

# the Hippo

JANUARY 5 - 11, 2023

CIVIL WAR IN  
COMICS P. 6

HOT TUNES FOR  
COOL NIGHTS P. 31

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

FREE



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**The litany**



By the time you read this, December will have slipped into January and another year will have ended. A time of transition, this — new calendars, new dates on checks (if you still write them), a new tax year, and the passing of the shortest day of the year. As has been my custom for many years, I pull out my journal for the year just ending and read over the entries that range from a simple recounting of daily events to musings about family, work or national happenings. There are regular mentions of the books I am reading (or want to read), of conversations with friends and occasionally strangers met by chance. Some of the earliest entries record promises made to myself back in January that I'll get more exercise, follow less news, FaceTime my children and grandchildren, meditate each morning and take walks with my wife.

In the back of the journal, however, there is a list of the names of relatives, friends and colleagues who have died that year. The list is much longer than a single year, however, as it is one to which names are added regularly and it stretches back five years to when I began so noting the deaths. Akin, I recognize, to the Litany of the Saints that was a liturgical practice in my Catholic youth, I read down that now very long list (more than 50) and softly speak the names. The very sound of a deceased's name immediately brings to mind some memory of a time spent with them — an event, a snippet of conversation or an image of something they have done. While there is no "Ora pro nobis," as in the liturgy of my past, there is my own silent expression of gratitude for the time I did have with them. Each name is a so very distinct person who entered my life and left an impression. At the end, the litany itself is a mosaic of vastly different individuals who, together, have enriched my life and to whom I owe great gratitude.

After the hustle and stress of preparations for Christmas, followed by the celebrations of the day itself, there comes each year a more quiet time. The daily emails are fewer, there are fewer appointments to be met, and even, on occasion, a day completely free and clear of obligations. These are truly sacred times in the sense that religions the world over built them into their calendars to give people time to reflect and resolve. They are like a "Sabbath" for the year, a time when we leave off ordinary responsibilities and pay attention to our inner selves as we reflect on the year passing, those we have lost, and begin to set a new course for the year ahead. Soon enough the routine will be reestablished and these treasured days will have passed. One solid resolution is to not lose them in the moment of their quietude and reflection.

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**ON THE COVER**

10 Is starting (restarting?) the habit of going for a run part of your plan for the new year? We find race series and running groups to help you get motivated to hit the streets. Like a little competition? We also round up some upcoming races. And, for those who just can't face a run in the cold, we consider some places with indoor tracks.

**ALSO ON THE COVER** Angie Sykeny catches up with cartoonist Marek Bennett to talk about his latest book (page 6). John Fladd explains how to make a gin sour (page 25). And looking for some post-holiday nightlife? Check out the Music This Week listing of live music at area bars and restaurants (starting on page 31).

**INSIDE THIS WEEK**

- NEWS & NOTES**
- 4 NEWS IN BRIEF**
- 6 Q&A**
- 7 SPORTS**
- 8 QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX**

**9 THIS WEEK**

- THE ARTS**
- 14 A GIRLS' CHORUS**
- 15 ARTS ROUNDUP**

**INSIDE/OUTSIDE**

- 16 GARDENING GUY**  
Henry Homeyer offers advice on your outdoors.
- 17 TREASURE HUNT**  
There's gold in your attic.
- 17 KIDDIE POOL**  
Family fun anytime.
- 18 CAR TALK**  
Automotive advice.

**CAREERS**

- 20 ON THE JOB**  
What it's like to be a...

**FOOD**

- 22 WINE WEDDINGS** Amy LaBelle writes a book; In the Kitchen with Jake Norris; Weekly Dish; Drinks with John Fladd.

**POP CULTURE**

- 33 REVIEWS** CDs, books, film and more. Amy Diaz has a B+ week with *The Fabelmans*, *Puss in Boots: The Last Wish*, *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery* and *The Banshees of Inisherin*.

**NITE**

- 30 BANDS, CLUBS, NIGHTLIFE**  
Nite Roundup, concert & comedy listings and more.
- 30 COMEDY THIS WEEK**  
Where to find laughs.
- 31 MUSIC THIS WEEK**  
Live music at your favorite bars and restaurants.
- 34 CONCERTS**  
Big ticket shows.
- 34 TRIVIA NIGHTS**  
Find some friendly competition.

**ODDS & ENDS**

- 35 ROCK 'N' ROLL CROSSWORD**
- 35 KEN KEN, WORD ROUNDUP**
- 36 JONES' CROSSWORD, SUDOKU**
- 37 SIGNS OF LIFE, 7 LITTLE WORDS**
- 38 NEWS OF THE WEIRD**

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# NEWS & NOTES

## Opioid settlement

New Hampshire Attorney General John M. Formella has joined a national attorneys general settlement with pharmaceutical retailers CVS and Walgreens for a total of \$10.7 billion in regard to the companies' alleged contribution to the opioid crisis. According to a press release, the civil lawsuit alleges that the companies overly distributed and irresponsibly dispensed prescription opioids at their retail stores. The settlement has brought the national amount from investigations and litigation against the pharmaceutical industry for its role in the opioid crisis to more than \$50 billion. New Hampshire stands to receive nearly \$57 million from the CVS and Walgreens agreements, which will be dedicated to opioid treatment and prevention programs in the state. CVS has agreed to pay \$5 billion over a period of 10 years while Walgreens has agreed to pay \$5.7 billion over a period of 15 years, with payments expected to begin during the second half of 2023. "People trust their local pharmacies and these pharmacy chains failed to provide the people of New Hampshire with the pharmacy care and protection they had a right to expect," Attorney General Formella said in the release. "This agreement mandates significant changes to these pharmacy chains' business practices, including court-ordered monitoring to ensure checks that should have been in place will now be aggressively enforced."

## New director

The City of Manchester Board of Mayor and Aldermen unani-



**MANCHESTER  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

mously approved the nomination of Michael Quigley for the position of Director of the Office of Youth Services. According to a press release, the city department provides youth programming designed to engage young people who are experiencing difficulties with academics, anger and aggression, bullying and fighting, changes in family structures, self-harm, death and loss, homelessness, isolation, tensions at home, substance abuse, trauma and more. Quigley, who holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education and a master's degree in adult education and leadership, has worked in youth services since 2007 and has extensive experience working with families, schools, nonprofit partners and government agencies to help better the lives of youth. "I am inspired by the young people in Manchester and believe in their endless potential," Quigley said in the release. "I am eager to take part in the great work that OYS is currently doing in the community and will work to broaden our impact by strengthening our mission and vision. ... The Office of Youth Services will do this

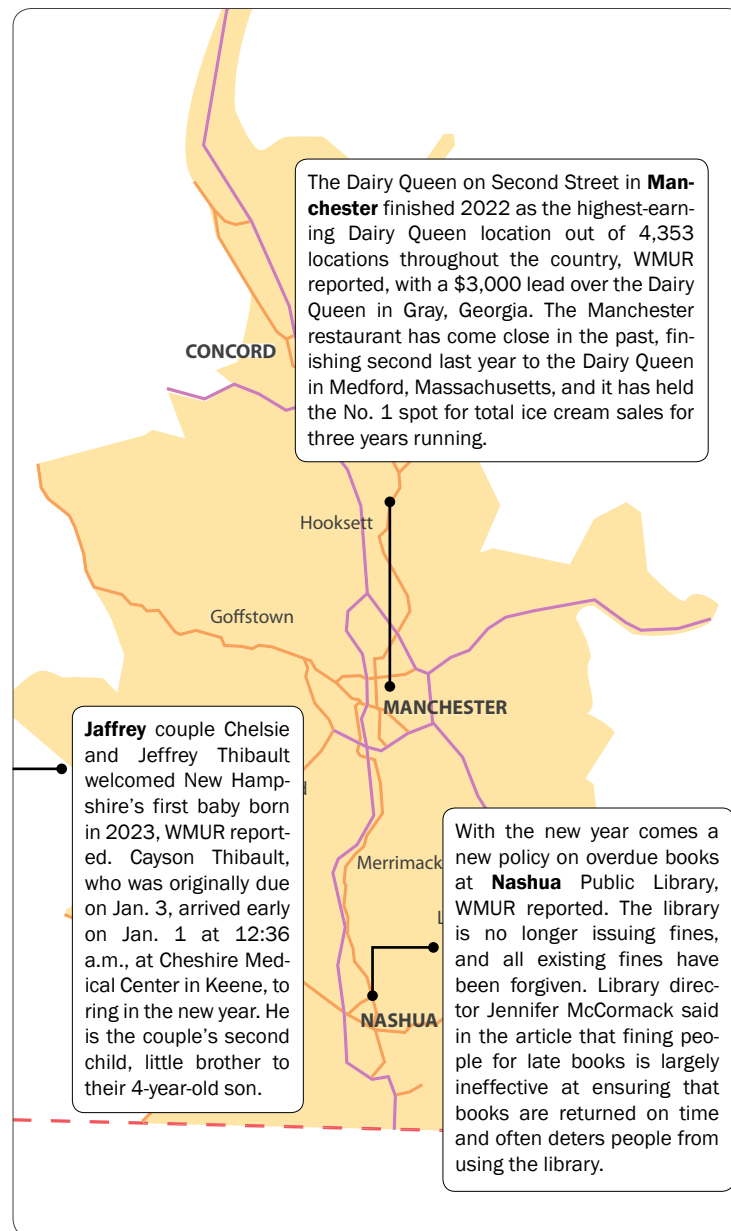
by providing new opportunities, partnerships and programs that will allow youth to thrive, and provide spaces for them to use their voice to help this community continue to grow." Quigley assumed the role on Dec. 27, according to the release.

## New logo

Manchester School District has unveiled a new logo that incorporates visual elements from the city. According to a press release, students and school staff were presented with a number of potential logos and asked to vote for their favorite. The logo depicts a school clock tower, the Merrimack River and ornamental flourishes inspired by architecture and signs of Elm Street, in a color inspired by the red brick exteriors of the city's schools and mill buildings. "We are excited to share this new logo with the community," Jennifer Gillis, superintendent of the Manchester School District, said in the release. "It's a significant change, but we feel this logo does a great job of capturing our community and history. In focus groups we held, the historical elements in this logo really resonated with people, particularly our students. We feel this logo does a great job of tying together our present and our past." The new logo will be implemented as the District launches its new website this month.

## New assistant commish

Gov. Chris Sununu and the Executive Council have approved the nomination of David Rodrigue for the position



The Dairy Queen on Second Street in **Manchester** finished 2022 as the highest-earning Dairy Queen location out of 4,353 locations throughout the country, WMUR reported, with a \$3,000 lead over the Dairy Queen in Gray, Georgia. The Manchester restaurant has come close in the past, finishing second last year to the Dairy Queen in Medford, Massachusetts, and it has held the No. 1 spot for total ice cream sales for three years running.

**Jaffrey** couple Chelsie and Jeffrey Thibault welcomed New Hampshire's first baby born in 2023, WMUR reported. Cayson Thibault, who was originally due on Jan. 3, arrived early on Jan. 1 at 12:36 a.m., at Cheshire Medical Center in Keene, to ring in the new year. He is the couple's second child, little brother to their 4-year-old son.

With the new year comes a new policy on overdue books at **Nashua** Public Library, WMUR reported. The library is no longer issuing fines, and all existing fines have been forgiven. Library director Jennifer McCormack said in the article that fining people for late books is largely ineffective at ensuring that books are returned on time and often deters people from using the library.

of New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) Assistant Commissioner, according to a press release. Rodrigue, who has a bachelor of science degree from the University of New Hampshire, has worked for NHDOT since 1991 in the Bureaus of Highway Design, Construction, Traffic and Highway Maintenance. He became

the Department's first Intelligent Transportation Management System Program Manager in 2005, where he worked to construct, outfit and open the Bureau of Transportation Systems Management Operations, also known as New Hampshire's Transportation Management Center. He has served as the director of operations since 2016.

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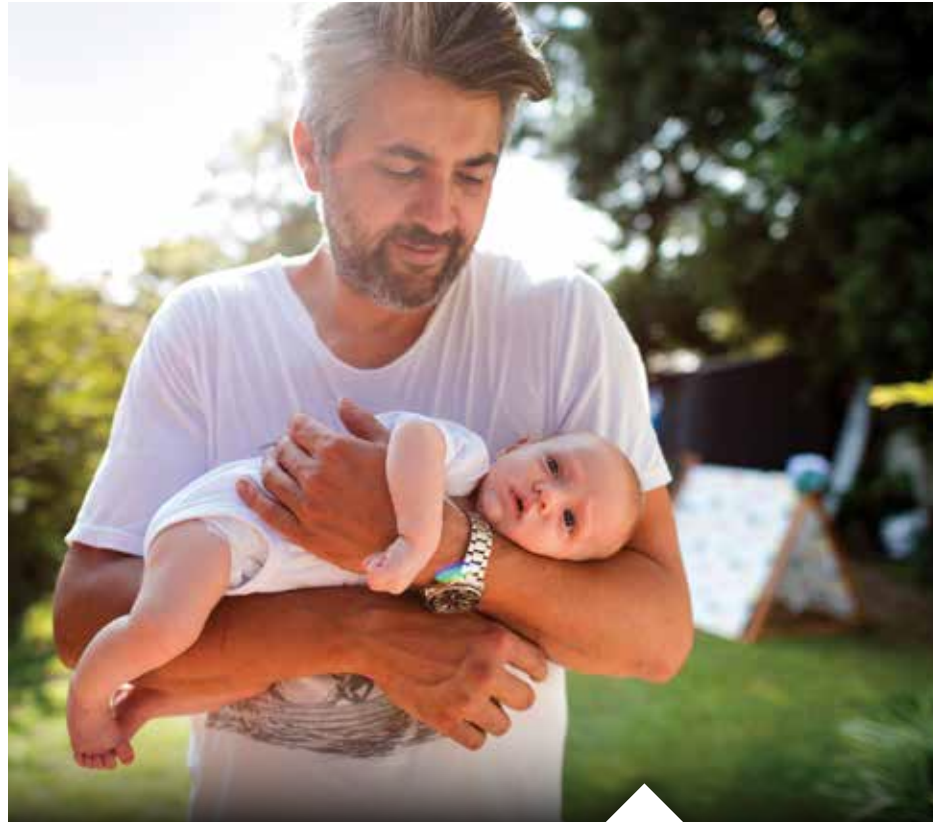
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## NEWS & NOTES Q&A

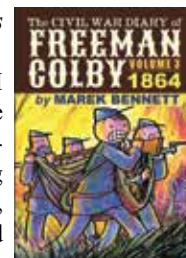
# Graphic history

Marek Bennett continues Freeman Colby's story

Henniker comic artist and educator Marek Bennett discussed the third volume of his historical graphic novel series, *The Civil War Diary of Freeman Colby*, due out on Jan. 25. The book is available to preorder now at [marekbennett.com](http://marekbennett.com).

**Q:** *How did you start this series?*

In December 2012 ... I realized I knew very little about local history here in New Hampshire, where I grew up. I started poking around in the local historical society, just curious about the photographs and old documents and things there. I came across this diary written by a guy from Henniker, Freeman Colby. It covered his service in the Civil War. I thought it would be fun to doodle a little stick figure comic to see what this [story] looks like when it's drawn out. ... That's how I got started. I said, 'I'll just draw a little eight-page mini comic using the story and then put it down and let people read the diary themselves.' Instead, I got hooked on it and kept drawing it.



has very little to do with the past and a whole lot to do with the present, because we're finding this information in the present. We're putting these pieces together and crafting this new narrative in the present. ... As I worked on this book, I tried to ... choose stories and weave them together in such a way that it casts more light on the things [of the present] that connect us to that time period. ... I just couldn't help but notice that as I'm drawing people debating and acting and struggling to confront armed rebellion in the United States, there's an armed rebellion — people marching on the Capitol — happening on the news.

*Was it always your plan to create multiple volumes?*

When I did the first book, I thought that would be it. ... Then it was selected as a great graphic novel for teens by the American Librarians Association. That got my attention and I thought maybe there's an audience for this. ... Right around that same time, I heard from some descendants of the Colby family, and they mailed me a packet of 80 pages of letters that Freeman Colby had written home that I hadn't seen before. ... I thought, well, that's a sign, then, that people are interested in the book, and they want to see more.

*Was your research or creative process for Volume 3 different in any way?*

Yes, partly because of Covid. ... The pandemic was so disorienting, it took me almost a year of false starts and multiple drafts of a short section. It just wasn't working. Then, at a certain point, I realized I just needed to get this book done. ... I gave myself a daily deadline: I have to draw two pages a day. Even if they're not the finished version, it doesn't matter if they're good or bad, I just have to have those pages done. ... That was really helpful.

*What now?*

I'm going to get right to work on the next volume, on the most important parts, and just see how it fills out. ... I have a New Year's resolution where I'm blocking out a couple of weeks a month to be focused on Volume 4. ... [While] I bring Volume 3 around to people, I want to keep working on Volume 4 ... and keep it moving forward. — *Angie Sykeny*

*What is Volume 3 about?*

In each book, I try to unfold the story and find a new dimension to the story. Volume 1 is basically Freeman Colby's diary verbatim, but in a comics format ... For Volume 2, I started finding other people's stories and weaving them in to help flesh out the narrative and figure out what was really going on. ... That's when the series really started taking its shape. ... The next level is orchestrating all of those stories; that's Volume 3. I realized it's not enough just to have a lot of these other people ... pop in and tell a short story and then disappear. I need to bring them in and let them be in conversation with each other. It was really a fun challenge to ... see how they can all fit together on the page in a way that I can draw it. ... It's pulling together all these little puzzle pieces that haven't been put together in quite this way before.

*So is Freeman Colby still the main character?*

Freeman Colby is still the throughline — he's in the background of the scenes — but 90 percent of the book [consists of] materials taken from other storytellers who can flesh out his story. ... For example ... Freeman Colby ends up teaching a literacy class for freed people who had been enslaved ... and I realized I could have a couple of his students tell their stories, too, in a way that is culturally relevant.

*How do you choose which stories to include?*

I've realized that history, in some ways,

### MAREK BENNETT BOOK EVENTS

*The Civil War Diary of Freeman Colby, Volume 3 (1864) launch party*

**When:** Wednesday, Jan. 25, 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord

**More info:** [gibsonsbookstore.com/event/colby-3](http://gibsonsbookstore.com/event/colby-3)

*The Civil War Diary of Freeman Colby, Volume 3 (1864) hometown release party*

**When:** Sunday, Feb. 19, 2 p.m.

**Where:** Tucker Free Library, 31 Western Ave., Henniker

**More info:** [tuckerfreelibrary.org/event/marek-bennett-release-party-book-signing](http://tuckerfreelibrary.org/event/marek-bennett-release-party-book-signing)



# What's in store for 2023



Our 15th annual predictions for the year ahead.

**January:** A day after their disappointing season ends, Patriot Nation files a restraining order to prevent **Matt Patricia** from being within 200 yards of the Patriots offense or **Mac Jones** in

2023. **Coach B** hears the begging from all corners of New England and announces Patricia has been "re-assigned" to a front office role. Heavyweight boxing is heard from for the first time in decades when, during an appearance on the Hitman Hearn's podcast to commemorate the 50th anniversary of **George Foreman** winning the Heavyweight crown in 1973, the two-time champ asks what ever happened to Heavyweight boxing. And no one knows the answer.

**February:** After digging themselves out from the 13th western New York blizzard in 30 days, Buffalo wins the Super Bowl over surprise NFC entry New York Giants. With the Bills a 16-point favorite, the G-Men consider bringing **Tom Coughlin** out of retirement to engineer another massive SB upset, but decide against it. They then lose by 17 to make the folks giving the points happy dudes. In a bid to break **Michael Jordan's** record for most retirements by a GOAT, **Tom Brady** retires again.

**March:** **John Henry** acts like an owner and talks to the media for the first time in two years early in spring training. But he soon retreats to the bunker after being bombarded with questions about his team's epically low 2023 expectations.

**April:** When the "I'm sorry, I'll do it your way" bid fails to get Yoko back, Brady unretires again and is traded to the hometown 49ers. The Sox go into 2023 with an average age of 43 for its starting rotation. The good news is, it beats the Vegas over-under of 45 after ancient **Rich Hill** somehow gets another team to give him a contract leaving him to flee faster than a guy finding an open lifeboat seat as the Titanic was on the way down.

**May:** After 47 trade-down and trade-up moves in Rounds 1 and 2, **Bill Belichick** selects punter **Ray Guy IV** with his top pick. Tampa Bay uses an all-time record 32 pitchers in a rain-shortened six-inning dumpster fire game at Fenway that takes 6 hours and 31 minutes to play.

**June:** In a first ever for the gentle sport of golf, a massive on-course brawl breaks out between LIV players and old-guard PGAers to mar Day 1 of the U.S. Open. After going down early in the marquee "animal" match-up between a **Tiger** and a Shark, Time magazine's "Sports Weasel of the Year" **Greg Norman** squeezes his way out of the bottom of the scrum to start throwing sucker punches from behind like he's **Mickey Rivers** in 1976's famed dust-up between the Sox and the Yanks. The Celtics return to the NBA Finals, but this time they win in a sweep of Golden State when **Jayson Tatum** and **Jaylen Brown** live up to the billing. In the NBA draft, 7'4" **Frenchman**

**Victor (the victor) Wembanyama** falls one letter short of **Michael Olowokandi's** all-time record for having the most letters in the full name of a first overall pick.

**July:** Not that anyone but puckheads notices, but the Bruins join the Celtics as world champs when the *ice* hockey season concludes in the calendar year's hottest month. **Raffy Devers** is sent packing at the trading deadline to complete the destruction of the Red Sox franchise for a raft of young players ballyhooed by the Sox brass but described by most baseball insiders as "worse than the box of rocks Chaim got for **Mookie Betts**." At the presser announcing the move, Boston's sports answer to **George Santos** says Devers will be his top priority to re-sign in the off-season.

**August:** Patricia is detained by security at Pats pre-season camp when he breaches the 200-yard boundary he's required to maintain. He then quits in protest after learning the restraining order was actually taken out by owner **Bob Kraft**.

**September:** Patricia quickly finds work as offensive coordinator at Memorial High and vows he'll resurrect the dormant-for-decades Crusaders offense. **Mayor Joyce Craig** immediately tries to overturn the move by telling (shouting at, actually) the school board in front of an overflow open SB session crowd, "Didn't you people watch the Patriots offense last year?" For her strongly worded commendation, Craig gets an immediate 15-point bump in the polls ahead of her mayoral campaign.

**October:** Betts and the newly acquired Devers hit six homers off **Nathan Eovaldi** in Game 7 as the Dodgers top Texas to win the World Series.

**November:** **Xander Bogaerts** wins the National League MVP Award in a unanimous vote.

Despite scoring only 21 points on offense all season, Memorial somehow wins the Division 1 Football crown for the first time since **Dave Croasdale** was a pup. After years of hibernation, UCLA comes out of nowhere to finish in the Top 4 ranked teams in college football to set up an all-Manchester opening-round match-up (in January) between **Chip Kelly's** Bruins and fellow Central alum (and Chipper's old QB at the U) **Ryan Day** and Ohio State. The Manchester PD begins planning for handling lines at **Billy's Sports Bar**, expected to snake past the back entrance to Elliot Hospital.

**December:** Devers signs with the Yankees in free agency. **Mac Jones** throws his 40th TD pass to help the Pats clinch a playoff spot, but resists the temptation to flip off the now adoring crowd that was calling for his head just 60 days earlier. After accepting MLB's new Harry Frazee Team Wrecker award at a lavish gathering at New York's No No Nanette Theater for discarding Betts, Bogaerts and Devers with astonishing speed, **John Henry** announces on what's left of Twitter that he has sold the team to **Elon Musk**. He's then installed by Vegas odds-makers and **Draft-Kings** as the odds-on favorite to win MLB's Be Careful What You Wish For award in 2023.

Email Dave at [dlong@hippopress.com](mailto:dlong@hippopress.com). 🐼

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# nutritious nibbles

Kick off the new year by finding new and unique ways to increase your fruit and veggie intake. Whip up this colorful Toasted Quinoa Salad that is both satisfying and delicious.

## Toasted Quinoa Salad

**Serves: 4**

### Salad Ingredients:

1 (16 oz.) package of Sweet Potato Chunks, roasted with

1 Tbsp. olive oil

1/4 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. McCormick® Pure Ground Black Pepper

2/3 cup quinoa, cooked

2 large apples, diced

2 (7 oz. bags) Fresh Express® Fancy Greens

### Dressing Ingredients:

1/4 cup apple cider vinegar

1 tsp. Dijon mustard

1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

pinch of salt and pepper

### Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 450°F. On a large baking sheet, toss the sweet potato chunks with the olive oil, salt and pepper.

2. Roast until tender, about 30 minutes. Remove and let cool.

3. Cook quinoa according to package instructions.

4. Reduce the oven to 400°F. Spread the cooked quinoa on a baking sheet and toast for 3-5 minutes.

5. Mix together the dressing ingredients. Combine the salad ingredients and toss with the dressing to coat evenly.

6. Enjoy immediately.

### Nutritional Information

Amount per serving: Calories 365; Total Fat 18 g; Saturated Fat 2.5 g; Cholesterol 0 mg; Sodium 285 mg; Total Carbohydrate 49 g; Dietary Fiber 8.5 g; Total Sugars 20 g; Added Sugars 0 g; Protein 5 g

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Source: Recipe adapted from and image courtesy of Guiding Stars®



## NEWS & NOTES

### QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX



#### Be a champ

Pro Football Hall of Famer Peyton Manning is teaming up with the American Red Cross during January, National Blood Donor Month, in a call for blood and platelet donations to prevent a seasonal blood shortage. According to a press release from the Concord-based Northern New England Region Red Cross office, the Red Cross, in partnership with the National Football

League, will enter everyone who donates blood, platelets or plasma now through Jan. 31 for a chance to win a trip for two to the Super Bowl LVII event in Arizona. Visit [RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl](http://RedCrossBlood.org/SuperBowl).

**QOL score: +1**

**Comment:** To book a donation appointment at a Red Cross blood donation site near you, download the Red Cross Blood Donor app, visit [red-crossblood.org](http://red-crossblood.org) or call 1-800-733-2767.

#### Land conservation

The New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) will award \$4.3 million in matching grants to municipalities, nonprofit organizations and community groups to support 34 land conservation and historic preservation projects across the state. According to a press release, those projects include rehabilitating 17 historic structures and permanently conserving more than 2,700 acres of farm, timber, and ecologically significant land in all ten New Hampshire counties.

**QOL score: +1**

**Comment:** The grants will be additionally matched by more than \$15 million funding from other public and private sources, according to the release. Recipients are expected to complete the funded projects within two years.

#### Hate crime increase

Newly released data from the FBI has revealed a significant increase in the number of hate crimes committed in New Hampshire, NHPR reported. New Hampshire law enforcement documented 34 reported hate crimes in 2021, up from 19 in 2020. Hate crimes are defined by the FBI as violent criminal acts against a person or property motivated by bias against a race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity.

**QOL score: -2**

**Comment:** The hate crimes in New Hampshire included 16 instances of destruction or property or vandalism and 13 instances of intimidation. Nearly half of the crimes were targeted at Black residents, eight were motivated by religious bias and seven were related to sexual orientation, according to the article.

#### Help for families

Bank of New Hampshire has made a \$5,000 donation to Harbor Care to support its efforts to help families that are experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness. According to a press release, Harbor Care serves more than 5,000 individuals through housing and residential services, primary and behavioral health care, substance use disorder treatment, home care, HIV/AIDS care, veteran services and food pantries and kitchens that make more than 100,000 meals available annually.

**QOL score: +1**

**Comment:** "Support from Bank of New Hampshire will provide thousands of meals and, in the long term, help create the foundations for our clients to build their lives," Henry Och, President and CEO of Harbor Care, said in the release.

**QOL score: 50**

**Net change: +1**

**QOL this week: 51**

With the new year, the QOL index resets to 50. What's affecting your Quality of Life? Let us know at [news@hippypress.com](mailto:news@hippypress.com).



# THIS WEEK

## BIG EVENTS JANUARY 5 AND BEYOND

### Sunday, Jan. 8

*The Kid Brother* (1927), a Harold Lloyd silent comedy, will screen at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St. in Nashua; [nashualibrary.org](http://nashualibrary.org), 589-4600) today at 1:30 p.m. with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis. The event is free and family-friendly, according to a press release.



### Friday, Jan. 6

**Recycled Percussion** wraps up a holiday week run of shows today (at 7 p.m.) and tomorrow, Saturday, Jan. 7 (at 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.), at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org), 668-5588). Tickets start at \$37. See [recycledpercussion.com](http://recycledpercussion.com) for videos of the group's high-energy performances.

### Friday, Jan. 6

The play *Scene Changes* opens

tonight at the Hatbox Theatre (270 Loudon Road in Concord; [hatboxnh.com](http://hatboxnh.com), 715-2315). In the show, a traveling production of *A Christmas Carol* loses its Bob Cratchit when he gets ill in Burlington, Vermont, and the show has to hire a new actor when it comes to Concord, causing "a clash of wills," according to the website, which also says that the play contains adult language. The show will run tonight through Sunday, Jan. 22, with showtimes at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Sat-

urdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets cost \$22 for adults and \$19 for students and seniors.

### Saturday, Jan. 7

Red River Theatres (11 S. Main St. in Concord; 224-4600, [redrivetheatres.org](http://redrivetheatres.org)) will screen the 1939 classic *The Wizard of Oz* on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 10 a.m. The morning will include complimentary coffee from Revelstoke and hot chocolate for the kids (or just the hot chocolate fans), according to the website. Dressing as a scarecrow in need of a brain or a girl from Kansas with a fabulous pair of shoes is encouraged, and the concession stand will feature some themed treats, the website said. Tickets cost \$10 per person.

### Saturday, Jan. 7

Looking to add more native plants to your garden? Winter is actually a good time to **sow the seeds of native plants** that need the cold as part of their growth

process, according to NH Audubon, which is holding a class about winter sowing today from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Massabesic Center (26 Audubon Way in Auburn; [nhaudubon.org](http://nhaudubon.org), 668-2045). UNH Extension master gardeners Donna Miller and Stacey Scaccia will lead the session; the cost is \$15. Register in advance (by Thursday, Jan. 5).

### Sunday, Jan. 8

Who will be the "Champion of Champions" is the question today from 1 to 5 p.m. at Tupelo Music Hall (10 A St. in Derry; [tupelomusicahall.com](http://tupelomusicahall.com)) when four champions from previous years' Pizzastock battle of bands

take the stage for **Pizzastock 6.5 Battle of Champions**. The lineup is Fourth Degree, Crescendo's Gate, Cozy Throne and Second to Last Minute, according to [pizzastock.org](http://pizzastock.org), where you can learn more about the fundraising concerts and the Jason R. Flood Memorial. Tickets to the Tupelo show cost \$20.



### Save the Date! Friday, Feb. 3

Livingston Taylor will come to the Dana Center for the Humanities (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive in Manchester; [tickets.anselm.edu](http://tickets.anselm.edu), 641-7700) on Friday, Feb. 3, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$45.

## EastSidePlaza

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# START *the year with a* RUN

## RACES AND RUNNING GROUPS TO GET YOU MOVING

Looking to get out (or maybe get back out) and go for a run? We talked to running aficionados who are part of running groups and race series that will help you lace up and head out, even during these colder months. For additional motivation, we have a rundown of some upcoming road races. And, for those who prefer to run inside but are treadmill-averse, we found a few local spots with indoor tracks.



## Picking up the pace

Why you should join a local running club or group

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingersoll@hippopress.com

Running is a sport that doesn't always have to be done alone. Joining a local running club or group — especially when staying active during frigid temperatures sometimes proves to be a challenge — can serve as a valuable motivator for runners of all ages and abilities. “I think it's really a matter of being part

of a group of other like-minded individuals,” said Stephen Rouleau, president of Gate City Striders, a Nashua-based running group that was founded in 1979. “I know that, for me, it's tougher to get motivated to get out the door by myself, whereas if I have a group of people that I know I'm going to meet with there and go run, it's more enjoyable. The shared miles make it so much better. ... We also try to do a whole bunch of social events and other things within the community. In the

past, for instance, we've rented out a theater and done a movie night. We have ice cream runs, we have our group socials and we try to do some speaker nights.”

With more than 600 members, Gate City Striders is one of the largest running clubs in the state.

“We try to make ourselves a home for everyone,” Rouleau said, “so we have everyone from starters ... all the way up to your really competitive faster runners.”

The club is known for hosting a number of signature events and race series throughout the year — next up, Rouleau said, is the Freeze Your Buns 5K series, which kicks off on Sunday, Jan. 8, and will continue every other Sunday through March 5. Each race begins at 9 a.m. at the Conway Arena (Stadium Drive, Nashua), and is open to all registrants, regardless of your membership status with the club.

“The course is pretty much from the YMCA on roads down to Nashua High School [South]. You circle that a couple of times and come back to the finish line there,” Rouleau said. “It's flat, it's fast and it's family-friendly, so it's a great way to get out there and get your miles in.”

Each race takes place as scheduled, Rouleau said, unless inclement weather interferes with snow removal operations at the high school, or there are dangerously cold temperatures or wind chills. Registration is available online in advance or in person the day of, starting at 8 a.m.

“It's open to the public, and there are a good number of non-members who run it, or they are members of other clubs in the area, so it's a good mix,” Rouleau said.

The sense of community that comes with being part of a running group is also a major benefit for Blake Tyler, a lifelong Queen City native and a member of the Greater Manchester Running Club (formerly known as the Athletic Alliance Running Club). They currently meet for a run every Wednesday at 5 p.m. on the corner of Bridge Street and Mammoth Road, near the Derryfield Country Club, and also host group runs on Saturdays at 7 a.m., meeting at Fitlab in the city's Millyard.

“I've always been a socially sports-based

### Local running clubs and groups

Here's a list of locally based community organizations that are currently operating and promoting the sport of running through weekly meets and runs, special race series and more. Did we miss any? Let us know via email at [listings@hippopress.com](mailto:listings@hippopress.com).

#### Gate City Striders

[gatecity.org](http://gatecity.org), follow them on Facebook @[thegatecitystriders](https://www.facebook.com/thegatecitystriders) and Instagram @[gatecitystriders](https://www.instagram.com/gatecitystriders)

**How to join:** Registration is available online at \$30 per year for individuals or \$40 per year for families. Individuals must be a minimum age of 13 and families must be a maximum of two adults and four children. Benefits include access to their bi-weekly email newsletter and discounts at some local businesses, like Fleet Feet Sports (4 Coliseum Ave., Nashua)

#### Greater Derry Track Club

[gdtc.org](http://gdtc.org), follow them on Facebook @[gdtc78](https://www.facebook.com/gdtc78) and Instagram @[gdtc\\_derrynh](https://www.instagram.com/gdtc_derrynh)

**How to join:** Registration is available online at \$25 per year for individuals and families, plus a \$2.50 processing fee. Member benefits include discounts at some local and online vendors, access to monthly meetings, an annual dinner and more.

#### Greater Manchester Running Club

[gmrcnh.org](http://gmrcnh.org), join the Facebook group @[gmrcnh](https://www.facebook.com/gmrcnh)

**How to join:** Registration is available online at \$30 per year for individuals or \$35 per year for families. Member benefits include access to weekly emails providing information on group runs and races, as well as some discounts.

#### Millennium Running

138 Bedford Center Road, Bedford, [millennium-running.com/club](http://millennium-running.com/club), or see “Millennium Running Club” on Facebook

**How to join:** Registration is available online at \$75 per year. Member benefits include club singlets, 15 percent off all purchases at Millennium Running's retail store, weekly group training and workout opportunities and more.

#### Run Walk Brew

Total Image Running, 63 Coleman Road, Auburn, [totalimagerunning.com/club](http://totalimagerunning.com/club), or see “Run Walk Brew Social Club” on Facebook

**How to join:** Registration is available online at \$80 per year. Member benefits include 10 percent off all purchases at Total Image Running, Runner's Alley and Her Tribe Athletics, as well as \$10 off on two of Total Image Running's signature races per year. New members also receive

some Total Image Running swag, and membership renewals receive 30 percent off one item through their online store.

#### Runner's Alley

669 Elm St., Manchester; 142 N. Main St., Concord; see “Runner's Alley Concord Run Group” or “RA Manchester Run Group” on Facebook

**How to join:** Runner's Alley's run groups are free and runners are welcome each week. The Concord group meets on Thursdays at 6 p.m. and runs through all parts of the city, while in Manchester, groups meet Tuesday nights at 5:45 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 8 a.m. The Tuesday night group in Manchester features a 1-mile loop on Elm Street that you have 30 minutes to complete. The Saturday morning group is about 5 miles with shorter options possible.

#### To Share Run Club

To Share Brewing Co., 720 Union St., Manchester; see “To Share Run Club” on Facebook or follow them on Instagram @[tosharerunclub](https://www.instagram.com/tosharerunclub)

**How to join:** This club meets every Friday at 6 p.m. at the brewery, and all are welcome regardless of age, pace or running ability. Runners make their way around downtown Manchester with a lot of flexibility to choose your own distance.





Runner's Alley Manchester running group. Courtesy photo.



Run Walk Brew, running group from Total Image Running in Auburn. Courtesy photo.

person,” Tyler said. “I really enjoy sharing an activity that I like with fellow people who are part of that activity, and I just find that in particular, the running community is really [made up of] just very genuine folks. ... People just love running, they love being around other people who love running, and speaking for me, in my opinion, it’s been a great boon to my mental health, especially coming off the Covid lockdowns and isolation and the lack of being able to connect with people.”

Tyler agreed that, especially during the winter months, connecting with other runners is crucial.

“You can ask any runner who’s been doing this for a while ... that in the wintertime, when it gets dark by 4 or 4:30 and the days feel way shorter, it’s a lot easier to slide into habits of, ‘Oh, I’m not going to go for a run today. It’s dark and it’s cold,’” he said. “For runners, I think the ability to get out with other people, even if it’s only a mile or a couple of miles, I think there’s something to be said for that.”

Up in the Concord area, Northeast Delta Dental is a chief sponsor of two racing series set to begin this month. Their third annual Hopkinton Winter 5K series kicks off on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 10 a.m. at Storms Fitness Center (442 Pine St., Contoocook), followed by two other races on Jan. 22 and Feb. 5. Then, beginning Saturday, Jan. 14, Delta Dental’s Snow or No, We Go Trail series returns, first taking place at Highway View Farm (100 River Road, Boscawen). Other races in that series are set to take place on Jan. 28, Feb. 11 and Feb. 18 at Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road) and on Feb. 4 and March 4 at Prospect Acres (4 Beaumier Drive, Franklin). Each of those trail races is between 2 and 4 miles, running on one or two loops, and participants are encouraged to run on snowshoes.

“Delta Dental sponsors us so all the registration money can go to charities,” series coordinator Ellen Raffio said in an email, adding that the 2-mile option for the Snow or No, We Go Trail series is the perfect distance for a beginner on snowshoes. “Every

series we do ... brings a different crowd, and they’re always great people. It’s a lot of fun.”

### WINTER RACES

- The **Snowflake Shuffle** will take place on Sunday, Jan. 15, at 9:30 a.m. from 25 Constitution Drive in Bedford. The cost for participants age 21 and up is \$35 in advance and \$40 on race day, and the cost for youth participants is \$30 in advance and \$35 on race day. Awards will be given to the top three male and female participants overall and within age groups. There will be a post-race beer garden and refreshments. Visit [millenniumrunning.com/snowflake](http://millenniumrunning.com/snowflake).

- The **Northeast Delta Dental Boston Prep 16-Miler and 5-Miler** organized by the Greater Derry Track Club will take place on Sunday, Jan. 22, at 10 a.m. at West Running Brook Middle School (1 W. Running Brook Lane, Derry). The cost for the 16-miler is \$75 in advance until Jan. 20, \$80 in advance after Jan. 20 and \$85 on race day. The cost for the 5-miler is \$40 in advance until Jan. 20 and \$45 after Jan. 20 and on race day. Awards will be given to the top three male and female participants overall and within age groups for the 16-miler and to the top three male and female participants overall for the 5-miler. The first 325 runners will receive a race shirt. An after-party will be held at 603 Brewery in Derry, and all participants age 21 and up will receive a voucher for a free beer. Visit [gdtc.org/run](http://gdtc.org/run).

- The **50 Football Fields Road Race** will be held on Sunday, Jan. 29, at 11 a.m. at 2 Delta Drive in Concord. The cost is \$25. Awards will be given to the top three male and female participants overall and within age groups. Visit [runsignup.com/Race/NH/Concord/50FootballFieldsRoadRaceJanuary2911am](http://runsignup.com/Race/NH/Concord/50FootballFieldsRoadRaceJanuary2911am).

- The **Super Sunday 4-Miler** will be held on Sunday, Feb. 12, at 9:30 a.m. at 1750 Tap-house (170 Route 101, Bedford). The cost for participants age 21 and up is \$35 in advance and \$40 on race day, and the cost for youth

RACES CONTINUED P. 12 ▶

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## WINTER AT THE REX

### JANUARY

<b>FRI 6</b>	Friday Night Comedy: Drew Dunn and Friends!	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>SAT 7</b>	A Celebration of the Allman Brothers Band with Idlewild	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>FRI 13</b>	Friday Night Comedy: Carolyn Plummer and Friends	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>SAT 14</b>	An Evening with Folk Legend Dave Mallett	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>FRI 20</b>	Friday Night Comedy: Brian Glowacki and Friends	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>SAT 21</b>	An Evening with Chris Barron from the Spin Doctors	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>SAT 28</b>	Magic Rocks! Illusionist Leon Etienne	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>SUN 29</b>	13th Annual New England Winter Blues Festival	<b>4:00PM</b>

### FEBRUARY

<b>SAT 4</b>	Panorama: A Tribute to the Cars	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>WED 8</b>	Silent Film: Safety Last	<b>7:00PM</b>
<b>SAT 11</b>	April Cushman featuring Charlie Chronopoulos	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>SAT 18</b>	Postcards from Heaven with Maureen Hancock	<b>7:00PM</b>
<b>SUN 19</b>	Postcards from Heaven with Maureen Hancock	<b>2:00PM</b>
<b>SAT 25</b>	An Evening with Singer/Songwriter Teddy Thompson	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>SUN 26</b>	Justin Spencer’s “It’s Your Life” Experience	<b>12:00PM</b>

### MARCH

<b>SAT 4</b>	Divas with a Twist in Concert	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>SUN 5</b>	Justin Spencer’s “It’s Your Life” Experience	<b>12:00PM</b>
<b>SAT 25</b>	An Evening with Tom Rush and Matt Nakoa	<b>7:30PM</b>
<b>FRI 31</b>	Morgan James with Special Guest Kirk Hurmond	<b>7:30PM</b>

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# Taking the inside track

A winter run doesn't have to mean braving the elements

By Katelyn Sahagian  
ksahagian@hippopress.com

There are different options to running in the cold New Hampshire air this winter: treadmills, of course, but also indoor tracks.

"Treadmills have their values, but it does a little bit of the work for you," said Mike Davis, the head running coach and owner of No Finish Line Fitness in Dover. "It'll direct and force your movement and pace."

According to Davis, who specializes in gait analysis and has been coaching people on running for 15 years, running on a treadmill can make it challenging for runners to know exactly how they're moving.

Form is very important, he said, and keeping a good form is one of the few ways runners can protect their legs and joints from injury.

Davis' advice to new runners is to get the right equipment (meaning a good pair of running shoes that fit well), to not download a one-size-fits-all running plan from the internet and to not sign up for a race that's only six months or less away.

Davis recommends using a time-based model for training, starting at 30 minutes a few times a week, and doing intervals of

walking and running until it gets easier. He said that listening to your own body is key in making good running decisions.

"I always say be conservative, take it easy, find your happy pace, and don't sign up for a race too soon," Davis said.

## INDOOR TRACKS

Here are a few locations with indoor tracks. Some locations require a membership to be able to run on the track while others will charge for a day pass.

- **Executive Health and Sports Center** (1 Highlander Way, Manchester; ehsc.com, 668-4753) Call for pricing details.

- **Hampshire Dome** (34 Emerson Road, Milford; hampshiredome.com, 673-7123) \$6 for a one-day pass, \$80 for a 20-visit punch card. Members of Hampshire Hills Athletic Club can use the facility for free.

- **Health Club of Concord** (10 Garvins Falls Road Concord; healthclubofconcord.com, 224-7787) Call for pricing details.

- **Nashua YMCA Branch** (24 Stadium Drive, Nashua; nymymca.org) \$100 to join; adult pricing starts at \$49

- **Merrimack YMCA Branch** (6 Henry Clay Drive, Merrimack; nymymca.org) \$100 to join; adult pricing starts at \$49.

## ◀ RACES CONTINUED FROM P.11

participants is \$30 in advance and \$35 on race day. Awards will be given to the top three male and female participants overall and within age groups. There will be a post-race party at 1750 Taphouse with entertainment and refreshments. Visit millenniumrunning.com/supersunday4miler.

- The **Hampton Half Marathon & 5K** returns to Hampton Beach on Sunday, March 5, at 10 a.m. The cost for the 5k is \$39 in advance through Jan. 8, \$44 in advance through Feb. 5 and \$49 until registration closes. The cost for the half marathon is \$74 in advance through Jan. 8, \$79 in advance through Feb. 5 and \$89 until registration closes. There will be an after-party at the Ashworth By The Sea Hotel with hot soup and complimentary Smuttynose beer for participants age 21 and up. Visit hamptonhalf.com.

- The **Shamrocks and Shenanigans 4-Miler** will take place on Sunday, March 12, at 9 a.m. from Great North Aleworks (1050 Holt Ave., Manchester). Awards will be given to the top three male and female participants overall and within age groups. The participant age 21 or older who is wearing the best representation of a kilt will win a pint. All participants age 21 and older will receive free beer vouchers redeemable following the race at Great North Aleworks or The Wild Rover Pub in Manchester. The cost is \$35 for participants age 12 and up and \$30 for youth participants age 11 and under. The first 400 registrants will receive a race shirt. Visit totalimagerunning.com/shamrocksandshenanigans4m.

- The **Together We Fight 5K and 10K**, to raise funds for Dana Farber for Nancy Rank and the American Liver Foundation for Bill Ducasse as they raise funds for the 127th Boston Marathon, will be held on Sunday, March 19, at 9 a.m. at 2 Delta Drive in Concord. The cost for the 5k is \$20 until Jan. 31 and \$25 after Jan. 31. The cost for the 10k is \$35 until Jan. 31 and \$40 after Jan. 31. Awards will be given to top participants within age groups. Additionally, there will be a free kids fun run at 8:45 a.m. Visit runsignup.com/Race/NH/Concord/TogetherweFight5K10K.

- The **Citizens Bank Shamrock Half Marathon & Relay** will be held on Saturday, March 25, at 8:50 a.m. at Veterans Park in downtown Manchester. The relay splits are 5.2, 3.2 and 4.7 miles, and awards will be given to the top three teams in the male, female and co-ed divisions. The cost for the three-person relay is \$135 in advance until Feb. 28, \$145 in advance after Feb. 28 and \$155 on race day. The cost for the half marathon is \$85 in advance until Feb. 28, \$95 in advance after Feb. 28 and \$105 on race day. The **Citizens Bank Shamrock Shuffle**, a 2-mile race, will be held the following day, Sunday, March 26, at 11 a.m. at Veterans Park in downtown Manchester. The Stonyfield Organic Lil' Leprechaun Runs, a 100-yard fun run for kids age 8 and under, will precede the Shuffle at 10:30 a.m. The Manchester Saint Patrick's Day Parade will follow the Shuffle at noon. The cost for the Shuffle is \$25 in advance and \$30 on race day for participants age 21 and up, \$20 in advance and

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The Gate City Striders' Freeze Your Buns 5K. Courtesy photo.

\$25 on race day for youth ages 12 through 20 and \$10 in advance and \$15 on race day for kids age 11 and under. There will be medals for finishers, and awards will be given to the top three male and female participants overall and within age groups. The first 1,250 registrants will receive a long-sleeved race shirt. Visit millenniumrunning.com/shamrock.

• The Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter's **Run and Walk for Food & Shelter** will take place on Sunday, March 26, at 1 p.m. outside the Muldoon Fitness Center on the campus of Rivier University (420 S. Main St., Nashua). There will be a 5k race, a 10k race and a 3k walk. Additionally, there will be a kids sprint for kids age 7 and under preceding the main event at 12:30 p.m. The cost ranges from \$30 to \$45 for adults and from \$20 to \$35 for students for the 10k; from \$25 to \$40 for adults and from \$15 to \$30 for students for the 5k and the 3k, depending on the registration date. The cost for the kids sprint is \$5. Visit nsk.org/run-and-walk-for-food-and-shelter.

• The **SEA 5K Road Race and Fitness Walk**, a fundraiser with proceeds going to Operation Santa Claus, will be held on Saturday, April 1, at the Governor Meldrim Thomson State Office Complex (27-29 Hazen Drive, Concord). Visit seiu1984.org/sea\_5k.

• The **Easing Heartbreak Hill 5K: Don't Forget Your Wings**, to benefit the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, will be held on Sunday, April 2, at 10 a.m. at 2 Delta Drive in Concord. The cost is \$25. There will be awards

for top racers overall and within age groups. Search "Easing Heartbreak Hill 5K: Don't Forget Your Wings" on eventbrite.com.

• The **Cheap Marathon**, a Boston Marathon qualifier with a half marathon and full marathon, will take place on Sunday, April 16, at the Derry Rail Trail (1 E. Broadway, Derry). The full marathon will begin at 7:30 a.m., and the half marathon will begin at 8:45 a.m. Awards will be given to the top three male and female participants overall and within age groups. The cost ranges from \$26.21 to \$49.99 in advance and is \$60 on race day. Visit millenniumrunning.com/cheapmarathon.

• The **NHTI/Northeast Delta Dental 5K Road Race** will be held on Friday, April 21, at NHTI (31 College Drive, Concord). The cost is \$20. Visit runreg.com/nhti-delta-dental-5k.

• The **Stonyfield Earth Day 5K** will take place on Saturday, April 22, at 9 a.m. at Londonderry West Soccer Fields (90 West Road, Londonderry). A 100-yard fun run for kids age 8 and under will follow the race at 10:15 a.m. Awards will be given to the top three male and female participants overall and within age groups. The cost until March 11 is \$25 for adults, \$20 for youth ages 12 through 20 and \$10 for kids age 11 and younger; the cost increases by \$5 after March 11; the cost on race day increases by \$10. The first 1,000 registrants will receive a race shirt. Visit millenniumrunning.com/stonyfield5k. 🍌

**Upcoming winter running series**

Here are a few upcoming organized running series brought to you by local clubs and groups.

**Freeze Your Buns 5K series**  
*Gate City Striders, gatecity.org*  
**When:** Sundays, Jan. 8, Jan. 22, Feb. 5, Feb. 19 and March 5; races kick off at 9 a.m. each day  
**Where:** Conway Arena, 5 Stadium Drive, Nashua  
**Cost:** \$5 registration per race, or \$20 for the entire series (\$12 for runners ages 17 and under); a virtual option is also available

**Hopkinton Winter 5K series**  
*runsignup.com/Race/NH/Contoocook/HopkintonWinter5kSeries*  
**When:** Sundays, Jan. 8, Jan. 22 and Feb. 5; races kick off at 10 a.m. each day  
**Where:** Storms Fitness Center, 442 Pine St.,

Contoocook  
**Cost:** \$25 registration per race; a virtual option is also available

**Snow or No, We Go trail series**  
*shakers.org/winterraces*  
**When:** Saturdays, Jan. 14, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, Feb. 11, Feb. 18 and March 4; races kick off at 10 a.m. each day  
**Where:** Locations vary depending on the date; the Jan. 14 race will take place at Highway View Farm (100 River Road, Boscawen), the Jan. 28, Feb. 11 and Feb. 18 races will take place at Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road), and the Feb. 4 and March 4 races will take place at Prospect Acres (4 Beaumier Drive, Franklin).

**Cost:** \$25 registration per race; each race is limited to 75 participants

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# More than music

A choir made up of refugee girls from across the world will sing at the Mariposa Museum

By Katelyn Sahagian  
ksahagian@hippopress.com

A girls' choir from Maine will be giving a free performance at the Mariposa Museum, but what makes this choir special isn't the music they perform. It's the girls themselves.

The Pihcintu Multinational Girls Choir is composed completely of refugees fleeing famine, war and other atrocities. The choir promotes peace, understanding and kindness through their music and has performed for the United Nations, alongside classical cellist Yo-Yo Ma, and at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

Con Fullan, the man who created the choir and has directed and written music for it for the last 17 years, said these girls are inspiring to watch.

"These kids have a powerful impact on audiences they perform for," Fullan said. "It's not meant to be about the perfection of their voices; it's meant to be much more. The message is the importance here ... how

## Pihcintu Multinational Girls Choir

**Where:** The Mariposa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough

**When:** Saturday, Jan. 7, at 3 p.m.

**Price:** Free for members, \$20 for nonmembers

**Visit:** mariposamuseum.org

important and necessary the refugees are to this country and how to support them."

Fullan, who started his music career as a singer-songwriter, said he is thrilled to offer these girls a community and a place to learn and grow. He said most of the current singers are Congolese and Angolese, but the choir has 300 past members and has had girls from more than 40 nations.

Fullan said he loves the confidence the choir gives the girls, remembering the story of one Congolese refugee who begged to join the choir even though she didn't know a word of English. He said that in three months she knew the lyrics to all of the songs, and by the time she graduated from high school she was a National Scholar and was accepted to the University of South Maine.

"To understand what they've gone through and how resilient they are is really jaw-dropping," Fullan said. "The Congolese girl walked through jungles and God knows what horrors, and is now a wildly successful young woman. That's a typical success story of my kids."

According to Karla Hostetler, the executive director at the Mariposa Museum, the Pihcintu Multinational Girls Choir represents everything that the museum stands for.

"The Mariposa is dedicated to fostering peace and celebrating diversity while affirm-



Pihcintu Multinational Girls Choir. Courtesy photos.

ing a shared humanity and planet," Hostetler said. "The mission of the museum and chorus are perfectly aligned."

This is the second time the choir is performing at the museum, Hostetler said. The first was before the pandemic shut everything down. Now that the Mariposa is opening up again, Hostetler hopes to build a relationship with the choir so that they can perform at least once a year.

There couldn't be a better time for their performance than now, Hostetler said. The featured exhibit currently at the museum is "The Luminous Worlds of Omar Victor Diop," by a Senegalese artist who photographs the African diaspora around the



world. The exhibit was extended through Sunday, Jan. 8.

"It's a beautiful way to start the new year and a great way to celebrate and bring people in," Hostetler said. "It's really for everybody and a great chance to see what we at the Mariposa are all about too." 🌱

## Art

### Exhibits

• **"BIG GIFTS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES"** holiday show at the Seacoast Artist Association (130 Water St., Exeter; seacoastartist.org) is open through Jan 6. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

• **"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 show "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 focusing on nature, landscapes and

wildlife, and Linn Stilwell, a painter from the Lakes Region, the release said. See the exhibit daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Go to [labellewinery.com](http://labellewinery.com) or call 672-9898.

• **JOYFUL GIVING** at Expert Design Solutions (Ripano Stone-works, 90 E. Hollis St., Nashua; [nashuaarts.org](http://nashuaarts.org)) is open through Jan. 29, 2023. The show features acrylics, colored pencil, oils, pastels, watercol-

ors and photography. The works on display are also available for sale.

• **"STATE OF THE ART 2020: LOCATE"** The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St. in Manchester; 669-6144, [currier.org](http://currier.org)) opened the nationally touring exhibit "State of the Art 2020: Locate," which will be on display through Feb. 12, 2023. The exhibit "explores how different people see themselves in our society ... the artists shown here explore how relationships, families, neighborhood and even hidden forces shape us as individuals," according to the museum's website.

## Theater

### Shows

• **SCENE CHANGES**, a play about a traveling theatrical production, opens at the Hatbox Theatre (270 Loudon Road in Concord; [hatbox-nh.com](http://hatbox-nh.com), 715-2315) on Friday, Jan. 6, and will run through Sunday, Jan. 22, with showtimes at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets cost \$22 for adults and \$19 for students and seniors.

• **FROZEN (KIDS)** The Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org), 668-5588) will present *Frozen*, as seen in the theater's children's summer

series, on Saturday, Jan. 14, at 1 and 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$20.

• **THE ALL NEW PIANO MEN** an original musical production featuring the music of Stevie Wonder, Billy Joel, Elton John, Freddie Mercury and more, will run at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org), 668-5588) Friday, Jan. 20, through Sunday, Feb. 5. Showtimes are Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 to \$46.

• **DISNEY'S NEWSIES Jr.** a Palace Youth Theatre production performed by student actors in grades 2 through 12, will run at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org), 668-5588) on Tuesday, Jan. 24; Wednesday, Jan. 25; Tuesday, Jan. 31, and Wednesday, Feb. 1, all at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 to \$15.

• **CATS, YOUNG ACTORS EDITION** presented by the Majestic Academy of Dramatic Arts (youth/teens) will run at the Derry Opera House (29 W. Broadway in Derry) on Friday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 28, at 2 & 7 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 29, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 to \$15; call 669-7469 or go to [majestictheatre.net](http://majestictheatre.net).

• **THE WORLD WAS YOURS** a

play from Lend Me A Theater Productions, will run at the Hatbox Theatre (270 Loudon Road in Concord; [hatboxnh.com](http://hatboxnh.com), 715-2315) Friday, Feb. 3, through Sunday, Feb. 19, with shows at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets cost \$22 for adults and \$19 for seniors and students.

• **A NIGHT OF ELVIS**, a variety show with songs, skits and more presented by Majestic Productions, will take place at the Majestic Theatre (88 Page St. in Manchester; 669-7469, [majestictheatre.net](http://majestictheatre.net)). Tickets cost \$20.

• **CABARET**, a Palace Teen Apprentice Company production performed by student actors ages 12 through 18, will play at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org), 668-5588) on Sunday, Feb. 5, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 for ages 6 to 12 and \$15 for adults.

• **ALMOST, MAINE**, a play described as "witty, romantic and clever," will come to Epping Playhouse (38c Ladd's Lane in Epping; [eppingtheater.org](http://eppingtheater.org)) on Friday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 11, at 2 & 7 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 12, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 to \$20.

• **CABARET** a Palace Teen Company production performed by student

## NEW ART SHOW

"Beginnings," the first group show at the art studio Girl from Mars (135 Route 101A in Amherst), is opening on Friday, Jan. 6, with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. Melissa Richard, the owner and chief artist at the studio, said she was excited to have 14 local artists showing 24 pieces of new work.

"Some are artists I knew; some I met through other galleries and shows along the way," Richard said, adding that she's "hoping to rotate between group and solo shows in the space."

All of the artwork on display will be available for purchase either online at the gallery's website or at the show.

The show will run from Jan. 6 through the end of February. The Gallery's hours are Thursday through Saturday by appointment. Visit [marsartstudio.weebly.com](http://marsartstudio.weebly.com).





# THE ROUNDUP

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

• **New exhibit at Art 3:** "Multi-Mediums," an exhibit featuring works on canvas and panel, wall reliefs in ceramic and metal and sculptures in stone and wood, is open now at the Art 3 Gallery (44 W. Brook St. in Manchester; 668-6650), according to a press release. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 1 to 4:30 p.m. and a virtual exhibit should be available soon, the release said.

• **Photo exhibit:** The 23rd annual New Hampshire Society of Photographic Artists Member Exhibit and Sale will open Saturday, Jan. 7, with a reception from noon to 4 p.m. at the Exeter Town Hall Gallery (10 Front St. in Exeter), according to a press release. Some of the photographers with works in the exhibit will be on hand to answer questions, the release said. The exhibit will run through Sunday, Jan. 29, and the gallery is open Saturdays and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m.

The Society recently established a permanent studio space at the Kimball Jenkins School of Art in Concord that gives members access to studio lighting, printers and more. See nhspa.org for membership information.

• **Sing!** The Rockingham Choral Society will hold an open rehearsal on Tuesday, Jan. 10, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Exeter High School for its spring concert, which will feature works by Beethoven and Brahms, according to a

press release. The group is open to singers age 16 and up and a brief placement audition for new members will take place at the end of the rehearsal; dues are waived for high school and college students, the release said. See rockinghamchoral.org.

• **January at Gibson's:** Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St. in Concord; 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) has several recently announced events on the January schedule. James T. McKim Jr. will be at the bookstore on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss his book *The Diversity Factor: Igniting Superior Organizational Performance*; the event is free and no registration is required.

On Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 6:30 p.m., Honorable John T. Broderick Jr. (former chief justice of the New Hampshire Supreme Court and current senior director of external affairs at Dartmouth Health) will be at Gibson's to discuss his book *Backroads and Highways: My Journey to Discovery on Mental Health*.

On Friday, Jan. 27, at 8 p.m. the bookstore will be part of a virtual event featuring author and director Joyce Chopra discussing her book *Lady Director: Adventures in Hollywood, Television and Beyond* with journalist Annie Berke. See the store's website for a link to the event page, where you can purchase a ticket/book bundle.

Save the date for Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 6:30 p.m. when Farzon A. Nahvi, MD, an ER physician at Concord Hospital, will be at Gibson's to discuss his book *Code Gray*, a memoir about his life in medicine.

• **Book and film:** *Eva's Promise*, a documentary about Holocaust survivor Eva Schloss (whose mother married Anne Frank's father after the war), will have its New England



"Magnolia" by Joe Sack.

premiere at the Park Theatre (19 Main St. in Jaffrey; theparktheatre.org, 532-8888) on Friday, Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. The film's director (Steve McCarthy) and the producer (Susan Kerner) will attend the Sunday, Jan. 15, 4 p.m. screening of the film and hold a discussion after the film that will include a special video message from Eva Schloss, according to a press release. When Eva and her brother Heinz Geiringer were put on a train to Auschwitz in 1944, Heinz, who was 17, told her that he'd hidden paintings and poetry he'd created in the family attic and asked her to retrieve them if he didn't survive the war, the release said. Eva (who is 93 and lives in London) wrote a book, *The Promise*, in 2006, and signed copies will be available at the theater (as well as at Toad-



Art 3 Gallery.

stool Bookshops), the release said. Tickets for the Sunday event cost \$10 to \$15; tickets for regular screenings cost \$8 to \$9. In addition to the Friday and Sunday screenings, the film will also screen Saturday, Jan. 14, at 2 and 7 p.m., and Tuesday, Jan. 17, through Thursday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m.

• **Jazz and classical:** The Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra will head to Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club in Portsmouth with their "Up Close & Personal" chamber music and dinner series on Sunday, Jan. 15, at 5:30 p.m. The PSO Brass quintet will explore the boundaries between jazz and classical music, according to a press release. The show will feature a tribute to Stephen Sondheim, music from Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story*, selections from Thomas Wright "Fats" Waller and the score to George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, the release said. Tickets cost \$90 per person and include the concert, appetizers, dinner and dessert, the release said. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. See portsmouthsymphony.org to purchase tickets. 🍷

actors ages 12 through 18, will play at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org, 668-5588) on Sunday, Feb. 12, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 for ages 6 to 12, \$15 for adults.

• **LEADING LADIES** The Majestic Theatre (88 Page St. in Manchester; 669-7469, majestictheatre.net) will present this comedy Friday, Feb. 17, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 19, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 to \$20.

• **THE 39 STEPS** A spoof of the 1935 Alfred Hitchcock film, this comedy will be presented by the Community Players of Concord at the Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St. in Concord) on Friday, Feb. 17, and Saturday, Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 19, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 for adults. See communityplayersofconcord.org.

## Auditions

• **ONCE UPON A MATTRESS YOUTH EDITION** Auditions for the Peacock Players production 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.

• **THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS** The Prescott Park Arts Festival's summer 2023 musical 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.

## Classical

### Events

• **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 in-person seating. Visit nhpo.booktix.com.

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## The year's lessons from the garden

Whatever happens, keep planting and learning

By Henry Homeyer  
listings@hippopress.com

### — THE GARDENING GUY —

At the end of the year I always like to take a little time to reflect on what worked well in the garden — and what didn't. This year I also called some gardening friends — some experienced, some less so — to ask what they had learned.

I'll go first. In 2021 I planted some bare-root oaks I bought from the State of New Hampshire and planted them for a client in an open meadow in what had previously been a lawn. Most did well last year and really took off this year. Based on that success, I planted even more this year in part because I could get unusual trees not available locally — northern pecan, hardy persimmon, pawpaw and more. We'll see how they do next year.

Bare-root trees are usually the thickness of a pencil and have a foot or so of root with 18 to 24 inches of bare trunk. Although I found a grower in Vermont willing to sell them to me, most growers sell them to nurseries that pot them up and sell them in a year or two. But if you go online you can find growers who will ship bare-root trees and shrubs in the spring. They are easy

to ship — no soil is included — and are less expensive than trees that have been tended and watered for a couple of years.

The downside is that bare root trees are generally only sold when dormant, and need to be planted soon after arrival. Some growers keep big coolers full of bare-root material, but you still need to get them in the ground soon after you get them. Look for them now and order what you want for spring delivery.

A friend bought a house in southern New Hampshire and had her first vegetable garden this year. She was surprised and delighted that there was no blight on her tomatoes. This did not surprise me at all. The fungus that blights so many tomatoes lives in the soil, and in a new location it rarely shows up until Year 2.

She also reported that some of her new raised beds were placed on ground so hard that she couldn't even get a shovel in it. The wood beds were 8 inches tall but didn't drain well, and none of her root crops did well. In the spring she is going to dig out the soil, remove the beds, and put 2 inches of coarse sand on the ground. Then she will replace the wood-sided beds and soil, and hope for the best. I predict that will solve the problem, particularly if she adds lots of compost to the soil in the beds.

Another friend was reminded this year that if a perennial is not "happy" where it is planted, you should move it! She said she had divided some phlox and, lacking a good spot for it all, put some in a place that was too shady for it. So she dug it up and moved it to a better place late in the season. Almost anything can be moved; just do it on a cool cloudy or rainy day. Even peonies can be moved if you are careful.

Another friend said that he learned to use hydrogen peroxide as a preventive for fungus on grapes. He bought some industrial-strength peroxide (30 percent concentration) and diluted it (10 parts water to one part peroxide). He then filled his big sprayer to apply it. He sprayed after pollination but before the grapes had appeared. Unlike chemical sprays, he says, it just breaks down to water and oxygen.

Another friend moved to Vermont from New York and has been working to maintain and personalize the large flower gardens that came with the house. She has learned to focus on one area at a time. She also said she has learned that it is important to act on your own ideas, even if you have inherited wonderful gardens. I agree. For example I learned that I love flowers called burnets (*Sanguisorba* spp.) and I collect them.

Burnets bloom in mid to late summer and



'Lilac Squirrel' *Sanguisorba* blossoms are delightful to touch and see. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

come in size from miniature (6 inches tall) to huge (6 feet tall) and do best in sun with moist soil. Each year I add a few. My most recent addition is a *S. hakusanensis* called Lilac squirrel. I think of it as "the pink squirrel" as its blossoms are fuzzy and much like a squirrel's tail, though much smaller. Mine are pink, not lilac in color. Not common in most garden centers, it is available from Digging Dog Nursery in California.

So yes, we all learn new techniques, try new plants and do our best to be good gardeners. All my best to you for the year ahead.

*Henry lives, writes and gardens in Cornish Flat, NH. Reach him by e-mail at henry.homeyer@comcast.net.*

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Disney on Ice, "Find Your Hero"

### On ice!

"Find Your Hero" is the theme of this weekend's **Disney On Ice** show at the SNHU Arena (555 Elm St. in Manchester; snhuarena.com, 644-500). Princesses, Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Olaf the snowman and other Disney characters will take to the ice on Thursday, Jan. 5, at 7 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 7, at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 8, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Tickets start at \$18.

### On the seas!

The **Super Stellar Friday** program on Friday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (2 Institute Drive in Concord; starhop.com, 271-7827) is about "New Hampshire's Rye Riptide STEM Miniboats." Learn about the unmanned mini sailboats gathering wind and currents information, according to the website. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the event will be followed by planetarium and telescope viewing. The cost (which includes admission to the exhibits and a planetarium show as well as the Super Stellar programming) is \$12 for adults, \$9 for kids ages 3 to 12, \$11 for seniors and students. The program can also be viewed virtually; see the website for information.

### In the skies! (Well, imagine they're in the skies)

The "Holiday Festival of Toy Planes and Model Aircraft" exhibit continues at the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (27 Navigator Road in Londonderry; nhahs.org, 669-4820) and features more than 2,000 aviation toys and models, according to a press release. The exhibit will

be on display through Sunday, Jan. 22; the museum is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission costs \$10 per person ages 13 and up, \$5 for ages 6 to 12 and ages 65 and up; ages 5 and under and veterans and active military get in free, the release said.

### In nature!

Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road in Holderness; 968-7194, nhnature.org) will hold the first of its **Wild Winter Walk** events for 2023 on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 10 a.m. The program runs through 11:30 a.m. and includes a naturalist-guided walk through the live animal exhibit trail to see how native animals adapt to winter, according to the website. The program will be all outside and is recommended for kids ages 7 and up (kids must be accompanied by adults). An afternoon program at 1 p.m. may be offered if the morning program fills up, the website said. The cost is \$13 per person; register online.

### For the littlest littles

The Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St. in Dover; childrens-museum.org, 742-2002) begins its series of **baby storytimes** on Thursday, Jan. 5. The storytimes run every Thursday from 9:30 to 10 a.m. and are geared to ages 6 months to 2 years, according to the website, where you can reserve spots for the morning play session (9 a.m. to noon). Admission costs \$12.50 for adults and children over 12 months old; \$10.50 for ages 65+.

### TREASURE HUNT

Hello Donna,  
Came across this 3" x 2 1/2" trinket. Looks like it could have been used for a clock. There are no company names on it so it's hard to tell. Any thoughts?

Pat  
Bedford



Pat, it would be much more fun to do something creative with it. Thanks for sharing and if you're looking for a couple of decorative ideas send me another note.

Donna

Dear Pat,  
You are right! It was a clock case at one time. Now, with the clock mechanism missing, knowing the value is tough!

It's got to either go to a clock person to find a new timepiece, or be used for another decorative purpose.

If the metal had any value it would have been marked sterling and with a maker. So that's not the case here. As it stands the value would be in the \$15 range.

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](http://fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com)) but is still doing some buying and selling. She is a member of *The New Hampshire Antiques Dealer Association*. If you have questions about an antique or collectible send a clear photo and information to Donna at [footwdw@aol.com](mailto:footwdw@aol.com), or call her at 391-6550 or 624-8668.

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# Is the tank half empty or half full? Fuel pumps don't care much



By Ray Magliozzi

*Dear Car Talk: I know how much you love old wives' tales, so I've got one for you.*

*My dad used to tell me that to take stress off the fuel pump and prolong its life, I should keep the fuel tank over half full. His reasoning was the less fuel in the tank, the harder the pump works, therefore shortening its life.*

*As the years go by, and the more I think about this, the more I start to think it's baloney. Any thoughts to straighten my dad out? — Tim*

To be fair to all the perfectly accurate wives out there, this clearly qualifies as an old husbands' tale, Tim. So, let's call it what it is.

We can give your dad the benefit of the doubt here. When he was growing up, fuel pumps were mechanical — they were run by a lobe of the cam shaft. And they were housed near the carburetor, in the engine compartment.

They sucked fuel out of the tank. So, if the tank was full, some of the fuel got pushed up the line by gravity — which

probably did make the job of the fuel pump a tiny bit easier.

But, for the past, oh, four decades or so, fuel pumps have been electric. They now sit at the very bottom of the fuel tank, and “push” the fuel up the line.

So, it really makes no difference to the pump how full the tank is.

I suppose a full tank of gas would help keep the pump cooler, which could, theoretically, extend its life a little bit, but I'm nitpicking here.

So, I'm going to declare you both right, Tim. While it didn't make much difference, your dad was technically correct that a full tank reduced the work of the old mechanical fuel pump a smidge — maybe half a smidge.

And it's also true that for the past four-plus decades — due to improvements in technology — that's been largely baloney. So you can both pat yourselves on the back, and apologize to your wives for dragging them into this.

*Dear Car Talk: I love your column. My morning doesn't start till I've read it.*

*I have a well-cared-for 2013 Ford F150, 8-cylinder, 4WD pickup. It has developed a very slow drip of oil, which I*

*have monitored for the past three weeks.*

*At its regular oil change, the mechanic detected the leak without any input from me, which is great. His assessment is that it's a rear main seal failing, which seems logical based on the little I know about engines and the position of the drip.*

*The estimate to repair it is \$1,120 because the transmission needs to be removed to replace this \$20 seal. I trust this mechanic, but I have three questions: 1. Is this a reasonable price for labor for this repair? 2. Should I ask if there may be something else leaking that may account for the leak and that would cost much less to repair? 3. Can I do nothing for now and just monitor the situation daily with an occasional addition of oil, or would that endanger the engine? Thanks. — Frank*

Yes, yes and yes.

To answer your last question first, “watchful waiting” is a perfectly acceptable strategy here, Frank. You won't harm your engine unless you actually let it run low on oil. So, start by checking it every day. If there's no measurable change, check it every week, and keep going until you figure out your rate of oil loss. Then, just make sure it never gets

more than a quarter or half a quart low.

You could have an extremely slow leak, Frank. You might not even be losing a quart of oil between your regular oil changes. Regardless, as long as you keep the oil level where it should be, and the leak doesn't suddenly get worse — which it probably won't — you can wait to fix it.

Is there something else it could be? Sure. There's a gasket above the rear main seal, at the back of the intake manifold, that sometimes leaks on these engines. Oil dripping from there can make it look like the rear main seal is leaking, but it's a lot cheaper and easier to fix. So have him check that, if he hasn't already.

He should also check the positive crankcase ventilation system, if he hasn't. If the PVC isn't working, unreleased pressure in the engine could force oil out the rear main seal or elsewhere, even if the gasket is otherwise OK.

If it is the rear main seal, then yes, \$1,100 is about the right price because of the labor involved. So keep an eye on it, and top up — until the oil stains on your driveway drive you nuts.

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# ON THE JOB

## BROOKE TILTON DOG TREAT BAKER

Brooke Tilton is the owner of Buff Cake Barkery, a Nashua-based all-natural dog treat business.

**Q:** *Explain your job and what it entails.*

I'm the owner and baker for Buff Cake Barkery, which is a gourmet, all-natural treat and custom cookie bakery for dogs. It's predominantly an online business, with a variety of pop-ups, but we just recently expanded into several retail stores.

*How long have you had this job?*

I've been in business since January 2021.

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

I started making treats and food for our rescue dog after we learned that he has a sensitive stomach. I love to bake, so it was

a fun new endeavor. After I was making treats and food for a couple of years, we decided to see if it could turn into a business, and it has.

*What kind of education or training did you need?*

Degrees are not required for this line of work because it is something that can be self-taught. However, you do need to know the laws surrounding pet feed, distribution and what ingredients are dog-safe. Treats need to be lab-tested, and labels need to be approved by the DOA. All of that aside, I actually do have the formal education, a degree in Baking and Pastry Arts and a Servsafe certification.

*What is your typical at-work uniform or attire?*

When I'm in the kitchen, it's whatever is comfortable — with an apron.

*What was it like starting during the pandemic?*

Starting the business was both fun and scary. There was a level of uncertainty, but also a "no time like the present" mentality. It's been a wild ride, to say the least. Each new opportunity has inevitably opened the door to something else. I wish I had started it sooner, but I'm grateful for the opportunities, and I think it has panned out exactly how it was meant to.

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

Not everyone will understand or appreciate what you do, and that's OK, because there are still plenty of people who do.

*What do you wish other people knew about your job?*

I'm not a mass-production operation. Every ingredient is carefully sourced and picked. Every treat is rolled and cut by hand. Every bag is labeled, filled and sealed by hand. Every order is packed with a handwritten note. There are so many steps to the process, and the prices reflect that.



Brooke Tilton. Courtesy photo.

*What was the first job you ever had?*

I was a coffee maker and doughnut filler at Dunkin' Donuts.

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

Just be yourself and the right people will find you. — Angie Sykeny 🍌

**Five favorites**

**Favorite book:** *You Are a Badass: How to Stop Doubting Your Greatness and Start Living an Awesome Life* by Jen Sincero

**Favorite movie:** *Pretty Woman*

**Favorite music:** Everything from classical to heavy metal, and almost everything in between

**Favorite food:** Chocolate

**Favorite thing about NH:** Its beauty

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# FOOD

## A wine wonderland

### LaBelle Winery owner releases debut book

By Matt Ingersoll  
mingersoll@hippopress.com

Winemaker Amy LaBelle of LaBelle Winery in Amherst and Derry has opened full-service restaurants, launched her own line of culinary products and enjoyed recognition on the national stage as an entrepreneur — and just as 2022 came to an end, she's also now a published author.

Released Dec. 16, *Wine Weddings: The Ultimate Guide to Creating the Wine-Themed Wedding of Your Dreams*, is LaBelle's debut book, filled with photographs taken at weddings hosted at both of the winery's locations. LaBelle also shares the details of planning her own wedding and offers general tips and advice on planning and hosting weddings of every size and type.

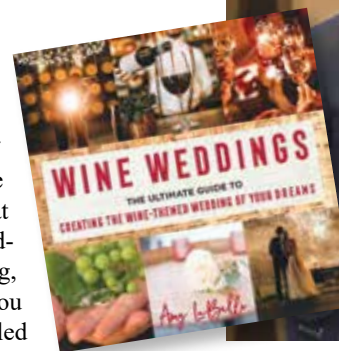
"The book came out of our decades of experiences with watching couples be stressed and the implication around a wedding day now. ... There's just a lot of pressure on these poor couples, and so I wanted to write a book that would help alleviate some

of that pressure and stress, and give them a road map toward planning the wedding of their dreams," LaBelle said. "So my idea for that was to theme your wedding as a wine wedding, so that every decision you have to make gets filled through the lens of wine, because wine is such a timeless theme. It's always going to be in style, it's always going to be appreciated, and you're never going to get tired of it."

Even though it required considerable work and coordination among her team, LaBelle said the entire book came together in only about three months, dating back to August.

"The book kind of just fell out of my head. It was the strangest thing," she said. "I wrote 1,200 words a day for like 30 days straight ... and I literally felt like the words were just tumbling right out of my brain. ... Danielle Sullivan, who was my assistant on the book, helped me pull together all of the visuals from photos in our archives of all of the brides we've had."

At about 10 chapters, the book covers everything from choosing invitation designs and wedding favors to creating your own menu of signature drinks and wine choices, and also includes a section about working with vendors. Hardcover print copies are available onsite in Amherst or Derry, or online at LaBelle Winery's website — the electronic version of *Wine Weddings* was also scheduled to be released on Jan. 4 via Amazon.



Amy LaBelle and her husband, Cesar Arboleda. Courtesy photo.

"I'm actually ready to write a second book ... because I think this is going to end up being a series," LaBelle said. "So the first one was *Wine Weddings*, and the second book will be *Wine Celebrations*, so every chapter will focus on a different celebration that you can host at home through the lens of wine. ... I'd like to get that book out in time for Christmas next year."

LaBelle founded LaBelle Winery in 2005 at Alyson's Orchard in Walpole and moved the operations to Amherst in late 2012. On Saturday, Jan. 28, the Amherst vineyard will hold a special 10th anniversary masquerade gala, complete with a cocktail hour, a four-course dinner, and performers like jugglers and fire-breathers. Proceeds from the gala will benefit both the ALS Association and LaBelle's own charity, Empowering Angels, which promotes youth entrepreneurship opportunities.

"It's going to be the party of the season," LaBelle said. "We are closing down the restaurant that night, so we'll be doing a cocktail hour throughout the building."

#### By Amy LaBelle

*Wine Weddings: The Ultimate Guide to Creating the Wine-Themed Wedding of Your Dreams*, by Amy LaBelle

Hardcover print copies are available now through Amazon, Corkscrew Press, or wherever books are sold. They are available online at [amylabelle.com](http://amylabelle.com) or at [labellewinery.com](http://labellewinery.com). The electronic version of the book was scheduled to be released on Jan. 4 via Amazon.

#### Food & Drink

##### Local farmers markets

- **Contoocook Farmers Market** is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, inside Maple Street Elementary School (194 Maple St., Hopkinton). Find them on Facebook @[contocookfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/contocookfarmersmarket).
- **Danbury Winter Farmers Market**

is Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Blazing Star Grange Hall (15 North Road, Danbury), through May. Visit [blazingstargrange.org](http://blazingstargrange.org).

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

[downtownconcordwinterfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/downtownconcordwinterfarmersmarket).

• **Milford Farmers Market** is every other Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., inside the Milford Town Hall Auditorium (1 Union Square). The next market is happening on Jan. 14. Visit [milfordnhfarmersmarket.com](https://www.facebook.com/milfordnhfarmersmarket.com).

• **Peterborough Farmers Market** is

Wednesdays, from 3 to 6 p.m., inside Peterborough Community Center (25 Elm St.). Find them on Facebook @ [peterboroughnhfarmersmarket](https://www.facebook.com/peterboroughnhfarmersmarket).

• **Salem Farmers Market** is Sundays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at LaBelle Winery Derry (14 Route 111). Visit [salemnhfarmersmarket.org](https://www.facebook.com/salemnhfarmersmarket.org).

#### News from the local food scene

By Matt Ingersoll  
food@hippopress.com

• **Chilling out:** New England's Tap House Grille of Hooksett is celebrating its 10th anniversary with a special three-day **Ice Fest**, happening on Thursday, Jan. 12; Friday, Jan. 13, and Saturday, Jan. 14, from 6 to 10 p.m. each evening at the Tap House's sister location, the Oscar Barn Wedding Venue (191 W. River Road, Hooksett). This outdoor party will feature a massive ice cocktail luge, interactive ice displays, live bands, fire pits, food trucks and more. "We have the Bonhomme Carnaval, which is the mascot from the annual winter carnival in Québec City," said restaurant co-owner Dan Lagueux, who's originally from Québec, Canada. "We're going to have our pizza oven and our Tap House Express menu, which will have some French-Canadian items on it. ... We'll have our poutine, [and] I also have maple toffee and sugar on snow." Another special activity of Ice Fest, he added, will be a beginners' curling rink courtesy of NH SCOT. "I played curling, growing up in Canada, for many years," he said. "They're lending us that rink for the week, so it should be fun. 'Learn How to Curl' is going to be an event there." Entry tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased online; food and drinks during the event, Lagueux said, will be purchased using special tokens, with one token equaling four dollars. Parking to Ice Fest is available nearby at the Tri-Town Ice Arena (311 W. River Road, Hooksett) with shuttle buses going back and forth for the duration of the event. Through Jan. 31, Lagueux said, any leftover tokens you have can be used as cash at the restaurant. Visit [taphousenh.com](http://taphousenh.com) to purchase Ice Fest tickets and tokens.

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# IN THE KITCHEN WITH JAKE NORRIS



Jake Norris, chef and owner of the Wicked Tasty Food Truck. Courtesy photo.

Jake Norris of Nashua runs the Wicked Tasty Food Truck ([wickedtastytrucks.com](http://wickedtastytrucks.com), and on Facebook and Instagram) with his business partner, Oliver Beauchemin. Originally from Salem, Norris got his start in the industry working as a line cook for Murphy's Taproom in Manchester about 15 years ago, eventually working his way up the ranks and cooking at other restaurants in different parts of the country. Wicked Tasty's concept, he said, is centered around paying homage to New England classics with a modern twist — items include a smash burger with a house-made maple bacon onion jam, as well as a deep fried Fluffernutter that's rolled in Corn Flakes and served with a strawberry and banana icing. The truck's whereabouts are regularly updated on its website and social media pages. Locally, you can find Wicked Tasty next at Intown Concord's annual Winter Festival on Saturday, Jan. 28.

**What is your must-have kitchen item?**

I'm going to have to say some nice metal tongs. My hand becomes like a heat-resistant tool when I have those.

**What would you have for your last meal?**

I like to keep it simple. I'm a steak and potatoes kind of guy, so a nice tender juicy medium-rare rib-eye with mashed potatoes and grilled asparagus would do me just well. And a Mountain Dew.

**What is your favorite local restaurant?**

I actually would like to give a shoutout to another food truck, Rico's Burritos. ... They have great burritos, and they do a couple of twists on things. They had a steak and cheese fajita egg roll over the summer that was really great.

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

I'm going to say Adam Sandler, because I think he would appreciate our concept the

most, being another New Hampshire boy.

**What is your favorite thing on your menu?**

That would have to be our 617 Hot Dog. It's a quarter-pound all-beef hot dog with a cheddar jack cheese crisp that I do and then our maple onion bacon jam. It's underrated and super good, much like New England.

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

Honestly, I think Mexican food is really making a stamp here. ... It's a cuisine that I've seen pop up pretty hard recently, and it's really sticking, which I think is great.

**What is your favorite thing to cook at home?**

If not a nice steak with mashed potatoes, then it's going to be a chicken pot pie. I do a nice sweet potato and sage pie crust ... and then some nice roasted chicken and vegetables.

— Matt Ingersoll 🍷

**Roasted garlic aioli**  
From the kitchen of Jake Norris of the Wicked Tasty Food Truck

- 2 cups mayonnaise
- 1 sprig fresh thyme, off the stem
- ½ cup parsley
- 1 teaspoon chives
- ¼ cup roasted garlic
- 1 clove raw garlic
- ¼ teaspoon Dijon mustard
- Salt and pepper to taste

Mince the parsley, chives and garlic until they're super small. Avoid the knife work by placing all of the ingredients in a blender and pulsing until smooth and mixed well. Place all of the ingredients in a bowl and whisk until mixed well. Store in an airtight container and refrigerate for up to two weeks.

**Weekly Dish**  
Continued from page 22

cused options is now open in Amherst. **Balanced Cafe** opened on Dec. 27 inside The Square on Amherst plaza at 135 Route 101A, the owners recently announced on their website and social media channels; the spot (most recently home to The Utopian restaurant) is their third location in the Granite State overall, joining two others in Plaistow and Windham. The cafe is open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., its Facebook page said. According to its website, new "bistro bars" are also due to open soon at the Plaistow and Windham locations, featuring specialty cocktails, beer and wine. Visit [eatdrinkbalanced.com](http://eatdrinkbalanced.com).



# DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

## Gin sour

“I’m an attractive person,” you might say. And you’d be right.

“And,” you might add, “I tip well. I don’t ask for anything complicated when we go out — a gin and tonic, or a sea breeze — something fast and easy to make. So why aren’t the drinks I get at the bar very good?”

“I mean, they’re all right: gin, tonic, lime; or vodka and cranberry juice. There’s not much to mess up there. They just don’t taste as good as when I make them at home. Why is that?”

This is a good question.

It isn’t about the competence of your bartender. Trust me, she knows what she’s doing. And it isn’t that she doesn’t care; I’m sure she’s a conscientious professional who wants you to have a good drink.

The problem is that you’ve been ordering something utterly forgettable.

Don’t get me wrong. Classics are classics for a reason. There are very few things in life better than a properly made gin and tonic. The laughter of a small child is a petty and grating thing compared to the piney, slightly bitter dance of gin, quinine and lime.

But look at it from your bartender’s position.

There’s a good chance she didn’t expect to be working at all tonight, but Sheila called in sick, so she was stuck. She was able to get a babysitter at the last minute, but this is the first time she’s left her kid with this new sitter, and she’s not sure she trusts the large numbers of facial piercings the girl had.

Then, there’s Stanley, at the end of the bar.

He tipped her an extra 50 cents once, a year ago, and ever since then he’s felt entitled to her attention, even during rushes.

Plus, it’s Thursday, which means that there aren’t as many customers as on the weekend, but somehow the bar moves just as much booze, which brings its own set of issues.

All of which is to say, your margarita, rocks-no-salt, probably didn’t benefit from her complete focus and attention.

You know how sometimes you pull into your driveway at the end of the day and have no memory of driving home? That’s how she just made your completely reasonable, utterly forgettable cocktail.

So, what’s the solution?



Gin sour. Photo by John Fladd.

For the sake of everything Good and Decent in the Universe, please don’t order something obnoxious with a cutesy name. Or anything with 17 ingredients. Or anything that will involve dusting off a bottle from the back of the bar.

What you want is a gin sour.

And what is a gin sour, you ask?

It’s a gimlet, but with lemon.

I sense that you are still staring at me, waiting for further explanation.

OK — a gin sour is one of those very basic cocktails that is a cinch to make, takes 45 seconds and is truly delicious. It has three ingredients: gin, lemon juice, and simple syrup. It uses the same proportions as about six other cocktails: two ounces of alcohol, an ounce of citrus, and three

quarters of an ounce of something sweet — the same as a margarita or a daiquiri or a lemon drop.

The difference is, nobody else has ordered one this week.

So, just like stopping for your dry cleaning on the way home makes you pay more attention to your commute, making a gin sour will be just out of the ordinary enough to grab

your bartender’s full attention. It’s not difficult, but she will have to keep her mind on what she’s doing.

And you get a very nice drink.

So nice that you will probably start making it for yourself at home.

### Gin sour

2 ounces gin (see below)

1 ounce fresh squeezed lemon juice

¾ ounce simple syrup

Combine all ingredients with ice in a cocktail shaker.

Shake.

Strain.

Drink.

So, the question you are probably asking yourself right now is, what kind of gin?

Wanting to give you the best possible information, I made three gin sours last evening, identical except for the variety of gin. The floral gin was exceptional, truly delicious. But so was the version with gunpowder gin; the lemon really played a leading role. The dry gin was slightly more astringent, which gave it a delicious booziness on the back end. You would really have to make a deliberate effort to mess this drink up

And after three of them in quick succession you will be astonished at what sparkling conversationalists your houseplants are.

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

“You will be astonished at what sparkling conversationalists your houseplants are.”



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MUSIC, BOOKS, MOVIES AND MORE

**CDs** pg26

- Winery Dogs, *III* **B**
- The Bombadils, *Dear Friend* **A**

Friend **A**

**BOOKS** pg27

- *Great Short Books: A Year of Reading* — Briefly **B+**

Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, email [asykeny@hippopress.com](mailto:asykeny@hippopress.com). To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to [listings@hippopress.com](mailto:listings@hippopress.com).

**FILM** pg28

- *The Fabelmans* **B+**
- *Puss In Boots: The Last Wish* **B+**
- *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery* **B+**
- *The Banshees of Inisherin* **B+**

**Winery Dogs, III (Three Dog Music)**



On Feb. 26, 2023, The Winery Dogs will be at Tupelo Music Hall in Derry, New Hampshire. They're something of a rebirth of the hard rock superband Mr. Big, which older people will remember as an act whose main spotlight was on former Talas bass player Billy Sheehan. I remember seeing them in the late '90s and thinking Sheehan was a little overhyped, but he's good, whatever. Also on board is frontman

Richie Kotzen, who, after graduating from Mr. Big, played guitar for Poison for a bit, and rounding things out is former Dream Theater drummer Mike Portnoy. Lot of borderline-interesting Guitar Player magazine-level wonkiness here, which usually spells bad songs delivered with panache. As far as that goes, album opener "Xanadu" (not a cover of the Rush song, point of order) is a lot of lightning-fast notes trying to find a purpose in life, but Kotzen's David Coverdale impression makes it interesting. And so on and so forth, self-indulgent butt-kicking and etc. **B** — *Eric W. Saeger*

**The Bombadils, Dear Friend (Epitaph Records)**



Influenced by classical, jazz, bluegrass, Celtic music and various singer-songwriter traditions, this Canadian couple (Luke Fraser and Sarah Frank, FYI; their band name came by way of a Tolkien character) were nominated for a Canadian Folk Music Award for their sound, which, taken as a whole, tends to evoke John Prine/Emmylou Harris duets tendered with a Loreena McKennitt edge at its best moments ("Bicycle" for starters, which stumbles

upon some really pleasant moments of contrapuntal vocals, a thing I'd really like to hear from more indie bands). "Tell Me I'm Not Dreaming" sounds simultaneously Fleetwood Mac-ish and like top-drawer Americana; the sturdy, vocally adventurous "Through and Through" gets even more Appalachian, so much so that you can practically smell the campfire cooking whatever's going to be dinner. Fans of Bela Fleck and that sort of thing would be quite pleased with this, I'm sure, and I wouldn't be surprised to hear these two on a soundtrack or three in future. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

**PLAYLIST**

*A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases*

- Finally everything is sort of normal again, now that the holidays are over and there's nothing left to do but ignore the voices in your head, as the winter starts getting worse and worse. It's that time of year when you try not to end up turning into a snowbank-ghost like Jack Nicholson in *The Shining*, yessir, it's all downhill from here, guys, my favorite is when some dude in a pickup truck tailgates you during a crazy snowstorm because he figures everyone has chains on their tires, just like him, same as they do in Siberia (or northern Maine, same thing). But keep it together, all you're really supposed to be doing while we wait for the annual thaw and flooded streets is go buy some albums, and that's what we'll talk about in this section of the newspaper, the new albums scheduled for release on Jan. 6. First up this year is famous stage-diving violence-clown **Iggy Pop**, with a new LP called *Every Loser*. I hope you're as excited as I am for this new set of tunes, and I'm sure you are, because let's face it, Iggy is the last hope for cool in America. I recently saw a really nifty video of Iggy, with his pet parrot/cockatiel/whatever hanging around on his arm, and there was a sort of trip-hop/African tribal tune playing. So slowly but surely the parrot got more and more into it and started bobbing its head up and down, and then it got really into it and was totally hypnotized and danced, and Iggy was cracking up over it, anyway where were we, oh yes, there's a new single from the Ig-Man, called — wait a minute, the Igster put the whole album up on YouTube, so we can just listen to the opening track, "Strung Out Johnny," and bag this. Ha ha, this is so cool, like the guitar part is something Stiv Bators would have written, like borderline goth '80s dance. I'll make it short and sweet, just buy this album, OK, that'd be great.

- **Anti-Flag** is a roots-punk rock band from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which you whippersnappers would already know if the establishment hadn't done away with punk years ago and replaced it with stuff like Green Day and whatnot. *Lies They Tell Our Children* is their new LP, and the rollout single is called "Laugh. Cry. Smile. Die." And wait a minute, these guys put out their first album in 1996, so they're just basically Green Day except from Pittsburgh! Whatever, they were kind of rough-ish and punk in 1996, and this new song is pretty fast and punk-ish. That means they're basically like Panic! At The Disco, but whatever, Anti Flag everyone, don't forget to wear a helmet or mom won't let you try any funny business trying to skateboard through the half-pipe with your homies or whatever you people call "friends" nowadays.

- LOL, look, it's **RuPaul**, with their new album, called *Black Butta*, and it's on the way! Get over here, horrible new album, lemme give a listen to this new song, called "Star Baby," before I change my mind and go drinking or whatnot. Hm, the tune is basically like the last million Britney Spears hip-hop-ish songs, except there's some wub-wub. Is it catchy? I don't know, you tell me, what am I, some sort of music expert or something? I don't like it at all, if that gives you any idea.

- Finally, yikes, I may have spoken too soon, because there aren't as many albums coming out as I'd thought. Like, there's nothing left for me to write about except for some hip-hop person named **Venus Da Kid**, whoever they are, and their new album, um I mean mixtape, *Dreams: The Mixtape Of Life*. Actually, the tune "Apartheid" is kind of cool, like this dude sounds like a young DMX, and there does seem to be some substance to it. You might like it, and you actually should, but it sounds like he recorded it on a boombox (which makes it even better, just saying).

— *Eric W. Saeger*

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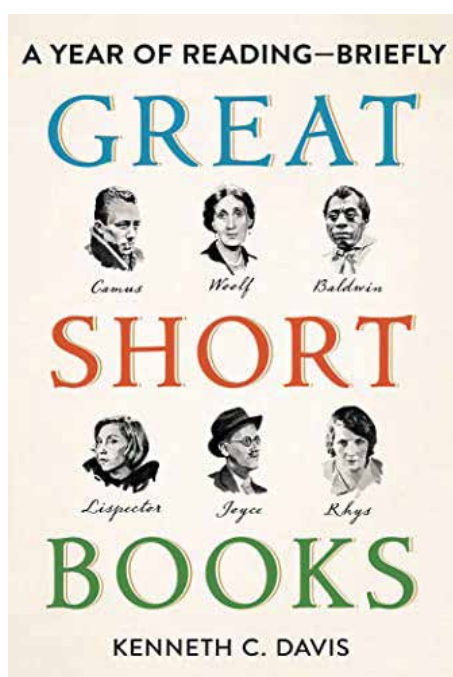
**Great Short Books: A Year of Reading** — *Briefly*, by Kenneth C. Davis (Scribner, 448 pages)

In the early stages of the pandemic, Kenneth Davis grew tired of doomscrolling, but he wasn't up for reading long books. As a compromise, he began to read a collection of tales set at the beginning of the Black Death in Florence, Italy, in the 14th century. It's called *Decameron*, written by Giovanni Boccaccio, and its style is similar to Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* in that a character tells a different story each day.

Davis set about reading one of the novellas each day, which took him a little more than three months. After that, he decided to move on to short novels. *Great Short Books* is the culmination of this pandemic experience; it is Davis's ode to the short novel, which he likens to a first date: "It can be extremely pleasant, even exciting, and memorable. Ideally, you leave wanting more. It can lead to greater possibilities. But there is no long-term commitment," he writes.

Of the short novels he has read during the pandemic, Davis selected 58 to highlight in hopes that more readers will come to appreciate short fiction. *Great Short Books* contains the work of both famous and obscure writers from around the world; what they have in common, he says, is that they can be read in "one to several sittings" and "with careful rationing" we can read one each week. (With that, Davis reveals himself to not have small children under his care.) Generally, this means these books are anywhere from 100 to 200 pages, with some exceptions.

They aren't just books he stumbled upon;



he got recommendations from friends, librarians and people who work in publishing, and took care to make sure that the list wasn't all from "dead white guys." But Davis says that there was one standard that was non-negotiable: to be included, the book had to be a pleasure to read. "I had ... pledged that I would not read out of duty," he writes.

The resulting titles include the work of George Orwell, Ernest Hemingway, Virginia Woolf, Kate Chopin, Toni Morrison and F. Scott Fitzgerald, among other famous writers, as well as authors that would only be household names to people with multiple graduate degrees in literature. (Or maybe I'm just revealing my own ignorance by being unfamiliar with the work of Nadine

Gordimer and Chinua Achebe.)

Each work gets its own chapter, set up with the opening sentences of the book. Perusing the openings of 58 lauded books is instructive in and of itself. (Some grab you at the start; others make you wonder why the eventual publisher even kept reading.)

From there, Davis composes his own CliffsNotes-type summary, promising no spoilers, then gives us a rundown on the author. He concludes each chapter with a bit of literary moralizing in a section called "Why you should read it," and finishes with a summary of "What to read next." For example, in the chapter on Orwell's *Animal Farm*, he suggests we follow up with *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, Orwell's three nonfiction books (*Down and Out in Paris and London*, *The Road to Wigan Pier* and *Homage to Catalonia*) as well as one of the author's essays, "Politics and the English Language."

For anyone who's already a fan of Orwell, nee Eric Blair, there's not much to be gained here; in fact, even Davis says that his advice to read or re-read *Nineteen Eighty-Four* is a "no-brainer." But then again, this is not a highbrow book, nor does it pretend to be. Davis describes himself as the "common reader" that Virginia Woolf wrote about: "He is worse educated, and nature has not gifted him so generously" as a critic or scholar, she said. "He reads for his own pleasure rather than to impart knowledge or correct the opinions of others."

Davis writes for people who find solace and camaraderie in books of all sorts, not necessarily those that win literary prizes. He advocates for reading outside of one's comfort zone as a form of lifelong learning, no different from taking courses at a commu-

nity college. And there's no question that anyone who reads *Great Short Books* will come away with a list of a dozen or more on their "to-read" list. I've picked out a few just by virtue of their opening sentences. (*July's People* by Nadine Gordimer and *Another Brooklyn* by Jacqueline Woodson.)

If there's anything to quibble with here, it's Davis's argument that "Short novels are literature's equivalent to the stand-up comedian Rodney Dangerfield's signature line: they 'get no respect.'" He says they "occupy the place of the neglected middle child of the literary world." As an example, Davis says that critics dismissed Ian McEwan's *On Chesil Beach* as too short (203 pages) to be a candidate for the Booker Prize in 2007. "So, a degree of critical prejudice — call it literary sizeism — exists against short fiction," he concludes.

But does it really? Claire Keegan's *Small Things Like These* (128 pages) was shortlisted for the Booker Prize this year and won the 2022 Orwell Prize for Political Fiction. One of the most beloved books of all time, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, is only about 31,000 words, roughly a third of the size of a typical novel.

And many books in the canon presented here argue against the author's own words. Was there critical prejudice against *Charlotte's Web? A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man?* And the book we all forget existed prior to the movie: *Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption* by Stephen King?

That argument doesn't hold up over centuries; in fact, with America's famously shrinking attention span, it's likely short books like these are our future. From the titles highlighted here, that's not a bad thing.

**B+** — Jennifer Graham

## Books

### Author events

• **KIM VARNEY CHANDLER** will discuss her book *Covered Bridges of New Hampshire* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Thursday, Jan. 5, at 6:30 p.m.

• **JAMES T. MCKIM JR.** will discuss his book *The Diversity Factor*

at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m.

• **MAREK BENNETT** will discuss his new graphic novel *The Civil War Diary of Freeman Colby Volume 3 (1864)* at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 6:30 p.m.

• **JOYCE CHOPRA**, author of the memoir *Lady Director: Adventures in Hollywood, Television and Beyond*, will appear in a virtual conversation via Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Friday, Jan. 27, at 8 p.m. Registration is required.

• **ELISSA R. SLOAN**, author of the new novel *Hayley Aldridge is Still*

*Here*, will appear in a virtual conversation via Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Thursday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m. Registration is required.

### Book events

• **BURNS NIGHT** Celebrate poet Robert Burns at the Burns Night event on Saturday, Jan. 28, at Cas-

leton (58 Enterprise Drive in Windham) 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, as well as 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 Quaiich for the whisky

toasts, which will be on sale at nhssa.org/burns-night, where you can also buy tickets for \$70 per person.

### Poetry

• **EWA CHRUSCIEL** presented by the Poetry Society of New Hampshire at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 4:30 p.m.

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**The Fabelmans (PG-13)**

Steven Spielberg directs and co-writes this movie adaptation of what appears to be his childhood in *The Fabelmans*, a very sweet story of a boy and his camera.

Look, I'm going to use words like "sweet" and "cute" and I mean all of them sincerely even though I realize there may be a damning-with-faint-praise quality to them. But this is a sweet tale of a movie-loving Boomer's childhood and I think you just have to go with that kid's-eye-view approach.

We meet Sammy Fabelman (Mateo Zoryan as a very young child; Gabriel LaBelle as a teen) as he waits in line with his parents to go see his first movie, Cecil B. DeMille's *The Greatest Show on Earth*. He's anxious about the experience and his mother, Mitzi (Michelle Williams), explains the magic of it all while his father, Burt (Paul Dano), explains the science that makes a series of photos move. It is the dichotomy that will follow Sammy through the movie — an artistic, emotional, searching mother and a quiet, rationality-focused father. Little Sammy isn't thinking about that, though; he's focused on the on-screen train crash. Later, he asks for a train set for Hanukkah and then almost immediately recreates the movie scene. Burt gets mad that Sammy would be so rough on such an expensive train set; Mitzi suggests that Sammy crash the train just once more and film it with the family's home movie camera so he can watch it again and again. Thus we see the first film of a young Steven — I mean, Sammy — projected inside his closet and featuring the crash depicted with close-ups and from multiple angles.

We catch up with teen Sam as he makes movies with his buddies for a Boy Scout patch. He shoots an elaborate Western, figuring out special effects to make the gunshots look real. Later, he films what feels like a *Saving Private Ryan* precursor with some 50 kids, squibs, dust kicked up to look like explosions and an emotional arc for a central character. But at the same time, he's also filmed something else during a family vacation. Without quite realizing it, he captures a romance between Mitzi and Ben (Seth Rogen), Burt's best friend and a sort of adopted uncle. Once a pianist with big dreams, Mitzi seems to struggle with the narrow role of housewife and need something more from her life.

*The Fabelmans* feels like two things. One is a collection of events significant to Sam — not his life story, exactly, but more the moments that stand out, the moments he might discuss if giving an extended interview about his life. The other is Mitzi's story as filtered through Sam. I think because Williams is a skilled actress, because she can bring complexity even when her character is going big, that is the more compelling story, for all that the Sam-focused moments are cute and often kind of mirror iconic bits of Spielberg's filmography. The movie gives us Sam's view of Mitzi but also is able to imply what parts



*Puss in Boots: The Last Wish*

of that view are the "only part of a story" any kid gets of their parent and also suggests how each of the Fabelman kids (Sam has three younger sisters, as Spielberg did, according to Wikipedia) have a different portrait of Mitzi.

There is something very sweet and earnest about the story we get here, with a lot of information delivered very plainly and upfront, very text, but just enough richness to the details of the story to make it pull you in. **B+**

*Rated PG-13 for some strong language, thematic elements, brief violence and drug use, according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Directed by Steven Spielberg with a screenplay by Steven Spielberg and Tony Kushner, The Fabelmans is two hours and 31 minutes long and distributed in theaters by Universal Studios and via VOD for rent or purchase.*

**Puss in Boots: The Last Wish (PG)**

Down to his last life, the swashbuckling cat Puss in Boots ponders mortality while heading out on a quest for a fallen star and its one wish in *Puss in Boots: The Last Wish*, a mostly exciting animated adventure story/hour and 40 minutes of kid entertainment.

I say "mostly exciting" because there were some moments of fidgeting when I took my kids to this movie. Yay to swashbuckling, "how much longer is this movie" to characters working out their inner turmoil.

After liberating a governor's gold (and wigs and fancy clothes) and fighting an earthen giant, Puss (voice of Antonio Banderas) finds himself waking up from his eighth death and thus he is entering the ninth (and final) of his cat lives. Shaken by approaching death — as personified by the bounty-hunting Big Bad Wolf (voice of Wagner Moura) — Puss decides to take his doctor's advice and retire from adventuring, finding a home at Casa Luna, where the most dangerous characters are the health department officials chasing Mama Luna (voice of Da'Vine Joy Randolph) and her way-too-many cats. Having left his boots and sword behind and sporting a David Letterman beard and a collar that says "Pickles," Puss is spending his days wallowing in self-pity and

being friendled at by Perrito (voice of Harvey Guillén), a small lonely dog pretending to be a cat to hang out with the Casa Luna crowd.

But then Goldilocks (voice of Florence Pugh) and Mama (voice of Olivia Coleman), Papa (voice of Ray Winstone) and Baby (voice of Samson Kayo) Bear show up looking for Puss in Boots to hire his thieving skills. He convinces them that the legendary Puss in Boots is dead but overhears their plan to steal a map from Jack Horner (voice of John Mulaney) that will lead them to a fallen star, which can grant one wish. Puss decides to search for the star by himself, tailed, like it or not, by Perrito. He learns, of course, that such a map is a prize for several thieves, including his old rival/romantic interest Kitty Softpaws (voice of Salma Hayek).

Eventually, the characters are in a sort of *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World* scenario, with Jack Horner and his collection of magical items and hired henchmen chasing Goldi, and the Bears chasing wary reluctant partners Kitty and Puss, who are joined by eager Perrito, who soon names their trio "Team Friendship." The wishing star lies deep in the Dark Forest, which is filled with psychological obstacles set up specifically for whoever holds the map; thus does the good-hearted Perrito get a path filled with flowers and rainbows while Puss gets a kind of hall of mirrors featuring reflections of his own bravado.

*The Last Wish* is largely full of questing, silliness and occasional moments of Dreamworks-y tartness (a put-down session that includes some bleeps). Banderas makes full use of his vocal talents — that blend of over-inflated ego, dramatics and, in this movie, vulnerability — to craft Puss, who is selfish and vain but also kind and ultimately sort of lovable. There is also some sweetness going on with the Goldilocks and Bear family storyline. When we initially meet them they are basically a gang of thieves, but Coleman gives Mama a kind heart and Pugh makes Goldi more than just a pushy low-rent Cinderella, as Baby calls her.

The *Shrek* universe, of which this is a part, was always one of the better aspects of Dreamworks Animation, and this *Puss in Boots* tale is a solid, entertaining entry. **B+**

*Rated PG for action/violence, rude humor/language and some scary moments, according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Directed by Joel Crawford and Januel Mercado with a screenplay by Paul Fisher and Tommy Swerdlow, Puss in Boots: The Last Wish is an hour and 40 minutes long and is distributed in theaters by Universal Studios.*

**Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery (PG-13)**

Detective Benoit Blanc is invited (maybe?) to a murder mystery weekend (with a real murder?) in *Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*, a fun sequel that takes the comedy at least as seriously as the mystery.

Blanc (Daniel Craig) is one of the guests who meet at the dock for a boat to take them out to the Greek island where tech bro Miles Bron (Edward Norton) has a big, elaborate, weird home and has planned a big, elaborate, weird weekend for his friends circa early spring 2020. The friends include politician on the rise Claire Debella (Kathryn Hahn); Bron's company head scientist Lionel Toussaint (Leslie Odom Jr.); faded model and leisurewear company owner Birdie Jay (Kate Hudson) and her assistant Peg (Jessica Henwick); influencer Duke Cody (Dave Batista) and his girlfriend Whiskey (Madelyn Cline), and former friend to them all Andi Brand (Janelle Monae). Andi was until recently business partner with Miles but was, as the others explain, Eduardo Saverin-ed out of the company. We don't know the cause of the break, exactly, but it seems that Miles got the friends in their split — possibly because, as we learn, all of the friends have some financial stake in Miles' friendship.

At first, the assembled crowd — delighted to take a break from the isolation and masks of the early pandemic — believes that Benoit Blanc, the world's greatest detective, is with them to add authenticity and a bit of challenge to the promised mystery game. Miles is always whisking his friends away for a theme weekend and his invitations come this year in ornate mystery boxes. But once the party arrives at the island, we learn that Miles is as surprised to see Benoit as everyone else was (well, almost everyone else — clearly someone reset their invitation box and sent it to him, Benoit posits to Miles). Why has one of the guests arranged for Benoit to come to what is supposed to be just a carefree weekend away? Why has Andi shown up for a weekend with frenemies? And is someone using the murder mystery theme to plot a real muhrr-derrr?

This is a mild spoiler but stupidity plays a big role in the central mystery of *Glass Onion* and I truly appreciate that, both for the wider messaging and for how clever the movie is about turning the conceit of the cunning Moriarty-like killer on its head. This movie is fun, at times even goofy. It (or maybe I should credit writer/director Rian Johnson) really enjoys sending up the different flavors of rich person — the careless rich, the cynical rich, the head-up-its-rear techie rich. But it is



## POP CULTURE FILMS

a handcrafted bespoke goofiness; the movie's fun is all specific and organic to the story it's telling and the characters it's building. Perhaps it was Norton's presence that initially got me thinking about Wes Anderson movies and how everything is perfectly crafted and intentional down to the grains of sand. This feels similar, not in tone but in its purposefulness.

Also having a specific blast is, well, everybody involved. Hudson is lively and so good at being a very particular kind of daft. Hahn is, well, Hahn but just always brings a certain martini-with-lime quality to everything. Monae gets a heavier lift than the others and does some really fun stuff with it. And Craig, much like Chris Evans in the last movie, seems to be enjoying shaking off his franchise and playing everything just a little sillier.

*Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery* is a thorough pleasure. **B+**

*Rated PG-13 for strong language, some violence, sexual material and drug content, according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Written and directed by Rian Johnson, Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery is two hours and 19 minutes long and is available on Netflix.*

### **The Banshees of Inisherin (R)** Two former friends become strange enemies in *The Banshees of Inisherin*, a quirky comedy with a dark and melancholy heart.

Pádraic (Colin Farrell) stops to get Colm (Brendan Gleeson) for their regular walk to the pub for a pint in 1923 on an island off the Irish mainland. Pádraic can see Colm sitting in his house but Colm ignores him and, when Pádraic finally does run into Colm, Colm tells Pádraic that he doesn't want to talk to him any more. After what's implied to be years, probably decades, of friendship, Colm has decided he doesn't like Pádraic, whom he thinks is "dull." Colm wants to spend his time writing music that will be remembered through the centuries, like Mozart, and just being a nice guy doesn't get you remembered.

Pádraic is shocked — he doesn't understand Colm's request for silence from him.



*Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery*

Pádraic's sister Siobhán (Kerry Condon) tries to get Colm to knock it off and Pádraic recruits the local priest to try to talk to Colm. But Colm is determined to have nothing more to do with Pádraic and threatens to start cutting off his own fingers and throwing them at Pádraic if he ever speaks to him again.

It's a strange and gruesome threat but it's a strange and gruesome island. Siobhán gets a piece of mail that has been opened "in the heat," the mail woman tells her on the grayest of days — we and Siobhán know that the woman is desperate to hear any news of anything. Pádraic's pal after Colm dumps him is Dominic (Barry Keoghan), a young man who has a troubled home life with his father (Gary Lydon), who is the local police officer. One of Siobhán's few visitors is Mrs. McCormick (Sheila Flitton), a black-clad widow who might very well be a banshee herself. One of the other regular visitors inside the family home is Jenny, Pádraic's beloved pony, despite Siobhán's demand that he keep his animals outside. While gunshots and cannon fire from the mainland occasionally suggest that the island is a refuge, there is lots of evidence that it is also something of a prison keeping these people trapped in lives without a lot of choices.

Despair, civil war and wacky pony comedy — *The Banshees of Inisherin* is very much

an unexpected mix of tragedy (Dominic's truly horrific abuse at the hands of his father, Siobhán and Pádraic's grief over the deaths of their parents, Colm's feelings of despair and meaninglessness) and laugh out loud moments of comedy. There are times when the residents of the island have a real "what a bunch of characters" feel and you could see a version of this movie that was all cutesiness and charming affectations. But the more performative aspect of their lives seems to be, more than anything, the coping mechanism for the problems people have — the uncertainty of the outside world, the stucked-ness of the island. It is occasionally a little jarring to go from thick brogues and a vaguely witch-like neighbor to child abuse and self-mutilation. But it works? I mean, but it works. Sometimes the question mark pushes its way in there but then the truly heartfelt "you can see all the years piling on" performances, particularly of Farrell and Gleeson, push the questions away and give you real people having internal struggles. **B+**

*Rated R for language throughout, some violent content and brief graphic nudity, according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Written and directed by Martin McDonagh, The Banshees of Inisherin is an hour and 54 minutes long and distributed by Searchlight Pictures, for rent or purchase via VOD and on HBO Max.* 🍷



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**WEDNESDAY:**  
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**THURSDAY:**  
**Karaoke (50 cent wing night) 9 - Close**

**FRIDAY:**  
**Karaoke 9 - Close**

**SATURDAY:**  
**Alex Cormier /**  
**Open Mic 8-Close**

**SUNDAY FOOTBALL**  
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### Film

Movie screenings, movie-themed happenings and virtual events

### Venues

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

### Fathom Events

Fathomevents.com

### The Music Hall

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

### O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square

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

### Park Theatre

19 Main St., Jaffrey  
theparktheatre.org

### Red River Theatres

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

### Wilton Town Hall Theatre

40 Main St., Wilton  
wiltontownhalltheatre.com,  
654-3456

• *The Fabelmans* (PG-13, 2022) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord Thursday, Jan. 5, 3:45 & 7 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 6, through Sunday, Jan. 8, at 12:30, 3:45 & 7 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 12, at 3:30 & 6:45 p.m.  
• *Babylon* (R, 2022) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord Thursday, Jan. 5, at

6 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 6, through Sunday, Jan. 8, at 2 & 6 p.m.

• *Puss in Boots: The Last Wish* (PG, 2022) will screen at Park Theatre in Jaffrey Thursday, Jan. 5, at 6:30 p.m.

• *The Wizard of Oz* (G, 1939) will screen Saturday, Jan. 7, at 10 a.m. at Red River Theatres in Concord.

• *Cat Video Fest 2022* will screen at the Music Hall in Portsmouth on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 8, at 1 p.m.

• *The Hours*, the Met production of an opera based on the 2002 movie, will screen on Saturday, Jan. 7, at the Music Hall in Portsmouth at 12:55 p.m.

• *The Kid Brother* (1927), a Harold Lloyd silent comedy, will screen at the Nashua Public

Library (2 Court St. in Nashua; nashualibrary.org, 589-4600) on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 1:30 p.m. with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis. The event is free and family-friendly.

• *Much Ado About Nothing*, a London stage production National Theater Live, will screen at the Music Hall in Portsmouth on Sunday, Jan. 8 at 4 p.m.

• **Reality Check movie series** at the Park Theatre in Jaffrey, a "free series on addiction, recovery and mental health to help raise awareness around issues impacting our communities" 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, 2023.

• *She Said* (R, 2022) will screen at the Music Hall in Portsmouth Tuesday, Jan. 10, through Thursday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15, \$12 for students, seniors, military and first responders.

• *A Man Called Otto* (PG-13, 2023) will screen Thursday, Jan. 12, at 4 & 7 p.m. at Red River Theatres in Concord.

• *Eva's Promise* (2022) This documentary will screen at the Park Theatre in Jaffrey on Friday, Jan. 13, through Thursday, Jan. 19. 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.



By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Groovy time:** Among the many configurations keeping her busy, Mica's Groove Train is the one that solidified Yamica Peterson as a top purveyor of soulful, danceable funk. Featuring Peterson on keys and lead vocals, with guitar, bass, drums and backup singer Suzanne Nicholas, the band electrifies wherever it plays. Thursday, Jan. 5, 6 p.m., Loft at Hermit Woods, 72 Main St., Meredith, \$25 at eventbrite.com.

• **Solo songs:** Acoustic guitarist and singer Christopher Perkins performs as The Lone Wolf Project. His set list ranges from Guns N' Roses to Matchbox 20, with classic rockers like Bob Seger. He also handles ballads with aplomb, doing nice covers of Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time" and John Denver's "Annie's Song," along with engaging originals. Friday, Jan. 6, 9 p.m., bluAqua Restobar, 930 Elm St, Manchester. See facebook.com/ASoloAcousticExperience.

• **Southern accent:** Fans of the Allman Brothers Band will enjoy Idlewild, a Seacoast tribute act debuting in Manchester. The legendary band retired from the road in 2014; since then, there's only been a one-off 50th anniversary show at Madison Square Garden featuring surviving members in 2020. So it's up to acolytes like this one to carry the torch. Saturday, Jan. 7, 8 p.m., Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St., Manchester, \$29 at palacetheatre.org.

• **Youthful battle:** The final round of Pizzastock 6.5 has Fourth Degree, Crescendo's Gate, Cozy Throne, and Second to Last Minute vying for top honors in the annual competition. Last year's winners Rock Bottom serve as the house band. The event benefits the Jason R. Flood Memorial Fund, a nonprofit focused on suicide prevention, access to mental health services and providing a safe space to gather for tweens, teens and young adults. Sunday, Jan. 8, 1 p.m., Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry, \$20 at tupelohall.com.

• **Co-workers:** Recently engaged comedy couple Dan LaMorte and Natalie Cuomo perform at the weekly Ruby Room gathering. LaMorte has appeared on Gotham Comedy Live and Sirius XM, but he's an inspirational figure for more than his ability to get laughs. A few years ago, he lost over 185 pounds and became an ultra runner. Queens native Cuomo is a master of the sharp retort; her TikTok videos have garnered millions of views. Wednesday, Jan. 11, 9 p.m., Shaskeen Pub, 909 Elm St., Manchester, \$10 at eventbrite.com. 🍷

## NITE

# Harmony united

### Bluegrass duo Green Heron

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Fans of old-time music have a few opportunities to partake of one of the region's best in the next few weeks, as Green Heron has performances ahead in Boscawen, Barrington and Laconia. Betsy Green and Scott Heron's deft, delicate instrumental interplay and inspired harmonies make the case for them as New Hampshire's own Gillian Welch and David Rawlings.

The two initially connected as musicians, then found a deeper bond. In 2015, Green's sibling group The Green Sisters was booked on a show with The Opined Few, which included Heron. At an after-hours jam session, Heron thought, "I'd like to get one of those girls in our band." He ended up with more than that; they're now married.

They've made three albums together. 2018's *Folk Heroes* and 2019's *New Pair of Shoes* contained mostly original songs, bluegrass with a timeless, dipped-in-amber character. Last year's *Feet on the Floorboards* had a balance of Green Heron-penned tunes and traditional classics. Recorded at home, its 15 tracks offered a better reflection of their onstage sound.

#### Green Heron

**When:** Friday, Jan. 6, 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** High Street Coffee House, 12 High St., Boscawen

**More:** facebook.com/greenheronmusic

**Also:** Full band on Sunday, Jan. 8, 6 p.m., Nippo Lake Restaurant, 88 Stagecoach Road, Barrington (\$8 to \$10 donation) and Thursday, Jan. 12, 7 p.m., Belknap Mill Society, 25 Beacon St., Laconia (\$10 at the door)

For their next project, "I'm thinking a little bigger, and at the same time a little smaller," Heron said by phone recently. "In this day and age, how many songs do you want to record? People aren't necessarily sitting down and listening to full albums ... let's just get five or six decent songs together."

Some of the newer material will likely be teased at their upcoming shows. They're at High Street Coffee House on Jan. 6, bookending the regular open mic event. "We were lucky enough to get asked to kick off that series," Heron recalled. "We played it once live, and also a livestream ... it's a wonderful time."

In mid-2020, they serenaded an outdoor crowd from a gazebo overlooking Laconia's Belknap Mill during the height of the pandemic; they'll be inside for a Jan. 12 show. The many al fresco shows necessitated by Covid-19 were an unexpected pleasure that inspired them even after masks and social distancing were in the past.

"We actually did one in our backyard at our old house at the end of the warm-weather season, with a bunch of people and a couple of bands," he said. "I miss that."

A recent move to Barrington has them close to Nippo Golf Club, which is home to an early autumn to late spring bluegrass series that's a fixture in the regional roots music scene. Green Heron's next gig there will be a rare full-band affair. They'll be backed by bass player Jed Rosen (Rockspring, Hot Day at the Zoo), Dave "Lonesome Dave" Talmadge (New England Bluegrass Band, Bolt Hill Band) on bluegrass banjo, and dobro player Bob Kordas (Fret Benders).

"The Nippo bluegrass series has just got such a fun built-in crowd," Heron said. "A



Green Heron. Photo by Amanda Jean Kowalski.

lot of friends go there regularly, and they're all musicians, so we kinda just grabbed a few close friends and got them together." It's the first of two Nippo Lake appearances for the duo in the current season. Betsy also has a pair of shows with The Hazel Project, a tribute group that celebrates the music of bluegrass heroes Hazel Dickens and Alice Gerrard.

Both she and Heron have other musical irons in the fire. He plays with Tim Cackett in The Wagoners and performs in a duo with Manchester musician Liam Spain occasionally. Green's sister act continues, and she's in the harmony country folk trio She Gone, along with fellow Hazel Project members Lindsay Lassonde and Whitney Roy.

Bluegrass music moves naturally toward such community, and recruiting like-minded acolytes is a natural outcome, Heron observed.

"The music just kind of lends itself to collaboration, mostly because it's acoustic and it's simple... anybody with a guitar or banjo or fiddle can play," he said. "We all kind of know the same stuff, [so] you can instantly start jamming." 🍷

## COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

### Venues

#### Capitol Center for the Arts

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

#### Chunky's

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

#### Fulchino Vineyards

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

#### Headliners Comedy Club

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

#### McCue's Comedy Club at the Roundabout Diner

580 Portsmouth Traffic Circle, Portsmouth

mccuescomedyclub.com

#### Millyard Brewery

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

#### Palace Theatre

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

#### Pasta Loft

241 Union Square, Milford pastaloft.com

#### Rex Theatre

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

#### SNHU Arena

555 Elm St., Manchester, snhuarena.com, 644-5000

#### Tupelo Music Hall

10 A St., Derry

437-5100, tupelomusic hall.com

• **Jim McCue** McCue's, Friday, Jan. 6, and Saturday, Jan. 7, 8 p.m.

• **Jody Sloane** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, Jan. 6, and Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023, 8:30 p.m.

• **Lenny Clarke** Tupelo, Saturday, Jan. 7, 8 p.m.

• **Steve Scarfo** Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, Jan. 7, 8:30 p.m.

• **Mark Scalia** Headliners, Saturday, Jan. 7, 8:30 p.m.

• **Paul Nardizi** McCue's, Friday, Jan. 13, 8 p.m.

• **James Dorsey** Chunky's Manchester, Friday, Jan. 13, and Saturday, Jan. 14, 8:30 p.m.

• **Jimmy Tingle** Music Hall Lounge, Saturday, Jan. 14, 5:30 & 8:30 p.m.

• **Mike Koutrobis** Millyard, Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m.

• **Roman Pierce** Chunky's Nashua, Saturday, Jan. 14, 8:30 p.m.

• **James Dorsey** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, Jan. 14, 8:30 p.m.

• **Stacy Kendro** Headliners, Saturday, Jan. 14, 8:30 p.m.

• **Fee the Evolutionist/Adam Payne** Millyard, Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m.

• **Brian Glowacki** Rex, Friday, Jan. 20, 8 p.m.

• **Gary Petersen** McCue's, Friday, Jan. 20, 8 p.m.

• **Fulchino Vineyard Pours Comedy** Fulchino Vineyard, Saturday, Jan. 21, 6 p.m.

• **Jody Sloane** Headliners, Saturday, Jan. 21, 8:30 p.m.

• **Celebration of Love** Tupelo, Thursday, Jan. 26, 8 p.m.

• **Rob Steen** Headliners, Saturday, Jan. 28, 8:30 p.m.



Jody Sloane.

• **Magic Rocks! Illusionist Leon Etienne** Rex, Saturday, Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m.

• **Rob Schneider** Chubb Theatre, Saturday, Feb. 4, 8 p.m.

• **Tim McKeever** Headliners, Saturday, Feb. 4, 8:30 p.m.

• **Jeff Dunham** SNHU Arena, Friday, Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m.

• **Karen Morgan** McCue's, Friday, Feb. 10, and Saturday, Feb. 11, 8 p.m.



# MUSIC THIS WEEK

<p><b>Alton</b> Foster's Tavern 403 Main St. 875-1234</p> <p><b>Alton Bay Docks</b> Docks Restaurant 6 East Side Drive 855-2222</p> <p><b>Amherst</b> LaBelle Winery 345 Route 101 672-9898</p> <p><b>Auburn</b> Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road 622-6564</p> <p><b>Bedford</b> Copper Door 15 Leavy Dr. 488-2677</p> <p><b>Murphy's Carriage House</b> 393 Route 101 488-5875</p> <p><b>Bow</b> Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St.</p>	<p>228-8508</p> <p><b>Brookline</b> The Alamo Texas Barbecue &amp; Tequila Bar 99 Route 13 721-5000</p> <p><b>Concord</b> Hermanos Cocina Mexicana 11 Hills Ave. 224-5669</p> <p><b>Penuche's Ale House</b> 16 Bicentennial Square 228-9833</p> <p><b>Tandy's Pub &amp; Grille</b> 1 Eagle Square 856-7614</p> <p><b>T-Bones</b> 404 S. Main St. 715-1999</p> <p><b>Uno Pizzeria</b> 15 Fort Eddy Road 226-8667</p> <p><b>Deerfield</b> The Lazy Lion 4 North Road 463-7374</p>	<p><b>Derry</b> Fody's Tavern 187 Rockingham Road, 404-6946</p> <p><b>LaBelle Winery</b> 14 Route 111 672-9898</p> <p><b>Dover</b> Cara Irish Pub &amp; Restaurant 11 Fourth St. 343-4390</p> <p><b>Epping</b> Popovers at Brickyard Square 11 Brickyard Square 734-4724</p> <p><b>Telly's Restaurant &amp; Pizzeria</b> 235 Calef Hwy. 679-8225</p> <p><b>Epsom</b> Hill Top Pizzeria 1724 Dover Road 736-0027</p> <p><b>Exeter</b> Sea Dog Brewing Co.</p>	<p>5 Water St. 793-5116</p> <p><b>Francestown</b> Toll Booth Tavern Crotched Mountain Resort 740 Second NH Turnpike 588-1800</p> <p><b>Gilford</b> Patrick's 18 Weirs Road 293-0841</p> <p><b>Goffstown</b> Village Trestle 25 Main St. 497-8230</p> <p><b>Hampton</b> Bogie's 32 Depot Square 601-2319</p> <p><b>CR's The Restaurant</b> 287 Exeter Road 929-7972</p> <p><b>The Goat</b> 20 L St. 601-6928</p> <p><b>L Street Tavern 603</b> 17 L St.</p>	<p>967-4777</p> <p><b>Shane's Texas Pit</b> 61 High St. 601-7091</p> <p><b>Smuttynose Brewing</b> 105 Towle Farm Road</p> <p><b>Wally's Pub</b> 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954</p> <p><b>Whym Craft Pub &amp; Brewery</b> 853 Lafayette Road 601-2801</p> <p><b>Henniker</b> Pats Peak Sled Pub 24 Flanders Road 888-728-7732</p> <p><b>Hudson</b> The Bar 2B Burnham Road</p> <p><b>Lynn's 102 Tavern</b> 76 Derry Road 943-7832</p> <p><b>Jaffrey</b> Park Theatre 19 Main St. 532-9300</p> <p><b>Kingston</b> Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125 369-6962</p>	<p><b>Laconia</b> Belknap Mill 25 Beacon St. E., No. 1 524-8813</p> <p><b>Fratello's</b> 799 Union Ave. 528-2022</p> <p><b>High Octane Saloon</b> 1072 Watson Road 527-8116</p> <p><b>T-Bones</b> 1182 Union Ave. 528-7800</p> <p><b>Tower Hill Tavern</b> 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100</p> <p><b>Londonderry</b> Coach Stop Restaurant &amp; Tavern 176 Mammoth Road 437-2022</p> <p><b>Stumble Inn</b> 20 Rockingham Road 432-3210</p> <p><b>Manchester</b> The Alibi Lounge 137 Wilson St.</p> <p><b>Angel City Music Hall</b> 179 Elm St. 931-3654</p> <p><b>Backyard Brewery</b> 1211 S. Mammoth Road</p>	<p>623-3545</p> <p><b>CJ's</b> 782 S. Willow St. 627-8600</p> <p><b>City Hall Pub</b> 8 Hanover St. 232-3751</p> <p><b>Currier Museum of Art</b> 150 Ash St. 669-6144</p> <p><b>Derryfield Country Club</b> 625 Mammoth Road 623-2880</p> <p><b>Elm House of Pizza</b> 102 Elm St. 232-5522</p> <p><b>The Foundry</b> 50 Commercial St. 836-1925</p> <p><b>Fratello's</b> 155 Dow St. 624-2022</p> <p><b>The Goat</b> 50 Old Granite St.</p> <p><b>The Hill Bar &amp; Grille</b> McIntyre Ski Area 50 Chalet Ct. 622-6159</p> <p><b>Jewel Music Venue</b> 61 Canal St. 819-9336</p>	<p><b>KC's Rib Shack</b> 837 Second St. 627-RIBS</p> <p><b>Murphy's Taproom</b> 494 Elm St. 644-3535</p> <p><b>Penuche's Music Hall</b> 1087 Elm St. 932-2868</p> <p><b>Salona Bar &amp; Grill</b> 128 Maple St. 624-4020</p> <p><b>Shaskeen Pub</b> 909 Elm St. 625-0246</p> <p><b>South Side Tavern</b> 1279 S. Willow St. 935-9947</p> <p><b>Stark Brewing Co.</b> 500 Commercial St. 625-4444</p> <p><b>Strange Brew</b> 88 Market St. 666-4292</p> <p><b>To Share Brewing</b> 720 Union St. 836-6947</p> <p><b>Wild Rover</b> 21 Kosciuszko St. 669-7722</p>
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## Thursday, Jan. 5

<p><b>Auburn</b> Auburn Pitts: live music, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Bedford</b> Copper Door: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Brookline</b> Alamo: Matt Bergeron, 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Concord</b> Hermanos: live music, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Derry</b> Fody's: music bingo, 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Epping</b> Telly's: Ralph Allen, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Exeter</b> Sea Dog: live music, 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Gilford</b> Patrick's Pub: live music, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Goffstown</b> Village Trestle: Eddie Sands, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Hampton</b> Bogie's: live music, 7 p.m. CR's: Ross McGinnes, 6 p.m. Whym: music bingo, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Hudson</b> Lynn's 102: karaoke w/ George Bisson, 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Kingston</b> Saddle Up Saloon: karaoke with DJ Jason, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Laconia</b> Fratello's: Eric Grant, 7 p.m. Tower Hill: karaoke w/ Luke Skywalker, 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Londonderry</b> Stumble Inn: Charlie Chonopoulos, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Manchester</b> Angel City: open mic, 8 p.m. City Hall Pub: Nate Comp, 7 p.m. Currier: Trivia, 6 p.m. Elm House of Pizza: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m. Foundry: Paul Driscoll, 5 p.m. Fratello's: Jeff Mrozek, 5:30 p.m. Strange Brew: Peter Higgins, 8 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Merrimack</b> Homestead: Lou Antonucci, 5:30 p.m. Tortilla Flat: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Milford</b> Riley's Place: open mic, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Nashua</b> Fody's: DJ Rich Karaoke, 9:30 p.m. Shorty's: Austin McCarthy, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Portsmouth</b> The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.</p> <p><b>Salem</b> Copper Door: Chris Lester, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Seabrook</b> Backyard Burgers: Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Strafford</b> Independence Inn: April Cushman, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Epping</b> Popovers: Chris O'Neil, 5:30 p.m. Telly's: Pete Peterson, 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Exeter</b> Sea Dog: live music, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Francestown</b> Crotched Mountain: Joey Clark &amp; The Big Hearts, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Goffstown</b> Village Trestle: Rose Kula, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Hampton</b> Bogie's: live music, 7 p.m. CR's: Bob Tirelli, 6 p.m. The Goat: Alex Anthony, 8 p.m. Wally's: Scott Brown and The Diplomats, 7:30 p.m. Whym: David Corson, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Hudson</b> Lynn's 102: karaoke w/ George Bisson, 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Jaffrey</b> Park Theatre: McGettigan &amp; Gilbert, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Kingston</b> Saddle Up Saloon: live music, 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Laconia</b> Fratello's: Paul Warnick, 6 p.m. Tower Hill: Alex Cohen, 9 p.m.</p> <p><b>Londonderry</b> Coach Stop: Justin Jordan, 6 p.m. Stumble Inn: Swipe Right Duo, 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Manchester</b> Backyard Brewery: Karen Gre-</p>	<p>nier, 6 p.m. Derryfield: Eric Grant, 8 p.m. Fratello's: Rebecca Turmel, 6 p.m. The Foundry: Mikey G, 6 p.m. South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke, 9 p.m. Strange Brew: Outside Help, 9 p.m.</p> <p><b>Meredith</b> Twin Barns: Amanda Adams, 5 p.m.</p> <p><b>Merrimack</b> Homestead: Joanie Cicatelli, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Milford</b> Pasta Loft: The MilkCrates, 8:30 p.m. Stonecutters Pub: DJ Dave O karaoke, 9 p.m.</p>
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## Music, live and in person

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

## Friday, Jan. 6

<p><b>Alton</b> Foster's Tavern: Tom Boisse, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Auburn</b> Auburn Pitts: live music, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>Deerfield</b> Lazy Lion: live music, 6 p.m.</p>
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## DUELING FOR CHARITY

Dueling Pianos of New Hampshire returns to Tupelo Music Hall (10 A St., Derry; 437-5100; [tupelomusicall.com](http://tupelomusicall.com)) for a good cause. Their show on Thursday, Jan. 5, at 7 p.m. is a fundraiser for the Londonderry High School Marching Lancers. Tickets range from \$25 to \$50, plus fees.



<b>Meredith Giuseppe's</b> 312 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-3313	<b>Riley's Place</b> 29 Mont Vernon St. 380-3480	821-7535 <b>Raga</b> 138 Main St. 459-8566	70 Route 108 418-7121 <b>Newmarket Stone Church</b> 5 Granite St. 659-7700	<b>Pittsfield Main Street Grill &amp; Bar</b> 32 Main St. 435-0005	<b>Mojo's West End Tavern</b> 95 Brewery Lane 436-6656	41 S. Broadway 458-2033 <b>Luna Bistro</b> 254 N. Broadway 458-2162	<b>Strafford Independence Inn</b> 6 Drake Hill Road 718-3334
<b>Twin Barns Brewing</b> 194 Daniel Webster Hwy. 279-0876	<b>Stonecutters Pub</b> 63 Union Square 213-5979	<b>San Francisco Kitchen</b> 133 Main St. 886-8833	<b>North Hampton Locals Restaurant &amp; Pub</b> 215 Lafayette Road 379-2729	<b>Portsmouth Cisco Brewers</b> 1 Redhook Way 430-8600	<b>Press Room</b> 77 Daniel St. 431-5186	<b>Smuttynose</b> 11 Via Toscana	<b>Windham Common Man</b> 88 Range Road 898-0088
<b>Merrimack Homestead</b> 641 Daniel Webster Hwy. 429-2022	<b>Nashua Fody's Tavern</b> 9 Clinton St. 577-9015	<b>Shorty's Mexican Road-house</b> 48 Gusabel Ave. 882-4070	<b>Northfield Boonedoxz Pub</b> 95 Park St. 717-8267	<b>The Gas Light</b> 64 Market St. 430-9122	<b>Thirsty Moose Taphouse</b> 21 Congress St. 427-8645	<b>Seabrook Backyard Burgers &amp; Wings</b> 5 Provident Way 760-2581	<b>Old School Bar &amp; Grill</b> 49 Range Road 458-6051
<b>Tortilla Flat</b> 595 Daniel Webster Hwy. 424-4479	<b>Liquid Therapy</b> 14 Court St. 402-9391	<b>New Boston Molly's Tavern &amp; Restaurant</b> 35 Mont Vernon Road 487-1362	<b>Penacook American Legion Post 31</b> 11 Charles St. 753-9372	<b>The Goat</b> 142 Congress St. 590-4628	<b>Rochester Governor's Inn</b> 78 Wakefield St. 332-0107	<b>Chop Shop Pub</b> 920 Lafayette Road 760-7706	
<b>Milford The Pasta Loft</b> 241 Union Square 672-2270	<b>Millyard Brewery</b> 25 E. Otterson St. 722-0104	<b>Newfields Fire and Spice Bistro</b>		<b>Jimmy's Jazz &amp; Blues Club</b> 135 Congress St. 603-5299	<b>Porter's Pub</b> 19 Hanson St. 330-1964	<b>Red's Kitchen + Tavern</b> 530 Lafayette Road 760-0030	

<b>Nashua San Francisco Kitchen:</b> live music, 6:30 p.m.	<b>Mojo's:</b> Jonny Friday, 7 p.m.	<b>Concord Downtown Farmers Market:</b> Mikey G, 9 a.m. <b>Hermanos:</b> live music, 6:30 p.m.	<b>Goffstown Village Trestle:</b> Bob Pratte Band, 6 p.m.	<b>Fratello's:</b> Lou Antonucci, 6 p.m. <b>Foundry:</b> Amanda Adams, 6 p.m. <b>The Hill:</b> Clint Lapointe, 5 p.m. <b>Shaskeen:</b> Long Autumn, 9 p.m. <b>Strange Brew:</b> Frankie Boy & the Blues Express, 9 p.m. <b>Wild Rover:</b> Sam Hammeman, 5 p.m.	<b>Salem Luna Bistro:</b> Chad Lamarsh, 6 p.m.
<b>New Boston Molly's:</b> Jason Michelson, 7 p.m.	<b>Salem Luna Bistro:</b> Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m. <b>Smuttynose:</b> music bingo, 6 p.m.	<b>Deerfield Lazy Lion:</b> live music, 7 p.m.	<b>Hampton Bogie's:</b> live music, 7 p.m. <b>L Street:</b> Up-Beat w/J-Dubz, 9 p.m. <b>Wally's:</b> Alex Anthony Band, 9 p.m. <b>Whym:</b> Steve Haidachuk, 6 p.m.	<b>Meredith Giuseppe's:</b> Bob Kroepel, 6 p.m. <b>Twin Barns:</b> Paul Driscoll, 5 p.m.	<b>Sunday, Jan. 8</b>
<b>Northfield Boonedoxz Pub:</b> karaoke night, 7 p.m.	<b>Alton Foster's Tavern:</b> Lone Wolf Project, 6 p.m.	<b>Epping Telly's:</b> Rob & Jodee, 8 p.m.	<b>Jaffrey Park Theatre:</b> Bernie & Louise Watson, 5:30 p.m.	<b>Merrimack Homestead:</b> Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.	<b>Bedford Copper Door:</b> Steve Prisby, 6 p.m.
<b>Penacook American Legion Post 31:</b> JMitch Karaoke, 7 p.m.	<b>Brookline Alamo:</b> live music, 5 p.m.	<b>Epsom Hill Top Pizza:</b> JMitch Karaoke, 7 p.m.	<b>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon:</b> Taylor Hughes, 6 p.m.	<b>Nashua Millyard:</b> Mike Moore and Steve Kelly, 4 p.m. <b>San Francisco Kitchen:</b> Tyler Levs, 6 p.m.	<b>Brookline Alamo:</b> live music, 4 p.m.
<b>Portsmouth Gas Light:</b> Justin Cohn, 9:30 p.m. <b>The Goat:</b> Chris Toler, 9 p.m.	<b>Bow Chen Yang Li:</b> Malcolm Salls, 7 p.m.	<b>Fracestown Crotched Mountain:</b> Tyler Levs, 7 p.m.	<b>Laconia Tower Hill:</b> line dancing, 7 p.m.; Carolyn Ramsay Band, 8:30 p.m.	<b>New Boston Molly's:</b> Robert & Rich, 7 p.m.	<b>Goffstown Village Trestle:</b> Bob Pratte, 3:30 p.m.



## SLAYING YOUR SATURDAY NIGHT

Dub Apocalypse guitarist **Johnny Trama** collaborated with singer-songwriter **Tim Gearan** for the single "Bring it Down." The pair stop into the Press Room (77 Daniel St., Portsmouth; 431-5186; pressroomnh.com) with Trama's **Band of Killers** on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$15, plus fees.

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**NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK**

**Milford**  
Riley's Place: open mic w/ blues Jam, 1 p.m.

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

**Portsmouth**  
AC Hotel: Killough/O'Neill, 10:30 p.m.  
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.

**Salem**  
Copper Door: Nate Comp, 11 a.m.

**Monday, Jan. 9**

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

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

**Hudson**  
The Bar: karaoke with Phil

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

**Manchester**  
Fratello's: Phil Jacques, 5:30 p.m.  
The Goat: David Campbell, 8 p.m.  
KC's Rib Shack: live music, 6 p.m.  
Salona: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
Homestead: Jess Olson, 5:30 p.m.

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

**Portsmouth**  
The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.

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

**Tuesday, Jan. 10**

**Concord**  
Hermanos: live music, 6:30 p.m.  
Tandy's: open mic, 8 p.m.

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

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

**Londonderry**  
Stumble Inn: music bingo, 7 p.m.

**Manchester**  
Fratello's: Austin McCarthy, 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.

**Merrimack**  
Homestead: Clint Lapointe, 5:30 p.m.

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

**Portsmouth**  
The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.

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

**Wednesday, Jan. 11**

**Brookline**  
Alamo: live music, 5 p.m.

**Concord**  
Hermanos: live music, 6:30 p.m.  
Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.  
Uno Pizzeria: Justin Cohn, 6 p.m.

**Derry**  
Fody's: karaoke, 7 p.m.

**Exeter**  
Sea Dog: live music, 5 p.m.

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

**Kingston**  
Saddle Up Saloon: Musical

Bingo Nation, 7 p.m.

**Manchester**  
Derryfield: Justin Jordan, 6 p.m.  
Fratello's: Jodee Frawlee, 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.

**Meredith**  
Giuseppe's: Paul Warnick, 5:45 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
Homestead: Chris Lester, 5:30 p.m.

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

**Portsmouth**  
The Goat: Alex Anthony, 9 p.m.

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

**Thursday, Jan. 12**

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

**Bedford**  
Copper Door: Charlie Chronopoulos, 7 p.m.

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

**Epping**  
Telly's: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.

**Goffstown**  
Village Trestle: D-Comp, 6 p.m.

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

**Londonderry**  
Stumble Inn: Joanie Cicatelli Duo, 7 p.m.

**Manchester**  
Angel City: open mic, 8 p.m.  
City Hall Pub: Steve Prisby, 7 p.m.

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Concord  
225-1111, ccanh.com

**Dana Center**  
Saint Anselm College  
100 Saint Anselm Drive, Man-  
chester  
anselm.edu

**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, jimmysoncon-  
gress.com

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

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

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

**Palace Theatre**



Lauren Davidson

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

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

**Press Room**  
77 Daniel St., Portsmouth  
431-5186, pressroomnh.com

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

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

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

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

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

**Shows**

- **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 Room
- **Mike Moore & Steve Kelly** Saturday, Jan. 7, 4 p.m., Millyard
- **Ammonium Maze Ensemble** Saturday, Jan. 7, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- **Idlewild** (Allman Brothers tribute) Saturday, Jan. 7, 7:30 p.m., Rex
- **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 Room
- **Pizzastock Battle of the Bands** Sunday, Jan. 8, 1 p.m., Tupelo
- **Nicholas Payton** Tuesday, Jan. 10, Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club
- **Quinn Sullivan** Thursday, Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- **Kevin Horan** Friday, Jan. 13, 4 p.m., Millyard
- **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, Jan. 13, 8 p.m., Bank of NH Stage
- **The Johnny A Band** Friday, Jan. 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 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- **Radio Flashback: 70s & 80s Concert Experience** Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m., LaBelle Derry
- **Dueling Pianos** Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m., Franklin Opera House
- **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
- **Steve Blunt & Friends** Sunday, Jan. 15, 3 p.m., LaBelle Winery Derry
- **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., Jimmy's
- **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** Saturday, Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m., Rex
- **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
- **South Asian Showcase** Wednesday, Jan. 25, 6 p.m., Bank of NH Stage
- **The Dustbowl Revival** Wednesday, Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's

**Trivia**

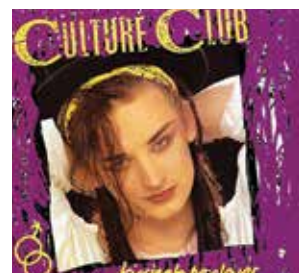
**Events**

- **'80s music trivia 21+** on Thursday, Jan. 5, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's Cinema Pub (707 Huse Road in Manchester; chunkys.com).

**Weekly**

- **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, 625-9656, yankeelanesentertainment.com) at 7 p.m.
- **Thursday Kings** trivia at Game Changer Sports Bar (4 Orchard View Dr., Londonderry; 216-1396, gamechangersportsbar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.
- **First Thursday of every month** trivia at Fody's (9 Clinton St., Nashua; fodystavern.com) at 8 p.m.

- **Friday Team Trivia** at Cheers (17 Depot St., Concord, 228-0180, cheersnh.com) from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the lounge.
- **Monday** trivia at Crow's Nest (181 Plaistow Road, Plaistow, 817-6670, crowsnestnh.com) at 8 p.m.
- **Tuesday** trivia at Reed's North (2 E. Main St. in Warner, 456-2143, reednorth.com) from 6 to 8 p.m.
- **Tuesday** trivia at Fody's (187 Rockingham Road, Derry, 404-6946, fodystavern.com) at 7 p.m.
- **Tuesday** trivia at Area 23 (254 N. State St., Concord, 881-9060, thearea23.com) at 7 p.m.
- **Tuesday** trivia at Lynn's 102 Tavern (76 Derry Road, Hudson, 943-7832, lynns102.com), at 7 p.m.
- **Tuesday Geeks Who Drink** trivia at Peddler's Daughter (48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlersdaughter.com), from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Main Street Grill and Bar (32 Main St., Pittsfield; 435-0005, mainstreetgrillandbar.com) at 6:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Popovers (11 Brickyard Sq., Epping, 734-4724, popoversonthesquare.com) from 6:30 to 8 p.m.



Culture Club

- **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 at The Bar (2b Burnham Road, Hudson, 943-5250) at 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Fody's (9 Clinton St., Nashua, fodystavern.com) at 8 p.m.
- **Wednesday World Tavern Trivia** at Fody's Tavern (9 Clinton St. in Nashua, fodystavern.com, 577-9015) at 8 p.m.

**LOST IN THE MAZE**

Ammonium Maze was founded by members of the legendary Seacoast rock band Percy Hill as a way of extending and experimenting with their previous band's legacy. They touch down at the Word Barn (66 Newfields Road, Exeter; 244-0202; thewordbarn.com) on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$15 to \$25, plus fees.



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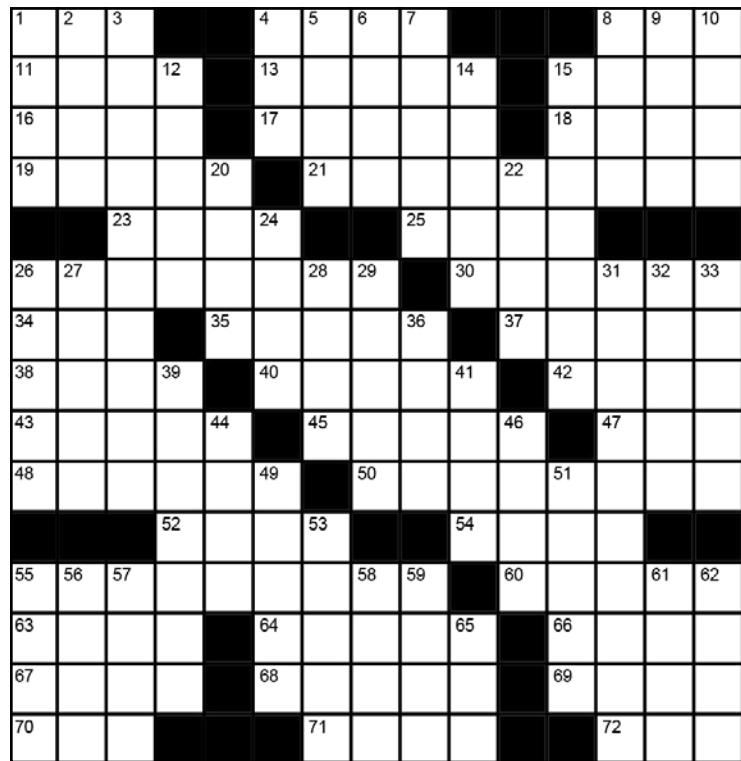
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# IT'S IN YOUR FACE BUT YOU CAN'T GRAB IT



say, that life \_\_ dream" (2,1)  
 71. 'More Than A Feeling' singer Brad  
 72. Aerosmith 'Sick \_\_ Dog' (2,1)

**Down**

1. 'Little Wing' Hendrix
2. Faith No More "Return to my own vomit like \_\_"
3. Edwin McCain has no ' \_\_ Thieves'
4. American Music Institute (abbr)
5. 'All The Young Dudes' \_\_ The Hoople
6. 'Black Holes And Revelations' band
7. 'My Woman' sing/songster Angel
8. Kylie Minogue ' \_\_-Motion'
9. The Weeknd's real first name
10. Lays down the lawn or does this after backyard rock-fest
12. REM single about a British sports car?
14. Gives Hard Rock Cafe ornament came from one
15. Dylan 'Lay \_\_'
20. Cornershop 'Brimful Of \_\_'
22. Melody Gardot 'Your Heart \_\_ Black As Night'
24. Steely Dan released a 'Royal' one in '76
26. ELP & The Police, e.g.
27. Like "Back in" genre
28. AC/DC "Shake \_\_, wake the dead"
29. Group consisting of nine people
31. "Aruba, Jamaica, ooh I wanna take you to Bermuda, Bahama, come on \_\_"
32. The Streets ' \_\_ Come To This?'
33. '70 Neil Diamond compilation
36. "Oh sister, am I \_\_ bother to you?"
39. Bob Dylan 'Love Minus Zero/ \_\_'
41. This tropical 'Bar Is Open' for John Hiatt

44. Beck was feeling Mexican food with 'Satan Gave Me A \_\_'
46. '99 Red Balloons' band
49. Donnas wear it 'Dirty'
51. A lonely Adele said ' \_\_ You'
53. Like some hippies at show
55. Swedish electronic music producer/DJ Lekebusch
56. Glenn Frey "Don't give up \_\_ now"
57. '12 Madonna album
58. fun. singer Ruess

59. 'Angel In Disguise' country artist Thomas Conley
61. Spill Canvas song about Himerus' sidekick
62. Melodic mode in Indian classical music
65. Parking lot bluecoat

© 2022 Todd Santos  
 Todd's new book Rock and Roll Crosswords Vol. 1 is available now on Amazon.

**Across**

1. God that reggae stars sing of
4. Great song is this to fire at public's ears 8. 'Remember (Walking In The Sand)' Shangri-\_\_
11. All-time favorite rocker is this, to biggest fan
13. Bob of Sugar
15. Eels 'Hombre \_\_'
16. Electronic Brits that are not in stereo?
17. Crickets say ' \_\_ Easy' to fall in love
18. Breezed-through audition or did this
19. Ricky Nelson was suspicious w/' \_\_ Feeling'
21. Stars 13-19 years old
23. Sing/songster Ballard
25. Like gossip-hungry fans
26. Scottish lads \_\_ Sinatras
30. Murphy and Molina
34. 'Reveal' band
35. Unrecognized soul rocker Butler
37. 'Angel' McLachlan
38. When challenged Lenny Kravitz told us to 'Bring \_\_'
40. '97 Faith No More song 'She Loves \_\_'
42. John Prine ' \_\_ Guess They Oughta Name A Drink After You'
43. Fugees are coming 'Ready \_\_'
45. GnR has gloves on with ' \_\_ The Ring'
47. BB King 'I'm Gonna Sit In \_\_ You Give In'
48. Skip James was so happy on 'I'm \_\_'
- he let Cream rip a version
50. Eagles ' \_\_ the Limit'
52. Metal band \_\_ Earth
54. Toad The Wet Sprocket heard it ' \_\_ Ear'
55. Van Morrison's '80 release for the regulars?

60. Ted Nugent, when hunting
63. John Mellencamp " \_\_ watch it from this hole I call home"
64. Brock of Modest Mouse
66. '79 Fleetwood Mac hit w/girl's name
67. '70 thinly disguised Todd Rundgren solo album
68. The train Berlin rode
69. Dan Murphy group Golden \_\_
70. Cat Stevens "Is it true what they

## WORD★Roundup™

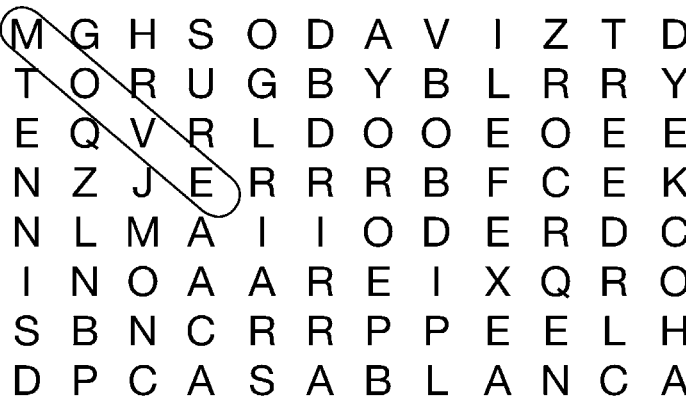
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

**Find and Circle...**

- Three words related to chess
- Orange \_\_\_\_ (four-letter answers)
- Three African cities
- Three sports
- \_\_\_\_ in "The Natural"

Last Week's Answers: WOLF GOAT HARE LION MINK / TWENTY THIRTY FIFTY / BOLIVIA CHILE PERU / JAZZ FOLK ROCK / BURGER KING

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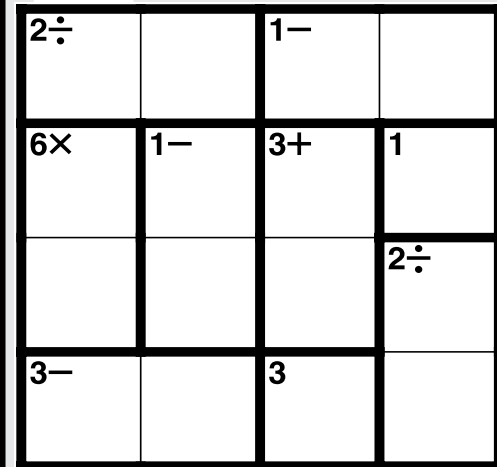


12/5

# KENKEN

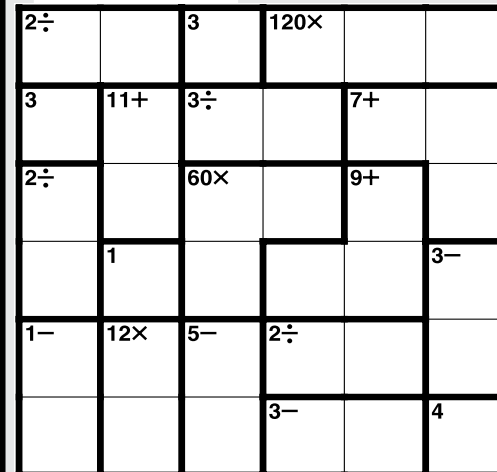
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**CHALLENGING**



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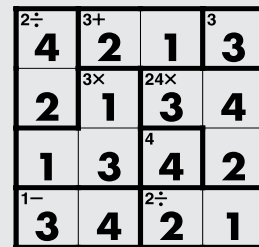
**RULES**

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

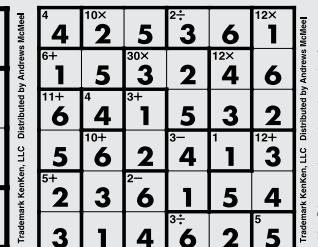
outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

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

**PREVIOUS ANSWERS**



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11-1-22



# “Catch Me If You Can” – you’ve fallen for my trap!

**Across**

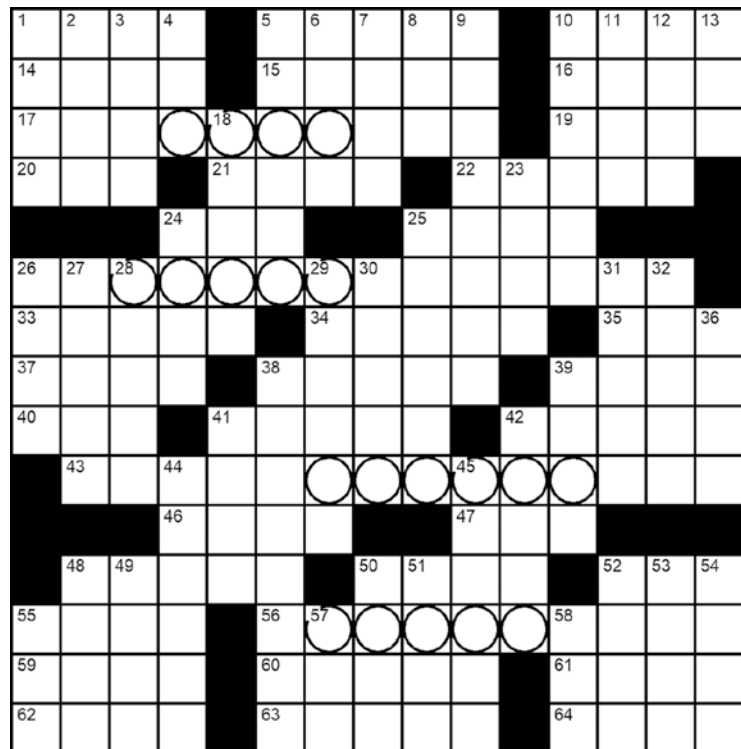
- 1. Singular
- 5. Clean a spill, maybe
- 10. Mixed-breed dog
- 14. Cowboy boot part
- 15. AKC working dog
- 16. Diva’s time to shine
- 17. Heavy cannon turret used in the “Star Wars” universe
- 19. Robert who resumed the CEO role at Disney (replacing another Bob) in 2022
- 20. Santa Fe-to-Roswell dir.
- 21. Tofu bean, in the U.K.
- 22. \_\_\_ Tots
- 24. Blockbuster rental need
- 25. 12-point type
- 26. Native American ballerina who’ll be on one of the five 2023 American Women Quarters
- 33. Orange-yellow pigment
- 34. “If \_\_\_ Street Could Talk” (2018 film)
- 35. Negative vote
- 37. Cawing bird
- 38. Steak option
- 39. “Hold \_\_\_ your butts!”
- 40. Family
- 41. Coin of Denmark
- 42. “24” agent Jack
- 43. Even considering consequences
- 46. Castle protection

- 47. Write-\_\_\_ (some votes)
- 48. Lead-in to “Go,” “Shop,” or “Save” in convenience store names
- 50. Grime
- 52. Tooth doc’s deg.
- 55. Actor Epps
- 56. 2022 follow-up to “Knives Out”
- 59. “Gladiator” setting
- 60. Pale purple shade
- 61. “Go back” computer command
- 62. Forever and a day
- 63. “All in the Family” character
- 64. Clueless Overwatch player, say

- 7. Site of a tilted tower
- 8. Colorado native
- 9. It’s a little bit ...
- 10. Cocktail created at Trader Vic’s
- 11. Primal instinct
- 12. Crowdfunding level
- 13. 2022 movie starring Cate Blanchett
- 18. Trash can resident
- 23. Dull pain
- 24. Penthouse selling point
- 25. Uranus, e.g.
- 26. Faux
- 27. Bitter in taste
- 28. River that flows through Lake Geneva
- 29. “\_\_\_ Elementary” (Quinta Brunson comedy)
- 30. “Once Upon a Time in the West” director Sergio
- 31. Sense of boredom
- 32. Greek goddess trio, with “the”

- 36. Wars of the Roses side
- 38. Shape with a hypotenuse, maybe
- 39. Rowing needs
- 41. BTS genre
- 42. Japanese box lunch
- 44. Graham cracker desserts
- 45. Actor Judd of “The Fabelmans”
- 48. Air pollutant
- 49. Lacking excitement
- 50. “The Persistence of Memory” surrealist
- 51. “What \_\_\_ stake?”
- 52. “The Flintstones” pet
- 53. Long-extinct bird
- 54. Holier-than-thou sort
- 55. “R.I.P.” singer Rita
- 57. Jar topper
- 58. Cloistered one

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**Down**

- 1. Grounded jets, for short
- 2. Numbered musical piece
- 3. Fly fishing fly, e.g.
- 4. Scepter sphere
- 5. Jeppson’s \_\_\_, Chicago-made liquor
- 6. Copacetic

**R&R answer from pg 47 of 12/29**



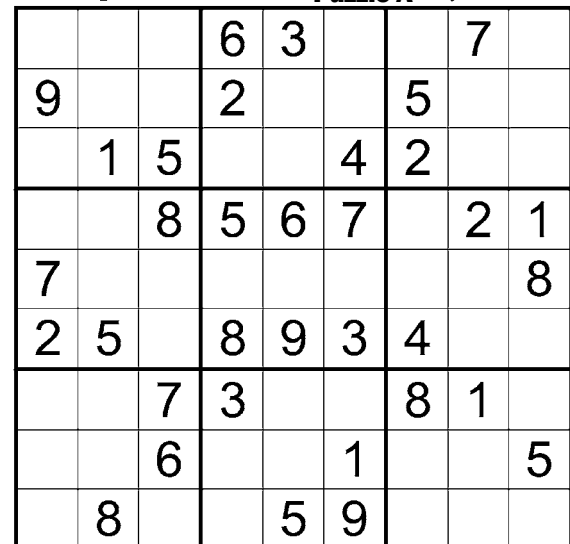
**Jonesin’ answer from pg 48 of 12/29**



**NITE SUDOKU**

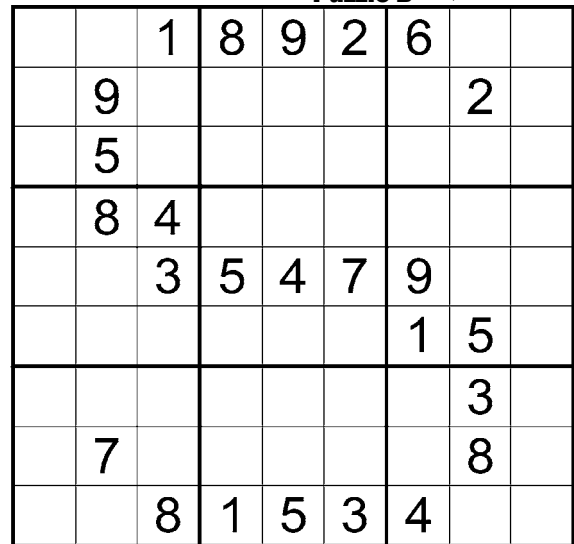
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week’s puzzle answers on pg 37.

**Conceptis SUDOKU Puzzle A** By Dave Green



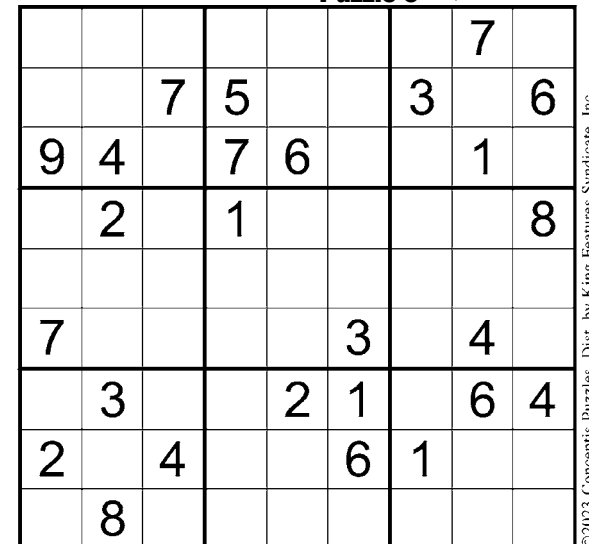
Difficulty Level ★

**Conceptis SUDOKU Puzzle B** By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

**Conceptis SUDOKU Puzzle C** By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★



**SIGNS OF LIFE**

All quotes are from *Professional Troublemaker*, by Luvvie Ajayi Jones, born Jan. 5, 1985.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** *Being a low-cost hire should not be your value proposition. You are not the Dollar Store and you shouldn't be.* Your mantra for today: I am not the Dollar Store.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** *Remember: Your life is not a carnival and not everyone should get a ticket to it. If it's not a carnival, why are there even tickets?*

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** *Yes, shea butter is a core value because I think we'd all be better if we were more moisturized.* True.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** *I am a professional type A control freak and have been all my life. ... Needless to say, this is not ideal when you live in a world with other people.* Deep breaths.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** *Just because your house can safely fit one hundred people in it doesn't mean that is the number you should invite for dinner today.* You probably don't have enough napkins.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** *Are you saying there's no Lived a Low-Maintenance Life and Needed No One cookie?* There is not.

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** *I see the quote that folks use to 'inspire' others to do more: 'Beyonce has the same 24 hours a day as you.' No, she doesn't. Even Beyonce wouldn't tell you that. She might have 240 hours in her day because she has ten people doing various things for her life to run smoothly.* How many person-hours do you have?

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** *I especially balk at 'too aggressive.' When someone says that, did they see us randomly walk up to someone on the street and punch them in the mouth? Did we push someone into a wall*

*for no reason? Did we cuss a nun out? Or is it that we didn't put enough eager exclamation points or emojis in the emails we sent a colleague?* Probably the exclamation point thing.

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** *The person who is considered TOO sensitive is probably someone with a high emotional IQ. They're in tune with how people are feeling, allowing them to detect when a situation will have emotional consequences.* This is useful.

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** *The person who is TOO uptight is probably the one who is great at organizing the group trip.* You know who to call.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** *Your change and your choices aren't about anyone else. They are about you.* Boom.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** *I believe that even when I've made hiring decisions that didn't work out, they were for the best. Each time made me look within and ask myself, 'How can I be a better leader for the next person?'* Ooh, good question. 🍷

**7 LITTLE WORDS**

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

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 "Manic Monday" group (7)	_____
2 Tuesday Weld's profession (6)	_____
3 "Wacky Wednesday" writer Dr. (5)	_____
4 "Thursday's Child" author (11)	_____
5 Joe Friday's TV show (7)	_____
6 "Saturday Night Live" boss (8)	_____
7 "Sunny Sunday" singer Joni (8)	_____

EA	AELS	TF	HE	SEU
SS	EILD	ET	GN	CH
LES	ING	MI	BANG	TC
LL	ACT	DRA	STR	MI

Last Week's Answers: 1. EGOTISM 2. SODAS 3. FIZZY 4. INTERVIEW 5. BICYCLE 6. EPSILON 7. ANHOW 1/8

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- THURS. JAN. 26** IN AMHERST James Taylor/Simon & Garfunkel Tribute by Good Acoustics
- THURS. FEB. 2** IN DERRY Vyntye Skynyrd: Lynyrd Skynyrd Tribute
- THURS. FEB. 2** IN AMHERST Blue Brothers the Next Generation
- FRI. FEB. 10** IN DERRY Valentine's Day Disco with Booty Vortex: Funk & Disco Band
- FRI. FEB. 10** IN AMHERST Valentine's Day 'Night of Sinatra' Dinner Show with Rich DiMare
- THURS. FEB. 23** IN AMHERST Takin' it to the Streets: Doobie Brothers Tribute
- FRI. FEB. 24** IN DERRY Big Sky Country
- THURS. MAR. 2** IN DERRY Comedian Jimmy Dunn
- THURS. MAR. 9** IN AMHERST Live Bullet: Bob Seger Tribute
- FRI. MAR. 10** IN DERRY Bell Bottom Blues: Eric Clapton Experience
- THURS. MAR. 16** IN DERRY St Patrick's Day with Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio
- THURS. MAR. 23** IN DERRY Aquanett: 80's Rock
- THURS. MAR. 23** IN AMHERST Comedian Corey Rodriguez
- THURS. MAR. 30** IN DERRY Nearly Diamond
- THURS. MAR. 30** IN AMHERST Workin' For A Livin': Huey Lewis and The News Tribute
- THURS. APRIL 6** IN AMHERST Barely Manilow
- THURS. APRIL 6** IN DERRY Red Not Chili Peppers



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**Sudoku Answers from pg48 of 12/29**

**Puzzle A**

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

Difficulty Level ★

**Puzzle B**

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

Difficulty Level ★★★

**Puzzle C**

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★



## 2022: A Year in Weird

This week, the News of the Weird column looks back on some of its weirdest stories of 2022.

### Anger management

Tennessee state Rep. Jeremy Faison, 45, had to be ejected from the stands at a high school basketball game in Johnson City on Jan. 4 after he became angry at a referee and tried to “pants” him — pull down his trousers. Faison’s son was playing on the Lakeway Christian Academy team, NBC News reported. Later, Faison tweeted: “Totally lost my junk and got booted from the gym. ... I hope to be able to find the ref and ask for his forgiveness. I was bad wrong.” Our advice to referees everywhere: Always wear a belt. — *NBC News*, 1/6/22

### Government at work

In the United Kingdom, as of Jan. 29, flouting a new highway code rule will cost you up to 1,000 pounds, the Mirror reported. The rule requires someone inside a car to open the door with the hand farthest from the door, employing a technique known as the Dutch Reach. In other words, if you’re driving (on the right side of the car), you would use your left hand to reach around and open the car door. (The tech-

nique is borrowed from the Netherlands, thus the name.) Rule 239 reads: “This will make you turn your head to look over your shoulder. You are then more likely to avoid causing injury to cyclists or motorcyclists passing you on the road, or to people on the pavement.” If a person in a car injures someone by opening with the wrong hand, a fine will be levied. Cycling UK estimates that more than 500 people are injured every year by car doors. — *Mirror*, 1/26/22

### Wait, what?

Cameron Newsom, 42, of Colorado Springs, Colorado, was treated for stage 4 squamous cell carcinoma on her tongue in 2013, the New York Post reported. Removing the tumor meant also removing part of her tongue, which doctors replaced with skin and muscle taken from her thigh. Through all of her experiences in treating the cancer, she said, “The weirdest part ... was when I felt a rough texture on the ‘thigh’ part of my tongue -- and when I looked in the mirror, it had started growing leg hair!” Newsom had to learn to speak again and still finds eating a challenge, but she’s back to being a gymnastics coach, even with her fuzzy tongue. — *New York Post*, 1/9/22

### Clowns

When Mark, 38, and his wife left for

work one morning in January, their back garden in Belfast, Northern Ireland, looked just like it does any other day. But when the wife returned that afternoon, there was a concrete slab painted with a creepy clown face propped against the wall, the Belfast Telegraph reported. “Someone would have had to come through our gate and down the steps to place it there — and deliberately place it so it was facing the window so we would see it,” Mark said. The clown was holding a lighted candle, and on the reverse, a Bible verse was inscribed: “Let your light shine. Matthew 5:16.” Mark contacted friends, neighbors and family members to see if it was a prank, or if others had received a clown, but no one had experienced anything similar. He threw the clown away, but remains creeped out: “It’s so unsettling.” — *Belfast Telegraph*, 1/26/22

### Thanks for nothing!

Catherine Graham of Marshfield, Massachusetts, recently cashed in on her 15 minutes of fame on “The Price Is Right” with host Drew Carey. She flew to Los Angeles to visit her daughter and attended a taping of the show, which aired on Feb. 1. As luck would have it, Graham ended up on stage with Carey and played for a great trip — to New Hampshire! When Carey gushed, “New Hampshire is beau-

tiful!” Graham replied, “Drew, I live in Boston! I’ve been to New Hampshire a million times!” But wait, there’s more! In order to collect the prize roundtrip airfare, she’ll have to travel to Los Angeles again to fly to Manchester, New Hampshire. “I just wish it was Tahiti ... or Bora Bora. A cruise around the world maybe,” Graham told WBZ-TV. But, she said, “It was so fun.” — *WBZ*, 2/11/22

### Ooohhh-kkkaaayyyyy

Some romantic relationships are full of drama and strife, so maybe Sandra, 28, of Budapest, Hungary, has come up with a better model. According to Oddity Central, Sandra has fallen for Luffancs, a plastic model of an airplane. After breaking up with her latest human boyfriend in January, Sandra bought Luffancs for \$660 and fell madly in love. “I don’t know why I love him, I just love him,” she said. Sandra works in the aviation industry and is around airplanes every day, but says she will never cheat on Luffancs. In fact, she doesn’t know if she’ll ever date another human being. “Planes are more reliable as partners,” she said. — *Oddity Central*, 3/10/22

Sources according to [uexpress.com](http://uexpress.com). From the editors at [AndrewsMcMeelSyndication](http://AndrewsMcMeelSyndication). See [uexpress.com/contact](http://uexpress.com/contact)

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