouse.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tours will be ongoing throughout each day, and there will be a variety of specialty products available, from maple syrup, candies and cream to maple barbecue sauce, mustard, pepper seasonings and pancake mixes.

• **Gould Hill Farm** (656 Gould Hill Road, Contoocook, 746-3811, gouldhillfarm.com) Open on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring free maple syrup samples, as well as cider doughnuts and maple hard cider for sale. The Contoocook Cider Co.'s tasting room will also have live music by Colin Hart from 1 to 4 p.m. that day.

• **Ice Mountain Maple** (276 Queen St., Boscawen, 341-4297, icemountainmaple.com) Open on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., offering maple syrup and candy for sale, as well as maple coffee.

• **Jessie James Maple Farm** (164 Allens Mill Road, Gilmanston, 267-6428, jessiejamesmaple.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., featuring its own maple syrup for sale, in addition to other specialty products like maple mustard, maple chipotle seasoning and cinnamon maple sugar.

• **Journey's End Maple Farm** (295 Loudon Road, Pittsfield, 252-6669, journey-sendmaplefarm.com) Open on Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring live maple sugaring demonstrations, a local vendor pop-up event and a variety of maple products for sale, from maple syrup to iced maple lattes, maple shakes, sundaes, cotton candy and more.

• **Kaison's Sugar House** (75 Forest Road, Weare, 660-6019, find them on Facebook @kaisonsugarhouse) Open on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring maple sugaring demonstrations and maple products for sale like syrup, lollipops and candy drops (cash only).

• **Kearsarge Gore Farm** (173 Gore Road, Warner, 456-2319, teamkgf.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., for maple sugaring demonstrations and syrup samples.

• **Ledge Top Sugar House** (25 Oak St., Boscawen, 753-4973, ledgetop.com) Open on Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring maple syrup and other products for sale.

• **Main Street Maple and Honey Farm** (186 Main St., Belmont, 527-9071, mainstreetmapleandhoney.com) Open on Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring maple syrup making demonstrations and a variety of products for sale.

• **Mapletree Farm** (105 Oak Hill Road, Concord, 224-0820, mapletreefarmnh.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring self-guided maple sugaring tours and a variety of maple products available, like maple syrup, cream, candy and more.

• **Matras Maple** (821 Catamount Road, Pittsfield, 724-9427, find them on Facebook @matrasmaple) Open on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 12:30 to 5 p.m. There will be maple syrup making demonstrations and all kinds of maple products for sale, like maple cream, maple sugar and local ice cream topped with maple syrup and crunchy candies.

• **Munson's Maple** (44 Blueberry Hill Road, Raymond, 303-8278, find them on Facebook) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., for maple tours, samples and products for sale.

• **Old Pound Road Sugar House** (37 Old Pound Road, Antrim, 588-3272, oldpoundroadsugarhouse.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring maple tours and a variety of free samples, like coffee, maple syrup and candy.

• **Parker's Maple Barn** (1316 Brookline Road, Mason, 878-2308, parkersmaplebarn.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for maple tours, and specialty products like gourmet maple coffee and maple glazed doughnuts will also be available for sale.

• **Peterson Sugar House** (28 Peabody Row, Londonderry, 383-8917, pokeypeterson038@yahoo.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from noon to 5 p.m., featuring maple sugaring demonstrations, maple syrup samples and various maple products for sale.

• **Pfeil Family Farm** (311 Cram Hill Road, Lyndeborough, 801-3158, pfeilfamilymaple.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring maple syrup for sale as well as coffee, doughnuts and other various maple products.

• **Remick Country Doctor Museum & Farm** (58 Cleveland Hill Road, Tamworth, 323-7591, remickmuseum.org) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., featuring outdoor maple sugaring demonstrations and maple syrup for sale while supplies last.

• **Ridgeland Farm** (736 Loudon Ridge Road, Loudon, 520-4337, ridgelandfarmnh.com) Open on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring tours of the sugarhouse and samples of maple syrup and maple peanut butter fudge.

• **SMD Maple Syrup** (6 Falcon Drive, Merrimack, 978-815-6476, find them on Facebook @smdmaplesyrup) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., featuring maple syrup making demonstrations, samples, maple syrup for sale and more.

• **Somero Maple Farm** (21 Poor Farm Road, New Ipswich, 562-0822, someromaple-farm.com) Open on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring free maple syrup making tours and a variety of products available for sampling and for sale.

• **The Sugar House at Morning Star Farm** (30 Crane Crossing Road, Plaistow, 479-0804, find them on Facebook @thesugarhouseat-morningstarfarm) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., offering its full line of maple products, which include syrups, cream, jelly, mustard, nuts, candy, confections, homemade doughnuts and more.

• **Sunnyside Maples** (1089 Route 106 N, Loudon, 848-7090, sunnysidemaples.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring maple sugaring demonstrations and several maple products for sale in its gift shop, like syrup, cream, mustard, candy, seasonings, coffee, pancake mixes and more.

• **Trail Side Sugar House** (246 Currier Road, Andover, 748-1307, trailsidesugarhouse.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., offering maple tours, samples and demonstrations. Available products all weekend will include maple syrup, candy, cream, barbecue sauce, mustard, doughnuts, cotton candy, nuts and whoopie pies.

• **Turkey Street Maples** (673 Turkey St., Chocorua, 323-9320, turkeystreetmaples.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., featuring maple sugaring demonstrations and various maple products available for purchase, including syrup and cotton candy.

• **Two Sappy Guys Sugar Shack** (324 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford, 860-7992, find them on Facebook @2sappyguys) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring fresh maple syrup for sale.

• **Windswept Maples Farm** (845 Loudon Ridge Road, Loudon, 491-9130, windsweptmaples.com) Open Saturday and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring maple demonstrations and maple syrup, maple sugar candy and other products for sale. 🍁

Maple onion jam

Courtesy of Ben's Sugar Shack in Temple. Recipe by Mareh Bleecker

- 2 large onions, thinly sliced (about 2 cups)
- 2 Tablespoons neutral oil (grapeseed, avocado or ghee)
- 2 Tablespoons Ben's organic maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon fresh thyme
- 1 Tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1½ teaspoons salt
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon black pepper, freshly ground

Heat a saucepan over medium heat. Add the oil, onions and salt. Turn the heat to low and cook, stirring frequently until the onions begin to soften and turn translucent. Add maple syrup, black pepper and thyme. Add a little bit of water if the onions begin to stick to the bottom of the pan. Continue to cook the onions for 25 to 30 minutes or until the



Maple onion jam. Courtesy of Ben's Sugar Shack.

onions are caramelized and deep brown in color. Add the mustard and lemon juice and stir for one minute. Taste for seasoning and adjust as needed. Pour into a small jar and let it cool. Refrigerate for up to two weeks.

Backyard sugarhouse

New space and new equipment for Beaver Brook Maple



Andrew Mattiace and his new sugarhouse at Beaver Brook Maple. Photos by Meghan Siegler.

By Meghan Siegler
msiegler@hippopress.com

Curiosity — that’s essentially how Andrew Mattiace ended up with the brand new sugarhouse on his property in Bow. After his grandmother’s funeral in 2017, Mattiace and his family visited her favorite sugarhouse in Charlestown; at one point, Mattiace looked at the evaporator and thought, “This thing just boils water? I can do this.”

So, being a “curious engineer,” he built his own evaporator, tapped some maple trees in his backyard, and in 2018 produced maple syrup for the first time — a whopping 5 gallons.

“The first year was horrendous,” he laughed.

Mattiace learned mostly by scouring the internet, and then through trial and error — and there were a lot of errors, he said. But what he produced in the end was good stuff, worthy of bottling and selling.

“It was like, OK, I can make syrup now, but how do I sell it?” he said.

He decided to build a self-serve farm-stand on his property and named his business Beaver Brook Maple. Once he started selling, the demand quickly out-paced how much he was producing, even after he started to get the hang of it.

Mattiace now has plenty of sap, tapping into some of his neighbors’ trees too. On a recent Friday 13-year-old Miles Miller and his dad Joe dropped off almost 130 gallons of sap from their own trees. It was their second run of the week; a few days earlier, they’d brought 80. Miles, who does the majority of the tree tapping and sap collecting, walked away Friday with \$55 for that day’s delivery. He said they’ve lucked out with the maple trees on their property.

“They have a pretty high sugar content,” he said.

With neighbors selling him sap and plenty of people buying his syrup, the sugarhouse was the next logical step for Mattiace. He wanted to upsize his tank to produce more syrup in a shorter period of time.

Plus, he said, “I got tired of freezing my a** off. It’s very laborious and time consuming, and I wanted to get out of the outdoor process.”

His old evaporator processed eight gallons of sap in an hour, while the new one can process 35 gallons. His goal for this year is to produce 50 gallons of syrup, up from 23 last year, which will be much easier with the new equipment and warmer space, he said.

Mattiace isn’t in this for the money. In fact, if he sells those 50 gallons, he’ll just about break even.

“If I count my labor, I’m completely in the red,” he said.

Mattiace doesn’t want to grow Beaver Brook Maple into a big business. He has a full-time job that pays the bills, and this “hobby” already takes a lot of time.

“I want to make it worthwhile, but I never want to exceed 100 gallons a year,” he said.

Mattiace’s main goal has always been to create a sense of community, a place where friends and family come to hang out.

“That’s a real driving factor for me,” he said. “Everybody loves sweet, sugary things.” 🍁

Beaver Brook Maple

Beaver Brook Maple is located at 1 Beaver Brook Dr. in Bow and will be open Maple Weekend from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. Find more information on Facebook.

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By Meghan Siegler
msiegler@hippopress.com

On stage and off, Kathryn and Erik Hodges are in love, and the married Penacook couple brings that real-life emotion to *Love Letters*, a two-person show that explores the relationship of Andrew and Melissa through letter writing over the course of 50-plus years.

“It’s an unconventional love story,” said Lauren Shelby Douglas, who’s directing the piece for Hatbox Theatre. “It’s not high-energy, it’s not anxiety-driven — it’s a very kind show.”

Love Letters was written by A. R. Gurney and nominated in 1990 for a Pulitzer Prize in drama. The Hodges first performed it to limited, socially distanced audiences in September 2020 at Hatbox, during the brief period when the venue was allowed to reopen after being shut down due to Covid, only to be shut down again shortly after.

“*Love Letters* was very well-received critically, but it was lightly attended,” Hatbox Theatre founder Andrew Pinard said. “[I brought it back because] I thought the work was really strong, and it’s a powerful piece

about keeping people together when they’re apart. ... I’m not so concerned about ticket sales. This level of work deserved more eyes.”

This is Douglas’s directorial debut, replacing the previous director and offering a new perspective.

“Everybody comes in with their own insight, which is what you want — even though our previous director did a wonderful job,” Kathryn Hodges said. “She’s a youngster, and she does have her own vision.”

Douglas said she had never seen or read the play before, so she really came into it with fresh eyes.

She said it’s a subtle, understated play, with no grand drama — just a conversation between two people that starts in grade school and continues through war, the Great Depression, marriages and more, with ups and downs throughout the years.

“It’s not your average play in the fact that the actors don’t memorize their lines — they read from the script right on the stage,” Douglas said. “Gurney strictly had instructions not to memorize lines, [because he] wanted it to be like they were really reading these letters.”



Courtesy photo.

There are no costume or scene changes either, which allows the actors to focus on how they’re emoting through their words.

“You don’t have to sweat the small stuff — you don’t have to learn the blocking [for example],” Kathryn Hodges said. “The lights come up and you start reading these lovely snapshots of these bygone times.”

The real-life couple has been together for 36 years, and Kathryn Hodges said they really relate to the relationship between Andrew and Melissa.

“They are very fond of each other, they are very much each other’s best friend, and that’s us in a nutshell,” she said.

Andrew and Melissa’s relationship, though,

evolved during a very different time period, so understanding their characters was a process.

“As a warm-up for this production we did a little exercise where we reversed roles,” Erik Hodges said. “This play is very much written from the analogous male point of view [and] seeing the character from her point of view was an eye-opener. While the male just sails through [life] ... [Melissa], because she’s a little eccentric and different, she’s penalized.”

The Hodges have been part of the local theater scene for decades; Erik Hodges started performing with the Community Players of Concord when he was 10, and Kathryn Hodges joined the Players when she was 20.

“Even though both Erik and I have a long history with community theater, we don’t often appear in the same show, or if we are in the same show our characters have nothing to do with each other,” Kathryn Hodges said.

Love Letters has been a special opportunity for them as actors, and it’s a unique play for audiences to experience as well.

“The show seems very, very simple, but it’s so much more,” Kathryn Hodges said. 🍷

The future of Hatbox Theatre

It’s been a tumultuous month for Hatbox Theatre founder Andrew Pinard. The venue was unexpectedly served with an eviction notice from Steeplegate Mall Realty on Feb. 11; that notice was rescinded shortly thereafter. Pinard said in a phone interview on March 9 that he couldn’t imagine how he would have packed everything up and gotten out of there in 30 days.

Now, Pinard has faith that the verbal agreement that Hatbox made with the mall to stay put — and to extend the amount of eviction notification time — will be honored.

“We’re waiting for the mall to provide written confirmation. We expect that will be the case,” he said.

And while the news that Hatbox could stay came as a relief, it also served as a wake-up call.

“It was a very alarming moment in time,” Pinard said. “[We realized] we need to be think-

ing of our future and forever homes. We hope to stay in our current location for a long time, but we have to be pragmatic and look into other options.”

Even if the mall allows Hatbox to stay indefinitely, the theater company itself has been struggling since the pandemic started, which might force some changes anyway.

“The numbers are still not what they ought to be,” he said. “Things where people congregate — sports, concerts ... are still not attended in the way that people expect.”

Pinard recently attended a meeting with fellow performing arts groups, and the general consensus is that most are not expecting to get back to even 70 percent of their typical audience numbers until summer 2023.

“From an artistic perspective ... even though we’re starting to reconnect in person, there’s still a lot of concern,” he said.

Along with less income from ticket sales, venues are also dealing with increased costs. Pinard said he had about \$7,500 worth of utility bills in two months, when revenue was “maybe \$800, maybe \$1,000.”

“We can only continue to operate a deficit for so long,” he said. “We’re in the hole, and every weekend we do performances, if we don’t meet a certain number of attendees, we continue to be in the hole.”

Pinard said he’s “cautiously optimistic that we’re going to make it through this,” and they’ve invested heavily in protective measures like UV filters to make sure patrons are safe and feel comfortable returning. But things are going to need to start improving fairly quickly.

“If this doesn’t come back within a year, we may not be able to afford to stay open,” Pinard said.

— Meghan Siegler

Love Letters

Where: Hatbox Theatre, 270 Loudon Road, Concord

When: Friday, March 18, and Saturday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, March 20 at 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$22 for adults, \$19 for members, seniors and students and \$16 for senior members. Tickets may be reserved by calling 715-2315 or visiting hatboxnh.com.

Art

Exhibits

“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. Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery, 136 State St., Portsmouth. On view now through March 27. 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.

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. Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery, 136 State St., Portsmouth. On view now through March 27. 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., #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.

• **“REAWAKENING”** Two Villages Art Society presents an exhibition featuring work by artist members of the New Hampshire chapter of the Women’s Caucus for the Arts. Bates Building (846 Main St., Contoocook). On view March 18 through April 9. An opening reception with the artists and live music will be held on Sat., March 19, from noon to 2 p.m. Regular gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m. Visit twovillagesart.org or call 413-210-4372.

THE ROUNDUP

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

• **Celebrating women aviators:** The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (27 Navigator Road, Londonderry) welcomes Keith O'Brien, author of *Fly Girls: How Five Daring Women Defied All Odds and Made Aviation History*, on Thursday, March 24, at 7 p.m. for a presentation and book signing to celebrate Women's History Month. The book, published in 2018, tells the story of a group of five female pilots and friends who fought for their place in the male-dominated sport of airplane racing during the 1920s and 1930s. "This isn't a book about airplanes," O'Brien told the Hippo when the book was released. "It's a compelling human story about women who fought against impossible odds and were determined to change the world." Copies of the book can be reserved in advance, and a limited number of copies will be for sale at the museum that day. Tickets cost \$10 for general admission and \$40 for a package that includes admission and a hardcover copy of the book inscribed by the author at the event. Call 669-4877 or see "Aviation Museum Fly Girls" on eventbrite.com.



"Ready to Burst" by Linda Greenwood, featured in "Reawakening" exhibit. Courtesy photo.



"Chicken Love" by Paulette Brace, featured in "Reawakening" exhibit. Courtesy photo.



"Shadows Across the Land" by Judith Caswell, featured in "Reawakening" exhibit. Courtesy photo.

• **Trash turned fashion:** There's still time to have your wearable art feature in the upcoming Upcycled Fashion Show, happening on Saturday, April 23, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Makers Mill (23 Bay St., Wolfeboro). The show, presented by Makers Mill and the Governor Wentworth Arts Council, invites designers of all ages to create fashion pieces composed of at least 75 percent recycled, reused or repurposed materials. Registration for designers is free and open now through the end of March or until participation is full. Additionally, a workshop, "Attachments & Embellishments," will be offered on Saturday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Brewster Academy (80 Academy Drive, Wolfeboro) in Room 103 of the Rogers Building Student Center. Participants will learn skills such as ancient lashing techniques, traditional zippers, basic buttons and hand and machine techniques; and about how to embel-

lish a garment with dye, paint, hand sewing, hot glue and machine techniques. The workshop is open to registered designers for free and to the general public for a cost of \$15. Visit makersmill.org/blog or call 569-1500.

• **Theater auditions:** The Community Players of Concord is holding auditions for its upcoming production of Eugène Ionesco's play *The Bald Soprano* on Monday, March 21, at 7 p.m. at the Players' Studio (435 Josiah Bartlett Road, Concord). Roles are open for three male adults and three female adults. Proof of vaccination against Covid-19 is required to audition. The cast's first read-through will be held on Monday, March 28, at the Players' Studio. The show is scheduled to run for two weekends from June 17 through June 26 at the Hatbox Theatre in Concord. Visit communityplayersofconcord.org/auditions for more information about the play and to read the script.

• **Spring art:** Two Villages Art Society presents a new exhibition, "Reawakening," at the Bates Building (846 Main St., Contoocook) from March 18 through April 9. It features work by artist members of the New Hampshire chapter of the Women's Caucus for the Arts. "As sunshine and warmth return to the earth in spring, so we reawaken to our lives," WCA/NH exhibitions committee chair Linda Greenwood said in a press release. "The theme not only illustrates our reawakening of spring, but it also represents an illustration of memories that remind us again of passions lying deep." An opening reception with the artists and live music will be held on Saturday, March 19, from noon to 2 p.m. Regular gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m. Visit twovillagesart.org or call 413-210-4372.

— Angie Sykeny 🍀

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ARTS

• **“WARHOL SCREEN TESTS”** exhibition features 20 films from Andy Warhol's silent black and white Screen Tests, shown in loops across four largescale 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.

Workshops and classes

• **“HANDS-ON 3D PRINTING FOR BEGINNERS”** A one-day crash course covering the basics of 3D printing. Making Matters NH (88 Village St., Penacook). Sat., April 9, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 for Making Matters members and \$50 for non-members. Call 565-5443 or visit makingmattersnh.org.

• **“INTRO TO 3D PRINTING”** Workshop for 3D printing beginners. Port City Makerspace (68 Morning St., Portsmouth). Wed., April 13 and June 8, from 6 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$25 for members of the makerspace and \$45 for nonmembers. Call 373-1002 or visit portcitymakerspace.com.

• **WINTER ART CLASSES** Art classes for teens and adults, including Pottery, Stained 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 art-housestudios.org.

• **GENERAL ART CLASSES** Weekly art classes 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 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 Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Tuition is pay-as-you-go at \$20 per student per class, due upon arrival. Call 493-1677 or visit dianecrespofineart.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 communityplayer-sofconcord.org/auditions.

Classes/workshops

• **STORYTELLING WORKSHOPS** Monthly workshop series hosted by True Tales Live storytelling showcase. First Tuesday (except November), 7 to 8:30 p.m., virtual, via Zoom. Registration is required. Visit truetaleslive.org.

Shows

• **CHICKEN LITTLE** presented by Upside Arts. The Players' Ring Theatre (105 Marcy St., Portsmouth). Showtimes are on Sat., March 12, and Sun., March 13, at 10 a.m., and on Sun., March 20, at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$18 for adults and \$15 for kids under age 12. Visit playersring.org or call 436-8123.

• **BYE BYE BIRDIE** A mainstage production by The Palace Theatre. 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Runs March 11 through April 3, with showtimes on Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at noon. Ticket costs range

from \$25 to \$46 per person. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

• **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.

• **TRUE TALES LIVE** Portsmouth-based storytelling showcase. Monthly, last Tuesday (no shows in July and August), 7 to 8:30 p.m. Shows will be held in person (Portsmouth Public Media TV Studio, 280 Marcy St., Portsmouth) starting in April, and returning to Zoom format for the winter, starting in November. Each month's showcase is centered around a different theme. The series is free and open to all who want to watch or participate as a storyteller. Pre-registration for attendees is required for Zoom shows but not required for in-person shows. Visit truetaleslive.org and email info@truetaleslive.org if you're interested in being a storyteller.

Classical

• **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.

• **“FROM THE NEW WORLD”** Symphony New Hampshire presents. Concerto for electric harp featuring Rosanna Moore, performing Farrenc, Overture No. 1 and Dvořák, Symphony No. 9. A New Hampshire premiere. Sat., April 23, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., at Keefe Center for the Arts (117 Elm St., Nashua); and Sun., April 24, 3 to 6 p.m., at Dana Center for the Humanities at Saint Anselm College (100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). Tickets cost \$20 to \$60 for adults, \$18 to \$55 for seniors age 65+, and free for children with a paying adult. Visit symphonynh.org.

ROOMMATE HUMOR



Don't miss the final weekend of the Manchester Community Theatre Players' production of *Ripcord* at MCTP Theatre (located at North End Montessori School, 698 Beech St., Manchester), with showtimes on Friday, March 18, and Saturday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m. The 2015 comedy by David Lindsay-Abaire follows a pair of ill-matched roommates at a senior living facility. Abby claims that nothing can scare her, while Marilyn claims that nothing can make her angry. The two make a bet — whoever gets the other to crack first will get the room to herself. Tickets cost \$20 per person, and seating is limited. Proof of vaccination and masks are required. Visit manchestercommunitytheatre.com or call 327-6777.

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Early harbingers of spring

Skunk cabbage, witch hazel and more

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

— THE GARDENING GUY —

Here in Cornish Flat, New Hampshire, we recently had our first day that shouted, “Spring is here!” After a night of cool rain, the sun came out and temperatures climbed into the 50s. Now all we need are spring flowers. Me? I solved that problem by potting up bulbs last November and storing them in my cool basement. They rested, grew roots, and now my windowsills are crammed with pots of daffodils and crocus, some blooming, others on the way. They will help to keep my spirits up when we get, as I know we will, day after day of gray drizzle before summer gets here.

Of the outdoor bulbs, the first to bloom are snowdrops. They push up through frozen earth on south-facing hillsides starting in late February. I imagine they can do this by the process of “thermogenesis.” That’s a process whereby a plant can produce a chemical reaction that produces heat. Few can do it, but those that do can get pollinated before anything else.

The poster child for thermogenesis is skunk cabbage. This is a plant I remember well from my boyhood home in Woodbridge, Connecticut. We had a small brook behind the house, and some wet areas along the banks in a woody area. Aside from being the first green plant to sprout, skunk cabbage had the ability to produce a noxious odor that was endlessly fascinating to young boys. I discovered that if I disturbed them they produced a skunky odor that my sister did not like.

Skunk cabbage is related to the common Jack-in-the-pulpit we all know and love. Like Jack, its flower is hidden inside a spathe, or outer leafy jacket. I bought a skunk cabbage plant at Garden in the Woods, a native plant sanctuary in

Framingham, Mass., about 25 years ago.

What I did not know was that skunk cabbage is very slow growing and does not spread at all quickly, at least this far north. Only in recent years has it bloomed, though every year the leaves have gotten bigger. Now I know when buying plants to buy at least three in order to make a statement in a reasonable amount of time. Skunk cabbage produces big green leaves and a barely noticeable flower.

Of the native woody plants, spring witch hazel is the earliest that I know. In southern New England it can bloom in January, and here in New Hampshire it can bloom in March. I bought one last summer, and look forward to seeing the blossoms soon. I have several fall witch hazel that bloom in October and November. The blossoms vary from yellow to brownish red and are spidery in form. Small, but plentiful right near the stems.

Forsythia is a nice yellow-blossomed shrub originally from Asia and eastern Europe. Michael Dirr, my woody plant guru, describes it this way: “Rank-growing, deciduous shrub, differentially developing upright and arching canes which give it the appearance that the roots were stuck in an electric socket; always needs grooming, one of the most overrated and overused shrubs; will sucker (slowly) to form large colonies.” That from his “Manual of Woody Landscape Plants,” my favorite text on trees and shrubs.

His remarks notwithstanding, I grew up with it and like it. It is a burst of yellow at a time of the year — April, here — when not much else has bloomed or even leafed out. My gardening Grampy had a large patch of it that had suckered and created a bed 10 feet wide, 50 feet long and 8 feet high or more. My sister Ruth Anne and I would crawl inside the patch of forsythia in the heat of summer for a cool respite — and to hide from grownups.



Forsythia flower buds are pointy. Courtesy photo.



Leatherwood blossom, close-up. Courtesy photo.

The trick to managing forsythia is to prune it hard and often. Keep the tips of branches off the ground as they will root in if touching the soil. One can keep it as a nice vase-shaped shrub, and it really does not take much work to do so. Cold-hardy varieties that will bloom in Zone 4 include New Hampshire Gold, Vermont Sun and Meadowlark, among others. Ask at your local independent nursery.

Forsythia forces easily. Cut some stems with flower buds now and place them in a vase, and place it in a sunny window. I shall cut some today and get them blooming in a couple of weeks or less. The key is to recognize the flower buds: they are pointy and often appear on clusters without stalks, right on the stems. Straight young stems that grew last year rarely have flower buds.

In contrast to the flamboyant forsythia is a nice native, leatherwood. This understated plant blooms just as it leafs out in March, April or early May, depending on where you are. It does best in full shade. Although Dirr’s book says it prefers a moist, dark soil, I have it in a dry location and it does just fine. The blossoms are pale to bright yellow, small, but plentiful. The bark is a handsome gray. But it is hard to find in a plant nursery. I bought one several years ago and have looked for others, but have not found another nicely shaped specimen. Look for it. Slow growing, it requires little or



Skunk cabbage has big leaves and grows in moist shade. Courtesy photo.

no care.

T.S. Eliot wrote in his poem “The Wasteland” that April is the cruellest month. I disagree; I think March is. Muddy roads and gray skies predominate. Flowers are scarce. We have April to look forward to, but if you pot up some daffodils next November for forcing, you can at least have some indoor blossoms now, in March.

Henry can be reached at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or at PO Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH. Please include a SASE if you wish an answer to a question by mail. 📧

TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

I am hoping you can guide me. I have this wedding band that belonged to my sister. I have no use for it and am wondering what I should do with it. It's marked 14KT with no other markings. If I had to guess, I'd say it was from the 1970s.

Can you help by telling me what would be the best way to find it a new home, maybe with a jeweler or a gold buyer?

Karen

Dear Karen,

I think the first thing you need to do is confirm it is gold. It's tough to really tell these days when there are so many fake marks out there.

Step 2 is find someone you can trust to do business with. The markup on jewelry is so high, returning it for a wedding band to sell again might not give you the best value.

I would see what the secondary buy-back value is and then what the gold value is, assuming it is gold. That's why deal-

ing with someone you can trust is important. I can give you a couple names of who I always dealt with for gold and silver if needed. They can determine gold, weight and best value.



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 NH 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. 📧

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for whenever

Art of the video game

SEE Science Center (200 Bedford St. in Manchester; 669-0400, see-science-center.org) is now displaying “Video Game Art,” an exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of Ralph Baer’s birthday. Baer is the Manchester inventor who crafted the prototype for the first video game (find a statue commemorating him in Arms Park). The exhibit features pieces from 14 artists, according to the website, and is on display during SEE’s regular hours, Tuesdays through Sunday (10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays and until 5 p.m. on weekends). Admission costs \$10 for guests ages 3 and up; advance registration is recommended.

SEE is offering a workshop for kids 12 and up next Saturday, March 26, wherein the kids make their own “Simon Says”-style game. The cost of the workshop is \$5 extra and the workshop runs from 2 to 4 p.m. See the website to register and for materials requirements.

For more about Ralph Baer Projects Club, see ralphbaerday.com.

First veggies, then baked goods

Get kids excited about picking up some veggies, then grab a baked good or two at area **winter farmers markets**.

The Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market runs Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon at 7 Eagle Square. This coming Saturday, March 19, musicians Eyes of Age will perform. Find a list of vendors at dcwfm.squarespace.com.

Also on Saturdays is the Contoocook Farmers Market, which runs from 9 a.m. to noon at the Maple Street School (194 Maple St. in Contoocook).

On Sundays, head to LaBelle Winery (14 Route 111 in Derry) for the Salem NH Farmers Market, which operates from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Find their list of vendors at salemnhfarmersmarket.org.

More maple

Like the cover story says, we are in maple season. In Warner, the maple producers are holding a town-wide **maple celebration** this Saturday, March 19, and Sunday, March 20, according to a press release. Seven sap houses will be offering syrup demonstrations; find maps for the houses in Warner area businesses, the release said.

On Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Pillsbury Free Library (18 E. Main St.) will offer a children’s craft. The Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum (18 Highlawn



Road in Warner; indianmuseum.org, 456-2600) will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with maple sugaring demonstrations, acorn pancake samples, fry bread and maple treats for sale, a book sale, walking tours and more, according to the museum’s website. Admission to the museum costs \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors, \$7 for children (ages 6 to 12) and \$26 for a family, the website said.

On Sunday, head to the Warner Town Hall from noon to 3 p.m. for a maple syrup tasting contest, where you can vote for your favorite.

Find more details on the event at warnerhistorical.org and if you haven’t already, check out the cover story for a listing of more area sugarhouses and their plans for this weekend and the rest of Maple Month.

On stage

The Palace Teen Apprentice Company will present *Wizard of Oz: Young Performers Edition* at the Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org, 668-5588) on Tuesday, March 22, and Wednesday, March 23, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$12 for kids (ages 6 to 12).

Older theater lovers, teens in particular, may want to check out teen drama 1950s-style at *Bye Bye Birdie*, the Palace Theatre’s current production, which runs this weekend at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 18, and Saturday, March 19; at 2 p.m. on Saturday and at noon on Sunday, March 20. Tickets cost \$25 through \$46. The show runs through Sunday, April 3.

Outdoors after school

Beaver Brook Association (117 Ridge Road in Hollis; beaverbrook.org, 465-7787) will hold a “Hike and Sketch” program Mondays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. for kids in grades 4 through 6. Kids will walk Maple Hill Farm with their sketchbooks and draw in different locations (or in the Spear Room, if necessary due to weather), according to the website. The season, which runs March 28 through May 23, costs \$120. 🍁

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Electric vehicles explained



*Dear Car Talk:
I read and enjoy your column regularly. Will you please explain electric cars?*

How do you measure their mileage? Do you need to go to an appointed station to charge, or can it be done at home? What special equipment is needed? How long does it take to charge? How much does it cost to charge?

I hear a lot of people talking about electric cars these days, but I need someone to cover the basics. — Sam

By Ray Magliozzi

Great questions, Sam. Let's start with charging an electric vehicle (EV).

You don't have to go to an appointed charging station. You can use any public charging spot you like. You'll find them now outside supermarkets, in parking lots, at malls and at office buildings.

But home is the best place to do most of your charging. Most EV owners charge their cars overnight, when electricity rates tend to be lowest and when the car is sitting unused anyway.

You can use a standard 110-volt outlet, but it's slow. You'll get about 3-5 miles for each hour of charge.

Most people will want to install a Level 2 220-volt charger in the garage or next to the

driveway. A 220-volt outlet is what your dryer uses. It costs around \$1,000 to have one professionally installed, but it charges a lot faster. You'll get 15-40 miles for each hour you charge.

How long does charging take? Obviously, it depends on the type of charger you're using. But it also depends on the speed of the internal equipment that comes with your car and the size of your car's battery.

But anyone with a Level 2 charger should have no trouble fully charging their car overnight from empty.

Some cars can take advantage of Level 3 "DC fast charging." You don't see those chargers everywhere yet, and it's not something you can install at home. But with DC fast charging, some cars can add an 80% charge in less than an hour.

In terms of mileage, you have to forget all about "gallons" and miles per gallon. You'll see something called MPGe (miles per gallon equivalent), but I think the more useful figure is the kilowatt hours it takes to drive the car 100 miles (kWh/100 mi.). The Environmental Protection Agency requires all EVs to list that figure on their sticker.

With that, you can figure out how much driving an EV is going to actually cost you. For instance, take the 2022 Hyundai Ioniq 5 electric car. It uses 31.6 kWh to go 100 miles. So your first number is 31.6.

On your electric bill, you can find out what

your local electric company charges per kWh. The rate is often lower at night. But let's say it's 15 cents per kWh, which is a little above the national average. So your second number is 15.

You multiply 15 cents times 31.6 kWh, and you find out it costs you about \$4.75 to drive the car 100 miles.

By comparison, if gasoline cost \$3 a gallon, a gas-powered car that gets 33 mpg would cost you \$9 to go 100 miles.

Hope that answers your questions, Sam. Write to me again and I'll try to explain bitcoin.

Dear Car Talk:

I have a 2015 Ford F-250 that I just put new tires on. Right after I put the new tires on, my check engine light lit up.

The first time, I reset it by disconnecting the battery. The second and third time it came back on, I had my mechanic read the codes and then turn it off. He said both times it read an air conditioning code and then a catalytic converter code.

Now it's come on again. Any ideas as to why the engine light keeps coming on? Thank you. — Em

I'm going to take a wild guess here and say you have problems with your air conditioner and your catalytic converter, Em. Just a guess.

The onboard diagnostic system, which is what

your mechanic tapped into with his scan tool, is designed to save owners and mechanics lots of time and money by telling them exactly what part or system is malfunctioning.

You seem to think it's aliens from the planet Vutsack that are evilly manipulating your check engine light in an effort to destabilize human civilization. And while that does happen from time to time, it's more likely that stuff on your truck is actually broken.

So if your computer is telling you there's a problem with your air conditioning system, it's probably because the AC clutch is sending a fault code.

Most likely, the AC clutch is registering that there's not enough refrigerant pressure in your system.

If there's not enough refrigerant, your AC compressor will seize up. So to protect it, the AC clutch refuses to engage if the refrigerant is low.

The catalytic converter code — most likely "cat efficiency" — means that your catalytic converter is at the end of its useful life. If you've got more than 100,000 miles on the truck, that would make sense.

So you have a couple of choices, Em. You can live without AC and live with a failing converter until your next emissions inspection. Or you can fix the stuff. Or just wait for the "buy new truck" light to come on. Good luck.

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ON THE JOB

MELISSA GOVE WEATHERIZATION SPECIALIST

Melissa Gove is the owner of Chase Hill Insulation, a weatherization business based in Weare that serves families in residential homes throughout the state.

Q: Explain your job and what it entails.

My workday starts at 6:30 a.m., when my crew arrives at my shop. The job ... is for a customer of the weatherization program, and the work ... is based on an energy audit of the home. I have a work order that I follow that gives me specific details about the home and the measures my crew is supposed to install. My crew chief and I go over the work that needs to be done for that particular job and talk about any issues of concern for the job that either of us might have. The work truck is loaded with material, and my crew heads out. ... Once they arrive at the job, they start the process of weatherizing the home, [which] may include insulating the basement, the walls and the attic.

How long have you had this job?

I've been weatherizing homes in New Hampshire for 16 years.

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

Before starting my business, I lived in Rhode Island, but I would spend all my free time at my family's camp in Deering. It was always so sad to leave the camp, and I desperately wanted to move to New Hampshire, but I needed a career to support that dream. I did hours of research online and found that there was a need in New Hampshire for insulation contractors for weatherization assistance programs. I built my business plan around that need with the help of my ex-husband, who was an experienced insulator.

What kind of education or training did you need?

I worked as a bookkeeper at a wire mill in Rhode Island for seven years, but in 2003 the mill burned to the ground. I was given an opportunity to go back to school, and in 2005 I received my degree in business management. I also have a good friend that's an expert in the weatherization field that's been a mentor to me over the years of building my business.



Melissa Gove

myself with good people. That's how I continue to stay in business.

What do you wish other people knew about your job?

People aren't always aware that their home is lacking insulation. Adding insulation to your home is something you can do right now to lower your heating bills for the rest of this winter and cooling costs for this upcoming summer.

There are utility-funded programs available to help with these costs. People can reach out to their local utility company to see if they qualify.

What is your typical at-work uniform or attire?

Chase Hill Insulation long-sleeve shirts, sweatshirts, hats, jeans and work boots are our everyday work gear.

How has your job changed over the course of the pandemic?

It's really hard to ask people to let you come into their homes when they're afraid of getting sick. I have had to reassure all of my customers that my crew and I will take every precaution to work safely while working at their home, and we will wear all necessary PPE.

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

I wish I had known that business doesn't always work out according to your plan. I had to learn to problem-solve, and I had to surround

What was the first job you ever had?

My first job was at my favorite pizza and sandwich shop in my hometown.

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

Take the time to listen to your customer's needs and give them the attention they deserve.

—Angie Sykeny 🍌

Five favorites

Favorite book: *Dracula*

Favorite movie: *The Shawshank Redemption*

Favorite music: Classic rock

Favorite food: Italian

Favorite thing about NH: That I never have to leave, because I'm finally home.

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FOOD

Stories around the table

Rambling House and TaleSpinner Brewery open in Nashua

By Matt Ingersoll
mingsoll@hippopress.com

News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Franco Foods challenge:** Join the Franco-American Centre for its inaugural Fleur Délices Challenge, an amateur baking competition happening on Saturday, April 9, at 6 p.m., at Anheuser-Busch Tour Center & Biergarten (221 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack). Contestants are welcome to bring a cake of their own representing a country that's part of the International Francophonie (or where French is among the most commonly spoken of languages). Winners will be chosen by a panel of local judges who will follow a grading criteria – they include pastry chef Alexandre Waddell of Cremeux French Patisserie in Merrimack and chef Matt Provencher of Red Beard's Kitchen, a two-time winner of the New Hampshire PoutineFest. The cost is \$20 and registration forms are due by March 18. See facnh.com for details.

• **Bunny campaign:** The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary is selling **chocolate Easter bunnies** made by Granite State Candy Shoppe now through April 1 as part of its Bite Out of Hunger Campaign. The cost is \$8.50 for an eight-ounce solid milk, white or dark chocolate bunny. Proceeds benefit The Salvation Army's Kids' Café program, which offers evening meals and recreation activities to local children and teens multiple days a week. Call Sylvia Crete at 490-4107 to order a bunny, or visit nne.salvationarmy.org/manchester to download the bunny order form. Bunnies may be picked up at The Salvation Army's Manchester Corps (121 Cedar St.) any Monday through Friday, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

• **Between the vines:** LaBelle Winery owner Amy LaBelle has partnered with Kerri Zane of KZ Enterprises to produce a lifestyle show based on her life. According to a press release, **The Winemaker's Kitchen Show** will feature both of LaBelle's restaurants in Amherst and Derry, as well as their vineyards, event centers and other amenities that were unveiled last year, like the Derry property's onsite golf course and artisan food market. The show will also provide various culinary tips, tricks and recipes commonly covered in her regular cooking classes and seminars. LaBelle has hosted televised cooking shows previously, when she partnered with New Hampshire PBS last year to produce a series of interactive classes geared toward kids. In a statement, Zane, an Emmy Award-winning television executive producer, said LaBelle is "poised to unseat Martha Stewart as the reigning queen of all things kitchen." Visit labellewinery.com. ▶

Since Debbie and Denis Gleeson founded The Nature of Things (now known as 2nd Nature Academy) in 1997, the South Nashua school has evolved to have a multi-faceted curriculum focused on sustainability — the Gleesons also operate a sister farm where they raise their own eggs, lamb and cattle. Twenty-five years later, the couple has a new locally sourced restaurant with a seasonally rotating menu, along with an accompanying craft brewery onsite.

Rambling House Food & Gathering opened March 4 on Factory Street and it's a true family affair — all three of the Gleesons' daughters, Erin, Kerry and Meghan Ayer, are co-founders, while TaleSpinner Brewery is spearheaded by their uncle Dave, a longtime avid homebrewer.

Multiple connections to the family's farm or school are present, from spent beer grains going back to feed the cows, to baked goods sourced directly from the campus's commercial kitchen. It's a concept that's been several years in the making, said Erin Gleeson, who serves as president.

"When I was graduating college, I had it in my mind that I wanted to run my own business [and] I was interested in food, craft cocktails and farming," she said. "I think what we were finding was that there were places around to eat and drink, but they felt like just that, places to just eat or just drink. ... What we're trying to be ... is more of a community gathering space. That was our goal, and I think luckily since the time we started thinking about this, a lot of that has been popping up in Nashua. It's growing in that way, which I definitely think is the right direction."

In addition to the Gleesons' own farm, the eatery's dinner and bar menus feature ingredients sourced from purveyors all over New England, and an in-house cafe with locally roasted coffee and grab-and-go items is expected soon. Here's a closer look at each core part of the business.

Rambling House Food & Gathering and TaleSpinner Brewery

Where: 57 Factory St., Nashua, Suites A and B

Current hours: Wednesday and Thursday, 4 to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 5 to 11 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. (extended hours likely coming soon)

More info: Visit ramblingtale.com or follow them on social media (@ourramblinghouse and @talespinnerbrew on Facebook, and @ramblinghouse and @talespinnerbrew on Instagram)

TaleSpinner Brewery's entrance is accessed at the opposite end of the building on Water Street.



Winter charcuterie. Photo by Donna Desimone Photography.



Crohan craft cocktail. Photo by Donna Desimone Photography.

Rambling House

Erin and Kerry's paternal grandfather, Maurice Gleeson, immigrated to the United States from Ireland as a teenager. Growing up on a farm in the small village of Glenflesk in County Kerry, Maurice would visit a traditional "rambling house," an informal inn of sorts that was known by all the locals as the family home to come gather and share stories, play games or listen to music.

"It was just the spot where everyone knew in the community to be almost like that safe harbor, and it was also the place where a weary traveler was always welcomed in by the fire to lay their head for the night," Kerry Gleeson said. "He'd tell us all the time about how when he was young he would go visit the rambling house that was up the street from him. ... He had such fond memories of it, and we just loved that sentiment, so that was a no-brainer for us for the name."

Today, the Gleesons remain very much connected to their Irish heritage. Framed photographs taken by Maurice throughout the 1950s and early '60s adorn the walls, and a small plaque by the door heading out to the upstairs balcony proclaims the "Margaret Mary Martha Murphy Mezzanine," an inside joke and reference to their cousin overseas, with whom they are close.

But despite the strong family influences, Rambling House is not an Irish pub — rather, what you'll find here is a diverse offering of meat, seafood and vegetarian options that will change every few months based on product availability and seasonality.

"We're going to start with four menus a year, but that will probably grow to six menus a year, because our seasons are a little quick," Erin Gleeson said. "We'll keep a lot of the skeleton of the menu, so for example we'll always have a burger on it, but the toppings will be different. We'll always have a chicken [dish] on it but it might not be the lemon roast chicken we have now."

The Gleesons have brought on Jeremy Guyotte to serve as the eatery's head chef. A native of Gloucester, Mass., Guyotte has extensive experience working with seafood, notably during culinary stints he spent at Captain Carlo's Oceanfront and at Passports Restaurant in Cape Ann.

Out of the gate, seafoods at Rambling House include a pancetta-wrapped Atlantic monkfish loin; pub mussels sourced from Blue Hill Bay in Maine with tasso ham, onion and herbs; and a bouillabaisse, featuring shrimp, scallops, mussels, littleneck clams and whitefish.

"When Jeremy first started making us seafood samples, we were like, 'Oh, my gosh, who have we brought on?'" Kerry Gleeson said. "He is an artist, and our sous chef, Karyn [Polley], is fantastic too. She has been with us even longer, working at the school."

Other menu items, like the porchetta and the shepherd's pie, have so far received rave reviews. The latter is a traditional version made with lamb, veggies and house herbed gravy.

Baker Angel Lopez is an ardent bread maker and Erin Gleeson herself even makes her own small-batch ice cream, passion projects that are now part of Rambling House's menu respectively in the form of desserts like brioche bread pudding and house brownie sundaes.

The restaurant's main dining area features a unique post and beam layout with a bartop and shelves all designed by Erin and Kerry's brother-in-law, Kyle Ayer of Green Building & Consulting Group. Once it gets a little warmer, an outdoor rooftop deck with additional seating areas will open, offering panoramic overhead views of the Nashua River.

"Our favorite thing so far is that when you're up on that top deck, that skyline is where you can see the fireworks on the

CONTINUED ON PG26 ▶

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FOOD

Pizza perfection

Ray Street Pizza on Main now open in Goffstown

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

Beau Gamache has spent the last several years mastering the art of pizza-making. In 2017 he started an Instagram account called “ThePizzaGram,” where followers could watch his journey creating dough, sauces and cheese blends. Eventually it became known as Ray Street Pizza (named after Gamache’s Manchester street), and in early 2020 he made the leap to host a series of pop-ups at what was then Brookstone Park in Derry.

“That was the first real kind of movement toward this becoming an actual business,” Gamache said. “I believe it was in March of that year when I moved to the ghost kitchen at Bayona [Cafe in Manchester] ... and it kind of blew up from there, so I quit my day job.”

Meanwhile, the pop-ups continued — Gamache branched out to other locations across New Hampshire with a mobile set-up, notably at breweries like Concord’s Lithermans Limited. But he knew that with his growing popularity came the need for a larger, permanent space.

Enter Ray Street Pizza on Main, now open in the former Vikster’s Pizza storefront in Goffstown. With the help of chef Jon Talbot, whom he has worked with on pop-ups and catering events, Gamache now has a regular brick-and-mortar spot where you can try many of the pizza recipes he has spent years perfecting. Even though it’s technically on Main Street, Gamache said he decided to keep his existing name simply because “too many people knew about it” by that point.

“Everyone thinks my name is Ray too, which is pretty funny,” Gamache said.

“Someone would be like, ‘Hey, where’s Ray?’ so eventually I was just like, ‘It’s OK, I can be Ray.’”

Since the space was a turnkey operation, Gamache ended up inheriting some equipment, including the conveyor oven, which he said was different from the Ooni ovens he was used to.

“We had to adjust a few things in the dough ... [by] just updating the recipe enough so that it cooks well and it looks nice,” he said. “We had to change the type of pans they were cooked on, and the proofing process is different now because it’s cooked at a different temperature.”

Aesthetically, Gamache described his pizza as being similar to a New York-style, while the dough itself more closely resembles a New Haven-style, due, he said, to its wet and soft texture.

The menu mostly combines pies Gamache had been dabbling in at the ghost kitchen with newer versions of some non-pizza items that had previously been available at Vikster’s.

“I wanted at least a majority of the menu to still be available for the folks who come in for lunch but don’t get pizza,” he said. “It’s just been updated in terms of quality, and quantity too. We add more steak in the steak and cheese [and] more chicken in the grilled chicken sandwich. ... We’ve also upped the small size for pizzas. They used to be 10 inches, and they are 12 now.”

Slices of cheese and pepperoni pizza can usually be ordered Monday through Friday until about 4 p.m. A lineup of domestic and local craft brews is available, and Gamache is currently working toward implementing a full-service bar, which will additionally have wines and cocktails.



Margherita pizza. Courtesy photo.

For the long term, Gamache has his hopes set on opening a flagship restaurant in a larger city.

“I want to do something kind of like Roberta’s in Brooklyn, where you walk in and you see this giant pizza and you can watch people make the pizza,” he said. “The menu would be tiny, just a handful of pizzas and maybe some small appetizers or salads and a nice big bar. ... I think there’s something to be said about making pizza that’s so good that you don’t serve anything else and yet it’s busy, and Roberta’s is incredible.”

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◀ CONTINUED FROM PG24

Fourth of July,” Erin Gleeson said.

A full bar features TaleSpinner brews on tap, in addition to a menu of craft cocktails, hard ciders, wines, non-alcoholic beer and hard kombucha. The cafe, meanwhile, is at the front of the restaurant and will soon be offering coffee from Bedford’s Flight Coffee Co., as well as various takeaway items like baked goods and breakfast sandwiches.

TaleSpinner Brewery

On the first level below Rambling House, TaleSpinner Brewery can be accessed through the opposite end of the building, on the Water Street side. The tasting room is at the top of a short flight of stairs from the entrance, and overlooks its full production area.

The brewery, which opened a few weeks

earlier than its restaurant counterpart, was similarly named with Erin and Kerry Gleeson’s grandfather — described by Kerry as “a consummate tale spinner,” or storyteller — in mind. Their uncle Dave works closely with head brewer Scott Karlen to create TaleSpinner’s lineup of brews, which currently include a few New England-style IPAs, in addition to a Belgian blonde ale, a raspberry sour, a German-New Zealand Pilsner lager, and a Belgian strong ale. They’re also working on a peach apricot sour and an Imperial brunch stout with maple syrup, cacao nibs, vanilla bean and coffee from Flight Coffee Co. There are a total of 24 taplines: a dozen each in the restaurant and brewery.

“My uncle ... made great stuff as a homebrewer and had a passion for it, and it became part of a conversation that it would be really fun to open a brewery,” Kerry Gleeson

said. “So it was a natural sort of thing where the two concepts just fit into each other like puzzle pieces.”

A small bar menu is available out of the tasting room, featuring some items you’ll find upstairs at Rambling House, as well as others mostly exclusive to that space, like the fish and chips, the poutine and the duck confit flatbread. Those items, while not on the regular dinner menu at the restaurant, do become available upstairs as well after 9 p.m., Kerry Gleeson said.

Guyotte will sometimes cross-utilize TaleSpinner’s products with his food, notably a beer gravy for the poutine and spent grain waffles for the chicken and waffle sliders.

“There’s definitely a cycle with everything, and we want to build on that and make it as close to coming full circle as we can,” Kerry Gleeson said.

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Megan Kurs is the owner of The Yolk Grill (116 Bridge St., Pelham, 635-0992, theyolkgrill.com), a family restaurant that opened in the fall of 2019, offering breakfast and lunch seven days a week. Originally known as Alicia's Diner, the eatery was first owned by Kurs's stepsister's dad, Roger Chagnon, and she worked there when she was younger. Benedicts, omelets, burgers and sandwiches are all part of the menu, while other items have their own unique twist, from Oreo cookie-filled pancakes and Captain Crunch French toast to Tater Tot nachos and Buffalo chicken and waffles. The Yolk Grill is also known for its monthly rotating freakshakes: flavored milkshakes stacked with all types of candies and baked goods.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

Definitely a spatula, no matter what position on the line I am in.

I'm really hungry I'll have the rib-eye and eggs with loaded home fries.

What would you have for your last meal?

It would be a filet with asparagus and mac and cheese. That's my favorite meal, and it's my go-to when we go out to eat.

What celebrity would you like to see eating in your restaurant?

Sandra Bullock or Ryan Reynolds. Either one of them. My favorite movie is The Proposal, which they are both in, but I love watching any of their other movies.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

We enjoy going to the Old School Bar & Grill in Windham. It just has a really good atmosphere.

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

I feel like right now what's super trendy are the sampler-style [items]. Right now, we have four different alcohol flights, like a mimosa or bloody mary flight, and then I've seen a couple of other places do food flights. ... People like to have different things they can take pictures for and post them on social media and tag us and things like that.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

We like to cook chicken Parm. Just a regular ziti with some hand-breaded chicken.

What is your favorite thing on your menu?

If I'm looking for something sweet, then it's the Captain Crunch French toast, but if

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

Homemade brown gravy

From the kitchen of Megan Kurs of The Yolk Grill in Pelham

- 1 pound unsalted butter
- 2 cups white all-purpose flour
- 1 container beef base
- 1 can beef broth
- Kitchen Bouquet browning and seasoning sauce (optional)

Melt butter in a pot. Once melted, whisk in flour to make a roux. Cook roux on low heat until simmering. Whisk frequently. Add beef broth and bring to a boil. Add two tablespoons of beef base and whisk frequently. Continue cooking on low heat while your gravy thickens. For a darker color, add a splash or two of Kitchen Bouquet.

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 24

• **New spots for beer and barbecue:** Concord's newest craft brewery has landed — after more than a year of planning, **Feathered Friend Brewing Co.** (231 S. Main St.) officially opened last week in the former Taylor Rental space in the city's South End. Owner Tucker Jadcak told the Hippo in February that the brewery's name stems from his love and appreciation of birds. He has worked with head brewer Ryan Connor to create a lineup of craft beers that includes a red ale, a stout, a sour and a double dry-

hopped IPA with Galaxy and Citra hops called Second Sun. Barrel-aged beers are also in their planning stages. An adjoining space next door to Feathered Friend Brewing Co. is the new home of Smoke-show Barbeque Co., which also recently opened its doors. Smokeshow owner Matt Gfroerer said the space triples the seating capacity of what he had before and allows him to build on his menu of Texas-style barbecue favorites. Visit featheredfriendbrewing.com or smokeshowbbq.com for more details on each. 🍷



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FOOD



TRY THIS AT HOME

Blueberry and white chocolate scones

Last week might have been the end of my three-part biscotti series, but it was not the end of my baking theme. As we head toward spring, we know there is still some winter weather in our plans. Why not ward off the chilly feel with a homemade baked good to start a weekend morning? That is where these blueberry and white chocolate scones come into play.

What makes these treats a wonderful start to the day is the small amount of time and effort required. From gathering ingredients to taking your first bite is about 45 minutes. Better than driving to your local bakery, you can make these in your pjs and enjoy the amazing aromas as they bake!

A few cooking tips for this recipe: If you use frozen blueberries, expect your dough to have a blue hue. It's just aesthetic, not a big deal. You don't have to buy buttermilk to make these scones. It can be hard to find a container that small. Check the bottom of the recipe for my shortcut. Finally, if you have



Blueberry and white chocolate scones. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

salted butter, it will work. Just reduce the salt from 1/2 to 1/4 teaspoon.

Let the baking continue!

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

Blueberry and white chocolate scones

Makes 8

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup plus 2 Tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 5 Tablespoons chilled, unsalted butter, diced
- 3/4 cup white chocolate chips
- 3/4 cup blueberries fresh or frozen
- 3/4 cup buttermilk*
- 1 large egg yolk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees.

Mix flour, 1/3 cup sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt in a large bowl.

Add butter.

Combine dry ingredients and butter using a pastry blender (or two forks) until the butter is reduced to the size of grains of rice.

Add white chocolate chips and berries to flour mixture, tossing gently.

Whisk buttermilk, egg yolk and vanilla in a 2-cup liquid measuring cup or small bowl.

Add liquids to dry ingredients, stirring until the dough forms a ball.

Place dough on a lightly floured surface and press into an 8-inch round, using well-floured hands.

Cut into 8 wedges. Sprinkle with 2 tablespoons sugar.

Transfer wedges to a rimmed baking sheet, preferably lined with parchment paper.

Bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until the scones are crusty on top and a tester inserted into the center comes out clean.

Serve warm.

*In lieu of buttermilk, you can combine 1 tablespoon lemon juice and enough milk (I've used both cow and almond milks with success) to equal 3/4 cup. Allow to sit for 5 minutes before using in the recipe.

Food & Drink

• **Contoocook Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, at Maple Street Elementary School (194 Maple St., Contoocook). Masks are required. Find them on Facebook @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 @deeringwintermarket.

• **Downtown Concord Winter Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, at 7 Eagle Square in Concord, now through April. Find them on Facebook @downtownconcordwinterfarmersmarket.

• **Milford Farmers Market** is every other Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., inside the Milford Town Hall Auditorium (Union Square), now through April 9. The next one is March 26. 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.

Maple Daiquiri

We've reached the point where the nights are still cold but the days are warm — not Las Vegas warm, but warm enough for people like us, who have been looking at our own breath since Thanksgiving. In other words: maple sugaring season.



Maple Daiquiri. Photo by John Fladd.

So let's make something mapley. A quick internet search will turn up any number of cocktails that use maple syrup, but we're smart.

Most of the time.

OK, *some* of the time.

Anyway, we can almost certainly come up with something delicious on our own, last week's pasta experiment notwithstanding.

My first step in working up a recipe around a particular ingredient is *The Flavor Bible*, by Karen Page and Andrew Dornenburg.

This isn't a cookbook as such. It's a reference work that discusses which ingredients go well together. Karen Page has interviewed a large number of chefs and picked their brains for which flavors go well with which other ones, and annotated their suggestions so that the reader can tell which flavor combinations are classics, and which ones are outliers with one or two passionate chef-advocates.

In our particular case, let's look up "maple syrup."

OK, this is interesting — Jerusalem artichokes. That's worth remembering for another time, but I don't think any of us have the patience right now to figure out a Jerusalem artichoke cocktail.

Moving on.

Oh. Bananas. This seems to be a popular combination with chefs. And, as it turns out, I just made a bottle of banana-infused rum. Let's make a little checkmark in pencil next to that. What else? ***mumblng*** "Buttermilk, figs, mascarpone, winter squash" Oh, hey — chiles. And, as it turns out, I've got a bottle of Fresno pepper-infused rum downstairs, too.

So it looks like we're going with a rum drink.

I don't know about you, but I think I'd like to go with something fairly simple and straightforward this time, something that will let the maple shine through but give it another flavor to play off.

Something like a daiquiri.

Daiquiris, margaritas, gimlets — these all use a similar set of recipes — a base alcohol (in this case rum), something sweet (the maple syrup) and lime juice. *The Flavor Bible* doesn't list limes in maple's complementary flavors, but at least one chef suggests lemons, which

would give us the same acidity as the lime juice. I say we go for it.

So, let's make two different versions of our Maple Daiquiri, one with the Fresno rum and one with banana rum.

Verdict: The Maple/Chili Daiquiri is sweet and spicy. The lemon juice was a good call; it adds the acidity we were looking for, without elbowing its way to the

front of your palate and distracting from the maple. It might be just a little *too* spicy, though. The maple syrup definitely adds sweetness, but its specific flavor gets a little lost.

The Maple/Banana Daiquiri comes across as a bit sweeter, but the maple definitely shines through. The banana is the first flavor that hits you, but you are left with a mapley feeling that makes you 8 percent less likely to scream in traffic.

Wait a second. I wonder ...

**** Pours about ¼ of the chili daiquiri into the banana daiquiri glass, then swirls it around pretentiously.****

Yup. This:

March Maple Daiquiri

Ingredients

- 1½ ounces banana rum – see below
- ½ ounce Fresno rum – see also below
- ¾ ounce fresh-squeezed lemon juice
- ½ ounce amber maple syrup

Combine ingredients with ice in a cocktail shaker. Shake.

Strain into a martini glass.

Infused rums

Banana rum – Muddle one very ripe banana (the type you might use for banana bread) in the bottom of a large jar. Add two cups of white rum. Put the top on the jar, then shake well. Store in a cool, dark place for seven days, shaking once or twice per day. Strain, filter, and bottle.

Fresno rum – Roughly chop four fresh Fresno chilies and add them to the same type of large jar. Top the jar off with the same type of white rum. Store and shake, as above. Taste after four days, then every day thereafter, until it is spicy and flavorful enough for your taste. Strain and bottle.

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

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FOOD

WINE

A trip to Burgundy
A look at the wines of Louis Jadot

By Fred Matuszewski
food@hippopress.com



Louis Jadot is one of Burgogne's (Burgundy) most important wine producers and négociants (merchants who buy grapes, juice, and wine to blend and produce under their label). Most Burgundian estates are small and premier and grand cru holdings can be tiny, so négociants play an important role in the distribution of their wine. Louis Jadot has a portfolio that covers everything from inexpensive Burgogne and Beaujolais to several grand cru wines. The grapes grown in Burgundy are principally chardonnay and pinot noir.

Louis Jadot has become a force within the wine industry in the Burgundian region and beyond. So wide is the array of wines produced by Louis Jadot that there is a standout vineyard or site in every vintage. New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets alone carry 12 distinctively different pinot noirs, eight different chardonnays and three different gamays.

Our first wine, a **2019 Maison Louis Jadot Pouilly-Fuissé** (originally priced at \$25.99, and on sale at \$22.99 at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets), is produced in the Mâconnais region of Burgundy. It has a light straw color and aromas of apples and honey. To the mouth there are nuts, along with some citrus. This win is partially barrel-fermented with six months of aging in French oak, which imparts complexity. This wine is ideal for pairing with roasted salmon, shellfish, or creamy cheeses. For those who shy away from chardonnay, this is a wine to try, as it comes from vines planted in clay-limestone soils. It is incredibly different from a typical chardonnay.

Our second wine, a **2019 Maison Louis Jadot Marsannay Blanc** (originally priced at \$33.99, and on sale at \$31.99 at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets), is produced in the Côte de Nuits region of Burgundy, the farthest northern extent of Burgundy. Created in 1987, Marsannay la Côte is the most recent AOC to the Côte de Nuits. It is straw in color, with just a touch of orange that comes from a slightly pig-

mented chardonnay grape. To the nose there are aromas of pears and almond; to the mouth there is a slight minerality with orange pith and a citrus bouquet that opens in the glass, akin to a good Chablis, another wine derived from the chardonnay grape. This wine can be paired to foods beyond shellfish and soft cheeses to include pasta dishes with a fresh, light tomato sauce, or a charcuterie platter.

Our third wine, a **2019 Maison Louis Jadot Bourgogne Pinot Noir** (originally priced at \$20.99, and on sale at \$14.99 at the New Hampshire Liquor & Wine Outlets), is a blend of pinot noir coming from Jadot's relationships with wine growers from vineyards across the Côte d'Or and Côte Chalonnaise, surrounding Beaune, the wine capital of the Burgundy wine region. This is an exceptionally elegant pinot with complex aromas of plums. Raspberries and cherries carry through to the tongue, joined by a slight earthiness of mushrooms, along with mineral notes and a balanced acidity. Paired with chicken, pork, or grilled fish, this wine is an excellent bargain, not to be missed!

Try a bottle of Louis Jadot. There is so much to choose from! You will welcome the new experience.

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

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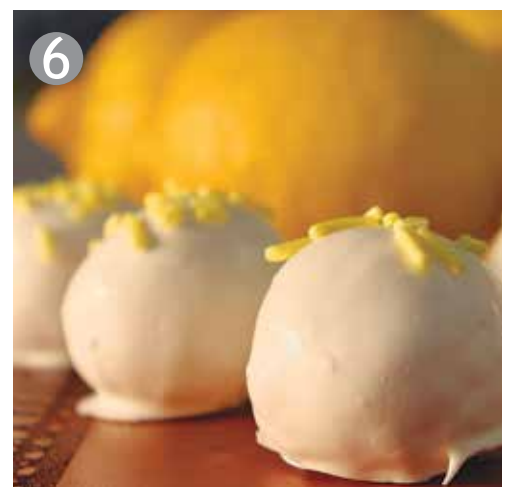
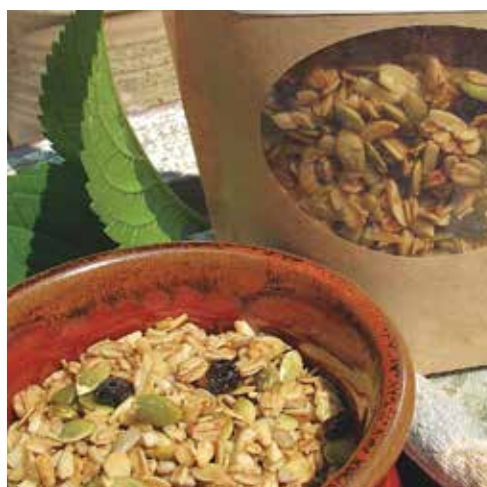
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FILM pg34

• *Turning Red* A+



'Twas only by accident that I ever discovered this New Orleans mud-metal band for myself in the first place, and for that, you'll have to indulge a little inside baseball, apologies in advance. In 2005, around the second year I'd decided to moonlight as a music reviewer, Candlelight Records was sending me every CD they released. Those albums were never any good, and I was just about to swear off them, but I was trying to fill a column and ended up with Crowbar's *Lifesblood for the Downtrodden* in my car. I couldn't believe how awesome it was, Kirk Windstein's ragged, uniquely badass voice and sludge riffage blasting into my face like a Frankenstein's monster that had a personal gripe with me. You have to hear these guys to believe it, and the tradition continues here, in their 12th album, starting with "The Fear That Binds You," a brand-flaunting exercise that sounds like early Mastodon covering *Paranoid*-era Black Sabbath. Windstein's voice isn't as insane-sounding as his "Slave No More" days, but that really shouldn't stop you; if you're a rivet-head who's never heard these guys, your life is incomplete, trust me. A+ — *Eric W. Saeger*

Birthday Massacre, *Fascination* (Metropolis Records)



This Canadian goth-tech-no band is still, at least to me, the gold standard for spooky 1980s ghost-pop. Some critic wrote that their 2007 full-length *Walking With Strangers* is the "Sgt. Pepper's of Dark Wave," and I'd have to agree; it's still an unsurpassed mix of Missing Persons and Depeche Mode, the perfect dance tuneage for an '80s-themed Halloween party. But notice I said it's still "unsurpassed," which is a bit of a run, there, because this crew should have surpassed it a long ago, and, well, they haven't. The band tried some KMFDM stylings that fell flat; singer Chibi is no raging Lucia Cifarelli and should never have tried it on for size, but anyway, that brings us up to date, and to this album, which does start out on a cool-enough note with a sparkling rawk ballad in the title track. Definitely more of a pop edge than on the last few records, which is where they should be; it's definitely their best since *WWS*, but all that means is *WWS* is still, you know, unsurpassed. A — *Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• March 18 is our next all-purpose album release date, when you can wait outside the record store for the guy in the truck to dump out all the albums, where they will find homes in people's cars, where the delicate CDs will eventually wind up getting Wendy's mayonnaise spilled on them and thrown away, which is what you should do with most of those albums in the first place, use them as little single-serving plates for fast food. So that brings us to *Georgia Gothic*, the new album from **Mattiel**, a band from Atlanta that's fronted by its namesake, Mattiel Brown, who sounds like a cross between Nico and Siouxsie Sioux, not that that means they're forgiven for making such boring music. Take for example teaser single "Jeff Gold-bum," a tune that sounds like Garbage but without any hook whatsoever, just a medium-tempo Rolling Stones-ish groove that wanders around aimlessly looking for spare change on the street and then, finding none, ends as uneventfully as it began. Punchline to this bit is that the band played this dumb tune on Stephen Colbert's late night TV show, which proves once and for all that Colbert needs to find some act-bookers who don't take the first bribe some indie label (ATO Records in this case) extracts from their trenchcoat and slides over to them at the greasy coffee shop. I mean, don't get me wrong, this would be awesome stuff if it were the first time I'd ever heard music played on an electric guitar, it's all good, man.

• **Midlake** is a funny little indie-folkie-ish band from Denton, Texas, and they seem to be something of a big-hitter, an up-and-coming band on the AOR/yacht-rock scene! The band's new LP, *For The Sake Of Bethel Woods*, is coming out in just a few hours and features the single "Bethel Woods," a tune that's sort of like if Guster had a baby with some sleepy-time 1980s AOR band like Bruce Hornsby, like there's a sort-of-driving piano line and a hook meant for driving around in the rain looking for a 7-Eleven. It's boring, in other words, but like I hinted, there's money behind these guys, so the video for the tune features none other than Hollywood second banana Michael Pena, who's just walking around the city looking kind of intense, and — wait a second, is that Trinity from *The Matrix*? Nope, it's a younger Trinity, and now they're in a church and there's a wedding. No, wait, it's a baptism. Nope, hold it, it's a funeral, and now Michael Pena's running around on the streets having memories of being a young boy or whatever. I'd rather peel potatoes for a month than ever have anything to do with this band again, honestly.

• **Babeheaven** is a pair of British girls who started their career as youngsters, and now no one seems to know what they are exactly. Run a search for the band's name and you get "they're R&B," "they're dream pop," and of course Pitchfork's "bedroom indie," which does make sense I suppose. Whatever, blah blah blah, they're "more mature" now, which means they have their own smartphone bills to deal with or something, I guess. The new LP *Sink Into Me* is kicked off by "Make Me Wanna," which would have been a cool Portishead-ish chillout, but the tandem appearance of a crummy cheese-synth and none-too-smooth rapper Navy Blue had me bailing after about two minutes. Hard pass.

• We'll close this out with **Sonic Youth's** *In/Out/In*, which features unreleased tuneage from 2000 to 2010. Keeping in mind that the band peaked in 1983, I was naturally none too thrilled with "In And Out," which comes off like a Tangerine Dream throwaway, but all the power to you if you're a Sonic Youth completist; enjoy. — *Eric W. Saeger*

Local bands seeking album or EP reviews can message me on Twitter (@esaeger) or Facebook (eric.saeger.9). 🍷

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Stolen Focus, by Johann Hari (Crown, 345 pages)

The late Harvard professor B.F. Skinner became famous for animal experiments that he believed destroyed the idea of free will. Animals can be manipulated to perform an action by repeatedly offering them a reward until their behaviors become ingrained, similar to Pavlov's salivating dog. Humans, being animals, are basically the same as pigeons in how we respond to rewards. So when we go to Instagram or Twitter looking for "likes," we're the equivalent of a Skinner's pigeon extending its left wing and expecting a treat.

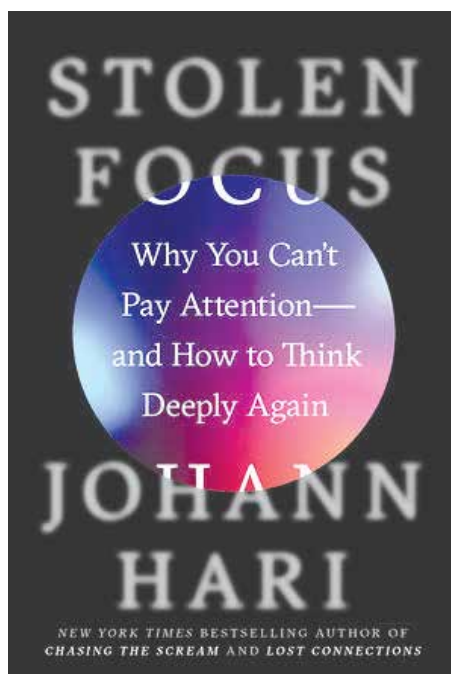
That's one of the many unsettling images British writer Johann Hari puts forth in his blistering critique of what the digital world has wrought. Researchers have been watching our attention spans shrink over the past few decades and have theorized that this is occurring not only because of the processing speed of all the digital tools we use, but also because of sheer information overload.

The average worker spends about three minutes on a task before being distracted by something else, and it doesn't matter whether it's an incoming text or Slack message, a call from your boss or the siren call of TikTok. After we're interrupted, it takes an average of 23 minutes to get back into a state of deep focus. This isn't only a problem in terms of our ability to accomplish the things on our to-do list, but has more profound implications than any individual's stress.

When our ability to pay attention deteriorates, so does our ability to solve problems, Hari says. "Solving big problems requires the sustained focus of many people over many years. Democracy requires the ability of a population to pay attention long enough to identify real problems, distinguish them from fantasies, come up with solutions, and hold their leaders accountable if they fail to deliver them," he writes. (Unrelated to the book, I've seen commentators remark lately that America's involvement in Ukraine will only last as long as Twitter will continue to pay attention to what Russia is doing there.)

For Hari, the societal decline in focus became personal and urgent when he took his godson, a high-school dropout who was obsessed with screens, to visit Elvis Presley's estate, Graceland. While this was supposed to be a trip of human connection, they were given iPads and earbuds to use while walking around. Hari watched as a couple got obsessed with looking at the images of Presley's "Jungle Room" on the iPad — while they were standing in the Jungle Room. In a darkly funny moment, he told them, "There's an old-fashioned form of swiping you can do. It's called turning your head. Because we're here. We're in the Jungle Room."

But Hari knew that, in different ways, he was as addicted to screens as the couple he chastised, and decided to spend three months in Provincetown without any form of con-



nection to the internet. His experience there, however, is a fraction of *Stolen Focus*, which is built more on research than anecdote, and as such is a damning indictment of the attention economy, tech and what it's doing to our brains. We can't solve it by simply throwing away our phones; Hari identifies 12 forces — which include stress, poor diets, physical and mental exhaustion and a decline in long periods of reading — that are contributing to the problem.

"The truth is that you are living in a system that is pouring acid on your attention every day, and then you are being told to blame yourself and to fiddle with your own habits while the world's attention burns," Hari writes.

Unfortunately, a one-day or three-month digital detox does not solve the problem, even though Hari found that without the tyranny of his smartphone, he found time to write 93,000 words of a novel and to read three volumes of *War and Peace*. Indeed, former Google strategist James Williams later told him that a break from tech "is not the solution for the same reason that wearing a gas mask for two days a week outside isn't the answer to pollution."

Hari doesn't just read the work of people like Williams, Google engineer turned tech ethicist Tristan Harris, nutritionist Dale Pinnock and renowned psychologist Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi (who died last year); he interviewed these men and others in person, and weaves their narratives into what ultimately is a manifesto for an "attention rebellion."

The steps he outlines that can help may seem overly simple and ineffective, given the enormity of the problem, but maybe that's the point. If they were too daunting, we wouldn't even try. Among the changes Hari has made in his own life: taking action (which he calls pre-commitment) to cut down on distractions before they can occur; taking periodic breaks from social media; building in unstructured "flow" time to let his mind

wander and thus make creative connections; and being obsessive about getting enough sleep. He estimates that he's improved his own focus by 15 to 20 percent, not a huge amount, but enough to make a difference in the quality of his life.

Stolen Focus is not a self-help book, not a cultural critique, but something even

more important: an education. Read it, and you will be forced to evaluate the role of technology in your life, and that little bird on Twitter may forever look like one of B.F. Skinner's pigeons; a reminder, in the immortal words of children's book author Mo Willems: Don't let the pigeon drive the bus. **A** — Jennifer Graham 🐦

BOOK NOTES

America's shrinking attention span is a problem of such scale that it requires more than one book to address it. In addition to Johann Hari's excellent *Stolen Focus*, reviewed this week, there are two other new books that provide variations on the theme:

In *Peak Mind* (HarperOne, 368 pages) Amishi Jha promises we can find our focus and "own our attention" in 12 minutes a day. (Seems a lot of pages for a 12-minute strategy, but OK.) And Bob Goff weighs in on the subject with *Distraction* (Thomas Nelson, 256 pages), in which he makes the case for living like a racehorse wearing blinders to focus on the most important stuff.

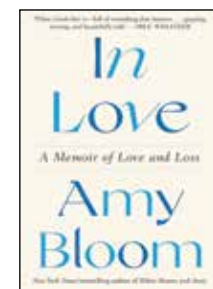
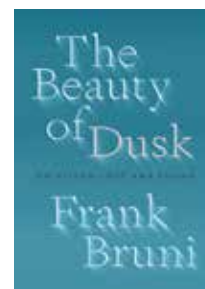
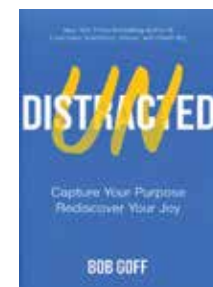
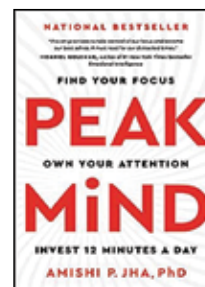
Otherwise, here are two new nonfiction books worth your attention:

New York Times columnist Frank Bruni is out with *The Beauty of Dusk* (Avid Reader Press, 320 pages), a reflection on how his life changed when he woke one morning with changed vision and fuzzy thinking, which he eventually found out was the result of a stroke he'd had during the night. The excerpts I've read so far are compelling.

For another look at lives suddenly changed, check out Amy Bloom's *In Love* (Random House, 240 pages), which examines the fraught subject of medically assisted suicide — not when a person has a terminal diagnosis and six months or less to live, as allowed in some states in the U.S., but when the person still has a decent quality of life and a longer expected life span.

Bloom's husband was diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's and wanted to die on his own terms, not the disease's, so the couple sought the help of Dignitas, a nonprofit in Zurich that helps people arrange "accompanied suicide." There is no happy ending here, but Bloom provides a thoughtful examination of a controversial issue.

Finally, in a novel described as a modern allegory in the vein of *Animal Farm*, *Glory* by NoViolet Bulawayo (Viking, 416 pages) savages social media through the voices of animals living through a revolution in Zimbabwe. It's getting great reviews, but at over 400 pages, you'll need a good attention span to get through it. George Orwell needed only about a quarter of those pages to make his points in *Animal Farm*. Just sayin'. — Jennifer Graham



Books

Author events

- **AZAR NAFISI** Author presents *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 *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 *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.
- **MARIE BOSTWICK** Author presents her new book *The Restoration of Celia Fairchild*. Bookery, 844 Elm St., Manchester. Fri., April 15, 5:30 p.m. Visit bookerymht.com or call 836-6600.
- **BECKY SAKELLERIOU AND HENRY WALTERS** Becky Sakelleriou presents *The Possibility of Red*. Henry Walters presents *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 *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.

Book Clubs

- **BOOKERY** Monthly. Third Thursday, 6 p.m. 844 Elm St., 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.

Turning Red (PG)

A 13-year-old girl discovers that strong emotion transforms her into a red panda in the Pixar animated movie *Turning Red*, a movie about puberty, moms and daughters, friends and, occasionally, Canadian-ness.

The kids at Lester B. Pearson School hustle to earn loonies in this 2002-era Toronto. Add that to the bits of late-1990s, early aughts culture — Tamagotchis, Backstreet/N Sync-y boy bands — and *Turning Red* is a smorgasbord of delightful little surprise moments nestled in some top-tier storytelling.

Thirteen-year-old Meilin Lee (voice of Rosalie Chang) enjoys being a rules-following straight arrow who crushes it at school and is a dutiful daughter at home. Or has she just convinced herself she enjoys it because she has always been so eager for her mother's (voice of Sandra Oh) approval? But her mother doesn't understand about 4*Town, the boy band that has Mei and her friend group — Miriam (voice of Ava Morse), Abby (voice of Hyein Park) and Priya (voice of Maitreyi Ramakrishnan) — all aflutter. Mei herself doesn't understand her buddies' lusting over Devon (Addie Chandler), the 17-year-old who works at the local convenience store whom Mei thinks "looks like a hobo." "Yeah, a hot hobo," Abby says. Yuck, is Mei's opinion, until all of a sudden one day it very much isn't and she feverishly fills a notebook with sketches of herself and Devon, who is sometimes a merman in these drawings.

When Ming, Mei's mom, finds the sketches, she marches a mortified Mei right down to the store so Ming can yell at a clueless Devon about how Mei is just an innocent little girl and he had better stay away and a bunch of other things that make the world sort of fall in on Mei in a way that is as hilarious as it is horrifying (so much of this movie about this drama-and-zits phase of life is hilarious and horrifying). After a night of absolute agony over this never-to-be-re-



Turning Red

covered-from embarrassment, Mei wakes up to find that her body has become unrecognizably hairy and stinky and big.

Which, like, who hasn't been there? But in Mei's specific case, she has become an actual polar-bear-sized red panda.

"It's happened already?" says Mei's dad, Jin (voice of Orion Lee), when Mei's parents find out about her transformation. It turns out that the family, which runs a temple dedicated to their ancestors, doesn't just have a symbolic connection to red pandas but an actual one. A long ago-ancestor gained the ability to turn herself into a red panda to protect herself and her daughters, a power passed to every woman in the family since then. Now living in modern days, the women find the fur, the size and perhaps the anger an annoyance, as Ming explains, and they undergo a ritual to harness their panda-ness so that sudden emotional changes don't lead to a tail and ears popping out. (There is a whole graduate dissertation to be written about this movie's very clever handling of women and their relationship with anger.)

Mei learns that while extreme emotions can bring on the red panda, calming feelings of love and acceptance can help her

turn back into a girl (one whose dark hair is now red). What Mei doesn't tell her mother is that those peaceful feelings come not from her parents but from her group of besties, a sign that she is growing into her own person, apart from her mother. Her buddies, when they learn about the panda, aren't repelled by the gross monster Mei feels she is and tell her they'll be there for her no matter what — especially when "what" turns into a surprising money-making opportunity. The other kids at school are charmed and delighted by the big fuzzy red panda and will fork over their hard-earned loonies for pictures of the panda and panda merch — the perfect way for the girls to earn the money they need to buy tickets to the upcoming 4*Town concert.

Remember the end of Pixar's *Inside Out* when the "puberty" button showed up on the control panel inside the emotional control center of the 12-year-old protagonist? *Turning Red* thematically picks its story up from there, with the fully realized, well-rounded and imperfect person that is Mei suddenly finding herself with all these new emotions and desires and thoughts. It isn't that she's "becoming a woman," the blech-y phrase the

movie repeats just enough to drive home the goofiness of putting all that on either getting your period or seeing a boy band, but that she's finding new facets of herself and trying to figure out how to integrate them into who she has always understood herself to be. And, sorry to spoil the ending for you, kids, but this is basically a thing that continues for forever, as Mei's growing up and growing apart from Ming means that Ming is also seeing some part of her identity change. What is a delight about *Turning Red* is that we don't have to get all in to Ming's head and her adult issues to see this; this movie (unlike, say, *Toy Story 4* or *Cars 3* or all the other movies that feel like middle-aged people working out their midlife identity crises) stays focused on Mei and her various relationships as she sees them. And it does this without making Ming either all correct or all wrong. This is another one of those Pixar movies where there is no "bad guy" per se, no person doing evil but more just a group of people, each person with their own Stuff, working through some difficulties.

Before I make this sound like a total after-school special (which, actually, this would be a great addition to some health class about "your changing body"), *Turning Red* is a boisterous good time with lots of smart observations about teen life, pop music, parental expectations, the appeal of kittens. I feel like the physicality of the red panda comedy would probably make this movie fun for even middle-elementary kids (maybe 9 or so and up). And the lessons about watching your kid become their own awesome self, however painful the loss of their younger version, and the movie's overall joy — not to mention some truly beautiful animation — is a good time for an older audience as well. **A+**

Rated PG for thematic material, suggestive content and language, according to the MPA on film ratings.com. Directed by Domee Shi with a screenplay by Julia Cho & Domee Shi, Turning Red is an hour and 40 minutes long and is distributed by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures on Disney+.

AT THE SOFAPLEX

***The Adam Project* (PG-13)**

Ryan Reynolds, Jennifer Garner.

This Netflix action-comedy also stars Zoe Saldana, Catherine Keener and Mark Ruffalo.

Ryan Reynolds plays that one Ryan Reynolds character again in this movie about time travel, fathers and sons and digital de-aging. Adam Reed (Reynolds) is a pilot from 2050; Adam Reed (Walker Scobell) is also a present-day tween getting in fights at school and sparring with his mom, Ellie (Garner), due in part to his anger and

grief over the death of his scientist dad (Ruffalo). When his mom goes out one night for a date, Adam ventures into the backyard to investigate strange sounds only to find a man bleeding in his late father's workshop. The man knows where to find the first aid supplies, knows the special trick to closing the refrigerator and has the same scar on his chin as young Adam. The man also has the same "Deadpool but PG-13" speaking style as the kid so even if we didn't know going in it was grown-up Adam, we'd know young Adam had just met his older self.

Neither Adam seems particularly delighted to be in their own company — younger Adam is excited that he gets ripped in the future but is annoyed older Adam won't

give him any information; older Adam meanwhile is embarrassed at having to re-experience his tween self and is annoyed that he's landed in 2022 as he had meant to go to 2018. In this future where time travel is possible, Adam has ventured back in search of his wife, Laura (Saldana), who was lost (or was she?) during a time traveling mission.

How exactly time travel has affected the world is one of many things that's sort of yada yada-ed here (generally, it's not good, is what the movie tells us) along with pretty much everything about what 2050 is like and why Maya Sorian (Keener), Adam's boss, is such a big noise in the future. Basically, she becomes another evil tech villain



The Adam Project

POP CULTURE FILMS

whose big accomplishment is becoming rich with destructive technology and follows the Adams into the past to protect her own personal future.

This is some extremely middling fare whose success as entertainment is wholly determined by how much you like that one Ryan Reynolds character. Reynolds is fine and he has a good rapport with the kid who is his younger self (who in turn is doing a pretty good Ryan Reynolds impersonation, really hitting all the beats of the Ryan Reynolds Chatty Insult TM). Sort of like the recent “Channing Tatum + dog” movie, the affability of the lead is fuel that runs this movie. But *The Adam Project*, while possessing of a more elaborate story than “man and dog road trip,” has less nuance to it. From the very shallow world-building to the third-best dad-rock music choices, *The Adam Project* feels like it was given about half the effort it needed. While Channing Tatum’s *Dog* was sort of enjoyably mediocre, *The Adam Project* feels more like something inoffensive to have on while you drift in and out of a nap. **C+** Available on Netflix.

Lucy and Desi (PG)

If *Being the Ricardos* is too idiosyncratically Aaron Sorkin for you but you like Lucille Ball and/or television history, this documentary, directed by Amy Poehler, is a nice way to examine the working and personal relationship of the couple and their impact on television with all the men-ex-



Lucy and Desi

plaining-comedy-to-women stuff stripped away. Here, largely narrated by interviews and tapes of Lucille and ex-husband Desi Arnaz talking about their life, you get a more straightforward look at their professional partnership, which, much like their friendship, outlasted their at times rocky marriage. Also adding commentary is Lucie Arnaz, their oldest child, as well as the children of some of their behind-the-scenes collaborators and women like Carol Burnett and Bette Midler talking about what Ball meant to them professionally. Without getting tabloidy, the movie has some interesting insights about the Ball-Arnaz marriage and the difficulty of building something big in their professional lives while also trying to keep their marriage together and the way work and family clashed. **B+** Available on Amazon Prime. 🍷

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On Facebook, visit JFNH and NH Jewish Film Festival for the latest on the NH Jewish Film Festival.

In-Theater Screenings

Thursday, March 31, 7:00 PM
The Automat

Followed by post-film discussion with director Lisa Hurwitz & collector/restorer Steve Stollman
The Rex, Manchester, NH

Sunday, April 3, 1:00 PM
Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen

35 Artspace, Portsmouth, NH
The Rex, Manchester, NH
Showroom, Keene, NH

Thursday, April 7, 7:00 PM
The Un-Word

Red River Theatres, Concord, NH

Sunday, April 10, 1:00 PM
Tiger Within

Red River Theatres, Concord NH

Sunday, April 10, 3:30 PM
50th Anniversary Celebration Cabaret

Followed by post-film discussion with Zachary Camenker: “Revisiting Cabaret: The History of the Groundbreaking Film 50 Years Later”
Red River Theatres, Concord NH

Virtual Screenings

Thursday, March 31– Sunday, April 10

All films will be available for 11 days.
After film is unlocked you have 48 hours to screen.

200 Meters	Shorts Program:
Apples and Oranges	Beefies
Greener Pastures	Ganef
Neighbours	Masel Tov Cocktail
Persian Lessons	Tattooed Torah
Upheaval: The Journey of Menachem Begin	The Shabbos Goy

Virtual Post-Film Discussions

Monday, April 4, 7:00 PM

Apples and Oranges
Zoom discussion with director Yoav Brill

Tuesday, April 5, 7:00 PM

Upheaval: The Journey of Menachem Begin
Zoom discussion with filmmaker Jonathan Gruber

Virtual Screenings Bonus Week
Monday, April 11–Sunday, April 24

Four Films that were shown in theaters will be available for 14 days. After film is unlocked you have 48 hours to screen.

The Automat
Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen
Tiger Within
The Un-Word

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Directors: 92.5 The River, Angela's Pasta, Cheese & Wine, Anonymous, Barry & Honoror Attorneys at Law, Maryellen and Mark Bilech, CCA Global Partners, Cohen Center for Holocaust & Genocide Studies at Keene State College, Pam Grich and Louis Firik, Grinley Creative, The Harbor Group, Nancy and Richard Kudler, Rachel Kurshan, Sedra Michaelson and Ronald Deeter, Peters of Nashua, Julia and Ido Press, Barbara and Barry Scotch, Temple Beth Abraham, Tulley Automotive Group, Honey Weiss and David Lewis



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Film

Movie screenings, movie-themed happenings & virtual events

Venues

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

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

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

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

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

Shows

• **Women's Adventure Film Tour** (2021) on Wednesday, March 16, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.
• **Oscar Nominated 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 17, at 4 p.m.

• **The Worst Person in the World** (R, 2021) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord Thursday, March 17, at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.; Friday, March 18, through Sunday, March 20, at 1 & 7 p.m.
• **Cyrano** (PG-13, 2021) screens at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m.; Friday, March 18, through Sunday, March 20, at 4 p.m.
• **The Outfit** (R, 2022) screens at Red River Theatres in Concord on Friday, March 18, through Sunday, March 20, at 1:30, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, March 24, at 4:30 & 7:30 p.m.
• **A Fine Line** (2021) on Wednesday, March 23, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.
• **Senior Movie Mornings: Casablanca** (1942) on Thursday, March 24, at 10 a.m. at the Rex Theatre in Manchester.
• **Infinite Storm** (R, 2022) screens at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, March 24, at 7 p.m.
• **Cleo from 5 to 7** (1962) on Friday, March 25, at 4 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.
• **Rockets in Space** (2022) on Friday, March 25, at 7 p.m. at the Strand in Dover.
• **L'Inferno** (1911) on Friday, March 25, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.

• **Solo Sunny** (1980) on Saturday, March 26, at 3 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.
• **Senso** (1954) on Saturday, March 26, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.
• **I Vitelloni** (1953) on Sunday, March 27, at 1 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth.
• **Oscar Micheaux—The Superhero of Black Filmmaking** (2021) on Sunday, March 27, at 4 p.m. at the Music Hall in Portsmouth
• **Robin Hood** (1922), a silent film starring Douglas Fairbanks Sr. with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, on Sunday, March 27, at 2 p.m. at the Wilton Town Hall Theatre. Suggested donation \$10.
• **Flesh and Blood and The Man from Beyond** (1922), a silent film with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, on Sunday, April 10, at 2 p.m. at the Wilton Town Hall Theatre. Suggested donation \$10.
• **Ben-Hur** (1922), a silent film with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, on Thursday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rex Theatre in Manchester.
• **Othello** (1922) on Sunday, April 24, at 2 p.m. at the Wilton Town Hall Theatre. Suggested donation \$10.

THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Green scene:** An ideal accompaniment to St. Patrick's Day, **Black Pudding Rovers** are in their 21st year playing Irish music, from traditional songs to Van Morrison. Piano player, guitarist and singer Mike Becker recalls that BPR was the house band at TR Brennan's, "until that restaurant burned down after a hot performance." The afternoon event includes food and drink specials — grab a Guinness. Thursday, March 17, 4 p.m., Moe Joe's Family Restaurant, 2175 Candia Road, Manchester, eatatmoejoe.com.

• **Different duo:** The fortuitous pairing of **John Oates and Guthrie Trapp** began when both were playing the Telluride Bluegrass Festival a few years back. Oates was briefly stepping away from his work with Hall & Oates to sit in with Sam Bush and guitarist Trapp was playing in Jerry Douglas's band. They jammed a bit, forming a bond that blossomed during the pandemic. A brief tour including a local stop is the result. Friday, March 18, 8 p.m., Colonial Theatre, 617 Main St., Laconia, \$39 to \$89 at ticketweb.com.

• **Metal triplet:** Both a rock concert and a show of force, **Korn** performs with the equally muscular Chevelle and Code Orange. With their eponymous debut album, Korn defined a genre that one critic said "articulated a generational coming-of-angst." They released a new album, *Requiem*, in February, led by the single "Start the Healing." Chevelle's latest is last year's space-themed *NIRAITAS*. Saturday, March 19, 6:30 p.m., SNHU Arena, 555 Elm St., Manchester. Tickets are \$49.50 to \$115 at ticketmaster.com.

• **Tapas tunes:** Enjoy small-plate delicacies and tunes from **The Incidentals**, a four-piece with a set list ranging from Frank Sinatra to the Ramones. Whether that includes a punk version of "My Way," is unclear, although Sid Vicious did cover it back when. The restaurant is highly regarded for inventive shareable dishes, and a bar that extends its Grateful Dead theme with a grapefruit-flavored Sugar Magnolia martini. Sunday, March 20, 4 p.m., Stella Blu, 70 E. Pearl St., Nashua, stellablunh.com.

• **New's old:** Born from creator Scott Bradlee's self-described "old soul," **Post-modern Jukebox** blends old-school jazz with contemporary songs in a way that's singularly unique. Singer Hayley Reinhart covering Radiohead's "Creep" in a Dinah Washington mode is stunning and scintillating, as is Olivia Kuper Harris, Sara Niemietz and Therese Curatolo reinventing the Spice Girls' '90s pop hit "Wannabe." Wednesday, March 23, 8 p.m., Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, \$39 to \$109 at ccanh.com. 🍷

NITE

Shape shifter

With a new album, Samantha Fish hits Manchester

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Until New Year's Day delivered omicron to the world, Samantha Fish was looking forward to a European tour in March. Like so many of her plans over the last two years, it was postponed. But the continent's loss is America's gain, as Fish is now doing a co-headlining tour with the Devon Allman Project. A St. Patrick's Day stop in Manchester is, ironically, a replacement date for a canceled Allman Betts Band show at the Palace Theatre.

Singer-guitarist Fish's latest album, *Faster*, is another step away from the blues sound that defined her early days, earning her supporters like Buddy Guy. "Hypnotic" evokes mid-'80s Prince from its first notes, a synth-y stew that also hints what David Bowie's collaboration with Stevie Ray Vaughan might have produced had it lasted more than one album.

Produced by Martin Kierszenbaum (Lady Gaga, Sting), the new record's most engaging departure is "Loud." A rock/hip-hop mashup featuring rapper Tech N9ne, who like Fish hails from Kansas City, it's a solid genre-bender. In a recent phone interview, Fish sounded amazed that she'd lured "Eminem's favorite all-time rapper" to work with her.

"When I first met Martin, we went to Tech's studio to work in one of the writing rooms," she said. "Martin just sort of brought it up offhand, like, 'It would be really cool to have Tech on a record.' I just kind of laughed it off; I never thought he would in a million years. Then, he actually went and got him."

The new record is a buoyant, danceable

celebration, but it didn't begin that way; Fish started writing in the pandemic's early days, fresh off a narrow exit from an overseas tour that had her spending nearly two days in airports.

"I went through a lot of feelings and different phases of just dealing with this terrible thing that was going on," Fish said. "All I could do was really go sit in my house and write."

That's how every record begins, Fish said, but "the introduction of it is never what it ends up being."

She shifted gears when her new producer entered the frame. "When I met Martin, I just kind of got this really infectious energy, enthusiastic and encouraging and very positive overall," she said.

His mood compelled Fish to "write songs that were fun, that made people feel good. I wanted to have an energetic show; I wanted to come out jumping around after this pandemic. I feel like this record really serves that kind of an approach, and it feels nice to be able to own that."

Along with producing, Kierszenbaum co-wrote several tracks and played on most of the record, while Rob Orton (Lana Del Ray, Sting, Mumford & Sons) did the mixing.

"I just feel like it has this level of ... I don't want to call it gloss, which sounds like a bad thing, but it's got sparkle to it that I don't know has been present in my past work. I really admire Martin for his ability to pull that out."

Fish started her own record label a few years back and has produced two records by Jonathan Long and another one for Nicholas



Samantha Fish. Photo Credit Kevin King.

David.

"My job as a producer is to help the artists facilitate their vision and to make it cohesive and also get it done on time and under budget — you know, like the boring part," she said. "I like helping people shape their vision, help them get what they want, and that's been kind of a fun journey for me."

For the upcoming show Fish expects a well-rounded evening. Allman's band will include two special guests: harmonica player and vocalist Jimmy Hall of Southern rock stalwarts Wet Willie and veteran blues guitarist Larry McCray. Each band will play a full set, and they'll end up together at evening's end.

"It's going to be a collaborative event, but also evenly showcasing our bands and our music," Fish said. "You know, the best of all worlds." 🍷

Devon Allman Project with Samantha Fish Band & River Kittens

When: Thursday, March 17, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester

Tickets: \$35 and up at palacetheatre.org

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Venues

Capitol Center for the Arts — 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

McCue's Comedy Club at the Roundabout Diner

580 Portsmouth Traffic Circle, Portsmouth
mccuescomedyclub.com

The Music Hall

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

Palace Theatre

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

Rex Theatre

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

Saddle Up Saloon

92 Route 125, Kingston
347-1313, saddleupsaloonh.com

The Strand

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

The Word Barn

66 Newfields Road, Exeter
244-0202, thewordbarn.com

Events

• **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.

• **Pat Napoli & Kyle Crawford** Saddle Up Saloon, Thursday, March 18, 8 p.m.

• **Robert Dubac** Rex Theatre, Friday, March 18, 7:30 p.m.

• **Josh Day and Friends** Word Barn, Saturday, March 19, 7 p.m.

• **Chance Langton** McCue's Comedy Club, Saturday, March 19, 8 p.m.

• **Joe Yannetty/Matt Barry** The Strand, Saturday, March 19, 8 p.m.

• **Johnny Pizzi** Headliners, Saturday, March 19, 8:30 p.m.

• **Jody Sloane** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, March 19, 8:30 p.m.

• **Bill Simas** Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, March 19, 8:30 p.m.

• **Steve Sweeney** McCue's, Friday, March 25, 8:30 p.m.

• **Robbie Printz/Carolyn Plummer/Greg Howell** Fulchino Vineyards, Saturday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.

• **Juston McKinney** Chubb Theatre, Saturday, March 26, 8 p.m.



Robert Dubac. Courtesy photo.

• **Jim McCue** McCue's Comedy Club, Saturday, March 26, 8:30 p.m.

• **Joe Yannetty** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, March 26, 8:30 p.m.

• **Will Noonan** Headliners, Saturday, March 26, 8:30 p.m.

• **Harrison Stebbins** Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, March 26, 8:30 p.m.

• **Kelly MacFarland** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, April 1, and Saturday, April 2, 8:30 p.m.

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Thank you and we are truly grateful for your support!

Sincerely,

Jody Reese
Hippo Publisher



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MUSIC THIS WEEK

<p>Alton Bay Dockside Restaurant 6 East Side Drive 855-2222</p> <p>Amherst LaBelle Winery 345 Route 101 672-9898</p> <p>Bedford Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677</p> <p>Murphy's Carriage House 393 Route 101 488-5875</p> <p>Bow Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508</p> <p>Brookline The Alamo Texas Barbecue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000</p>	<p>Concord Area 23 State Street 881-9060</p> <p>Cheers 17 Depot St. 228-0180</p> <p>Concord Craft Brewing 117 Storrs St. 856-7625</p> <p>Hermanos Mexicana 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669</p> <p>Penuche's Ale House 16 Bicentennial Square 228-9833</p> <p>Shara Vineyards 82 Currier Road</p> <p>Tandy's Pub & Grille 1 Eagle Square 856-7614</p>	<p>T-Bones 404 S. Main St. 715-1999</p> <p>Deerfield The Lazy Lion 4 North Road</p> <p>Derry Fody's Tavern 187 Rockingham Road, 404-6946</p> <p>LaBelle Winery 14 Route 111 672-9898</p> <p>Epping Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225</p> <p>Exeter Sawbelly Brewing 156 Epping Road 583-5080</p> <p>Farmington Hawg's Pen 1114 Route 11 755-3301</p>	<p>Gilford Patrick's 18 Weirs Road 293-0841</p> <p>Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230</p> <p>Hampton Bogie's 32 Depot Square 601-2319</p> <p>Charlie's Tap House 9A Ocean Blvd. 929-9005</p> <p>Community Oven 845 Lafayette Road 601-6311</p> <p>CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972</p>	<p>The Galley Hatch (Tino's Kitchen upstairs) 325 Lafayette Road 926-6152</p> <p>The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928</p> <p>L Street Tavern 603 17 L St. 967-4777</p> <p>North Beach Bar & Grill 931 Ocean Blvd. 967-4884</p> <p>Sea Ketch 127 Ocean Blvd. 926-0324</p> <p>Shane's BBQ 61 High St. 601-7091</p> <p>Smuttynose Brewing 105 Towle Farm Road</p> <p>Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954</p> <p>Whym Craft Pub & Brewery 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801</p>	<p>Henniker Colby Hill Inn 33 The Oaks 428-3281</p> <p>Pats Peak Sled Pub 24 Flanders Road 888-728-7732</p> <p>Hudson Backstreet Bar and Grill 76 Derry Road 578-1811</p> <p>The Bar 2B Burnham Road</p> <p>Luk's Bar & Grill 142 Lowell Road 889-9900</p> <p>Lynn's 102 Tavern 76 Derry Road 943-7832</p> <p>Nan King Restaurant 222 Central St. 882-1911</p> <p>T-Bones 77 Lowell Road 882-6677</p> <p>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962</p>	<p>Laconia Belknap Mill 25 Beacon St. E., No. 1 524-8813</p> <p>Fratello's 799 Union Ave. 528-2022</p> <p>Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100</p> <p>Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022</p> <p>Game Changer Bar & Grill 4 Orchard View 216-1396</p> <p>603 Brewery & Beer Hall 42 Main St. 404-6123</p> <p>Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210</p> <p>Manchester Angel City Music Hall 179 Elm St. 931-3654</p>	<p>Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545</p> <p>Bonfire 950 Elm St. 663-7678</p> <p>Crown Tavern 99 Hanover St. 218-3132</p> <p>Currier Museum of Art 150 Ash St. 669-6144</p> <p>Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880</p> <p>Firefly 21 Concord St. 935-9740</p> <p>The Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925</p> <p>Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022</p> <p>The Goat 50 Old Granite St.</p> <p>Great North Aleworks 1050 Holt Ave. 858-5789</p>
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Thursday, March 17

<p>Bedford Copper Door: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Murphy's: Ralph Allen, 11 a.m.; Green Heron, 12:30 p.m.; Sean Dennehy, 4 p.m.; Waking Fin-nigan, 4 p.m.</p> <p>Brookline Alamo: open mic, 4:30 p.m.</p> <p>Concord Area 23: NH Music Collective Artist Show, 7 p.m. Hermanos: Eugene Beaudoin, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Derry Fody's: music bingo, 8 p.m. LaBelle: Takin' It To the Streets (Doobie Brothers Tribute), 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Epping Telly's: Johnny Angel, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Exeter Sawbelly: Max Sullivan, 5 p.m.</p> <p>Goffstown Village Trestle: Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Hampton CR's: Greg Decoteau, 6 p.m. Wally's: Chris Toler, 6 p.m. Whym: music bingo, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Hudson Lynn's 102: karaoke w/ George Bisson, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon: karaoke with DJ Jason, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Laconia Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m. Tower Hill: karaoke, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Londonderry Stumble Inn: Jonny Friday, 2 p.m.; 21* and 1st, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Manchester Angel City: Blues Brothers, 6 p.m. Currier: River Sister, 5 p.m. Derryfield: D Comp Band, 6 p.m. Foundry: Eric Marcs, 5 p.m. Fratello's: Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m. KC's: Chris Perkins, 6 p.m. Murphy's: Austin McCarthy, 8 a.m.; Sean Dennehy, 11:30 a.m.; Rebel Collective, 3 p.m.; Dancing Madly Backwards, 7 p.m. Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Meredith Giuseppe's: Jeff Lines, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Merrimack Homestead: Joanie Cicatelli, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Milford Stonecutters Pub: Blues Therapy, 8 p.m.</p>	<p>Nashua Fody's: DJ Rich karaoke, 9:30 p.m. Fratello's: Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m. Stones Social: Hal Holiday, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Newmarket Stone Church: Great Bay Sailor, 9 p.m.</p> <p>Portsmouth The Goat: Joe Birch, 9 p.m. Thirsty Moose: Mattson, 9 p.m.</p> <p>Salem Copper Door: Pete Peterson, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Goffstown Village Trestle: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Hampton CR's: Rico Barr Duo, 6 p.m. The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m. Wally's: Clownshoe, 9 p.m. Whym: Liz Ridgely, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Henniker Pats Peak: Eric Marcs, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Hudson Lynn's 102: karaoke w/ George Bisson, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Laconia Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m. Tower Hill Tavern: DJ Kadence with karaoke, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Londonderry Coach Shop: Pete Peterson, 6 p.m. Stumble Inn: Mica Peterson, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Manchester Angel City: Bon Fire, 8 p.m. Backyard Brewery: ODB Project, 5 p.m. Bonfire: Cashwood, 9 p.m.</p>	<p>Derryfield: Off the Record, 8 p.m.</p> <p>The Foundry: Malcolm Salls, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Fratello's: Jeff Mrozek, 6 p.m.</p> <p>The Goat: Back in Black, 9 p.m.</p> <p>Murphy's: Fox & the Flamingos, 9:30 p.m.</p> <p>South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke, 9 p.m.</p> <p>Strange Brew: Ken Clark Organ Trio, 9 p.m.</p> <p>Meredith Twin Barns: River Sang Wild, 5 p.m.</p> <p>Merrimack Homestead: Marc Apostolides, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Milford Pasta Loft: Roots of Creation, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Stonecutters Pub: DJ Dave O with karaoke, 9 p.m.</p> <p>Nashua Fody's: Joe Macdonald, 8 p.m. Fratello's: Dave Zangri, 6 p.m.</p> <p>New Boston Molly's: Chris Perkins, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Northfield Boonedoxz Pub: karaoke night, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Portsmouth Gas Light: Chris Lester, 8 p.m. Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m. Thirsty Moose: Inside Out, 9 p.m.</p>
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ST. PADDY'S DAY CELEBRATION

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with the **St. Paddy's Comedy and Dance Spectacular** at the Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth; 436-2400; themusichall.org). Comedian Jim McCue headlines a bill that includes standup comics Joey Carroll and Erin Maguire as well as *Riverdance* cast member John Grimes and the McDonough-Grimes Irish Dancers. The show takes place on Thursday, March 17, at 7:30, and tickets cost \$38 including fees.

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.

Jewel Music Venue 61 Canal St. 819-9336	Merrimack Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022	Peddler's Daughter 48 Main St. 821-7535	Thirsty Moose Tap-house 21 Congress St. 427-8645
KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St. 627-RIBS	Tomahawk Tavern 454 Daniel Webster Hwy. 365-4960	Stones Social 449 Amherst St. 943-7445	Rochester Porter's Pub 19 Hanson St. 330-1964
Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St. 644-3535	Milford The Pasta Loft 241 Union Square 672-2270	New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362	Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway 458-2033
South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947	Stonecutters Pub 63 Union Square 213-5979	Newmarket Stone Church 5 Granite St. 659-7700	Smuttynose 11 Via Toscana T-Bones 311 South Broadway 893-3444
Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St. 625-4444	Nashua Casey McGee's Irish Pub 8 Temple St. 484-7400	Northfield Boonedoxz Pub 95 Park St. 717-8267	Seabrook Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706
Strange Brew 88 Market St. 666-4292	Fody's Tavern 9 Clinton St. 577-9015	Portsmouth The Gas Light 64 Market St. 430-9122	Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road 760-0030
Meredith Giuseppe's 312 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-3313	Fratello's Italian Grille 194 Main St. 889-2022	The Goat 142 Congress St. 590-4628	Somersworth The SpeakEasy Bar 2 Main St.
Twin Barns Brewing 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876	Millyard Brewery 25 E. Otterson St. 722-0104		

Saturday, March 19

Alton Bay Dockside: Tim T, 8 p.m.	Goffstown Village Trestle: Chris Perkins, 6 p.m.	Londonderry Coach Shop: Paul Lussier, 6 p.m. Stumble Inn: The Slakas, 8 p.m.
Bow Chen Yang Li: Mikey G, 7 p.m.	Hampton The Goat: Jonny Friday, 9 p.m. L Street: live music, 6:30 p.m.; karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m. Wally's: Back in Black, 8 p.m. Whym: Lewis Goodwin, 6:30 p.m.	Manchester Angel City: Chris Drake, 9 p.m. Backyard Brewery: Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m. Bonfire: Neon Rodeo, 7 p.m. Derryfield: Souled Out Show Band, 8 p.m. Fratello's: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m. The Foundry: Josh Foster, 6 p.m. The Goat: Jonny Friday, 9 p.m. Great North Aleworks: live music, 3 p.m. McIntyre: Dave Zangri, 5 p.m. Murphy's: The Drift, 9:30 p.m. Strange Brew: Racky Thomas, 9 p.m.
Brookline Alamo: April Cushman, 5 p.m.	Henniker Pats Peak: Wood Wind & Whiskey, 5 p.m.	Meredith Giuseppe's: Bob Kroepel, 6 p.m. Twin Barns: Andrew Geano, 5 p.m.
Concord Area 23: Bluegrass jam with Ross Arnold, 2 p.m. Hermanos: Gerry Beaudoin, 6:30 p.m. Penuche's: Blue Light Rain, 7 p.m.	Hudson Lynn's 102 Tavern: Off the Record, 8 p.m.	
Deerfield Lazy Lion: live music, 7 p.m.	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon: Cry Uncle, 8 p.m.	
Epping Telly's: Rob & Jody, 8 p.m.	Laconia Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m. Tower Hill: karaoke, 8 p.m.	
Exeter Sawbelly: Douglas James, 1 p.m.; Arty Francouer, 5 p.m.		

SATURDAY NIGHT BLUES

Local blues phenom Ms. Vee takes her Badass Band to the Bank of New Hampshire Stage (16 S. Main St., Concord; 225-1111; banknhstage.com) on Saturday, March 19, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$18 to \$25 plus fees.



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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Merrimack

Homestead: Marc Apostolides, 6 p.m.

Milford

Pasta Loft: live music, 9 p.m.

Nashua

Peddler's Daughter: GoodFoot, 9:30 p.m.

New Boston

Molly's: Acoustic BS, 7 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Lucid Elephants & The New Motif, 8 p.m.

Northfield

Boonedoxz Pub: live music, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth

Gas Light: Justin Jordan, 9:30 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Sweep the Leg, 9 p.m.

Laconia

Fratello's: live piano, 5:30 p.m.
Tower Hill: Chris Powers, 3 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Another Shot, 3 p.m.

Manchester

Angel City: Extinction AD & Rhythm of Fear, 8 p.m.
The Foundry: Brad Myrick, 10 a.m.
Strange Brew: jam, 7 p.m.

Meredith

Twin Barns: Maddi Ryan, 11 a.m.

Northfield

Boonedoxz Pub: open mic, 4 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Salem

Copper Door: Phil Jakes, 11 a.m.

Monday, March 21

Hudson

The Bar: karaoke with Phil

Gilford

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

Hampton

L Street: Karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.

Laconia

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

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Lisa Guyer, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Foundry: live music, 10 a.m.
Fratello's: Phil Jake's, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: David Campbell, 8 p.m.

Merrimack

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

Nashua

Fody's: karaoke night, 9:30 p.m.
Fratello's: live music, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: musical bingo, 7 p.m.; Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.
Press Room: open mic, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 22

Concord

Hermanos: Scott Solsky, 6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: open mic night, 8 p.m.

Hampton

L Street: Karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.
Shane's: music bingo, 7 p.m.
Wally's: musical bingo, 7 p.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.

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois, 6 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Jeff Mrozek, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua

Fody's: Musical Bingo, 8 p.m.
Fratello's: live music, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Chris Fitz Grice, 9 p.m.

Seabrook

Red's: live music, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 23

Concord

Area 23: open mic, 6 p.m.
Hermanos: Paul Bourgelais, 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.

Hudson

Lynn's 102: Under Raps, 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: Joanie Cicutelli, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: country line dancing, 7 p.m.
Stark Brewing: karaoke with Cox karaoke, 8 p.m.

NEIGHBOR



Jam band **Neighbor** brings their good vibes to the Flying Monkey (39 Main St., Plymouth; 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com) on Friday, March 18, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$29 plus fees.

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Strange Brew: Howard & Mike's Acoustic Jam, 8 p.m.

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Jeff Lines, 6 p.m.

Merrimack

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

Milford

Stonecutters Pub: open mic, 8 p.m.

Nashua

Fratello's: live music, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Will Hatch with Allison Brown, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Rochester

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

Somersworth

Speakeasy: open mic night, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 24

Amherst

LaBelle: The Eagles Experience, 7:30 p.m.

Bedford

Copper Door: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.

Brookline

Alamo: open mic, 4:30 p.m.

Concord

Area 23: DJ Dicey Dance Party, 8 p.m.

Hermanos: Craig Fahey, 6:30 p.m.

Derry

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

Epping

Telly's: Jordan Quinn, 7 p.m.

Exeter

Sawbelly: Laura Lee, 5 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: BoneShakerz Duo, 6 p.m.

Hampton

CR's: Just the Two of Us, 6 p.m.

Wally's: Chris Toler, 6 p.m.

Whym: music bingo, 6 p.m.

Hudson

Lynn's 102: karaoke w/ George Bisson, 8 p.m.

Kingston

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

Laconia

Belknap Mill: Ziggy & Miles Johnston, 7 p.m.

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

Tower Hill: karaoke, 8 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Mugsy with Nate Comp Trio, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Currier: River: Jessye DeSilva and Alex Calabrese Duo, 5 p.m.

Foundry: Doug Farrell & Jack Henry, 5 p.m.

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

KC's: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.

Strange Brew: Jam Tomorrow, 8 p.m.

Meredith

Giuseppe's: The Sweetbloods, 6 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Jessica Olson, 5:30 p.m.

Milford

Stonecutters Pub: Blues Therapy, 8 p.m.

Trivia

Events

• **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).

• **Grey's Anatomy Trivia** at Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com) on Thursday, March 24, 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.

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

• **Schitt's Creek Trivia** at Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com) on Thursday, April 14, at 7:30 p.m. Reserve a spot with a \$5 per person food voucher (teams can have up to 6 players).

• **Doctor Strange Trivia** at Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com) on Thursday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m. Reserve a spot with a \$5 per person food voucher (teams can have up to 6 players).

• **Disney Songs Trivia** at Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com) on Thursday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m. Reserve a spot with a \$5 per person food voucher (teams can have up to 6 players).

Weekly

• **Thursday trivia** at Great North Aleworks (1050 Holt Ave., Manchester, 858-5789, greatnorthaleworks.com) from 7 to 8 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, gamechangersportsbar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.

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



Boondock Saints

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

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

• **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.

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SAT. MAR. 19
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THURS. MAR. 24
7:30PM



PRESENTS



FRI. MAR. 25
7:30PM



FRI. APR. 15TH
7:30PM

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Concerts

Venues

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

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

Chunky's
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

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

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

Millyard Brewery
125 E. Otterson St., Nashua
722-0104, millyardbrewery.com

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

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

Pasta Loft
241 Union Square, Milford
pastaloft.com/live-music

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

- **Takin' It to the Streets** (Doobie Brothers tribute) Thursday, March 17, 6:30 p.m., LaBelle Winery Derry
- **Mary Bragg/Mark Erelli** Thursday, March 17, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- **Great Bay Sailor** Thursday, March 17, 7 p.m., Stone Church
- **The Spain Brothers/Green Heron** Thursday, March 17, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre
- **GA-20** Thursday, March 17, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club
- **The Devon Allman Project/Samantha Fish Band** Thursday, March 17, 7:30 p.m., Palace Theatre
- **Wishbone Ash** Thursday, March 17, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Diaspora Radio** (Radiohead tribute) Friday, March 18, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- **Neighbor** Friday, March 18, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Dueling Pianos** Friday, March 18, 7:30 p.m., Chunky's Nashua
- **Anat Cohen Quartetinho** Friday, March 18, 7 and 9:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club
- **Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio** Friday, March 18, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage, Concord
- **Grain Thief/Green Heron** Friday, March 18, 8 p.m., Stone Church
- **Carly Pearce** Friday, March 18, 8 p.m., The Music Hall
- **Brett Wilson** Friday, March 18, 8:30 p.m., Pasta Loft
- **Zwart Hogs** Saturday, March 19, 4 p.m., Millyard Brewery
- **BILMURI/Jacketless/Everway** Saturday, March 19, 7 p.m., Jewel
- **Jingo: The Ultimate Tribute to Santana** Saturday, March 19, 7:30 p.m., Palace Theatre
- **Dueling Pianos** Saturday, March 19, 7:30 p.m., Chunky's Manchester
- **Matthew Whitaker Quintet** Saturday, March 19, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club
- **Edwin McCain** Saturday, March 19, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Notixx/Walter Wilde** Saturday, March 19, 8 p.m., Jewel
- **Ms. Vee and a Badass Band** Saturday, March 19, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage in Concord
- **Monique Toosoon** (drag show) Saturday, March 19, 8:30 p.m.,



Green Heron. Courtesy photo.

Pasta Loft

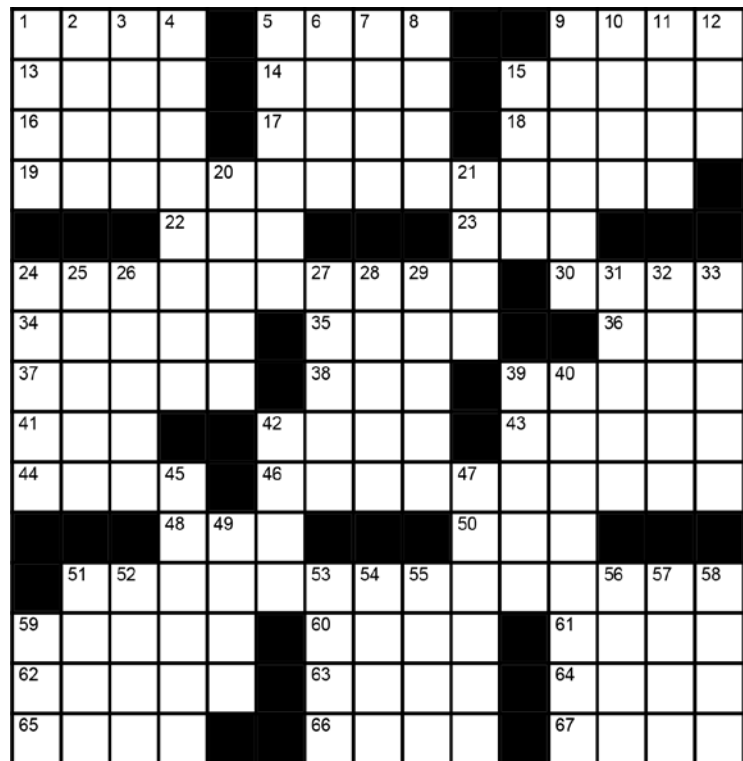
- **Lucid Elephants/The New Motif** Saturday, March 19, 9 p.m., Stone Church
- **Jordan TW Trio/Jim Prendergrass & Hanz Araki** Sunday, March 20, 4:30 p.m., Stone Church
- **Glengarry Boys** Sunday, March 20, 7 p.m., Tupelo
- **Will Hatch/Allison Brown** Wednesday, March 23, 7 p.m., Stone Church
- **Cherish The Ladies** Wednesday, March 23, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club
- **Postmodern Jukebox — The Grand Reopening Tour** Wednesday, March 23, 8 p.m., Capitol Center for the Arts
- **Martin Sexton** Thursday, March 24, 6 and 9 p.m., Word Barn
- **Studio Two** (early Beatles tribute) Thursday, March 24, 6:30 p.m., LaBelle Winery Derry
- **Crawlspace** Thursday, March 24, 7 p.m., Capitol Center for the Arts
- **BILMURI/Jacketless/Everway** Thursday, March 24, 7 p.m., Jewel Music Venue
- **Max Weinberg's Jukebox** Thursday, March 24, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre
- **Blanco/The Rockdwellers** Thursday, March 24, 8 p.m., Stone Church
- **English Beat** Thursday, March 24, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **The Eagles Experience** (Eagles tribute) Thursday, March 24, 6:30 p.m., LaBelle Winery Amherst
- **Orleans** Thursday, March 24, 7:30 p.m., Dana Center
- **Megan Woods** Thursday, March 24, 6 p.m., The Oven in Epping
- **Sam Weber/The Ladles** Friday, March 25, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- **Voluntary Victim** Friday, March 25, 7 p.m., Jewel Music Venue
- **Nicole Henry** Friday, March 25, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club

CHERISH THE LADIES



Legendary Celtic supergroup **Cherish The Ladies** plays an intimate show at Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club (135 Congress St., Portsmouth; 888-603-JAZZ; jimmysoncongress.com) on Wednesday, March 23, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 to \$75 plus fees.

I'M GONNA SOAK UP THIS PUZZLE



Across

- 1. Music makes fingers do this
- 5. U2 Bassist Clayton
- 9. Janey went to a pawn one, on Bruce's 'Spare Parts'
- 13. Italian metalers Lacuna
- 14. Cheap recording w/hum (hyph)
- 15. Happening venue
- 16. 'I Just Fall In Love Again' Murray
- 17. Gripe sound when hated song starts
- 18. 'Unchained' Van
- 19. Indie label for a bullfighter (7,7)
- 22. Police "I'll send an ___ to the world"
- 23. Alanis Morissette 'You ___ Me Nothing In Return'
- 24. Not electrical but this
- 30. '91 Gang Of Four album you hear in an indoor shopping center?
- 34. LA's ___ Of Rockets
- 35. Famous saxophonist nickname
- 36. CeCe Peniston 'My ___'
- 37. Amount of pre-show bottle
- 38. Trippy UK pioneers, with "the"
- 39. T. Rex 'Bang ___ (Get It On)' (1,4)
- 41. Pink Floyd '___ Of These Days'
- 42. Atlantic Records division started in '551
- 43. Kings Of Leon had a lasso w/'King Of The ___'
- 44. Pet Shop Boys '___ End Girls'
- 46. Video may have cast of crazy ones
- 48. Indie band Uh ___ Her
- 50. Zac Brown might dip one in, to check water
- 51. The Alarm felt this sensation when she first walked by (8,2,4)
- 59. 'California Saga/The ___ of

- Eagles' Beach Boys
- 60. 'What Makes ___ ___' City and Colour (1,3)
- 61. Nobodys 'Ain't No One Getting ___'
- 62. Black Crowes 'Shake Your Money ___'
- 63. TV On The Radio 'Heroic ___'
- 64. "Speaking words of wisdom, let ___" (2,2)

- 65. '03 Staind album '14 Shades Of ___'
- 66. Humans to pompous rock stars?
- 67. Dandy Warhols '___ I Dreamt Of Yes'

Down

- 1. Record label fast one
- 2. Crüe song about Nikki's grandmother
- 3. '___ No Reason' Brett Dennen
- 4. Soup Dragons song about nirvana?
- 5. Bowling For Soup song that "nearly" made it
- 6. Senses Fail 'Wolves At The ___'
- 7. Where the last row sees from
- 8. Genesis 'No Son Of ___'
- 9. Canadians Harem ___
- 10. De La Soul '___ Down'
- 11. Albums don't try to become #2's but these
- 12. Who wrote with 'Guitar And ___'
- 15. Lenko put on 'The ___'
- 20. Doctor who administers pre-tour vaccine
- 21. Rainbow's girl was 'Stone' this
- 24. Like elated concert feeling
- 25. Crooner Patsy
- 26. 'Maneater' Hall & ___
- 27. Shaky Graves "You and ___ know that the house is haunted" (1,4)
- 28. Rockers ___ Survive
- 29. Big Head Todd 'Ann ___ Grandfather'
- 31. Home or this musician finally invests in after 1st album

WORD★Roundup™

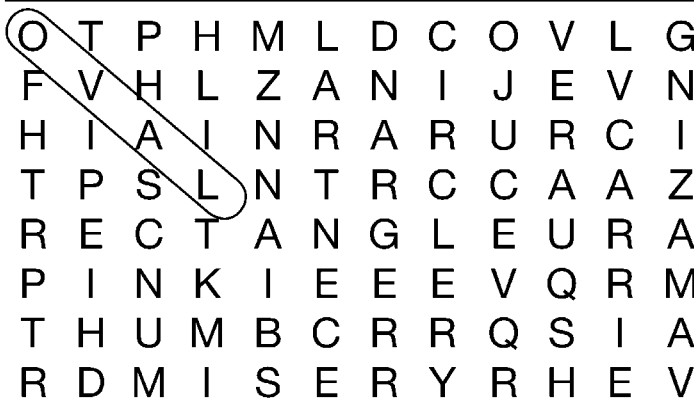
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four shapes
- Four words related to the human hand
- Four Stephen King stories
- ___ Station
- Astonishing; awesome

Last Week's Answers: SALISBURY SIRLOIN FLANK SKIRT CHUCK ROUND CUBE / COVE LAKE POND / MERYL STREEP / HOCKEY RUGBY / GUITAR BANJO

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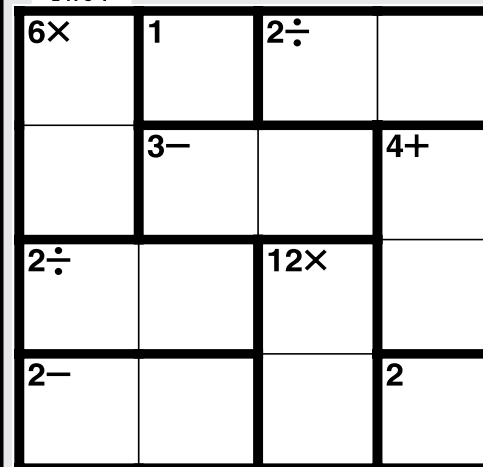
- 32. Introvert musician, perhaps
- 33. Band symbols
- 39. '80 Steve Winwood album '___ A Diver' (3,2)
- 40. Sheryl Crow '___ On The Mountain' (2,4,2)
- 42. Hurting James Carrington song?
- 45. '15 Operation: Mindcrime album for opening the lock (3,3)
- 47. Soilent Green 'Superstition Aimed ___ Skull' (2,4)
- 49. Beatles were 'Back' here where you don't know how lucky you are, boy
- 51. Elvis Costello ate a 'Sweet' one
- 52. Townes Van Zandt song for fall leaves
- 53. What you get when shelved, slang
- 54. Repeated word in Def Leppard & Sheryl Crow song titles
- 55. Coast Aerosmith is from
- 56. Kiss 'Elder' song 'The ___'
- 57. Star feeling, aura or this
- 58. Dylan sang of the 'Gates Of' this Adam & Eve home
- 59. Big label Sony bought in '08

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KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

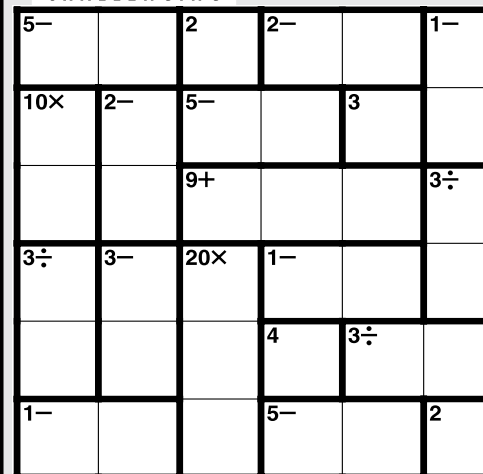
EASY



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CHALLENGING



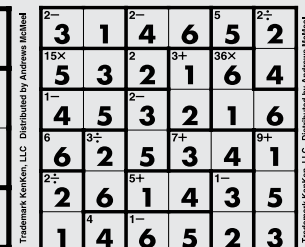
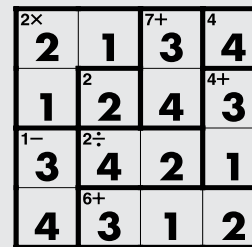
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RULES

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

PREVIOUS ANSWERS



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"It's In a Name" – for all across theme answers

Across

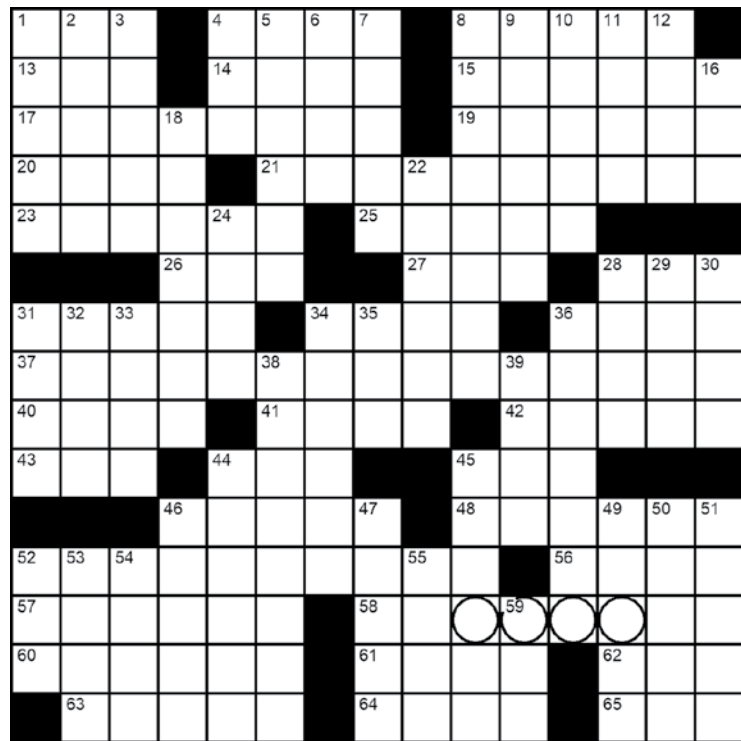
- 1. British men's mag
- 4. Mennen shaving brand
- 8. Dangly throat bit
- 13. Future school members
- 14. Pig's feed
- 15. What "atterizar" means, at Ibiza Airport
- 17. Late Canadian wrestler and brother of Bret
- 19. When many work shifts start
- 20. Soup at sushi bars
- 21. Wesley's portrayer on "Star Trek: The Next Generation"
- 23. "___ in St. Louis" (1944 Garland film)
- 25. Battle cry against Cobra Commander
- 26. Acted as guide
- 27. Was a candidate
- 28. Dungeons & Dragons humanoid
- 31. "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" composer Morricone
- 34. ___ Bop (child-friendly versions of hit songs)
- 36. Squished circle
- 37. Louisiana band named for the genre it played
- 40. "The Sopranos" actress Falco
- 41. Atmospheric prefix for sphere

- 42. Had all rights to
- 43. In medias ___
- 44. Disco ___ ("Simpsons" character)
- 45. Indian state formerly ruled by Portugal
- 46. Excessively theatrical
- 48. Like library materials
- 52. Star of multiple self-titled sitcoms
- 56. "To Sir With Love" singer
- 57. Cold sore-fighting brand
- 58. Father of Pocahontas (and example of the hidden word in the theme answers--this one just happens to be consecutive)
- 60. Fasten again
- 61. Legal appeal
- 62. "We ___ the Champions"
- 63. Country type
- 64. Himalayan monster
- 65. Big letters in gossip

- 3. 1980s attorney general Edwin
- 4. Pokemon protagonist
- 5. Far from perfect
- 6. Television's Spelling
- 7. In a befitting way
- 8. Team that moved from New Orleans in 1979
- 9. Determine by ballot
- 10. Arm bones
- 11. Cafe au ___
- 12. A as in A.D.
- 16. Recliner room
- 18. Dissimilar, say
- 22. It comes before "the wise" or "your mother"
- 24. Cat call
- 28. Roast roaster
- 29. See who can go faster
- 30. Ball of dirt
- 31. Celebrity hairstylist Jose
- 32. "The Thinker," for instance
- 33. "JAG" spinoff on CBS
- 34. Actress Riley of 2021's "Zola" (and granddaughter of Elvis Presley)

- 35. Actor Ziering
- 36. Juice brand bought by Coca-Cola, then discontinued in 2020
- 38. Reach the limit
- 39. "The Sun Is Also a Star" author Nicola
- 44. Fleetwood Mac singer Nicks
- 45. Stood out in the rain, say
- 46. Move stealthily
- 47. Like some small dogs
- 49. ___ sea (cruising)
- 50. It might help you get up
- 51. Oscar of "The Office"
- 52. Candy unit
- 53. Don't ignore
- 54. Czech Republic's second-largest city
- 55. Walk-on, for one
- 59. "Bali ___" (song in "South Pacific")

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Down

- 1. Psychiatrist Erich
- 2. "Deal Or No Deal" host Mandel

R&R answer from pg 39 of 3/10



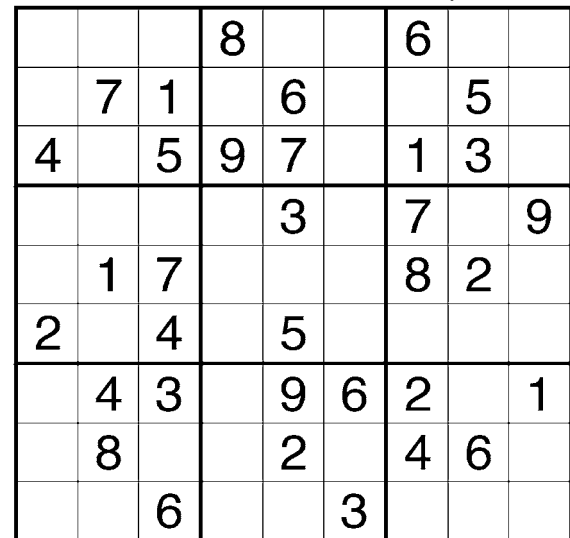
Jonesin' answer from pg 40 of 3/10



NITE SUDOKU

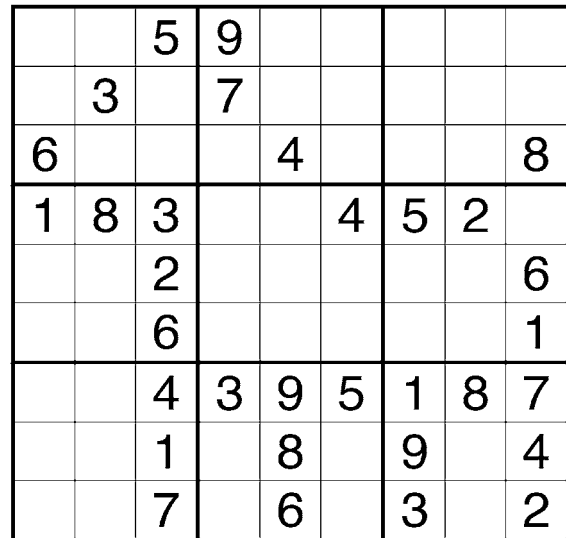
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week's puzzle answers on pg 45.

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle A By Dave Green



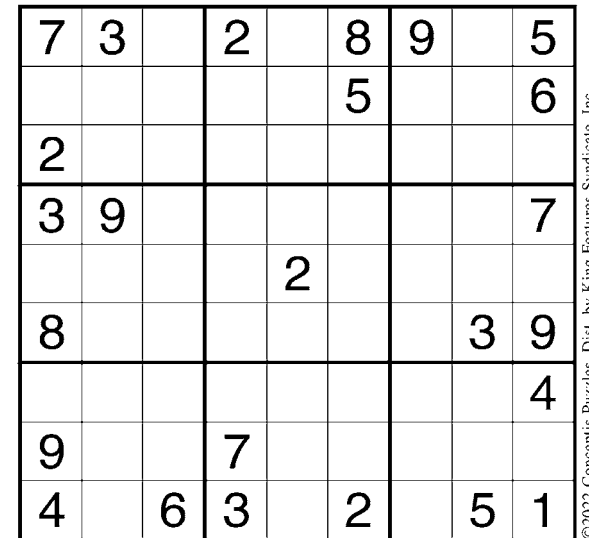
Difficulty Level ★

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 *Hooked: How Crafting Saved My Life*, by Sutton Foster, born March 18, 1975.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) I had no idea that being onstage and singing could be a profession. I just thought it was something you did for fun. Some things can be both.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) Art can be a window; it can also be a mirror. Get a little glass-cleaning spray.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) In the past, I had turned to cross-stitch, or crochet, or collage to help ease my anxiety — but this time, I started drawing. New project, same but different!

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) Long before I knew the term 'badass,' I developed an understanding of what it meant just by studying Patti [LuPone]. Understanding is anywhere you want.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) Sure, I had a natural singing voice and had been studying dance since I was four years old, but I also 'yes, ma'am'ed my way through my early career.... Talent plus good manners equals success.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) Actors often talk about the fraud factor: we're all so afraid that people will realize we don't actually know what we're doing. We spend a lot of time living in this ambiguous place of discovery where you have to fail in order to succeed. Just do it.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) That was when I met Amy Sherman-Palladino.... She had also just seen me as this glamazon in *Anything Goes*, so, when I showed up at *Cafe Un Deux Trois* in my natural jeans-and-sneakers state, my hair in a messy bun, I'm sure she thought, Who is this weirdo? And that was before I ordered the chicken fingers and fries off the kids' menu. You may meet a new and

interesting person.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) One issue, however, was that I had not yet learned how to sing eight shows a week in order to preserve my voice. Oh, right, that.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) Everyone felt great about our opening — after all that hard work, we pulled it off! And then the reviews came out. Read them or not, it's your choice.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) Like I said before, cross-stitch was my gateway craft. After mastering a few projects, I felt bold enough to try a new medium, and that's what led me to teach myself to crochet. You may be ready to try a new medium.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) With each stitch I did, my voice began to heal. ... And at the end of the two weeks, my voice was back and I had made a scarf. Woo-hoo!

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) I was fired on a Thursday and rehired on a Friday — and was too naive to question any of it. I just said, 'Sure!' It's OK to ask questions. Politely, of course. 🍷

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7 LITTLE WORDS
 Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 tin, antimony and lead alloy (6)	_____
2 color of cloud lining, say (6)	_____
3 high-end Amex card (8)	_____
4 barbecue briquettes (8)	_____
5 corrosion-resistant bronze (8)	_____
6 Jefferson's coin (6)	_____
7 a clean one is a fresh start (5)	_____

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AT	TAL	IN	SL	LV
ER	UM	OAL	RC	ME
WT	SI	GUN	PE	KEL
ATE	ER	CHA	PL	NIC

3/18
 Last Week's Answers: 1. DISAPPEAR 2. FLEETING 3. SUPERIORITY 4. MOTIVATE 5. PROCESSIONS 6. ATTENTIVE 7. VALET

Sudoku Answers from pg41 of 3/10

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty Level ★

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

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Unexpected trip

Three Michigan men ice fishing in a homemade shanty on Saginaw Bay on March 6 went for the ride of their lives as winds nearing 50 mph pushed their structure about a mile across the ice, the Associated Press reported. The men had spent the night before in the shanty and were aware that a storm was approaching, but thought they could ride it out. But the next morning, someone onshore saw one of them struggling with the hut as it scooted over the ice. It eventually ended up about 1.5 miles offshore before deputies arrived; the men were able to return to shore without rescue equipment and were unharmed.

Creepy

In Nash County, North Carolina, nine railroad cars from the 1960s Barnum & Bailey circus that had been abandoned in the woods caught fire on March 10, WRAL-TV reported. The cars were just outside the city limits of Spring Hope, where they were stored after the North Carolina Department of Transportation bought them in 2017, hoping to refurbish them for passenger service. Later they were put up for auction, but more recently the cars were a popular destination for urban explorers and people seeking shelter. At least four of the cars appeared to

be badly damaged by the fire; the cause of the blaze is under investigation.

Ewwwww

U.S. Customs and Border Protections agents probably rarely have a boring day, but between Feb. 19 and 25, officers in Philadelphia came across some particularly skin-crawly cargo: about 300 leeches from Bulgaria, NBC New York reported. The medicinal leeches, which arrived in jars distributed among six separate air cargo shipments, were headed for Connecticut, Florida and Illinois, but they'll never make it: That type of leech, the *Hirudo medicinalis*, is a protected species and can't be traded internationally. Instead, they were turned over to federal wildlife agents.

Surprise!

As construction crews worked to remodel the Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center in Oakland, California, on March 9, they made an alarming discovery, NBC News reported. The building, which has been out of use since 2005, was the final resting place for "an unidentified, decayed body," said Lt. Ray Kelly of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. "We found remains best described as mummified," he said. "The conditions in the walls were such that the body was preserved in

good condition." He said authorities will obtain fingerprints to try to identify the deceased. "Any theory is possible," Kelly said, "... from someone who got in behind the wall and became trapped ... to someone put the person there."

Least competent criminal

U.S. border agents at the San Ysidro crossing in California stopped a 30-year-old man driving a truck on Feb. 25 as he attempted to cross from Mexico, the Associated Press reported on March 8. Agents found 52 live reptiles tied up in small bags - not so weird, except they were "concealed in the man's jacket, pants pockets, and groin area," CBP said in a statement. Nine snakes and 43 horned lizards were seized. Some species were endangered. The driver was a U.S. citizen.

Girls just wanna have fun

Dot Grant, 52, attended the musical "Bat Out of Hell" with her family at the Edinburgh Playhouse in Scotland in February, Edinburgh Live reported. It was a real treat, as it was her first theater visit since the pandemic began two years earlier. But as Dot tapped her thigh and sang along quietly under her mask, one of the ushers "flashed their torch" at her before the intermission. Dot couldn't figure out why: "I did not think I was doing

anything wrong." As the performance continued in the second half, a security worker motioned for Dot to come to the aisle, and she was removed from the theater and told she was "at a musical theater show, not a concert." "I was surrounded by eight men, which made me feel very uncomfortable and uneasy," Dot said. "People had been complaining about my actions of singing and dancing in my seat, that it was a distraction and off-putting for the cast. I waved my hands a few times, but I didn't think that was wrong." The theater said that audience participation "had never been encouraged."

It's a head-scratcher

On March 3 in a quiet Denver neighborhood, someone broke into a box truck parked along a street and stole a box marked "Science Care," KDVR-TV reported. Inside the box were a number of human heads that were being transported for use in medical research. The thieves also stole a dolly. Isaac Fields, who lives nearby, was perplexed: Why was the truck parked in his neighborhood? Where was the driver? Why would someone steal human remains? Police wouldn't provide many details because the case is still open.

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20

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SUNDAY, MARCH 27



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FRIDAY, APRIL 1



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THURSDAY, APRIL 7



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