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EDITORIAL

Executive Editor

Amy Diaz, adiaz@hippopress.com

Features Editor

Matt Ingersoll

mingersoll@hippopress.com, Ext. 152

Editorial Design

Tristan Collins hippolayout@gmail.com

Copy Editor

Lisa Parsons, Iparsons@hippopress.com

Staff Writers

Angie Sykeny asykeny@hippopress.com Katelyn Sahagian ksahagian@hippopress.com, Ext. 130

Contributors Michelle Belliveau, Mya Blanchard, John Fladd, Jennifer Graham, Henry Homeyer, Chelsea Kearin, Michele Pesula Kuegler, Dave Long, Fred Matuszewski, Eric W. Saeger, Meghan Siegler, Dan Szczesny, Michael Witthaus

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

BUSINESS

Publisher

Jody Reese, Ext. 121 jreese@hippopress.com

Associate Publisher

Dan Szczesny

Associate Publisher

Jeff Rapsis, Ext. 123 irapsis@hippopress.com

Production

Tristan Collins, Jennifer Gingras

Circulation Manager

Doug Ladd, Ext. 135 dladd@hippopress.com

Advertising Manager

Charlene Nichols, Ext. 126 cnichols@hippopress.com

Account Executives

Alyse Savage, 603-493-2026 asavage@hippopress.com Roxanne Macaig, Ext. 127 rmacaig@hippopress.com Tammie Boucher, support staff, Ext. 150

To place an ad call 625-1855, Ext. 126 For Classifieds dial Ext. 150 or e-mail classifieds@hippopress.com

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ON THE COVER

10 CANDY CANES With Christmas just days away, food writer Matt Ingersoll takes a deep dive into one of the holiday's most iconic sweet treats: the candy cane. Find out what goes into making candy canes by hand and where you can get them locally, from traditional red and white peppermint canes to those in all different colors and flavors.

ALSO ON THE COVER Ring in 2023 with a special meal or midnight Champagne toast at a local restaurant or bar (page 24). Find live local music this weekend and beyond in our Music This Week section (starting on page 35). Katelyn Sahagian explores the magic behind some of New Hampshire's largest holiday light shows (page 16).

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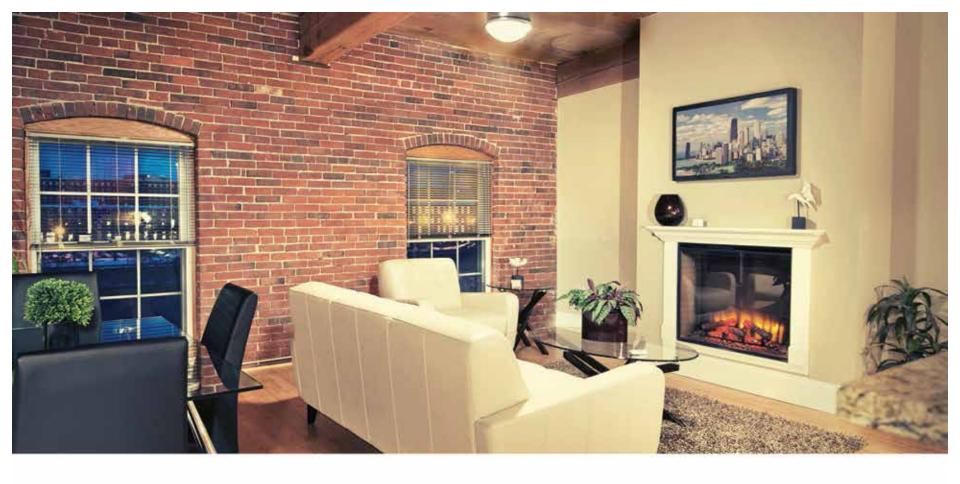
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EWS & NOTES

Gov. Chris Sununu signed an executive order on Thursday, Dec. 15, adding New Hampshire to the growing list of states that have banned the use of the Chinese-owned video-sharing mobile app TikTok and other foreign technologies on state networks and state-issued devices. The order states that there is reasonable belief that such technologies may enable the manufacturer to collect sensitive data about citizens and businesses; commit cyber-espionage against government entities; conduct surveillance and tracking of individual users; and modify algorithms to spread disinformation; among other concerns. "This move will help preserve the safety, security, and privacy of the citizens of New Hampshire," Sununu said in a press release.

Searching for Covid

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Public Health Services announces the implementation of a wastewater surveillance program for the purpose of monitoring Covid-19 levels in New Hampshire communities. According to a press release, the virus can be shed in wastewater, and viral fragments in community-wide samples collected from wastewater treatment facilities can be used to track trends in changing levels of the virus over time. The program will collect data at State Public Health Laboratories and potentially enable the Department to issue earlier warnings about rising levels of the virus

tool we can use to help monitor Covid-19 spread in our state," DPHS Director Patricia Tillev said in the release. "Wastewater surveillance does not depend on individuals testing for Covid-19, so this new program has the potential to provide additionand earlier insight about Covid-19 in our communities."

Vigil

Catholic Medical Center's Health Care for the Homeless, Families in Transition NH, Hope for NH Recovery, The Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester and the NH Coalition to End Homelessness were scheduled to lead the sixth annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Vigil on Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 6 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Manchester. Luminaries will be lit for individuals affected by homelessness who have died in 2022. Participants are encouraged to bring battery-operated candles if they have them.

Shibinette steps down

New Hampshire Health and Human Services Commissioner Lori Shibinette officially stepped down from the position on Friday, Dec. 16, after announcing her resignation in July. Appointed to the position by Gov. Chris Sununu in January 2020, Shibinette has led the Department of Health and Human Services' response to Covid-19 and regularly accompanied Gov. Sununu at televised press conferences to provide updates on the pandemic. Gov. Sununu said in a statement he "cannot thank her

in communities. "This is another enough" for her service to New Hampshire over the course of the pandemic. "Throughout her tenure, Lori has played a key role in my administration as New Hampshire's top health official," he said. "From the early days of the pandemic to her leadership at New Hampshire Hospital, Lori has earned the respect and trust of New Hampshire's citizens. I consider her a great friend and wish her all the best in whatever she decides to do next."

Recovery Friendly Workplace

The New Hampshire Department of Corrections announces its participation in Recovery Friendly Workplace, a program in which workplaces commit to recognize recovery from substance use disorder as a strength and promote a willingness to work with team members in recovery. "As Corrections professionals, we chose this line of work because of our desire to help others," Commissioner Helen Hanks said in a press release. "The Recovery Friendly Workplace initiative provides our department with an important tool to further our goal of providing a healthy, safe, and stigma-free environment, where employees feel comfortable reaching out for help when they need it." Gov. Chris Sununu's Advisor on Addiction and Behavioral Health, David Mara, joined by Shannon Swett and Samantha Lewandowski from Recovery Friendly Workplace, presented the Department with a designation from the governor recognizing its participation in the program on Friday, Dec. 16.

Cradles to Crayons, a nonprofit that provides essential items to children in struggling families, now has a donation bin at the Xfinity store at 1500 S. Willow St. in Manchester, according to a press release. The most needed items are clothing, winter coats and jackets and shoes, but other items are also accepted, including new socks and underwear, new pajamas, children's books, arts and crafts supplies, school supplies, unopened diapers and training pants and new hygiene items. Visit cradlestocrayons.org.

to fill in and pave over the hole. According to the article, city officials said the two active pipes running CONCORD beneath Market Street remained intact and did not cause the collapse. Hooksett Goffstown The Upper Room, a family resource center at 36 Tsienneto MANCHESTER Road in **Derry**, is looking for teens who want to make an impact in their community. According to a press release, teens are invited to inquire about the center's Community Service Learning Pro-Derry gram, where they can participate in service at local nursing homes. Londonderr thrift shops and food pantries and projects like an anti-tobacco campaign, Drug Take Back Day and more. The group meets on NASHUA Mondays and Tuesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. Teens may attend one or both days and must commit to staying for the full three hours. Call 427-8477, ext. 114.

Encampments removed

City and state officials removed three homeless encampments on state- and city-owned properties in Concord, NHPR reported, requiring the residents, of whom there were about 15 to 20 per encampment, to evacuate the areas by Dec. 15. Complaints from community members and

organizations and health and safety concerns regarding sanitation, drug use and property damage prompted officials to take action. The City Council appropriated \$35,000 to clean up the areas. State law prohibits unapproved housing structures on state property that are not defined as campgrounds, according to the article.

A sinkhole roughly 12 feet long and 6 feet wide formed

near Commercial Alley in

Portsmouth on the morning

of Saturday, Dec. 17, the

Portsmouth Herald report-

ed, resulting in the closure

of Market Street. The clo-

sure was still in effect as of

Monday afternoon as city

public works crews worked





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The big red suit

Prepping the beard & putting on bells for the season

Santa Mark (Marc Nozell in the off season) gives us a look at what it's like to wear the big red suit.

How did you first get into being Santa? I used to be Santa for our six kids back around the turn of the century with a suit my wife picked up at a yard sale. But I didn't get back into it until about five years ago. My sons in their 20s were doing a No Shave November and had pretty sad beards, so I wanted

to show them how it was done. Turns out it

came in thick and all white. My wife and I

were at the Nashua Winter Holiday Stroll

and I wore a Santa cap. We noticed little kids

pointing and asking their parents about if

I was Santa. We ran into a local booker of

Santas who pointed me to the New England

Santa Society and their Santa Camp. From

Pretty straightforward: I make sure all the

tools of the trade are in my bag - copies

of the classic books 'Twas the Night before

Christmas and the newer Are You Grumpy,

Santa? by Gregg Spiridellis; mini candy

canes; Santa wooden nickels; a special San-

ta Spray for the beard that some people may

mistake for diluted peppermint essential oil;

an extra pair of white gloves; and jingle bells

for making a grand entrance. Then, suit up

— pants, jacket, faux-fur lined boots and the

wide leather belt complete with three magi-

cal keys and yet more bells. After brushing

out the beard to make it fuller, I then apply

some beard cream to curl up the mustache

to look a bit like a smile. I've been bless-

ed with naturally full and chubby cheeks and

only need a pinch or two to make them a lit-

How do you get into character?

then on, I was hooked.



Santa Mark. Courtesy photo.

Is the beard real?

Yup! You can't be a member of the International Brotherhood of Real Bearded Santas if you don't. I'm not kidding; when you join you need to provide a headshot showing a beard. I keep a beard year-round, and Dec. 25 I traditionally trim back down only to grow it out again in August.

What is the funniest thing a kid has ever said to vou?

This year, there was a request for a real unicorn, but I had to explain that Santa can't deliver live animals anymore because the elves don't want to deal with the poop that gets in the sleigh. Another little one wanted just handcuffs. His parents were quick to explain he already had the rest of the cops-and-robbers toys.

What is the most asked-for Christmas

Legos are always popular, and there are lots of requests for L.O.L. dolls.

How do your virtual visits work?

In 2020, I started to do virtual visits with children. Through my website, parents sign up for a 15-minute visit with Santa and provide some background information including if they have an Elf on the Shelf and any particular family traditions. After having remote learning for school, the kids were pretty comfortable meeting virtually over the computer. We talk about the usual stuff you do in person. Sometimes Santa, with some assistance from the parents, will hide an early little gift somewhere in their house.

Is there a Mrs. Claus? Does she ever join

There is the person I'm married to, but portraying Mrs. Claus isn't her cup of tea. There is a performer in my town who sometimes comes along as Mrs. Ginger Claus. The New England Santa Society is encouraging including a Mrs. C. when people are looking for a Santa.

What do you love most about being Santa?

There are some children who know in their heart they are talking to the real Santa. They look in my eyes and are very sincere as we talk. I call them the true believers, and they make me love to keep this season as magical as possible for them for as long as possible. — Angie

To book a virtual visit with Santa Mark, visit santamarknh.com. 🔷

Five favorites

tle bit more rosy.

Favorite Christmas song: Either "The Chipmunk Song (Christmas Don't Be Late)" or

Favorite Christmas movie: I'm tempted to until after Christmas Eve. mated Father Christmas by the makers of "The cookies, pies and mulled cider.

Snowman," written by Raymond Briggs.

Favorite winter activity: Spreading joy and John Lennon's "Happy Xmas (War Is Over)." happiness. Starting right after Thanksgiving, Favorite cookie: Whatever cookies are left my weekends are packed with parades, famiout for me, but you can never go wrong with ly and company holiday parties, photo shoots, visiting daycares and country clubs - no rest

say Die Hard, but my favorite is the 1991 ani- Favorite holiday aroma: Cinnamon — in

he week that was



As the world championships and duck boat parades were piling up of the 21st century, Boston Globe columnist Bob Ryan cautioned all to appreciate what was going on, in saying these are the good old days right now.

The point was that all the winning by every pro team, including seven titles in the 2000s and four more in the 2010s, couldn't last forever.

Well it's now the 2020s and he was right. Those were the good old days. But what he didn't say was how much of a disaster it would be when things went bad.

Consider the last week.

The Patriots: So much for the old adage "What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas," said to contain embarrassment over crazy things people do on visits to Sin City. Unfortunately for your New England Patriots, their actions played out on national television as they put the exclamation point on my recent pronouncement that their dynasty was dead with the single dumbest play in the 103-year history of the National Football League, a mortifying play that led a Bill Belichick team to be mocked worse than anyone since Mark Sanchez's butt fumble in 2012. Except it was far worse, since it turned a game headed to OT into a dynasty-ending (and probably season-ending) loss as time expired.

I'm not going to go into the gory details. If you somehow missed it, count your blessings, 'cause it was gruesome.

In addition, by allowing the Raiders to score 14 points in the last 32 seconds to snatch a victory from the jaws of defeat, they gave the NFL its 21st-century answer to 1968's infamous Heidi game.

The Red Sox: Can anyone tell me what Chaim Bloom is doing? This week he followed up the year-long lie that retaining franchise icon Xander Bogaerts was the team's top priority when he plainly wasn't by designating Jeter Downs for assignment, who was the alleged jewel prospect he got for Mookie Betts. A day later it was the same thing for heralded low-cost steal (in August) Eric Hosmer even though all the September at-bats at first base would be going to top prospect Triston Casas. So after 45 at-bats he's DFA'd. Next was the two-year deal given to ex-L.A. third baseman Justin Turner. Except they already have a third baseman. Which after the Bogaerts lie-athon should have people planning Raffy **Devers**' going away party.

Beyond getting (and overpaying) closer **Kenley Jansen**, please tell me what the plan is. That is, if there is one.

The Celtics: Just 10 days ago they were up on Phoenix by 45 in the third period and had the best record in the NBA. But then came the latest **Jayson Tatum** choke in a marquee game vs. press.com.

Golden State to send them off on a four-lossesin-five-games tailspin. Two of which came at the Garden vs. Orlando, who had the worst road during the first decade record in the NBA. While it could be just a minislump, one of the things they need to work out is finding how to score when the threes aren't falling, because they became too dependent on three-balls as they ran out to their 18-4 start. And can we stop with the "Tatum is the best player on the planet" talk, Scal? Because until he can stop shrinking from the moment anytime he's facing **Steph Curry** (who owns him) he ain't that.

> The Bruins: I'm not saying anything about them because I don't want to jinx them.

> Here are a few more thoughts of a positive nature to send us all off in the holiday spirit.

> Congrats to the estimable Patrice Bergeron for joining the 1,000-career-point club.

> Ditto to Bogaerts for his big score in San Diego and thanks for representing the region with such class.

> Make it three for the American team for advancing out of group play in the World Cup. A fourth for the WC itself. But they have to go to a play-till-they-drop format to decide the winner of the world's greatest event. Deciding it on penalty kicks is like seeing Game 7 of the NBA Finals decided by a free throw shooting contest.

> While the loss to Vegas was a killer, the bright side could be it may help save the struggling Josh McDaniels' job.

You certainly can make a case that a WNBA player for an international arms dealer wasn't an even swap. But it is nice to see an American hostage freed and that Brittney Griner will join an effort that will try to help Paul Whelan and other Americans be freed from prison in Russia.

I'm hoping Mac Jones gets a real offensive coordinator, a QB coach who's played the position, two good (and speedy) wide receivers and a major shot of confidence for Christmas, because right now that boy is lost.

Finally, for those who don't know the story of the Heidi game. After the Jets scored a TD in the final minute of their 1968 game to make them look like sure winners, NBC cut away to air their hyped holiday special movie *Heidi*, starring the still big former child star Shirley Temple. But two minutes into the movie a crawl came across the screen saying the Raiders had scored twice in the final seconds, to stun everyone who'd seen the game. It was all anyone talked about the next day, as NBC got blasted for pulling out of the game. Though Patriots fans wished it was the opposite, so they didn't have to see Chandler Jones (of all people) give viewers the most stunning ending since Pittsburgh's Immaculate Reception win over the same Raiders. Which, oh by the way, happened 50 years ago this Saturday (Christmas Eve). Which makes me wonder, when you throw in the Tuck Rule, how do the Raiders always end up in these weird-ending

A happy and safe holiday to all.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippo-





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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Like toilet paper all over again...

QOL was unfortunately in the market for some children's fever medicine (your acetaminophen, your ibuprofen) last week and learned, as other parents probably already know, that the over-the-counter medicines are harder to get than Taylor Swift tickets, particularly the younger-kid-friendly liquid version (the Tylenol, not the tickets). A driving tour of many Greater Manchester grocery stores, big box stores and pharmacies turned up some kid tablet versions (boo to the idea of halving a chewable tablet) and exactly one liquid acetaminophen in a brand QOL has never heard of. Online searches also showed most area stores out of stock. News stories confirm that this situation is playing out nationwide, though a Dec. 3 story on npr.org reported that Johnson & Johnson, maker of Children's Tylenol and Children's Motrin, said, "there is no nationwide shortage — just a lot of demand."

QOL score: -2

NEWS & NOTES

Comments: All of the stories emphasize talking to a pediatrician (i.e. not the internet) about your kid's specific symptoms and possible alternatives if you can't find medication.

Less fun part of a snow day

The first big snow of the season, which hit New Hampshire late Thursday, Dec. 15, and continued in some parts of the state through Saturday, left around 62,000 electric utility customers without electricity by Saturday, WMUR reported. Utility crews responded to downed wires and trees throughout the state causing the outages. As of Dec. 18, 448 customers were still without electricity, most residing in the Peterborough-Jaffrey area, around Conway and in the Upper Valley.

QOL score: -1

Comment: The storm, which dropped 1 to 2 feet of snow in many parts of the state, also created hazardous road conditions. WMUR reported that New Hampshire State Police had responded to more than 200 crashes, spinouts and vehicles off the road.

Kudos to the Sandman

Manchester's own Adam Sandler has been named the winner of this year's Mark Twain Prize for American Humor, NHPR reported. The award, considered one of the most prestigious honors in comedy, "recognizes individuals who have had an impact on American society in ways similar to the distinguished 19th-century novelist and essayist Samuel Clemens, best known as Mark Twain," according to the Kennedy Center website. Sandler will receive the award at a gala performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., on March 19, 2023.

QOL score: +1

Comment: Sandler paid a visit to the Puritan Backroom in Manchester last week, as captured in a TikTok video posted by ESPN.

A small gift (in February)

New Hampshire Eversource customers may see a slight decrease in their energy bill next year. The utility recently filed its proposal for its next energy service rate adjustment, which would go into effect on Feb. 1, with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission. If approved, the rate will be 20.2 cents per kilowatt-hour, down from 22.6 cents per kilowatt-hour, the rate set in August.

OOL score: +1

Comment: The adjustment would lower the supply portion of the average residential customer's bill by approximately seven percent.

QOL score: 91 Net change: -1 QOL this week: 90

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

THIS WEEK BIG EVENTS DECEMBER 22 AND BEYOND

Wednesday, Dec. 28

Recycled Percussion, the legendary drumming group from New England, opens their run at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester) today at 3 p.m. The group has performed on America's Got Talent, opened at the 2017 Super Bowl, did a run on Las Vegas and has their own Emmy Award winning show on television called Chaos and Kindness. Tickets start at \$37 and can be purchased at palaceteatre.org.



Thursday, Dec. 22

This is the last day for the snowman felting workshop at Averill House Vineyard (21 Averill Road, Brookline). The winery will provide all the materials and the workshop is for crafters of all skill levels in the art of felting. The craft will be accompanied with a winter wine tasting for visitors of age or a

nonalcoholic beverage for guests younger than 21. Additional kits can be purchased at the workshop. Cost is \$47 per person and tickets can be purchased at averillhousevineyard.com.

Friday, Dec. 23

Today is the last day of the handmade holiday market at Studio 550 (550 Elm St., Man-

chester). The market will run way). The theme this year is from noon to 8 p.m. and will have a variety of artworks to shop for. There will also be demonstrations by local artists and gift cards for Studio 550 available for purchase. For questions, call 232-5597 or email info@550arts.com.

Friday, Dec. 23

Tonight is the last showing of Palace Theatre's (80 Hanover St., Manchester) A Christmas Carol. Follow Ebenezer Scrooge as he is visited by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future, so he can learn to keep the Christmas spirit all year round. Showtime is at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are still available as of Dec. 19. Prices start at \$25 and tickets can be purchased online at palacetheatre.org.

Tuesday, Dec. 27

The adult winter reading challenge begins today at Derry Public Library (64 East Broadreading the rainbow, meaning that readers must log a book with a cover the same color as one in the rainbow. It can be any genre of book, from graphic novels to nonfiction. The challenge will run through Feb. 28 and the person who reads the most books will win a gift card to The Grind Rail Trail Cafe. Stop by the library to pick up a log. Visit derrypl.org for more information.

Tuesday, Dec. 27

Magician Ben Pratt is performing a family-friendly magic show today

Chunky's Cinema in Manchester (707 Huse Road). Pratt, who grew up in New Hampshire, has performed his magic show across the country. The show starts at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 and can be purchased at chunkys.com.



Save the Date! Sunday, Jan. 1

Join Beaver Brook Association for a First Day Hike at noon on Sunday, Jan. 1, at Maple Hill Farm (117 Ridge Road, Hollis). The walk will take families around Beaver Brook that's designed for them by the staff in the red yurt on the farm grounds. Visitors can bring the whole family, including leashed dogs. Visit beaverbrook.org.







By Matt Ingersoll mingersoll@hippopress.com

Christmas may be days away, but at Nelson's Candy in Wilton, it's not uncommon for the unmistakable scent of peppermint to fill the air as early as October — a sign that candy cane season has begun.

"The minute they know we have them ... people will ask," owner Nancy Feraco said of Nelson's candy canes. "We do wait to hang them up until about a week or two before Thanksgiving, but people will ask for them, and we'll run in the other room and get them, and sell them that way."

Feraco took over the shop in early 2019 for the late Doug Nelson, continuing his decades-long legacy in town of chocolate and candymaking. Chief among their products during the holiday season are the candy canes — made the old-fashioned way, of course, using large kettles of boiling water and a taffy puller.

"The candy cane recipe goes way back," said Philip LaVergne, one of Nelson's candymakers. "Doug rarely used a thermometer. Everything was all by feel. ... But when it came to the candy canes, he would use one because it's a little bit more specific."

Indeed, the practice of making these beloved peppermint canes by hand is about as traditional as it gets in the candymaking world. It requires a distinct level of precision — not to mention consistent manpower for all the quick cutting, rolling and shaping due to the short window of time before the candy hardens — to craft them from start to finish, making the final product that much more special.

"It's not a difficult process to learn. It is pretty straightforward but there's a lot of scientific stuff behind it," said Emily Lewis, production manager of Van Otis Chocolates, which, in the past, has held public candy cane making demonstrations as fundraisers for Easterseals New Hampshire. While the demonstrations have been put on hold due to the pandemic, Van Otis does carry an assortment of seasonal items during the holidays, including peppermint cream and candy cane Swiss fudge, or dark and white chocolate Swiss fudge blended with candy cane pieces.

Up in the Weirs Beach area of Laconia, Kellerhaus is another New Hampshire shop known for making its own candy canes by hand. Owner Daryl Dawson said they always make sure to get their first batch done just in time for their annual holiday event in late November.

"We're not in a temperature-controlled facility ... and so we need it to be a cool temperature and low humidity in order for the candy to harden correctly," Dawson said, "and that's usually around [the] end of October, beginning of November for our candy canes and also our ribbon candy."

Granite State Candy Shoppe, with stores in Concord and Manchester, also offers handcrafted candy canes — they're available individually as is, or dipped in white or dark chocolate. The shop also offers white and dark chocolate-layered peppermint bark and candy cane cocoa bombs, featuring a combination of dark chocolate and their homemade candy cane pieces.

From the traditional red and white peppermint cane to those in an assortment of crazy colors and flavors, we take a deep dive into how local candy experts make the magic happen and explore the folklore and claims of origin behind the candy cane as a uniquely Christmastime treat.

Getting hooked

Depending on their size, LaVergne said Nelson's can usually produce around 150 individual candy canes or slightly more per batch, while at Kellerhaus, Dawson said that number tends to be between 75 and 100 due to its larger, nearly foot-long canes. The process starts by cooking a mixture mostly made up of sugar and water together until it reaches a temperature of just about 300 degrees.

"Once it hits the 300 degree mark, we pour that mixture out onto a stainless steel table that is heated with water to prevent the candy from breaking," Dawson said. "When it's poured onto the table, it's completely clear. You can almost see through it into the table and we let it cool and add flavoring and color. ... When it's really hot it comes out in pools on the table, and you have to block it from kind of flowing off of the table, it's so liquidy."

When the sugar mixture cools enough and reaches a malleable, plastic-like state, that's when it can be taken over to a taffy puller.

"They are like big coat hooks, basically," Lewis said. "You have to wear gloves because it's still very hot at that point, probably at around 250 degrees, and so some of us will wear multiple layers of gloves. ... You rapidly flip it over the hook and pull it down and flip it over the hook and pull it down again, and that incorporation of air is actually going to make your candy cane turn white."

Dawson said this process of turning the mixture from a clear color to a solid white only takes about five minutes.

"It's really remarkable to see that happen," he said. "[Pulling it] not only helps to cool it, but it also makes it a little bit more

pliable and easier to work with. ... We'll also pull the red of the candy cane stripe until it's nice and shiny looking."

From there, the mixture — also known as a loaf — is moved to a table to be rolled, extruded and cut into individual pieces. Candymakers will use a sharp knife or a pair of shears to carefully section pieces off.

"You make a big log out of the white in the center, and then you put the stripes you added flavoring in on the side to create a design," Lewis said. "You pull it into almost like a rope shape, and then cut your desired length and then shape them and pass them on. It sets really quickly on the table. I mean, once it gets removed from any kind of heat, it'll set within maybe 30 seconds to a minute. So you can't really play around with it too much or you'll start cracking it."

The final step, Dawson said, involves gently bending the top of each rolled up piece to create that signature hook-like shape of the candy cane.

As they reach the end of a batch, LaVergne noted, sometimes the stripes won't always line up just right, or there won't be enough left to create a full-sized candy cane. Those pieces are set aside to be used on other items like Nelson's peppermint bark.

"[The candy cane pieces] are all mixed into the dark chocolate layer and the white chocolate layer, and then we sprinkle more of them on top," he said.

Fun with flavors

Who says candy canes have to just be red and white and peppermint-flavored? In March of this year, Peterborough native Nellson Perry joined the staff of Nelson's — Feraco likes to joke that they named the shop after him — bringing with him an



Photo courtesy of Nelson's Candy in Wilton.

extensive background in hard candy making from his time in the Los Angeles area.

"Nellson actually showed us another methodology of flavoring [candy canes] in the kettle," LaVergne said, "because before, we used to flavor it on the hook. This way, it's more specific, more precise and it's the same exact flavor every time. ... The other thing was that before, the stripes didn't get flavor, because we cut off that piece of candy before they brought it to the hook. So now everything's got flavor, and you're going to get a better product out of it."

The changed step of adding the flavoring into the kettle has also afforded them the opportunity to more readily experiment with different types of candy canes. Peppermint remains the tried and true favorite, but Nelson's has also been known to make orange candy canes, blue raspberry candy canes, root beer candy canes and even anise candy canes for those who like the taste of black licorice. They made an orange candy cane with black stripes during the Halloween season, and recently Perry combined green apple, pineapple and orange flavors to create a fruit punch candy cane. Other unique flavor combinations have included a "chocolate-filled" candy cane, the inside of which Feraco equated to the chewiness of a Tootsie Roll.

"We took the candy loaf and flattened it out first, and then we put a big tube of chocolate taffy in there and then sealed it up,"



Photo courtesy of Kellerhaus in Laconia.

LaVergne said.

At Kellerhaus, Dawson said they'll always roll out peppermint and wintergreen candy canes, along with a third flavor that's typically switched up every season.

"The peppermint is your typical red and white candy cane, and then the wintergreen is green and white," he said. "Wintergreen is kind of like if you think about a wintergreen gum. It's a little bit sharper and not as minty as the peppermint. ... Everybody's got different tastes of what they like; it just depends on the person. But the peppermint is definitely the top seller for us.'

As for that third flavor, this year it's a blue and pink-colored cotton candy-flavored cane. But Dawson added that, oftentimes, the sky's the limit with what they can come

"We've done gingerbread, grape, orange, sour apple ... [and] some of them actually do really well," he said. "We usually like to let some of our newer employees decide on the flavor to do."

An age-old tradition

There is much folklore surrounding the origin of candy canes and their significance at Christmastime. According to The Oxford Companion to Sugar and Sweets, an encyclopedia edited by Darra Goldstein and published by Oxford University Press, a common story comes from the German city of Cologne, around the year 1670.

Ribbon candy

Like candy canes, ribbon candy is perhaps associated with the Christmas season more than any other time of the year. Kellerhaus in Laconia, in business since 1906, is known for being one of the few shops in the Granite State that regularly makes its own ribbon candy. They usually start making it around according to owner Daryl Dawson.

"A candy cane is really solid, but the ribbon candy we'll pull into really thin strips," Dawson on it or having to suck on it for very long."

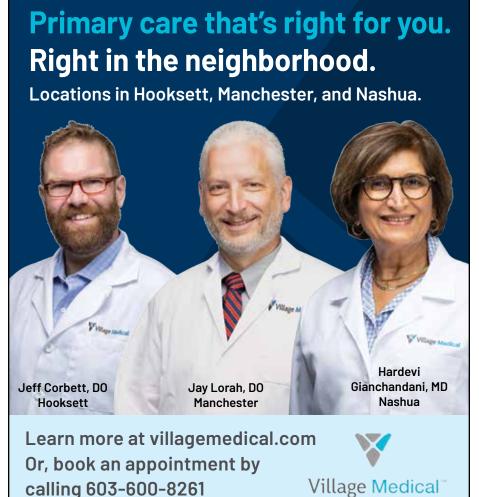
For flavors, Dawson said they offer two different boxes — one is a traditional box holding cinnamon, wintergreen, peppermint, molasses and chocolate, while the other is an old-fashioned box with flavors like licorice, clove, spearmint, root beer and vanilla.

Nellson Perry, a candymaker who joined November in tandem with the candy canes, the staff of Nelson's Candy in downtown Wilton back in March, has a mostly hard candy background — including candy canes and ribbon candy. Owner Nancy Feraco said they've said. "A lot of people think of ribbon candy as made a few types of ribbon candy so far and what they'll see in the grocery store and it's very hope to start experimenting with more soon. thick. Ours is very thin, so thin that it's almost They have also been playing around with one of those Listerine strips. It sort of will just small hard candy pieces featuring drawn fesmelt in your mouth. ... You won't be chewing tive imagery in the center, like snowflakes and Santa Claus faces.











Candy cane Swiss fudge from Van Otis Chocolates in Manchester. Photo by Kreativ Studios.

Hard candy sticks were a popular confection in Germany during the 17th century. Goldstein writes that a choirmaster of Cologne Cathedral, in his attempt to quiet children during holiday church services, consulted with a local candymaker. He ended up asking him to make a special version of a hard candy stick — one with a hook on the end, to resemble a shepherd's crook.

Of course, there's also the customary suggestion that, because a candy cane turned upside down resembles the letter "J," it's symbolic of Jesus Christ. Goldstein goes on to write that other theologians have suggested the white color of candy canes to be reflective of purity.

Prior to World War I, candy canes were manufactured by hand just about everywhere in the world. That began to change, Goldstein writes, around the early 1920s when the Bunte Brothers of Chicago applied for a patent for a machine that would manufacture them.

Considering the fact that candy canes have been mass-produced by machine now for roughly an entire century, it's rather remarkable to see local shops like Nelson's Candy — which, in its own right, has been in business since 1914, dating back to its days in Lowell, Mass. — take the time to continue to make them the old-fashioned way today.

Inside the Wilton shop is a framed blackand-white photograph of Doug Nelson's grandmother and other family members and employees. Above them is a large chandelier-style structure with homemade candy canes hanging from it.

"As a child, Doug started making candy for her, and he made it all his life," Feraco said. "In the 1980s, she sold [her shop] and she had all the grandchildren come in and take whatever they wanted for equipment. And so Doug took the taffy machines, he took the kettles and a few other things. ... He moved here [to Wilton] in the early

Where to get your candy cane fix

cocoa bombs.

Granite State Candy Shoppe

13 Warren St., Concord, 225-2591; 832 Elm St., Manchester, 218-3885; granitestatecandyshoppe.

With stores in both downtown Concord and Manchester, Granite State Candy Shoppe offers handmade peppermint- or wintergreen-flavored candy canes — they are sold individually as is, or come dipped in milk or dark chocolate. Other products include dark and white chocolate peppermint bark (topped with the shop's homemade peppermint pieces) and dark chocolate candy cane cocoa bombs.

Kellerhaus

259 Endicott St. N, Laconia, 366-4466, kellerhaus.com

Located in the Weirs Beach area of Laconia, Kellerhaus typically gets rolling on the candy canes and other peppermint-flavored items just before Thanksgiving. Individual canes are rather large — nearly a foot long after they are hooked,

Here are some local shops that offer their own in peppermint or wintergreen flavors, as well as a handmade candy canes and other candy cane-re-third flavor that rotates out every season. This year lated items, from peppermint bark to candy cane it's cotton candy, featuring a blue and pink-colored

Nelson's Candy and Music

65 Main St., Wilton, 654-5030, nelsonscandymusic.com

It's not uncommon for the sweet scent of peppermint to flow through the air inside this downtown Wilton shop as early as October. Nelson's Candy is known for being somewhat of an experimental candy cane factory behind the counter — the traditional peppermint-flavored canes are available here, as well as everything from fruit punch to root beer candy canes. The same candy cane pieces are used in the shop's own homemade peppermint bark.

Van Otis Chocolates

341 Elm St., Manchester, 627-1611, vanotis.

While this Manchester shop has halted its candy cane making demonstration fundraisers due to the pandemic, there are still all kinds of seasonal treats here, from the peppermint creams to the candy cane Swiss fudge, featuring dark and white chocaccording to owner Daryl Dawson — and come olate Swiss fudge mixed with candy cane pieces.



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ROUNDUP

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

• Last-minute art shopping: The big craft fairs are finished for this holiday season but there are still some places to do some last-minute shopping for arts and fine crafts. (Call to confirm hours for Christmas Eve.)

The Craftworkers' Guild Holiday Craft Fair continues its run through Thursday, Dec. 22, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (the address is 5 Meetinghouse Road in Bedford; see thecraftworkersguild.org).

Studio 550 Art Center (550 Elm St. in Manchester; 232-5597, 550arts.com) will hold its Handmade Holiday Market through Friday, Dec. 23 (closed Wednesday, Dec. 21) from noon to 8 p.m.

The "Winter 2022 Members Art Show" will run through Saturday, Dec. 24, and is open Thursdays through Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. at the Bates Building (846 Main Society.

At Creative Ventures Fine Art (411 Nahua 101 West in Bedford; 836-6228, flightcof-

St. in Milford; creativeventuresfineart.com, 672-2500) "Small Works — Big Impact" is on display through Saturday, Dec. 31; Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m; Thursday from noon to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Studioverne Fine Art Fused Glass (412 Chestnut St. in Manchester; studioverne. com) is cohosting "The Art of Gifting Art" with Creative Framing Solutions through Saturday, Dec. 31. The studio is open Wednesday, noon to 5 p.m.; Thursday, noon to 7 p.m.; Friday, noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

- · Expert Design Solutions (Ripano Stoneworks, 90 E. Hollis St., Nashua; nashuaarts. org) has its "Joyful Giving" exhibit on display through Jan. 29.
- One more Nutcracker: Get an extra serving of the classic ballet after Christmas when the New Hampshire School of Ballet presents The Nutcracker Suite on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 6 p.m. at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre. org, 668-5588) on Sunday, Dec. 27, at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 and can be purchased via the Palace's website. See nhschoolofballet. com for more on the school.
- Art with your coffee: If you stop for St. in Contoocook) for Two Villages Art coffee (and a doughnut, or maybe two doughnuts) at Flight Coffee Co. (209 Route

feeco.com) check out the photographs by Jennifer Fishbein, the shop's spotlighted artist for December. See jenniferfishbeinphotography.com to see more of Fishbein's work, which often highlights landscapes and

Know of an exhibit at a coffee shop, restaurant, bank or other location? Let us know at adiaz@hippopress.com.

- Young actors auditions: Auditions for the Peacock Players production of Once Upon a Mattress Youth Edition will be Sunday, Jan. 15, and Monday, Jan. 16 (from 6 to 8 p.m. on both days) for the March 17 through March 26 production of the show, according to peacockplayers.org. Auditions are open for ages 6 to 14 and will take place at 14 Court St. in Nashua. Online submissions are also welcome and due by 6 p.m. on Jan. 16, the website said. Go online to sign up for an audition time.
- Seymour in the summer: For those dreaming of warmer days, the Prescott Park Arts Festival has announced its summer 2023 musical — The Little Shop of Horrors. The show will open in the Portsmouth waterfront park on Friday, June 23, according to a press release. Virtual auditions for the musical are due Saturday, Feb. 4. Would-be Audreys and Audrey IIs can go to prescottpark.org/about/ auditions for information.
 - Save the date for Burns Night: Cele-



Photo courtesy of NH School of Ballet.

brate poet Robert Burns at the Burns Night event on Saturday, Jan. 28, at Castleton (58 Enterprise Drive in Windham) starting at 5 p.m. The event will feature such Burns Night traditions as the Salute to the Haggis and To the Lasses, according to a press release. The evening will also include a traditional Burns Night supper and the music of Celtic Beats and the New Hampshire Pipes and Drums (with Scottish country dancing). The event encourages attendees to BYO Quaich (a traditional drinking bowl) for the whisky toasts, which will be on sale at nhssa.org/ burns-night, where you can also find tickets, which cost \$70 per person.

• "NATURALLY CURIOUS"

LaBelle Winery's Derry Location (14 Route 111) is exhibiting the works of three New Hampshire Art Association artists through Jan. 22 in their "Naturally Curious," according to a press release. The artists are Cheryl Frez Bencivenga, a painter from the Monadnock region who works with acrylic paints; Howard Muscott, a photographer focuspainter from the Lakes Region, the release said. See the exhibit daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Go to labellewinery.com or call 672-9898.

2020: LOCATE" The Currier St. in Manchester; 669-6144, in Manchester; 669-6144, cur- from Gee's Bend in Alabama, wood, found objects and sculp-

rier.org) opened the nationally where several generations of touring exhibit "State of the Art 2020: Locate," which will be on a distinctive style of quilt makdisplay through Feb. 12, 2023. ing, according to the website. The exhibit "explores how different people see themselves in our society ... the artists shown 65 and up, \$10 for students, \$5 here explore how relationships, families, neighborhood and even hidden forces shape us as individuals," according to the bers. Current museum hours museum's website. Pianist Jacqueline Schwab, whose newly released album is I Lift My Lamp, will perform in response Monday through Wednesday. ing on nature, landscapes and to the exhibit in the Currier's wildlife, and Linn Stilwell, a auditorium on Sunday, Nov. 13, at 2 p.m. Admission costs \$30 and registration is currently open.

"GEE'S BEND QUILTS" Museum of Art (150 Ash St. currier.org), features five quilts

women collectively developed Museum admission costs \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors age for youth ages 13 through 17 and is free for children age 12 and under and museum memare Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed "MEMOIRS OF A GHOST

GIRLHOOD: A BLACK GIRL'S WINDOW" In the exhibit on display at the Currier Museum of Art (50 Ash St. in Manchester; 669-6144, exhibit, on display at the Cur- currier.org), "artist Alexandria "STATE OF THE ART rier Museum of Art (50 Ash Smith has created an immersive multimedia environment using wallpaper, paintings on

an original site-specific com-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 mem-8 p.m.; Friday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed Monday through Wednesday. • ART ON MAIN The City of

Concord and the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce present a year-round outdoor atre (125 Bow St., Portsmouth) public art exhibition in Con- through Dec. 23, with showcord's downtown featuring works by professional sculp- Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 tors. All sculptures will be for and 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 sale. Visit concordnhchamber. p.m. Tickets cost \$25 to \$44. com/creativeconcord, call 224-2508 or email tsink@concordn- • TRUE TALES LIVE Portshchamber.com.

Theater

Classes/workshops STORYTELLING WORK-SHOPS 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 org for more information.

• A CHRISTMAS CAROL

ture. It will be accompanied by presented by The Players' Ring Theatre (105 Marcy St., position, //windowed// by Liz Portsmouth) through Dec. 22, email info@truetaleslive.org Gre," according to the website. with showtimes on Thursday if you're interested in being a at 7 p.m., Friday at 7:30 p.m., storyteller. Saturday at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m., with additional shows Monday, Dec. 19, through Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$30 bers. Current museum hours for adults, \$27 for students and are Thursday, from 10 a.m. to seniors age 65 and up and \$17 for kids under age 12. Visit playersring.org or call 436-

> A CHRISTMAS STORY: THE MUSICAL presented by the Seacoast Repertory Thetimes on Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Visit seacoastrep.org.

mouth-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 required. Visit truetaleslivenh. 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 truetaleslivenh.org and

Classical

Events

• NEW YEAR'S EVE CHAM-PAGNE POPS performed by Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra at the Music Hall Historic Theater (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth) on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$38. Visit themusichall.org or call 436-2400.

· WINTER SERENITIES at Seifert Performing Arts Center (44 Geremonty Drive, Salem; 893-7069) will run Sat., Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m., and Sun., Feb. 19, at 2 p.m. Featuring Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis (by Vaughn-Williams). Presented by New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra. Tickets range from \$5 to \$30 for in-person seating. Visit nhpo. booktix.com. • DRAWN TO THE MUSIC:

MUSICAL TALES at Seifert Performing Arts Center (44 Geremonty Drive, Salem; 893-7069) will run Sat., April 15, and Sun., April 16, at 2 p.m. Featuring Stravinsky's Petrushka, the music for a ballet about puppets that come to life. Presented by New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra. Tickets range from \$5 to \$30 for

CAROL AT THE PALACE

The Palace Theatre's production of **A Christmas** Carol wraps up with shows on Thursday, Dec. 22, and Friday, Dec. 23, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$30 to \$51. After the Christmas weekend, the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org, 668-5588) will return with one night of the *Nutcracker* (Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 6 p.m.) followed by Recycled Percussion's run of shows from Wednesday, Dec. 28, through Saturday, Jan. 7.

WOOD IN AFRICA at Sei- return in person this fall, with ing Broadway musical songs, fert Performing Arts Center the date and location TBA. The patriotic songs, pop, jazz and (44 Geremonty Drive, Salem; fundraising event will feature seasonal pieces, for community 893-7069) will run Sat., May an evening of live performanc- and veterans' events and pri-20, at 7:30 p.m., and Sun., May 21, at 2 p.m. Featuring Gram- and a large array of silent auc- held weekly on Thursdays from my Award-nominated African tion items. Visit operanh.org. musician Mamadou Diabate on the balafon, a xylophone-like Open calls instrument. Presented by New Hampshire Orchestra. Tickets range from RUS Women's a cappella cho- ed singers are welcome. Visit \$5 to \$30 for in-person seating. Visit nhpo.booktix.com.

in-person seating. Visit nhpo. VO Opera New Hampshire American singing organiza-

ARIAS AND APERITI- group, an affiliate of the North mation.

has announced that its annu- tion Harmony, Inc., performs a · SPRING POPS: HOLLY- al "Arias and Aperitivo" will wide variety of music, includes, hors d'oeuvres, cocktails vate functions. Rehearsals are 6:45 to 8:30 p.m. at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry. Masks are • THE RHYTHM OF NEW required for singing, but both Philharmonic HAMPSHIRE SHOW CHO- vaccinated and unvaccinatrus is looking for female sing- rnhchorus.org or email info@ ers in the region to join. The rnhchorus.org for more infor-

AN EVENING WITH ART

Take a break before the holiday weekend with the Currier Museum of Art's "Art After Work" this Thursday, Dec. 22, from 5 to 8 p.m. when admission to the museum (150 Ash St. in Manchester; currier.org, 669-6144) is free and you can enjoy live music as you check out the exhibits. The museum's shop is also open (should you be in need of a last-minute gift). On Dec. 22, the scheduled performers are Kemp Harris & Adam O and the exhibit tours are "State of the Art 2020: Locate" (at 5:30 p.m.) and "Cold Snap: Winter in the

Currier's Collection" (6:30 p.m.). Current exhibits also include "Gee's Bend Quilts" and "Memoirs of a Ghost Girlhood: A Black Girl's Window."

Pictured: Kemp Harris. Photo by John Christou.



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R. Graser, Smell the Gunpowder: The **Land of the Morning Calm** is inspired by true events and veterans' firsthand accounts of Americans who served in Korea.

American military efforts in Korea began from the end of World War II through the Cold War to include two Korean Conflicts (1950-1953) and (1966-1969) and continued with the Singapore Summit 2018, the Hanoi Summit 2019, North Korea's hostile threat of nuclear conflict along with the economic and social impact of the corona-virus pandemic. Today, North Korea continues to have a nuclear arsenal and the outcome of a peace agreement is uncertain.

William R. Graser, U.S. Army (Ret) was a Sergeant First Class whose assignments included South Korea. On November 2, 1966, the second Korean conflict began, and he was assigned to a U.S. Army camp on the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). This book includes the story of his time there, as well as how that experience carried his life forward through to present day.

Available in Hard Cover and Paperback from Amazon and Barnes & Noble Outskirtspress.com/smellthegunpowder

INSIDE/OUTSIDE Let there be light

A look at light shows across southern New Hampshire

By Katelyn Sahagian ksahagian@hippopress.com

There's something magical about the twinkling of holiday lights that puts people in a festive spirit. While many lights are in residential neighborhoods, some places, like LaBelle Winery, are doing more for the season.

LaBelle has upped its lightshow this year, said Michelle Thornton, the media director at LaBelle. LaBelle Lights, which is in its second year, has grown to three times the original size. and has many brand-new displays.

"This year has really exploded," said Thornton. "There's half a million lights and a hundred displays. It's really magical."

Some things have stayed the same from last year, like the exit ornament and tunnel of lights, but overall, the show has grown in every way.

The biggest difference is that the LaBelle staff designed and built the light show themselves this year, which led the team to be more adventurous, said Thornton. New additions to the light show include Santa's sleigh lit up for the holidays, oversized iron sculpted flowers in a larger-than-life garden, and a chandelier bridge.

"When we planned, we had children in mind," Thornton said. "We asked, 'What would you like to see as a child?' but we still wanted to create some awe for adults, too,"

Another change that LaBelle has implemented are "selfie stations" Thornton said. The map of LaBelle Lights will show an icon of a phone, marking it as a prime spot to take a good pic. Thornton said that the response has been overwhelming, seeing LaBelle get tagged in dozens of social media posts each week.

One surprise from these selfie stations is seeing how many people are getting engaged at the exit ornament this year. Thornton said that she'll open the winery's social media accounts and be thrilled to see someone else's engagement photos.

"The way [the exit ornament]'s lit, I think of Cinderella's pumpkin," said Thornton. "It is lit so beautifully, it's like it's become the unofficial proposal spot of New Hampshire's

While LaBelle is a beautiful light show, sometimes it can be too cold to walk around outside. That's why parks and recreation departments in towns across New Hampshire have teamed up to create a warmer environment for light shows.

holiday displays from Salem to Amherst. The Casparius said.



LaBelle Lights. Courtesy photo.

show was started by Merrimack's park and recreation department and has more contributing homes this year than ever before, said Matthew Casparius, one of the organizers in the department.

"It's crazy," Casparius said. "Facebook has been blowing up as people like, share and comment. By Saturday I had a dozen people who had directly contacted me to ask how to get on the list."

While there's no guarantee that houses will keep lights up past Christmas, Casparius said that there's a good chance that they will stay up until the new year.

Casparius said the department used Mapquest to navigate a way through the towns to hit up as many lights as possible.

"It's a nice collection, and a free option to The Tour of Lights is a list of houses with get people out there to check out the lights,"



(PG:13//2022//151 min)

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE

redrivertheatres.org | 11 S. Main St. Suite L1-1, Concord Movie Line: 603-224-4600

Lights galore

Here's a list of light shows open through the hol- Gift of Lights idays across southern New Hampshire. Email listings@hippopress.com if there are any holiday light shows missing.

Daly Family Festival of Lights

Where: 51 Pond Lane, Fremont When: Daily, 4:30 to 9 p.m.

Visit: facebook.com/Dalyfamilyfestivaloflights

Encore of Lights

Where: Charmingfare Farm, 774 High St., Candia When: Dec. 28 through Dec. 31, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Price: Sleigh rides start at \$199

Visit: visitthefarm.com

Where: New Hampshire Motor Speedway, 1122 Route 106 North, Loudon

When: Thursday, Dec. 22, through Monday, Dec. 26, 4:30 to 10 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 27, through Thursday, Dec. 29, and Sunday, Jan. 1, 4:30 to 9 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 30, and Saturday, Dec. 31, 4:30 to 10 p.m.

Price: \$35 per car; \$60 per bus, limousine or RV

Visit: nhms com

Hudson Christmas

Where: 75 Pelham Road, Hudson When: Daily, 4:30 to 9 p.m.

Visit: facebook.com/hudsonnhchristmas

LaBelle Lights

Where: LaBelle Winery, 14 Route 111, Derry When: Wednesday through Sunday, until Jan. 15, 4:30 to 9 p.m.

Price: \$16 for teens and adults, \$10 for seniors older than 65, \$8 for children ages 4 to 12, free for children younger than 4.

Visit: labellewinery.com

New England Animated Lights

For a complete list of houses with animated light shows in New Hampshire and beyond, visit https:// tinyurl.com/yhx933mj

Southern New Hampshire Tour of Lights

Visit merrimackparksandrec.org for the complete list of locations.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUN

Dear Donna.

We have accumulated inherited Christmas balls and other decorations from family. It's time now for a new look, so we're looking to see if there is a market for these. Thanks, Donna, for your feedback. Colleen

Dear Colleen,

Old Christmas-related items are very collectible, from 100 years

old through the 1970s and even some modern ones as well.



As long as your hand-painted all of your collection a new home. Christmas balls are in good condition paint-wise and have no broken pieces or cracks you shouldn't have a problem finding them a new home. The more unusual the design and the more intricate detail the better.

The value of Christmas balls like

I hope this gave you some help and you find call her at 391-6550 or 624-8668.

Donna

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 yours is a few dollars each and up. is still doing some buying and selling. She is a So you have a little treasure there. member of The New Hampshire Antiques Deal-Should be in the \$200 range for the er Association. If you have questions about an antique or collectible send a clear photo and All the family memories, though, are priceless! information to Donna at footwdw@aol.com, or

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for whenever

Library activities

- The Nashua Public Library (2 Court St.) is hosting a **seasonal craft time** for kids in grades 6 through 12 on Tuesday, Dec. 27, from 1 to 3 p.m. The project will teach them how to ink up their own set of dice for tabletop games like *Dungeons & Dragons*. Materials will be provided by the library. Register online in advance at nashualibrary.org.
- There will be a family-friendly movie at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St.) on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 2 p.m. The library will show *Smallfoot* (PG, 2018) and provide snacks and drinks. The movie follows the friendly yeti Migo, whose life changes after he discovers humans. Visit nashualibrary.org for more information.
- Join the Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) for a **Gingerbread Earthquake** activity on Wednesday, Dec. 28, from 1 to 4 p.m. Kids in grades 1 through 6 can come by and build a gingerbread house and see if it withstands the library's earthquake simulator platform. This is the last gingerbread event of the season at the library. For more information, visit manchester.lib.nh.us.

Museum fun

- Join the Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover) during their holiday hours Wednesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., and Tuesday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon. The museum will have active play time, holiday themed activities, story times, and craft projects. Tickets cost \$12.50 per child, \$10.50 for seniors ages 65 and older, and are free for children under 1 year old. Visit childrens-museum.org to reserve a spot in advance.
- The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester) is open regular hours over the holiday break, Wednesday and Friday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The museum will be closed on Christmas Day but will be open on Christmas Eve from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors ages 65 and older, \$10 for students, \$5 for teens ages 13 to 17, and are free for children under 13 years old or members. Visit currier.org for more information or to reserve tickets online.
- The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (27 Navigator Road, Londonderry) will be open Friday, Dec. 23, and Tuesday, Dec. 27, through Friday, Dec. 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum will have the



The annual 'Holiday Festival of Model Planes and Toy Aircraft' at the Aviation Museum. Courtesy photo.

annual "Holiday Festival of Toy Planes and Model Aircraft" exhibit open during those hours. This year's exhibit features more than **2,000 toy planes and model aircraft** on display. Younger kids can participate in the 12 Planes of Christmas scavenger hunt, where they look for specific planes in the mobiles of the exhibits. Admission costs \$10 for adults 13 and older, \$5 for kids ages 6 to 12, seniors 65 and above, and veterans/active military. Kids 5 and younger are free. Visit aviationmuseumofnh.org for more information.

- SEE Science Center (200 Bedford Road, Manchester) is hosting a slew of hands-on, interactive activities during winter break. In addition to being open on Monday, Dec. 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the museum's hours will be updated to 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday through Friday. There will be different activities each day, including a chance to try a machine learning game, make a science craft to take home, or touch a fossil. For more information about the museum or to reserve tickets, visit see-sciencecenter.org.
- The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (2 Institute Drive in Concord; starhop.com, 271-7827) will be open Friday, Dec. 23, from 10:30 to 4 p.m. and then daily from Monday, Dec. 26, through Saturday, Dec. 31, from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission costs \$12 for adults, \$11 for students and seniors and \$9 for children ages 3 to 12, according to the website. Planetarium shows cost an additional \$6 per person (children ages 2 and under get in free); see times and descriptions for the different shows online. Purchase admission online to reserve a morning or afternoon visit spot.

Ice is nice

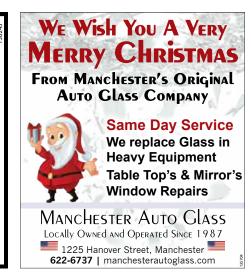
• The Douglas N. Everett Arena (15 Loudon Road, Concord) will be open on Christmas Eve from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for ice skating. Admission is \$6, with children 3 and younger being free. Ice skate rentals are \$6 a pair and there are refreshments at the snack bar. Visit concordnh. gov for more information.

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE THE GARDENING GUY

Enjoying the winter landscape

Pruned trees for outside, cut branches for inside

By Henry Homeyer listings@hippopress.com

— THE — GARDENING — **GUY** —

Normally at this time of year I can go out to the stream behind my house and pick stems of a shrub

called winterberry (Ilex verticillata) to use in vases and on my wreath. It is generally loaded with small red berries that persist until mid-winter when hungry birds eat them, or they just plain fall off.

Winterberry is a great decorative shrub in winter that prefers wet feet but will grow in ordinary garden soil too. It is dioecious, meaning that it requires male and female plants — usually one male will take care of all the females. This year I didn't get many of those bright red berries I like so much for decoration, and I have heard from other gardeners that they had few, too.

This prompted me to walk around my property looking at my woody shrubs to see what might substitute for winterberries. I didn't find any berries at all. But I did cut some red-twigged dogwood (Cornus sericea) to use in a vase, and some budded branches of a Merrill magnolia (Magnolia x loebneri).

The magnolia buds are a bit like pussywillows on steroids: an inch long and very fuzzy. I have some in a vase on the table, and they look very good, and will for many weeks ahead. I've done this before, and will occasionally get a few buds to open into white flowers. I cut some greenery to go with them, a few stems of white pine. Hemlock would look good instead, but doesn't hold needles well indoors.

It struck me that winter can be pretty bleak for people who don't have nice-looking winter shrubs and trees. Judicious pruning can transform a messy tree full of small branches going every which way into sculpture. I recently helped a client prune a 50-year-old Japanese maple into sculpture that will keep it looking great for several years — with only a few minor pruning cuts each year.

When pruning, I ask myself, what will this little branch, currently the thickness of a finger, look like when it is the thickness of an arm — or a leg. If it is growing sideways toward a walkway, it must come off. Going through the middle of the tree? Remove it! The maple I pruned had many small dead branches that had been choked out because bigger branches had blocked off the sun, effectively starving them.

Bark is important. I like plants that have exfoliating bark, which means bark that is shaggy and peeling off — thus showing more than one color. My Seven Sons Flower Tree (Heptacodium miconioides) is one of those. In addition to the nice bark it offers me a display of small white flowers each fall. White birch (Betula papyrifera) and river birch (Betula nigra) are others with interesting bark. In fact all the birches have handsome bark.



Merrill magnolia buds look like pussywillows all winter long, and bloom in late April. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

I've been growing a paperbark maple (Acer griseum) for about 20 years. It has lovely shaggy reddish-brown bark that is very handsome. It is a very slow-growing tree, at least in this climate. It is listed as a Zone 5 plant (good to minus 20 F) but mine has survived colder temperatures. It looks great in winter.

One of my favorites — but one I do not grow — is sycamore (Platanus occidentalis), which I knew growing up in Connecticut but is rare in New Hampshire where I live. It reminds me of the English plane tree, so common in Europe. The bark peels off in big swaths, showing light gray-green in some areas, dark brown in others. It is just barely hardy to Zone 4, and prefers to grow in river bottoms, but will grow in drier soils, too.

Of the bigger trees, I like American beech (Fagus sylvatica) for its smooth gray bark. Unfortunately, beeches are prone to a fungal disease that mars the bark and eventually kills the tree.

That same smooth bark is a prominent feature of a shrub known variously as shad bush, service-berry and Saskatoon bush. All belong to the genus Amelanchier but bear different species names. Most are multi-stemmed bushes that get no more than 10 feet tall, though I have a wild one more than twice that height. Their blossoms are similar to apple blossoms. They do well in partial sun, often growing and blooming on roadsides.

Apple trees, particularly crabapples, can look great in winter. Some crabs hold onto their fruit throughout much of the winter, some drop their fruit in fall and many provide fruit for the birds to eat (that disappears before winter is done). Ask at the nursery when you buy a crabapple if the birds like the fruit. The form and bark of a well-pruned apple or crabapple is gorgeous to my eye.

So if your landscape has little to offer you in winter, plan on adding some winter interest come planting time. And if your trees and shrubs are drab, think about adding some strings of little winter lights to brighten them up, at least at night.

Henry is a lifelong organic gardener, a UNH Master Gardener and the author of four gardening books. Reach him at PO Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746 or by e-mail at henry.homeyer@comcast.net.





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Pressure's on when the low-pressure warning light pops up



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:

My wife and daughter freak out when the tire pressure warning light comes on in their cars. I bought pumps that plug into what we used to call the cigarette lighter, but it's

just too complicated for them.

If the tire isn't visibly low, is it OK to drive for a while until someone else can pump it back up? — Larry

Larry, if you had a roof leak, would you patch the roof, or try to find a bucket that your wife and daughter could empty more easily? I think you're taking the wrong approach here. The real question is, Why do their tires keep losing air?

For most people, seeing the low tire pressure warning light is a rare occurrence. A tire in good working order shouldn't lose any air at all or should lose it so slowly that the light comes on somewhere between once a year and never.

The problem with many low-pressure warning lights is that they don't tell you a lot. They generally come on once the tire pressure falls about 10 percent below

where it's supposed to be. So, if your tire calls for 32 psi, for instance, and your pressure drops to 28, the light will come on. And at that point, you're probably not in a lot of immediate danger.

But how fast is it dropping? Are you losing 1 psi per month? Or 1 psi per hour? The light won't tell you that. And once the light is on, it can't come on again to say, "Hey, now you're really low. I mean it, pull over!"

A visual inspection isn't much use either. To the untrained eye, it can be hard to tell the difference between a tire that's down 10 percent and a tire that's down 30 percent. And the danger is that if you drive on a tire that's under-filled, the tire can overheat. That's particularly true if you're driving at high speed and in hotter weather.

If the tire overheats, its inner structure can pull apart and cause a blowout, leading to a loss of control of the car and other unpleasant things. So, I generally recommend you address a low tire as soon as reasonably possible. Obviously, if it's warm out and you're driving at highway speed, you should act with much greater urgency.

But the bigger question for you, Larry, is, Why do these tires keep losing air? You could have a leak that's caused by a

flaw or nail hole in the tire itself, it could be a bad filler valve or it could be a problem with the rim, where the rubber of the tire meets the metal of the wheel.

If you're losing air regularly, a tire shop can submerge each tire and find the leak and fix it for you. That's the best solution, Larry. And you can finance the repair by selling those air pumps on eBay.

Dear Car Talk:

You missed a chance to tell John (the guy with the swollen lug nuts) to just go to his Friendly Local Auto Parts Store to get replacement lug nuts for his 2015 Lincoln MKZ.

I had the same problem, and my local O'Reilly store had a set of four for \$10. Buying them there for all four wheels totaled \$40 (plus tax) vs. the Lincoln dealership's \$100 (plus tax). — Dennis

This is a fine solution, Dennis. As long as you are willing and able to remove the old lug nuts yourself.

There are a lot of readers who just don't want to remove a set of lug nuts and then make sure the new ones are torqued to the right specification. And, in some cases, when the nuts are swollen, they can be hard to remove. But, if you're will-

ing and able to remove the old ones and install the new ones, you can save yourself \$60 with Dennis' advice. Go with my blessing, child.

Dear Car Talk:

You recently answered a question about swollen lug nuts that the manufacturer's wrench would not fit. I had the same problem with a flat tire on a 2011 Toyota van. Even the AAA guy had trouble removing the wheel.

My solution was to buy a slightly larger, 22 mm X 1/2 inch socket that I attached to an (18-inch) expandable socket wrench, which gives you lots of torque. The socket fits all the expanded nuts. I leave the wrench in the car. Cost was about \$40.

Of course, I haven't had a flat since I bought this. Different cars will require a different-sized socket. — Charles

Another good, money-saving solution, if you're a do-it-yourselfer and comfortable with tools.

And, as long as the lug nuts don't swell up any more before your next flat tire, and require a 23mm socket by then, Charles, I think you'll be OK.

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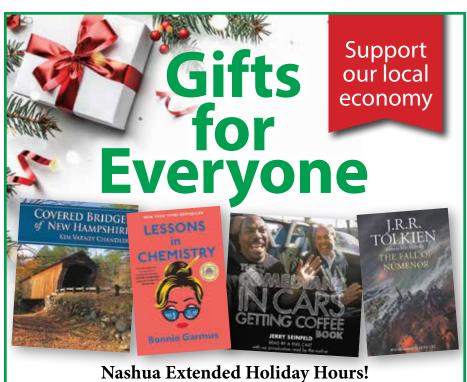
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FRI 6

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WINTER AT THE REX

DECEMBER

FRI 30 Juston McKinney's Year in Review **SAT 31** Juston McKinney's Year in Review

8:00PM

8:00PM

7:30PM

7:30PM

JANUARY.

Friday Night Comedy: Drew Dunn and Friends!

A Celebration of the Allman Brothers Band with Idlewild 7:30PM **FRI 13** Friday Night Comedy: Carolyn Plummer and Friends 7:30PM **SAT 14** An Evening with Folk Legend Dave Mallett 7:30PM **FRI 20** Friday Night Comedy: Brian Glowacki and Friends 7:30PM SAT 21 An Evening with Chris Barron from the Spin Doctors 7:30PM

FEBRUARY-

Magic Rocks! Illusionist Leon Etienne

Panorama: A Tribute to the Cars SAT 4 7:30PM WED 8 Silent Film: Safety Last 7:00PM SAT 11 April Cushman featuring Charlie Chronopoulos 7:30PM SAT 18 Postcards from Heaven with Maureen Hancock 7:00PM **SUN 19** Postcards from Heaven with Maureen Hancock 2:00PM **SAT 25** An Evening with Singer/Songwriter Teddy Thompson 7:30PM

MARCH

SAT 4 Divas with a Twist in Concert 7:30PM FRI 31 Morgan James with Special Guest Kirk Hurmond 7:30PM

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ON THE JOB

ERNIE DASCOLI

WINDOW TREATMENT SPECIALIST

Ernie Dascoli is the owner of Made In The Shade, a custom window treatment business in Windham.

Explain your job and what it entails.

I'm the owner of a custom window treatment company. My job entails overseeing the day-to-day operations, which entails mostly marketing, sales and install coordination. I help people transition their homes by using blinds, shades, shutter and draperies products that dress up their windows and change the entire feel of rooms in their home.

How long have you had this job?

I started the business this year and have enjoyed a lot of early success, considering you hear most companies struggle at the beginning.

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

I've always been in corporate sales for packaging manufacturers, so the interaction with the client came naturally. I was looking to transition out of the corporate grind and build a company of my own. I was burnt out from traveling all over the country and spending 100-plus nights on the road and weekly conferences and Zoom calls that seemed to accomplish nothing except give the group a reason to jump on another call. It left me with a very unfulfilling feeling inside, and I felt destined to do something better for myself.

What kind of education or training did you need?

The education never stops. I spent a week at the corporate franchise office learning the basics of running the business. I then took it on my own to work with some local window treatment installers to learn the products and how they are installed. I also spent a lot of time meeting with my window treatment manufacturers to learn about all the products and trends in the window treatment industry.

What is your typical at-work uniform or attire?

Depends on what hat I'm wearing. For in-home consultations, I dress more professionally — dress pants and a golf or button-down dress shirt. If I am doing an install, I'll be wearing work pants or jeans and a golf shirt of some sort. No matter what, it is always important to look respectful at a customer's home.

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

Being a relatively new business, things are changing constantly. From the beginning of the year until now, I feel like I've lived through two dramatic swings that most businesses don't experience for years. In the beginning of 2022, business was booming, but these past few months business has slowed due to inflation pressures and a downturn in the economy on the brink of a recession. You need to roll with the punches and keep adjusting. It's important to stay ahead of the business environment and keep on learning.



Ernie Dascoli. Courtesy

What do you wish other people knew about your job?

What do you wish you'd known

When you work for a large

at the beginning of your career?

company, no matter how much

you like the company or the peo-

ple you work with, you're still

an employee, and everyone is

replaceable. There's not a lot of

loyalty. I should have started my

I'm always looking out for my customer's best interest. When I have happy customers, that is the most rewarding part of the job.

own business earlier.

What was the first job you ever had? I was a caddy at a country club in town.

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

No matter how bad you think a situation is, it's usually not as bad as you think it is, and most of the time it works itself out.

— Angie Sykeny 🦟

Five favorites

Favorite book: The Lizard King **Favorite movie:** True Romance

Favorite music: '80s, grunge, rock and

metal

Favorite food: Pizza

Favorite thing about NH: The Lakes



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News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll food@hippopress.com

- · Celebrate with wine: Winemaker Amy LaBelle of LaBelle Winery in Amherst and Derry is also now a published author. Her debut book, Wine Weddings: The Ultimate Guide to Creating the Wine-Themed Wedding of Your Dreams, was released Dec. 16, according to a press release. The book covers how to create a wine-inspired wedding theme and aesthetic, focusing on topics like creating mood boards, vineyard ceremonies, invitation designs, signature drinks, menu selection and wine choices. It also includes a section about working with vendors. "Couples can think of Wine Weddings as a road map for navigating the wedding-planning process, resulting in a memorable experience for everyone involved," LaBelle said in a statement. A 10-year veteran of the wine industry, LaBelle and her team have hosted hundreds of weddings at both of their vineyard locations — the book is even filled with photographs taken at actual weddings hosted at the winery, according to the release. LaBelle also shares the details of planning her own wedding and offers professional guidance for planning and hosting weddings of every size and type. Wine Weddings is available now for purchase on LaBelle's website at amylabelle.com, as well as through Amazon or the winery's website at labellewinery.com. According to the release, the electronic version of the book will be released on Jan. 4.
- The cat's meow: If you've visited the Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester) recently, then the cat's likely out of the bag on this one. Cat Alley Cafe, as the shop's in-house cafe is now known, is a sister location of Restoration Cafe on Hanover Street. Its new branding is inspired by local artist Brooke Van Gurp, according to its Instagram page, who recently finished a special Cat Alley Cafe mural of "Bob the Cat" on its walls. Cat Alley Cafe is open seven days a week, featuring a menu of soups, sandwiches and salads - with varying weekly selections — along with fresh baked goods and locally roasted coffees. In late 2021, the Bookery had announced a partnership with Restoration Cafe owner Tom Puskarich to reimagine the store's food and drink menu. Follow them on Instagram @catalleycafe.
- North Nashua Mexican eatery returns: California Burritos Mexican Grill officially reopened its location at 2 Cellu Drive in North Nashua on Dec. 15, owner and founder Raul Cabrera recently announced. The storefront, which had previously closed for renovations back in the spring, is now

FOOD New Year's eats

Get ready to welcome 2023 at a local restaurant or bar

By Matt Ingersoll mingersoll@hippopress.com

Ring in 2023 with a special multi-course meal or a midnight Champagne toast at one of these New Hampshire restaurants, bars and function centers. Reservations are filling up fast for many — be sure to contact each establishment directly for the most up-to-date details on availability.

- 815 Cocktails & Provisions (815 Elm St., Manchester, 782-8086, 815nh.com) will hold a special '80s prom-themed New Year's Eve party on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 8 p.m., with dancing, contests, hors d'oeuvres, unlimited photo booth use and a featured open bar menu. Tickets are \$120 per person and can be purchased in advance online.
- Averill House Vineyard (21 Averill Road, Brookline, 244-3165, averillhouse-vineyard.com) will hold a special Brazilian New Year's Eve dinner and wine pairing on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 6:30 p.m. In addition to a pre-set five-course meal with wine pairings, the evening will include a dessert wine to ring in the new year, and a 9 p.m. count-down (midnight Brazilian time). Tickets are \$89 per person and reservations are being accepted online now.
- Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com) will hold a special four-course prix fixe New Year's Eve dinner on Saturday, Dec. 31, with seatings from 5 to 9:30 p.m. The meal will include your choice of an appetizer (Dunk's mushroom toast, Wagyu beef carpaccio, New Hampshire cheese board, broiled Cape Cod oysters, kabocha squash and ricotta agnolotti or lobster bisque); a salad (baby red oak or mache and watercress salad); an entree (grilled filet mignon, smoked New Bedford sea scallops, herb-marinated Australian grass-fed lamb rack, pan-roasted Arctic char, cornbread-crusted Icelandic cod loin, Long Island duck breast or maple-roasted delicata squash); and a dessert (bananas Foster bread pudding, peach bellini sorbet, pistachio cake, chocolate turtle torte or hot chocolate baked Alaska). The cost is \$95 per person, and the Inn's igloos can also be reserved on New Year's Eve with a \$150 rental fee, a \$400 food and beverage minimum and a bottle of Champagne included. Additionally, the Inn's Trattoria Fondi will be open for breakfast from 8:30 to 11 a.m. and for dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. on New Year's Eve. On Sunday, Jan. 1, the Inn's dining room will be open for brunch from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., while Trattoria Fondi will be open for breakfast from 8 to 10:30 a.m., and for lunch and dinner from 4 to 9 p.m.
 - Bistro 603 (345 Amherst St., Nashua,

722-6362, bistro603nashua.com) will open for brunch at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 31, with dinner service starting at 3 p.m. that will include a special features menu and — later on — a DJ and a complimentary Champagne toast at midnight.

- Buckley's Great Steaks (438 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack, 424-0995, buckleysgreatsteaks.com) will be open on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 4 to 9 p.m., serving its regular dinner menu in addition to some seasonal specials, like seared scallops, line-caught Atlantic halibut and 24-ounce grilled porterhouse steak. Reservations are being accepted online now.
- Cask & Vine (1 E. Broadway, Derry, 965-3454, cask.life) will hold its 10th anniversary celebration on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 5 p.m., which will have an "apocalypse" theme. Guests are invited to dress as either a "survivor" or a "zombie," and the evening will include a Champagne toast at midnight to ring in the new year. A \$50 deposit is required per attendee, which will then be applied to your check at the end of the night.
- Castleton Banquet and Conference Center (58 Enterprise Road, Windham, 898-6300, castletonbcc.com) is hosting a special New Year's Eve party on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 7 p.m., which is being organized by East Coast Entertainment. In addition to a cash bar, attendees will be treated to a three-course meal featuring a mixed garden salad with dinner rolls, petite filet mignon duet with lemon caper chicken and dessert. Also included will be a DJ and a 50/50 raffle. Tickets are \$225 per person (event is 21+ only).
- CJ's Great West Grill (782 S. Willow St., Manchester, 627-8600, cjsgreatwestgrill.com) will be open until 10 p.m. on New Year's Eve (Saturday, Dec. 31).
- Colby Hill Inn (33 The Oaks, Henniker, 428-3281, colbyhillinn.com) will hold a special six-course sparkling wine dinner for New Year's Eve, happening on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 7 to 10:30 p.m. The meal will include nut and wild mushroom foie gras, New Hampshire oysters two ways, cassoulet with flageolet beans, duck confit, mushrooms and andouille sausage, your choice of an entree (petite tournedos with lobster tail, Moroccan spiced rack of lamb or pan-seared cod), a "white winter festival" dessert featuring a coconut cup with white chocolate gelato, crisp meringue, lavender snow and a gold leaf, and a plate of mignardises as the last course, served with coffee, tea or espresso. The cost is \$150 per person, and overnight guests also have the option to attend a Champagne brunch the following morning.
- Copper Door Restaurant (15 Leavy Drive, Bedford, 488-2677; 41 S. Broad-



way, Salem, 458-2033; copperdoor.com) will serve a special prix fixe dinner menu for New Year's Eve on Saturday, Dec. 31, beginning at 4 p.m. at both locations. Dinners feature your choice of two-course, three-course or four-course meals, with options like truffled risotto, crispy Tuscan meatballs, shrimp bisque, butternut-apple salad, grilled filet oscar, sesame-crusted tuna, crispy duck confit, truffled mushroom ravioli, caramel apple pie, sugar cookie cupcake and chocolate hazelnut cheesecake. The cost is \$74 per person for a two-course meal, \$84 for a three-course meal and \$94 for a four-course meal. Reservations are highly recommended.

- Cotton (75 Arms St., Manchester, 622-5488, cottonfood.com) will serve dinner on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 4 to 8:30 p.m., featuring its regular menu with some specials. Reservations are encouraged.
- CR's The Restaurant (287 Exeter Road, Hampton, 929-7972, crstherestaurant.com) will be open for dinner on New Year's Eve (Saturday, Dec. 31) from 5 to 9:30 p.m., featuring an a la carte with holiday specials and its most popular regular items. Live music will also be featured from 5 to 10 p.m. Reservations are required.
- The Derryfield Restaurant (625 Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-2880, thederryfield.com) will hold a New Year's Eve party on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 9 p.m., featuring live music by the Chad LaMarsh band. Tickets are \$25.
- Firefly American Bistro & Bar (22 Concord St., Manchester, 935-9740, fireflynh.com) will be open for brunch from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and for dinner from 4 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 31. On Sunday, Jan. 1, Firefly will be open for brunch from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and for dinner from 4 to 8 p.m.
- Flannel Tavern (345 Suncook Valley Road, Chichester, 406-1196, flanneltavern. com) will host a special Rocking New Year's Eve celebration all day long on Saturday, Dec. 31, from noon to 9 p.m., featuring food and drink specials and a full schedule of live local music acts.
- The Foundry Restaurant (50 Commercial St., Manchester, 836-1925, foundrynh. com) will be open on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 4 to 10 p.m., serving its regular dinner



menu with some specials. On Sunday, Jan. 1, The Foundry will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for brunch only.

- Gauchos Churrascaria Brazilian Steakhouse (62 Lowell St., Manchester, 669-9460, gauchosbraziliansteakhouse.com) will serve dinner on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 4 to 8:30 p.m. Reservations are highly recommended.
- Giorgio's Ristorante & Bar (270 Granite St., Manchester, 232-3323; 707 Milford Road, Merrimack, 883-7333; 524 Nashua St., Milford, 673-3939; giorgios.com) is open regular hours on Saturday, Dec. 31, at all three locations.
- Granite Restaurant & Bar (The Centennial Hotel, 96 Pleasant St., Concord, 227-9005, graniterestaurant.com) will be open regular hours on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 5 to 9 p.m. (and until 10 p.m. at the bar), serving their regular dinner menu with some specials.
- Greenleaf (54 Nashua St., Milford, 213-5447, greenleafmilford.com) will serve a special multi-course dinner for New Year's Eve on Saturday, Dec. 31, with four seatings, at 5, 6, 7 and 8 p.m. Courses will include vichyssoise, scallop crudo, lobster and truffle ravioli, grilled rib-eye and hazel-nut cake. The cost is \$125 per person and optional wine pairings are also available for an additional \$25 fee. Each dinner also includes a celebratory glass of bubbles. Reservations with a non-refundable \$50 deposit are required.
- Hanover Street Chophouse (149 Hanover St., Manchester, 644-2467, hanoverstreetchophouse.com) will be open on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 5 to 9 p.m., serving a special prix fixe five-course dinner menu. The cost is \$105 per person and reservations are required.
- LaBelle Winery (14 Route 111, Derry, 672-9898, labellewinery.com) will hold a special Swinging Big Band New Year's Eve dinner on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 6 to 10:30 p.m. The event will include a three-course plated dinner and a performance by the Freese Brothers Big Band in LaBelle's vineyard ballroom. Enjoy a winter kale salad, your choice of an entree (New York strip steak or roasted vegetable cannelloni) and a trio of profiterole for dessert. Tickets are \$100 per

person and include the dinner, a wine pouring, the band performance and admission to LaBelle Lights after the show.

- Los Reyes Street Tacos and More (127 Rockingham Road, Derry, 845-8327, losreyesstreettacos.com) will be open on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Martingale Wharf Restaurant & Bar (99 Bow St., Suite W, Portsmouth, 431-0901, martingalewharf.com) will hold a special First Night event on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 9 p.m., featuring food and cocktails, ice bars and ice sculptures by Jeff Day, a DJ and more.
- Mile Away Restaurant (52 Federal Hill Road, Milford, 673-3904, mileawayrestaurantnh.com) will serve a multi-course meal for New Year's Eve on Saturday, Dec. 31, featuring your choice of an appetizer (seafood chowder. Swedish meatballs or fruit with sorbet, or you can substitute shrimp cocktail or escargots); a salad (Caesar salad or garden salad with blue cheese, house ranch, raspberry vinaigrette or balsamic dressing); an entree (sliced roast tenderloin of beef, grilled duck breast, chicken Wellington, scallops and lobster ravioli, roasted stuffed acorn squash, baked stuffed jumbo shrimp or baked stuffed scrod — all entrees come with your choice of garlic mashed potatoes, Swiss potato or rice, and your choice of butternut squash, pickled beets or applesauce); and a dessert (chocolate mousse cake, flourless chocolate cake, bourbon bread pudding, cheesecake or lemon mascarpone cake). The cost is \$55 per person and entree orders are required with all reservations.
- MT's Local Kitchen & Wine Bar (212 Main St., Nashua, 595-9334, mtslocal.com) will be open on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 4 to 9 p.m., serving its regular dinner menu in addition to some seasonal specials, like oyster Rockefeller, lamb shank and grilled rib-eye. Reservations are being accepted online now.
- New England's Tap House Grille (1292 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 782-5137, taphousenh.com) will be open from Saturday, Dec. 31, from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on Sunday, Jan. 1, from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- New Hampshire Pizza Co. (76 N. Main St., Concord, 333-2125, newhampshirepizzaco.com) will be open on Saturday, Dec. 31, from noon to 10 p.m. and on Sunday, Jan. 1, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., for brunch.
- The Peddler's Daughter (48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlersdaughter. com) will offer various appetizer and entree specials on New Year's Eve, like shrimp and corn bisque, baked stuffed shrimp, ginger pork gyozas, prime rib with potatoes and green beans, chicken roulade stuffed with spinach and goat cheese over whipped potatoes with pan sauce, and spicy orange glazed salmon over sauteed vegetables. There will also be live music from the band Take 4 and a Champagne toast at midnight.





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- Piccola Italia Ristorante (815 Elm St., Manchester, 606-5100, piccolaitalianh.com) will serve dinner on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 4 to 9 p.m.
- Portsmouth Gas Light Co. (64 Market St., Portsmouth, 430-8582, portsmouthgaslight.com) will hold a special "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood" New Year's Eve celebration on Saturday, Dec. 31, starting at 8 p.m., featuring passed hors d'oeuvres, a brick oven craft pizza buffet and a Champagne toast at midnight. Tickets start at \$75 general admission.
- Raleigh Wine Bar + Eatery (67 State St., Portsmouth, 427-8459, raleighwine-bar.com) will serve a special four-course New Year's Eve dinner on Saturday, Dec. 31, with optional wine pairings. Two seatings are available, at 6 or 9 p.m. Featured items to choose from will include roasted cabbage, oysters with caviar and Champagne, coal-roasted venison, roasted sirloin, chocolate torte and chestnut brown butter cake. The cost is \$120 per person with a Champagne toast (additional \$50 if wine pairings are included). Reservations require a \$25 deposit per person.
- The Republic of Campo (969 Elm St., Manchester, 666-3723, republiccafe. com and campoenoteca.com) is scheduled to hold its final day of service on Saturday, Dec. 31, from noon to 9:30 p.m., before owners Edward Aloise and Claudia Rippee prepare to put the restaurants up for sale.
- Saddle Up Saloon (92 Route 125, Kingston, 347-1313, saddleupsaloonnh.com) will host a special New Year's Eve party on Saturday, Dec. 31. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., featuring your choice of prime rib, half-roasted chicken or baked haddock (each entree also comes with mashed potatoes and veggies). Local party cover band Casual Gravity will then perform from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. The cost is \$60 per person and also includes a Champagne toast at midnight, followed by a pizza buffet.
- Sea Dog Brewing Co. (9 Water St., Exeter, 793-5116, seadogbrewing.com) is celebrating New Year's Eve on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 9:30 p.m. to midnight, with various hors d'oeuvres and a complimentary Champagne toast at midnight.

- The Shaskeen Irish Pub and Restaurant (909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, shaskeenirishpub.com) will host a special New Year's Eve party on Saturday, Dec. 31, featuring a food buffet from 8 to 10 p.m., a midnight Champagne toast, and music by Chris Bennett, a.k.a. DJ Myth. The cost is \$60 per person.
- The Side Bar (845 Lafayette Road, Hampton, 601-6311, thesidebarnh.com) will hold a special New Year's Eve party on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 9 p.m., featuring a complimentary pizza and appetizer buffet, drink specials and live entertainment from DJ CHN all night long, and a Champagne toast at midnight. Tickets are \$25 in advance via Eventbrite and \$30 at the
- Surf Restaurant (207 Main St., Nashua, 595-9293; 99 Bow St., Portsmouth, 334-9855; surfseafood.com) will be open on Saturday, Dec. 31, from 4 to 9 p.m. at its Nashua location and from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at its Portsmouth location, serving its regular dinner menus in addition to some seasonal specials, like smokey tomato bisque, crispy calamari and Alaskan king crab futomaki, grilled rib-eye and scallop surf and turf, and pan-seared halibut. Reservations are being accepted online now for any size party.
- T-Bones Great American Eatery (25 S. River Road, Bedford, 641-6100; 404 S. Main St., Concord, 715-1999; 39 Crystal Ave., Derry, 434-3200; 77 Lowell Road, Hudson, 882-6677; 1182 Union Ave., Laconia, 528-7800; 311 S. Broadway, Salem, 893-3444; t-bones.com) will be open on Saturday, Dec. 31, until 10 p.m., at all of its locations.
- The Village Trestle (25 Main St., Goffstown, 497-8230, villagetrestle.com) will host a special "New Year's Bash" on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 7 p.m., featuring food and drink specials, party favors, live music by the Bob Pratte Band and a Champagne toast at midnight. No cover charge is required for admission.
- The Wild Rose Restaurant (Stonehurst Manor, 3351 White Mountains Hwy., North Conway, 356-3113, thewildroserestaurant.com) will hold a special four-course New Year's Eve dinner on Saturday, Dec. 31, with two seatings at 6 or 9 p.m. The dinner includes your choice of an appetizer (scallops wrapped in bacon, shrimp cocktail, Jonah crab cakes, pumpkin ravioli or crab and lobster bisque); a Caesar salad; an entree (pit smoked and aged prime rib of beef, lobster ravioli, filet of cod with a lobster cream sauce, grilled New York strip steak, half-roasted duck, shrimp, scallops, lobster and Jonah crab meat in a garlic basil Parmesan cream sauce, or grilled rack of lamb); and a dessert (blueberry cheesecake, flourless double dark chocolate torte, chef-made caramel pecan ice cream or vanilla creme brulee). The cost is \$88 per person and also includes coffee and tea.

ITCHEN

Megan Sampson of Hudson and her aunt, Vicki Abbott, are The Soup Ladies (thesoupladies. com, find them on Facebook), offering a product lineup of nine all-natural soups and one no-cook pasta salad, all of which come as dry mixes with either air-dried or freeze-dried ingredients — for most of them, just add water. Options include everything from a split pea soup and a corn chowder to a quinoa medley, a sweet potato chili



Megan Sampson of The Soup Ladies, based in Hudson. Courtesy photo.

and a turkey stew and pot pie filling. Originally known as Homemade Specialty, the business started 11 years ago when Abbott, its owner and founder, would make split pea soup as a teacher's gift. Eventually she started introducing more soups that she would sell at local craft fairs, and that soon led to taking on some wholesale accounts. She and Sampson now run the company - rebranded as The Soup Ladies earlier this year — together. Today, their products are available in more than two dozen farm stands, country stores, butcher shops and other establishments across New Hampshire, Massachusetts and a few other states, and can also be ordered online to ship.

What is your must-have kitchen item?

Our newest tool that we have ... is our automatic sealer. We used to have to do and we can do five bags at a time versus us doing them individually. So it saves us quite a bit of time. It's honestly the best purchase that I think we've made as a company.

What would you have for your last meal?

Lobster, pretty much any way I can get it. ... I generally like them just steamed, or if I'm ever in the Portland, Maine, area, we always go to The Highroller, which has the Hampshire right now? best lobster rolls.

What is your favorite local restaurant?

Luk's Bar and Grill [in Hudson]. ... It's always consistent and the food is always great. My favorite thing to get there is their cauliflower wings. I have to get them every single time.

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

Gordon Ramsay. ... I feel our products are great, but I would like to see what his opinion is.

What is your favorite product that you offer?

There are two. We have our sweet potaeverything by hand, but now we have a heat to chili that we developed and it's our most sealer that will seal and trim the bag for us, popular soup. I really enjoy that one; however, I've had it many times, so you're obviously not always looking for more of a heavier soup or a chili. ... So my second favorite is our quinoa medley. It's more of a lighter, feel-good kind of soup, and it has a ton of vegetables in it, which is right up my alley.

What is the biggest food trend in New

I feel like plant-based foods are kind of trending right now. I myself ... am pretty much 90 percent plant-based — I consume meat on occasion, but I don't have it that often. But I am noticing it more and more at restaurants, and even at the grocery store, that they are tending to have more plantbased items.

What is your favorite thing to cook at

I like to make stuffed portobello mushrooms. ... I'm actually the only one in my household that likes mushrooms, so whenever I can make them for myself, I try to.

— Matt Ingersoll 🦛

Sweet potato chili dip

From the kitchen of Megan Sampson of The Soup Ladies, thesoupladies.com

- 1 package The Soup Ladies sweet potato chili
- 1 14.5-ounce can no-salt diced tomatoes
- 1 pound North Country Smokehouse chorizo brandy sausage, sliced
- 8 ounces Cabot shredded cheese
- 16 ounces Cabot sour cream
- Shredded lettuce
- Fresh diced tomatoes
- Diced jalapenos and chopped scallions (optional)

Cook the sweet potato chili mix as directed. Brown the sausage and add into the chili mix the last 20 minutes of cooking time. Set the cooked chili aside until cooled. Top the chili with sour cream and sprinkle on the shredded cheese, shredded lettuce and fresh diced tomatoes. For a little added spice, try adding diced jalapenos and chopped scallions. Refrigerate for one hour to set the dip. Serve with tortilla chips and enjoy.



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TRY THIS AT HOME

Apple cranberry compote

I am back to thinking about snacks again this week. Why not? December is basically a month-long eating festival.

In the world of snacking, although charcuterie boards are ever so popular, sometimes it is nice to offer just one type of cheese and cracker. However, you can elevate that pairing by adding some toppings. You can keep it simple with some Dijon mustard or honey to drizzle on the cheese and crackers, or you can make it just a bit fancier with this apple cranberry compote.

And if you have leftover compote, a night at home and time to cook a meal, you can serve the compote with roast chicken or pork. Fancier than plain applesauce, it adds a nicely sweet component to your protein.

Let's talk about the ingredients. For the apple, you want a firmer variety. I prefer a Granny Smith or Fuji; you can choose any apple that would work well for baking. As you'll see in the recipe, I add a tablespoon of brandy. It's optional, but it does add a tiny bit of flavor as well as a hint of warmth. The rest of the ingredients are fairly straight for-



Apple cranberry compote. Courtesy photo.

ward. If you're looking for a bit more pop to this recipe, feel free to finish it with the tiniest pinch of salt. It will make the sweetness of the compote shine even more.

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.

Apple cranberry compote Serves 4

4 apples, peeled and cored

2 Tablespoons lemon juice

1 Tablespoon brandy, optional

3/8 cup light brown sugar

1/2 teaspoon cinnamon 1/4 cup dried cranberries

Dice apples into small, bite-sized pieces.

Combine apples, lemon juice, brandy, sugar and cinnamon in a medium-sized pot over medium-high heat.

Bring to a boil, then turn to low and cover. Simmer for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add dried cranberries, cover, and cook for another 5 minutes, stirring once or twice.

Remove from heat, uncover, and allow to cool slightly.

Serve or transfer to a storage container and refrigerate.

Food & Drink Local farmers markets

 Contoocook Farmers Market is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. ersmarket. to noon, inside Maple Street Elementary School (194 Maple every other Saturday, from 10 Facebook @contoocookfarmers-

Farmers Market is Saturdays, nhfarmersmarket.com. from 9 a.m. to noon, at 7 Eagle

@downtownconcordwinterfarm-

• Milford Farmers Market is St., Hopkinton). Find them on a.m. to 1 p.m., inside the Milford Town Hall Auditorium (1 Union Square). The next market is hap-• Downtown Concord Winter pening on Jan. 14. Visit milford- at LaBelle Winery Derry (14

• Rollinsford Farmers Market ersmarket.org.

Square in Concord, through is on select Saturdays, from 10 April. Find them on Facebook a.m. to 2 p.m., at Wentworth Greenhouses (141 Rollins Road, Rollinsford). Upcoming markets are on Jan. 21, Feb. 18, and March 4 and 18. Visit seacoasteatlocal.org.

• Salem Farmers Market is Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Route 111). Visit salemnhfarm-

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 24

open again with expanded seating and production space, as well as a margarita bar. Cabrera, a native of El Salvador, has a total of four California Burritos locations in New Hampshire. His family opened the first one on Factory Street in Nashua in late 2014, before expanding to Hudson in 2017, the Cellu Drive location in 2018 and Manches-

ter in February 2020. Each eatery serves authentic Mexican options like tacos, burritos, bowls and quesadillas in a fast casual, counter-service setting, along with traditional Salvadoran dishes like pupusas, or handmade corn tortillas filled with cheese, refried beans and chicharrón (pork). Visit californiaburritosnh.com or find them on Facebook.

The Bee-Bee.

The Bee-Bee

A hot drink for the holidays

By John Fladd food@hippopress.com

I've got a rule of thumb that makes a deceptive amount of sense.

When you're looking at used copies of cookbooks, buy the one that is in the worst shape. If it's badly stained and has torn pages, a broken spine and mysterious burn marks, that's the one that has seen

some action. Somebody was loyal enough to the recipes in it to take it into the belly of the beast. It must have something to recommend it.

Anyone I've ever given that advice to has nodded and agreed that this seems really reasonable.

The deception comes into play over time. Over the years, I've adopted an alarming number of these battle-scarred books, most of which have gone relatively unused.

A case in point is 1969's *Esquire Drink Book*. I don't remember how it ended up in my cocktail bookcase, but it is a perfect time capsule of Swinging '60s bachelor drinks.

For example, the Bee-Bee.

Even by the standards of the time, the description of the Bee-Bee is a little tone-deaf, sexism and other isms-wise.

"This will bring on leprechauns and williwaws after the third cup," he says.

Given that 3 cups of bourbon is 24 ounces of 100-proof alcohol, I suspect that it would be more likely to bring on paramedics and divorce attorneys, and yet—

Classic Bee-Bee

Ingredients

Zest of one lime – one of the really dark, leathery-looking ones

Zest of one orange – just a regular, undemanding orange

1 Tablespoon honey

1 cup bourbon – given how much you are going to adulterate it, probably not your best stuff.

Also, have an instant-read thermometer.

Heat all ingredients to a boil in a small saucepan, over medium-low heat. (The lower temperature will give the alcohol time to strip some of the flavorful oils from the citrus rinds.) Bring to a temperature of about 170°. Alcohol boils off at a lower temperature than water, so bringing this to a full boil will strip off most of the bourbon. (I flamed off all the alcohol from some rum once and "disappointing" does not begin to describe the results.)

Rest for three minutes. This will give the bourbon a little more time to wash the citrus zest. Yes, it will cool somewhat, but you do the exact same

thing when you make a good cup of tea. Think of this as extremely dodgy tea.

Strain through a fine-mesh strainer into an

Irish coffee glass. To be clear, this is 8 ounces of bourbon and, at 170, the alcohol doesn't cook off. You'll want to share this one with a few fellow revelers to stay upright.

Shockingly, this is very good. Dangerously good. The bourbon is mellowed out by the honey and citrus. It tastes comforting. It has subtle butterscotch notes that suggest that maybe things aren't that bad. That maybe you'll get through

all this. That maybe you should make another cup—

So I guess the question is this: Is there a way of lightening the Bee-Bee up so you don't end up making a pass at a hat rack, and yet that doesn't strip it completely of its dangerously seductive nature?

Maybe.

Modified Bee-Bee

Ingredients

Zest of 1 lime – dark and leathery Zest of 1 orange – calm and demure

3 ounces ginger brandy – I like Jacquin's

1 ounce Irish whiskey – I like Paddy's for this. It brings a lot of flavor, without taking itself too seriously.

1 Tablespoon hot honey

½ cup boiling water

And that same thermometer, which has probably been surprised and delighted to find itself in an adult beverage today instead of a pork chop.

Again, heat all the ingredients except the water in a small saucepan, over medium-low heat, bringing the mix to 170°.

Again, rest for three minutes.

Strain into an Irish coffee glass, stir in the hot water.

This version of the Bee-Bee doesn't taste the same as the original, but it has the same "Hey, buddy, I don't know if anyone has told you lately, but you are very attractive and have a really great sense of style" quality of debauched, contented comfort to it. (Keep in mind that while only half as dangerous as its big brother, this drink still has 4 ounces of alcohol in it. For either drink, sharing is strongly recommended.) The ginger plays well with the spice of the hot honey. The alcohol is still there and lets you know that it is still there, but it plays so well with the citrus that you hardly notice the number of ill-advised ideas you come up with over the next half hour.

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





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POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS, MOVIES AND MORE

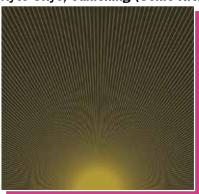
Sarah Pagé, "Méduses" [single] (Forward Music)



You might remember this Montreal. Canada-based harp-experimentalist from her 2019 album Dose Curves, or, more likely of course, not, but as avant-music goes, this is something that might interest you, as she's been working on a new record titled Voda, and this single is intended as a teaser for that. This bizarre piece features cellist Vera Ronkos, bassist Jonah Fortune, and Pagé on bowed harp, all working to create a sound tri-

angulation that bespeaks weird undersea goings-on. "Méduses" is French for jellyfish, and they've nailed the vibe, I'd say; the seven-minute study shimmers and floats like an incidental bit that escaped from the soundtrack for The Abyss, if you remember that movie. The album will include a limited-edition set of art prints comprising "a visual for each movement of the album, along with album credits and interpretive texts." I know I've written up a good chunk of oddball ambient music on this page over the years, but very few have been so, well, accurate as this. Gets a little gloomy here and there, but it's pretty friendly drone overall. A — Eric W. Saeger

Nyte Skye, Vanishing (Sonic Ritual records)



This northern California-based shoegaze/'80s-technopop duo is a father-and-son band in the most endearing sense of the phrase: It consists of vocalist-guitarist-dad Nyles (who came to this project after a stint with psychedelic-shoegaze band Film School, which released a good handful of records in their day) and his son Skye, who was 12 when this album was recorded. Admit it, that's kind of cute, and

the kid does like to take glam shots while wearing knockoff Ray-Bans, but the punchline is that they do look like some kind of quintessential '80s band. That fits, given that dad Nyles is an unabashed Cure fan, as most of these tunes would attest. And we're talking early Cure, too, the stuff that was on Standing On A Beach. But the beats aren't about the old-school 16-bit drums Robert Smith favored; somewhere along the line, young Skye found an old Slingerland marching drum from the 1930s, which makes for some pretty wide timekeeping sounds. Anyone who loves '80s stuff, this is all you. A — Eric W. Saeger 🦛

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

- So this is Christmas, and what have I done? Another year older, and there's more snark to come. You know? Hey gang, I'm supposed to talk about albums coming out on Dec. 23, because it's a Friday, but guess what, there aren't any! Yes, this week's pretty much a wash, I doubt there'll be many albums to talk about, but do any of you older people remember Gail Savage, the seacoast New Hampshire singer who used to play Pat Benatar cover tunes in all the local bars during the 1980s? Well, the other day, I accidentally found out she lives forever on YouTube, like, she recorded an EP with her long-haired androgynous tattooed love boys in 1985, titled Swedish Eyes (can I get a nudge-wink?), and it really wasn't all that bad at all. In fact, the four songs were actually kind of good! She played basically every weekend at local places like the Kahala restaurant in Nashua and the Meadowbrook in Portsmouth, and all that stuff, and she sounded exactly like Pat Benatar. Oh come on, boomers and Gen X-ers, don't look at me like "Hurr durr, geez, Eric, I have no idea what you're talking about, I had chores to do at my family's chicken farm, and I sure wasn't out and about at all those rock clubs, with all that sin, and girls who looked and sang exactly like Pat Benatar!" Riiight, if you so much as set foot in New Hampshire during the '80s, you couldn't help knowing about her! If you ever stayed up past your bedtime, you probably heard her singing someplace, like, she and her band were probably singing some awful Steve Winwood cover tune while you were trying to eat your chicken wings or eggs Benedict at Howard Johnson's, or — what's that, you've never heard of Howard Johnson's? It had an orange roof. Not a typo. Anyway, Gail Savage, everyone, the former queen of New Hampshire's rock 'n' roll scene. I'd love to dish some info about her current whereabouts; some former guitarist of hers is on some music-gear chat site, and I asked him where she was, but he never wrote me back (yes, he dared to ignore me) and no one else seems to know. Boy, it's too bad clubs are no fun anymore, like, I went to one in Manchvegas a while ago and everyone was just standing around playing with their phones, except once in a while someone would start getting all weird and loud and performative, like they owned the place. Well, I suppose some things never change then, am I right? Someone please kindly get in touch with me this instant if you know where she is, that'd be great.
- Oh, the horror, what do we even have to talk about in this column this week? Ack, Weezer put out an album titled SZNZ: Winter a few days ago, but I can't really deal with millennial-centric nerd-rock right now, folks, I just can't. Let's not. Wait, here's one, from Viper The Rapper, called You'll Cowards Don't Even Smoke Crack II, but guess what, it comes out on Christmas Day. Whatever, there's the title track on YouTube, and it's such a funny song, ha ha, listen to this guy, sounding like Biggie after guzzling an entire gallon of Robitussin. This may be the most awesome thing I've heard this year. Merry drugs, everyone!
- We'll end this week's torture with **Sonic Speed**'s *Sweet And Subtle Toxins*, which looks like another hip-hop album. Funny, it used to be that the only things I had to write about during the Friday closest to Christmas were metal albums, but nowadays it's hip-hop. This one comes out on Christmas Eve, and their Bandcamp page is useless, but I found one older Sonic Speed tune on YouTube. It sounds homemade, and they admit the band is a joke band, but it's awesome, Kool And The Gang meets Usher or something, probably produced for free using a Disney Princess beat from a Fisher Price toy gizmo.

— Eric W. Saeger 🦛







POP CULTURE BOOKS

A Christmas Memory, by Richard Paul Evans (Gallery, 183 pages)

Thirty years ago, Richard Paul Evans was 29 years old and working for an advertising agency in Salt Lake City when he decided he'd try his hand at writing a book. He didn't have a Haruki Murakami moment, when he suddenly knew he could be a novelist while sitting in a baseball park; rather, he had just run for a statewide political office and lost, and needed a new goal to fill the void.

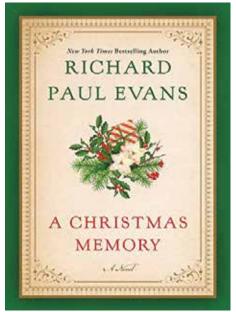
In his spare time he spent four weeks writing a novella he called The Christmas Box and then made 27 copies at Kinko's and gave them out as Christmas gifts. Family and friends loved the story, which was about a young couple who become caretakers for a widow who has a mysterious box full of letters that (spoiler alert) turn out to be life-changing for the man and his wife. A couple of publisher rejection letters later, Evans self-published the book and eventually it hit No. 2 on The New York Times self-published bestseller list. Shortly thereafter, it sold at auction to Simon & Schuster for \$4.2 million. It wasn't a bad investment.

Evans has gone on to write more than 40 novels, most of them bestsellers, many of which have something to do with Christmas. His latest is A Christmas Memory, which steals a title from Truman Capote. (Disclosure: Capote's poignant reflection about making fruitcake with his elderly cousin was published in 1956 and is a staple in my annual holiday reading.) Capote, the author of In Cold Blood, would no doubt be amused that two writers with such different trajectories and styles converged in this way.

Like Capote's A Christmas Memory, Evans promises, in an author's note, that his story is a lived experience, or more accurately, a collection of lived experiences woven into one narrative memory. It is a "composite of childhood experiences," he says, without detailing which parts of the book, if any, are fiction.

Despite the title and festive cover, A Christmas Memory is disappointingly not really a Christmas story. It's a story about a friendship that develops between a young boy and his elderly neighbor.

It opens with a family tragedy in 1967: the loss of the narrator's older brother, who was killed in the Vietnam War. "He had promised



to be home for Christmas. He kept his promise. Just not in the way we hoped."

The narrator — presumably Evans, or some version of Evans, as he is called Richard or Ricky throughout the book — is "an awkward boy of eight with Tourette's syndrome" who suffers 20 different kinds of tics. The family's troubles get worse after the brother dies. The father is unemployed, the narrator's grandmother dies, the family moves from California to Utah and then Richard's parents separate.

The boy takes all of this hard. One day, while he is outside sobbing, he is comforted by a dog, which turns out to belong to a neighbor he later learns is named Mr. Foster. Mr. Foster is Black, which is unusual in Utah, which is "homogeneous as whole milk." The man keeps to himself, for reasons that gradually become clear.

One day, Mr. Foster rescues Richard from bullies, and the two develop a relationship. At first, it seems mostly business. Mr. Foster hires the boy to shovel snow and to walk his dog, Beau, a deal they consummated with (possibly the most Utah thing ever) a snack of hot croissants with strawberry preserves. The two grow closer, with Mr. Foster gradually revealing parts of his life as the boy's visits become more regular. At Thanksgiving, Mr. Foster invites young Richard and his mother to his house for the holiday meal, and there is finally a hope that with the start of the Christmas season, something Christmassy might ensue.

Alas, no.

The story culminates in December, that is for sure. There is a subplot about a cruel public school teacher who, for reasons that are not fully explained, basically ruins Christmas for her whole class with an angry tirade about Santa Claus. But there are also tragedies of mental health and physical health that, for all Evans' narrative gifts, make this a bit of a downer to read, especially around the holidays. That's not to say that depressing circumstances don't make for a good holiday story; the travails of Jim and Della in O. Henry's "The Gift of the Magi" make one of the most beloved Christmas stories despite its soul-crushing ending. And for anyone suffering the loss of a loved one at Christmas, this little book might be a comforting read.

As Mr. Foster tells young Richard, "We hate grief because it hurts. Not everything that hurts is bad. Whatever grief may be, it's one thing for certain. Grief is the truest evidence of love."

Reader reviews warn that Foster, who is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is heavy-handed with Christian imagery and themes, but this is not the case in A Christmas Memory, aside from a few references to resurrection and an afterlife. For anyone who celebrates Christmas, this certainly wouldn't be off-putting.

It's tempting to compare Evans' Christmas titles to the mauldin "Christmas Shoes" song and movie, which grew out of a story that circulated on the internet and has, at least in my house, become a subject of mockery. But Evans is a much better storyteller than that, and his commercial success shows that there is an appetite for these sorts of books, particularly since major publishing houses have lately failed to deliver any intellectually stimulating holiday titles, instead concentrating their efforts on cheesy Christmas romances and Hallmark movie fare.

A Christmas Memory is no A Christmas Carol, and Evans is no Charles Dickens. But it is a holiday bonbon of a book in a genre with disappointingly few choices, and it's a serviceable and poignant story, particularly for anyone tending more toward misery than merriment this Christmas season. B

— Jennifer Graham 🦛

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Books Author events

· LANA HARPER, author of the new rom-com Back in a Spell, will appear in a virtual conversation via Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Tuesday, Jan. 3, at 7 p.m. Registration

 MAREK BENNETT will discuss his new graphic novel The Civil War Diary of Free- • EWA CHRUSCIEL preman Colby Volume 3 (1864) sented by the Poetry Society

is required.

at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 6:30

• KATEE ROBERT will discuss her book Radiant Sin at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) Sunday, Feb. 19, at 4:30 p.m.

Poetry

of New Hampshire at Gibson's ing Co. (50 N. Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Commercial St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 4:30 p.m.

• DOWN CELLAR POET-RY SALON Poetry event series presented by the Poetry on Society of New Hampshire. events Monthly. First Sunday. Visit appearances.

ongoing poetry open mic and groups slam series, takes place every

Manchester). Follow them on Facebook @ slamfreeordupcoming

SLAM FREE OR DIE, an Writers

• MERRIMACK VALLEY Thursday night at Stark Brew- WRITERS' GROUP All

published and unpublished local who are interested in sharing their work with other and giving and receiving structive feedback are invited to join. The group

meets regularly. Email pembrokenhtownlibrary@gmail.

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Avatar: The Wav of Water (PG-13)

James Cameron takes us on a threehour-and-change trip back to the lush moon Pandora in the 13-years-in-themaking sequel Avatar: The Way of

After some Jake Sully (Sam Worthington) narration flipping us through the years since the first movie (when Sully, a human Marine, eventually got, er, uploaded into the big blue body of the Na'vi, Pandora's pre-existing humanoid population uncomfortably rendered with a bunch of "noble people of the land"-type tropes), we pick up on the action a "Jake and Neytiri (Zoe Saldana) have four kids, some of whom are teenagers" amount of time later. A "new" star appears in the sky — a sign that the sky people, a.k.a. damn dirty humans, have returned. This time, the humans start their visit by burning to bare dirt a city-sized patch of land and then building a heavily fortified operations base.

A year later, a new batch of avatar-like Na'vi hybrids shows up — only these don't have human operators in a pod somewhere. These soldiers are Recombinants — basically Na'vi clones with human memories, emotions and crappy personalities uploaded to their brains. These special soldiers, who are physically Na'vi but styled to look like Marines (why?), are meant to help keep the, sigh, insurgent hostiles on Pandora at bay while the re-established human colony expands to make Pandora a new home for humanity. But they (we) are achieving this by aggressively paving over all the greenery, strip mining again I guess and now, whaling. I get that we, as a species, are crummy at not repeating our mistakes but come on. Also, somehow this whole operation seems to be run by the U.S. Marines?

Anyway, the gist is that Colonel Quaritch (Stephen Lang), the bad guy of the first movie, is back, despite being dead, this time in a Na'vi body. Because Jake and his tribe have been attacking the new human supply lines, Quaritch and his Recombinant crew are sent to hunt down Jake Sully. After Quaritch very nearly kills Jake's kids, Jake decides to take his family and leave their forest tribe to find a new place — somewhere they can just disappear and not put others



Avatar: The Way of Water

in danger.

The kids don't love this plan. Oldest son Neteyam (Jamie Flatters) wants to stay in his homeland but gets with the program to please his dad. Lo'ak (Britain Dalton), their second-oldest son, is sullen about everything and mopes about being an outsider. Kiri, whose name I thought was Kitty the whole movie, is their adopted teen-ish daughter; she is the half-Na'vi child of Sigourney Weaver's character's avatar from the first movie (somehow?), voiced by Weaver here. She is kind of an "I can feel the spirit of the planet" type, almost to the point of having superpowers. Like, they talk a lot about the biological connection between all living things on Pandora but Kiri is portrayed as almost being able to Use the Force. Also, she has a close relationship with Spider (Jack Champion), a human who was orphaned by the first human colony and has been raised by the human scientists and the Na'vi Sully family. Also, there's Tuk (Trinity Jo-Li Bliss), the Sullys' youngest daughter, who just seems to tag along on adventures and get captured.

The family winds up in a village on an island with people who live by the sea - with turquoise-colored skin and swimming-friendly tails and just enough visuals borrowed from Pacific Island cultures to make this all uncomfortable, especially since the wife of the chief is played (or voiced or whatever we're calling all of these essentially animated performances) by Kate

As you might imagine, this village is a little wary of the family that shows up essentially saying "we're escaping death and destruction at the hands of the human military industrial complex; is it cool if we kick it with you for a bit? They probably won't know we're here in your very flammable village."

Other stuff in this 192-minute movie: Spider gets a whole storyline about his difficult lineage. Lo'ak — giving strong Edith from Downton Abbev's vibes — is bummed about how much his dad rags on him and he also makes friends with an outcast whale. (I know, the animals aren't Earth whales but they're basically whales and they're the creatures being hunted for some tiny gland that stops aging in humans.) Edie Falco plays a human general. But even with all the stuff this movie crams in, it still could have shaved a good 50 minutes off, at least, and not lost anything.

But length isn't the movie's only problem.

The Way of Water lacks coherent character arcs and seems to change course or sort of forget character motivations.

The whole "natives and colonists" thing and its accompanying ickiness from the first movie is still there in this movie, along with, not misogyny exactly, but some patronizing stuff with the female characters. I thought "ugh, movie" a lot

- which I think is the result of the characters generally being so one dimensional.

There is way too much repetition, both of stuff that happened in the first movie and of stuff that happened an hour earlier in this movie.

At times, The Way of Water feels a little "James Cameron's greatest hits"-y with a sequence that feels very Titanic and some elements that made me think of *Terminator 2*.

So what's to like?

The visuals, not all of the visuals, but many of the visuals are very good. (I saw a 2D version of the movie.) Scenes of discovering the ocean and island worlds are, sure, long but they are also often very beautiful. The Way of Water hasn't completely solved the problem of how to make underwater, blue-lit stuff look dazzling but it maybe does a better job with underwater than any live-action/photorealistic movie before. (Colors and faces pop more than in, say, Black Panther: Wakanda Forever, where I felt like a lot of the cool visuals of the underwater kingdom got lost in the watery haze of it all.) Underwater fights are still a blur of whatever but the water does add some fun elements to the choreography of the fights and what happens in the battles.

Jermaine Clement has a small role as a human scientist and in the final battle gets a dumb but fun line. It stuck out just enough to make me wish there was more of that sort of goofiness.

Ultimately, Avatar: The Way of Water is fine, a perfectly acceptable thing to watch if you're looking to kill three hours on something that will only medium annoy you and offers some pretty things to look at. If you, a person who pandemic splurged on a nice home viewing setup, want to wait to watch it until you can do so cuddled up on the couch, I think that's fine too. B-

Rated PG-13 for intense epic battle sequences and warfare, sensuality, language and some smoking, according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Directed by James Cameron with a screenplay by James Cameron & Rick Jaffa & Amanda Silver. Avatar: The Way of the Water is THREE HOURS AND 12 MINUTES OF THIS YOUR ONE LIFE ON EARTH LONG and is distributed in theaters by 20th Century Studios. 🦔

Movie screenings, movie-themed happenings and vir-

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Huse Road, Manchester; Coliseum Ave., Nashua; 150 Bridge St., Pelham, Red River Theatres chunkys.com

Cinemark Rockingham Park

436-2400, themusichall.org

15 Mall Road, Salem

Fathom Events Fathomevents.com

The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth

O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard • Elf (PG, 2003) There will be

24 Calef Hwy., Epping 679-3529, oneilcinemas.com

Park Theatre 19 Main St., Jaffrey theparktheatre.org

11 S. Main St., Concord

224-4600, redrivertheatres.org Regal Fox Run Stadium 15

45 Gosling Road, Newington regmovies.com

Films

• It's a Wonderful Life (1946), will screen on Wednesday, Dec. 21, at Cinemark, O'neil Epping and Regal Fox Run via Fathom Events; see website for times.

- a family-friendly screening at all three Chunky's locations on Wednesday, Dec. 21. A 21+ screening on Thursday, Dec. 22, will be held at 8 p.m. at all locations.
- The Fabelmans (PG-13, 2022) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, Dec. 22, at 4:30 & 7:35 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 23, at 12:30, 3:45 & 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 24, at 12:30 & 3:45 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 25, through Thursday, Dec. 29, at 3:45 & 7 p.m. • Babylon (R, 2022) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, Dec. 22, at 6 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 23, at 2 &

6 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 24, at 2

p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 25, through

Thursday, Dec. 28, at 6 p.m.

- Portsmouth.
- Miracle on 34th Street (1947) screens on Friday, Dec. 23, at 1 p.m. at the Music Hall in Ports-
- Love, Actually (R. 2003) screens on Friday, Dec. 23, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall in Ports-
- Arthur Christmas (PG, 2011) screens on Saturday, Dec. 24, at 1 p.m. at the Music Hall in
 - Adam Sandler's Eight Crazy Nights (PG-13, 2002) screens on Saturday, Dec. 24, at 4 p.m. at the Music Hall in Ports-
 - Reality Check movie series at The Park Theatre in Jaffrey, "free series on addiction, recovery and mental health to 20 and March 27. help raise awareness around



Adam Sandler's Eight Crazy Nights

ties" according to the theater's website. The films all start at 6 p.m. The schedule is The Pharmacist, shown in two parts on Jan. 9 and Jan. 23; My Emotional Life shown in three parts on Feb. 13, Feb. 20 and Feb. 27; and Hidden in Plain Sight shown in two parts on March

• Eva's Promise (2022) This issues impacting our communi- documentary will screen at



Babylon

the Park Theatre in Jaffrey on Friday, Jan. 13, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 14, at 2 & 7 p.m.; Sunday, Jan. 15, at 4 p.m. followed by a Q&A with director Steve McCarthy and producer Susan Kerner with books available for purchase courtesy of Toadstool Bookshop; and Tuesday, Jan. 17, through Thursday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m.





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Chunky's Pelham @ 7:30PM







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Tickets & Info: NewYearsEveEvents.com OR Chunkys.com





DUND ÚP

By Michael Witthaus mwitthaus@hippopress.com

- African sound: Enjoy a listening room experience as Wangari Fahari, a Kenyan-born Afro-jazz vocalist, performs with her trio. Blending activism and music — the video for her song "Down And Easy" is a good example — Fahari runs an eponymous record label. She counts as mentors Joan Baez and the late Miriam Makeba; New Englandbased guitarist Paul Thibeault and drummer Mike Hastings round out her band. Thursday, Dec. 22, 6 p.m., Loft at Hermit Woods, 72 Main St., Meredith, \$25 at eventbrite.com.
- Alt mashup: Recasting Radiohead's "Subterranean Homesick Alien" as a loping jam is one trick Weird Phishes has up its sleeve, along with tagging Phish's "Twist" at the end of the song. Consisting of five veteran Boston musicians, the band is exactly as advertised, transforming the edgy '90s alt rockers into something hippier and trippier. They're garnering a lot of attention in the region, playing a Phish Fenway afterparty in 2019. Friday, Dec. 23, 8 p.m., Shaskeen Pub, 909 Elm St., Manchester, facebook. com/weirdphishes.
- Grateful licks: Taking its name from the song "Unbroken Chain," Blue Light Rain pays tribute to the Grateful Dead, occasionally jazzifying their sound, but staying reliably rocking on standouts like "One More Saturday Night." Cofounded by bass player Rob Farquhar and guitarist Andy Laliotis (with his brother George on drums), the Concord band is nearing its 15th year, and hometown shows are always a treat. Friday, Dec. 23, 9 p.m., Area 23, 254 N. State St. (Smokestack Center), Unit H, Concord, thearea23.com.
- Looking back: On his social media pages, comedian Juston McKinney recently reminded fans that there are plenty of tickets for his A Year In Review 2022, which runs for four nights in Portsmouth, with two more in Manchester to close out the year. Seems a few shady operators were proffering seats at triple face value, so along with being one of New England's best comics, McKinney is a standup guy. Opens Monday, Dec. 26, 7 p.m., The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, \$35.50 and up at themusichall.org.
- Long run: Continuing the tradition begun after their America's Got Talent success, Recycled Percussion will close out the year and roll into the new one with multiple hometown shows. The junk rockers hold down Manchester's main stage for 13 shows — one on opening night, two each through New Year's Day, afternoon only for First Week and another double on finale day. Wednesday, Dec. 28, 8:30 p.m. through Saturday, Jan. 7, 7 p.m., Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, \$37 and up at palacetheatre.org.

The bee's knees

Era-evoking New Year's Eve gala in Concord

By Michael Witthaus mwitthaus@hippopress.com

A retro vibe will blend with entertainment spanning decades, as the Bank of New Hampshire stage is transformed into a splendorous Roaring Twenties-themed ballroom on New Year's Eve. Performers, ranging from chorus girls on the main stage to a jazz combo with a Sinatra-styled lead singer mining the Great American Songbook in the upstairs lounge, will ring in 2023 with a

Though the evening will commence with "Puttin' on the Ritz," much of the ensuing soundscape will be familiar to those who attended a similar bash three years ago at the Concord venue, which back then had a Studio 54 disco theme. The same Boston DJ/VJ who performed that night will return, with a broad song palette accompanied by striking big-screen visuals.

"One of the reasons I have him is because he likes to play a wide range of music," Boston event artist Beth McGurr, who's curating the night, said by phone recently. "Some DJs only want to play hip-hop, or Top 40, or house. He likes to have fun with it, and pull out songs that maybe you haven't heard in a long time, or that you wouldn't really expect. Plus, a video DJ is harder to find than a regular DJ."

Another centerpiece of the evening will be the Honey Taps, a New York City song-......

New Year's Eve 2023

When: Saturday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m.

Where: Bank of New Hampshire Stage, 16

S. Main St., Concord

Tickets: \$48.75 general admission, \$68.75

VIP at ccanh.com

More: interactivenightlife.com

and-dance troupe that began in the '80s. It includes members who often appear in Broadway shows when they're not tapping away in flapper garb and doing songs like "Happy Feet" and "Anything Goes" with infectious energy. Their efforts are "interactive," McGurr said. "They get the audience to participate and dance with them ... get up on stage and dance there too."

During the evening's earlier hours, revelers will find sanctuary in the intimate, speakeasy-bedecked lounge overlooking downtown. The Page, Shontz & Rose Jazz Trio will play, with piano, upright bass and woodwinds backing vocalist Lenny Zarcone, who channels not only Ol' Blue Eyes but Mel Torme, Tony Bennett and other crooners. "It will be a Rat Pack vibe up there," McGurr said. The room is appointed with comfy chairs and couches to help boost the easygoing mood.

Along with music and dance, there will be an aerialist swinging from the ceiling in the center of Bank of NH Stage's brick-lined main room, drag performers, a photo booth to capture memories, and party favors to accompany the celebratory midnight Champagne toast — which also will have a balloon drop and confetti blast. A few surprises are promised as well. "Expect the unexpected," McGurr said. "There's something around every corner."

McGurr considered doing a Roaring Twenties night for her initial endeavor in Concord, in 2019. "I didn't do it the first time.... I was trying to be different," she said. "It was 2020 and everybody was doing that thing, [but] now, three years later, I'm doing a speakeasy. It's just a great New Year's theme; I think everybody loves to dress up and have fun with it."

This New Year's Eve party was slated to



Honey Taps. Courtesy photo.

happen last year, but everyone caught Covid, performers and staff included. The pandemic hit McGurr hard, as the events her Interactive Nightlife company specializes in can't translate to Zoom. She was also grounded from flying, making it doubly difficult for her. "What I love most in life are traveling and throwing parties, and neither one I could do for two years," she said. "I was at the edge of going crazy."

She returned to the Granite State with a Halloween party in October, and hopes this event will flow into a busy 2023, with more Concord soirees planned, spanning a range of themes. "I was really excited after the first New Year's, because that was my first event up there and I had a momentum going ... but then we took a two-year pause," she said. "I find people are much more comfortable at parties now... everything seems to be pretty busy - knock on wood."

The event offers two entry tiers, general admission and a VIP level with a pair of drink tickets and access to balcony seats. Attendees are encouraged to come in their favorite finery, whatever decade they choose to evoke. "It's still that Studio 54-type vibe, where anything goes," McGurr said. "Dress up, have fun with your style."

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Venues

Capitol Center for the Arts - Chubb Theatre

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

Chunky's

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

The Flying Monkey

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

Fulchino Vineyard

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

Headliners Comedy Club

DoubleTree By Hilton, 700 Elm St., Manchester headlinerscomedyclub.com

Murphy's Taproom

494 Elm St., Manchester 644-3535, murphystaproom.

The Music Hall

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

Rex Theatre

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

Rochester Opera House

31 Wakefield St., Rochester 335-1992. rochesteroperahouse.com

Events

- Kenny Rogerson Chunky's Manchester, Friday, Dec. 23, 8:30 p.m.
- Music Hall, Monday, Dec. 26 and Tuesday, Dec. 27, 7 p.m., and Wednesday, Dec. • Robbie Printz Chunky's 28, and Thursday, Dec. 29, Manchester, Friday, Dec. 8 p.m.
- Ben Pratt Chunky's Manchester, Tuesday, Dec. 27, key, Saturday, Dec. 31, 6:30 p.m.
- Bob Marley Rochester Dec. 27, 5:30 p.m. and 8 day, Dec. 31, 6 p.m.
- Comedy Chubb Theatre, Nashua, Saturday, Dec. 31, day, Dec. 31, 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29, 7 p.m.

Russo & Matt Barry Fulchino Vineyard, Dec. 30, 5 p.m.

- Juston McKinney's Year • Juston McKinney The in Review Rex, Friday, Dec. 30, 7:30 p.m. & Saturday, Dec. 31, 8:30 p.m.
 - 30, 8:30 p.m.
 - Bob Marley Flying Mon-5:30 & 8 p.m.
- New Year's Eve Comedy Opera House, Tuesday, Murphy's Taproom, Satur-
 - Joe Gatto's Night of Comedy Special! Chunky's Murphy's Taproom, Satur-7 p.m.
 - D'Angelo, Dave Joe Yannetty, Jody Sloan, 31, 8 p.m.



Bob Marley

Rob Steen and Eric Hurst Headliners, Saturday, Dec. 31, at 7:30 & 9:30 p.m.

- · Jason Merrill, Francis • New Year's Eve Live Birch and Dan Donahue
- Rodney • Comedy Poured with • New Year's Eve gala with McCue's, Saturday, Dec.

MUSIC THIS WEEK

Alton Foster's Tavern 403 Main St. 875-1234

Auburn **Auburn Pitts** 167 Rockingham Road 622-6564

Bedford Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677

Brookline The Alamo Texas Barbecue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000

Concord **Hermanos Cocina** Mexicana 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669

Tandy's Pub & Grille 1 Eagle Square 856-7614

Contoocook Gould Hill Farm & Contoocook Cider Co. 656 Gould Hill Road 746-3811

Deerfield The Lazy Lion 4 North Road 463-7374

Derry Fody's Tavern 187 Rockingham Road 404-6946

Dover Cara Irish Pub & Restaurant 11 Fourth St. 343-4390

Epping Telly's Restaurant &

Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225

Exeter Sea Dog Brewing Co. 5 Water St. 793-5116

Francestown Toll Booth Tavern Crotched Mountain Resort 740 Second NH Turnpike 588-1800

Gilford Patrick's 18 Weirs Road 293-0841

Goffstown Village Trestle

25 Main St. 497-8230

Hampton Bogie's 32 Depot Square 601-2319

CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road 929-7972

The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928

L Street Tavern 603 17 L St. 967-4777

Shane's Texas Pit 61 High St. 601-7091

Brewery

Hudson

926-6954

Wally's Pub

853 Lafayette Road 601-2801

Whym Craft Pub &

144 Ashworth Ave.

The Bar 2B Burnham Road

Lynn's 102 Tavern 76 Derry Road 943-7832

Jaffrey Park Theatre 19 Main St. 532-9300

Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962

Laconia Fratello's 799 Union Ave. 528-2022

Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100

Londonderry

Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022

Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210

Manchester **Angel City Music Hall** 179 Elm St. 931-3654

Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road 623-3545

CJ's 782 S. Willow St. 627-8600

City Hall Pub 8 Hanover St. 232-3751

Currier Museum of Art 150 Ash St. 669-6144

Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880

Elm House of Pizza 102 Elm St. 232-5522

The Foundry 50 Commercial St. 836-1925

Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022

The Goat 50 Old Granite St.

KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St. **627-RIBS**

Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St. 644-3535

p.m.

oke, 9 p.m.

Meredith

Merrimack

Milford

8:30 p.m

Nashua

karaoke, 9 p.m.

da Adams, 6:30 p.m.

New Boston

Newbury

Salona Bar & Grill 128 Maple St. 624-4020

Shaskeen Pub 909 Elm St. 625-0246

South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947

Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St. 625-4444

Strange Brew 88 Market St. 666-4292

To Share Brewing 720 Union St. 836-6947

Meredith Giuseppe's 312 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-3313

Twin Barns Brewing 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876

The Foundry: Justin Cohn, 6

Shaskeen: Weird Phishes, 9 p.m.

South Side Tavern: Cox Kara-

Strange Brew: Off the Map, 9

Twin Barns: Senie Hunt, 5 p.m.

Homestead: Jess Olson, 6 p.m.

Pasta Loft: Bob Pratte Band,

Stonecutters Pub: DJ Dave O

Millvard: Joe McDonald, 6:30 p.m.

San Francisco Kitchen: Aman-

Molly's: Peter Pappas, 7 p.m.

Mount Sunapee: Tyler Levs, 3

The Goat: The Far, 9 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 22

Auburn

Auburn Pitts: live music, 7 p.m.

Bedford

Copper Door: Jodee Frawlee, 7 p.m.

Brookline

Alamo: Open mic night with Matt Bergeron, 5 p.m.

Concord

Area 23: Karaoke Night, 8 p.m. Hermanos: Zeb Cruikshank, 6:30 p.m.

Penuches: Holiday party featuring music from Chicken, 9 p.m.

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

Epping

Telly's: Pete Peterson, 7 p.m.

Sea Dog: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.

Gilford

Patrick's Pub: Sev & Company, 6 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Paul Lussier, 6

Hampton

Bogie's: live music, 7 p.m. CR's: Ross McGinnes, 6 p.m. Whym: music bingo, 6 p.m.

Hudson

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

Kingston

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

Laconia

Fratello's: Eric Grant, 7 p.m. Tower Hill: karaoke w/ Luke Skyrocker, 8 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: 21st & 1st Duo, 7

Manchester

Angel City: open mic, 8 p.m. City Hall Pub: Phil Jacques, 7

Currier: Kemp Harris & Adam O., 5 p.m.

Quinn, 6 p.m. Foundry: Sam Hammerman, 5

5:30 p.m. Strange Brew: Jam Tomorrow,

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Paul Hubert, 5:45

Tortilla Flat: Jonny Friday, 7 p.m.

Milford

Nashua

COMEDY IN MANCHESTER

With his long list of acting credits, his standup

comedy specials, and his background in sketch

comedy, Ken Rogerson is a strong utility player in

the New England comedy scene. Don't miss his

upcoming appearance at Chunky's (707 Huse

Road, Manchester; chunkys.com) on Friday, Dec.

23. at 8:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$20. plus fees.

Fody's: DJ Rich karaoke, 9:30 p.m. Shorty's: Sam Hammerman, 6

Elm House of Pizza: Jordan

Fratello's: Rebecca Turmel,

8 p.m.

To Share: Bird Friend, 6:30 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Dave Clark, 5:30 p.m.

Riley's Place: open mic, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

Salem

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

Seabrook

Backyard Burgers: Jennifer Whym: Doug Thompson, 6 p.m. Mitchell, 6 p.m.

Strafford

Independence Inn: Amanda Bisson, 8 p.m. Adams, 6 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 23

Alton

Foster's Tavern: Dakota Smart, 6 p.m.

Auburn

Auburn Pitts: live music, 7 p.m.

Concord

Area 23: Light Blue Rain, 8 p.m.

Deerfield

Lazy Lion: live music, 6 p.m.

Epping

Exeter

Telly's: Tim Theriault, 8 p.m.

Sea Dog: Max Sullivan, 6 p.m. **Francestown**

Crotched Mountain: Karen Grenier, 7 p.m.

Goffstown

nopoulos, 6 p.m.

Bogie's: live music, 7 p.m. CR's: Rico Barr Duo, 6 p.m. The Goat: Alex Anthony, 8 p.m.

Hudson

Park Theatre: McGettigan & Gilbert, 5:30 p.m.

Kingston

8 p.m.

Laconia

Fratello's: Paul Warnick, 6 p.m. Tower Hill: karaoke night, 8:30

Londonderry

p.m.

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

Village Trestle: Charlie Chro-

Lynn's 102: karaoke w/ George

Jaffrey

Saddle Up Saloon: live music,

Coach Stop: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m. Stumble Inn: The Drift Duo, 8 p.m.

Manchester

Backyard Brewery: Cushman, 6 p.m. Derryfield: Dancing Madly Backwards, 8 p.m. Fratello's: John Chouinard, 6

p.m

Northfield

Boonedoxz Pub: karaoke night,

Stone Church: San Souci, 8

7 p.m.

Newmarket

Penacook American Legion Post 31:

JMitch Karaoke, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth

9:30 p.m.

special rules and reservation instructions. Get your gigs Gas Light: Sam Hammerman, listed by sending information to music@hippopress.com. HIPPO | DECEMBER 22 - 28, 2022 | PAGE 35

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Merrimack

Homestead 641 Daniel Webster Hwy.

429-2022

Tortilla Flat 595 Daniel Webster

Hwy. 424-4479

Milford

The Pasta Loft 241 Union Square

672-2270

Rilev's Place 29 Mont Vernon St. 380-3480

Stonecutters Pub

63 Union Square 213-5979

Nashua Fody's Tavern

9 Clinton St. 577-9015

The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.

Luna Bistro: live music, 6 p.m.

Smuttynose: music bingo, 6

Saturday, Dec. 24

L Street: Up-Beat w/J-Dubz, 9

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

Millyard Brewery 25 E. Otterson St.

San Francisco Kitchen 133 Main St.

Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse

882-4070

New Boston Molly's Tavern &

35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362

Stone Church

5 Granite St. 659-7700

Northfield

Boonedoxz Pub 95 Park St. 717-8267

Penacook American Legion Post 31

11 Charles St. 753-9372

Portsmouth The Gas Light

64 Market St. 430-9122

The Goat 142 Congress St. 590-4628

Mojo's West End Tavern

95 Brewery Lane 436-6656

Thirsty Moose Taphouse 21 Congress St. 427-8645

Rochester Porter's Pub 19 Hanson St.

330-1964 Salem

Copper Door 41 S. Broadway

458-2033 Luna Bistro 254 N. Broadway

Smuttynose 11 Via Toscana

458-2162

Seabrook Backyard Burgers &

Wings 5 Provident Way 760-2581

Red's Kitchen + Tavern

530 Lafayette Road 760-0030

Strafford

Independence Inn 6 Drake Hill Road 718-3334

Laconia

Thirsty Moose: Hijacked, 9

Manchester

Foundry: Brad Myrick, 10 a.m.

Strange Brew: One Big Soul

Portsmouth

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

Dover

p.m.

Paul Luff, 6 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Lisa Guyer, 7 p.m.

The Goat: David Campbell, 8

Tower Hill: karaoke w/ DJ Tim,

The Goat: Mike Forgette, 10

Jam, 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 26

Cara Irish Pub: open mic, 8

Gilford

Patrick's Pub: open mic w/

Hudson

The Bar: karaoke with Phil

Manchester Fratello's: Phil Jacques, 5:30 p.m.

KC's Rib Shack: live music, 6

Salona: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

Merrimack Homestead: Clint Lapointe,

5:30 p.m.

Nashua

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

Portsmouth

Seabrook

The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.

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

Tuesday, Dec. 27

Concord

Hermanos: Paul Hubert, 6:30

Hampton Shane's: music bingo, 7 p.m. Wally's: music bingo, 7 p.m.

Tandy's: open mic, 8 p.m.

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: line danc-

2022 IN REVIEW

Portsmouth native Juston McKinney returns to the Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth; 436-2400, themusichall.org) for his annual Year in Review shows on Monday, Dec. 26, and Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 7 p.m., and Wednesday, Dec. 28, and Thursday, Dec. 29, at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$28 to \$34, plus fees. You can also catch him at the Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St., Manchester) on Friday, Dec. 30, at 8 p.m., and on Saturday, Dec. 31, at 5 and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$35.

722-0104

Raga 138 Main St.

459-8566

886-8833

48 Gusabel Ave.

Restaurant

Newmarket

Park Theatre: Bernie & Louise Watson, 5:30 p.m.

Laconia Tower Hill: line dancing, 7 p.m.; karaoke, 9 p.m.

Manchester

Hampton

Jaffrey

The Goat: Brooks Hubbard, 10 a.m.

Portsmouth Gas Light Pub: DJ, 9 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 25 Hampton

L Street: Up-Beat w/J-Dubz, 9 p.m.

The Goat: Mike Forgette, 9 p.m.



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Londonderry

Stumble Inn: music bingo, 7

Manchester

Fratello's: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.

The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 8 p.m. KC's Rib Shack: Paul & Nate open mic, 7 p.m.

Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 8 p.m.

Meredith

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

Merrimack

Homestead: Justin Jordan, 5:30 8 p.m.

Nashua

Raga: karaoke, 7:30 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

Seabrook

Backvard Burgers: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 7

Red's: country night, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 28

Brookline

Alamo: live music, 5 p.m.

Concord

Hermanos: Brian Booth, 6:30

Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.

Contoocook

Contoocook Cider Co.: Brad Epping Myrick, 6 p.m.

Fody's: karaoke, 7 p.m.

Exeter

Sea Dog: Liz Ridgely, 5 p.m.

Hampton

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

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Musical Bogie's: live music, 7 p.m. Bingo Nation, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Derryfield: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.

Fratello's: Lou Antonucci, 5:30 p.m.

The Goat: Mike Forgette, 7 p.m.

Stark Brewing: Cox karaoke, 8 p.m.

Strange Brew: open mic w/ Will Bemiss, 8 p.m.

Merrimack

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

Milford

Stonecutters Pub: open mic, Manchester

Portsmouth

The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9

Rochester

Porter's: karaoke night, 6:30

Thursday, Dec. 29

Auburn

Auburn Pitts: live music, 7

Bedford

Copper Door: Jordan Quinn, 5:45 p.m. 7 p.m.

Concord

Hermanos: Doug Thompson, 6:30 p.m.

Derry

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

Telly's: Lewis Goodman, 7

Exeter

Sea Dog: Soul Colour,5 p.m.

Patrick's Pub: live music, 6 The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

Village Trestle: Dan Morgan,

Hampton

CR's: Steve Sibulkin, 6 p.m. Whym: music bingo, 6 p.m.

Hudson

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

Kingston

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

Fratello's: Eric Grant, 7 p.m. Tower Hill: karaoke w/ Luke Skyrocker, 8 p.m.

Stumble Inn: Rob & Jody Duo, 7 p.m.

Angel City: Open Mic, 8 p.m. City Hall Pub: Phil Jacques, 7 p.m.

Currier: Cold Snap, 5:30 p.m.; Cold Snap, 6:30 p.m.

Elm House of Pizza: Jordan Quinn, 6 p.m.

Foundry: Sam Hammerman, 5 p.m.

Fratello's: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.

Strange Brew: Lisa Marie, 8

Meredith

Giuseppe's: The Sweetbloods,

Merrimack

Homestead: Ralph Allen, 5:30

Tortilla Flat: live music, 7

Milford

Riley's Place: open mic, 7 p.m.

Nashua

Fody's: DJ Rich karaoke, 9:30

Mexican Road-Shorty's house: live music, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth

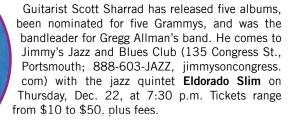
Salem

Copper Door: Chad Lamarsh, 7 p.m.

Seabrook

Backyard Burgers: Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

NO SMALL FEAT





Big Sky Country FRI. FEB. 24

Comedian Jimmy Dunn THURS. MAR. 2

Bell Bottom Blues: FRI. MAR. 10 Eric Clapton Experience

St Patrick's Day THURS. MAR. 16 with Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio

Aquanett: 80's Rock THURS. MAR. 23

THURS. MAR. 30 Nearly Diamond

THURS. APRIL 6 Red Not Chili Peppers

THURS. JAN. 26 James Taylor/Simon & Garfunkel Tribute by Good Acoustics

Blue Brothers the Next Generation THURS. FEB. 2

FRI. FEB. 10 Valentine's Day 'Night of Sinatra' Dinner Show with Rich DiMare

THURS, FEB. 23 Takin' it to the Streets: Doobie Brothers Tribute

THURS. MAR. 9 Live Bullet: Bob Seger Tribute

THURS. MAR. 23 Comedian Corey Rodriguez

THURS. MAR. 30 Workin' For A Livin': Huey Lewis and The News Tribute

THURS. APRIL 6 Barely Manilow

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Concerts

Bank of NH Stage

Venues

16 S. Main St., Concord 225-1111, banknhstage.com

Capitol Center for the Arts — Chubb Theatre

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

The Flying Monkey 39 Main St., Plymouth

536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com

Franklin Opera House 316 Central St., Franklin

934-1901, franklinoperahouse.org

Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club 135 Congress St., Portsmouth

888-603-JAZZ, jimmysoncongress.com

LaBelle Winery Amherst

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

LaBelle Winery Derry 14 Route 111, Derry

672-9898, labellewinery.com

Millyard Brewery

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

The Music Hall

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

The Music Hall Lounge

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

Palace Theatre

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

Press Room

77 Daniel St., Portsmouth 431-5186, pressroomnh.com

Rex Theatre

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

Rochester Opera House

31 Wakefield St., Rochester 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse. com

Stone Church

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

The Strand

20 Third St., Dover 343-1899, the stranddover.com

3S Artspace

319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth 766-3330, 3sarts.org

Tupelo Music Hall

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

The Word Barn

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

Shows

- · Eldorado Slim Thursday, Dec. 22, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- · Nat Zegree Thursday, Dec. 22, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall Lounge
- Dueling Pianos Thursday, Dec. 22, 8 p.m., Press Room
- Joe Mac Donald Friday, Dec. 23, 6:30 p.m., Millyard
- · Kandace Springs Friday, Dec. 23, 7 p.m., Jimmy's
- · Sans Souci (Jerry Garcia tribute) Friday, Dec. 23, 8 p.m., Stone Church
- Recycled Percussion Wednesday, Dec. 28, through Saturday, Jan. 7, Palace
- Piebald Wednesday, Dec. 28, 8 p.m., 3S Arts
- Marvel Prone/Cozy Throne/ Jiddo/Alysium Wednesday, Dec. 28, 8 p.m., Stone Church
- The Wizards of Winter Thursday, Dec. 29, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- Birch Hill Duo Friday, Dec. 30, 4:30 p.m., Millyard Brewery
- Tusk (Fleetwood Mac tribute) Friday, Dec. 30, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- Li Monicello's Holiday Hoopla Friday, Dec. 30, 8 p.m., Rochester Opera House
- · Adam Ezra Group Saturday, Dec. 31, 5:30 and 9 p.m., Tupelo
- Freese Brothers Big Band Saturday, Dec. 31, 6 p.m., LaBelle 10, Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club Winery Derry
- Dueling Pianos Saturday, Dec. 31, 6 p.m., Headliners
- JazzBoRee Saturday, Dec. 31, 7 p.m., Jimmy's
- Harsh Promadillo Saturday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace • Peach Lightning/Idlewild/Not
- Fade Away Band Saturday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., Stone Church

NO WORRIES



Kandace Springs

- New Year's Eve Champagne Pops! Saturday, Dec. 31, 8 p.m., Music Hall
- Dueling Pianos Saturday, Dec. 31, 10 p.m., Chunky's Manchester
- Rockspring Saturday, Dec. 31, 10 p.m., Music Hall Lounge
- Dave Gerard Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023, 5 p.m., Press Room
- Dueling Pianos (Londonderry HS Band benefit) Thursday, Jan. 5, 7 p.m., Tupelo Tim Dugger/Lauren Davidson
- Thursday, Jan. 5, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage
- Maurice Brown Quintet Friday, Jan. 6, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- · Ronnie Earl and the Broadcasters Friday, Jan. 6, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- The Chops Friday, Jan. 6, 9 p.m., Stone Church
- Dog Lips/Small Pond/Ezra Cohen Friday, Jan. 6, 9 p.m., Press
- Ammonium Maze Ensemble Saturday, Jan. 7, 7 p.m., Word
- Idlewild (Allman Brothers tribute) Saturday, Jan. 7, 7:30 p.m.,
- Get The Led Out (Led Zeppelin tribute) Saturday, Jan. 7, 8 p.m., Chubb Theatre
- Johnny Trama & Tim Gearan Saturday, Jan. 7, 9 p.m., Press
- Pizzastock Battle of the Bands Sunday, Jan. 8, 1 p.m., Tupelo
- · Nicholas Payton Tuesday, Jan.
- · Quinn Sullivan Thursday, Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- RGC All Star Cabaret Friday, Jan. 13, 6 p.m., Press Room
- Another Tequila Sunrise (Eagles tribute) Friday, Jan. 13, 7:30 p.m., Palace
- Cindy Bradley Friday, Jan. 13, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- · Jocelyn & Chris Band Friday,

Maine musicians Max Chase and Bobby O'Neill

founded Sans Souci in 2017 to celebrate the music

of the Jerry Garcia Band. They touch down at the

Stone Church (5 Granite St., Newmarket; 659-

7700; stonechurchrocks.com) on Friday, Dec. 23,

at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$15. plus fees.

- The Johnny A Band Friday, Jan. Derry 13, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- Crawlspace Friday, Jan. 13, 8 p.m., Chubb Theatre
- · Connor Garvey Friday, Jan. 13, 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge
- · Tierney Sutton Saturday, Jan. 14, 7 & 9:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- Radio Flashback: 70s & 80s Concert Experience Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m., LaBelle Winery Derry
- Dueling Pianos Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m., Franklin Opera
- Dave Mallett Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m., Rex
- Eaglemania (Eagles tribute) Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m., Tupelo • Souled Out Show Band Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m., The Strand
- **Band Beyond Description** (Grateful Dead tribute) Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m., Stone Church
- Life's a Drag Saturday, Jan. 14, 9 p.m., Chunky's Manchester
- Crush: A Dave Matthews Band Acoustic Brunch Sunday, Jan. 15, 11 a.m., Press Room

- Jan. 13, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage Jan. 15, 3 p.m., LaBelle Winery
 - 1964: The Tribute (Beatles tribute) Sunday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m., Palace
 - Pokey LaFarge Tuesday, Jan. 17, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club
 - Miss Tess/Sara Borges Wednesday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m., Press Room
 - Session Americana Thursday. Jan. 19, 7 p.m., Word Barn
 - Seth Rosenbloom Thursday, Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
 - The All-New Piano Men Friday, Jan. 20, through Sunday, Feb. 5, Palace Theatre
 - Larry & Joe Friday, Jan. 20, 7 p.m., Word Barn
 - New Orleans Jazz Orchestra Friday, Jan. 20, 7 & 9:30 p.m.,
 - Houston Bernard Friday, Jan. 20, 9 p.m., Press Room
 - Rhett Miller Saturday, Jan. 21, 7 p.m., Press Room
 - Erica Browne & the Bluegrass Connection Saturday, Jan. 21, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- An Evening with Chris Barron • Steve Blunt & Friends Sunday, Saturday, Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m., Rex Jan. 27, 8 p.m., Tupelo

- · Lindsey Webster Saturday, Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- · Mandy Patinkin Saturday, Jan. 21, 8 p.m., Chubb Theatre
- Beatlejuice (Beatles tribute) Saturday, Jan. 21, 8 p.m., Tupelo • The Dustbowl Revival Wednesday, Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- Good Acoustics (Simon & Garfunkel/James Taylor tribute) Thursday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m., LaBelle Amherst
- Back in Black (AC/DC tribute) Thursday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m., LaBelle Derry
- Foreigner's Journey featuring Constantine Maroulis Thursday, Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m., Palace
- · Annie Brobst Band Saturday, Jan. 26, 8 p.m., Stone Church • Boombox Thursday, Jan. 26, 8
- p.m., Bank of NH Stage • Reed Foehl Friday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- Toronzo Cannon Friday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- · Dead Set-Winterland Revisited Friday, Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- Boogie Wonder Band Friday,

Trivia

• The Santa Clause trivia 21+ on Thursday, Dec. 22, 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.

• A Year in Review trivia 21+ on Thursday, Dec. 29, 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

Events

- Thursday trivia with Game Time Trivia at Mitchell BBQ (50 N. Main St., Rochester, 332-2537, mitchellhillbbq.com) at 6 p.m.
- Thursday trivia at Smuttlabs (47 Washington St., Dover, 343-1782, smuttynose.com) at 6 p.m.
- Thursday trivia at Station 101 (193 Union Sq., 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 trivia with 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 at Yankee Lanes (216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-
- com) at 7 p.m. • Thursday Kings trivia at Game Changer Sports Bar (4 Orchard View Dr., Londonderry; 216-1396, gamechangersportsbar.com) from

9656, yankeelanesentertainment.

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

8 to 10 p.m.

• Friday Team Trivia at Cheers

- (17 Depot St., Concord, 228-0180, cheersnh.com) from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the lounge. • Friday trivia at Gibb's Garage
- Bar (3612 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, gibbsgaragebar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m. Monday trivia at Crow's Nest (181 Plaistow Road, Plaistow,

817-6670, crowsnestnh.com) at

- 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

- Tuesday Geeks Who Drink trivia at Peddler's Daughter (48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlersdaughter.com), from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.
- · Wednesday trivia at Community Oven (845 Lafayette Road, Hampton, 601-6311, thecommunityoven.com) at 6 p.m.
- Wednesday trivia at Smuttynose (105 Towle Farm Road, Hampton, 436-4026, smuttynose.com) at 6
- Wednesday trivia at Main Street Grill and Bar (32 Main St., Pittsfield; 435-0005, mainstreetgrillandbar.com) at 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday trivia at Popovers



The Santa Clause

- (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 trivia with Game Time Trivia at The Thirsty Moose (21 Congress St., Portsmouth, 427-8645, thirstymoosetaphouse. 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

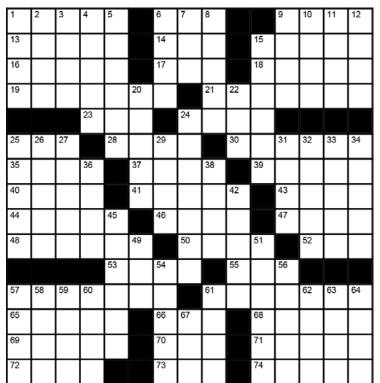
St. in Nashua, fodystavern.com,

· Wednesday trivia at the Park Theatre (19 Main St., Jaffrey; 532-9300, theparktheatre.org) at 8 p.m.

577-9015) at 8 p.m.

ROCK AND ROLL CROSSWORDS BY TODD SANTOS

DUNNO



- 1. Disney Channel pop rock brothers
- 6. 'Pepper's' title, to Beatles
- 9. R&B singer Braxton
- 13. Frenchman Johnny Hallyday's ' casser' means "break everything" in English (1,4)
- 14. Indie band Uh Her
- 15. Band asks guy onstage to do this (3,2)
- 16. Triple threat Midler
- 17. "And I'm gonna be high __ kite by then" (2.1)
- 18. Duran Duran 'A View To '(1,4)
- 19. Smashing Pumpkins song about a songbird?
- 21. '98 Aerosmith #1 'I Don't Want Thing' (2,4,1)
- 23. Norah Jones 'Tell __ Mama'
- 24. Ramones 70s label
- 25. Jonsi Birgisson band Sigur
- 28. Tekitha song for one being helpful (2,2)
- 30. 'The Disregard Of Timekeeping' band with drummer Jason
- 35. Sarah McLachlan "We are born innocent" song
- 37. Major piece
- 39. Iconic Iranian pop/classical singer Forouhar
- 40. 'Smartie Mine' folky sing/songer Dan
- 41. Van Halen "Standing on the world" (3,2)
- 43. "Stick the fridge" G Love (2,2)
- 44. Dylan's 'Maybe You'll Be There' cover: "How can like this" (2,3)
- 46. British 'All You Want' singer
- 47. Cheap recording w/hum (hyph)
- 48. Cranberries '__ To Argue' (2,4)
- 50. Shock rocker might have one as a tooth
- 52. 'Fool (If You Think It's Over)'
- 53. Like gossip-hungry fans

- 57. Simon & Garfunkel song they did until they were "makin' it? (5,2)
- Network (3,4)
- 65. Silverchair 'Me'
- Grande, coca-cola in my hand"
- 69. Very bad boy rocker, post court judgment

Find and Circle...

for a friend"

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steak (four-letter min.)

Three five-letter groups of animals

Word related to both cars and golf

Three things commonly represented as numbers

WORD ★Roundup

Last Week's Answers: TABLE CHAIR SOFA DESK / SCORPIO TAURUS

Ε

В

ARIES LIBRA / SECURITY METRIC SUBWAY / MAINE OHIO / LEOPARD

- 55. Rapper/actor Mos
- 61. Portland band on 1988's 'Ritual'
- 66. Neil Young "Floating along the
- 68. 1974's 'Keep On Singing' Helen

- 71. He "Graces" Maiden covers
- 72. Canned Heat's Wilson
- 73. '85 Replacements 'Swingin' Party' album
- 74. 'Long Tall Glasses (I Can Dance)'

Down

- 1. Critics' bad comments
- 2. Female-fronted L.A. metal band
- 3. Ani DiFranco 'Pretty Girl' (3,1)
- 4. Iconic singing cowboy Gene
- 5. Two-part
- 6. Tommy of Styx
- 7. 'Under The Bridge' director Van Sant
- 8. X 'In This House Call Home' (4,1)
- 9. Like bamboo torch for beach jams
- 10. 'Try A Little Tenderness' Redding
- 11. Influential Canadian pop punkers
- 12. Tom Petty L.A. Riots song 'Peace
- 15. Cyndi Lauper telling the boring '__ Story' (4,2)
- 20. Evan & Jaron 'Ready __' (2,3)
- 22. Alex Paterson & Thomas Fehlmann ambient house band
- 24. Disturbed song to confuse?
- 25. Trevor of Yes
- 26. Band Of Horses wrote a poem or LRC'(3.2)
- 27. Sarah Brightman song for a fire
- 29. Apple product for exercising
- 31. 'Love On The Rocks' Diamond
- 32. Jacob Sartorius could be 'Miss'
- 33. Ash lives a '__ Less Ordinary' (1,4)
- 34. Crazy Throwing Muses song?
- 36. 'Daydream Believer' Murray
- 38. Springsteen "Go on down where

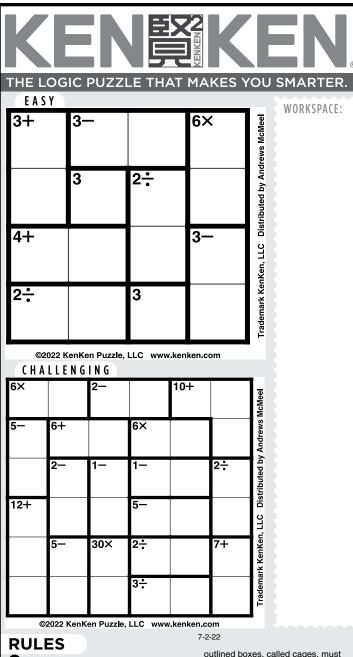
S

70. Michael Schenker 'Covenant' band that sweet __ river flow"

- 42. L.A. indie pop band digging Henry, Jane or Bridget?
- 45. 'Hope For The Hopeless' Brett
- 49. Taylor Hicks '__ Make You Proud'
- 51. Musical styles or these
- 54. Bob Seger "They do respect her but, they love to watch her
- 56. Soul singer Payne
- 57. Guster song about baby-talk for father, perhaps
- 58. The Weeknd's real first name
- 59. 'Tattva' Shaker

- 60. Saigon Kick 'Love __ The Way'
- 61. Death metalers Novembers
- 62. Guitarist Duane
- 63. Beach House 'Girl Of The Year' is about this Sedgwick
- 64. Led Zep '__ Mak'er'
- 67. Neil Diamond ' Don't See You Again' (2,1)
- © 2022 Todd Santos

Todd's new book Rock and Roll Crosswords Vol. 1 is available now on Amazon.



 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

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.

3 PREVIOUS ANSWERS 5 5 3 **2** 3

HIPPO I DECEMBER 22 - 28, 2022 I PAGE 39

ou Down With That?" — it's only by nature.

Across

- 1. Get by reasoning
- 6. Obey "You shall not pass"?
- 10. Dull pain
- 14. Anatomical trunk
- 15. Radius partner
- 16. "Moby-Dick" captain
- 17. Poster phrase discouraging theft Barinholtz
- of intellectual property
- 19. "The Lion King" heroine
- 20. " _ fêtes!" ("Happy holidays," loosely)
- 21. In a cheaply assembled way
- 23. Black or red insect
- 24. FedEx alternative

- 26. Part of a wedding ceremony
- 27. Family tree entry (abbr.)
- 29. Shucked shellfish
- 32. Letters before "Miami" or "NY"
- 35. Most important items
- 38. Twinkie filling
- 40. "Celebrity Jeopardy!" finalist
- 41. Pacific Northwestern pole
- 42. Easy-to-understand self-help genre

16

19

- 45. "Six-pack" muscles
- 46. Disposable in a box
- 47. Sahara slitherers
- 50. Place for a golf ball

- 51. Six-pointers, in the NFL
- 53. "Argo" employer
- 54. Area above the ankle
- 59. Let out fishing line
- 61. Setting of "Reading Lolita in Tehran"
- 62. Markable spots on the map showing where to land on the island, in Fortnite
- 64. Waiting room word
- 65. "Stranger Things" waffle brand
- 66. Renée Fleming performance, perhaps
- 67. Chest items
- 68. Video game with an "Eternal" sequel
- 69. Coins in Mexico

Down

- 1. "You're not gonna like this ..."
- 3. Way to get onto the porch

- 4. "Around the Horn" airer
- 5. Captured a dogie
- 6. Pet hair
- 7. Rueful remark
- 8. Rainfall measurement
- 9. Time between flights
- 10. Barq's competitor
- 11. Spiced tea brewed in milk
- 12. Concert venue
- 13. "The World's Online Marketplace'
- 18. "When ____, the world gets better, and the world is better, but then it's not, and I need to do it again"
- (2009 Isla Fisher movie line)
- 22. Triangle in a bag
- 25. Karaoke display
- 28. Give a free ticket
- 31. Tire alignment used on racecars
- 32. Some paintings of urban life

30. Guru Nanak's followers

33. Recognize

- 34. Intellectual's ending
- 36. Be a bother to
- 37. Frat party outfit
- 38. Pre-Apr. 15th advisor
- 39. Actor Corddry of "Childrens Hospital"
- 43. Produced, as crops
- 44. Approached, with "to"
- 48. "Cavalleria Rusticana" composer Mascagni
- 49. Chip condiments
- 50. Campground array
- 52. Martha's cohost on VH1
- 54. Laundry leftover
- 55. Dessert released in 1912
- 56. Crayon-like
- 57. Therefore
- 58. Belinda Carlisle, once
- 60. Ready to be eaten
- 63. "Wonderful" juice brand
- © 2022 Matt Jones

R&R answer from pg 43 of 12/15



Jonesin' answer from pg 44 of 12/15

_	D	Ε	Α	L		В	Α	S			Ι	Α	Ν	Α
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0	Ν	N	0	W		0	R	Е		0	Κ	Α	Р	Τ
	G	0	F	R	0	М	Α	R	Т	G	Α	Т	0	В
			Т	Ι	Α		Π	Ν	0	G		Α	L	Τ
Е	0	N		S	Н	0	Р		Т	Е	Т	R	Τ	S
С	0	В	Α	Κ	U	L	Α	W	Α	R	S		Π	
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			Т	0	0	S	L	0	W	Т	R	U	С	Κ
S	Т	R	0	L	L		Α	F	Α	R		G	U	Υ
J	Α	Е		D	Α	S			L	Α	S		Π	
S	Н	Α	В	В	Υ	С	Н	Т	L	Τ	М	Α	С	
S	Ι	D	Ε	Α		R	Α	Р		L	Ι	М	0	S
Е	N	Т	R	Υ		Ε	R	Α		Ε	L	Ι	D	Ε
D	Τ	0	Ν			W	Е	D		R	Е	N	Α	L
D		0	N			W	E	D		R	E	N	Α	L

NITE SUDOKU

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

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

65

<u>Conc</u>	cept	is 5	udok	(U	Puzzle	в В	y Dave	Green	1
		5	1				6	9	
	9					4			Jul
2					3				vndicate
9					7				Satures
4	8	3			9	6	1		King Fe
4 5 6 8			8		1			3	Diet by
6			9		2 6			4	Puzzles
8			3		6			2	oncentis
	2	9				8	3		@2002 Concentis Puzzles Dist by King Features Syndicate Inc

Difficulty Level ★★★

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

Difficulty Level ★

All quotes are from Humble Pi: When Math Goes Wrong in the Real World, by Matt Parker, born Dec. 22, 1980.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) But here's the thing: clockwork mechanisms are hard. They are difficult to build: one part in the wrong place and the whole thing stops working completely. The longer I think about it, the more I'm convinced that this does actually make a great analogy for workplace teamwork. It does.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) Our modern financial systems are now run on computers, which allow humans to make financial mistakes more efficiently and quickly than ever before. Whee!

always room for creativity to flourish. Especially now.

Aries (March 21 - April 19) If someone est half mile. However, if they were to say it end?

their walk to work is 95,040 inches, then you know that they have taken procrastination to a record level. It's not hard to do.

Taurus (April 20 - May **20)** The geometry of the soccer ball on UK street signs is wrong. It may seem inconsequential, but it really bugs me. What can you do?

Gemini (May 21 - June **20)** People two thousand years ago were just as good at making math mistakes as we are; it's just that most of the evidence has since been destroyed. Work in pencil.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22) ... in 2002 McDonald's ran an advertising campaign in the UK to promote its McChoice Menu, which consisted of 8 different items. Posters around London promised that this gave the customer a choice of 40,312 options, a number that is not only wrong but comes with a side order of extra wrong. Would you like extra wrong with that?

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22) A number without units can be meaningless. If something costs '9.97,' you want to know what currency that price is listed in. Know your units.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) Instead, the company did that classic 'definitely innocent' move of coming up with two mutually exclusive excuses, like a guilty child saying there never was a hamburger, and besides, it was their sibling who ate it. Cover your bases.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) ... *if the bolts* are too similar to tell apart, write the product number on them. Penmanship counts.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Sometimes Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) There is the seemingly insignificant bits that get rounded off or averaged out are actually very important. Depends on your purposes.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Counting says their commute to work is a mile and a is arguably the easiest thing to do in mathhalf, you know that it's not exactly 7,920 feet ematics. It's where math started: with the but rather that they've rounded it to the near-need to count things. Sure, but where does

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.

SOLUTIONS CLUES 1 frights (6) 2 doles out (6)

- 3 San Jose hockey team (6) 4 sidesteps, as responsibility (6)
- **5** tops (6)
- 6 gets it in gear (6)
- 7 conniving (6)

AR	AR	IR	SH	TS
ES	KS	IR	AR	SHI
sc	SH	SH	IF	SH
ES	TS	FTY	KS	SH

21 F. SHIRKS 5. SHIRTS 6. SHIRTS 7. SHIFTY 4. SHIFTY

Sudoku Answers from pg44 of 12/15

Puzzle A

7	2	4	9	3	1	6	8	5
9	6	3	4	8	5	2	1	7
8	1	5	2	6	7	4	3	9
1	5	9	6	7	4	3	2	8
4	3	7	1	2	8	9	5	6
2	8	6	3	5	9	1	7	4
5	4	2	8	9	3	7	6	1
6	7	1	5	4	2	8	9	3
3	9	8	7	1	6	5	4	2
Difficu	lty Lev	el 🛊						12/12

Puzzle B

8	2	6	1	3	9	4	5	7
4	5	1	2	7	6	3	9	8
3	7	9	4	8	5	2	1	6
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5	8	2	7	1	4	6	3	9
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Difficu	lly Lev	el **	*					12/14

Puzzle C

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION

Who knew?

In June 2023, people in South Korea will suddenly become younger, the BBC reported. On Dec. 8, the South Korean parliament voted to switch from two traditional methods of counting age to the more widely recognized international method for official documents. Currently, Koreans are 1 year old at birth and then gain another year on the first day of each following year. An alternate method has them at 0 upon birth, then adding a year each Jan. 1. So, for example, someone born on Dec. 31, 2002, is 19 years old using the international method. But under Korea's traditional methods, they might be 20 or 21 years old. One member of parliament said the change would reduce "unnecessary socio-economic costs, because legal and social disputes as well as confusion persist due to the different ways of calculating age." — BBC, Dec. 8

Animal antics

A live nativity scene in Carolina Beach, an island community about 140 miles southeast of Raleigh, North Carolina, was missing its cows on Dec. 4, the News & Observer reported. The two cows escaped their pen at Seaside Chapel around 10:30 p.m. on Dec. 3, police explained, and were apparently so determined to get away that they ended up in the Cape Fear River. Carolina Beach police were joined by state park rangers and a K-9

with special herding skills as they hauled the soggy bovines back to shore. — *News & Observer, Dec. 4*

Bright idea

A homeowner in East Grand Forks, Minnesota, was puzzled when he discovered five bullet holes in the siding of his house, along with another in his son's bedroom window, the Grand Forks Herald reported. Police were summoned, and they questioned a nextdoor neighbor, Michael James Powers, 76, who readily admitted that he'd been shooting at a squirrel that was on his bird feeder; as he put it, "Well, that's war." Powers was aiming from his own bedroom window, and said it wasn't the first time he'd shot at squirrels. He offered to go talk to "the other guy" and make it right, but officers had something different in mind: They arrested him for reckless discharge of a firearm. When Powers told his wife he was being arrested, she responded, "Well, I told you." — Grand Forks Herald, Dec. 9

Police report

Anthony Thomas Tarduno, 48, saved the Hernando County (Florida) Sheriff's Office the trouble of investigating after one of their patrol cars was set on fire on Dec. 7 in Spring Hill, Florida, WTSP-TV reported. As officers looked over the scene, Tarduno walked up and confessed to being the arsonist, say-

ing he "had been drinking at a bar ... and decided he'd like to set it on fire," according to police. Tarduno placed a bag of garbage under the patrol vehicle and used a lighter to set it ablaze, police said. Tarduno admitted to detectives that when he gets drunk, he does "stupid things." — WTSP-TV, Dec. 7

It's a mystery

Residents of South Tampa, Florida, are shaking their heads, trying to discover the source of "a deep, vibrating bass sound" that's been occurring on Saturday evenings for months, Fox13-TV reported. "You can feel it when your head's down on the pillow," said Abbi Reynolds. People have posted on social media, saying that their "windows are literally rattling" and "it reverberates from neighboring tall houses like an echo chamber." But Tampa police can't locate the source, either. They've checked with the local Air Force base and cruise lines, neither of which are responsible for the noise. Resident Zach Reynolds and others want to get to the bottom of it, trying to triangulate the noise and station people in different areas to suss out the culprit. — Fox13-TV, Dec. 10

Crime report

Police in the village of Warzymice, Poland, are hunting for an unlikely culprit in a vandalism case, Notes From Poland reported on Dec. 12: a Christmas tree. The odd figure cut a hole in a fence and slashed the tires of 21 vehicles belonging to a meat warehouse around 1 a.m., and cameras recorded the whole incident. In fact, the figure is seen loitering nearby and covering themselves with branches taken from nearby trees before committing the crime. Mateusz Watral, who works for the meat company, called it "more of a guerilla [action] than a well-prepared operation. Along the way he lost his 'camouflage,' [and] branches were scattered everywhere." — *Notes From Poland, Dec. 12*

Flipping the script

Alligator intrusions in Florida are so ubiquitous that News of the Weird has stopped reporting them. But in Brevard County on Dec. 4, the alligator's look-alike cousin made an appearance in Melbourne Beach, WESH-TV reported. A 9-foot-long American crocodile, which is seldom seen so far north, was chilling on a beach. "American crocodiles typically live in coastal areas throughout the Caribbean, and southern Florida is at the very north end of their range," noted the county's Environmentally Endangered Lands Program. Uh, not anymore. — WESH-TV, Dec. 4

Sources according to uexpress.com. From the editors at Andrews McMeel Syndication. See uexpress.com/contact



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9th Circuit - Family Division - Manchester 35 Amherst St., Manchester, NH 03101-1801

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION - Termination of Parental Rights

TO: Michael Ruffle

16 Pearl St, APT#2, Manchester, NH, 03103 Case Number: **656-2022-TR-00110**

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

Date: January 31, 2023 Time: 2:30 PM Time Allotted: 30 Minutes 35 Amherst St., Manchester, NH 03101 Courtroom 302

9th Circuit- Family Division - Manchester 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 or 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.



December 08, 2022

(656608) C: Darin Hood-Tucker, Esq



Capitol Center for the Arts

BANK OF NEW HAMPSHIRE STAGE

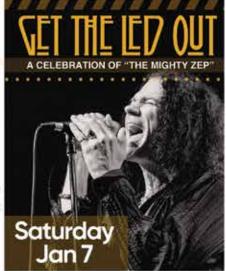


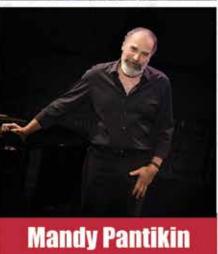
BANK OF NEW HAMPSHIRE STAGE 16 S. MAIN ST CONCORD

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Capitol Center For the Arts Presents

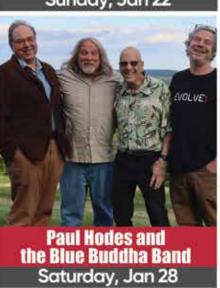












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