

the Hippo

JULY 7 - 13, 2022

VEGGIES FOR LAZY GARDENERS P. 19

HILLSBORO FEST P. 18

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ON THE COVER

10 Go-karts, bumper boats and laser tag — in this week's cover story, we look at these three ways to grab friends or family for an outing that puts a little adventure in your day.



ALSO ON THE COVER:

Henry Homeyer looks at easy veggies for lazy gardeners (page 19). Katelyn Sahagian finds out about the Hillsboro Summer Festival (page 18). Find live music all weekend long in our Music This Week listing, which starts on page 38.

ICE CREAM!

And stay tuned to next week's issue for our annual Great New Hampshire Ice Cream Tour map, which you will be able to find in the center of the issue and use to make your plans for finding new summer cones. In the meantime, we put Matt Ingersoll's story "From the Cows to Your Cone," which first ran last summer, on the website, free for all to read thanks to sponsors The Big 1, Blake's Creamery, Granite State Candy Shoppe, Hayward's Ice Cream and Lickee's & Chewy's.

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NEWS & NOTES

Bill signings

Gov. Chris Sununu signed 39 bills into law on July 1, including SB 422, which establishes an adult dental benefit under the state Medicaid program, according to a press release from the governor's office. Other bills include an act about health care visitation policies (HB 1439), an act related to special education services for kids in chartered public schools (SB 238), an act establishing an office of the advocate for special education (SB 381) and a bill that seeks to protect vulnerable adults from financial exploitation (SB 385), the release said.

Rising fentanyl dangers

Gov. Chris Sununu, State Police Colonel Nathan Noyes, American Medical Response Regional Director Chris Stawasz, Concord Hospital President and CEO Bob Steigmeyer, and Concord Hospital Emergency Department Medical Director Dr. Nicholas Larochelle held a press conference at Concord Hospital on June 30 to raise awareness about the rising dangers of fentanyl being added to other substances, according to WMUR. While fentanyl has been known to be routinely mixed with heroin, Gov. Sununu and law enforcement and health officials warned that there has been a recent trend of fentanyl being mixed with non-opioid drugs, including cocaine, methamphetamine, marijuana and prescription drugs and being put into vape cartridges. "We're seeing a whole new mix and integration of these very dangerous and deadly drugs being mixed in with more recreational activities, whether it's vaping, whether it's marijuana," Sununu said according to the WMUR.

New prescription opioid strike force

The Justice Department's Criminal Division announced in a press release

the formation of the New England Prescription Opioid Strike Force, a joint effort between law enforcement, the Health Care Fraud Unit in the Criminal Division's Fraud Section, the U.S. Attorneys' Offices for three federal districts and law enforcement partners in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General (HHS-OIG), U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and FBI. The new force will focus on combating unlawful prescribing by identifying and investigating health care fraud schemes and drug diversion offenses by physicians, pharmacists and other medical professionals in the New England region and prosecuting those and other individuals involved in the illegal distribution of prescription opioids and other prescription controlled substances. "The formation of NEPO presents a tremendous opportunity for our three Northern New England states to disrupt the illegal prescription and distribution of opioids," U.S. Attorney Jane E. Young for the District of New Hampshire said in the release.

First probable case of monkeypox

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services announced in a press release that it has identified what it believes to be the first probable case of monkeypox in the state. The New Hampshire Public Health Laboratories conducted the initial testing of the patient, who is a resident of Rockingham County. DHHS is currently conducting an investigation to determine if any other individuals were exposed and infected. "While this is a concerning development, the risk to the general public is very low," Dr. Jonathan Ballard, DHHS Chief Medical Officer, said in the release. Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by a virus that is categorized in the

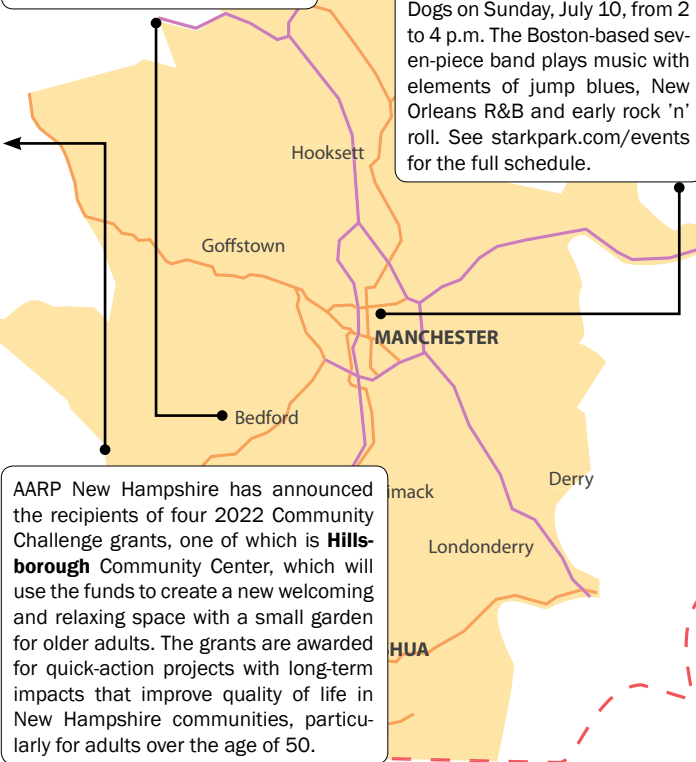
same group as the smallpox virus. Symptoms may include fever, headache, exhaustion, muscle aches, sore throat, cough, swollen lymph nodes and a skin rash and may last for two to four weeks. Transmission typically requires close interaction or physical contact. Anyone experiencing symptoms, particularly a new skin rash or skin lesions, should consult their health care provider.

Blue-green algae dangers

Potentially toxic cyanobacteria has been blooming more frequently in New Hampshire, according to a press release from the Lake Winnepesaukee Association. Often referred to as blue-green algae, the waterbody organisms are needed for the health and growth of many native plants, but can produce toxins that are dangerous to humans and animals, particularly affecting the nervous, liver and endocrine systems, if ingested in large quantities. The Lake Winnepesaukee Association, joined by the Moultonborough Conservation Commission and UNH Lakes Lay Monitoring Program, will hold an informational session on Tuesday, July 12, at 3 p.m. at the Moultonborough Public Library. Anyone who sees an algae bloom or water quality issue is asked to report it to the Lake Winnepesaukee Association at 581-6632 or mail@winnepesaukee.org.

Rock blasting operations will begin on the F.E. Everett Turnpike in **Bedford**, on the northbound barrel just south of the I-293 interchange, on Thursday, July 7, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation announced. According to a press release, what that means for drivers is rolling road blocks intermittently on weekdays between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. for the next several months.

The 2022 summer concert series at Stark Park in **Manchester** (650 River Road) kicks off with a performance by Love Dogs on Sunday, July 10, from 2 to 4 p.m. The Boston-based seven-piece band plays music with elements of jump blues, New Orleans R&B and early rock 'n' roll. See starkpark.com/events for the full schedule.



AARP New Hampshire has announced the recipients of four 2022 Community Challenge grants, one of which is **Hillsborough** Community Center, which will use the funds to create a new welcoming and relaxing space with a small garden for older adults. The grants are awarded for quick-action projects with long-term impacts that improve quality of life in New Hampshire communities, particularly for adults over the age of 50.

Covid-19 update	Last week	This week
Total cases statewide	331,496 (as of June 27)	332,120 (as of June 30)
Total current infections statewide	1,906 (as of June 23)	2,016 (as of June 30)
Total deaths statewide	2,576 (announced June 27)	2,585 (announced June 30)
New cases	1,434 (June 16 to June 22)	1,671 (June 23 to June 29)
Current infections: Hillsborough County	939 (as of June 27)	921 (as of June 30)
Current infections: Merrimack County	316 (as of June 27)	333 (as of June 30)
Current infections: Rockingham County	682 (as of June 27)	658 (as of June 30)

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

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NEWS & NOTES Q&A

Choose to refuse

New Hampshire goes plastic-free for July

The Plastics Working Group, one of the specialized action groups in the New Hampshire Environment, Energy and Climate Network, has challenged New Hampshire to take part in the international Plastic Free July initiative this month. Cindy Heath, the original convener of the Plastics Working Group, talked about how people can take the pledge and why it's so important.

Q: What is Plastic Free July?

Plastic Free July was an international campaign founded in Australia. It is a pledge format where individuals and businesses and organizations can pledge to strive for a plastic-free July. The intention is to raise awareness and help discover alternatives to using plastic in our everyday lives ... and we also want to help build momentum for future legislation that supports plastic waste reduction. ... You can join us as an individual or as part of an organization, business or community, and you can take one action or more than one.

What are some actions that communities can take to engage with the initiative?

They should start by going to the Plastic Free July website, plasticfreejuly.org, which has many, many pages of resources. A proclamation with their town select board is a possibility, just declaring the importance of plastic waste reduction and the commitment to try to have a plastic-free July. There are opportunities to do things like picnics, library displays ... showing what alternatives there are to using plastics in your everyday life. I already know that the communities in Hopkinton and Dover are going to be doing some library displays with education around plastic waste, and we're going to be hosting a plastic-free picnic in Cornish on July 16, so communities are engaging in different ways.

What are some things that individuals can do to go plastic-free in their day-to-day lives?

Individuals can take the pledge and learn about how to do things like bring a cloth bag to the grocery store instead of using the plastic bags that are provided; refuse to purchase vegetables that are being sold packaged in plastic clamshell containers; refuse to buy beverages in plastic bottles; refuse plastic [utensils] and Styrofoam takeout containers when they go out to eat, or request alternatives. ... Before plastic was invented, we all found ways to have a picnic, order takeout food from a restaurant and not use plastic bags.

In what ways are plastics harmful?

The concern that we're trying to raise awareness about is not only the environmental impacts of plastic production; it's also the human health and animal health impacts of plastic waste. The Plastic Free July website has a number of facts around the volume of plastics that goes into our oceans and how microplastics end up in our food through the food chain, because marine animals eat plastic thinking it's food, and then the food chain progresses and it ends up in our food. Plastic particles have even been discovered in human placenta. It's a human health concern as well as



Cindy Heath. Courtesy photo.



Bonnie Christie and Ginni Haines at the Contoocook Farmers Market. Courtesy photo.

an environmental concern, and we're just hoping that people will understand the health and environmental impacts of plastic.

What kinds of progress has New Hampshire made with reducing plastics so far?

We've had several communities host a screening of a film called *Microplastic Madness*, which is about fifth-graders in New York who are able to, over a two-year period, help New York City, and then New York State, ban Styrofoam use in schools and in restaurants for takeout. We have community members who are working with local restaurants to try to develop an ocean-friendly designation through Surfrider, which is another organization ... working specifically on helping restaurants choose alternatives to plastic and styrofoam takeout [materials]. Then, in the infrastructure realm, there are changes that a number of our communities have initiated, things like recycling systems and doing waste audits at schools. In Bristol, they held a sustainability fair in May to raise awareness about plastic film recycling. In Claremont, they're working on collecting styrofoam for recycling. In Gilford, they've just taken delivery of the first Styrofoam densifier in New Hampshire and will begin accepting Styrofoam for recycling shortly.

How can individuals get their cities and towns to commit to more plastic-free practices?

They can go to our Ten Towns Actions Toolkit website, 10towns.org. On the homepage, there's a box at the top that says "Join Us and Take Action," which will lead people to a form to complete. Then, one of our members will get in touch with them to help them get started.

— Angie Sykeny

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First-half Red Sox report



It's time to chronicle what's been a totally under-the-radar first half of the baseball season despite having some notable highs and, considering their horrid April, really low lows.

Let's get to the annual first half Red Sox report.

Holy Cow Moment

Alex Cora went against type to let Nick Pivetta and Michael Wacha pitch complete games that each exceeded 100 pitches. Wacha's was a three-hit shutout of Anaheim in early June. No word yet on whether the final balls were sent to Cooperstown for their Herculean feats.

The High Points

Middle of the Order: I was for signing Kyle Schwarber and trading J.D. Martinez, and with Schwarber having 23 homers and 50 RBI to J.D.'s 8 and 33 that would have been the right thing to do even if he's hitting .217 in Philly. But with him hitting way over .300 all year, it's hard to complain about J.D. With Xander Bogaerts and Raffy Devers being even better, it's a great 3-4-5 middle of the order, occasionally wrecked when Devers bats second. Throw in Alex Verdugo's 43 RBI and average-challenged Trevor Story's team-leading 52 and 12 homers on either side of the first three and it's a potent group.

Young Pitchers: It looks like they've found their close in Tanner Houck. He's made 15 straight relief appearances since May 5, with the last 10 as the closer when they won all 10 and he got one win and eight saves and had an ERA of 1.54.

Personally, I wanted him to be the starter among their two best young pitchers and Garrett Whitlock the late-inning reliever. But Whitlock became a permanent starter in late April where, thanks to some ridiculous early yanks by Cora, he's only 2-1. But the ERA is 2.05 as a starter and they're 5-1 in his last six starts before going on the DL in June. Throw in Pivetta and that makes three emerging young guys to build the staff around going forward.

Do I Hear Four: A fourth may be Josh Winckowski. Bloom took a lot of flak when he traded Andrew Benintendi, especially after Franchy Cordero's Dumpster-fire season. But getting Winckowski from the Mets was supposed to be the prize in the deal. While it's too early to tell anything, it's encouraging that in his four starts filling in for Whitlock and Nathan Eovaldi he's 3-1 with a 3.60 ERA.

Chaim's Best Trade: With being 19-13, with a spectacular, had-to-have-it extra-inning win over Tampa in the playoffs, since arriving in 2020 after being disappointing in Philly Nick Pivetta represents Chaim Bloom's best trade/steal so far. This year it's 8-5 with a 3.23 ERA.

Surprises and Miscalculations

Michael Wacha: Boy, did I get it wrong on him. I was thinking bargain-basement signing

all the way. But at 6-1 with a 2.65 first-half ERA he's exceeded all expectations in returning to the form he showed with the Cardinals at the start of his career.

What's the Story? Despite a lower than usual average, no regrets on signing Trevor Story. The power numbers are there and his smooth transition to second base has helped the infield defense.

Not According to Plan: Bloom's biggest miscalculation was thinking that after his solid final two months of 2021 Bobby Dalbec would evolve into a 30-homer guy to replace the power lost by sending Hunter Renfroe to Milwaukee last winter. Thus far it's just 5 homers and 18 RBI for Bobby, who finally got over the Mendoza Line last week and is now splitting time with Cordero at first base.

A Little History: That walk-off grand slam by Cordero for an 8-4 win over Seattle in May was the first walk-off slam (as best I can remember) since Mo Vaughn also did it to the Mariners in the home opener in 1998.

To the stat geeks who think starters should face the order a third time: Seattle yanked Randy Johnson that day with a 5-2 lead after getting 15 strikeouts in 8 innings. They even scored two more runs before the Sox came up in the ninth. The stellar Mariners bullpen then let the Sox get it to 7-5 before Mo (money) came up to hit the slam for the 9-7 win. It's a reminder that when you yank a starter who's got it going on, you do so for the uncertainty of whether whoever comes out of the pen has their good stuff or not.

What's To Come

Next Three Weeks: Their 16-5 streak in June came against the weaker teams, which has the naysayers saying they'll come back to earth. But that's what they said about the Celtics when they started to win all the time in January. So for me, I know you can only play who they tell you to play and I saw good things were happening as they did. Especially with the pitching. Which means they enter a critical stretch of 23 games (including losing the 2 of 3 from Toronto to start it) with the top three teams in the AL East and the White Sox with momentum.

Chris Sale: Who knows what they'll get from him? Could be a big boost or a nothing burger. So instead of predicting I'll be like Yogi Berra when his wife asked him where he wanted to be buried and he answered *surprise me*, as I let it play out.

Rumor Mill: The ones on Bogaerts being traded at the deadline have died out completely. Beyond that, crickets.

Help Wanted — Or Is It Needed: I don't trust anyone in the bullpen beyond Houck, especially Ryan Brasier and Matt Barnes, so they need to add one, maybe two difference-makers.

Prediction: With bullpen help, the winning continues with a spot in the play-in game looming.

Next week, a look at all of MLB.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippo-press.com.

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Taking to the skies

The five baby peregrine falcons that hatched in late April and early May at the New Hampshire Audubon's peregrine nest box atop the Brady Sullivan Tower in Manchester have fledged. According to the Audubon's daily peregrine falcons log, the male baby named Colum was the first of the bunch to fledge on June 10, followed by female Cinquey and male Blue on June 11, female Colby on June 12 and female Clem on June 13. Peregrine falcon fledglings typically spend four to six weeks learning to hunt from their parents before migrating out of the area, while the peregrine parents tend to stay in the area year-round. As of June 24, all five have been accounted for and have been seen and photographed in the sky running hunting drills.



Courtesy photo.

QOL score: +1

Comment: You can watch the falcons on the Audubon's 24/7 high-definition livestream of the nest box on YouTube. Visit nhaudubon.org/conservation-2/peregrine-web-cam and click "Link to Camera 1 Live Stream." QOL is watching papa peregrine on the livestream now, at 8:30 a.m. (Images of the baby peregrines posted on the Audubon's daily peregrine falcons log on June 22.)

Teachers honored

More than 150 New Hampshire teachers and educators were presented with a Christa McAuliffe commemorative silver dollar coin to recognize the difference they've made in the lives of students, as part of an initiative started this fall by the SEE Science Center and Service Credit Union. According to a press release, the teachers were chosen by students, families, colleagues and administrators. The coins were awarded at the teachers' respective schools during school board meetings and education award ceremonies held by the New Hampshire Department of Education and the NH Excellence in Education Awards.

QOL score: +1

Comment: The U.S. silver dollar exclusively minted in 2021 bears the inscription of Christa McAuliffe's words, "I touch the future, I teach."

Welcoming new citizens

This Fourth of July, New Hampshire celebrated its newest U.S. citizens at a citizenship ceremony held at Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth. According to WMUR, 71 people from 31 countries were sworn in during the first large citizenship ceremony held by the U.S. Federal Court for the District of New Hampshire since the pandemic began.

QOL score: +1

Comment: Many of the new citizens said the thing they are looking forward to doing most as a new citizen is voting in the next election, WMUR reported.

Cheers for good weather

Since QOL is always quick to complain about early snow or late snow or some other weather unpleasantness, it seems fair to recognize the good weather when we get it. Such as the weather we had over the long Fourth of July weekend, when the days offered plenty of fun-in-the-sun opportunities and both the evenings of July 3 and July 4 were clear and fireworks-friendly.

QOL score: +1

Comments: Downtown Manchester got fireworks both evenings with the city fireworks show wowing the audience on Sunday night and the "biggest fireworks show in Fisher Cats history" (according to a team press release) on Monday night after the game.

QOL score: 80

Net change: +4

QOL this week: 84

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

Let us know at news@hippopress.com.

75

50

THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS JULY 7 AND BEYOND

Thursday, July 7

Chunky's Cinema Pub is hosting a **21-and-older screening of *Thor: Love and Thunder*** tonight at 8 p.m. at all three locations (707 Huse Road in Manchester, 151 Coliseum Ave. in Nashua and 150 Bridge St. in Pelham; chunkys.com). O'neil Cinemas Brickyard Square (24 Calef Highway in Epping; oneilcinemas.com) is also



on the list of theaters hosting "Thorsday" evening screenings. The movie opens wide on Friday, July 8.

Friday, July 8

The 47th annual **Raymond Town Fair** will start up at 5 p.m. this evening at Raymond Commons. Bingo starts at 5 p.m. under the tent, live music starts at 6 p.m. and the firemen's parade starts at 7 p.m. The fair continues through Saturday, July 10, and will include a silent auction, fireworks and sack races. For more information, contact the organizers at raymondnhtownfair@gmail.com or find the event on Facebook.

Saturday, July 9

The Warner Historical Society is hosting playwright **Eugenie Carabatsos** for a staged reading of her short play *Seven Minutes in Heaven* at Warner Town Hall (5 E. Main St. in Warner) at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10. Carabatsos, a professor at Dartmouth, is the first author presenting in this summer's Tory Hill Authors series. Visit toryhillauthors-series.com.

Saturday, July 9

The craft beer festival **Keep NH Brewing** is back (after a two-year hiatus) at Kiwanis Waterfront Park, 15 Loudon Road, Concord (see Matt Ingersoll's story on page 26 in the June 30 edition of *The Hippo*; find the e-edition at hippopress.com). The event, which will run from 1 to 5 p.m., features more than 130 brewers from across the Granite State, plus vendors and music. The event is limited to adults age 21 and older. Tickets are \$50 in advance, \$55 day of, and \$65 for VIP. Visit nhbrewers.org

Saturday, July 9

Catch the band **Alligator Wine** at the Millyard Brewery (25 E. Otterson St. in Nashua) tonight from 6 to 8 p.m. (music on the patio, weather permitting). Find more live music at more area patios (and inside breweries and restaurants), in the Music This Week listing, which starts on page 38.

Tuesday, July 12

As part of the Literary in the Lounge series, Tom Perrotta will read from his new novel, ***Tracy Flick Can't Win***, at the newly renamed Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St. in Portsmouth) at 7 p.m. The book follows Tracy, a character from Perrotta's 1998 novel *Election*, and how her life has changed since she was in high school. Tickets cost \$44 and will include a hard-cover signed copy of the book, an author discussion, Q-and-A session and post-show meet-and-

greet. See themusichall.org. The space, which was formerly known as "The Loft" is a 116-seat venue and is slated to reopen July 7 with comedy by Pat McGann. 🎤



Save the Date! Thursday, August 11

The **Manchester International Film Festival** will run from Thursday, Aug. 11, through Sunday, Aug. 14, at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St.) and the Rex Theatre (23 Hanover St.). The film festival will show movies made by independent filmmakers, directors and performers. Film listings are still being announced but so far they include the short film *For Pins*, the and horror film *An American Werewolf in London*, which will have a podcast taping with Southern New Hampshire University film professors after the showing. Call the box office at 668-5588 or purchase tickets online at palacetheatre.org/film.

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ZOOM

A BETTER WAY TO

ADD A LITTLE ACTION TO YOUR DAY WITH GO-KARTS, BUMPER BOATS AND LASER TAG



Kristen Powers takes the lead in her go-kart race against Bruce Jache at Mel's Funway Park. Photo by Katelyn Sahagian.

Summer is all about breaking out of your daily routine. Put a little excitement in your weekend (or your afterwork or your staycation) by checking out some local, low-time-commitment but big-fun-payoff activities such as go-karts, bumper boats and laser tag.

Speedy fun with go-karts

Find fast(-ish) paced excitement and friendly competition at area tracks

By Katelyn Sahagian
ksahagian@hippopress.com

Parents against kids, siblings against each other — the go-kart racetrack has a way of turning even the most devoted of couples into competitors, said Michael Accomando, the owner of Mel's Funway Park.

"Everybody that hits the track and they get so excited. You've got to look at it from the point of view of a kid who wants to beat their mother or father, or their older siblings, through the eyes of people who can't drive regular cars," said Accomando. "You look at one big official race that's started, but there's always

more within those little groups."

Accomando said that his entire fleet has been tuned up and is ready for racers. His track has tight turns and a bridge for karters to go over and under. He said that his favorite part is seeing how excited the kids get while racing.

"If you're a young young kid, you feel like you're really zipping around a track," Accomando said, adding that the karts don't go faster than 20 miles per hour.

Go-karts were first created in the 1950s, and some tracks in New Hampshire have been around for 40 years, like Weirs Beach Go-Kart Track in Laconia.

Owner Tom Hickey said that he was 14 years old when his parents bought the track. Now, he comes up every summer to open up the course.

Hickey said he loves seeing the generations that have come through, from kids racing around the track to parents sharing the experience with their children.

"They know me by name and they say they used to come as a kid and it's a generation thing," Hickey said. "You see families come back year after year."

While these karts are much slower, and safer, than the ones professional racers use, there are still safety parameters that all locations follow.

Drivers at most locations have to be taller than 58 inches, and all have slightly different requirements for passengers. At Chuckster's, passengers can be as young as 3 with a licensed driver. Weirs Beach only allows passengers ages 4 to 9.

Karts are equipped with kill switches, and operators can lower the speeds of all the karts for safety purposes, like if a driver spins out or isn't driving safely.

Throughout the years, Hickey said, he's

noticed that people will always come back to do more and more laps.

"I always say to my workers that people don't get sick of pizza or coffee, so people won't get sick of go-karts," Hickey said. 🍷

Go-kart fun facts

Go-karts were invented in 1956 in Glendale, California, by Art Ingels, who was a fabricator at Kurtis Kraft, a dominant manufacturer of the Indianapolis 500 race cars. He put a discarded two-cycle lawn mower motor into a tube-frame "kart" and created the world-famous miniature race car.

Source: *Petrolicious*.

ICE CREAM!

Stay tuned to next week's issue for our annual Great New Hampshire Ice Cream Tour map, which you will be able to find in the center of the issue and use to make your plans for finding new summer cones. In the meantime, we put Matt Ingersoll's story

"From the Cows to Your Cone," which first ran last summer, on the website, free for all to read thanks to sponsors The

Big 1, Blake's Creamery, Granite State Candy Shoppe, Hayward's Ice Cream and Lickee's & Chewy's.



Where to go karting

Chuckster's

9 Bailey Road, Chichester

Hours: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily

Price: \$8 for one ride, \$33 for five. Passengers ride free.

Visit: chuckstersnh.com.

Daytona Fun Park

104 Endicott St. East, Laconia

Hours: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Price: \$8.75 for single ride, \$24.50 for three, \$75 for 10. Passengers are \$2 additional for each ride and passengers must be under 54 inches tall.

Visit: daytonafunparknh.com

Mel's Funway Park

454 Charles Bancroft Hwy., Litchfield

Hours: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Price: \$9.50 for one ride, \$42.50 for five rides

Visit: melsfunwaypark.com

Weirs Beach Go-Kart Track

582 Endicott St. North, Laconia

Hours: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily

Price: one race is \$9, six for \$48

Visit: wbgokarts.com

Bump and splash

Everybody becomes a kid in a bumper boat



Sophie Genest, 7, takes aim at her grandfather, John Leblanc, on the bumper boats at Mel's Funway Park. Photo by Katelyn Sahagian.

By Katelyn Sahagian
ksahagian@hippopress.com

Bumper cars are one of the oldest amusement rides, dating back to the early 1920s. While bumper boats aren't as old, they add a little bit of pizzazz to the process of crashing vehicles into one another.

Like their land counterparts, bumper boats have drivers smashing into each other, but water makes everything a little more chaotic, especially when the boats are equipped with water cannons.

"If you squirt the old guy on the dock he'll take out a hose, he'll take out a hose and take 'em down," John Crawford, who is the owner of Daytona Fun Park and is also the old guy on the dock, joked. "There have been a few guys that I've squirted too much, but we all have fun."

While Daytona has had bumper boats for years, the attraction is new to Chuckster's Family Fun Park this year.

"We just opened them up a month ago," said Mark Blasko, the owner of Chuckster's. "It's a super fun way to cool off. We've learned that even when it's not hot it's still heavily used."

Bumper boats float on a pool called a pond and are propelled with a small motor. The circular boats are designed to be nearly impossible to capsize, said Blasko, and all of the parks had height restrictions of 44 inches.



The boats at all the locations have water cannons that shoot water approximately 30 feet in an arc, making aiming and driving a bigger challenge.

The Chuckster's bumper boat pool has an island in the center featuring the park's woodchuck mascot spraying a waterfall over the boaters. Despite its being only open for a month, Blasko said that there's been a line for the boats almost every day.

In Crawford's eyes, bumper boats are so popular because anyone can have fun on them. "I like to say we have kids of all ages come here," Crawford said. "It's great to see the 70- and 80-year-old 'kids' get in the boats with their kids and grandkids and have a good time."

Bumper boats fun fact

The first iteration of bumper boats, called Dodgem Boats, was featured at the 1933 Chicago's World Fair. The small motorboats sat two adults and were made entirely out of wood.

Source: "A Short History of Bumper Cars Going Bump In The Night," By Seth Gussow for Automobile Magazine.

Where to find bumper boats

Chuckster's

9 Bailey Road, Chichester
Hours: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily
Price: \$7 per ride, passengers are free
Visit: chuckstersnh.com

Daytona Fun Park

104 Endicott St. East, Laconia
Hours: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Price: \$9.50 for single ride, \$2 additional per passenger
Visit: daytonafunparknh.com

Mel's Funway Park

454 Charles Bancroft Hwy., Litchfield
Hours: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.
Price: \$9 for one ride, \$40 for five rides.
Visit: melsfunwaypark.com

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137930

Pew! Pew! Pew!

Tag, you're it, with lasers

By Hannah Turtle
hturtle@hippopress.com

When asked about the draw of laser tag, Mel's Funway Park owner Mike Accomando sums it up in one sentence: "It takes a grown-up, and it makes them a kid all over again."

A popular activity for kids and adults alike, laser tag is exactly what it sounds like, a game in which participants use infrared-emitting light guns to "tag" targets. Or, as Accomando puts it, "people run around in the dark shooting each other, but nobody gets hurt."

Laser tag is by no means a new activity

in the area, but the many venues in which it can be played have multiplied over the years. Now, there's outdoor laser tag at AG Paintball in Weare, and even mobile laser tag services that come to you.

One such service, offered by Next Level Tag, includes various scenarios such as "zombie apocalypse" and a hostage situation. There's even a "bomb scenario," in which players must defuse a laser bomb before the device "explodes." At AG, you can play a "gold rush" game or have a similar zombie-like experience with "infection survival" (Covid not included).

Venues like Mel's Funway Park still offer the traditional laser tag experience, perfect for groups or even lone players, and

for adults and kids alike, including a robust "laser maze." One piece of advice, though: Don't tamper with the emergency exits.

"Once a kid thought the emergency door was an emergency room where you could hide," Accomando said. "So, in the middle of the game, he ran through the emergency door and set off the fire alarm in the building. It was a lot of work for us, but I thought it was pretty funny."

The thrill of the chase without the possibility of actual bodily harm is something that connects all the laser tag options in the area, but winning a game requires a sharp mind and a good battle strategy.

XTremeCraze, which opened in Londonderry in early 2019, hosts a large arena of around 10,000 square feet. Games take place hourly, sometimes every other hour, with 44 open player slots. There are a variety of different game modes, and each holds different

objectives that lead to victory.

"Our game modes are super interactive," XTremeCraze general manager Leo Batista said. "They allow you to essentially play a team style game like you would in a video game, but [you can] play it in a real-life form with your friends."

Batista's personal favorite game mode is "Headquarters," a mode where players take over sectors to accumulate points, all while tagging out opponents.

For those looking to have a leg up in laser tag strategy, Accomando recommends finding cover and staying low.

"People are normally looking and aiming higher. When you find a spot and stay low, you kind of disappear in the dark," he said. "Then, you'll have an opportunity to shoot other people's lasers without them even knowing what hit them."

Jack Walsh contributed to this story. 🐼

Where to play tag (with lasers)

AG Paintball

158 Deering Center Road, Weare

Hours: Monday to Friday, appointment only; Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tickets: \$20 per person

Visit: agpaintball.com

Block Party Social

51 Zapora Drive, Hooksett

Hours: Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to midnight;

Sunday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Tickets: \$22 per person

Visit: blockpartysocial.com

Fun City

553 Mast Road, Goffstown

Hours: Monday, 3 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tickets: \$8 per game

Visit: funcitygoffstown.com

Mel's Funway Park

454 Charles Bancroft Hwy., Litchfield

Hours: Monday to Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Tickets: \$8 for each 10-minute game

Visit: melsfunwaypark.com

Next Level Tag

Booking: packages vary, basic package \$350 for 12 players

Visit: nextleveltag.com

XTremeCraze

4 Orchard View Drive, Londonderry

Hours: Tuesday to Thursday, noon to 8 p.m.; (Thursday Junior Jumps from 10 a.m. to noon); Friday, noon to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Closed for private events on Mondays, except for school holidays. Reservations are strongly recommended.

Visit: xtremecraze.us/londonderry

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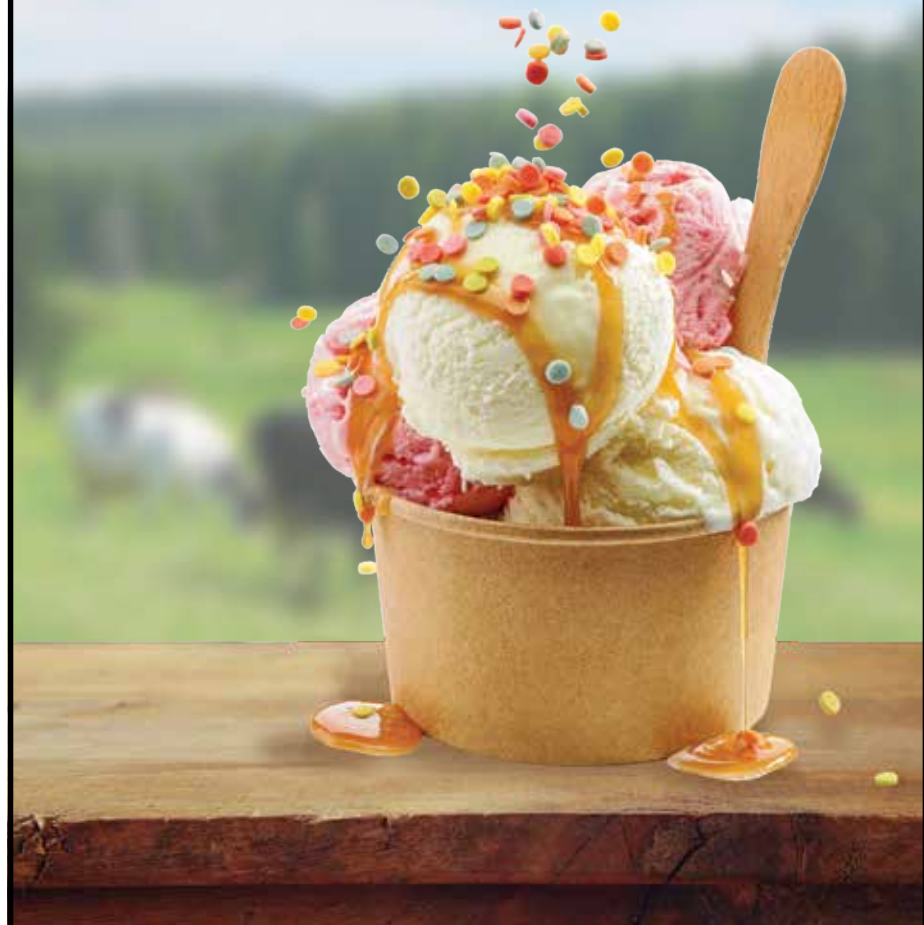
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Playing to the littles

Children's theater groups present kid- and adult-friendly entertainment

By Hannah Turtle
hturtle@hippopress.com

Touring children's theater group *IMPACT* has a simple goal: to expose kids to the joy of live theater. Their upcoming summer series, called *The Magic of Fairy Tales*, comprising six unique shows, is meant to do just that.

The group performs each show at eight locations across southern New Hampshire each week, partnering with local arts venues to give access to as many families as possible. This year, the group has weekly performances in Concord, Laconia, Plymouth, Lincoln, Lancaster, Claremont, Gorham and Haverhill, all beginning this week.

IMPACT is part of a broader trend of live theater for children in the area. The Palace Theatre in Manchester is also running a children's series this summer, including adaptations of *Cinderella* and *Frozen*, with tickets for only \$10, and RB Productions is running a host of youth programming at the Capitol Center, including *Legally*

Blonde Jr., and *Winnie the Pooh Kids*.

Started back in 1986, the touring group *IMPACT*, housed at North Country Center For the Arts at Jean's Playhouse, has recently shifted to writing all of its own shows and programming. It's a unique challenge, writing children's programming that is still entertaining for the whole family. "We try to write in a way that's not only fun for kids, but equally fun for adults, in a different way," said Joel Mercier, Artistic Director at Jean's Playhouse.

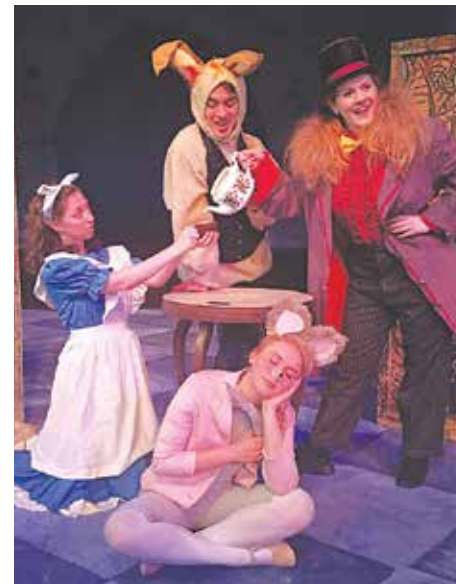
Telling stories in the right way was a major consideration for the group, whose upcoming series includes retellings of the stories of *Sleeping Beauty* and *Little Red Riding Hood* and a host of other classic fairy tales.

"As I'm writing the script, I'm trying to make it entertaining to myself, as an adult, because in my experience, sometimes children's theater can come off a bit patronizing, sometimes it's playing down to the kids, rather than bringing the kids up to the same level," said Mercier. "We find that yes, there are differences in chil-

dren's theater, we talk a lot to the actors about making really bold decisions and really going big, but we tell them to never play cartoons, and to never play down to the audience."

It's this care that has made the programming a success over the years. "We do end up seeing a lot of kids who return week to week, and a lot of families make this a weekly tradition, which is not only great for us but it's great for the venues too," said Mercier. "We will sometimes get emails from families telling us who their favorite performers were this season, and just how much they enjoyed the shows."

In addition to writing for the whole family, the group aims to modernize the messaging behind some of these older tales. "Some of these fairy tales are pretty dated and the morals are not the best, so we try to stay away from 'damsels in distress,'" said Mercier. "We want to show characters with independence who solve problems themselves, learn how to compromise, cooperate with each other, and stand up against bullying. Those are the



Courtesy photo.

kinds of themes we want to highlight when writing."

This year the program has a second mission, one taken on by the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord. One of the stops for the group, the Capitol Center has made all *IMPACT* performances free for the audience, with the support of local sponsors.

"Our venue is for everyone, and the arts are too," said Salvatore Prezio, Executive Director at the Capitol Center. "We have to get creative with the ways we get people involved, so it's not just for kids from a certain neighborhood or income group. This is mission critical to us, to open our arms to the greater community."

It's a move Prezio hopes will broaden the — for lack of a better term — impact the programming will have on the community. "All of us remember our first experience with live theater," said Prezio.

Affordable ticket pricing is a consideration for all eight venues this year, with all locations offering tickets for \$8 or less. In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, *IMPACT* wants to make sure that finances are not a barrier to experiencing the arts.

"We've gotten out of the habit of going out. This is an easy way to get out and support the arts, for a very inexpensive ticket price," said Mercier. 🍀

Shows for the kids

Palace Theatre Summer Children's Shows

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

Wizard of Oz Tuesday, July 12, through Thursday, July 14, at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Friday, July 15, at 10 a.m.

Rapunzel Tuesday, July 19, through Thursday, July 21, at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Friday, July 22, at 10 a.m.

Peter Pan Tuesday, July 26, through Thursday, July 28, at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Friday, July 29, at 10 a.m.

Cinderella Tuesday, Aug. 2, through Thursday, Aug. 4, at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Friday, Aug. 5, at 10 a.m.

Beauty and the Beast Tuesday, Aug. 9, through Thursday, Aug. 11, at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Friday, Aug. 12, at 10 a.m.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs Tuesday, Aug. 16, through Thursday, Aug. 18, at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Friday, Aug. 19, at 10 a.m.

Frozen Kids Tuesday, Aug. 23, through Thurs-

day, Aug. 25, at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Friday, Aug. 26, at 10 a.m.

Tickets: \$10 at palacetheatre.org

RB Productions Summer Children's Shows

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

RENT School Edition Friday, July 8, and Saturday, July 9, at 7 p.m., tickets \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors, plus fees

Beauty and the Beast Jr. Friday, July 15, and Saturday, July 16, at 7 p.m., \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors, plus fees

Winnie the Pooh Kids Saturday, July 16, at noon (doors open 11 a.m.), tickets \$10 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors, plus fees

Matilda Jr. Friday, July 22, and Saturday, July 23, at 7 p.m., tickets \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors, plus fees

Legally Blonde Jr. Friday, July 29, and Saturday, July 30, at 7 p.m., \$15 for adults, \$12 for students and seniors, plus fees

IMPACT Summer Series

When and Where: Monday, July 4, through Saturday, Aug. 13

Mondays at 10 a.m. at Belknap Mill/Powerhouse (25 Beacon St. East in Laconia)

Tuesdays at 10 a.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St. in Concord; 225-1111, ccanh.com)

(as well as locations in Plymouth, Lincoln, Lancaster, Gorham, Claremont and Haverhill)

Show schedule:

Week of July 4 — *Sleeping Beauty*

Week of July 11 — *Lost in Wonderland*

Week of July 18 — *Neverland*

Week of July 25 — *Little Red Riding Hood*

Week of Aug. 1 — *Return to Oz*

Week of Aug. 8 — *Jack and the Beanstalk*

Tickets: Prices vary by location

More info: jeansplayhouse.com/youth-and-education/impact-childrens-theatre

Art

Exhibits

• **"WARHOL SCREEN TESTS"** In the mid-1960s, American multimedia artist Andy Warhol had shot more than 400 short, silent, black-and-white films of his friends at his studio in New York City. Warhol referred to the films, which were unscripted and played in slow motion, as "film portraits" or "stillies." The exhibition will feature 20 of those films, provided by the Andy Warhol Museum, in

loops across four large-scale projections. The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester). On display now through July 24. 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 age 12 and under 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 for more information.

• **"ARGHAVAN KHOSRAVI"** Artist's surrealist paintings explore themes of exile, freedom and empowerment; center female protagonists; and allude to human rights issues, particularly those affecting women and immigrants. The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester). On display now through Sept. 5. Museum admission costs \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors age 65 and up, \$10 for students, \$5 for youth ages 13 through 17

and is free for children age 12 and under 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 for more information.

• **"THE PEOPLE'S SCULPTOR: THE LIFE AND WORKS OF JOHN ROGERS"** Exhibit celebrates the art of American sculptor John Rogers, who came to Manchester in 1850, and explores the

influence that Manchester had on Rogers' life and work. Presented by the Manchester Historic Association. On view now through September. Millyard Museum (200 Bedford St., Manchester). Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission costs \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors age 62 and up and college students, \$4 for youth ages 12 through 18, and is free for kids under age 12. Call 622-7531 or visit manchesterhistoric.org/millyard-museum.

ARTS

• **“WOOL: CONTEMPORARY FIBER ART EXHIBITION** Twiggs Gallery (254 King St., Boscawen) through Sept. 2. Gallery hours are Thursday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Visit twigsgallery.wordpress.com or call 975-0015.

• **ROBIN CORNWELL** The New Hampshire Boat Museum will feature local artist Robin Cornwell in the museum’s gallery (399 Center St. in Wolfeboro; nhbm.org) in July. Cornwell produces art quilts as well as bark paper paintings and woven placemats and rugs. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. To learn more about Cornwell, visit robincornwellembellishments.com.

• **“PIXELS, WOOD, CLAY”** Two Villages Art Society presents an exhibition of work by artists Tony Gilmore, Rick Manganello and Caren Helm. The Bates Building (846 Main St., Contoocook). Aug. 12 through Sept. 9. Gallery hours are Thursday through Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m. There will be an opening reception on Sat., Aug. 13, from noon to 2 p.m. Visit twovillagesart.org or call 413-210-4372.

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

• **SUMMER MEMBERS SHOW** Two Villages Art Society presents a mixed media art show at the Bates Building (846 Main St., Contoocook) from July 1 through July 30. Visit twovillagesart.org or call 413-210-4372.

Fairs and markets

• **CRAFT FAIR AT THE BAY**

More than 75 juried artisans from all over New England will feature their work. Sat., July 16, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sun., July 17, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Community House and Waterfront (24 Mount Major Highway, Alton Bay). Visit castleberryfairs.com.

Tours

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

Workshops and classes

• **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 arthousestudios.org or email arthousejb@gmail.com for more information.

• **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 dianecrespoart.com for availability.

Theater Classes/workshops

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

Shows

• **THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) [REVISED]** at the Winnepesaukee Playhouse (33 Footlight Circle, Meredith; winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org) through July 9, with showtimes Tuesday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$29 to \$39.

• **ANYTHING GOES** The Seacoast Repertory Theatre (125 Bow St., Portsmouth; seacoastrep.org, 433-4472) presents the musical through July 23, with showtimes on Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$32 to \$52.

• **FOOTLOOSE** Prescott Park Arts Festival (105 Marcy St., Portsmouth; prescottpark.org, 436-2848) presents this outdoor musical through Aug. 14, with showtimes on most Thursdays and Sundays at 7 p.m., and most Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., with some matinee showtimes TBA. General admission costs \$5, and reserved seating tickets cost \$55 to \$150.

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THROUGH THE FIRE



For one night and one night only, the Village Players present *Through the Fire*, Victor Almanzar’s newest work. On Friday, July 8, at 7:30 p.m., Almanzar will give a preview performance of the production at the Player’s theater (51 Glendon St. in Wolfeboro). Almanzar, seen in *Homeland*, *Empire* and Pulitzer prize-winning *Between Riverside and Crazy*, shares his own life’s story through this hip-hop-filled production developed by Wolfeboro local Estelle Parsons, an Oscar-winning and Tony-nominated actress.

The show, which follows Almanzar as he immigrates from the Dominican Republic to New York and spends time serving in the U.S. Marine Corps in Kosovo and Iraq, will be headed to New York City in the coming weeks, and this preview performance at the Village Players Theater will benefit the theater. Tickets are \$25 each, available online at village-players.com and at the door.

SHAKESPEARE ON THE GREEN

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Love at first sight, family feuds and 42 hours...

July 21	Thursday	7:30
July 23	Saturday	7:30
July 29	Friday	7:30

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July 22	Friday	7:30
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July 30	Saturday	7:30

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ARTS

THE ROUNDUP

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

• **"I wish I were big":** The Majestic Theatre presents *Big – The Musical* on Fridays, July 8 and July 15, at 7 p.m.; Saturdays, July 9 and July 16, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, July 17, at 2 p.m. at the Derry Opera House (29 West Broadway, Derry). Adapted from the 1987 film of the same name, *Big* follows Josh, an awkward kid who wishes to a Zoltar machine to become an adult and soon realizes it's not all it's cracked up to be. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors 65 and up and \$15 for youth 17 and younger. Tickets can be purchased by calling the box office at 669-7469 or visiting www.majestictheatre.net, or at the door.

• **Owls in focus:** The photography exhibit "All Things Owl in New England Habitats" featuring the work of Howard S. Muscott opened on July 1 at the New Hampshire Audubon's McLane Center (84 Silk Farm Road in Concord; nhaudubon.org, 224-9909) and will be on display through Wednesday, Aug. 1. The exhibit is available during the center's hours, Tuesdays through Fridays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. On Thursday, July 7, the center will host an opening from 4 to 6 p.m. Find more about Muscott and his nature photography at chasingthegoldenlight.com.

• **Students on stage:** The kids of the Palace Youth Theatre summer camp will present *High School Musical 2 Jr.* on Friday, July 8, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, July 9, at 11 a.m. at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org). Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$12 for kids. The young performers range in age from second grade to high school, according to the website.

• **Toys and art:** Author and illustrator Sandy Steen Bartholomew drew some of her favorite toys for her "My Year of Toys" project. Some of these drawings are now on display at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St. in Dover; childrens-museum.org) in their Gallery 6 space. The show, perfect for kids who love toys and comics, is on display through Oct. 16 and Gallery 6 can be viewed for free during museum hours without purchasing museum admission. The museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 9 a.m. to noon. Admission to the museum costs \$12.50 for everyone over 12 months (65+ is \$10.50) and advance online registration is required, the website said.

• **Summer theater:** The Peterborough Players' 2022 summer season continues with *Circle Mirror Transformation*, opening on Thursday, July 7, and running until Sunday, July 17, at the Players' stage at 55 Hadley Road in Peterborough. The dramedy by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Annie Baker follows



"All I want Is Peace" by Natasha Dikareva. Courtesy photo.

a group of acting students in Vermont as they learn more about each other and themselves through a series of seemingly outrageous exercises. Tickets are \$47 each, available online or at the door. The Friday, July 8, show will allow for 'pay what you can' ticketing, for patrons to pay what they are able. See peterboroughplayers.org or call the box office at 924-7575

• **Art as a response:** Ukrainian sculptor Natasha Dikareva opens an exhibition called "From Whispering to Screaming" at the Seacoast Artist Association gallery at 130 Water St. in downtown Exeter, as a "response to war on her country with art." Dikareva, an internationally acclaimed sculptor who now lives in Newmarket, describes the collection as a reaction to both the pandemic and the war in her homeland. The works are on display at the gallery during regular business hours for the month of July, and a reception will be held for the public on Friday, July 8, from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information, visit seacoastartist.org.

• **Strings in the garden:** Saint-Gaudens National Park in Cornish kicks off its summer concert series with *The Fischers and The Jennings*, a program of classical works for violin, cello and piano, on Sunday, July 10, at 2 p.m. The summer concert series will run every Sunday through August. The concerts will take place in Little Studio on the grounds at 139 Saint Gaudens Road, which include a large lawn space for listeners to sit and enjoy. Tickets are \$10 per person, which includes a seven-day pass to the grounds. Visit saint-gaudens.org.

• **Be a part of Shrek:** The Epping Community Theater (38c Ladd's Lane in Epping; eppingtheater.org) will present *Shrek the Musical* Oct. 21 through Oct. 30 at the Epping Playhouse and is holding auditions on Sunday, July 17, from 1 to 5 p.m. and Tuesday, July 19, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. See the website for the audition form, the signup form and the play's production schedule. The show is a "family fun musical with casting opportunities for ages 8 to 108," according to a press release.

— Hannah Turtle 🐢

ARTS

• **INTO THE WOODS** RGC Theatre presents this musical at Hatbox Theatre (inside the Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord; hatboxnh.com, 715-2315) July 8 through July 17, with showtimes on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 for adults, \$22 for students, seniors and members and \$19 for senior members.

• **THE GREAT ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC SHAKESPEARE COMPANY** presented by Granite Playwrights at the Hatbox Theatre (inside the Steeplegate Mall, 270 Loudon Road, Concord; hatboxnh.com, 715-2315) from Aug. 19 through Aug. 28, with showtimes on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$22 for adults, \$19 for students, seniors and members and \$16 for senior members.

• **DISNEY'S FROZEN KIDS** presented by the 2022 Bank of New Hampshire Children's Summer Series at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester; palacetheatre.org, 668-5588) Tuesday, Aug. 23, through Thursday, Aug. 25, at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Friday, Aug. 26, at 10 a.m. Tickets cost \$10.

• **LES MISERABLES** presented by the Seacoast Repertory Theatre (125 Bow St., Portsmouth; seacoastrep.org, 433-4472) teen company from Aug. 25 through Sept. 4, with showtimes on Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 for students and \$30 for adults.

• **CRUEL INTENTIONS: THE '90s MUSICAL** presented by the Actorsingers at the Court Street Theatre (14 Court St., Nashua; actorsingers.org) Friday, Aug. 26, through Sunday, Aug. 28.

• **SHREK THE MUSICAL** presented by the Riverbend Youth Company at the Amato Center for the Performing Arts (56 Mont Vernon St., Milford; svbhc.org/amato-center) from Friday, Aug. 26, through Sunday, Aug. 28.

• **TITANIC THE MUSICAL** Presented by the Manchester Community Theatre Players. Manchester Community Theatre Players Theatre, located at the North End Montessori School (698 Beech St.,

Manchester; manchestercommunitytheatre.com, 327-6777). Showtimes on Fri., Oct. 14 and Oct. 21, and Sat., Oct. 15 and Oct. 22.

• **TRUE TALES LIVE** Portsmouth-based storytelling showcase. Monthly, last Tuesday (no shows in July and August), from 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 the 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 Events

• **LISTEN AND LUNCH** presented by Monadnock Music's summer festival, David William Ross (guitar) performs at Depot Park in Peterborough, 12 Depot St, Thursday, July 7, from noon to 1 p.m., concert is free and open to the public. Visit monadnockmusic.org.

• **DEERING VILLAGE VOCAL RECITAL** Monadnock Music Summer Festival hosts vocalists Carley DeFranco and Aaron Engebret for a recital including works by Debussy and Ravel on July 9 at 7pm at the Deering Community Church, 763 Deering Center Road, in Deering. Event is free and open to the public. Visit monadnockmusic.org.

• **SERGEI NOVIKOV PIANO RECITAL** The NH Philharmonic's Summer Concert Series will host accomplished pianist Sergei Novikov for two concerts this month, first on Friday July 15 at 7pm at the Kingswood Art Center, 21 McManus Rd, in Wolfeboro, then on Friday July 22 at 7pm at the Seifert Performing Art Center, 44 Geremonty Drive, in Salem. Part of ticket sales will go to the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to help assist Ukraine. Tickets are available

online at speakingmusic.com or by calling (800) 595-4849.

• **TOWN HOUSE EXTRAVAGANZA** presented by Monadnock Music's summer festival features a program of Weber and Schubert at Peterborough Town House, 1 Grove St, on Sunday, July 17, 3 p.m. Tickets: \$35, Seniors- \$25 Students and Under 18- \$10. See monadnockmusic.org.

• **PROGRESSIVE GARDEN PARTY** Monadnock Music's summer festival presents a botanical tour of Jaffrey set to classical music, performed live by soloists in 3 separate gardens, and featuring unique food and drink at each location, Saturday, July 23, noon to 5 p.m., location TBA. Tickets cost \$100. Visit monadnockmusic.org.

• **FAMILY CONCERTS** Monadnock Music Summer Festival hosts three family concerts on July 27, titled "Moonstrike: Tellings of American Indian Legends." The program features a string quartet with a narrator. The first is at noon at George Holmes Bixby Memorial Library, Frankestown Old Meeting House, the second at 2 p.m. at Peterborough Library, 1833 Room, Peterborough, and the third at 4 p.m. at Olivia Rodham Memorial Library, Nelson Town Hall. Performances are free and open to the public. For more info, visit monadnockmusic.org.

Open calls

• **THE RHYTHM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SHOW CHORUS** Women's a cappella chorus is looking for female singers in the region to join. The group, an affiliate of the North American singing organization Harmony, Inc., performs a wide variety of music, including Broadway musical songs, patriotic songs, pop, jazz and seasonal pieces, for community and veterans' events and private functions. Rehearsals are held weekly on Thursdays from 6:45 to 8:30 p.m. at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry. Masks are required for singing, but both vaccinated and unvaccinated singers are welcome. Visit nmhchorus.org or email info@nmhchorus.org for more information.



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JULY 11 - 29

Week of July 11

- JavaScript Game Design

AGES
10-15

- CSI: Find the hidden secrets using forensic science (Tue-Thu)

11-13

Week of July 18

- Automotive - General Vehicle Maintenance and Information

10-15

- Kids Cooking Academy

10-12

Week of July 25

- Automotive - General Vehicle Maintenance and Information

15-18

JUST LIKE THE DOOBIES

Concerts on the Common features "What a Fool Believes - A Doobie Brothers Experience" on Wednesday, July 13, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on the Londonderry Town Common (265 Mammoth Road, Londonderry). The performance features vocalist Sean Byrne as well as a host of performers to perform Doobie Brothers top hits. In case of bad weather, the concert will relocate to the Londonderry High School cafeteria. For a complete schedule and more details visit concertsonthecommon.org



nashuacc.edu/about/for-the-public/summer-camps



Kim Eckenrode
CTE Pathways Director
(603) 578-8979 • KEckenrode@ccsnh.edu

Hillsboro Summer Festival returns

Fun times to support firefighters

By Katelyn Sahagian
ksahagian@hippopress.com

Hillsboro Summer Festival is back for its 32nd year, celebrating the firefighters and community that started it all those years ago.

“The event has evolved a lot in the past 32 years,” said Katherine Charette, the co-chair of the Hillsboro festival committee. “It started out as something put on

by the fire department and had different events to raise money for the community and their organization.”

Back when it started, Charette said that there would be Fireman Musters, or competitions between fire departments. Back in the day, firefighters would work to see who was fastest at unraveling hoses and winding them up again, do obstacle courses, and compete in other tests of their skill. Charette said that firefighters from across

the country would come to compete.

Now, the event is filled with local artisans selling their wares, live music performances, carnival rides and games, and an impressive fireworks show. Even with the changes, the festival still honors firefighters.

“This is our second year back since having that time off from the pandemic,” Charette said. “We have the most events we’ve ever had for every single age.”

Hillsboro Fire Chief Kenny Stafford said that while the event is time-consuming for him and his volunteer firefighters, who set up and take down everything for the event, he is glad that it brings the community together.

“It brings people to town, and this weekend shows you exactly who we are,” Stafford said. “[The festival] shows what our town is all about.”

Charette said that she wanted to try to make the festival as low-cost as possible so that families could plan to have fun throughout the day without breaking the bank. Besides the \$25 wristbands that gain access to all the rides, the only other part of the festival that costs money is donating



Photo courtesy of Katherine Charette of the Hillsboro Festival.

to the fire department for parking.

From pie and cupcake eating contests to a warrior obstacle course, Charette said, “it’s all free and a really great event for the whole community.”

For Stafford, seeing the community recognize the sacrifice and dedication of his firefighters is what makes the event special.

“It’s awful nice to have someone come up and say, ‘Thanks for all you do,’” Stafford said. “We couldn’t do what we do if we didn’t have that support.” 🍌

Hillsboro Summer Festival

Where: 29 Preston St., Hillsboro

When: Thursday, July 7, from 6 to 10 p.m.; Friday, July 8, from 5 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, July 9, from noon to 11 p.m., and Sunday, July 10, from noon to 5 p.m.

Price: \$10 per car, \$25 for rides wristband.

Events include:

- Friday, 6 to 8 p.m. — Cub Scouts host the mobile basecamp (with gaga, archery, bb range and more)
- Friday, 6:30 p.m. — 5K Road Race (register in advance or onsite at 5:30 p.m.)
- Friday, 7 to 9 p.m. Superbug performs

- Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Warrior Obstacle Course

- Saturday, 1 p.m. Women’s Skillet Toss

- Saturday, 2 to 5 p.m., Interactive Juggling

- Saturday, 10 p.m., fireworks

- Sunday, noon, Hometown Parade

- Sunday, noon to 2:30 p.m., Car and Truck Show

- Sunday, 1 p.m. 10-and-under cupcake eating contest

- Sunday, 2 p.m. Pie Eating Contest

- Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m. Mary Poppins Balloon Artist

More: hillsborosummerfest.com, 464-0377

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Veggies for the lackadaisical gardener

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

THE GARDENING GUY

My father, may he rest in peace, always told me that there is no such thing as a

free lunch. Wrong, Dad. I grow at least three tasty vegetables that require no work to speak of: I just plant, mulch and harvest. If you are a lackadaisical gardener and like garlic, rhubarb and horseradish, you are in luck.

Let's start with horseradish: It's in the broccoli family, and once planted, it will never ask anything of you. Yes, it does slowly expand the patch of ground it claims as its own, so you may want to dig some up each year and make horseradish sauce. But if you plant it bordering a lawn on one side and a barn, house or path on the other, it won't travel far.

The roots of a mature horseradish plant will grow deep, probably all the way to China. So when you dig it, some will always be left in the ground to come back. I have extracted roots longer than 18 inches. The plant is tall, easily 3 or 4 feet, and the leaves are wide and a bit coarse-looking. Not a particularly pretty plant. And although it produces little white flowers, it doesn't produce viable seed. You can start it from a scrap of root you get from a friend at harvest time.

The sauce can be very powerful or more mild, depending on how you make it. Wash the roots with a scrub brush, then peel with a potato peeler. Chop



Horseradish is a big plant. The roots can be used to make a spicy condiment for sandwiches. Photo by Henry Homeyer.



Rhubarb does best in rich, moist soil but will grow most anywhere. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

into chunks under an inch in size, and put in a food processor or blender. A cup of chunks will make all I need for a year. I blend the chunks with half a cup of water or so. It takes a few minutes of blending to get it to the right consisten-

CONTINUED ON PG 20 ►

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT



Dear Donna,
Recently got this bracelet in a box of assorted jewelry. It stood out to me because it's marked sterling and Dane Craft. Any help would be appreciated.

Sandra in Salem

The values I found were in the \$100 range on average. Some were higher and a couple lower. So for me I would feel safe in the middle.

Sandra, you found a treasure! Hope this was helpful and glad you shared!

Donna

Dear Sandra,
Good catch in the jewelry box.
Your Dane Craft sterling daffodil bracelet was produced in the 1940s. The company was located in Rhode Island. It has a very interesting story if you want additional information. I have had many pieces over the years from sterling to gold-filled. But I have to say I learned information by doing research for you through Google. I always say learning something new makes for a great day!

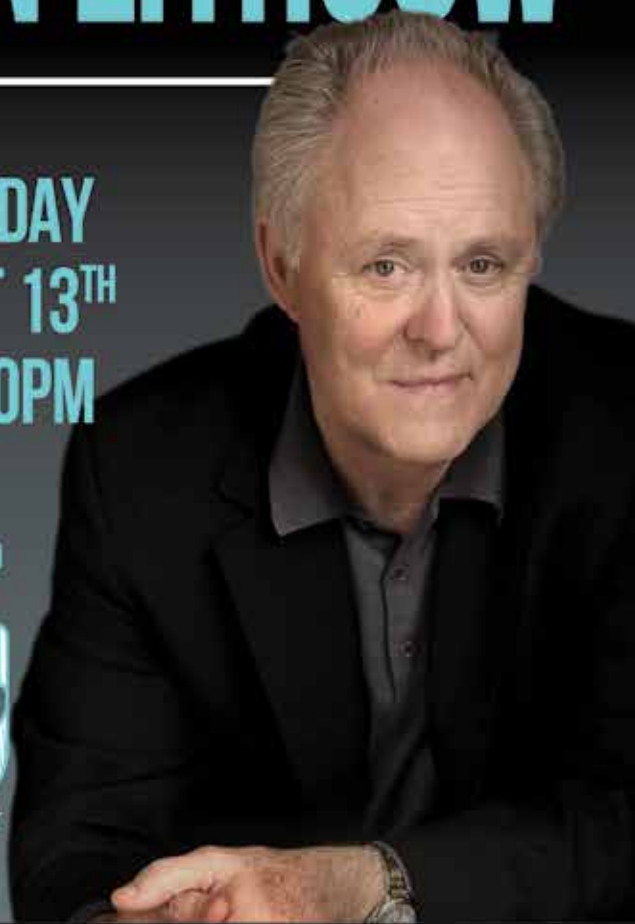
Donna Welch has spent more than 30 years in the antiques and collectibles field, appraising and instructing, and recently closed the physical location of From Out Of The Woods Antique Center (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com) but is still doing some buying and selling. She is a member of The New Hampshire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



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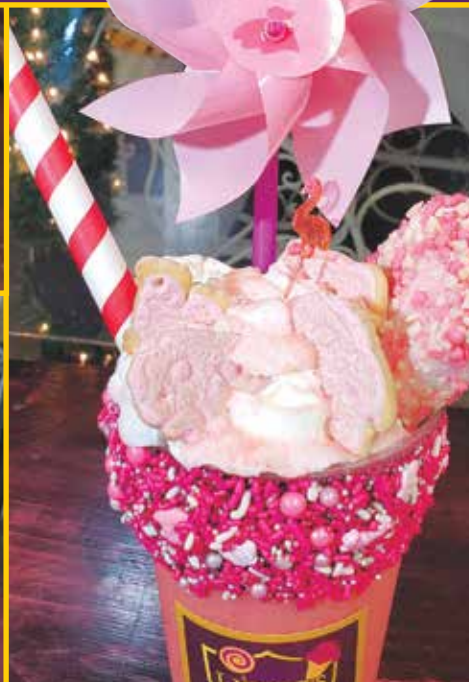
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137706



Garlic scapes can be sauteed and eaten, or put in a vase like flowers. Photo by Henry Homeyer.



Garlic that is near ready to pull. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 19

cy as this stuff is fibrous and tough to break down. Don't overheat your blender, so stop and start.

If you want mild horseradish add a third of a cup of vinegar pretty much right away. If you want it hot (which I do), wait a few minutes after blending, then add it. The mix should be spreadable with a butter knife and juicy. Store it in a glass jar, preferably with a plastic lid. Metal lids rust and dissolve from the fumes in less than a year.

The fumes when blending are powerful, so don't get your eyes and nose by looking into the blender. You may even want to do the job outside on the deck.

Rhubarb is a wonderful vegetable, even if old-fashioned. Like horseradish, it is a forever plant that once planted should provide you with treats for the rest of your life. You can buy a plant or get a friend to divide and share some roots. Some rhubarb has red stems, others green stems. They taste the same, but I like the red color. The leaves contain oxalic acid and are not edible.

Since rhubarb is going to live forever, I recommend adding lots of compost and some slow-release organic fertilizer at planting time. If dividing rhubarb, early spring is the best time to do it, but anytime is all right. It grows best in full sun, but as a leafy green it will thrive in part sun, too.

I like making rhubarb punch as an early-summer refreshing drink. Pick a few stems, and cut into one-inch chunks. Add an equal amount of water, and boil until the rhubarb is falling apart. Sieve through a colander or sieve. The add water — a cup of fruit will easily make a quart of punch, or even two, depending how you like it. Add sugar to taste and serve cold.

Garlic should be planted in October, and it is ready to harvest in July. This year mine started to blossom in late June, sending up curly stalks called scapes that are edible and decorative. I

will resist picking any bulbs of garlic until mid-July or later so it can reach maximum size. But don't wait too long; if you do, the outer layers of leafy material that cover each bulb will start to break down, and it will not store as well.

OK, I looked at mine today and did see a few weeds I should pull. But it really is essentially a work-free crop. I plant cloves 3 inches apart and 3 inches deep in rich, compost-containing soil. Full sun is best. Once planted, I mulch it heavily — up to a foot of fluffy mulch hay or straw. Over the winter it will pack down to just 3 or 4 inches. In the spring the leaves will grow right through the straw, but weeds do not.

Garlic stores well in a cool, dry place. By now, some of last year's garlic is starting to sprout in the kitchen. I have made garlic powder by drying it in a food dehydrator, then grinding in a coffee or spice grinder, but normally I just store it. I have read that one can freeze it, too, but haven't done so yet. Don't store it at room temperature in oil — as a root crop there is always the possibility of getting botulism.

Whatever you plant in the garden will reward you well beyond the work it involves to grow. To get good results do these things: prepare the soil well, and add compost. Provide plenty of sunshine, even if it means planting in the front lawn. Water regularly in hot times, especially early in the season. Pick your veggies when they are small and tender — that's when they will taste best. And lastly, don't let the weeds get ahead of you. Never let weeds blossom and distribute their seeds. Mulch is an easy way to keep weeds at bay, particularly if you put down a few sheets of newspaper under the straw or hay.

Henry is a lifetime organic gardener who stores and eats something from his garden every day of the year. He lives in Cornish Flat, N.H., and is the author of four gardening books. 🍷

KIDDIE

— POOL —

Family fun for whenever

Farm fun

• Get some **family fun, farm-style**, at J & F Farms (124 Chester Road in Derry; jandf-farmsnh.com) on Friday, July 8, at their Friday Family Fun event from 4 to 7 p.m., with a petting farm, food truck, live music and \$5 per person hayrides, according to the farm's Facebook post. A Sunday Funday event will feature many of the same attractions from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., a post said, and of course at both events you can load up on farm goodies from the farm stand.

Brand-new play center

• The American Independence Museum (1 Governors Lane in Exeter; independencemuseum.org) has a new interactive space, the **Foy Family Children's Library**. The library has a reading nook filled with books about American history, a dress-up area where kids can wear 18th-century-style clothing, a play kitchen area and historic games. The museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission to the museum costs \$8 for adults; \$6 for seniors, students, educators and first responders; \$4 for children 6 to 18 years old; and free for children under 6.

Movie time

• O'neil Cinemas' Summer Kids Series continues on Monday, July 11 with a 10 a.m. showing of **Hotel Transylvania: Transformia** (PG, 2022). The movie will also screen on Wednesday, July 13, at 10 a.m. Tickets cost \$2 for attendees age 11 and lower, \$3 for ages 12 and older, and the cinema is offering a \$6 popcorn-and-drink combo pack. See oneilcinemas.com/epping-nh/events.

And for the older crowd that might need a more relaxed movie-going environment, the theater's weekly Sensory Friendly Flix film on Saturday, July 9, is **Thor: Love and Thunder** (PG-13, 2022) at 10 a.m., when house lights will be higher and noises will be a little less loud, the website said.

• After a fun-filled day in the sun, relax with **Movie Night Mondays on Hampton Beach** (next to the playground) on Monday, July 11, starting at dusk. The movie lineup will run through Aug. 29. Bring a chair or a blanket to set up for the free show. The first in the family-friendly movie series is **Paw Patrol** (G, 2021). For more information and for a full lineup of all the summer shows and approximate dusk times, visit hamptonbeach.org. Rain dates are Tuesdays.

• And while you're not watching a movie you do get to enjoy some movie theater candy at **Theater Candy Bingo**, which will be held at Chunky's in Manchester (707 Huse Road) on Wednesday, July 13, at 6:30 p.m. and in Nashua (151 Coliseum Ave.) on



PAW Patrol

Thursday, July 14, at 6:30 p.m. The event, described as family friendly and offering chances to win movie theater candy and other prizes, costs \$10 per person to reserve a seat (\$5 for a food voucher plus the candy). See chunkys.com.

Story time!

• Petals in the Pines (126 Baptist Road, Canterbury) is bringing Peter Rabbit to life with an **in-garden reading of "The Tale of Peter Rabbit"** on Saturday, July 9, and Sunday, July 10, from 1 to 3 p.m. and Monday, July 11, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Children will get to participate in activities like seed starting and gardening, play in the award-winning outdoor classroom, and pose for a character photo. The event requires registration and tickets are \$12 for adult and one child, \$6 for each additional child, and infants are free. Reservations can be made at petalsinthepines.com/kids-workshops.

• New Hampshire Boat Museum (399 Center St., Wolfeboro) is hosting an **out-door story hour** for kids ages 2 to 6 on Friday, July 8, at 10 a.m. The Wolfeboro Public Library children's librarian, Jeanne Snowdon, will read stories and lead kids in a craft. This event is free for one child with an accompanying adult. For more information, visit nhbm.org.

Play ball!

• The **New Hampshire Fisher Cats** run of games against the Hartford Yard Goats continues with games daily through Sunday, July 10 at Northeast Delta Dental Stadium in Downtown Manchester. Games Thursday, July 7; Friday, July 8, and Saturday, July 9, start at 7:05 p.m. and Thursday and Saturday games feature post-game fireworks. Friday is **North Woods Law** night with a jersey giveaway, according to the website. Sunday's game starts at 1:35 p.m. See nhfishercats.com.

• The **Nashua Silver Knights** have home games Thursday, July 7, and Friday, July 8, at Holman Stadium (67 Amherst St. in Nashua). Both games start at 6 p.m. and are against the Vermont Lake Monsters. Friday's game features post game fireworks. See nashuasilverknights.com.

— Katelyn Sahagian 🍌

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SCAN TO JOIN

Impreza impresses in Boston cold — but don't press your luck



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk: Most people write to you to ask how their car is broken. But I'm wondering how my car was OK.

I live in Boston, and last winter, I was out of state for three

months. I was supposed to be gone for seven weeks, but it turned into 13 weeks, as I avoided flying during the omicron spike and just stayed put.

My 2017 Subaru Impreza sat in the Boston cold from mid-November to mid-February. Then it started up without a pause! How?!

How was my 5-year-old battery alive after two blizzards and a bunch of nights below 10 degrees? How did my fuel not cause starting problems? Was I blessed with a miracle?

I bet my sister \$50 my car wouldn't start. I lost and I'm curious why. — Claire

I would have lost that \$50, too, Claire.

The gasoline would not have posed any problem. It wouldn't degrade in a few months. And regardless of the temperatures while you were gone, a key factor would have been the temperature

on the day you started the car.

So if it was 9 degrees out the week before, but 45 degrees on the day you started the car, the battery might have worked fine. Cold weather diminishes battery power, but only during the cold weather.

What surprises me is that your 5-year-old battery lived to start the car at all. Five years is about how long most batteries last these days. And when modern cars sit, most of them slowly drain your battery in order to power things like the alarm, the computer and the emissions system.

In fact, it's not unusual for modern cars to not start after they've been sitting for three or four weeks, even in good weather.

So I can't explain The Miracle of the 2017 Impreza, Claire. Maybe it's the combination of a small engine, a big battery and the fact that you live a good, clean, compassionate life — save for being willing to snatch \$50 from your poor sister in the first place.

Now go get a new battery before you run out of luck.

Dear Car Talk:

I have a 2004 Jeep Cherokee with a

starting issue. I turn the key and the starter doesn't budge, but everything else (all the lights, the radio, AC, etc.) powers up.

If I jiggle the shifter around while it's in park, I can eventually get it to start. I'm afraid my trick is not going to work one day, and the car will leave me stranded.

Any ideas on what to check? I noticed that when I push the shifter forward (more into park) and jiggle it side to side, it works best. — Mike

You probably need a neutral safety switch, Mike.

Decades ago, there were lots of accidents in which someone would start their car, thinking it was in park. But it was actually in drive. The car would then bolt forward and hurt someone who was in front of it (or worse). Of less consequence, some people inadvertently started their car in drive and drove through the back wall of their garage. That wasn't fun either, although the American Association of Building Contractors supported that feature.

Anyway, after enough of these accidents, the federal government stepped in to require that all cars be in park or neu-

tral in order to be allowed start.

Introducing ... the neutral safety switch, a little electronic switch that prevents the car from starting unless the transmission is in park or neutral.

When a neutral safety switch gets old and wears out, it can get finicky. That's why jiggling the shifter eventually works. You find just the right spot where contact is made, the circuit closes and — voila — the car starts.

If you want to test my theory, try putting the car in neutral the next time it won't start. You may have better luck there. But regardless, you're right that this will eventually leave you stranded. So I would strongly advise you to replace the switch.

It's a \$50 part, and it screws right into the side of the transmission on this car. If you're a do-it-yourselfer, it's something you can probably handle.

If that doesn't fix it, then my guess is that your shifter cable has gotten stretched over the years. Adjusting, or more likely replacing, the cable would be a job for mechanic. Or a do-it-yourselfer with a very liberal "work from home" job.

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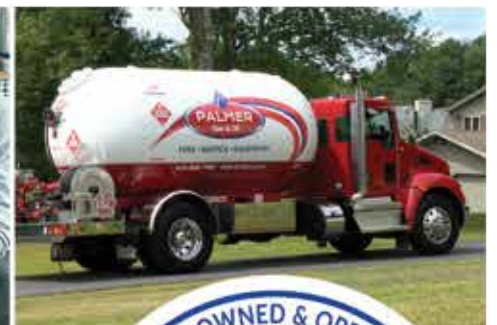
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ON THE JOB

ELISE NOGA

ECO-FRIENDLY PRODUCT MAKER

Elise Noga of Bedford is the owner of The Beaded Sheep (thebeadedsheep.com), a blog, podcast and online shop selling handmade eco-friendly home and beauty products.

Q: Explain your job and what it entails.

Mostly, I'm making my products, which currently consist of cloth napkins, dish towels, paperless towels, cotton rounds, no-drip cuffs, tote bags and drawstring bags. ... There's a lot of creativity [involved] in picking out patterns, designing new products and putting the products out into the world via my online shop and a few retail locations. I also host a podcast ... The most important part of my job is that I get to do it with my daughters. That's truly my favorite part.

shop in the fall of 2020, where I sold only cloth napkins through Etsy.

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

In 2019, I left my full-time job in tech support to be home full-time with my first daughter, since she had just turned 1. I started The Beaded Sheep originally to do blogging, then dabbled for a small time period in family photography, and finally landed on selling cloth napkins.

What kind of education or training did you need?

I didn't need a lot of training for this job, but my mom taught me how to sew. ... In

college I studied Communication Arts with concentrations in Creative Writing and Global Missions, and that education has helped me with marketing, writing, communicating what my business is about, hosting my podcast — also called *The Beaded Sheep* — and having my business strive to help others be more eco-friendly.

What is your typical at-work uniform or attire?

Since I work from home ... my work attire is whatever is comfortable and kid-friendly.

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

I started this job during the pandemic, and it was difficult at first since I wasn't comfortable doing business in person and had to rely heavily on online orders. Now that more things are open, I've been able to do more fairs, which has been more helpful for my business.

What do you wish other people knew about your job?

I wish other people knew how much work goes into having a business like this. Not only do I make things, but I'm the accountant, the marketer, the salesperson, the writer, the creative director — everything.

What was the first job you ever had?

My first job was being a babysitter for some of my neighbors.



Elise Noga

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

My husband recently gave me the sweetest advice, and that was to follow my heart with this business and not let anyone else dictate what I should be doing. I also think it's so important to be willing to pivot and change what direction you're going in since making a change can bring so much good.

— Angie Sykeny 🍷

Five favorites

Favorite book: *Harry Potter* series.

Favorite movie: I don't have a favorite movie, but my favorite show is *Schitt's Creek*.

Favorite music: My favorite genres are indie, folk, alternative and hardcore.

Favorite food: Pretty much anything chocolate.

Favorite thing about NH: There's so much to do, and most of my immediate family lives here.

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FOOD

Takes the cake

Eatxactly Sweet Cafe opens in Concord

News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll
food@hippopress.com

• **Granite brews:** Depending on when you're reading this, there may still be time to get your ticket to this year's **Keep NH Brewing Festival**, happening at the Kiwanis Riverfront Park behind the Douglas N. Everett Arena (15 Loudon Road, Concord) on Saturday, July 9, with general admittance from 1 to 4 p.m. and VIP admittance beginning at noon. The festival is known for featuring the largest collection of craft breweries in the state for one event, and it's the first time since 2019 that it's being held in person. Beer styles will run the gamut from IPAs and lagers to sours, ales and stouts, with an overall collection of more than 130 available options to sample. Admission grants you access to 4-ounce pours of each beer, as well as a souvenir tasting glass — other participants of the festival will include several food trucks, a local hop grower, outdoor vendors and more. General admission is \$50 in advance and \$55 on the day of the festival, while designated drivers get in for \$20 (event is 21+ only). Visit nhbrewers.org.

• **Abenaki flavors:** Join the Hopkinton Historical Society and New Hampshire Humanities for a **virtual cooking program on traditional Abenaki squash soup**, scheduled for Monday, July 11, at 7 p.m., via Zoom. Liz Charlebois, Abenaki educator, artist and seed expert, will lead this demonstration — participants can watch or cook alongside her at their own home. A list of ingredients will be made available in advance. The program is one of several taking place during the Hopkinton Historical Society's ongoing exhibit, "Gather 'Round: Telling Our History Through Food," which opened on June 25. Other upcoming programs include a virtual cooking demonstration on Native American frybread in August, and an Abenaki harvest food tasting event at the Slusser Senior Center in Contoocook in October. Visit hopkintonhistory.org for a full list of events and to register.

• **South of France:** The Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford) continues its regional **summer dinner series** with a South of France four-course al fresco dinner scheduled for Thursday, July 14, from 6 to 10 p.m. The event will feature passed hors d'oeuvres, followed by a four-course plated dinner out on the Grand Terrace. Each of the food options and wine pairings is inspired by southern French cuisine — they'll include tomato tarte with black olive, pickled chili, fennel aioli and herbs; black sea bass with

28 ▶



Photos courtesy of Eatxactly Sweet Cafe in Concord.



By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

Concord native Laura Fucella found success in 2017 with Eatxactly Cakes, a homestead business specializing in custom designed cakes, cupcakes and cake pops for weddings, birthday parties and all kinds of other occasions. But she could only pull so much out of her home kitchen each week — so when her business grew to the point when she was regularly having to turn cake orders away during peak season, that was when she began looking for opportunities to expand.

Eatxactly Sweet Cafe, which opened June 18 in the former Eagle Square Deli space downtown, is more than just a larger production space for Fucella's custom cakes. It's also a full-service bakery and cafe, featuring a lineup of grab-and-go pastries, coffees, teas, toasts and more.

"I always wanted to have a little cake bakery, just something small ... and when I saw that this was available, it felt right," said Fucella, who took over the

vacant storefront last October. "Then it was like, well this is a lot of space for just cakes, so I said, 'What else can we do in here?'" That's kind of how it got to be what it is, more just because of the space available."

Fucella is no stranger to smaller baked goodies, either — she completed a nine-month intensive program in pastry arts at Le Cordon Bleu College in Cambridge, Mass., in 2011, and also held various baking and restaurant management positions, including at D Squared Java in Exeter just prior to the start of the pandemic.

The new cafe's offerings include a regularly stocked display of scratch-baked items like croissants, scones and sticky buns, in addition to a refrigerated case of fruit tarts, chocolate cream puffs, banana breads, and cakes and cupcakes, all in a variety of rotating flavors.

There are also "cafe bites," or loaded toasts using rustic sourdough bread from the Derry-based Nomad Bakery — those options include a tomato crostini with goat cheese and microgreens; a caprese-

style toast with basil pesto, mozzarella and spinach; and the "Queen Bee," which features peanut butter, banana, bacon, house-made granola and a bourbon honey glaze. Oatmeals, quiches, yogurt parfaits and focaccia served by the slice on Fridays round out the food menu.

For her coffees, Fucella is partnering with Tandem Coffee Roasters of Portland, Maine. Drip coffee and cold brew are available, in addition to a full line of espresso drinks, along with a variety of house-made syrups with flavors like mocha, vanilla, caramel and maple. Fucella also offers herbal, black and oolong loose-leaf teas from Aera Tea Co., with a few milk options.

But even with all the new menu additions, you'll still be able to order any of the signature cakes Fucella has become known for. Most require at least a seven-day advance notice, although it's longer for weddings and for larger orders. Fucella has even worked to streamline the ordering process with new forms recently uploaded to the website that you can fill out yourself. 🍷

““
I always wanted to have a little cake bakery, just something small ... and when I saw that this was available, it felt right,”

Laura Fucella

Eatxactly Sweet Cafe

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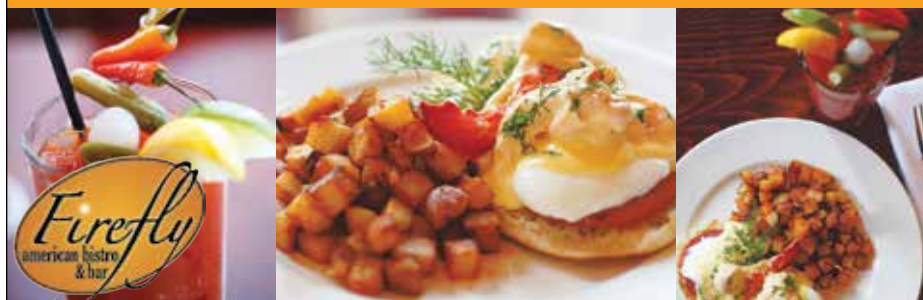
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IN THE KITCHEN WITH MEGAN GORDON



Megan Gordon is the chef and co-owner of Copper Kettle To Go (39 Main St., Wilton, 654-2631, copperkettleto.go.com), an eatery and catering company directly across the street from the Wilton Town Hall Theatre that offers an always-changing menu of scratch-cooked meals, from sandwiches and flatbreads to plated entrees, burgers, tacos and more. Copper Kettle To Go's unique setup features an upstairs grocery shop offering various take-and-bake meals and an in-house dining area, along with a downstairs taphouse with a rotating lineup of local brews. Gordon, who opened the restaurant with her husband Chris in September 2020, previously ran the Copper Kettle Bakery in Brookline with her mother, from 2009 to 2011.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

My whisk.

What would you have for your last meal?

Probably my husband's chicken piccata.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

The Riverhouse Cafe in Milford. We are obsessed. ... I usually get the CB Stack. It's corned beef with eggs, hollandaise sauce and shredded cheesy potatoes. It's so good.

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

Al Horford. I am a huge Celtics fan, and we're birthday buddies.

What is your favorite thing on your menu?

I would have to say our haddock sandwich. ... It actually comes on an 8-inch

sub roll, and then we top it with American cheese, lettuce, fried pickles and homemade tartar sauce. ... We actually had a customer in here who was at Hampton Beach and told another customer of ours that if she wanted a good haddock sandwich to go an hour inland to Wilton and get one at Copper Kettle. ... So I thought that was pretty cool.

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

Smash burgers. They are everywhere and we started doing them as well. They are very popular.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?

Tacos. I like to do beef or chicken tacos, and then we have all the sides that you have to have.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

Homemade pico de gallo

From the kitchen of Megan Gordon of Copper Kettle To Go in Wilton

- ½ small onion
- 3 roma tomatoes
- 1 jalapeno
- ¼ cup cilantro
- 1 lime

Cut up the onion, tomatoes, jalapeno and cilantro into small pieces and place into a bowl. Cut the lime in half and juice it over the ingredients in the bowl. Let it sit for 15 minutes to let all of the flavors marry, then serve with tacos or dig in with tortilla chips.

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 26

summer vegetables, shell beans and saffron; Vernon Family Farm coq au vin (red wine-braised chicken) with heirloom carrots and chervil; and peach financiers with candied almond, chantilly, brown butter and roquefort for dessert. Tickets are \$125 per person (dinner is 21+ only) and reservations are required, as space is limited. The Bedford Village Inn will then continue its series with a South Carolina dinner on Aug. 4. Visit bedfordvillageinn.com.

• **Ribs!:** Save the date for the **Great American Ribfest & Food Truck Fes-**

tival, returning for the first time in three years to Anheuser-Busch Brewery (221 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack) from Friday, July 15, through Sunday, July 17. A fundraiser for the Merrimack Rotary Club, Ribfest features all kinds of barbecue options from more than 30 vendors, in addition to live music and craft beer. Tickets are available at the door and will be \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and veterans, \$6 for kids ages 6 to 12 and free for kids ages 5 and under. Visit greatamericanribfest.com. 🍷

Pumpnickel Manhattan

Because I am a humble man, I don't often bring this up, but it has bearing on today's topic, so I'll say it now and get it out of the way, so we can move on.

I make the World's Best Breakfast Sandwich.

I know; it seems unlikely. You'd expect the inventor of such an important — dare I say, landmark? — development to be a tall, handsome, strapping man of great intelligence and taste. You'd be disappointed.

And, of course, you've got the lunch-counter lawyers who will want to get into the whole, "How can you quantify matters of personal preference?" Some people might even argue, "How do you even define the word 'sandwich', anyway?" — you know, the same people who like to start the argument about whether a hot dog is a sandwich or whether breakfast cereal is soup. Those jerks. [Editor's note: Hippo totally and with troublemaker intent stirred this pot in our Best of 2022. Hippo readers pretty definitively said 76 to 24 percent that a hot dog is not a sandwich.]

But the fact remains that there is one clear best breakfast sandwich, and I'm the guy who invented it. I am so confident of this that I have it on my resumé, which has provoked several extended discussions during job interviews. I haven't always gotten those jobs, but by the time I left, the various hiring committees knew what to make for breakfast the next morning.

Here is how you make it:

Toast one slice of plain, ordinary, white sandwich bread. If you try to use a snobbier, artisanal bread, this whole dish will collapse philosophically.

Spread the bread with a confident layer of peanut butter — natural, processed, it doesn't matter. It has to be actual peanut butter, though. Almond butter, sunflower butter, tahini, these are all fine, admirable ingredients but this is not the job for them.

On top of the peanut butter, arrange a layer of pickled jalapeños — not fresh ones, not a splash of hot sauce. Pickled. Jalapeños.

Top the jalapeños with a fluffy scrambled egg. Not egg whites. Not whipped tofu.

Scrambled. Egg.

"Yeah, but I like a fried egg, and I don't really see why—"

Shhhh.

One. Scrambled. Egg.

Season with a pinch of coarse salt and fresh ground pepper.

You and I both know how this is going to go down:

You're going to try to prove how open-minded you are and you'll make this — well, a *version* of it, anyway. You'll substitute



Pumpnickel Manhattan. Photo by John Fladd.

a self-respecting slice of sourdough for the sandwich bread, or you'll use some fresh chilies you've got growing in your garden. You'll make it, and eat it, and shrug your shoulders and say, "It's OK, but I'm not sure what he's making such a big deal about." And you'll move on with your life, burdened with just a little less respect for me than you had before.

And then, one day, when you need it most — when it is freezing rain outside, and the character you love the most on that show you like has gotten herself killed by a radioactive wombat, and work is terrible, and you just had a big fight, and you hate the world — on that day, you will make this sandwich the way it was meant to be eaten and you will feel the fragments of your broken heart start to slip back into place.

"OK," I hear you say. "This is all certainly very ... colorful and all, but what — if anything — does this have to do with cocktails?"

Oh, right.

I'm sure you already know this, but this Friday is the 94th anniversary of the first commercially sliced bread, which is, of course, one of the key developments that make this sandwich possible. And as long as we're talking, in a roundabout sort of way, about bread that doesn't get enough respect, let's make a cocktail that honors another forgotten hero of the bread world: pumpnickel.

Pumpnickel Manhattan

Ingredients

1 Tablespoon caraway seeds

1 Tablespoon cocoa nibs

1½ ounces rye whiskey — I like Maker's

Mark

1½ ounces red vermouth

10 drops cardamom bitters

10 drops orange bitters

Thoroughly muddle the caraway seeds and cocoa nibs in the bottom of a cocktail shaker. (You could also use a mortar and pestle for this.) Add the rye, and swirl to combine.

Leave the whiskey, caraway and cocoa nibs

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FOOD

TRY THIS AT HOME

Chocolate and peanut butter Rice Krispie treats

Summer brings about a nostalgia for the simplicity of this time of year. Simple meals that consist of fresh produce, cheese and a baguette. It also brings to mind simple desserts: a bowl of ice cream, a couple s'mores by a campfire and, of course, Rice Krispie treats.



Chocolate and peanut butter Rice Krispie treats. Photo by Michele Pesula Kuegler.

Plain Rice Krispie treats are one of the simplest, yet usually most crowd-pleasing, desserts that exist. What's not to like about a sweet, chewy, crunchy treat that can be eaten with your hands? While I like the basic recipe, it also can be fun to add a new element or two. As such, I would like to introduce you to this amped up version.

Personally, I enjoy the addition of peanut butter in a dessert, as it adds a bit of saltiness to contrast with the sweetness. It turns out that marshmallows and peanut butter balance each other quite well. The chocolate is a way to add another dimension of flavor, with each chef deciding what flavor that is. Go with milk chocolate chips if you want these treats to be a little sweeter, and opt for semisweet chocolate chips if you are looking for a deeper chocolate flavor.


Perfect for almost any summer gathering. Take a batch to the beach, bring them to your next family cookout, or just enjoy them in the comfort of your own home. They are sure to disappear quickly once you set them out!

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.


No matter which chocolate option you choose, you now have a dessert that is per-

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Chocolate and peanut butter Rice Krispie treats
Makes 24

- 1 10-ounce bag marshmallows
- 4 Tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2/3 cup creamy peanut butter
- 6 cups Rice Krispies
- 2 cups chocolate chips

Spray a 13"x9" pan, sides and bottom, with nonstick cooking spray.
Combine marshmallows and butter in a large pot over medium heat.
Stir frequently until both are melted and combined.

Remove from heat and add peanut butter, mixing well
Add Rice Krispies, stirring until fully incorporated.
Add chocolate chips, mixing until evenly distributed.*
Transfer the mixture to the prepared pan, spreading evenly.
Allow to cool for 15 minutes.

*The chocolate chips will melt, so you will end with more of a marble wave of chocolate.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 29

for at least an hour, to get to know each other better.

Using a fine-meshed strainer, strain the rye over ice, in a mixing glass. Add the vermouth and bitters, then stir gently.

Pour into a rocks glass, and sip slowly.

Pumpnickel — the bread — is a close cousin of rye bread; that's why we're using rye for this Manhattan, rather than the more traditional bourbon. Its dark color comes from cocoa powder, and like all self-respecting ryes, it has caraway seeds to give it some [vague, punching motion]. As with any

self-respecting Manhattan, the predominant flavor here comes from the whiskey — this is why we've used a fairly upscale rye — but the caraway and cocoa linger and remind you who you are dealing with. They are subtle about it — it doesn't shout, "CARAWAY! WE'VE GOT CARAWAY, HERE!" but they leave you thinking about the finer points of pumpnickel bread.

As you should.

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

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• Seasoning, *The*

Condensation EP A-

BOOKS pg33

• Iona Iverson's *Rules for*

Commuting B

• Book Notes

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

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

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FILM pg34

• *Minions: The Rise of*

Gru B+

DoubleVee, *Treat Her Strangely* (self-released)

Picture a more-or-less-direct cross between Pavement and Dandy Warhols and you'd have Starlight Mints, a hipster-indie band from Oklahoma. Those guys called it an oeuvre in the mid-Aughts, maybe because they were no match for their fellow Oklahomans Flaming Lips, but some people would disagree, not that I care. Allan Vest was that band's singer and, in 2015, married the former Barb Hendrickson, a musically like-minded soul, and here we are, with this band, which flirts with orchestral indie-pop, adding such instruments as viola, trumpet and trombone to Allan's recipe, which was successful in the Mints' heyday (some of the Mints' songs wound up on TV shows like *Malcolm in the Middle*, *Californication* and *Gossip Girl*, most likely when forced quirkiness was in the script, but I don't know). These tunes have a neo-New Wave feel, quite '80s in fact, and a lot of them bear beats that feel pilfered, from such bands as Sisters of Mercy ("When Dawn Comes Tonight"), Duran Duran ("The Fever Is You"), and so forth. All it really did for me was intensify my yearning for the current '80s-echo-boom to end already. Barb's voice is no worthy match for Allan's, for one thing; she comes off like some rando picked out of a Bowery Ballroom crowd. B—Eric W. Saeger

Seasoning, *The Condensation EP* (self-released)

The problem with fronting the same sort of lush, pretty Sunday-drive vibe as the Brooklyn indie-pop band Real Estate is that listeners might (and OK, this is a stretch, but I do require some modicum of an angle before I start typing up these things) expect the same verisimilitude that befell them during their 2020 album *The Main Thing*. But this guy, Brisbane-raised multi-instrumentalist/songwriter Lachlan Buckle, actually has more ideas in his head, I'd say. Where Real Estate tended to overdo the wholesome '60s-pop jangle in *TMT*, Buckle and his cohorts wander off into slightly unexpected musical environs. All right, not by much, have it your way, but as a singer, Buckle has a more vintage Top 40-ish range, a quarter-whispered style that will remind people of Al Stewart during his "Time Passages" phase (trust me, you've heard it at the doctor's office, I guarantee it) (and no, I don't know if he ever had another hit after that). The blurb sheet also accuses Buckle of doing a Yo La Tengo thing, but I didn't hear any evidence of that at all. Hipster music for nursing homes is the bullet description here, it's not bad at all. A—Eric W. Saeger

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Uh-oh, gang, the next crop of new albums will hit the streets with its usual dull thud on July 8, just like every Friday! I suppose we should spend a minute or so on the new album from perennial Juno award winners **Metric**, whose members are from the Canadian city of Toronto, a nice place to visit if you'd ever be interested in seeing a rather basic American city but with people who actually like other people. This band has several claims to fame, including singer Emily Haines's connection to the completely unlistenable Aughts-indie collective Broken Social Scene, and they've "contributed" a few songs to famous soundtracks, including *Scott Pilgrim vs The World*, although of course their biggest was "Eclipse (All Yours)" from the *Twilight Saga: Eclipse* soundtrack. As well, Haines has done a few cool things in the areas of house and opera-trance, like the tune "Glimmer" that she did with Delerium, and "Knock You Out" with Tiesto. And so I have mixed feelings about these Canadians; just because they've helped make a few tunes that were cool doesn't excuse them from all the Broken Social Scene nonsense (Haines also collaborated on a song by Stars, by the way), and all that confusing stuff leaves me with no choice but to listen to the new single "All Comes Crashing" and judge their upcoming new LP *Formentera* on its own merits. I'm sure this will be fun. Huh, the video has one of those "flashing lights" warnings about suffering from "possible seizures," which I appreciate knowing about in advance, because there'd be literally no worse way for me to lose my mind than to be listening to tuneless Canadian indie rock while getting a Clockwork Orange treatment for no reason. Well, this song's OK, it's got a nice messy Kills-like no-wave guitar part after they get through the Kesha-style bloop-pop formalities. I survived the flashing lights part, unless it actually did drive me insane and you people don't actually exist, which would mean Canadian indie-rock bands don't exist either; there's a silver lining to everything, just saying.

• Well looky there folks, it's a new **Megadeth** album, *The Sick, The Dying, And The Dead*, and it's on the way right this minute! I was never a really big fan of Megadeth, like, I always thought "Symphony Of Destruction" was a really lousy song with a super-stupid title. I do know bandleader Dave Mustaine was/is an epic-level jerk: he hates Metallica for firing him, and that's normal, but then there was the time he yelled at my old band's manager for telling him she was glad to see that he'd shown up sober for a show. That's a nice thing to say to someone, isn't it? No? Well, whatever, I'll go listen to their new song, "The Dogs of Chernobyl," only because I have to. OK, it's really thrash-punky, like old Slayer except with Metallica vocals. It's pretty cool if you liked Metallica's *\$5.98 EP*, kind of Samhain-ish/Misfits-ish, meaning it's kind of out-of-date-ish but acceptable-ish. Bon appetit or whatnot.

• Yikes, it's arena-pop act **Journey**, with a new album, called *Freedom!* Last I knew, this band, famous for "Don't Stop Believin'," a song about the Sopranos or whatever it was, was still not speaking to their original singer, Steve Perry, whom they replaced with some kid they found through a karaoke YouTube. That ridiculousness didn't spell doom for the band; they had a decent AOR/yacht-rock song called "The Place In Your Heart" in 2005, don't be so picky. The new single, "Don't Give Up On Us," is epic AOR, full of hormonal angst triggers for 50-somethings. I actually like it a lot.

• We'll close with *Cave World*, the new LP from Swedish post-punk band **Viagra Boys**. The latest teaser track is "Punk Rock Loser," which will make a great Bud Light commercial, since it's a cross between Bloodhound Gang and Melvins (don't worry, all that means is that it's edgy but basically useless except as beer commercial background). —Eric W. Saeger

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Iona Iverson's Rules for Commuting, by Claire Pooley (Pamela Dorman Books/Viking, 338 pages)

The unwritten rules for commuting are pretty much the same as the unwritten rules for riding an elevator: Avoid eye contact if possible. Keep in your space. If you must say something, comment on the weather.

But what if you ride a train five or more days a week and often see the same faces? And what if, one day, one of them nearly chokes to death on a grape? Do you go back to impersonal nonchalance, or question the etiquette rules that would even make you consider that?

The answer is right there on the cover of Clare Pooley's *Iona Iverson's Rules for Commuting*, a fun summer read that advises "Sometimes you have to break the rules." Set in London, the novel is vaguely reminiscent of Helen Fielding's *Bridget Jones's Diary*, only Iona Iverson is in the twilight of her career, happily partnered, and gay.

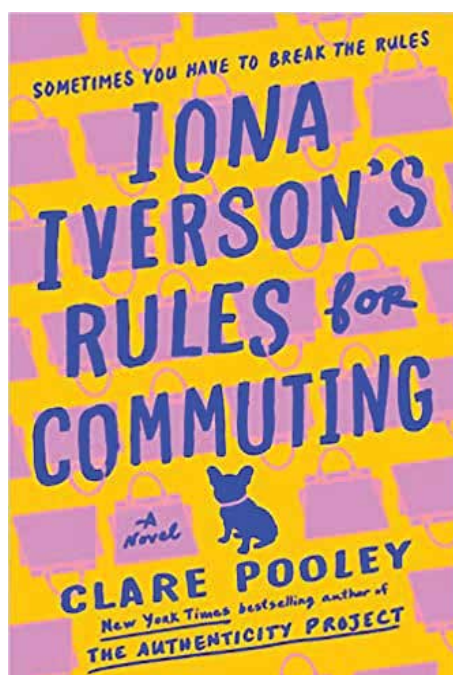
Also, Iona is but one part of this story; don't be fooled by her top billing. In fact, it's the clever interweaving of different perspectives and storylines that makes this novel sing.

There are four central characters: Iona, the "Dear Abby"-like magazine advice columnist who has been deemed a dinosaur by her younger colleagues, who are trying to drive her out of the job she loves and has been doing for 30 years; Piers, an unhappy investment banker who was eating a salad on the train when he choked on the grape; Sanjay, a shy nurse with a crippling anxiety disorder who nonetheless saved Piers' life; and Emmie, a voracious reader who works an unfulfilling job in marketing and is oblivious to Sanjay's infatuation with her.

The four lives intersect meaningfully in the moment of Piers' medical emergency, and then, once the problem is resolved and lives resumed, they want to retreat to their respective silos of silence. Except for Iona, whose stubborn insistence on righting the world's wrongs — not only in her column but in the lives of the people around her — compels her to keep the conversations going.

If this sounds kind of saccharine and frothy, well, on one level, it is. But we are solidly into the season where you don't have to read anything that could have been assigned by a teacher or boss. And Pooley is a genuinely funny writer, rolling off bits and one-liners at a pace that makes this novel as much a comedy as a beach read.

If the idea of commuting seems a bit antique in these days of working at home, it's not in Pooley's hands. She hits the issue head on, having Iona's boss urging her to work from home. She declines — believing "It was important to keep at least one finger plugged into the zeitgeist" — even though she doesn't like the trend of hot desking, which she rightly interprets as sharing, something she didn't like to do even as a child.



So Iona keeps going to work daily, accompanied by her French bulldog named Lulu, whom she balances on her lap while drinking tea on the train. Some of the other passengers avoid her and think of her as "Crazy Dog Lady." There are often empty seats around her.

But it's Iona who decides to help the painfully shy Sanjay interact with the young woman he's crushing on, and Iona who leaps to the defense of a distraught teenager who gets sick on Piers' laptop one day. Then after one especially nasty exchange between Iona and Piers (in which an observer likens them to T. rex and Indominus rex going after each other in Jurassic Park), the two break through to something resembling humanity, after Piers admits, in an unguarded moment, that he desperately hates his job.

It is but one concealed bit of trouble among a host of troubles concealed by passengers on the train, and as the story unfolds, Iona becomes as much of a helper and adviser in real life as she is in her column; more so, actually. But as the commuters slowly get to know one another — first in abbreviated interactions on the train and then in other ways — they all begin to help each other in surprising ways, often inadvertently.

It would be "the feel-good movie of the year" if it were a movie, let's just say.

While *Rules for Commuting* isn't all sweetness and light — there are side plots involving a young mother undergoing cancer treatment and a young woman being cruelly bullied — there's never a sense that we will get our hearts ripped out at the end. It offers escapism without the darkness that so much escapist fare contains.

Is it real life? Of course not. Will it help make yours more tolerable for a couple of hours? Absolutely, which is really all we need from a light summer book. **B**

—Jennifer Graham 🍷

BOOK NOTES

You can read a book a week and still find yourself perpetually surprised that someone is a "New York Times bestselling author" you've never heard of. Take, for instance, the Virginia young-adult novelist Jenny Han, who is currently all the rage for her trio of summer-themed books that have just come out as an Amazon streaming series.

The Summer I Turned Pretty is the first title in the trilogy, and also the title of the series. It's described by NPR pretty simply: It's the story of "one teenage girl whose summer goes the way it always does except for one thing. The two boys she's known her whole life are looking at her differently, and suddenly she has a big choice to make."

OK, so it's probably not William Faulker, whose story "The Long Summer" and two others were the basis for the film *The Long Hot Summer*.

But Han's novel and two subsequent titles — *It's Not Summer Without You* and *We'll Always Have Summer* — will be released in a hardcover boxed set (Simon & Schuster, 880 pages in total) in two weeks. It's been an extraordinary run for the books, seeing as the first book was released in 2009. Props to any author who can sell a book with a protagonist named Belly and still be selling well more than a decade later.

The other literal summer reads are, for the most part, the beach reads and chick lit we expect, such as Rebecca Serle's romance *One Italian Summer* (Atria, 272 pages) and May Cobb's mystery *My Summer Darlings* (Berkley, 368 pages).

But there's one notable exception: *The Summer Friend* (Knopf, 240 pages) by Charles McGrath, a former editor at *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times*.

Set in New England, *The Summer Friend* is a memoir about McGrath's friendship with a man named Chip Gillespie, who grew up in New Hampshire (his father taught classics at Phillips Exeter Academy). "Whenever I try to tell my own summertime story, I find myself telling a story that is partly his," McGrath writes. The pair sailed, golfed and lobstered together for years, their summers entwined, until Chip's life was struck short by cancer.

An intelligent and emotive departure from the typical "summer" books, it's worth your attention, particularly if your childhood memories, like McGrath's, are set near New England water. —Jennifer Graham



Books

Author events

- **JOYCE MAYNARD** presents *Count the Ways* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Tuesday, July 12, at 6:30 p.m.
- **ADAM J. MEAD** presents *The Complete Financial History of Berkshire Hathaway* at the Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com, 836-6600) on Wednesday, July 13, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Free event; register at www.bookerymht.com/our-events.
- **KARIALLEN** presents and signs copies of her picture book *The Boy Who Loved Maps* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Wednesday, July 13, from 4:30 to 6 p.m.
- **SARAH MCCRAW CROW** presents *The Wrong Kind of Woman* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Tuesday, July 19, at 6:30 p.m.
- **PAULA MUNIER** and **SARAH STEWART TAYLOR** present their respective mystery novels *The Wedding Plot* and *The Drowning Sea* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbook-

store.com) on Thursday, July 21, at 6:30 p.m.

• **LINDA REILLY** presents her cozy mystery *No Parm No Foul* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Tuesday, July 26, at 6:30 p.m.

• **DIANE HALLENBECK** presents *Rejecting Fear: Learning to Be Led By Love* at the Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com, 836-6600) on Thursday, July 28, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Free event; register at www.bookerymht.com/our-events.

• **MARY ELLEN HUMPHREY** presents *My Mountain Friend: Wandering and Pondering Mt. Major* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Thursday, July 28, at 6:30 p.m.

• **KATHLEEN BAILEY** and **SHEILA BAILEY** present their book *New Hampshire War Monuments: The Stories Behind the Stones* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Thursday,



Aug. 11, at 6:30 p.m.

• **CASEY SHERMAN** presents *Helltown* at the Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com, 836-6600) on Sunday, Aug. 14, at 1:30 p.m. Free event; register at www.bookerymht.com/our-events.

• **VIRGINIA CHAMLEE** presents *Big Thrift Energy: The Art and Thrill of Finding Vintage Treasures* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Monday, Aug. 15, at 6:30 p.m.

Poetry

• **OPEN MIC POETRY** hosted by the Poetry Society of NH at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com), starting with a reading by poet Sam DeFlich, on Wednesday, July 20, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Newcomers encouraged. Free.

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

Minions: The Rise of Gru (PG)

Eleven- (and three-quarters!) year-old Gru tries to join the league of villains he idolizes in *Minions: The Rise of Gru*, maybe the silliest of these movies and I mean this as a compliment.

When young Gru (voice of Steve Carell) finds out that the adult villains the Vicious Six are now only five and have an opening, he is excited to go meet the gang, now led by Belle Bottom (voice of Taraji P. Henson, doing some fun villain vocal work). But they quickly say “next” when they realize he’s just a kid. To prove himself to them, Gru steals the mystical ancient amulet from them that they have recently stolen.

Or rather, Wild Knuckles (voice of Alan Arkin), formerly the sixth member, stole the amulet right before the other five stole it from him and kicked him out of the group. So as Gru runs off with his thrice-stolen prize, not only are Belle and her gang after him but so is Wild Knuckles. Gru makes a getaway with the help of his Minion henchmen (voiced by Pierre Coffin) but then one of them falls in love with a pet rock (it’s the 1970s) and loses the amulet. In a fit of anger Gru fires them but then he is quickly kid-



Minions: The Rise of Gru

napped. While a group of Minions heads off in search of Gru, another one tracks down the amulet. And of course Belle is still looking for Gru, breaking up Gru’s mother’s (voice of Julie Andrews) Tupperware party, where the Minions have been demonstrating the product’s fart-noise-producing features.

Wild Knuckles, trying to prove he’s still

got it, and Gru, trying to prove he’s got it already, eventually make a crabbily sweet mentor-mentee team while elsewhere some Minions take a little time out to learn kung-fu from Master Chow (voice of Michelle Yeoh). We don’t linger on any one scene or any one idea very long and even though there are emotional beats to this movie, they

take a back seat to, well, backseats (there are, of course, occasional Minion butts, which got big laughs from my elementary school-age kids). And fart jokes and silly Minion talk and Minions doing puppy-dog eyes and general Three Stooges-ness. If you’re still fighting the good fight against sassiness and cartoon-on-cartoon head-bonks, I can see how this movie might be a bit much (there are also some big scary animals at the end, including a pretty great Taraji P. Henson dragon). But if you’ve given in or your kids are old enough, this movie has a bouncy silliness that has good energy without feeling like a total sugar rush and keeps the movie snapping along through its not quite 90 minutes.

“It’s awesome; you gotta go,” was the review one of my kids gave. And if you like Looney Tunes-style goofiness — or just watching the enjoyment your kids get from Looney Tunes-style goofiness — I agree. **B+**

Rated PG for some action/violence and rude humor; according to the MPA on film-ratings.com. Directed by Kyle Balda, Brad Ableson and Jonathan del Val, Minions: The Rise of Gru is an hour and 27 minutes long and distributed in theaters by Universal Studios. 🍷

AT THE SOFAPLEX

Fire Island (R)

Joel Kim Booster, Bowen Yang.

Five friends head to Fire Island for what might be their last weeklong summer visit with Erin (Margaret Cho) at her beach house with a pool. Erin has been bad with money and may have to sell this spot that has been this found-family’s retreat, so she tells the kind Howie (Yang), opinionated and spirited Noah (Booster), bookish Max (Torian Miller) and flirty and party-ready Keegan (Tomas Matos) and Luke (Matt Rogers). And if, in those descriptions, you’re getting hints of Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Kitty and Lydia Bennet, that is by design in this absolutely charming riff on Jane Austen’s *Pride & Prejudice*. Howie doesn’t have much expectation for finding love — and he wants the full rom-com love, not just Noah’s emotions-free style of one-night stands — on Fire Island but he and the sweet and handsome Charlie (James Scully) become instantly smitten with each other. Charlie’s friends, on the other hand, are kind of a nightmare — snobby, vain and, in the case of Charlie’s bestie Will (Conrad Ricamora), standoffish and seemingly elitist. That’s right, Will’s the Mr. Darcy and he’s Mr. Darcy-ing with the best of them, giving Mr. Darcy gold standard Colin Firth a run for his money in being both prideful and a stone-cold hottie.

As is required, there is also a Wickham-type in the form of Dex (Zane

Phillips), a man who turns Noah’s head and about whom Will has some kind of shady information.

Great performances across the board, with Ricamora and Booster bringing the electricity and Yang just a national treasure. It is a truth universally acknowledged that a lit major in possession of an Austen-appreciation is in want of a fun variation of a beloved tale. **A** Available on Hulu.

Cha Cha Real Smooth (R)

Cooper Raiff, Dakota Johnson.

Andrew (Raiff, who also wrote and directed this movie) has graduated from college and is ready for his next step — though what that is he isn’t yet sure. His not-quite-girlfriend has gone to Barcelona for a year and Andrew is back living with his mother (Leslie Mann), sleeping on a mattress on the floor of his 13-year-old brother David’s (Evan Assante) bedroom and exchanging passive-aggressive insults with his mom’s husband, Greg (Brad Garrett). He finds himself tasked with taking David to a friend’s bar mitzvah, one of many scheduled for the coming months. At the party, he finds himself unofficially taking over the role of party starter, getting kids out on the dance floor and having fun. He impresses the many moms in attendance, especially Domino (Johnson). They have an easy rapport, as do Andrew and Lola (Vanessa Burghardt), Domino’s daughter, who is on the autism spectrum and who finds party situations difficult.

After this first event, Andrew becomes the guy to hire for future bar and bat mitz-

vahs and he spends even more time with Domino and Lola, finding himself drawn into their lives.

This movie gave me serious *Metropolitan* and *Kicking and Screaming* (the Noah Baumbach movie) vibes, with its “season” of parties and its post-college uncertainty. But the tone of the movie feels fresh and modern too, with its odd (but appealing) mix of sadness and optimism and the emotional vulnerability and maturity of Andrew. These are just enjoyable people to spend time with, even when they’re struggling with their emotions or how to move forward in their life. **B+** Available on Apple TV+.

Hustle

Adam Sandler, Queen Latifah.

Plus a bunch of real-life basketball players, including Juancho Hernangomez, who plays Bo Cruz.

Cruz is a super-tall guy in bad shoes, playing basketball on street courts in Spain to hustle money. Stanley Sugarman (Sandler) is sent by the Philadelphia 76ers, the basketball team for which he is a scout, to Spain to check out a different player when Stanley happens on Bo. He tracks him down and convinces him to begin the grueling process of preparing to try out for the 76ers.

What Bo doesn’t know is that Stanley’s boss, Vince (Ben Foster), the son of the man Stanley had long worked for and who recently died, leaving the team in Vince’s control, has already told Stanley he’s not interested in Bo. Vince wants Stanley to get out there and find another diamond in the rough — or, really, Vince seems to want



Hustle

to punish Stanley for his good relationship with his late father. But Stanley believes in Bo and is determined to get him into the NBA. Also, he’s hoping that being the man to discover such a superstar will get Stanley where he really wants to go: a coach spot.

This movie has all of the energy that Sandler brought to his performance in *Uncut Gems* without that anxiety-attack feeling that movie had. You get the sense that Sandler knows who Stanley is all the way down to the core of this person — his hopes, his dreams, his relationship with his wife (played by Queen Latifah) and daughter (Jordan Hull), his love of basketball. It’s a strong performance in a movie that gives you, to some extent, a classic sports story but with so much genuine, geeky love of the game that it feels loose and exciting. **A** Available on Netflix.

Good Luck to You, Leo Grande (R)

Emma Thompson, Daryl McCormack.

Nancy Stokes (Thompson), not her real name, and Leo Grande (McCormack), also

POP CULTURE FILMS

not exactly his name, meet when Nancy hires him to provide, er, his company for a few hours. A widow who only ever had sex with her husband, Nancy is determined not just to have sex with someone else but to recapture a bit of youthful romance by sleeping with a younger man. Hence Leo, whom she picked for his good looks but whose handsomeness she finds kind of intimidating in person. Actually, she seems to find everything about their situation intimidating — terrifying even — now that she’s actually in this hotel room with him. And that is really the movie, Thompson’s Nancy working through a lifetime of Stuff while also determined, rather unromantically so, to get the job done. Her defensiveness veers into insult on occasion and she ignores Leo’s attempts to wave her away from his boundaries about talking about his “real” life. She also makes the most amazing expressions, say, looking at herself in the mirror or trying to relax into something like a “mood,” all twitchy discomfort and weighed down by decades of negativity and shame.

I realize that might not sound like the best of times, but this movie — which is mostly just those two actors in a hotel room — is a real pleasure. Nancy reminds me a bit of Michelle Yeoh’s character in *Everything Everywhere All At Once* in that she is a full and complete grown person and also at times a bit of a mess. It’s nice to see old-

er women, well, at all in movies but it’s nice when they are drawn as people with all this life happening in the present, not just as people *The Notebook*-ing back on some prior time. Thompson makes Nancy into someone we get to know and by the end of the movie we’re able to see her life from her perspective. **B+** Available on Hulu.

Father of the Bride (PG-13)

Andy Garcia, Gloria Estefan.

Billy (Garcia) and Ingrid (Estefan) Herrera are moments away from announcing to their family that they’re getting a divorce — or, rather, Ingrid is moments away from telling her grown daughters Sofia (Adria Arjona) and Cora (Isabela Merced) and assorted abuelas and tios and other members of their large Cuban-American Miami family that she’s had it with Billy. But then Sofia announces that she’s engaged and that she wants to marry fiance Adan (Diego Boneta) before they move to Mexico, where he’s from, to work as a lawyer for an immigration-related nonprofit. Billy has several problems with all of this, including who the heck is Adan, and “non” profit? But Sofia is determined that they can pull off the intimate wedding she wants in the two months before she starts her new job. Billy, full of father-of-the-bride traditions, wants something grander; even grander still are the plans of Hernan (Pedro Damián), Adan’s

father and, as it turns out, one of the richest men in Mexico.

This HBOMax version of *Father of the Bride* is pleasant — full of pleasant characters and the occasional light chuckle. Garcia and Estefan might be parents of the bride but they are the true leads and they’re entertaining enough together. If you can’t go to Miami but want a quick hit of light Miami-ness, you could do worse. **B-** Available on HBO Max.

Jerry and Marge Go Large (PG-13)

Bryan Cranston, Annette Bening.

Somewhere between the coupon-scam movie *Queenpins* and the townfolk-buy-a-racehorse movie *Dream Horse* exists this tale of a retiree who finds a mathematical path for a sure-thing lottery win. Jerry (Cranston) reluctantly retires from his job and finds himself just sort of kicking around his small Michigan town, not quite sure what to do with himself or how to connect with his wife, Marge (Bening). While drinking coffee at the local general store, he stumbles on the rules to a lottery game called Windfall. He figures out that by purchasing a large number of tickets when the jackpot hits a certain level and the rules about how many matching numbers get payouts become more player-friendly he can nearly ensure that he will win back more than the cost of the tickets.

He runs a few experiments and manages to make \$15,000, but then Marge finds out. He thinks she’ll be upset but she’s sort of delighted. Not only are they making money, but it’s something for them to do together. When Michigan ends the Windfall game, they discover that the closest state with the game and the same rules is Massachusetts and Jerry realizes that they can make bigger hauls if they bet with more money. Soon he’s created a betting corporation with friends and family from his town chipping in and reaping the rewards.

Of course, a loophole like this isn’t something only Jerry can find. Harvard student/bro-villain Tyler (Uly Schlesinger) finds the mathematical quirk while working on a project about the lottery. He gathers together some students to run a similar scheme, but when he finds out about Jerry and his group, Tyler decides this small-stakes lotto isn’t big enough for the both of them.

You could also throw your old-men-bank-robbery movie *Going in Style* into the tank where this movie is swimming. Like all those movies, this isn’t fresh or surprising storytelling but it is, basically, affable. Just because most of the characters have a bit of a cartoon quality to them in terms of their lack of dimension doesn’t mean they aren’t still mildly enjoyable to watch on screen. *Jerry and Marge Go Large* is light but acceptable. **B-** Available on Paramount+.

Film 679-3529, oneilcinemas.com
Movie screenings, movie-themed happenings and virtual events

Venues

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

Fathom Events
 Fathomevents.com

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

O’neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square
 24 Calef Hwy., Epping

Park Theatre
 19 Main St., Jaffrey theparktheatre.org

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

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

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

Films

- **Trolls World Tour** (PG, 2020) will screen at O’neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square in Epping Wednesday, July 6, at 10 a.m. as part of the Summer Kids Series.
- **The Strong Man** (1926), a silent film with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, on Wednesday, July 6, at 6:30 p.m. at the Flying Monkey in Plymouth
- **Elvis** (PG-13, 2022) at Red River Theatres in Concord Thursday, July 7, at 4 & 7:30 p.m.; Friday, July 8, through Sunday, July 10, at 12:30, 4 & 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, July 14, 3:15 p.m.
- **Elvis** (PG-13, 2022) at Park Theatre in Jaffrey through Thursday, July 7, at 7 p.m.
- **The Forgiven** (R, 2022) at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, July 7, at 4:20 & 7 p.m.; Friday, July 8, through Sunday, July 10, at 4:20 p.m.
- **Mr. Malcolm’s List** (PG, 2022) at Red River Theatres in Concord on Friday, July 8, through Sunday, July 10, at 1 & 7 p.m.; Thursday, July 14, 3:45 p.m.
- **Hotel Transylvania: Transformania** (PG, 2022) will screen at O’neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square in Epping Monday, July 11, and Wednesday, July 13, at 10 a.m.
- **Jim Henson’s Labyrinth** (PG, 1986) will screen on Wednesday, July 13, at 8 p.m. in Veterans Park (723 Elm St. in Manchester) as part

of the city’s Summer Series Movies in the Park. See manchesternh.gov.

- **Where the Crawdads Sing** (NR, 2022) at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, July 14, at 6:30 p.m.
- **Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris** (PG, 2022) at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, July 14, at 7 p.m.
- **Sherlock Jr./Our Hospitality** (1924/1923), a silent double feature with live music by Jeff Rapsis, Friday, July 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rex Theatre in Manchester.
- **Cabaret** (PG, 1972), is celebrating its 50th, with screenings on Sunday, July 17 (Cinemark Rockingham Park and Regal Fox Run) and Wednesday, July 20 (Cinemark Rockingham Park and O’neil


 Elvis
 Cinemas Brickyard Square). See Fathomevents.com.

- **The Croods: A New Age** (PG, 2020) will screen at O’neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square in Epping Monday, July 18, and Wednesday, July 20, at 10 a.m.

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By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Cleaning up:** When he's not headlining and opening for the likes of Bob Marley, **Jimmy Cash** works as a school janitor in Worcester, Mass. His salt-of-the-earth act draws from that experience, along with being a dad to a teenage daughter and dealing with life issues. Cash recently won Mohegan Sun's Last Comix Standing competition. Friday, July 8, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St., Manchester, \$25 at palacetheatre.org (18+).

• **Dance fever:** Return to the days of disco and nonstop beat mixing at **Retro Rewind Dance Night**. Hosted by Boston DJ Susan Esthera, the event features hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s, along with visual stimuli to sustain the throwback vibe. Saturday, July 9, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage, 16 S. Main St., Concord, \$10 in advance at ccanh.com (\$15 at the door).

• **Returning:** There was a time when singer-songwriter **Dusty Gray** played nonstop and toured the country with his band. Eventually he moved to Nashville but he still returns home for an occasional run of shows, and trains dogs to pay the bills. Sunday, July 10, 10 a.m., White Park, 1 White St., Concord, facebook.com/ConcordParknRecDept.

• **Hump day:** A native of Northborough, Mass., **Mychael David** can be seen opening for the likes of Sawyer Brown and showcasing his own original music. David's newest album is *Heroes & Honky Tonks*, and he recently released a single, "Smoke & Ash." Wednesday, July 13, 7 p.m., Emerson Park, 6 Mont Vernon St., Milford. See mychaeldavidmusic.com

• **Wunderkind:** Much of the music world first took notice of **Tal Wilkenfeld** playing with Jeff Beck at his Ronnie Scott's residency where the 20-year-old bassist outshone the guitar legend by soloing on his song "Cause We've Ended as Lovers." Now also singing and playing guitar, she's been a rising force ever since. Thursday, July 7, 7:30 p.m. at Jimmy's Jazz & Blues Club, 135 Congress St., Portsmouth, tickets \$10 to \$40 at jimmysoncongress.com.

NITE

Laughter as medicine

Jimmy Tingle's Humor for Humanity

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Though he's a political comedian, and maybe the only standup who attended Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, Jimmy Tingle doesn't lean left or right in his joke-telling. Yes, he ran for Lieutenant Governor in Massachusetts's 2018 Democratic primary, but on stage, he's there for everyone.

Tingle believes, to paraphrase the old Burt Bacharach/Hal David song, that's what the world needs now.

"People don't need to be beat up rhetorically; people want to laugh," he said in a recent phone interview. "I don't shy away from what's going on, but I don't want to be finger-pointing at people and turning on them, making people feel like there's no hope, that we're not making progress. Because we are."

Tingle calls his new campaign Humor For Humanity, and aims to draw laughs and do good. "It's basically using humor to illuminate the human condition and where we are in the country right now," he said, "but it's also a social enterprise that raises spirits, funds and awareness for nonprofits, charities and social causes. Our mission is your mission ... humor in helping, humor in healing, humor in hope — ha, ha, ha!"

Proceeds from a pair of upcoming shows at The Music Hall in Portsmouth will benefit the Friends of Moldova Refugee Relief charity. Tingle's Harvard classmate Maia Sandu is president of Moldova, which borders Ukraine and has been severely impacted by the Russian invasion of that country.

"I've done some low-level fundraising for [the cause] in the past couple of months," Tingle said, "but this will be a more direct deposit to the organization."

Tingle was inspired to become a comic by Dustin Hoffman's portrayal of Lenny Bruce in the 1974 Bob Fosse-directed biopic. "That just illustrated what comedy could be besides what I grew up on — *The Three Stooges*, *Honeymooners*, Jackie Gleason," he said. "When I watched that movie back in college, while we were discussing ... all the challenges that were front and center in the country at that time, coming out of the Vietnam War, I saw what comedy could be as well. It just resonated with me."

His show is autobiographical, beginning with Tingle's days as a street performer in Cambridge, doing standup in the city's burgeoning '80s comedy scene. He'll talk about working at the Ding Ho club, where he was a fixture, then moving to one-man shows, running through a 'greatest hits' of some of those, then touch on his time as a *60 Minutes* correspondent.

The evening concludes in the present, where Tingle remains an optimist. "Things that were revealed during the pandemic, like racial equity [and] treating these subjects with humor, but also, I would like to think, insight and, again, progressive commentary." That last word reflects a continuum rather than an ideology, Tingle stressed. "I like to think we're making progress; we gotta keep making progress."

Along with live work, Tingle has a podcast that's hosted comics like Colin Quinn, Marc Maron and Paula Poundstone, as well as activists like John Rosenthal, the founder



Jimmy Tingle. Courtesy photo.

of Stop Handgun Violence.

"It's not just about entertainment, but that's ... first and foremost on my agenda," he continued. "I want to be funny as well as as positive and uplifting as I can be, and also hopeful regarding the situation that's going on. The doom and gloom is overwhelming, and the division in the country is overwhelming. I want to be less partisan and more unifying about the human condition, and what we all have in common."

After two years of uncertainty, Tingle feels it's the least he can do.

"I just want people to come out and have a good time and leave the theater hopefully feeling uplifted and more positive," he said. "More hopeful than they were when they went in. I've had a lot of people say, 'Thank you so much for doing this show. It's exactly what I needed, because I haven't been out of the house in two years. It was so good to be back out and laughing with people.'"

Jimmy Tingle

When: Saturday, July 16, at 6 and 8:30 p.m.

Where: The Music Hall Lounge, 131 Congress St., Portsmouth

Tickets: \$30 at themusic hall.org

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Balance of power

Marsalis brings *Democracy! Suite* to NH

By Hannah Turtle
hturtle@hippopress.com

Legendary jazz musician Wynton Marsalis is slated to play Jimmy’s Jazz and Blues Club in Portsmouth on Saturday, July 9.

Marsalis’ newest work is called *The Democracy! Suite*, one he wrote during lockdown. The record is based on his idea that jazz music is a metaphor for democracy. In a recent interview, he had plenty to say about the album.

“If we just think about the things that are required for democracy. The one thing is: no king. The basis is, you have a constitution, you distribute power. Our music has that type of distribution of power. I might be the leader of the band, but when we start playing, the president of the band is the drummer, not the trumpet player. The drummer is playing all the time, making decisions. There’s an actionable form to create a plurality, it’s designed to prevent kleptocracy. Now, we aren’t really doing good with that right now, but it’s checks and balances,” said Marsalis.

“You’ve got the legislative branch, the executive branch and the judicial branch. In jazz, if you look at the rhythm section, each instrument represents that. The judicial branch is represented by the bass, that’s the final word on harmony, it’s at the bottom. The executive branch is the drums, that’s the quick power. And, the legislative branch is the piano — it has all the keys.”

Though ideas of democracy and the constitution have been a hot-button issue lately, Marsalis is not worried about our ability to persevere.

“The fundamentals of democratic living are not based on the time you live in, it’s based on the principles themselves. For example, there was a time in America when we had slaves, but it was antithetical to principles of freedom, so we fought it,” he said

“Jazz has three fundamental components. One is improvisation. That’s the personal freedom, that’s the part that everyone agrees on. The second component is swing, and we don’t agree on that. Swing has the African component, and America struggles to deal with its own African-ness. Swing is also the collective part, it’s the ‘we.’ We just don’t agree on the ‘we.’ Our dream is what we can individually do: I can get a house, I can make some money. We don’t think of the community, the collective thought. We want to have the bass vamp the same four notes, have the drums replaced by something electronic that plays a loop, all that is the decision that I don’t want to deal with the ‘we,’” Marsalis said.



Wynton Marsalis. Photo by Lawrence Sumulong.

He brings it back to the beginning. “It’s the desire to change the plurality to something that an individual can dominate. But we have an actionable form too, it’s a chorus that goes around and around in a cycle. The energy pulls from the bottom up, it doesn’t go top down. The top is just where the instructions come from. For example, elections are run by states, not by the federal government. Polls are local. A poll worker is just a person in the community. That’s how our music is. We get people from communities, they don’t have to be from a certain kind of family, and we just play.”

That final fundamental jazz component is the blues. It’s something Marsalis spoke of reverently. “The blues has an optimism that’s not naive. Stuff doesn’t go your way a lot of the time, but you can’t give up. Use your will, get into the struggle, and create the change you want to see.”

On that note, I had just one more request for Marsalis, to describe his music to readers who might not be familiar. At that, he was back to a simple answer: “I really don’t know. There’s a lot of it. I’ve done like a hundred and fifteen records. They’re all different. The one thing about the music is that it’s collective. Every time, I play with great musicians, and we play together.”

The Wynton Marsalis Septet

Where: Jimmy’s Jazz and Blues Club, 135 Congress St., Portsmouth; 888-603-JAZZ
When: Saturday, July 9, 7:30 and 9 p.m.
Tickets: \$125 to \$195 at jimmysoncongress.com

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The General | Civil War Epic "The General" July 20th at 7:00PM | Jeff Rapsis

MUSIC THIS WEEK

Alton Foster's Tavern 403 Main St. 875-1234	Bow Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St. 228-8508	Hermanos Cocina Mexicana 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669	Derry Fody's Tavern 187 Rockingham Road, 404-6946	Swasey Parkway 316 Water St.	Charlie's Tap House 9A Ocean Blvd. 929-9005	North Beach Bar & Grill 931 Ocean Blvd. 967-4884	Lynn's 102 Tavern 76 Derry Road 943-7832
Alton Bay Dockside Restaurant 6 East Side Drive 855-2222	Brookline The Alamo 99 Route 13 721-5000	Shara Vineyards 82 Currier Road	MacGregor Park East Broadway 436-6136	Gilford Lake Shore Park Lake Shore Road	Community Oven 845 Lafayette Road 601-6311	Sea Ketch 127 Ocean Blvd. 926-0324	T-Bones 77 Lowell Road 882-6677
Auburn Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road 622-6564	Concord Area 23 State Street 881-9060	Tandy's Pub & Grille 1 Eagle Square 856-7614	Dover Cara Irish Pub & Restaurant 11 Fourth St. 343-4390	Patrick's 18 Weirs Road 293-0841	CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972	Shane's Texas Pit 61 High St. 601-7091	Jaffrey Park Theatre 19 Main St. 532-9300
Bedford Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677	Cheers 17 Depot St. 228-0180	Contoocook Contoocook Farmers Market 896 Main St. 746-3018	Epping Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225	Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230	The Galley Hatch (Tino's Kitchen upstairs) 325 Lafayette Road 926-6152	Smuttynose Brewing 105 Towle Farm Road	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962
Murphy's Taproom & Carriage House 393 Route 101 488-5875	Concord Craft Brewing 117 Storrs St. 856-7625	Gould Hill Farm & Contoocook Cider Co. 656 Gould Hill Road 746-3811	Epsom Hill Top Pizzeria 1724 Dover Road 736-0027	Hampton The 401 Tavern 401 Lafayette Road 926-8800	The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928	Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954	Laconia 405 Pub & Grill 405 Union St.
T-Bones 169 S. River Road 623-7699	Courtyard by Marriott Concord 70 Constitution Ave.	Deerfield The Lazy Lion 4 North Road 463-7374	Exeter Sea Dog Brewing Co. 5 Water St. 793-5116	Ashworth by the Sea 295 Ocean Blvd. 926-6762	Hampton Beach Sea Shell Stage Events are on southern stage	Whym 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801	Bar Salida 21 Weeks St. 527-8500
				Bernie's Beach Bar 73 Ocean Blvd. 926-5050	Hampton Beach Sea Shell Stage Events are on southern stage	Henniker Angela Robinson Bandstand Community Park, Main Street	Belknap Mill 25 Beacon St. E., No. 1 524-8813
				Boardwalk Cafe 139 Ocean Blvd. 929-7400	L Street Tavern 603 17 L St. 967-4777	Colby Hill Inn 33 The Oaks 428-3281	Cactus Jack's 1182 Union Ave. 528-7800
				Bogie's 32 Depot Square 601-2319	Logan's Run 816 Lafayette Road 926-4343	Hudson The Bar 2B Burnham Road	Fratello's 799 Union Ave. 528-2022
					McGuirk's 95 Ocean Blvd.		

Thursday, July 7

Alton Foster's Tavern: Mikey G, 7 p.m.	Epping Telly's: Johnny Angel, 7 p.m.	Hudson Lynn's 102: karaoke w/ George Bisson, 8 p.m. T-Bones: Chris Cavanaugh 7 p.m.	Firefly : George Barber, 6 p.m. Foundry : Tim Kiertead, 5 p.m. Fratello's : Jordan Quinn, 5:30 p.m. The Goat : Manchester Idol, 6 p.m. KC's : Phil Jacques, 5:30 p.m. Murphy's : Two Towns, 5:30 p.m.	Rochester Governor's Inn: Country Roads, 6 p.m.	Contoocook Contoocook Cider Co.: April Cushman, 4:30 p.m.
Auburn Auburn Pitts: live music, 7 p.m.	Exeter Sea Dog: Chris Cyrus, 6 p.m. Swasey Parkway: The Baha Brothers, 6 p.m.	Jaffrey Park Theatre: open mic, 8 p.m.	Mason Marty's: Rich Laurencelle, 5 p.m.	Salem Copper Door: Marc Apostolides, 7 p.m.	Deerfield Lazy Lion: live music, 6 p.m.
Bedford Copper Door: Sean Coleman, 7 p.m. Murphy's: Chad Lamarsh, 5:30 p.m. T-Bones: Lou Antonucci, 7 p.m.	Goffstown Village Trestle: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon: karaoke with DJ Jason, 7 p.m.	Merrimack Homestead: Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m. Tomahawk: Gabby Martin, 5 p.m.	Seabrook Red's: Gypsy Wild Band, 7 p.m.	Epping Telly's: Rob & Jody, 8 p.m.
Brookline Alamo: open mic, 5 p.m.	Hampton Bernie's: Chris Toler, 7 p.m.; IRIEspect, 8 p.m. CR's: Just The Two Of Us, 6 p.m. The Goat: MB Padfield, 8 p.m. McGuirk's: Sean Buckley, 8 p.m. Sea Ketch: Clint Lapointe, 1 p.m.; Ryan Williamson, 8:30 p.m. Smuttynose: Erika Van Pelt Duo, 6 p.m. Wally's: MSF Acoustic, 4 p.m. Whym: music bingo, 6 p.m.	Laconia Fratello's: Sean McCarthy, 6 p.m.	Milford Pasta Loft: Rich & Bobby, 7 p.m. Stonecutters Pub: Blues Therapy, 8 p.m.	Strafford Independence Inn: Sam Hamerman, 6 p.m.	Exeter Sea Dog: Duo Farrington and Fioreti, 6 p.m.
Concord Area 23: drum circle, 7 p.m. Cheers: KOHA, 6 p.m. Hermanos: Brian Booth, 6:30 p.m. T-Bones: Pete Massa, 7 p.m.		Londonderry Stumble Inn: Jess Olson, 7 p.m.	Newmarket Stone Church: The Standupstairs Series, 7 p.m.	Windham Old School: Brian Walker, 6 p.m.	Goffstown Village Trestle: Justin Cohn, 6 p.m.
Derry Fody's: music bingo, 8 p.m.		Manchester Cactus Jack's: Dave Clark, 7 p.m. Currier: Party of the Sun, 5 p.m. Northeast Delta Dental Stadium: Eric Lindberg, 5:30 p.m. Derryfield: Red, 6 p.m. Elm House of Pizza: John Chouinard, 6 p.m.	Portsmouth Gas Light: Dana Brearily Duo, 7 p.m. The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.		Hampton Bernie's: Mike Forgette, 8 p.m.; Inside Out, 8 p.m. The Goat: Alex Anthony, 8 p.m. McGuirk's: Jahriife, 8 p.m.; Sean Buckley, 8 p.m. Sea Ketch: Pete Peterson, 1 p.m. Wally's: Stefanie Jasmine Band, 9 p.m. Whym: Liz Ridgely, 6:30 p.m.



JUSTON MCKINNEY

Don't miss Portsmouth native Juston McKinney in a standup set at Labelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst; 672-9898, labellewinery.com) on Thursday, July 7, at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$35.

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.

High Octane Saloon 1072 Watson Road 527-8116	Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210	Firefly 21 Concord St. 935-9740	Shaskeen Pub 909 Elm St. 625-0246	Twin Barns Brewing 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876	Millyard Brewery 25 E. Otterson St. 722-0104	Portsmouth The Gas Light 64 Market St. 430-9122	Salisbury Black Bear Vineyard & Winery 289 New Road 648-2811
Naswa Resort 1086 Weirs Blvd. 366-4341	Manchester Angel City Music Hall 179 Elm St. 931-3654	The Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925	South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947	Merrimack Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022	Raga 138 Main St. 459-8566	The Goat 142 Congress St. 590-4628	Seabrook Backyard Burgers & Wings 5 Provident Way 760-2581
T-Bones 1182 Union Ave. 528-7800	Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545	Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022	Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St. 625-4444	Tomahawk Tavern 454 Daniel Webster Hwy. 365-4960	Stella Blu 70 E. Pearl St. 578-5557	Press Room 77 Daniel St. 431-5186	Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706
Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100	Bonfire 950 Elm St. 663-7678	The Goat 50 Old Granite St.	Strange Brew 88 Market St. 666-4292	Milford The Pasta Loft 241 Union Square 672-2270	New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362	Thirsty Moose Tap-house 21 Congress St. 427-8645	Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road 760-0030
The Wreck Yard 322 Lakeside Ave.	Candia Road Brewing 840 Candia Road 935-8123	The Hill Bar & Grille McIntyre Ski Area 50 Chalet Ct. 622-6159	To Share Brewing 720 Union St. 836-6947	Riley's Place 29 Mont Vernon St. 380-3480	Newmarket Stone Church 5 Granite St. 659-7700	Rochester Governor's Inn 78 Wakefield St. 332-0107	Strafford Independence Inn 6 Drake Hill Road 718-3334
Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022	Currier Museum of Art 150 Ash St. 669-6144	KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St. 627-RIBS	Wild Rover 21 Kosciuszko St. 669-7722	Station 101 193 Union Square Station101nh.com	Northfield Boonedoxz Pub 95 Park St. 717-8267	Porter's Pub 19 Hanson St. 330-1964	Warner Cafe One East 1 E. Main St.
The Common 265 Mammoth Road	Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880	Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St. 644-3535	Mason Marty's Driving Range 96 Old Turnpike Road 878-1324	Stonecutters Pub 63 Union Square 213-5979	Penacook American Legion Post 31 11 Charles St. 753-9372	Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway 458-2033	Windham Old School Bar & Grill 49 Range Road 458-6051
603 Brewery & Beer Hall 42 Main St. 404-6123	Elm House of Pizza 102 Elm St. 232-5522	Penuche's Music Hall 1087 Elm St. 932-2868	Meredith Giuseppe's 312 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-3313	Nashua Fody's Tavern 9 Clinton St. 577-9015		Luna Bistro 254 N. Broadway 458-2162	

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Small Town Stranded, 8 p.m.

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Mikey G, 6 p.m.
Bonfire: Chase Clark, 9 p.m.
Northeast Delta Dental Stadium: Kimayo, 5:30 p.m.
Derryfield: Almost Famous, 6 p.m.; Mo Bounce, 8 p.m.
Firefly: Austin McCarthy, 6 p.m.
Foundry: Dwayne Haggins, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Paul Lussier, 6 p.m.
The Hill Bar: Clint Lapointe, 5:30 p.m.
KC's: Joe McDonald, 6 p.m.
Murphy's: Austin McCarthy, 5 p.m.; Last Kid Picked, 9:30 p.m.
Shaskeen: Gaviiformes, 8 p.m.
South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Strange Brew: Night Train, 9 p.m.

To Share Brewing: Upright Dogs, 6:30 p.m.

Meredith
Twin Barns: Karen Grenier, 6 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Marc Apostolides, 6 p.m.

Milford
Pasta Loft: Way Up South, 8:30 p.m.
Riley's Place: Eric Lindberg Band, 7 p.m.
Station 101: Cody Knapp, 5:30 p.m.
Stonecutters Pub: DJ Dave O karaoke, 9 p.m.

Nashua
Millyard: Stephen Decuire, 4 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's Tavern: Acoustic BS, 7 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Frank White Experience, 6 p.m.

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

Penacook
American Legion Post 31: JMitch Karaoke, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Sum X 4, 7 p.m.; Sean Coleman, 9:30 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Press Room: Futurebirds, 9 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Closing Time, 9 p.m.

Rochester
Governor's Inn: Wellfleet, 7 p.m.

Salem
Luna Bistro: David Corson, 6 p.m.

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Dancing Madly Backwards, 8 p.m.
Red's: Fred Ellsworth, 7 p.m.

Windham
Old School: The Kegels, 6 p.m.

Alton
Foster's Tavern: Chase Campbell Band, 7 p.m.

Alton Bay
Dockside: Henry Laliberte, 8 p.m.

Auburn
Auburn Pitts: live music, 7 p.m.

Bedford
Murphy's: Jordan & Clint, 6 p.m.

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

Brookline
Alamo: live music, 5 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: Crazy Steve jam, 1 p.m.;
Hermanos: Dan Weiner, 6:30 p.m.
Keep NH Brewing Festival: April Cushman Duo, 12:30 p.m.; River Sang Wild, 2:30 p.m.

Contoocook
Contoocook Cider Co.: The Hal-lorans, 9 a.m.; Ryan Williamson, 4:30 p.m.

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

Epping
Telly's: Liz Ridgely, 8 p.m.

Epsom
Hill Top Pizza: JMitch Karaoke, 7 p.m.

Exeter
Sea Dog: Darien Castro, 6 p.m.

Gilford
Lake Shore Park: Sum X4, 9 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Justin Jordan, 6 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: Chris Toler, 1 p.m.; MB Padfield, 1 p.m.; Chris Toler, 8 p.m.; Pop Disaster, 8 p.m.
Bogie's: live music, 7 p.m.
L Street: live music, 6:30 p.m.; karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Mason Brothers, 1 p.m.; Pop Farmers, 7:30 p.m.; Sean Buckley, 8 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Ralph Allen, 1 p.m.

GEN X LAUGHS

Comedian **Michael Ian Black** is a Gen X comedy legend, known for co-founding the improv troupes The State and Stella and for his supporting role in *Wet Hot American Summer*. He plays two shows on Saturday, July 9, at the Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth; 436-2400, themusichall.org), at 6 and 9 p.m. Tickets range from \$25 to \$35, plus fees.

ALLIGATOR WINE

The Lowell, Mass.,-based jam band **Alligator Wine** pays tribute to the Grateful Dead. Don't miss their upcoming free show at Millyard Brewery (125 E. Otterson St., Nashua; 722-0104; millyardbrewery.com) on Saturday, July 9, at 4 p.m.



NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Smuttynose: Dave Clark Jr., 1 p.m.
Whym: Lou Amtonucci, 6:30 p.m.

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

Jaffrey
Park Theatre: Tom Hsu, 5:30 p.m.

Kingston
Saddle Up: Inner Child, 8 p.m.

Laconia
Fratello's: John Shelley, 6 p.m.
Naswa: Marlena Phillips, 5 p.m.
Tower Hill: line dancing, 7 p.m.; karaoke night, 9 p.m.
The Wreck Yard: Tim Kierstead, 5 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Jeff Mrozek, 6 p.m.

Manchester
Angel City: In The Light, 9 p.m.
Backyard Brewery: Tyler Levs, 6 p.m.
Derryfield: Mugsy Duo, 6 p.m.; Alex Roy, 8 p.m.

The Goat: Brooks Hubbard, 10 a.m.
KC's: Joanie Ciatelli, 6 p.m.
Firefly: Marc Lapointe, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Paul Gormley, 6 p.m.
Foundry: Josh Foster, 6 p.m.
The Hill: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Chris Cavanaugh, 5:30 p.m.
Strange Brew: Dave Mattacks & Friends, 9 p.m.

Meredith
Twin Barns: Amanda Adams, 3 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Marc Apostolides, 6 p.m.

Milford
Pasta Loft: The Incidentals, 8:30 p.m.
Riley's: Down By Ten, 8 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's Tavern: Matt Bergeron, 7 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Eagle in the Attic, 9 p.m.

Northfield
Boonedoxz Pub: live music, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
Artisan Fair: Justin Jordan, 3 p.m.
Gas Light: Peter Peterson, 2 p.m.; Blue Light Bandits, 7 p.m.; David Corson, 9:30 p.m.
The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: American Mid-night, 9 p.m.

Rochester
Governor's Inn: Bad Penny, 7 p.m.

Salisbury
Black Bear Vineyard: Chris Perkins, 2 p.m.

Windham
Old School: All Day Fire, 6 p.m.

Sunday, July 10
Alton Bay
Dockside: Sunshine Street, 4 p.m.

Bedford
Copper Door: Phil Jacques, 11 a.m.

Murphy's: Chris Taylor, 4 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: live music, 12:30 p.m.

Concord
Cheers: Rebecca Turmel, 5 p.m.
Concord Craft Brewing: Tyler Levs, 2 p.m.

Contoocook
Contoocook Cider Co: Ariel Strasser, 1 p.m.

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

Hampton
Bernie's: Alex Anthony, 1 p.m.; Sundub, 8 p.m.
Charlie's Tap House: live music, 4:30 p.m.
CR's: Rico Barr Duo, 4 p.m.
The Goat: Alex Anthony, 7 p.m.
L Street: live music, 6:30 p.m.; karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Todd Trusty, 1 p.m.; Charlie Carrozo, 8 p.m.
Shane's: live music, 11 a.m.
Smuttynose: 21st & 1st, 5:30 p.m.
Wally's: Soul Asylum, 8 p.m.
Whym: Clint Lapointe, 1 p.m.

Henniker
Colby Hill: Kimayo, 4 p.m.

Hudson
Lynn's 102 Tavern: Carter On Guitar, 4 p.m.

Laconia
Bar Salida: Ryan Williamson, 1 p.m.
Belknap Mill: open mic, 2 p.m.
Fratello's: Aystin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.
Naswa: Radio Roulette, 4 p.m.
Tower Hill: Alex Cohn, 1 p.m.; karaoke night, 8 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: KOHA, 4 p.m.

Manchester
The Derryfield: Dave Ayotte Duo, 5 p.m.
Elm House of Pizza: Marc Lapointe, 2 p.m.
Firefly: Marc Apostolides, 11 a.m.
Foundry: David Newsam, 10 a.m.
The Goat: Mike Forgette, 10 a.m.
KC's: Paul Lussier, 3 p.m.
Murphy's: Jonny Friday, noon; Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m.
Strange Brew: jam, 7 p.m.
To Share Brewing: Paul Nelson, 4 p.m.

Mason
Marty's: Pete Peterson, 3 p.m.

Milford
Pasta Loft: Tom Rousseau, 3 p.m.

Nashua
Stella Blu: Dani Sven, 3 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's Tavern: Matt Bergeron (on the lawn), 1 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Hayley Jane and Rob Compa, 4 p.m.

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

Portsmouth
The Gas Light: Liz Ridgely, 2 p.m.; Mica Groove Train, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Steve Aubert, 11 a.m.
Luna Bistro: Rob Dumais, 4 p.m.

Warner
Café One East: Justin Cohn, 1 p.m.

Windham
Old School: Maddi Ryan, 3 p.m.

Monday, July 11
Bedford
Murphy's: Chris Powers, 5:30 p.m.

Dover
Cara Irish Pub: open mic, 8 p.m.

Hudson
The Bar: karaoke with Phil

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

Hampton
Bernie's: MB Padfield, 7 p.m.; Pat Dowling, 7 p.m.
L Street: karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Coyote Mike O'Hehir, 8 p.m.
Wally's: Eric Marcs, 4 p.m.

Laconia
Fratello's: Paul Warnick, 6 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Lisa Guyer, 7 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Phil Jacques, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: Dave Campbell, 8 p.m.
Murphy's: Alex Cormier, 5:30 p.m.
Salona: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

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

Nashua
Fody's: karaoke night, 9:30 p.m.

RENAISSANCE RHETT

Roguish renaissance man **Rhett Miller** has acted, hosted podcasts and written fiction and journalism, but is best known for his creative output as a singer-songwriter. He returns to the Word Barn (66 Newfields Road, Exeter; 244-0202; thewordbarn.com) on Friday, July 8, at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$14 to \$32, plus fees.



COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Venues

Averill House Winery
 21 Averill Road, Brookline
 371-2296, averillhousevineyard.com

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

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

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

Headliners Comedy Club
 DoubleTree By Hilton, 700 Elm

St., Manchester
 headlinerscomedyclub.com

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

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

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

McCue's Comedy Club at the Roundabout Diner
 580 Portsmouth Traffic Circle, Portsmouth
 mccuescomedyclub.com

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

The Music Hall Lounge
 131 Congress 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

Ruby Room Comedy
 909 Elm St., Manchester
 491-0720, rubyroomcomedy.com

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

Yankee Lanes
 216 Maple St., Manchester
 625-9656, yankeelanesentertainment.com

Weekly comedy nights

- **Wednesday** Ruby Room at the Shaskeen, 9 p.m.
- **Thursday** Yankee Lanes, 8 p.m.
- **Thursday** Strange Brew, 9 p.m.

• **Saturday** Murphy's Taproom, 8 p.m.

Events

- **Raanan Hershberg** Ruby Room Comedy, Wednesday, July 6, 9 p.m.
- **Pat McGann** The Music Hall Lounge, Thursday, July 7, 6 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.
- **Stephan Francescone** Stone Church, Thursday, July 7, 6 p.m.
- **Juston McKinney** LaBelle Winery Amherst, Thursday, July 7, 6:30 p.m.
- **Jimmy Cash & Friends** Rex, Friday, July 8, 7:30 p.m.
- **Michael Ian Black** The Music Hall Lounge, Saturday, July 9, 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- **Tony V/Matt Brown/Andrew Della Volpe** Tupelo, Saturday, July 9, 8 p.m.
- **Ace Aceto** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, July 9, 8:30 p.m.
- **Steve Bjork** Headliners, Saturday, July 9, 8:30 p.m.
- **Brittany Carney** Ruby Room

Comedy, Wednesday, July 13, 9 p.m.

- **ImprovBoston** Rex, Friday, July 15, 8 p.m.
- **Jim Colliton** McCue's, Friday, July 15, and Saturday, July 16, 8 p.m.
- **Jimmy Tingle** The Music Hall, Friday, July 16, 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.
- **Trae Crowder—Liberal Red-neck** Flying Monkey, Friday, July 16, 7:30 p.m.
- **Mike Donovan** Headliners, Friday, July 16, 8:30 p.m.
- **Harrison Stebbins** Chunky's, Friday, July 16, 8:30 p.m.
- **Rob Steen** McCue's, Saturday, July 18, 8 p.m.
- **Anthony Devito** Ruby Room Comedy, Thursday, July 21, 9 p.m.
- **Drew Dunn & Friends** Rex, Friday, July 22, 8 p.m.
- **Kelly MacFarland** McCue's, Friday, July 22, 8 p.m.
- **Dave Russo** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, July 22, and Saturday, July 23, 8 p.m.



Jimmy Cash

- **Steve Bjork** McCue's, Saturday, July 23, 8 p.m.
- **Stephanie Peters** Headliners, Saturday, July 23, 8:30 p.m.
- **Ron White** Casino Ballroom, Friday, July 29, 7:30 p.m.
- **Dave Russo** Headliners, Saturday, July 30, 8:30 p.m.
- **Stephanie Peters** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, July 30, 8 p.m.
- **Steve Bjork/Mike Koutrobis/Travis Libman** Tupelo, Saturday, July 30, 8 p.m.
- **Ken Rogerson** Rex, Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m.

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Austin McCarthy, 7:30 p.m.
The Goat: musical bingo, 7 p.m.; Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.

Seabrook
Red's: music bingo, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, July 12
Bedford
Murphy's: Lewis Goodwin, 5:30 p.m.

Concord
Hermanos: State Street Combo, 6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: open mic night, 8 p.m.

Derry
MacGregor Park: Gerry Grimo Band, 7 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: Chris Fritz Grice, 7 p.m.; Chris Toler, 7 p.m.
The Goat: David Campbell, 7 p.m.
L Street: karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Brian Richard, 8 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Clint Lapointe, 1 p.m.
Shane's: music bingo, 7 p.m.
Wally's: musical bingo, 7 p.m.; LuFFKId, 9 p.m.

Henniker
Henniker Commons: Cold Chocolate, 6:30 p.m.

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

Laconia
Bar Salida: Karen Grenier, 7 p.m.
Fratello's: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Rebecca Turmel, 5 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.
KC's Rib Shack: Paul & Nate open mic, 7 p.m.
Murphy's: Austin McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.

Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 8 p.m.
Wild Rover: Charlie Chronopoulos, 8 p.m.

Mason
Marty's: open jam, 6 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Matt Bergeron, 5:30 p.m.

Milford
Riley's: open mic, 6 p.m.

Nashua
Fody's: musical bingo, 8 p.m.
Raga: karaoke, 7:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Chris Powers, 7:30 p.m.
The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

Seabrook
Backyard Burgers & Wings: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 7 p.m.
Red's: country night, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, July 13
Bedford
Murphy's: Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: live music, 8 p.m.

Concord
Area 23: open mic, 6 p.m.
Courtyard Marriott: Matt The Sax, 5 p.m.
Hermanos: State Street Combo, 6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.

Exeter
Sea Dog: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: LuffKid Trio, 7 p.m.; Brooks Hubbard, 7 p.m.
Bogie's: open mic, 7 p.m.
The Goat: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.
L Street: karaoke with DJ Jeff, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Steve George, 1 p.m.; Sean Buckley, 8 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Lewis Goodwin, 1 p.m.
Wally's: Jonny Friday Duo, 4 p.m.; live band karaoke, 8 p.m.

Hudson
Lynn's 102: live music, 7 p.m.

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

Laconia
Fratello's: Mitch Alden, 6 p.m.
Naswa: Henry Laliberte, 5 p.m.

Londonderry
Londonderry Commons: What a Fool Believes, 7 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Johnny Angel, 5 p.m.

Manchester
Derryfield: Pete Peterson, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Jeff Mrozek, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: country line dancing, 7 p.m.; April Cushman Band, 7 p.m.
Murphy's: Rebecca Turmel, 5:30 p.m.
Stark Brewing: Cox karaoke, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: Howard & Mike's Acoustic Jam, 8 p.m.

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

Merrimack
Homestead: Jordan Quinn, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Bird Friend w/ Savoir Faire, 7 p.m.

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

Nashua
Raga: Bollywood karaoke, 7:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Chris Lester, 7:30 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Rochester
Governor's Inn: live music, 7 p.m.
Porter's: karaoke night, 6:30 p.m.



2022 SUMMER PERFORMANCE SERIES



JUNE 7

Comedian
Juston McKinney

- JULY 14 **Living on a Bad Name**
Music of Bon Jovi
- JULY 21 **Satisfaction**
Rolling Stones Tribute
- JULY 28 **Zac Brown Tribute Band**
- JULY 28 **Moondance**
Van Morrison Tribute
IN AMHERST
- AUG 4 **Changes in Latitudes**
Jimmy Buffet Tribute
- AUG 11 **Scarab**
The Journey Experience
- AUG 18 **Comedian Lenny Clarke**
- AUG 18 **Dueling Pianos**
with The Flying Ivories
IN AMHERST
- AUG 25 **Crush**
Dave Matthews Tribute
- SEPT 1 **Bennie & The Jets**
Elton John Tribute



All shows at LaBelle Winery in Derry, NH, except where noted.

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HOT GARBAGE

Though they scored their highest-charting hits in the 1990s, the alternative quartet **Garbage** has continued releasing slinky synth-driven pop. They play at the Casino Ballroom (169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach; 929-4100; casinoballroom.com) on Wednesday, July 6, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$39 plus fees.

Photo by Jpseph Cultice.

603.672.9898 | Amherst Derry Portsmouth

Trivia

Events

• **Titanic trivia night 21+** on Thursday, July 14, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's Cinema Pub (707 Huse Road in Manchester; chunkys.com). Reserve a seat with a \$5 food voucher.

Weekly

• **Thursday Game Time** trivia at Mitchell BBQ (50 N. Main St., Rochester, 332-2537, mitchell-hillbbq.com) at 6 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia at Smuttlabs (47 Washington St., Dover, 343-1782, smuttynose.com) at 6 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia at Station 101 (193 Union Square in Milford, 249-5416) at 6:30 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia at Great North Aleworks (1050 Holt Ave., Manchester, 858-5789, greatnorthaleworks.com) from 7 to 8 p.m.
 • **Thursday Game Time** trivia at Hart's Turkey Farm (223 Daniel Webster Hwy., Meredith, 279-6212, hartsturkeyfarm.com) from 7 to 9:30 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia Yankee Lanes (216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656, yankeelanesentertainment.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Thursday Kings** trivia at Game Changer Sports Bar (4 Orchard View Dr., Londonderry; 216-1396, 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.
 • **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.
 • **Tuesday Geeks Who Drink** trivia at Peddler's Daughter (48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlersdaughter.com), from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Community Oven (845 Lafayette Road, Hampton, 601-6311, thecommunityoven.com) at 6 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Smuttynose (105 Towle Farm Road, Hampton, 436-4026, smuttynose.com) 6 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Main Street Grill and Bar (32 Main St., Pittsfield; 435-0005, mainstreetgrill-



Titanic

landbar.com) at 6:30 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Popovers (11 Brickyard Sq., Epping, 734-4724, popoversonthesquare.com) from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** The Greatest Trivia in the World at Revolution Taproom and Grill (61 N. Main St., Rochester, 244-3042, revolutiontaproomandgrill.com/upcoming-events/) at 6:30 p.m.
 • **Wednesday Kings Trivia** at KC's Rib Shack (837 Second St., Manchester, 627-7427, ribshack.net), sponsored by Mi Campo, in Manchester 7 to 9 p.m..
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Millyard Brewery (125 E. Otterson St., Nashua; 722-0104, millyardbrewery.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** Game Time trivia at The Thirsty Moose (21 Congress St., Portsmouth, 427-8645, thirsty-moosestaphouse.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at The Bar (2b Burnham Road, Hudson, 943-5250) at 7 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Fody's (9 Clinton St., Nashua, fodystavern.com) at 8 p.m.
 • **Wednesday World Tavern Trivia** at Fody's Tavern (9 Clinton St. in Nashua, fodystavern.com, 577-9015) at 8 p.m.

Concerts

Venues

Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion
 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford
 293-4700, banknhpavilion.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Barenaked Ladies

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

The Music Hall Lounge
 131 Congress 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

The Spotlight Room
 96 Hanover St., Manchester
 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

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

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

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

Shows
 • **Lamont Smooth** Thursday, July 7, 7 p.m., Bank of NH Stage
 • **Jon Anderson & Rock Academy** Thursday, July 7, 7 p.m., Flying Monkey
 • **Tal Wilkenfeld** Thursday, July 7, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
 • **Train/Jewel/Blues Traveler** Thursday, July 7, 7:30 p.m., Bank of NH Pavilion, Gilford
 • **John Moreland/Dead Tongues** Friday, July 8, 7 p.m., Prescott Park
 • **Barenaked Ladies with Gin Sprocket** Friday, July 8, 7 p.m., Bank of NH Pavilion, Gilford
 • **The Fab Four Ultimate Tribute** Friday, July 8, 7 p.m., Casino

Ballroom
 • **Aquanett** ('80s tribute) Friday, July 8, 7 p.m., Lakeport Opera House
 • **Lamont Smooth/Matt Poirier** Friday, July 8, 7:30 p.m., Bank of NH Stage, Concord
 • **Chief Adjuah** Friday, July 8, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club
 • **Beginnings** (Chicago tribute) Friday, July 8, 8 p.m., Tupelo
 • **Rhett Miller** Friday, July 8, 8 p.m., Word Barn
 • **Darlingside** Friday, July 8, 8 p.m., The Music Hall Lounge
 • **The Frank White Experience: The Notorious BIG** Friday, July 8, 9 p.m., Stone Church
 • **Alligator Wine** Saturday, July 9, 4 p.m., Millyard
 • **Retro Rewind Dance Night** Saturday, July 9, 7 p.m., Bank of New Hampshire Stage
 • **Get The Led Out** (Led Zeppelin tribute) Saturday, July 9, 7 p.m., Casino Ballroom
 • **Wynton Marsalis** Saturday, July 9, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Jimmy's
 • **Mark Farner's American Band** Saturday, July 9, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
 • **Sans Souci** (Jerry Garcia tribute) Saturday, July 9, 8 p.m., The Strand
 • **Maren Morris** Saturday, July 9, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Pavilion
 • **Rumours** (Fleetwood Mac tribute) Saturday, July 9, and Sunday, July 10, 7:30 p.m., Lakeport Opera House
 • **HEAT** Sunday, July 10, 1 p.m., Averill House Vineyard
 • **Jake Blount Band** Sunday, July 10, 7 p.m., Word Barn
 • **Tomberlin** Sunday, July 10, 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge
 • **Jonathan Sarty** Monday, July 11, 5:30 p.m., Castle in the Clouds
 • **Dave Matthews Band** Tuesday, July 12, 7:30 p.m., Bank of NH Pavilion, Gilford

RAANAN HERSHBERG



Raanan Hershberg has appeared on *The Late Late Show with James Corden* and *The Late Show with Jimmy Kimmel* and was a finalist at the Boston Comedy Festival. Don't miss his appearance at the Ruby Room Comedy (909 Elm St., Manchester; 491-0720; rubyroomcomedy.com) on Wednesday, July 6, at 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$14.



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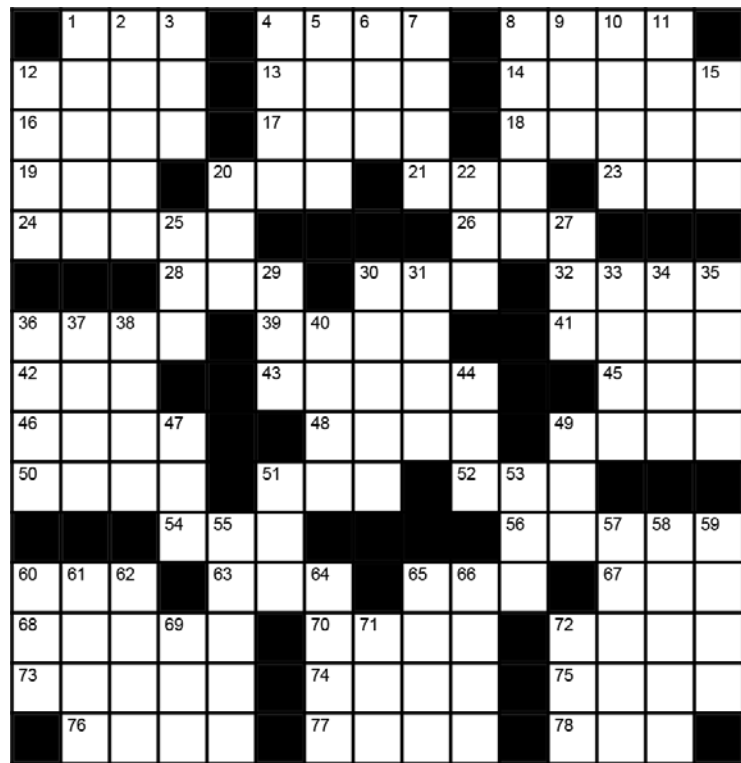
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FUNK FROM ANOTHER GALAXY...OR NOLA



- 75. 'Luka' singer Suzanne
- 76. 'Coming Of Age' ___ Yankees
- 77. Paul Westerberg 'Stereo/ ___'
- 78. Fefe Dobson thought of life ' ___ Blonde' (2,1)

Down

- 1. fun. 'We Are Young' singer Janelle
- 2. Best of the best musicians
- 3. Short-run ticket sale release (abbr)
- 4. 'Little Wing' Hendrix
- 5. What one says to "break" (1,3)
- 6. Yames of Monsters Of Folk
- 7. System Of A Down singer Tankian
- 8. Prince 'Love Symbol' single (4,1)
- 9. Steve Vai 'All About ___'
- 10. 'All By Myself' Carmen
- 11. Escape (The ___ Colada Song)
- 12. Guitarist Raines of Galactic
- 15. Iconic 'I'm Your Man' sing/songster Cohen (abbr)
- 20. 'Town Called Malice' band
- 22. Alex Paterson ambient house band (w/'The)
- 25. Part of 'Losing My Edge' band, w/ Soundsystem
- 27. Booker T's band
- 29. Royalty distribution company
- 30. Detroit acid rockers ___ Dukers
- 31. Make the guitar scream
- 33. Clash "King told the boogie men, you have to let that ___ drop"
- 34. Jerry Harrison ran from a 'Man With ___' (1,3)
- 35. John Prine ' ___ Guess They Oughta Name A Drink After You' (3,1)
- 36. World-famous legend
- 37. Weezer ' ___ Nose'
- 38. Kind of tea for summer fest
- 40. Record label founded in '55
- 44. Sheet coloring a photog's light

- 47. Woodstock drug
- 49. Tomahawk ' ___ De Sac'
- 51. Local H "The catcher in the ___ caught a Catch 22"
- 53. NOLA is hot so Galactic was 'Coolin' ___' for '96 debut
- 55. Bryan Adams "No more lies, I'm tired of hurtin', I think you know what ___" (1,4)
- 57. Yim of Monsters Of Folk
- 58. Machine Gun Kelly 'Alpha ___'
- 59. German singer Hagen

- 60. Pretty In Pink's 'If You Leave' band (abbr)
 - 61. Phish's 'Harry'
 - 62. Strokes 'Is This It' 3rd song
 - 64. Andrew Ridgeley 80s pop band
 - 65. Dylan's 'I'd Have You Anytime' coverer Rachel Wood
 - 66. "Bittersweet memories, that is all I'm taking with ___ good-bye" (2,2)
 - 69. 'Green' Athens, GA band
 - 71. Hootie & The Blowfish's 54-40 cover ' ___ Blind' (1,2)
 - 72. Perry Blake song about actress Gardner?
- © 2022 Todd Santos

Across

- 1. 'Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me' Carter
- 4. 'Back Stabbers' O' ___
- 8. Galactic left shallow on 2015's 'Into The ___'
- 12. Electric shock, as with Ace Frehley's in '76
- 13. Wings lost a job: " ___ around all over the place" (1,3)
- 14. 'Let Go' Lavigne
- 16. Barenaked Ladies '92 'Gordon' single
- 17. 'Excuse ___' No Doubt (2,2)
- 18. Scorpions singer Klaus
- 19. Weird Al's Michael Jackson 'Bad' parody
- 20. Irish dance
- 21. Brian Eno 'Small Craft On A Milk Sea' collaborator Hopkins
- 23. '03 Ill Nino hit 'How ___ I Live'
- 24. "I'll ___ whole lot better when you're gone" (4,1)
- 26. Jimmy Buffett liquor product
- 28. Color Me Badd '91 album
- 30. 'Cut The Cake' funky Scots (abbr)
- 32. This Macy did guest vox on 8. Across
- 36. Taylor Swift ' ___ Something Bad' (1,3)
- 39. Cass of Mamas & Papas
- 41. Wipers leader Greg
- 42. 68. Across drums on 'In The Arms Of God' by these metalers
- 43. Dr Hook 'Everybody's Makin' ___ But Me' (2,3)
- 45. Director/musician Van Sant
- 46. This Nancy won a Tony for Urinetown
- 48. 'So In Love' composer Porter
- 49. Marvin Gaye ' ___ Get A Witness' (3,1)
- 50. 'Two And Two Make Five' ___ Atomic Dustbin
- 51. Led Zep 'Hats Off To (___) Harper'
- 52. Velvet Underground's Reed
- 54. Peter Gabriel song for self-reliance

- 56. '85 AC/DC album ' ___ The Wall' (3,2)
- 60. Go with "ahs"
- 63. 'No More Stories...' Danish band
- 65. 'Unbelievable' Dance-band
- 67. 'Hourly, Daily' Aussies You ___ (2,1)
- 68. Galactic drummer Stanton
- 70. Member of The Hives?
- 72. Leonard Cohen song that is not 'Hallelujah'
- 73. Arctic Monkeys ' ___ Favour' (2,2,1)
- 74. Sex Pistols 'Belsen Was ___' (1,3)

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Six four-letter words ending with X
- Three four-letter bodies of water
- Three countries ending with A
- Three types of pasta
- Two four-letter birds ending with N

Last Week's Answers: BATMAN ALIEN ROCKY SHREK JAWS / GRADE POINT AVERAGE / URUGUAY HUNGARY TURKEY / LIMA BERN / ADAMANT

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

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EASY

7+	8x		
	12x	1-	2
1			36x
2÷			

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CHALLENGING

3÷		1-	11+		4
1-			4-		5-
1-		20x		1	
1-		3-		1-	
5+		6	3÷	2÷	2-
2	11+				

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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

8x	2÷	3	
1	4	2	3
4	2	3	1
3	1	4	2
2	3	1	4

12x	11+	3+			
3	1	4	6	5	2
3-	2÷	2÷	3	6	1
5	4	2	3	6	1
2	5	1	4	3	6
4	1-	4-	1	3	
4	2	6	5	1	3
5-	6+	11+	2	4	
6	3	5	1	2	4
1	2÷	3	2	4	5

“Citing Your References” – it’s not exactly how it looks.

Across

- 1. Song by The Kinks
- 5. Pan for gold, e.g.
- 9. Dragged fishing net
- 14. Eye color location
- 15. Rainbow Bridge National Monument state
- 16. Placed a curse on
- 17. Fathom divisions
- 18. Halliwell once known as Ginger Spice
- 19. “Doesn’t ring ___”
- 20. See66Across
- 23. Go out to play?
- 24. Performer’s booking
- 25. Buck’s companion
- 27. Undergarments in a drawer
- 30. Reproductive part of a flower
- 35. Kendrick who voices Poppy in the “Trolls” movies
- 37. Feels lousy
- 39. Bus driver’s itinerary
- 40. See8Down
- 43. Bean or horse variety
- 44. Dreamcast maker, once
- 45. Suffix after “suit” or “wear”
- 46. Spanish architect Gaudi
- 48. Smallest chess piece

- 50. Fleur de ___ (Hubert Keller’s famed S.F. restaurant)
- 51. Econ. indicator
- 53. Riviera resort city
- 55. See43Across
- 62. Home of ancient Bethlehem
- 63. “___, said the fly”
- 64. Classic TV kid nickname, with “The”
- 65. Arctic, for example
- 66. Egg timer noise
- 67. Painter Magritte
- 68. Literature category
- 69. Wilder formerly of Depeche Mode
- 70. Throws in

- 4. “The Jetsons” dog
- 5. Nickname used by at least two boxers
- 6. Checklist bit
- 7. Cost of a ride
- 8. Alternative to “person” or “place”
- 9. Marlo Thomas sitcom
- 10. “It’s Your Call” singer McEntire
- 11. Battle weapons
- 12. TV bandleader and accordionist Lawrence
- 13. “Bad” cholesterol initials
- 21. Worn-down pencil
- 22. Insider’s offering
- 25. Defense Dept. tech agency
- 26. ___ a million
- 28. Goes on TV
- 29. Hit the sack
- 31. Tofu source, in some places
- 32. Stock Western prop
- 33. Winter Olympics host country of 2006
- 34. Starts of news articles

- 36. Saxophone range
- 38. Drawn-out drama
- 41. Attribute for a unicorn, or, say, Fabio
- 42. It may show support for a graduating student or a political candidate
- 47. Suffix for hydrox
- 49. Nothing, to Nigel
- 52. “Kung Fu ___” (2008 animated film)
- 54. “King” of snakes
- 55. Purplish brown
- 56. Barbara who played a TV genie
- 57. Back end
- 58. Work too hard
- 59. Vesuvius’s Sicilian counterpart
- 60. Hit the tarmac
- 61. Saint Laurent of fashion
- 62. Get some morning exercise, maybe

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1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21						22				
	23							24						
25	26			27		28	29		30		31	32	33	34
35			36		37			38		39				
40				41						42				
43					44						45			
46					47		48			49			50	
				51		52			53		54			
		55	56	57				58	59				60	61
62						63					64			
65						66					67			
68						69					70			

Down

- 1. Raise up
- 2. Cookie that collaborated with Ritz in 2022
- 3. Uhura’s rank on the original “Star Trek”

R&R answer from pg 39 of 6/30

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

Jonesin’ answer from pg 40 of 6/30

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

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

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

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Difficulty Level ★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle B By Dave Green

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

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Difficulty Level ★★★

Conceptis Sudoku Puzzle C By Dave Green

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

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Difficulty Level ★★★★★

All quotes are from *Here is New York*, by E. B. White, born July 11, 1899.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *New York blends the gift of privacy with the excitement of participation. Blend your gifts.*

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *New York is the concentrate of art and commerce and sport and religion and entertainment and finance, bringing to a single compact arena the gladiator, the evangelist, the promoter, the actor, the trader and the merchant. Concentrate.*

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *I am sitting at the moment in a stifling hotel room in 90-degree heat, halfway down an air shaft, in midtown. ... I am ... five blocks from the publisher's office where Ernest Hemingway hit Max Eastman on the nose, four miles from where Walt Whitman sat sweating out editorials for the Brooklyn Eagle, thirty-four blocks from the street Wila Cather lived in when she came to New York to write books about Nebraska ... and for that matter I am probably occupying the very room that any number of exalted and somehow memorable characters sat in.... It's amazing.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *The biggest ocean-going ships on the North Atlantic arrived and departed. I didn't notice them and neither did most other New Yorkers. And they didn't notice you either.*

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *Many people ... depend on the city's tremendous variety and sources of excitement for spiritual sustenance and maintenance of morale. So much variety is at hand.*

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *A poem compresses much in a small space and adds music, thus heightening its meaning. The city is like poetry..... Just add music.]*

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *To a New Yorker the city is both changeless and changing. In many respects it neither looks nor feels the way it did twenty-five years ago. The elevated railways have been pulled down, all but the Third Avenue. And now there's ride-sharing.*

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *In the country there are a*

few chances of sudden rejuvenation — a shift in weather, perhaps, or something arriving in the mail. But in New York the chances are endless. In the country chickens lay eggs.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *... the unimproved highways and bridges are bottlenecks; there is not enough air and not enough light, and there is usually either too much heat or too little. But the city makes up for its hazards and its deficiencies by supplying its citizens with massive doses of a supplementary vitamin — the sense of belonging to something unique, cosmopolitan, mighty and unparalleled. Try to keep it nice.*

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *New York is nothing like Paris; it is nothing like London; and it is not Spokane multiplied by sixty, or Detroit multiplied by four. Quality, not quantity.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *The city is literally a composite of tens of thousands of tiny neighborhood units. ... Each area is a city within a city within a city. In a city.*

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *Summertime is a good time to reexamine New York and to receive again the gift of privacy, the jewel of loneliness. In summer the city contains (except for tourists) only die-hards and authentic characters. Reexamine.*

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 English lord (9)	_____
2 U.S. president (7)	_____
3 Duwamish chief (7)	_____
4 American politician (7)	_____
5 Anglo-Irish philosopher (8)	_____
6 English explorer (7)	_____
7 U.S. general (4)	_____

NC	HOU	SE	GH	ORE
RA	RE	BAL	ON	ST
TLE	LEI	LI	BER	KE
OLN	TIM	NO	LEY	AT

Last Week's Answers: 1. TENNESSEE 2. SEEDY 3. BESECH 4. RESEDED 5. ANISEED 6. LESSEE 7. SEETHING

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Sudoku Answers from pg40 of 6/30

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty Level ★

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty Level ★★

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

Legal Notice

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE Judicial Branch
6th Circuit
Family Division - Hooksett
101 Merrimack Street
Hooksett NH 03106

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - Termination of Parental Rights
TO: Tamara Conway
293 Wilson Street, Manchester, NH
Case Number: 647-2022-TR-00010
TO: Phillip Joseph
Last Known address: 20 Cheney Place, Manchester, NH
Case Number: 647-2022-TR-00011

Preliminary Hearing: A petition to terminate parental rights over your minor child(ren) has been filed in this Court. You are hereby cited to appear at a Court to show cause why the same should not be granted.

Date: July 26, 2022
Time: 11:30 AM

Time Allotted: 30 Minutes
101 Merrimack Street
Hooksett NH 03106

A written appearance must be filed with this Court on or before the date of the hearing, or the respondent may personally appear on the date of hearing to be defaulted.

CAUTION: You should respond immediately to this notice to prepare for trial and because important hearings will take place prior to trial. If you fail to appear personally or in writing, you will waive your right to a hearing and your parental rights may be terminated at the above hearing.

IMPORTANT RIGHTS OF PARENTS: THIS PETITION IS TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS OVER YOUR CHILD(REN) SHALL BE TERMINATED. TERMINATION OF THE PARENT/CHILD RELATIONSHIP MEANS THE TERMINATION SHALL DIVEST YOU OF ALL LEGAL RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES, DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE LOSS OF ALL RIGHTS TO CUSTODY, VISITATION AND COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR CHILD(REN). IF TERMINATION IS GRANTED, YOU WILL RECEIVE NO NOTICE OF FUTURE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING YOUR CHILD(REN).

You are hereby notified that you have a right to be represented by an attorney. You also have the right to oppose the proceedings, to attend the hearing and to present evidence. If you desire an attorney, you may notify this Court within ten (10) days of receiving this notice and upon a finding of indigency, the Court will appoint an attorney without cost to you. If you enter an appearance, notice of any future hearings regarding this child(ren) will be by first class mail to you, your attorney and all other interested parties not less than ten (10) days prior to any scheduled hearing. Additional information may be obtained from the Family Division Court identified in the heading of this Order of Notice.

If you will need an interpreter or other accommodations for this hearing, please contact the court immediately. Please be advised (and/or advise clients, witnesses, and others) that it is a Class B felony to carry a firearm or other deadly weapon as defined in RSA 625.11, V in a courtroom or area used by a court.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Melanie M. Oliver
Melanie M. Oliver, Clerk of Court

May 27, 2022

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The Aristocrats!

“Biff, schedule my Botox injection. The drive to the Hamptons is too much to bear.” According to Insider, New Yorkers who battle weekend traffic to their Long Island enclaves are rushing to urologists for a cure for “Hamptons bladder”: prostate artery embolization for men, which reduces the size of the prostate, and “bladder Botox,” which decreases urinary frequency for women. “They come out to the Hamptons and have to stop four or five times on the way, but can’t find a restroom,” said Dr. David Shusterman, a Big Apple urologist. “When they’re in a car with a bunch of people, they’re embarrassed because they have to go to the bathroom every hour. I’ve lost three friends because I’m the driver and refuse to stop for them.” One happy customer said he’s “like a kid” after the procedure. “There’s no dread now.”

Bright idea

During a flight from Detroit to Denver on June 25, an unidentified passenger was reprimanded by a flight attendant and other passengers after he AirDropped a sexually explicit photo of himself to all the other passengers, the New York Post reported. One passenger, @DaddyStrange333, posted a video to TikTok documenting the incident; in the video, the flight attendant asks the man, “Why are you doing that?” “Just having a little fun,” he replies. His fun came to an abrupt end when

the flight landed and FBI agents escorted him off the plane. A Southwest Airlines spokesperson confirmed that the “unfortunate incident” occurred and that the airline “maintains zero tolerance for this obscene and unacceptable behavior.”

Someone’s sleeping on the couch

Colombian cyclist Luis Carlos Chia won a stage of the Vuelta a Colombia race on June 5 and threw his arms out wide to celebrate after crossing the finish line, Canadian Cycling reported. But he was immediately forced to grab the handlebars again in an attempt to avoid hitting a group of photographers — among whom was his wife, Claudia Roncancio. Chia struck his wife with his bike, knocking her to the ground, where she lay unconscious as medical staff attended to her. “I don’t understand why she didn’t get out of the way,” Chia said after the accident. Roncancio needed four stitches and was kept under observation in a local hospital, but she is reportedly recovering.

News that sounds like a joke

Feel like you’re forgetting something? That must have been how tennis pro Ugo Humbert of France felt when he turned up at Number Two Court at Wimbledon on June 29 without a key piece of equipment for his match against Norway’s Casper Ruud — his rackets. Reuters reported that Humbert, 24, had to

tell the umpire, “I don’t have any rackets — sorry for that.” Fortunately for him, someone turned up with three rackets in just a few minutes, and after losing his first set, Humbert won the match.

Have it your way

The Concord Mall in Wilmington, Delaware, is getting its 15 minutes of fame after a vendor there discovered a hidden treasure locked behind a wall: a fully intact Burger King from 2009, Newsweek reported. Thomas Dahlke, general manager of the mall, uploaded a video tour of the restaurant, including finding a bag containing grossly well-preserved french fries. Current and former employees posted that the space has been used for storage and for running a hose through to water plants in the mall. One poster quipped: “In Europe they’ve been finding remnants, artifacts and towns of the Roman Empire. Here they find Burger Kings.”

The tech revolution

On the evening of June 28, at the intersection of Gough and Fulton streets in San Francisco, more than a half-dozen Cruise robotaxis stopped operating as they should and stalled, blocking the intersection for several hours, Tech Crunch reported. The Cruise vehicles were launched just the week before in the city, operating between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. “The first thing I say to my co-worker is

that they’re getting together to murder us,” one online poster joked. “They even made it so the street sweeper couldn’t hit an entire block.” The errant cars were retrieved with the help of some humans.

Cut the cheese pun

The Bridge Bakehouse in Derbyshire, England, received an anonymous letter from a “disgruntled member of the local community,” the owners believe, about a sandwich that’s been on the menu since last September: the Cheesus Christ. The sandwich, which features caramelized onion chutney, mature cheddar and mozzarella, sounds delicious, but the letter-writer, who claimed to be associated with the advocacy group Christian Concern, disapproved: “Our clients do not wish to take this further, but feel they will need to in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and saviour if action is not taken.” However, the Mirror reported, Christian Concern confirmed the letter did not come from them, and no other person or local church has admitted to writing it. On June 10, someone defaced the bakery’s outdoor menu, covering the sandwich name with white paint. On its Facebook page, the bakery posted, “To whoever has tried to cover up the ‘Cheesus Christ’ sandwich on our outdoor menu board with white paint, can you please not? And if it wasn’t done in the dead of night by someone dressed like The Mask of Zorro we are going to be highly disappointed.”

Visit newsoftheweird.com.

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