

**the
Hippo**

MAY 9 - 15, 2024

**FIND FAMILY
FUN P. 18**

**MUSIC OF JONI
MITCHELL P. 29**

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

FREE



The
Hot
List

11 SPOTS FOR SPICY EATS

INSIDE: NH RENAISSANCE FAIRE



ON THE COVER
10 Where do you find the food with the heat that makes your eyes water *and* makes you crave another serving? “Restaurant that Brings the Heat” was a category we asked readers about in the Best of 2024 Readers’ Poll, the results of which ran in the March 28 issue. In this week’s cover story, we expand that original list of six winners to look at the top 11 restaurants, as voted on by readers, that Bring the Heat with recommendations for dishes to try.



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ALSO ON THE COVER Hark, a faire! The New Hampshire Renaissance Faire runs this weekend and next (see page 16). Looking for other family fun events? Check out the Kiddie Pool (page 18). And enjoy the music of Joni Mitchell at a tribute concert on Friday (page 29).

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A family-friendly walk in Veteran’s Park

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Cyanobacteria blooms

According to a May 1 press release, the Executive Council and New Hampshire's Department of Environmental Services announced two items that provide \$1 million in funding to make lakes and water bodies across the Granite State cleaner and healthier by reducing blue-green algae (cyanobacteria blooms). Cyanobacteria blooms have been documented in 113 water bodies statewide and account for 64 water quality impairments to recreational use, and in the 2023 monitoring season the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) recorded the highest number of bloom events on record, resulting in 69 advisories across 47 lakes, according to the press release. Four water bodies had advisories issued for more than 100 days and 10 had advisories longer than 50 days. The funding approved now will serve to help minimize such advisories, according to the same release. In a statement, Gov. Chris Sununu said that "this funding will help improve water quality on our lakes to ensure we remain the crown jewel of New England!" For more information visit governor.nh.gov.

\$1 million for off-roading

According to a May 1 press release, the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources announced \$1

million in funding to improve the statewide trail system after damage caused by historic rain and flooding events in 2023, following the approval by members of the Executive Council.

In a statement, DNCR Commissioner Sarah Stewart said, "we are excited that this funding is being made available to our hard-working clubs and volunteers to assist in repairing the trails that were so severely impacted across the state by recent storms. Eighty percent of the statewide trail network is located on private lands, and these funds will be put to good use to repair those storm-damaged trails and to ensure that the trail network remains connected to communities while being safe for all trail users, including motorized and non-motorized recreation." The \$1 million in funding will be distributed through the Grant-In-Aid (GIA) program as 100 percent grants, no matching required, to assist snowmobile and OHRV (off-highway recreational vehicles) clubs with storm-related trail repair work, according to the same release.

Visit nhstateparks.org/find-parks-trails/find-trails-maps-clubs/grants/grant-in-aid or governor.nh.gov for more information.

This is bat country

A May 3 press release from New Hampshire Fish and Game announced that wildlife biolo-

gists need volunteers who have bats in their barns or other outbuildings to help conduct bat counts this summer as part of the New Hampshire Bat Counts project to monitor bat colonies in the Granite State. Volunteers are asked to conduct at least one count in June and one count in July.

Barns and other outbuildings often serve as summer homes for female bats and their young, but with the rise of white-nose syndrome, which has caused significant declines in bat populations throughout the Northeast, it is important to monitor these "maternity colonies," which is why Fish and Game and UNH Cooperative Extension are looking for landowners or homeowners who have bats on their property to conduct "emergence counts" at roost sites, according to the same release.

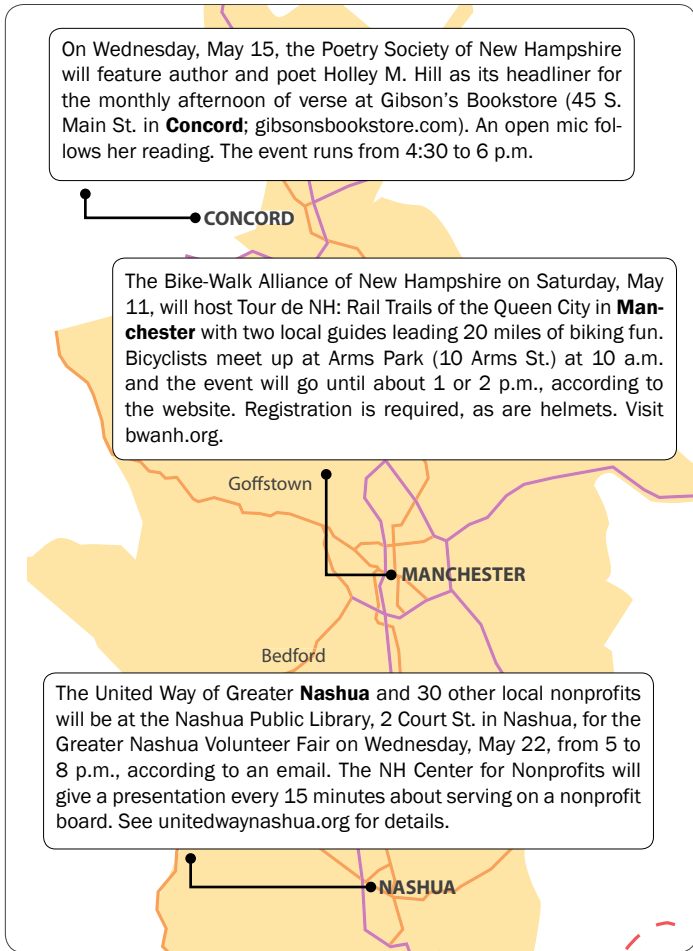
There are two upcoming workshops to help volunteers learn about bat species found in New Hampshire, threats leading to population decline, how to help conserve bats and how to participate in NH Bat Counts, according to the release. NH Bat Counts training will occur on Wednesday, May 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Harris Center for Conservation Education in Hancock (extension.unh.edu/event/2024/05/nh-bat-counts-training) and Bats in New Hampshire will be held online via Zoom on Tuesday, June 11, from 4 to 5 p.m. (extension.unh.edu/event/2024/06/bats-new-hampshire).

Those interested in volunteering can visit the New Hampshire

On Wednesday, May 15, the Poetry Society of New Hampshire will feature author and poet Holley M. Hill as its headliner for the monthly afternoon of verse at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St. in **Concord**; gibsonsbookstore.com). An open mic follows her reading. The event runs from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

The Bike-Walk Alliance of New Hampshire on Saturday, May 11, will host Tour de NH: Rail Trails of the Queen City in **Manchester** with two local guides leading 20 miles of biking fun. Bicyclists meet up at Arms Park (10 Arms St.) at 10 a.m. and the event will go until about 1 or 2 p.m., according to the website. Registration is required, as are helmets. Visit bwanh.org.

The United Way of Greater **Nashua** and 30 other local nonprofits will be at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St. in Nashua, for the Greater Nashua Volunteer Fair on Wednesday, May 22, from 5 to 8 p.m., according to an email. The NH Center for Nonprofits will give a presentation every 15 minutes about serving on a nonprofit board. See unitedwaynashua.org for details.



Bat Counts website wildlife-and-habitat/non-game-and-endangered-species/bats-new-hampshire/nh-bat-counts, and questions about these events can be sent to Haley Andreozzi at haley.andreozzi@unh.edu or 862-5327.

up to 10 gallons of liquid and 20 pounds of solid household hazardous waste free of charge. Visit www.manchesternh.gov/Departments/Highway to find details on how to carry the waste and what items are and are not allowed.

Spring cleaning

The City of Manchester Highway Department is holding a Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day on Saturday, May 11, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at its facility at 500 Dunbarton Road. City residents may dispose of

3-month detour

The Interstate 93 northbound Exit 8 off-ramp to Wellington Road in Manchester will be closed starting Wednesday, May 8, according to an announcement from the NH Department of Transportation. Traffic will be detoured to Exit 9S, then south on I-93 to the Exit 8 southbound off-ramp, to access Wellington Road. The detour will last three months as crews work on bridge improvements in the area. See dot.nh.gov.

Correction

In the May 2 issue, the story "For the younger fans: Kids Con brings in today's readers, tomorrow's creators" on page 13 about Kids Con NE contained several errors.

The organizer's last name was spelled incorrectly; her name is Emily Drouin.

Additionally some of the quotes attributed to her were incorrectly worded. She should have been quoted as saying: "Our goal is to inspire the next generation of creators."

Also, the event itself does not have a supervised outdoor

space. Drouin said, "There is a park nearby [the arena] with some picnic tables to rest and take a break." That area is not supervised by the Kids Con.

And, to clarify a description of the event as a "one-woman show," the Kids Con has 100 exhibitors and 80 volunteers, cosplayers and staff at the show, Drouin said.

Kids Con NE will take place Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Everett Arena, 15 Loudon Road in Concord; see kidsconne.com for additional details.

Best Of 2024 Corrections

In the March 28 issue of the Hippo, there are some items to correct.

On page 22, Traci Evans of Tooky Village Barbershop is 2024's Best of the Best in the Best Barber category. The town for the barbershop, Tooky Village Barbershop, was incorrectly listed. The Barbershop is at 12 Maple St., Unit 1, in Contoocook; see tookyvillagebarbershop.net.

Also, on page 26, the descrip-

tion of a winner in the "Best Thing We Forgot to Ask About" category was incorrect. Party Palace features more than 45 costumed characters and offers live character entertainment at a variety of occasions including business events and children's parties, where the mission is to empower children "through fun and engaging activities," according to the business's website, apartypalace.com.

Clarification

In the May 2 issue of the Hippo, the Q&A on page 6, "Creating problem solvers" about the Christa McAuliffe Sabbatical Award winner, it should be mentioned that the award is presented by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

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Fair history

How an annual fair comes together

Janet Robinson, the crafts fair manager at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Londonderry, discusses the history of the annual St. Peter's Artisan Craft Fair. The church also holds a fair in the fall.

Q: *Can you give a brief history of St. Peter's?*

St. Peter's [was] established in Londonderry in 1987. At that time there was a very small church and it has grown since.

There was an interesting building discovered on site?

The church itself was a house with a carriage house. The carriage house was used by the former owner as a craft shop. We added onto the house once we purchased it and built the sanctuary area onto it and continued to use the carriage house.

Can you describe the original building the craft fair was in?

[The] carriage house [is] kind of like a garage without the garage doors. If you go by the church you'll see it, it's right in the middle of the parking lot. Years ago they used to use them just for what it's called, for the horses and the carriages. ... The past owner decided, 'Oh, well, we need to do something with that.' She started selling some crafts and then she decided, 'Well, maybe we'll invite other crafters.' I know there were a few years that we did get together with Mack's Apples and another small craft business in that area to make it a community day, and that went well for a while, so it has taken many turns over the years.

Who owned the craft shop?

All I know is that her first name is Karen and she owned 'Catnip Corner,' that's what she called it. There was a woman's board at the church and they wanted to carry on that tradition of her craft fairs so they reached out to her ... and asked her if she minded if we continued that tradition. At first she wasn't really happy about it and then she came back to us and said, 'You know, I think that will



Courtesy of St. Peter's Craft Fair.

be a really nice thing for Londonderry, let's keep it going.' She provided a list of 35 crafters, we sent out letters to those 35 crafters, and about 50 percent stayed on as crafters in our fair....

So there was a craft fair in that spot before the church moved in?

Yes. She would open up her grounds for other crafters on the weekend after Labor Day weekend. That's the weekend we continue on. As we had gotten trained and more experienced in craft fairs we added the spring fair also.

How has the craft fair grown since 1987?

We're now up to 72 crafters. They do set up their tents and tables on the lawn, on all available spots with the lawn. We also have a food truck that comes. In the beginning what they were doing was they used to call it 'the bistro' and they would have volunteers manning a grill, serving hot dogs and hamburgers and that grew to wraps. Then, the volunteers started getting much older and we didn't have anybody who was willing to volunteer so we switched over to food trucks hoping to give local small businesses some business.

Do you all have a great turnout every year?

Yes, we do. We actually are adding a police detail because it has grown so much. All are welcome. It's juried so it's not just anybody. We keep it so that all products have to be handmade by the crafter.

Do you all still use the carriage house in the fair?

We do. What we do is we ask each of the crafters to donate an item for raffle and we call it the 'Crafter Show Case.' We ask them to give us, you know, 'what craft that you make that stands out to represent yourself.' Then we have a raffle for that and at the end of the fair we will raffle off those products to people who have bought tickets.

Is the fair itself free?

Yes, the entrance to the fair is free. We do have parking although when there's large crowds it does get limited but there is street parking. — Zachary Lewis

St. Peter's Episcopal Church Artisan Fair

Where: 3 Peabody Row in Londonderry
When: Saturday, May 18, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Admission: free
More info: stpeterslondonderry.org/craft-fair, 437-8333
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B's bumble but move on



The Big Story – It's Pheeew for the Bruins: After lackluster efforts in Games 5 and 6 that turned a 3-1 series lead into a here-we-go-again Game 7 nail-biter vs. a weaker opponent, fans of

the B's were thinking it was deja vu all over again. That's why **David Pastrnak's** Game 7 winning goal in OT vs. Toronto was such a relief. And while it doesn't quite go up there with **Bobby Orr** going airborne after putting one past St. Louis goalie **Glenn Hall** to win the 1970 Stanley Cup, it was still a huge historical Bruins moment, because it saved them from a franchise-killing loss at a most critical time.

Now on to face the club that wrecked last year's party, the dastardly Florida Panthers.

Sports 101: Name the four pitchers to have struck out 4,000 or more batters.

News Item – Sox Reminding All of 2013: I went that whole year saying, "How are they doing this? They're not that good." I'm saying the same thing now, as behind great starting pitching they left April in third place at 18-13 and 1.5 games behind the Orioles and Yankees. All of which has attracted attention from many who wrote them off as a disaster waiting to happen.

News Item – Super Team Duds: For players with the power to do it like **Kevin Durant** and **LeBron James**, building "super teams" has been all the rage since LBJ pulled it off by taking his talents to Miami over a decade ago. But I don't think getting run out in a first-round rout by Minnesota is what KD had in mind when he forced his way out of Brooklyn to form a super team in Phoenix. Ditto for LeBron when he less than ethically got Anthony Davis' agent (and his) to concoct a way/steal/tamper to bring AD to L.A.

News Item – Baseball Managers Value: It's hard to exactly say what it is. Especially in light of what's happened in Cleveland and Houston in the first month of the 2024 baseball season, as the Guardians lead the AL Central at 20-10. I guess they don't miss the retired **Tito Francona**. But in Houston it's the reverse for the perennially contending Astros after **Dusty Baker** hung them up, as they were dead last at 10-20. So go figure.

The Numbers:

1 – shots made out of 15 taken by Orlando guard **Franz Wagner** in the Magic's Game 7 loss to Cleveland.

6 – MLB-leading shutouts by the maligned Red Sox pitching staff after **Cooper Criswell** led a parade of five pitchers to shut out the SF Giants 4-0 on just four hits

last week.

38 – career-high playoff points scored by **Derrick White** to save the Celtics from a team-wide lethargic effort in a Game 4 102-88 win over Miami.

... Of the Week Awards

Never Seen That Award – Donovan Mitchell: Never saw **MJ**, **LBJ**, **Kareem**, **Kobe** or even **Pete Maravich** score every one of their team's points in an entire fourth quarter as Mitchell did when he scored all 22 in the Cavs' 103-96 Game 6 loss to Orlando.

Why Can't We Get Games Like That Award – L.A. Dodgers: For the first time since 2006 the Dodgers went an entire game without anyone striking out. It came in a 8-4 win over five hapless D-Backs pitchers who came up K-empty vs. 44 hitters while walking eight of them.

Random Thoughts:

How do all *three* refs miss a crucial travel in the final minute of Game 5 of the Knicks-76ers? Which let **Tyrese Maxey** get the four-point play that sent it to OT, as the NBA's 2 Minute Report said they did? How?

A Little History – Bruins–Maple Leafs Rivalry: Saturday's win was the seventh straight time the Bruins have eliminated the Maple Leafs from the playoffs dating all the way to 1969. However, since Toronto dominated the historic rivalry to start by winning eight of the first 10 meetings, the overall series is 9-8 in favor of Boston.

Sports 101 Answer: The 4,000-strike-out club includes, from most to least, **Nolan Ryan**, **Randy Johnson**, **Roger Clemens** and **Steve Carlton**.

Final Thought – Thumbs Up – Brad Stevens Executive of the Year: It's rare I'm as wrong as I was about making young Brad the Celtics GM, which I said was a "big mistake" because I had Brad fatigue and figured he'd pick the same type of coach.

But in Ime Udoka he didn't, and then he set about to make one great trade after another, with the last two leading to capturing the best record in the NBA. And while I was all in on the **Kristaps Porzingis-for-Marcus Smart** deal, I was leery of the **Jrue Holiday-for-Rob Williams-Malcolm Brogdon** deal because, while I loved Holiday, I thought it sapped their depth. But Stevens correctly saw that **Sam Hauser**, **Payton Pritchard** and **Luke Kornet** could fill the void, and he was right again.

All of which is why he richly deserves the award.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com. 🐼

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

New Hampshire is nurse-friendly

In recognition of National Nurses Week, WalletHub (wallethub.com), an online finance management company has released the results of a study comparing the 50 states across 20 metrics including job openings for nurses per capita, average salaries, mandatory overtime restrictions and the quality of nursing homes. This study ranked New Hampshire as the third-best state overall for nurses, just behind Washington State and Maine. New Hampshire ranked first in the nation in nursing jobs per capita, and 19th in health care facilities per capita. The study also cited the excellence of New Hampshire's nursing schools.

QOL score: +1

Comment: See a full breakdown of the study's data at wallethub.com/edu/best-states-for-nurses/4041.

A new historic home in Manchester

The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources has announced that the State Historical Resources Council has added eight properties to the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places. One of them is the Samantha Plantin House in Manchester, according to a press release: "A fairly typical late Victorian side-hall single family dwelling, it is reportedly the home of the first Black landowner in Manchester. The daughter of a formerly enslaved mother, Plantin (circa 1827-1899) moved from New Boston in 1844 to work for the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company. She purchased land from the company in 1870, later selling it for a profit and using those funds to construct this home circa 1890. The house's exterior as well as a barn added soon after Plantin's death have been largely unaltered since the early twentieth century."

QOL score: +1

Comment: See nhdhr.dncr.nh.gov for more on the State Register of Historic Places.

Peregrine update

As of Monday, May 6, the eyas (downy peregrine falcon chick) count remains at two at the nest at the Brady Sullivan Building in downtown Manchester. Whit and Thor, as the chicks are named, were hatched last week and can be seen on the New Hampshire Audubon's livestreaming Peregrine Cams. Two other eggs didn't, as of May 6, show signs of hatching. Find links to the cams, which are provided with support of the Peregrine Networks and Brady Sullivan Properties, at nhaudubon.org. Find updates on the falcons and their daily activities in a log linked in the chat of Feed 1.

QOL score: +1

Comments: According to a story in the New Hampshire Bulletin last September, 74 chicks have hatched at the Brady Sullivan nesting site since 2001; Whit and Thor bring that total to 76.

Rain didn't stop the taco fans

Last week's Taco Tour in Manchester hit some big numbers. According to Cole Riel of the Greater Manchester Chamber, the director of this year's Tour, more than 20,000 people attended, despite heavy rain. More than 90 area restaurants and organizations served more than 100,000 tacos.

QOL score: +1

Comment: Riel quotes Manchester's Police Chief as saying that this was the third year in a row without incidents or arrests at the event.

Last week's QOL score: 61

Net change: +4

QOL this week: 65

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

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11 & 12,
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THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS

MAY 9 AND BEYOND

Thursday, May 9

The **2024 Nashua International Sculpture Symposium** at The Picker Artists' studios (3 Pine St. in Nashua, 930-5080, pickerartists.com) starts today with an opening reception at 5:30 p.m. Four sculptors will work on new pieces of public art: Anna Korver from New Zealand/Benin, Hoyoung Im from South Korea, Evan Morse from the U.S. and KōV (aka Kevin Percevault) from France, according to nashuasculpturesymposium.



where you can find the map of sculptures from previous years as well as a schedule for this year. See the artists work Monday through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., May 13 through May 30, the website said.

Thursday, May 9

The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (27 Navigator Road in Londonderry, 669-4820, aviationmuseumofnh.org) presents **Ask the Airport Director**, a presentation and Q&A session with Ted Kitchens, Director of the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport, at 7 p.m. at the Aviation Museum.

This event is free.

Saturday, May 11

The New Hampshire Audubon Society (nhaudubon.org) will host a birding outing at its Massabesic Center in Auburn (26 Audubon Way in Auburn, 668-2045) from 8:30 to 10 a.m. This is an informal outing to celebrate **World Migra-**

tory Bird Day that begins at the Massabesic Center and explores the trails with local birder and Massabesic Center Advisory Committee member Joe Mahoney. The cost is \$10; registration is required.

Saturday, May 11

Corey's Closet (1329 Hooksett Road in Hooksett, 722-2712, coreyscloset.org) will host an **'80s Prom** for special needs teens and adults from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Puritan Event Center (245 Hooksett Road in Manchester, 666-9893, puritanbackroom.com/events). Prom tickets are \$50 and include a buffet. Tickets are available through Corey's Closet's website or at the store.

Saturday, May 11

Great New England Craft and Artisan Shows will host a Fine Craft and Artisan Show at the Merrimack Outlets from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., presented by NH Made

(shop.nhmade.com). See gnecraftartisanshows.com.

Saturday, May 11

Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road in Canterbury, 783-9511, shakers.org) opens for the 2024 season today, beginning at 10 a.m., with indoor guided tours, specialty lectures and a 5K race.

Saturday, May 11

The Amherst Garden Club will hold its **annual plant sale** today from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Wilkins School (80 Boston Post Road in

Amherst). This year's sale will highlight native plants. See amherstgardenclub.org.

Tuesday, May 14

"How Smart Is Our Electrical Grid" is the theme for **Science on Tap** presented by SEE Science Center. It starts at 6 p.m. at Stark Brewing Co., (500 Commercial St. in Manchester). This event is free and open to the public; sign up at see-sciencecenter.org.



Save the Date!

Sunday, May 19

The Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S Main St. in Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com) will host this year's **Granite State Blues Challenge** on Sunday, May 19, beginning at 1 p.m. Local blues musicians will perform to secure a slot at the 2025 International Blues Challenge in Memphis. Tickets cost \$15.

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27 Navigator Road, Londonderry, N.H. www.aviationmuseumofnh.org

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The Hot List

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

In Hippo's Best of 2024 readers' poll, we asked readers to vote for the "Restaurant That Brings The Heat." Looking to spice up your dining routine? Here are the top 11 winners in that category.

Destination India Restaurant and Bar

14 E. Broadway, Unit A, in Derry, destinationindianh.com, 552-3469

Destination India won "best of the best" in the heat category. Indian food has a reputation for being hotter than most New Englanders are used to. Destination India, for instance, has three levels of spiciness on the menu: "Mild," "Medium" and "Indian."

According to Destination India Chef and owner Navi Avhad, there is a nuance to spiciness that many don't appreciate; it's not so much a matter of being "hot" or "mild." One of the critical factors in how good a spicy dish is, he said, has to do with the flavors the chiles bring along with the heat.

"We never use powdered chiles," Avhad said. "We only use fresh, organic green chiles. It's more expensive for us, but it means we can serve a higher-quality food." He said that the most dependably high-quality chiles that he can get from his distributor are small "Thai" chiles, which he feels are healthier to eat than powdered red ones.

"Some people complain that hot food makes their stomachs hurt; that doesn't happen with good-quality, fresh chiles," he said.

Hottest dish: Vindaloo (chicken, lamb, goat or shrimp), \$16. Vindaloos come from Goa, on India's west coast. They are curries made with a vinegar-based sauce, which complements the green chiles with its sharpness. Chef Avhad said that regulars usually start with a "mild" level of heat. "It's a spice level that lets customers appreciate the actual flavor. Later on they can build up the spiciness," Avhad said.

Daw Kun Thai

93 S. Maple St., No. 4, in Manchester, dawkunthai.com, 232-0699

Desmond Holman, the co-owner of Daw Kun Thai, agrees that spiciness isn't binary — either hot or mild.

"Thai food isn't just hot," he said. "It allows you to taste all other flavors as well." With that said, there's no denying that Thai cuisine can be extremely spicy. "Spicy food usually comes from tropical parts of the world," he said, "and Thailand is tropical."

Holman said that getting customers used to Thai levels of spice was challenging initially. "People who grew up in New England like me are very cautious at first," he said. "They don't have a lot of experience with spices, but they're learning."

Hottest dish: Pad Ped Kai (spicy chicken stir-fry), \$17.75

Holman said this dish — a stir-fry of curry paste (a version sometimes called "Thai Jungle Sauce") with chicken, eggplant and

11 SPOTS FOR SPICY EATS



Pad Ped Kai. Photo courtesy of Daw Kun Thai.

bamboo shoots — is far and away the spiciest dish Daw Kun Thai makes; nothing else is even close.

"It's two times as hot as anything else we have on our menu," he said with enthusiasm. "It's the only item that has two stars. And that's its mild version. We have maybe five or six people who can order it 'Thai Hot' — that's eight times as hot as the mild version. It's so hot that I have to caution people who've never been in the restaurant before. It's really too hot for some people, even at its mildest."

Curry Leaf

6 Pleasant St. in Concord, 715-5746, curryleafus.com

Inder Saini, the Chef and owner of Curry Leaf, is pretty sure most of his customers come into his restaurant looking for a little heat.

"I believe," he said, "that it's because of the spices. American food is good but a little bland. During cold weather, spicy food opens up your body."

Hottest dish: Karahi (chicken, lamb or goat), \$19.95

Karahi — which is named after the wok-like pan it is cooked in — is a South Asian curry that is an important part of North Indian, Afghan and Pakistani cuisine. According



Curries and karahis can be made with different levels of heat. Photo courtesy of Curry Leaf.

to Chef Saini, the chicken version is made with all dark meat, onions and peppers. "The customer can pick any meat," he said, but the sauce is the same. Like dishes at many of the restaurants on this list, the heat comes from fresh green chiles.

A Lot of Thai

360 Daniel Webster Hwy., Unit 121, Merrimack, 429-8888, alotofthainh.com

According to the staff at A Lot of Thai, there are several spicy dishes on their menu — Drunken Noodles and Curry Chicken Basil, for instance — but their recommendation is for the spicy dipping sauce that comes with many of the dishes and allows each customer to adjust their level of heat.

Kashmir Indian Cuisine

396 S. Broadway in Salem, 898-3455, kashmirindianfood.com

Kashmir doesn't fool around when it comes to spice. According to server/host Khem, even some of the Indian staff often order their food "medium." Like many of the restaurants on this list, Kashmir depends on green Thai chiles for much of its heat.

Hottest dish: Vindaloo, \$16.95 (chicken or lamb), \$17.95 (shrimp)

Unlike most of the dishes at most of these restaurants, the vindaloo at Kashmir only comes in one level of heat: "hot." It is cooked in a traditional style, with a paste made of dried red chiles, fresh herbs and vinegar.

Kathmandu Spice

379 S. Willow St. in Manchester, ktmspice.com, 782-3911

Kaji Maharjan, the manager of Kathmandu Spice, said that Nepalese food isn't actually very spicy. "Well, it is," he said, "but not Indian-spicy." Kathmandu Spice clearly isn't afraid of serving spicy food but



Rayo Ko Saag. Photo courtesy of Kathmandu Spice.



Chicken Vindaloo. Photo courtesy of Destination India.



A margarita with house-infused pineapple/habañero tequila. Photo courtesy of Hermanos Cocina Mexicana.



Tomatillo salsa at Puerto Vallarta Mexican Grill. Photo by John Fladd.

Maharjan said there is a different framework of flavors behind the Indian food the restaurant makes and the Nepalese.

“Indian cooking uses a lot of spices and chiles,” he said. “Nepalese food is much lighter. We don’t use nearly as much dairy or chillies.”

He gives the example of Saag, which is on both sides of the menu. “Our Indian Saag is made with spinach,” he said, “but we make our Nepalese Rayo Ko Saag with mustard greens.” It’s also made with mustard seeds and fried in mustard seed oil, each of which carries a different level of horseradish-like heat that is felt in the nose and sinuses as much as it is in the mouth. “We also put some chile seeds in it,” he said with a grin.

Hottest dish: Indian Curry (chicken or lamb), \$17.95

Like every restaurant on this list, Kathmandu Spice will make any dish at any level of spice, but even its “Medium” level is on the hot side. Maharjan said one of the reasons the food at Kathmandu has such a vibrant flavor is how the staff processes the ingredients. “We grind all our spices here,” he said. “We don’t buy anything pre-ground.”

Hermanos Cocina Mexicana

11 Hills Ave. in Concord, 224-5669, hermanosmexican.com

Every dish at Hermanos Cocina can be customized for different tastes, but according to General Manager Melissa Thompson one of the restaurant’s spiciest offerings is a surprising one.

Hottest dish: house infused pineapple/habañero tequila, \$11

“We’re a scratch kitchen,” Thompson said, “so any of our dishes can be spicy, especially our enchiladas or our pastor de avocado, but our house infused tequilas are something special.” Hermanos infuses Lunazul blanco tequila with either jalapeños or pineapple and habañeros.

“It depends on what is available and seasonal,” Thompson said, adding that most customers have it in a margarita.

Puerto Vallarta Mexican Grill

865 Second St. in Manchester, 935-9182, vallartamexiannh.com

Puerto Vallarta is another restaurant that prides itself on its heat flexibility. Many of the dishes on its menu are fairly mild even by New England standards, but according to bartender and manager Christobal that is easily remedied.

“Customers come in all the time and ask us to make one of our regular dishes extra spicy,” he said.

Hottest item: Hot Tomatillo Salsa, \$2.99

There are several dishes at Puerto Vallarta that are spicy to begin with — Camarones Endiablados (Shrimp Diablo), Aguachile, and Burritos Caliente (literally “hot burritos”) — but none of them packs the punch of its house-made tomatillo salsa. Unlike many tomatillo salsas, it isn’t green, but a red color. It is pureed, but not so finely that there aren’t tiny bits of chiles and vegetables. It is extremely hot, but with a lovely, fresh herbal flavor that puts in a quick appearance before the heat comes crashing down.

“A lot of our customers who want their food extra spicy get a side of this, and mix it into whatever they’ve ordered,” Christobal said, “so they can customize it just the way they like it.”

Smoke Shack Cafe

226 Rockingham Road in Londonderry, 404-2178, smokeshackcafe.com

The key to the Smoke Shack’s spiciest food, said owner and manager Melissa Lafontaine, is in its sauces. “It’s the real deal,” she said. “We are a scratch kitchen, so we reduce habañeros [one of the spiciest chiles in the world], then run them through the mill and use it in our sauces. For instance, our cornflake fried chicken isn’t very spicy on its own, but our sauces are, like our Habañero Honey.” She said that even she has trouble with her restaurant’s hottest sauces. “Me personally?” she said, “I can’t handle it. I’m good with heat up to the jalapeño level, but the habañero is too much



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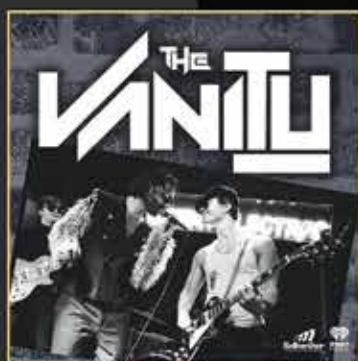
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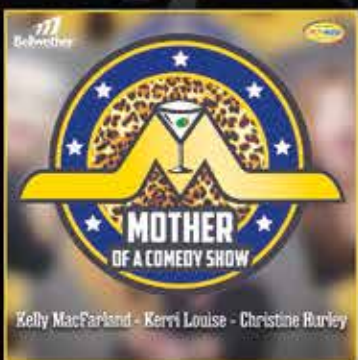
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SAT 18

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24 & 25

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Habañero Melt. Photo courtesy of Smoke Shack Cafe.



Krapow. Photo courtesy of Thai Food Connection.



Green Curry. Photo courtesy of Bangkok Thai Food.

for me. But people love it.”

Hottest dish: Habañero Melt, \$11.99

The Smoke Shack’s menu describes this as “Smoked brisket on grilled Texas toast with mayo, habañoero bbq sauce, sautéed peppers and onion, and smoked Gouda cheese.” “It’s our No. 1 selling sandwich,” Melissa Lafontaine said.

Bangkok Thai Food

44 Nashua Road in Londonderry, 426-5162, bangkokthaifood.biz

The staff at Bangkok Thai Food wants to make it very clear that not all Thai food is hot.

“We have many things on our menu that aren’t hot at all,” said spokesperson An, translating for her mother, the owner and chef. “Most Thai dishes are a mixture of hot, sweet, salty and sour.” With that said, many of the dishes at Bangkok are hot, and can be made even hotter at a customer’s request.

“We use green Thai chiles,” An said. “That’s the authentic Bangkok style.” Her favorite dish to have extra-spicy is Noodle Coconut Tom Yum, a creamy coconut soup with noodles, shrimp paste and scallions.

Hottest dish: Green Curry, \$15

Described on Bangkok Thai’s menu as a “choice of meat, eggplants, bamboo shoot, bell peppers and basil leaves in green curry with coconut milk,” the Green Curry comes with 15 choices of meat, including crispy pork, shrimp, duck, seafood, and ground chicken, and comes in “medium,” “hot” or “very hot” levels of intensity. “Mild” is not an option.

Thai Food Connection

1069 Elm St. in Manchester, 935-7257, thaifoodconnection.com

Reige, a server and bartender at Thai Food Connection, said they have customers along the entire spectrum of heat-tolerance.

“I don’t feel like we have any spice seekers,” she said, “just everyday people who want something different, then they keep coming back.” She said that she has noticed a change in recent years of area diners’ attitudes toward foods and cuisines that might have been intimidating even a few years ago.

“I think it has to do with changing demographics,” she said. “The Manchester area has become a real melting pot. As this part of the state becomes more of a suburb of Boston, there’s been an uptick of different cultures. I think that being a college town helps, too.”

Hottest dish: Kua Gling (an occasional off-menu special)

Reige says it’s hard to pick out one particular spiciest dish at her restaurant.

“Everything can be made spiciest,” she said. “Probably, the hottest everyday dish that we make is krapow.” Thai Food Connection’s menu describes this as “stir-fried choice of ground chicken or tofu (substitute beef +\$2, shrimp +\$3, crispy chicken +\$3) with garlic, fresh chili, onion, bell pepper and Thai basil seasoned with hot basil sauce (fried egg on top +\$2).” The base cost of the dish is \$13.99. But the run-away hottest dish that the restaurant serves is Kua Gling, a dry southern Thai dish made with ground chicken, aromatics like lemon grass and lots of chiles. 🌶️

Forever young

Tuck Everlasting latest musical from Powerhouse

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

An upcoming show at Laconia's Colonial Theatre explores the idea of eternal life, how desire to live forever can be all-consuming, and what the consequences of achieving immortality might be.

Tuck Everlasting began as a children's novel by New Hampshire writer Natalie Babbitt that later became a movie in 2002. A Broadway adaptation was nominated for a Tony but only lasted for 39 performances. Fortunately, Bryan Halperin, who runs the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative with his wife, Johanna, caught one and was enamored.

It was part of "a string of shows we saw for a couple of years where we really enjoyed them and they all flopped," he said by phone recently. Halperin has learned firsthand how a show can come up short in New York but make it elsewhere. Last year he directed *Captains Courageous* and won for Best Musical at the New Hampshire Theatre Awards, even though an off-Broadway production of it opened and closed quickly.

"How something does on Broadway is not necessarily reflective of it as a musical property that actually moves people, and people



Scott Alward and Robby Sturtevant as Constable Joe and Hugo in *Tuck Everlasting*. Courtesy photo.

love," he said.

Tuck Everlasting, he continued, is an uplifting musical, and wonderful songs are just one reason. Particularly moving is a 10-minute dance sequence that traces the arc of the main character's life. "It's the climax of the musical, without singing, just music and dance," he said. "We wanted to do it someday, and this was the day."

Choreographer Meg King will oversee dancing for Powerhouse's three-day run.

"That's the most exciting thing for me in this production," Halperin said. "Meg is doing some legitimate lyrical ballet dance that we don't usually get in musicals [and] the last sequence is astounding to watch; people in the cast get tears in their eyes every time they see the dancing."

In 2004, the Halperin family relocat-



Nikolai Fernandez and Maci Johnson as Jesse Tuck and Winnie Foster in *Tuck Everlasting*. Courtesy photo.

ed from Massachusetts to the Lakes Region and opened the Winnepesaukee Playhouse, which they ran for 10 years. After, Halperin said, "we were nomads for a while, doing stuff with Hatbox and Community Players of Concord. Then we got kind of recruited out of our full-time retirement to start up again."

Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative was formed in 2020 as a way to continue a program of performances at Belknap Mill and got its name from the historic facility. It became an independent nonprofit last year. It has also been the Colonial's resident theater company since it opened.

"We constantly pinch ourselves that we get to do theater and rehearse in this beautiful space," Halperin said. "For a 750-seat theater, it has an intimacy to it.... We feel very lucky that it's our home."

Powerhouse always looks to spur involvement in its work, for actors and people who love theater.

"To really emphasize the community building nature of community theater," Halperin said. "It's about collecting people into the family, finding ways for them to shine on stage no matter what role they're in, and surrounding them with high-quality production values."

One example is the annual performance of *A Christmas Carol*. Over the years, they've added a choir that performs prior to the show and later adds vocal color from the boxes. "That allowed more people to get involved than we could fit on the stage in character roles," Halperin said. "We try to find ways to engage as many people as possible for each production."

Looking back, Bryan and Johanna are still happy with their decision to move north.

"We do think about how our life changed by making that choice to leave our careers and start a theater company," he said. "But the rewards of community and artistic expression, being in a job that our children could be involved with and grow to love as well, far exceeded our expectations. It hasn't always been easy, but it has definitely been emotionally rewarding."

Halperin encouraged people to come out for *Tuck Everlasting*.

"Everyone involved gets such joy out of singing the music and telling the story," he said. "It's a great Mother's Day weekend, take the family show, kids of all ages are appropriate. I'm pretty sure you will love it if you come to see it." 🌱

Tuck Everlasting

When: Friday, May 10, and Saturday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m.

Where: Colonial Theatre, 609 Main St., Laconia

Tickets: \$18 to \$22 at etix.com

Art

Exhibits

• "HUMAN/NATURE," will be on display at the McLane Center (84 Silk Farm Road in Concord; nhandubon.org) through Friday, May 17. The show features artwork by Jackie Hanson, a New Hampshire artist. Visit the exhibi-

tion Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• "PUSHING OUR BOUNDARIES" Twiggs Gallery's (254 King St., Boscawen, twigsgallery.org, 975-0015) first exhibit for the 2024 season showcases four League of NH Craftsmen artists: woodworker Steven Hayden,

textile artist Cheryl Miller, ceramist Lori Rollason, and mixed media artist and calligrapher Adele Sanborn, who all collaborate as the 9th State Artisans. This exhibit will run until Sunday, May 19. Hours are Thursday and Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday noon to 4 p.m.

• "KARA WALKER: HARTER'S PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR (ANNOTATED)" at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St. in Manchester; currier.org) and will be on display through Monday, May 27.

According to a press release, "15 works on paper by Walker will be presented alongside a selection of prints by Winslow Homer ... that inspired them. The direct comparison between the original images by Homer and Walker's reinterpretation of the same material was first undertaken by the Smithsonian American Art Museum in 2017." Homer worked as a war correspondent for Harper's magazine and his drawings "of soldiers on the front lines of battle and civilians caught up in the war's horrors became a visual history of the Civil War," the release said. "These historic prints represent a starting point for Walker, who

revisits them utilizing her signature silhouettes to introduce new elements that complicate their initial, seemingly objective narrative," the release said.

• "LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: POLLY APFELBAUM & ALICE MACKLER" at Outer Space gallery (35 Pleasant St. in Concord) will run until Saturday, June 1, by appointment. Visit outerspacearts.xyz.

• "UNFIXED CONCRETE IDEAL" is on display at Gallery at 3S Artspace (319 Vaughn St. in Portsmouth; 3sarts.org) through Sunday, June 2. The gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m. through 6 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m.

• "I LIVE A JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND YEARS," featuring about 20 works by Raphaël Barontini, will be on display through Sunday, June 23, at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash

St. in Manchester; currier.org).

• "ONCE IN A MOMENT" at Sullivan Framing and Fine Art Gallery (15 N. Amherst Road in Bedford). The exhibit highlights the work of Peter Noonan, an award-winning illustrator, fine artist and cartoonist. Visit sullivanframing.com.

Theater

Shows

• *BEAUTIFUL: THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL* runs through Sunday, May 12, at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org, 668-5588). The show is at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays as well as Thursday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$38 to \$59.

• *GODSPELL* will be presented by the Peacock Players as their

CONTINUED ON PG 15 ►

CATCH THIS

Catch Me If You Can: The Musical will be presented by the Actorsingers on Friday, May 10, and Saturday, May 11, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. at the Keefe Center for the Arts (117 Elm St. in Nashua). Based on the hit film and the incredible true story, *Catch Me If You Can* is the high-flying musical comedy about chasing your dreams and not getting caught. Tickets cost \$20, \$18 for seniors and students. See actorsingers.org.



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Chacmool with Ladders by Elisabeth Kley.

• **In French:** The New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra performs French Fantasies, including Berlioz's "Roman Carnival Overture" and Saint Saëns' Organ Symphony, at Ste. Marie Roman Catholic Church (378 Notre Dame Ave. in Manchester, 622-4615, enterthenarrowgate.org) Saturday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$35, \$30 for seniors and \$10 for students, and can be purchased through the Phil's website, nhphil.org.

• **Going outdoors:** The Londonderry Arts Council, in collaboration with the New Hampshire Art Association, has announced a **plein air painting event** to take place in Londonderry on Wednesday, May 15, from 8 a.m. to noon, according to a press release. Plein air painting is a practice of painting landscapes outdoors to capture the natural world's beauty directly. Artists of all skill levels, from established to aspiring, are invited to participate, according to the release. The painting session will be followed by a communal potluck picnic on the town common. To register for this free event, visit the New Hampshire Art Association Special Interest Groups website at nhartassociation.org/special-interest-groups-copy, scroll down to the Plein Air section and select "Click Here" to access the sign-up form, according to the release. Visit londonderryartscouncil.org.

• **Art & flowers:** Mosaic Art Collective (66 Hanover St., Suite 201, Manchester) holds an opening night on May 11, from 4 to 8 p.m. for their upcoming exhibition "Resurgence: Art of the Botanical," which is on display now and will run through Fri-

day, May 31. At the opening night guests can meet the artists, explore their creative processes, and enjoy the company of fellow art enthusiasts, according to a press release. Additionally, Mosaic's high school open studio program has prepared a special installation; three local florists will be creating unique arrangements for auction to benefit Planned Parenthood of New Hampshire, and the exhibition offers a perfect setting to engage with the community and experience the connection between art and nature, according to the same release.

• **Call for art:** Twiggs Gallery (254 King St. in Boscawen) invites New Hampshire artists to enter artwork inspired by the impossible, the surreal and the fantastical for its summer juried exhibition "When Pigs Fly," which is inspired by the idiom suggesting that something is utterly improbable. Twiggs encourages participants to explore the limits of imagination and break free from the constraints of reality whether the result is silly, serious, mystical or magical, truth, fiction, political, personal, or even pigs since Twiggs Gallery invites broad interpretations based on the theme, according to a press release. The deadline to enter is Sunday, May 19, and local artist Donna Catanzaro will serve as the exhibit's juror, according to the same release. Catanzaro, who has exhibited her work nationally, is an interdisciplinary artist with an MFA from Goddard College who through mixed media sculpts from household items and delves into memory and body image, infusing each



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SO MANY SONGS



Experience **Beautiful: The Carole King Musical** at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org) through Sunday, May 12, with shows on Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 7:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. and Thursday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m. According to the event site, before she was hitmaker Carole King she was Carole Klein, a spunky young songwriter from Brooklyn with a unique voice who wrote chart-topping hits for the biggest acts in music. The book is by Douglas McGrath with words and music by Gerry Goffin & Carole King as well as Barry Mann & Cynthia Weil. Tickets cost \$28 to \$49. Read an interview about the production on page 16 of the April 25 issue of the Hippo; find the e-edition at hippopress.com.

ARTS

creation with her distinctive wit, according to the same release. Learn more about Donna at donnacat.com or visit twigsgallery.org.

• **New exhibit:** The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St. in Manchester), as part of a series of exhibitions and commissions looking at the relationship between fine art and crafts conceived for the museum's Welcome Gallery, has announced a new collaboration with New York-based artist Elisabeth Kley titled "Cymodocea" starting on Thursday, May 16, which will run until Sunday, Aug. 25, according to the press release. Cymodocea is the scientific name of a sea grass that lives in warm water. Kley's new installation will combine her signature ceramic sculptures with wall paintings, effectively creating an environment rich with references that span from classical times to the history of modernism. The exhibit is supported by Outer Space Arts in Concord. Visit currier.org.

• **Learn watercolors:** The Currier is also offering a five-week in-person watercolors class that will run Thursday, May 16, through June 20 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. In **Watercolors for Beginners and Beyond** students can explore the possibilities of watercolor with instructor Peter Clive, according to a press release. Participants will use landscape and still life as subject matter and have fun experimenting with various painting techniques, creating washes and using color layering to create dynamic works each week, according

to the same release. All materials are provided for use during class time. There will be no class on Thursday, May 30. Enrollment costs \$247.50 for members and \$275 for non-members with tuition discounts available while registering. Visit currier.org.

• **On Frost:** The Stockbridge Theatre (44 N. Main St. in Derry) will host a performance of **Robert Frost: This Verse Business** on Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. The poet and former Pinkerton Academy teacher charmed audiences with his celebrated verse and rascally sense of humor, according to a press release. Frost will be played by Emmy-winning actor Gordon Clapp, known for his role on *NYPD Blue* as Det. Medavoy, among other roles. In Clapp's performance the poet shares his verse from memory along with his "wild surmises" on art, religion, science, "radicals" and "conservatives," as the material is gathered from recordings and writings of Robert Frost, according to the same release. A.M. Dolan's *Robert Frost: This Verse Business* won Best New Play (the Kaplan Award) at the Eventide Arts Festival in 2010, and Best Production at the United Solo Play Festival in New York City in 2013. Tickets cost \$25 to \$30 and are available at stockbridgetheatre.showare.com or by calling the box office at 437-5210. Read an interview with Gordon Clapp on page 16 of the April 4 issue of the Hippo; find the e-edition at hippopress.com.

—Zachary Lewis 🍀

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 13
spring teen mainstage production at the 14 Court St. theater in Nashua on Friday, May 10, through Sunday, May 19. See peacockplayers.org.

• **LES MISERABLES - SCHOOL EDITION** presented by The Majestic Academy of Dramatic Arts Teens will run on Friday, May 10, at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 11, at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. at the Derry Opera House (29 West Broadway in Derry, majestictheatre.net, 669-7469). Tickets are \$15 and \$20.

• **CATCH ME IF YOU CAN THE MUSICAL** will be presented by the Actorsingers on Friday, May 10, and Saturday, May 11, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. at the Keefe Center for the Arts (117 Elm St. in Nashua). Tickets cost \$20, \$18 for seniors and students. See actorsingers.org.

Classical

• **NH FIDDLE ENSEMBLE** The New Hampshire Fiddle Ensemble announced a spring schedule for concerts in New Hampshire and Maine, according

to a press release. Granite State concerts include Saturday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Interlakes High School Auditorium (1 Laker Lane in Meredith). See nhfiddleensemble.org for tickets.

• **FRENCH FANTASIES**, a concert from the NH Philharmonic that looks at the masterworks of French romanticism, will be performed on Saturday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. at the Ste. Marie Roman Catholic Church in Manchester. Tickets cost \$5 to \$35. See nhphil.org.



CELEBRATE POETRY

All are invited to the **State Poet Laureate Celebration** at the State Library (20 Park St. in Concord) on Saturday, May 11, from 2 to 4 p.m. The event will show gratitude to outgoing New Hampshire Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary and welcome Jennifer Militello of Goffstown as the next New Hampshire Poet Laureate, according to a press release. Militello will serve a five-year term that began in April. The state's Poet Laureate serves as an ambassador for all poets in New Hampshire and works to heighten the visibility and value of poetry in the state, according to the same release.

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The fairest Faire

The NH Renaissance Faire kicks off two weekends of swords and song

By Zacharay Lewis
zlewis@hippopress.com

Gather up some medieval garb and a sense of wonder to journey to the 20th annual New Hampshire Renaissance Faire on Saturday, May 11, Sunday, May 12, Saturday, May 18, and Sunday, May 19. Galavant with fair maidens, heroic knights, mystical fae creatures and maniacal wizards, and feel free to rearrange those adjectives in any manner because the New Hampshire Renaissance Faire is the place where each traveler gets to decide how to express their inner sorcerer, faery or salty pirate spirit.

If your wardrobe is light on tunics and gowns, one of the many clothing vendors, such as MeadHall Outfitters or MoonDragon Designs, can get you properly dressed for your stint in the land of dragons. There will be an ample bounty of wares such as jewelry, potions, lotions, puzzles, books, games, art, and just a seemingly endless amount of supplies for your trials or relaxation in the realm.

This realm would not exist without the dedication of a team of volunteers and board of directors of the nonprofit that puts it all together for fun, friends and charity. Their main charities are the New Hampshire Food Bank and Rockingham Meals on Wheels, and they have donated more than \$350,000 to local charities.



Photos courtesy of Angela Cook.

Andrew Jefferson, the current president of the board of directors of the 3 Maples Renaissance Corporation nonprofit organization, the guild in charge of the Faire, said, “We staff the Faire with volunteers... We’re always are trying to let our volunteers know how much we appreciate them ... without them it probably wouldn’t go off.”

Andrew Jefferson is also a member of the Corr Thieves, an action/comedy group, as well as the Brotherhood of the Arrow and Sword, a group whose focus is on medieval fighting reenactment. The Brotherhood

“have a whole encampment where they make it as close to medieval life as they can and they teach people about medieval life,” he said, along with unchoreographed sparring between medieval knights and soldiers. There will also be craft demonstrations from select vendors, an archery range, and a children’s glen with drawing and other fun activities, but children need to be accompanied in the glen for there be ogres and dragons about.

The entertainers and reenactors are a huge draw to the Faire with many stages



for their performances. The Brotherhood of the Arrow and Sword performs at the Battle Arena at noon and 2:30 p.m. both weekends. No jousting this year, but there is a new treat for participants inside The Aerial Artistry realm, which will host the High Flying Fools and Taliesin Phoenix. The Phoenix Ring will hold the Sisters Pendragon, another action/comedy team, as well as Phoenix Swords.

Other performers and bards will grace the Queen’s Stage, where you can enjoy Tea with the Queen or a story from the Duchess of Yorkshire Pudding; the Pub Stage; Sultana Stage, which will showcase The Magic of Flow with LaLoopnaHoops and the storytelling of The Longshanks; and the Minstrel Stagewill host Brother Sylvan and Kate the

Thornlily Thistle the Faery

A faery from the realm of fae shares her magic with humans at Renaissance faires. Find Thornlily @thornlilythistleofficial on Facebook and Instagram. Thornlily is The High Faery Queen Regional of the 11 North-eastern United States Chapter of the Guild of the Fae, a worldwide guild of fae performers.

What is your origin story?

I come from the realm of the Flower Fae. I decided to visit the land of humans through a bouquet of roses, actually, that was brought to someone by true love. I thought it would be fun to leave that flower realm when that bouquet was given and visit the land of humans and find out what it was all about. I found myself at a renaissance faire. It was almost like being in the faerie realm yet it was a celebration that the humans were putting on. It was the most magical place in the human world to be, so I decided I would come back to visit every single year.

Can you explain where your name came from and how big is the faery world and what is it like?



Thornlily Thistle the Faery. Photo by Petit Images.

My name, Thornlily Thistle, was given to me by my faery mother and my faery grandmother. Because I am a Flower Fae I don’t just have rose faeries in my lineage, I have many different flowers in my lineage, and my name was given to me because Thorn is from a rose, Lily is a water flower fae, and Thistle is a prickly little herb which has the same effect as a thorn, so I am just a little bit sassy but also very sweet and that is why I was given the name Thornlily Thistle.

The faerie realm is so big ... just as big as the human realm of Earth, maybe even bigger.

There are many different types of fae of many different elements. There are fae who are light and dark and sassy and fun; the possibilities are so endless when it comes to the world of fae. It is a great big world and I am blessed to be a part of it and to be able to have the humans become aware of it through what I do.

What is a typical day in the life of a faery, such as yourself?

It’s funny that you ask that because a lot of humans, since I’ve been visiting faires, have misconceptions about the things that I do and they often like to put labels on the things that I do. For instance, if I’m making bubbles, they believe that I’m a bubble faery, when I am dancing they believe I am a dancing faery, or when I am doing flower magic they call me a flower faery. Even though I am a flower faery, back in the faery realm we learn all sorts of different trades. Doing things like singing and playing instruments and dancing and making bubbles are all very common trades that the fae must learn and they naturally do it very well. Most of my days are spent doing these and perfecting these things so that I can per-

form them for the humans at Faire when I visit.

What’s a piece of advice that you wish humans would take to heart?

My biggest piece of advice that I wish humans would take to heart is to allow their heart to drive them and allow it to let them experience magic and believe in magic. In the faerie realm, that’s very normal for us. It seems to be difficult for humans to hold to as they grow older.

What can travelers to the Renaissance Faire expect if they encounter you on their journey?

Travelers coming to see me at the Renaissance Faire can expect, first of all, to believe in faeries because it is my job to bring that true magic of the realm to life for the land of humans and they can also expect to receive a piece of love and happiness they did not come in the gates with. Many people who travel to Faire are seeking these things in times of darkness and I feel that I’m able to give that to them when they leave the gates. 🍷

Storyteller, among others, at various times throughout the day. A full schedule of performances can be found on their website

Groups like The Penniless Jacks focus on sea shanties and pub music.

“The largest group of performers are usually musicians,” Andrew Jefferson said. This is just the tip of the sword hilt on the number of musical performers, which include the The Ladies of Integrity, Aristocracy, Repute, & Society (The LIARS), the Dirge Queen, the Foxy Bard, Gibbon the Troubadour, Kristen Rebecca, and the Harlot Queens. The Harper and the Minstrel and the Shank Painters will be at the Faire for the second weekend.

A magician named Michael OJ as well as belly dancers in the group Shimmynanigans will enchant their audiences too. “They’re really fun for people to watch. They have a really dynamic and exciting show,” Jefferson said of Shimmynanigans.

Betty Jefferson, a member of Shimmynanigans and Andrew’s wife (they originally met at the Faire), spoke a bit on the belly dance art form.

“It’s still a fairly new dance form as we know it, belly dance, but it comes from influences from different folkloric dances ... and then it got sorta glitzed up a bit, and you started seeing it in old movies and it eventually became what we now think of as belly dance,” Betty said. “It’s really fun. I think that is kind of what a lot of people go to Faire for, is to just let loose and have a little bit of fun, so we fit in pretty nicely because we are very silly ... hence the name,

Shimmynanigans.” The group will also be offering free belly dance lessons.

If slaying trolls is more important to your quest, there will be plenty of vendors to supply the campaign, such as Made by Hand Leather, which is perfect for Live Action Role Play (LARP). “He’ll be selling LARPing weapons, so like foam weapons but they look pretty real from far away or even up close, they’re pretty well done,” Andrew said, and Hickory Arms will be supplying hickory wasters, which are “wooden swords or tools used for training.” Knights or maidens whose wineskin is still filled with apple juice can be properly outfitted to defeat any foe. “He [Hickory Arms] sells these little tiny shields and little tiny wooden swords and stuff like that which are really cute,” Andrew said. Other leather and chainmaille vendors will be at the Faire too.

Unless the party had a quick nibble of Lembas bread from Lady Galadriel before arriving (not sure what that means? just ask an elf at the Faire), make sure to grab the leg of some wild beast to sup upon.

“The most popular Renaissance Faire food are turkey legs, which is funny because that wasn’t even a thing, but it’s a thing at faires,” Andrew said. There are also non-wild beast options.

“We try to hit the different types of diets, so there’ll be people that have vegetarian options, vegan options, and anything in between,” he said. Tacos, shaved ice, kettle corn, pastries, coffee and more will be available for a feast. A full list of all vendors, from food to fantasy authors, can be found at nhrenfaire.com.

Throughout the Faire, it is possible to encounter the wandering harpist Guy Todd, a ferocious ogre, and even fae folk.

“There is a faery at our Faire who’s really good with kids and working with them and taking pictures, being silly, and making them feel like it’s a magical little experience,” Andrew said. Thornlily Thistle the Faery, performed by Rina Fay-London, is that faery and she will be at the Faire the first weekend to shower Faire-goers with mystical wonder.



Photos courtesy of Angela Cook.

cal wonder.

“The magic of faery to me was something that I think people really need ... that either connects them back to their inner child or helps them to believe in magic again,” Fay-London said.

Whether you’re ensorcelled by faeries, on the hunt for a specific potion, or just satiating a hankering for turkey leg, magic will definitely fuel the fire of New Hampshire Renaissance Faire fun. Each day will follow a loose theme, which can be helpful for those who travel to the Faire every day, just as an option for what garb to grab as a ‘playtron.’ Vestments or cargo shorts,

come one and come all, there is something for everyone.

“We try to have an environment that is good for people of all ages and try to hit wherever we can on different interests but still stay as a family faire,” Andrew said.

“We’re so hands-on in helping each other,” he continued. “A lot of people who either volunteer, perform, or vend, or work in any way, they’ll tell you that the New Hampshire Renaissance Faire is a great faire and it’s their home faire and that’s how they feel ... very at home there.” 🍷

New Hampshire Renaissance

Where: 80 Martin Road in Fremont
When: Saturday, May 11, Sunday, May 12, Saturday, May 18, and Sunday, May 19, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Theme Days: May 11 Pirates vs. Ninja; May 12 Celtic & Norse; May 18 Faery & Fae; May 19 Dungeons and Dragons
Admission: \$20 adults, \$15 ages 6-12, free for ages 5 and under
More info: nhrenfaire.com

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Keep the comics coming

The children get a comic convention of their own at **Kids Con New England**, which will take place Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Everett Arena, 15 Loudon Road in Concord. The event features artists, illustrators and authors; performers such as Sages Entertainment magic and musical guests Clemenzi Crusaders; cosplayers as princesses, superheroes, Star Wars characters and more; game makers and gaming; vendors of comics, collectables and more, and activities such as Jedi training, according to kidsconne.com, where you can see a list of scheduled participants and purchase tickets. Tickets cost \$15 per person, \$12 for seniors and military and \$55 for a family-of-four bundle; under 5 get in for free but all children must be accompanied by an adult, according to the website.

More books

Nashua Public Library will be hosting children's author **Meg Medina**, the Library of Congress' current National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, for a special afternoon of food, books and lively conversation with on Sunday, May 12, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. where a complimentary lunch is provided and kids and teens will receive a free Meg Medina book and a flower they can give to a caregiver, courtesy of the Friends of the Nashua Public Library, according to their website. NPL is one of four public libraries selected this year for Medina's national tour to introduce her new platform, ¡Cuéntame! Let's Talk Books!, according to the same

website. She'll also talk about *Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away* and *Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass*. Medina will sign your books and copies of her books will be available for purchase from Balin Books, according to the same website. Visit nashualibrary.libcal.com/event/12307515.

Fun with foxes

On Monday, May 13, Concord Public Library (45 Green St.) will host **Fabulous Foxes** from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., recommended for families with children of all ages. Registration is required. Participants will explore the curiously cat-like member of the dog family before learning how to mimic a few of their fascinating features. Visit concordnh.gov for more information.

Kids on stage

The Majestic Academy of Dramatic Arts Teens will present **Les Miserables, School Edition** on Friday, May 10, at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 11, at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. at the Derry Opera House (29 West Broadway in Derry, majestictheatre.net, 669-7469). The school edition features updated orchestrations based on the Tony-nominated 2014 Broadway revival; this approved edition has been abridged to a running time of just over two hours while maintaining the integrity of this musical masterpiece, according to a press release. Tickets range from \$15 to \$20.

The Peacock Players will present **Godspell** as their spring teen mainstage production at the 14 Court St. theater in Nashua on Friday, May 10, at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 11, at 2 p.m., and Sunday, May 12, at 2 p.m. and will run through Sunday, May 19, according to their website. *Godspell* was the first major musical theater offering from Stephen Schwartz (*Wicked*, *Pippin*, *Children of Eden*), and it took the world by storm with an eclectic parade of beloved songs, in which a small group of people help Jesus Christ tell different parables by using a wide variety of games,



New Hampshire Fisher Cats mascots, Slider and Fungo. Photo courtesy of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats.

storytelling techniques and a hefty dose of comic timing, according to the same website. Admission is free. See peacock-players.org.

The **Flying Gravity Circus** (222 Isaac Frye Hwy. in Wilton, 413-313-1778, flyinggravitycircus.org) presents its Big Show at the Amato Center for the Performing Arts (56 Mont Vernon St. in Milford, 672-1002, amatocenter.org) Friday, May 10, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, May 11, at 2 and 7 p.m. The Flying Gravity Circus is a nonprofit youth organization promoting positive development in children and teens through comprehensive circus arts education, according to the website. The Big Show will feature 45 troupers, ages 10 through 18. Tickets cost \$25 for adults, \$15 for children 3-12 and seniors 65+.

Cheer your team

The **New Hampshire Fisher Cats** continue a string of games this week against the Harrisburg Senators. Games start at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, (which is Wizards & Wands Night) and Friday, May 10 (which will feature Atlas Fireworks). On Saturday, May 11, gametime is at 4:05 p.m. and the team will play as the Manchester Chicken Tenders. On Sunday, May 12, take mom to a 1:35 p.m. game, where the first 1,000 fans through the gates can get a Fisher Cats sun hat, according to milb.com/new-hampshire, where you can purchase tickets, Manchester Chicken Tenders merch and more.



Chicken Tenders youth replica jersey.

New Hampshire Roller Derby opens its season Saturday, May 11, with a mixed public scrimmage from 5 to 9 p.m. at JFK Memorial Stadium (303 Beech St. in Manchester, 624-6444). For more information, visit NH Roller Derby's website, nhrollerderby.com.

Fun with mom

Celebrate **Mother's Day** at Charming-fare Farm (774 High St. in Candia), where they are offering free admission to moms when accompanied by their children who are 12 years and under on Sunday, May 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., making it the perfect family outing, according to their website. Explore their scenic farm, see firsthand how animal mothers care for their young, enter into a raffle with the possibility of winning a unique birdhouse, and even take rides on a pony, tractor, or a horse-drawn carriage, according to the same website. Moms will also enjoy a 10 percent discount in the gift barn and children under 23 months are free, regardless. Tickets range between \$22 and \$29 and moms with up to five children are free. Find out more at visitthefarm.com.

Guess who has meals for kids that **Mom doesn't have to cook**? Many area restaurants! Find a listing of spots offering special meals for brunch or dinner on Sunday, May 12, in the May 2 issue of the Hippo. Find the e-edition at hippopress.com; the story starts on page 24. 🍴

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Don't worry about tire pressure and enjoy your scenic views



By Ray Magliozzi

*Dear Car Talk:
My home is at a 1,800-foot elevation.*

It's an 8-mile drive straight downhill to sea level, where I do most of my driving. I understand that tire pressure increases by about 0.5 psi per 1,000 feet of altitude. So here is my question:

Should I inflate my tires to the recommended 32 psi when cold in my garage, or should I add a pound to compensate for the higher elevation? I do check my tire pressure at a minimum once per month. — Roger in Maui

First, I would like to apologize to all my other readers who've just spent the winter chipping ice off of their windshields for having to read Roger's letter worrying about 1 measly psi of tire pressure when he drives down to the beach every day.

Roger, the answer is technically yes, you should add an extra pound of air pressure to compensate for the pound you will lose when you drop to sea level. That's the technical answer. The real-world answer is that it hardly matters.

Your tires can vary by 1 psi without having any effect on the safety or performance of the car. In fact, the heat of the tires from driving down the mountain might negate the altitude-related loss anyway. Just to give you a frame of reference, all cars now have tire pressure monitoring systems. We know that when tire pressure is too low, tires can overheat and fail catastrophically. This is especially dangerous when driving at higher speeds in hot weather, when tires are most susceptible to overheating and where a blowout can be a matter of life, limb and RAV4.

But the tire pressure warning light doesn't even come on until your pressure drops by around 10%. So, in your case, you'd have to lose more than 3 psi to get even a warning from the system.

That said, it's always better to be safe, and it's always safer to overinflate your tires than to underinflate them. So, if you inflate your tires to 33, 34 or even 35 psi, you'll do no damage to the tires or in any way compromise your handling or safety. And you'll give yourself more leeway for the altitude change.

As long as you stay well under the maximum pressure listed on the side wall (not

the same as the recommended pressure), you can just overinflate a bit and stop wor-

rying, Roger. Aloha.

Visit Cartalk.com.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

I inherited this punch bowl from my grandmother. I have four matching cups with it. Everything is in good shape. Can you give me an evaluation on it?

Thank you, Donna.

Cindy



Dear Cindy,

Thanks for all the photos, Cindy; they really help.

Your Heisey punch bowl is from the early 1900s and is the fluted pattern. Heisey was produced in Ohio and has an interesting history.

Your punch bowl in the fluted pattern most likely had at least a dozen punch cups. You could collect older ones today to complete your set again.

The values used to be at least triple what they are today. Heisey glass was mass-produced along with several others from the

same period.

Condition, patterns and rarity all still come into play for pricing. I found values in the range of under \$100 for the punch bowl itself. Note: The punch bowl base has a second use when separated from the bowl, as a flower vase. Sweet!

I hope this helped, Cindy, and thanks for sharing.

Donna Welch has spent more than 35 years in the antiques and collectibles field, appraising and instructing. Her new location is an Antique Art Studio located in Dunbarton, NH where she is still buying and selling. If you have questions about an antique or collectible send a clear photo and information to Donna at footwdw@aol.com, or call her at 391-6550.

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ON THE JOB

COREY MCNABB

OWNER OF DRAGON'S DEN CANDLES IN NASHUA

Q: Explain your job and what it entails.

I own and operate Dragon's Den Candles [DragonsDenCandles.com]. I make fantasy, tabletop gaming themed candles that are all designed with a certain sense in mind to give ambiance when you're playing a game, or reading a book, watching a movie, that kind of thing.

How long have you had this job?

It's what I've been doing for the last couple years now, about 2 1/2 years now.

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

I worked in retail for 20 years and I finally got myself out of that.... Trying to come up with something new on a random Sunday

my wife and I started making candles just for fun and we both really enjoyed it and it just kind of snowballed from there. I'm a big nerd so I took it in the nerdy direction with the candles I make.

What kind of education or training did you need?

I was mostly all self-taught. Did a lot of research online. We got some candle-making starter kits that had like the basic instructions and just looked up all the different ways people do them and figured out from there, as we narrowed it down and honed our method.

What is your typical at-work uniform or attire?

Just my usual casual everyday wear. We

do all this right out of our house so ... just khakis and a T-shirt.

What is the most challenging thing about your work, and how do you deal with it?

We have two different candle lines we mainly sell at conventions and craft fairs and ren faires.... We're constantly traveling up and all over New England selling at different places. It's a lot of maintaining the proper amount of stock...

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

Any kind of knowledge into all these different kinds of shows and events that we sell at would have helped tremendously, and just the general knowledge of how much of my house doing this was going to absorb.

What do you wish other people knew about your job?

Probably the amount of time that goes into it. It is a long process making all the candles that we make.

What was your first job?

My very first job ever, I worked at when I was 16 years old, Whalom park down in ... Mass. It was a little amusement park. It's no longer there. I did puppet shows, marionette shows and [was one of] the big costume



Corey McNabb. Courtesy photo.

guys that walked around the park.

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

At the start of anything you do, it's always going to look messy. You just need to keep pushing through. It will eventually get to what it needs to be. —Zachary Lewis

Five favorites

Favorite book: *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

Favorite movie: *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?*

Favorite music: lo-fi ambient music that I can have going on while I'm doing other stuff

Favorite food: pizza with bacon on top

Favorite thing about NH: I like the environment. It's hilly, there's trees, there's rivers, I like that general atmosphere, that kind of outdoorsy air that it has here.

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FOOD

Grilling with heat

Spice things up by adding some hot sauce to your grilled eats

By John Fladd
food@hippopress.com

News from the local food scene

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

• **Cake for Mom:** Flight Coffee Co. (209 Route 101 in Bedford; flightcoffeeco.com, 836-6228) has two layer cakes, chocolate or vanilla with chocolate or vanilla buttercream, that can be ordered by Thursday, May 9, for a Saturday, May 11, pickup, according to a post on Flight's Facebook page. Email catering@flightcoffeecompany.com or call 836-6228 to order a cake, which costs \$45, the post said. Find more special brunches, dinners and other eats for Mother's Day (Sunday, May 12) in the May 2 issue of the Hippo. Find the e-edition at hippopress.com; the story starts on page 24.

• **Coffee weekend:** The Northeast Coffee Festival runs Friday, May 10, and Saturday, May 11, in Concord. The event, which takes place at locations in downtown Concord including South Main Street, the Bank of NH Stage and Red River Theatres, will feature live music, coffee workshops, an outdoor community market and on Saturday a latte art throwdown at 4 p.m. Attending the market and the music is free; passes to other events are available at northeastcoffeefestival.com, where you can also find a map, schedule and more.

• **Bacon!** Tickets — and merch — are on sale now for the NH Bacon & Beer Festival, which will be held Saturday, June 1, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Anheuser-Busch fields in Merrimack. Tickets in advance cost \$60 for general admission and \$100 for VIP admission, which includes a 12:30 p.m. admission time, according to nhbaconbeer.com. The event features live music from The Slakas as well as, of course, bacon (from 20 samplers), beer (from 60 craft brew-

A classic rite of passage each spring is bringing a grill out of storage and getting ready for the first outside cooking of the year. Nobody looks forward to this more than Phil Pelletier, owner of Smokin' Tin Roof, a hot sauce company based in Manchester. He says that grilling season brings out a whole new side of his company's hot sauces.

"Most of our stuff is designed to use any way you want," he said, "so grilling is a great use for it."

Smokin' Tin Roof makes nine products of different heat levels — four sauces, three condiments, and hot pepper jelly. Although only one of the products is a barbecue sauce — the blueberry-based Northwoods BBQ — the other products have qualities that lend themselves to grilling.

North Carolina-style barbecue sauces are vinegar-based. The vinegar might be balanced out with something sweet, such as molasses or fruit, but the acidity is a fundamental characteristic of that type of sauce. Similarly, most hot sauces are vinegar-based as well.

"Our 'Grow a Pear' is made with pears," Pelletier said as an example, "but it's based on apple cider vinegar. You need that acidity for shelf-stability."

South Carolina-style sauces, on the other hand, lean heavily into mustard. Smokin' Tin Roof's Bacon Stout Mustard works well as a wet rub for grillers who like to build layers of flavor.

Pelletier recommended against using too spicy a hot sauce for grilling, at least at first.

"Extreme heat gets in the way of the flavor you're using, and you want a solid taste



Photos courtesy of Smokin' Tin Roof.

to stand up to the smoke from the grill," he said. This is something that has come up while developing recipes for hot sauces.

"We use ghost pepper powder to vary the heat levels in our sauces, and we were really surprised that, aside from the heat, it neutralized the flavor of lemon. We ended up going in a completely different direction for that recipe; we used roasted garlic," Pelletier said.

What a griller has to do, he says, is similar to what they do when working up a new recipe: work backward.

"You have to keep the final flavor in mind, then ask yourself, 'What do I have to do to get that flavor?'" he said.

He gave the example of when his wife, Melissa, was developing a smokey pepper hot sauce.

"There were so many iterations of that sauce. She would get to a certain point in the recipe, and then it would suddenly go in a different direction, and we'd have to start over, focusing on her vision of a final flavor," he said.

Keeping complementary flavors in mind — what goes with what — helps simplify



choosing a grilling sauce. He uses some of Smokin' Tin Roof's products as examples:

Green Monstah is a verde-style sauce with pineapple. It has a bright flavor that is excellent with fish. Grow a Pear, on the other hand, has a fruity sweetness that plays well with the flavor of smoke. Pork is a natural with anything fruity, so Pelletier recommended using his Burnin' Raspberry sauce with it.

(In a side note, Pelletier said the raspberry sauce might be his most versatile one. "We make it in two levels of heat," he said, "which opens up a lot of directions you can take it. There is an ice cream business that buys it by the case from us to use as a sundae topping.")

Smokin' Tin Roof products are made with food-lovers in mind, Pelletier said, rather than chili-heads who are focused on extreme heat, which makes it a natural for grilling.

"Most serious grillers want to do something different. They want to make a unique match to whatever they want to grill," he said. 🍷

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FOOD



DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

Magnolia Maiden

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Magnolia Maiden. Photo by John Fladd.

that feel better?"

Top it off with a generous splash of club soda, and stir gently.

The only thing about this drink that is too much is its name. The bourbon isn't too bourbon. The orange liqueur isn't too sweet. It is neither too flat nor too bubbly. It tastes like something a relaxed person would drink.

Magnolia Maiden

- 1½ ounce bourbon
- 1½ ounce orange liqueur – Grand Marnier or Orange Curacao
- 1/3 ounce simple syrup (see below)
- splash (about 1 ounce) plain seltzer or club soda

Combine bourbon, orange liqueur and simple syrup over ice in a cocktail shaker. There are several types of shakers, but I like something called a Boston shaker. It consists of two cups, one large and one smaller. When you've added everything you want to shake to the large cup, turn the little one upside-down and wedge it into the big one. This will create an airtight seal and allow you to shake a drink without it making a break for freedom and drenching your kitchen with bourbon.

Shake the cocktail thoroughly. When the mystic voice of the cocktail lets you know that it is ready (or when you feel the ice start to break up inside the shaker) break the seal on the shaker. As you've chilled the cocktail, you've also chilled the air inside the shaker, which has contracted, tightening the already air-tight seal.

Strain the cocktail over fresh ice in a rocks glass. If you're using a Boston shaker, pull the two halves apart slightly, making a shallow V shape. Your drink will pour out, leaving the ice behind. "There, there," you can say to the shaker, "doesn't

Simple syrup

Drink recipes throw around the term "simple syrup" like everyone knows what that means. It's one of those phrases like "slip differential" or "antioxidant" that everyone pretends to understand, but I think a surprising percentage of people don't.

Have you ever added a packet of natural sugar to an iced coffee, and some of it ends up in a little pile at the bottom of the cup? Simple syrup is sugar that has been put into a solution with water, so that won't happen to your cocktails.

The reason it is called "simple syrup" is that it consists of equal amounts of water and sugar; there is no recipe to memorize. Add equal amounts of white, granulated sugar and water — this can be by weight, or by volume — to a saucepan. Bring it to a boil on your stove, at whatever temperature you want, stirring occasionally. Let it boil for a few seconds to make sure all the sugar has gone into solution; then remove it from heat, let it cool, and store it in your refrigerator indefinitely. Don't worry about it getting lonely; it's very approachable and will make friends with your condiments quickly. 🍷

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 22

ers) and 25 teams competing in a pulled pork contest, according to the website. The event benefits the High Hopes Foundation.

• **Berry informative:** The NH Audubon will hold a "Growing Backyard Berries" workshop on Thursday, May 16, from 6 to

8 p.m. at the Massabesic Center (26 Audubon Way in Auburn). The cost is \$15. The presenter is Steph Sosinski, UNH Extension Home Horticulture Program Manager. Register by May 14 at the UNH Extension site, which you can reach via nhaudubon.org. 🍷

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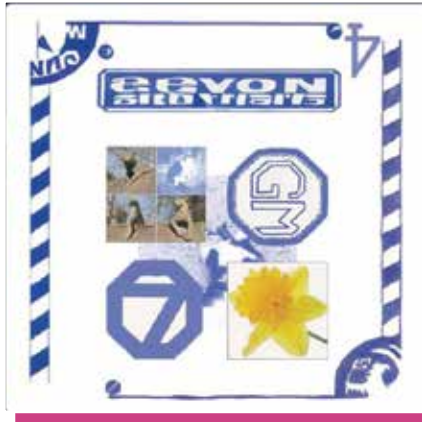
Taylor Swift, *The Tortured Poets Department* (Republic Records)



In case you're new to this planet, the patriarchal establishment wants women to be obedient second-class citizens, focused on tedious, badly matched, purely sexual relationships, like 11-year-olds experiencing first crushes. That's what this album accomplishes. It's about private, individualist, closeted empowerment for enduring all the horribleness all women experience on a daily basis, and in that, it's not the call to arms that the gender actually needs in a time of ever-dwindling rights for women. I will say that at least the record isn't as embarrassingly hormonal as what Adele puts

out, which is who TayTay's trying to undercut with this stuff. Musically it's decent, largely composed of hypnotic, post-coital musings that are a lot less grown-up than Tay (read: her producers, who write all this stuff) thinks they are. The melodic verisimilitude hides itself under "hmm, what's that sample" moments and controlled bursts of primal, from-the-mountaintop, wild-woman battle cries signifying nothing. **A-** —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

Good Morning, Good Morning Seven (Polyvinyl Records)



Not only did Rolling Stone compare this Australian duo quite favorably to fellow Aussie bands Royel Otis and Budjerah; they went so far as to declare them the "future of music." Hyperbolic much, I know, but they're hitting the road with Waxahatchee soon, which should be a good fit. This LP opens with "Arcade," which has a swampy-ethereal ambiance to it, techno-cheese and reverb-smothered vocals conjuring a half-plugged Kings Of Leon collaborating with Air, something of that sort. "Monster Of The Week" is like a more muscular Chris Isaak, for want of any better comparison. In that regard it's

definitely booze-soaked and faraway, an interesting but acquired taste that wouldn't prompt me to yammer something like "the future of music" but definitely the type of thing that'll please listeners who like their tuneage Pink Floyd-slow. **A-** —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Yippee-ki-yay, my little trolls, it's the May 10 music-CD drop date and I can't wait to preview all the hot new songs that'll be playing at the Fun-Ride Center in downtown Old Orchard Beach during the summer! I haven't even gone to the mall to buy my swimsuit attire yet, would day-glo green look good on me, please be honest! But there's some hum-ding-dang-er butt-kickers coming at us this week, fam, so let me put aside this "Swimsuit Attire For 2024's Hot Guys" catalog and go check it out (when I was in my 20s I used to troll people by saying that the Nashua Chamber of Commerce asked me to be Mr. October in the "Men Of Nashua" calendar and no one ever laughed, so I must have been quite the cutie back when I still had to take dating seriously, so don't be sending laughing emojis to me on my social media, it won't work). Holy catfish, not a lot of new albums this week, but the ones that are on my super-secret list of new albums seem pretty interesting. In fact, let's start with totally edgy Scottish slowcore/post-rock band **Arab Strap**, *I'm Totally Fine With It Don't Give A F--- Anymore*. I don't know, these guys are usually mentioned in the same breath as Swans and the Throbbing Lobster family of musical products and such, but I've never taken the plunge all the way with them. But I will try doing that today, bear with me a second while I listen to the new single, "Bliss." Right, so the video has some girl doing a weird interpretive dance to a noisy-ish beat, and the singer sounds like Iggy Pop in mellow mode. It makes me want to say it sounds like Simple Minds doing krautrock, but that might inspire readers to go check it out, which isn't my intention at all.

• Uh oh, look out, millennials, it's your favorite arena-folk band, **Kings of Leon**, with a new album, titled *Can We Please Have Fun*. Wait, just a second, this just in: Yes, roger that, the band's last album, whatever its name was, was so terrible that Kings Of Leon is no longer the favorite band of any generation. In that, they're like Mastodon and Trent Reznor, a band that sold out and let the dummies at the record label take artistic control of their, you know, artistry. Oh, definitely, I'm sure this will be just scintillating stuff, let's go listen to the advance cut, "Mustang," and see what the dilly is with these jive turkeys. Ugh, so gross, it sounds like Pavement at the beginning, but then it gets a little more boisterous, and then the singing Hollow-ill brother starts rocking out to a not very catchy part. It does have a pulse to it and will probably be a lot cooler when they play it live, but at first listen it's not as great as their earlier hit, the one with the Millennial Whoop in it, you know, the decent one.

• Oh, please stop, what's this, it's hair-rock children's-party-clown **Sebastian Bach**, even *he* has a new album, and this one's called *Child Within The Man!* Now I feel compelled to find out what he's been doing since his "acting stint" on *Gilmore Girls*, do you guys even remember that, or did your brain work properly and erase it the way brains are supposed to work when you get abducted by aliens or watch *Gilmore Girls*? The single, "Everybody Bleeds," is hair-metal-y but old 'Bastian wants it to be kind of Alice in Chains-ish, so it's not too — wait, what's he doing with the high voice thing, stop that this instant.

• And finally we have **How to Dress Well**, the stage name of Colorado's Tom Krell. His new album, *I Am Toward You*, includes a decent neo-AOR tune, "New Confusion." He sings like trip-hop superstar Jose Gonzalez on this pretty, fractal-filled joint, it's cool. —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

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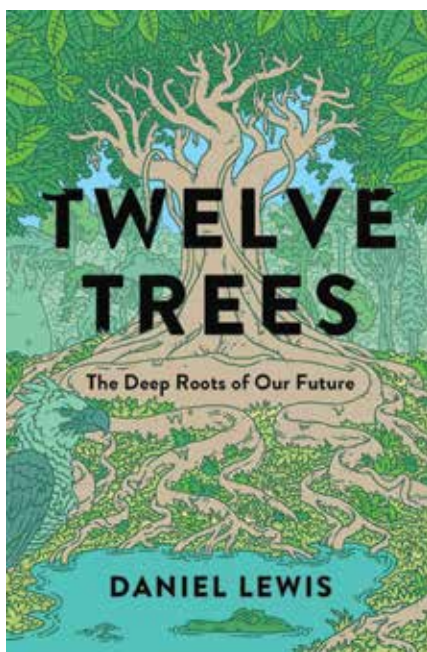
Twelve Trees, by Daniel Lewis (Avid Reader Press, 279 pages)

Daniel Lewis is a tree nerd, and I say that affectionately, from one tree nerd to another. By this, I mean my house is filled with odd pieces of wood collected in forests and on beaches for no reason other than the beauty I see in their gnarled and twisty forms. Lewis, however, is the guy who could probably identify the type of tree these bits of wood come from and then launch into a lecture on the genus of the tree and its prospects for survival on a warming planet.

An environmental historian and college professor who lives in Southern California, Lewis has built his latest book around 12 trees he finds most interesting and important. Disappointingly, although New Hampshire is the second most forested state in the U.S. according to the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, the 12 do not include the sugar maple, Eastern hemlock or any other of the most prevalent trees in New England.

Lewis's picks are a disparate tribe flung around the planet — in some cases, literally, by seed dispersal. They include the bristlecone pine, the coast redwood, the East Indian sandalwood tree, the African baobab, the blue gum eucalyptus and the olive tree. Each tree gets its own chapter, in which Lewis tells stories about the tree's history, its uses and abuses by humans, and its outlook. Along the way, he ventures merrily off the beaten path in order to share nuggets of information he has gleaned during his research.

As an example, Lewis wanted to confirm that products of the olive tree, which



mainly grows in the Mediterranean and in California, are found on all the continents. So he tracked down the person in charge of supplying food to the largest year-round encampment in the Antarctic, and we subsequently learn how the 150 to 900 people at the McMurdo Station are fed. Food is delivered there just once a year, in January or February, and it sounds like they eat better there than many of us do. “When you’re stuck in a vast, tree-free tract of wind-driven snow and ice, you need good olives and their oil. Green, black, and Kalamata olives are the three varieties usually on hand. Olive oil and olives are also a staple for their pizza station, which bakes up sixteen thousand to eighteen thousand pizzas annually,” Lewis writes.

Due to the popularity of its drupe — that is the new word we learn for pitted fruits like the olive, peach or apricot — the actual olive tree doesn’t get as much attention in its chapter as the other 11 trees, as Lewis delves mainly into the production of olive oil. The demand for olive oil is so great that just 10 percent of harvested olives are consumed as olives; the rest is pressed into oil in a mind-bogglingly complex and regulated process that explains why the product is so expensive.

More focus on the tree itself is given in chapters of two threatened species of trees: the African baobab (you might not recognize the name, but Google it, and you will most likely recognize the tree) and the toromiro tree, once common on a Pacific island.

The African baobab is a source of water to elephants during times of drought, which is interesting, because the baobab, for reasons scientists can’t explain, stores much more water than an individual tree needs for itself. But as tempting as it is to think that the tree is, on some level, being helpful to elephants or other living things with its excess hydration, it is the elephants’ violent assault on the trees to obtain water that is contributing to the trees’ demise.

Equally interesting is the story of what Lewis calls “the nearly lost tree of Rapa Nui.”

Rapa Nui is the Pacific island more commonly known as Easter Island. It was once resplendent with the *Sophora toromiro*, which doesn’t have a common name or nickname like other trees and is simply known (by the tree nerds who pay attention to it) as the toromiro.

The toromiro is a small flowering tree that was part of a “painful drop in biodiversity” after humans arrived there around the 12th century. In the case of the toromiro, however, its gradual decline wasn’t all human-driven; Lewis explains how other factors were likely at play, including dozens of devastating tsunamis that have hit the island over time. But the trees were harvested too, for firewood and building material. By the 1600s wood was so scarce on the island that it became the most valuable commodity there, Lewis writes. Even driftwood was “precious.”

Today, more than six decades after the last toromiro tree mysteriously disappeared from the island, attempts are being made to re-introduce the tree to the island from toromiros found growing elsewhere, the seeds carried by birds or ocean currents. It’s not as easy as just planting seedlings. The soil composition has changed so much that cultivated trees have not yet taken root.

These are the sorts of stories that make *Twelve Trees* an unexpectedly fascinating read, although it’s not necessarily the sort of book that you’d recommend, for example, to your Bruins-obsessed neighborhood. It’s a book to be read slowly and thoughtfully, and would appeal most to those who think businesses should close for Arbor Day. (April 26 this year, in case you didn’t know.)

While *Twelve Trees* has its “Bueller? Bueller?” moments — most notably when Lewis delivers what is best described as a rapturous ode to lichens — it will make you think that maybe you care more about trees than you know. **B** —Jennifer Graham

Books

Author events

• **PATRICIA O’CONNOR**, a local author and hospice nurse, will be at Gibson’s Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) to talk about her new book, *The Five Year Lie*, on Tuesday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m.

• **JESSICA SHATTUCK** will be at The Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusicall.org) on Tuesday, May 14, at 7 p.m. for a discussion and Q&A about her new book, *Last House*. Tickets cost \$43 and include a signed copy of *Last House*.

• **VIKRAM MANSHARAMANI** will talk about his book *The Making of a Generalist* with Jeremy Hitchcock on Thursday, May 16, at 5 p.m. at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com).

• **STEPHEN BRIGHT** will be at Gibson’s Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) to talk about his new book *The Fear*

Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) to talk about her new thriller, *The Five Year Lie*, on Tuesday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m.

• **JESSICA SHATTUCK** will be at The Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusicall.org) on Tuesday, May 14, at 7 p.m. for a discussion and Q&A about her new book, *Last House*. Tickets cost \$43 and include a signed copy of *Last House*.

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• **STEPHEN BRIGHT** will be at Gibson’s Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) to talk about his new book *The Fear*

of *Too Much Justice*, co-written with James Kwak, on Thursday, May 16, at 6:30 p.m.

• **ERIK LARSON** will be at the BNH Stage (16 S. Main St., Concord) to talk about his latest nonfiction book, *The Demon of Unrest*, on Tuesday, May 21, at 7 p.m. Each ticket purchase includes one hardcover copy of the book. Tickets are \$45 for one admission plus one book, \$55 for two admissions plus one book. Buy tickets at ccanh.com.

History, stories, discussions & lectures

• **RETURNING NORTH WITH THE SPRING: RETRACING THE JOURNEY OF NATURALIST EDWIN WAY TEALE** presented by John Harris, hosted by the Bow Garden Club, at Baker Free Library (509 South St., Bow) on Monday, June 10, at 7 p.m.

Poetry

• **HOLLEY M. HILL** headlines the Poetry Society of NH gathering at Gibson’s Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Wednesday, May 15, at 4:30 p.m. An open mic follows the reading. Newcomers are welcome and encouraged.

• **DIANNELY ANTIGUA**, Portsmouth poet laureate, and poet **MAGGIE DIETZ** will hold a reading and signing at Water Street Bookstore (125 Water St., Exeter, waterstreetbooks.com) on Thursday, June 13, at 7 p.m.

• **POETRY NIGHT**, an ongoing poetry open mic series, takes place every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Stark Brewing Co. (50 N. Commercial St., Manchester). Follow them on Facebook @slamfreordie for updates on upcoming events and appearances.

Writers groups

• **MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY WRITERS’ GROUP** meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the Hunt Room at the library (405 Pine St., Manchester; 624-6550, manchesterlibrary.org) and is open to writers of all abilities and ages. Sign-up is not required, but sign up via the library’s online calendar to receive a reminder email. Virtual attendance is available. For information, call 624-6550, ext. 7620, or email tkimsey@manchesternh.gov.

• **MERRIMACK VALLEY WRITERS’ GROUP** All published and unpublished local writers who are interested in sharing their work with other writers and giving and receiving constructive feedback are invited to join. The group meets regularly. Email pembrokentown-

library@gmail.com.

Book sales

• **DERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK SALE** Saturday, May 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the library’s book sale room (64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140).

• **MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY BOOK SALE** at the main library (405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us) Saturday, May 18, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$10 per average-size grocery bag filled with materials; hardcover books also available for \$1.50 each and some other materials \$1 each.

• **HUDSON FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE** on the second Sunday of each month at the Hills Memorial Library building (18 Library St. in Hudson; 886-6030, rogerslibrary.org).

The Fall Guy (PG-13)

Ryan Gosling says "I'll save you, movie!" in *The Fall Guy*, a rompy movie with nods to the 1980s TV show.

Gosling brings the soft-serve swirl of good-humored goofiness and slightly winky competence from 2016's *The Nice Guys* to the role of Colt Seaver, a crackerjack stunt man. Colt has found professional success by being a stunt man for Tom Ryder (Aaron Taylor-Johnson), a megawatt star with an even more blinding ego. Personally, Colt has found romantic success with Jody Moreno (Emily Blunt), a camerawoman with directing dreams. When the movie starts, the two are working together on a Tom Ryder movie — but not for long. Colt has a devastating accident and, humiliated and unable to deal with what he sees as a professional failure, he disappears, even from Jody.

A year and a half later he is working as a valet when Gail (Hannah Waddingham), Tom's producer and fixer, calls to Colt to get him to come to Australia to work on Tom's new movie. Jody, who is directing, asked for him in particular, Gail says. When Colt shows up on set, he quickly finds that this is not true. But, with the head of the stunt department, Dan Tucker (Win-



The Fall Guy

ston Duke), who is also Colt's longtime friend, insisting that Colt is the only stuntman available, Jody reluctantly agrees to let him stay to work on *Metalstorm*, a sci-fi alien love-story something.

That's all kind of a lot of setup that feels like it takes a lot of time to get to the real reason Colt has been called to Australia: Tom is missing and Gail wants Colt to find him before someone notices he is gone and the movie is stalled.

So while Colt is working with Jody, who sees new story possibilities for Tom's *Metalstorm* character now that Colt is

around to do more thrilling stunts — with Tom's face to be pasted on digitally in post — and Colt is trying to find a way to make up with the woman he still loves, Colt is also doing some basic detecting of the "look for clues, go see a guy at a club" variety.

For me, the movie has the most mission clarity during the "Colt Seaver, stunt man detective" scenes. Elsewhere, it felt like there was a lot of piling on of Things: rom-com-iness, meta commentary on movies, stunt man process-y stuff (which I also liked), Emily Blunt's whatever she's

doing with Jody, Hannah Waddingham doing like 1980s businesswoman, a bit of buddy business between Colt and Dan. It's a "three songs playing at once" effect to have all of these things happening at once, at the same volume, in one scene. When Colt is looking for clues or trying to find a guy who last saw Tom and the movie's other elements are more packed in around that, things seem to click together better.

That said, I basically liked those other elements. I just wished they'd been put together a bit better. Blunt's Jody has perfectly fine chemistry with Gosling's Colt; Dan and Colt have some good buddy moments; there is, in classic movie fashion, a bit with a dog. It's all fine, and without Gosling this would have been a perfectly satisfactory Netflix-movie type outing. Gosling elevates it all. He brings a sparkle, a tonally perfect approach to the movie's humor and an energy that helps the movie transcend some of its overstuffed-combo-platter feel. **B**

Rated PG-13 for action and violence, drug content and some strong language, according to the MPA on [filmratings.com](https://www.filmratings.com). Directed by David Leitch and written by Drew Pearce, *The Fall Guy* is two hours and six minutes long and distributed by Universal Studios. 🍷

Film	Venues
fathomevents.com	
AMC Londonderry	The Flying Monkey
16 Orchard View Dr., Londonderry, amctheatres.com	39 Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
Bank of NH Stage in Concord	Milford Drive-In
16 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, banknhstage.com	531 Elm St., Milford, milford-drivein.com
Chunky's Cinema Pub	The Music Hall
707 Huse Road, Manchester, chunkys.com	28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org
Cinemark Rockingham Park 12	O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square
15 Mall Road, Salem	24 Calef Hwy., Epping, 679-3529, oneilcinemas.com
Fathom Events	Red River Theatres

11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, redrivertheatres.org	Rex Theatre
	23 Amherst St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
	Smitty's Cinema
	630 W. Main St., Tilton, 286-3275, smittyscinema.com
	Wilton Town Hall Theatre
	40 Main St., Wilton, wilton-townhalltheatre.com, 654-3456
	Wicked Little Letters (R, 2024) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord (redrivertheatres.org) on Thursday, May 9, at

4:30 & 6:45 p.m.; Friday, May 10, through Sunday, May 12, at 1:30 & 3:4 p.m.; Monday, May 13, through Thursday, May 16, at 3:45 p.m.	Challengers (R, 2024) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord (redrivertheatres.org) on Thursday, May 9, at 4 & 7 p.m.; Friday, May 10, at 1, 4 & 7 p.m.; Saturday, May 11, at 1:30, 4:30 & 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, May 12, at 1, 4 & 7 p.m.; Monday, May 13, through Thursday, May 16, at 4 & 7 p.m.
Wednesday, May 15, at 6 p.m.	The Beast (NR, 2024) will screen at Red River Theatres on Saturday, May 11, through Monday, May 13, at 6 p.m. and

May 15, at 1 p.m. at Apple Cinemas in Hooksett and Merrimack, O'neil in Epping and Regal Fox Run (where it will also screen at 6:30 p.m.)	The Paradise Paradox (2024) described as "Executive produced by Olympic ski racer Bode Miller and Emmy Award-winning impact sports filmmaker Brett Rapkin, <i>The Paradise Paradox</i> explores the mental health crisis affecting America's mountain towns and the innovative solutions being developed in response." The movie will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord (redrivertheatres.org) on Tuesday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m.
Milford Drive-In Shows are Friday and Saturday at 6:15 p.m. The cost is \$33 per car with up to six people. See the website for the offerings on each of two screens.	Madama Butterfly, The Met: Live in HD broadcast, will screen at Bank of NH Stage in Concord on Saturday, May 11, at 12:55 p.m. See ccanh.com. It will also screen via Fathom Events (fathomevents.com) live on May 11 at Apple Cinemas in Merrimack and Hooksett, O'neil Cinemas in Brickyard Square in Epping and Regal Fox Run in Newington. An encore will screen Wednesday,

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By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Musical meetup:** This week's Blues Therapy gathering has **Willie J. Laws**, a Texas guitar slinger who's been in New Hampshire long enough to win a New England Music Award twice. Hosted by local maven Mickey Maguire, currently bass player for Frankie Boy & The Blues Express, the regular event always has a headliner and is a hub for the regional blues scene. Thursday, May 9, 8 p.m., Stonecutters Pub, Downstairs, 63 Union Square, Milford. See williejlawsband.com.

• **Classic brand:** With drummer Phil Ehart sidelined by a heart attack, **Kansas** has one remaining original member, lead guitarist Rich Williams. Beginning as a progressive rock band, and one of the first to feature violin as a lead instrument, the group streamlined its sound and had a series of AOR and Top 40 hits starting with 1977's "Carry On My Wayward Son." Friday, May 10, 8 p.m., Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, \$67.75 and up at ccanh.com.

• **Funny women:** Celebrate the maternal side of life at **Mother of a Comedy Show**, with Kerri Louise, Christine Hurley and Kelly MacFarland providing the laughs. For those who prefer their entertainment before dinner, there's a late afternoon matinee along with an evening set. Saturday, May 11, 5 and 8 p.m., Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St., Manchester, \$30 at palacetheatre.org.

• **Treasured songs:** A reunion with producer Russ Titelman helped **Rickie Lee Jones** earn a Grammy nomination for her 2023 album *Pieces of Treasure*, her first foray into the Great American Songbook. Titelman helmed Jones' eponymous debut, with the hit "Chuck E's In Love," and her follow-up, *Pirates*. Jones is a celebrated writer; her memoir *Last Chance Texaco* won several awards. Sunday, May 12, 8 p.m., Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry, \$45 and up at tupelohall.com.

• **Country kid:** Up and coming singer-songwriter **Taylor Hughes** plays an intimate midweek set at a favorite restaurant and bar. Hughes offers up aching originals like "Dear Today" and "Deadman" along with covers of Chris Stapleton and Tyler Childers, and the buzz on him is so strong that his upcoming showcase at Bank of NH Stage in Concord is close to sold out. Wednesday, May 15, 7 p.m., The Forum Pub, 15 Village St., Concord. See facebook.com/tayhughesmusic. 🎶

NITE

Joni's spark

Tribute show recalls landmark album

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

There's a line in Joni Mitchell's song "For the Roses" about a moment when "the lights go down and it's just you up there, getting them to feel like that." That's the challenge for anyone bold enough to launch a tribute act to her. It's better to try and convey the singular singer-songwriter's essence. Replication is a fool's errand; there's only one Joni.

Further, she's a moving target. From the spare acoustic era of "Both Sides Now" and "Circle Game" to the ethereal jazz in *Hejira* and *Mingus*, Joni Mitchell was and is always moving forward. Yet Big Yellow Taxi, a six-piece group led by singer Teresa Lorenço as Mitchell, accomplishes the not-small miracle of capturing her.

For a show in Dover on May 10, they'll perform Mitchell's breakthrough *Court and Spark* from start to finish. The 1973 album has many moods but contains a common thread, Lorenço said by phone recently: "There's real, profound honesty and vulnerability to whatever she's doing Hooking into that is what helped me make the whole thing cohesive."

Lorenço never planned on dedicating herself to performing Mitchell's music; she arrived by acclimation.

"I'd been singing a little bit of her songs in a duo that I was in, and people kept saying, wow, you can really do her," she recalled. "I thought, OK, then let's do it."

The first iteration of Big Yellow Taxi formed in late 2019 but dissipated as the pandemic took hold. When it got safer to book shows again, she sought out new musicians and hit the jackpot. The current band convincingly channels Tom Scott & the LA Express, who Mitchell worked with on *Miles of Aisles*, considered by many her best live album, as well as her ethereal late '70s band featuring Pat Metheny on guitar and bassist Jaco Pastorius.

Guitarist John Cabán has played with

Big Yellow Taxi – The Music of Joni Mitchell

When: Friday, May 10, 8 p.m.
Where: The Strand, 20 Third St., Dover
Tickets: \$22 and up at eventbrite.com



Big Yellow Taxi. Courtesy photo.

many musicians, from Bo Diddley to Gloria Gaynor; Robert Sherwood's keyboard credits include beloved mid-2000s band Ware River Club. On drums is Joe Fitzpatrick, a veteran of many stage musicals, and backing singer Annie Paterson conveys the multi-tracked vocals on Mitchell's studio albums. Finally, there's electric bass player Rich Cahillane, who also accompanies Lorenço on acoustic songs.

Cahillane, who was also at the interview, noted a split between audience members who lean toward early Mitchell albums like *Ladies of the Canyon* and *Blue* (a favorite of Lorenço's) versus later songs.

"Folky fans want to hear Teresa and I play acoustic guitar or dulcimer," he said. "Then we get those wanting to hear Jaco and the jazz.... It's hard to satisfy all her fans."

However, accomplishing that "definitely is our goal," Lorenço interjected. "We want to have this ability to showcase any of her stuff from any time that she was writing. We don't really want to

focus on one style or the other. It keeps it fresh for us even, because we're consistently looking at new things."

One of the most difficult numbers from *Court and Spark* is "Down To You," she continued. "We had to make

“ “
We had to make up our own way to do this fully orchestrated part in the middle, and we definitely thought of some new swear words” ”

TERESA LORENÇO

up our own way to do this fully orchestrated part in the middle, and we definitely thought of some new swear words during that time," she said, adding with a laugh, "If Joni ever calls and needs a backup band, we want to be prepared. Only about a hundred songs more

to go."

Taking on the catalog of an icon, Lorenço understands her primary task.

"Everyone really gets the emotionality of the music, and I think that's the most important piece, that is what I focus on," she said. "I'm no trained musician compared to these incredible people that bless me by working with me. They talk about music theory, and I sit there with static in my mind. All I know for sure is the way she's expressing her emotions in song. That's what I get; that's what I feel in me. 🎶

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

8 Temple St., 484-7400	Boonedoxz Pub 95 Park St., 717-8267	766-6466	5 Provident Way, 760-2581
Fody's Tavern 9 Clinton St., 577-9015	Pembroke Cavern Sports Bar 351 Pembroke St., 485-7777	Press Room 77 Daniel St., 431-5186	Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road, 760-7706
Haluwa 44 Gusabel Ave., 864-8348	Penacook American Legion Post 31 11 Charles St., 753-9372	Thirsty Moose Tap-house 21 Congress St., 427-8645	Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road, 760-0030
San Francisco Kitchen 133 Main St., 886-8833	Pittsfield Over the Moon 1253 Upper City Road, 216-2162	Rochester Porter's 19 Hanson St., 330-1964	Somersworth Earth Eagle North 350 Route 108, 841-5421
Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse 48 Gusabel Ave., 882-4070	Portsmouth The Gas Light 64 Market St., 430-9122	Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway, 458-2033	Sunapee Sunapee Community Coffee House 9 Lower Main St., 398-8214
Terminus 134 Haines St.; spel-ficarts.wixsite.com/midnightcreatives	The Goat 142 Congress St., 590-4628	Luna Bistro 254 N. Broadway, 458-2162	Warner The Local 15 E. Main St., 456-3333
New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road, 487-1362	Grill 28 Pease Golf Course, 200 Grafton Road,	T-Bones 311 South Broadway, 893-3444	Windham Common Man 88 Range Road, 898-0088

p.m.	oke, 9 p.m.	New Boston Molly's: Clint LaPointe, 6:30 p.m.
Litchfield Day of the Dead: music bingo, 6:30 p.m.	Stark Brewing: Chad Verbeck, 6:30 p.m.	Northfield Boonedoxz Pub: karaoke night, 7 p.m.
Londonderry Coach Stop: Jeff Mrozek, 6 p.m.	Strange Brew: Lisa Marie, 8 p.m.	Penacook American Legion Post 31: Jennifer Mitchell, 7 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Category 5 Band, 8 p.m.	Meredith Giuseppe's: LU, 6 p.m.	Pittsfield Over the Moon: Between the Jigs and Reels, 7 p.m.
Manchester Backyard Brewery: Ian Archibald, 6 p.m.	Twin Barns: Sam Vlasich, 5 p.m.	Portsmouth Gas Light: Sumx4 Band, 7 p.m.; Jamie Hughes, 9:30 p.m.
Bonfire: Eric Grant Band, 9 p.m.	Merrimack Homestead: Dave Sven, 6 p.m.	The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Derryfield: Mike & John, 6 p.m.; Small Town Stranded, 8 p.m.	Milford Riley's: The Incidentals, 8 p.m.	Thirsty Moose: Mischief Mile, 9 p.m.
Fratello's: Chris Cavanaugh, 6 p.m.	Stonecutters Pub: DJ Dave O karaoke, 9 p.m.	Salem Luna Bistro: Lewis Goodwin, 7 p.m.
The Foundry: Tyler Levs, 6 p.m.	Moultonborough Buckley's: Red Hat Band, 6:30 p.m.	
The Goat: Pick 6, 9 p.m.	Nashua Casey Magee's: karaoke, 9:30 p.m.	
The Hill: Dave Zangri, 5:30 p.m.	Haluwa: Off Duty Angels	
South Side Tavern: Cox Kara-		



MOM'S THE WORD

Mother's Day is Sunday, but you can pre-party with Kelly MacFarland, Christine Hurley and Keri Louise — three of New England's funniest comedians — at the annual **Mother of a Comedy Show**. Take your mom to the Rex (23 Amherst St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org) on Saturday, May 11. The fun starts at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and tickets cost \$30 plus fees.



WOOHOO!

Toast to the Coast 2024 Cocktail Challenge Winner! Here is the Best Cocktail recipe!

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 - 1 to 1-1/2 oz 1010 Caramel Cream Liqueur
- Shake. Strain over a glass of fresh ice. Serves one.*



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ON SALE: \$24.99 RETAIL: \$27.99 Code: 8260

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Seabrook
Chop Shop: The Road Crew, 8 p.m.

Sunapee
Community Coffee House: Off the Cuff with Jonas Taub, 7 p.m.; open mic, 8 p.m.

Concord
Northeast Coffee Festival: DJ Ron See, 10 a.m.; River Sang Wild, 11 a.m.; DJ Ron See, 2 p.m.; Emily's Garage Band, 3 p.m.

Contoocook
Contoocook Farmers Market: Mikey G, 9 a.m.

Dover
Auspicious Brew: Watson Park / The Lonely Ghosts / Scrivener, 8 p.m.

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

Gilford
Beans and Greens: Rock Dove, noon
Patrick's Pub: Willy Chase, 6 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Steven Decuire, 6 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: Kyle Smith, 8 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Clint Lapointe, 1 p.m.; Ralph Allen, 7 p.m.
Smuttynose: Truffle, 6 p.m.
Wally's: Barely Dead, 9 p.m.

Hudson
Luk's Bar: Shakedown Station, 7 p.m.

Kensington
Farm at Eastman's Corner: Counterfeit Cash, 5 p.m.

Laconia
Fratello's: Richard Cumming, 6 p.m.

Tower Hill: Young Guns Band, 8 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Dave Z, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Redemption, 2 p.m.; Mostly '90s, 8 p.m.

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Andrea Paquin, 6 p.m.

Bonfire: Shana Stack Band, 9 p.m.
Derryfield: Dave Ayotte Band, 6 p.m.; Chad Lamarsh Band, 8 p.m.

Foundry: Garrett Smith, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Paul Gormley, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Musical Brunch with Brooks Hubbard, 10 a.m.

Great North Aleworks: Colin Hart, 3 p.m.

The Hill: Peter Pappas, 5:30 p.m.

Murphy's: Jimmy's Right, 9:30 p.m.
Shaskeen: Slim Volume, 9 p.m.
Strange Brew: The Whole Loaf, 9 p.m.

Wild Rover: Johnny Angel, 7 p.m.

Meredith
Twin Barns: Ian Archibold, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Bella Perrotta, 6 p.m.

Milford
Riley's: Last Stand, 8 p.m.

Nashua
Casey Magee's: Two Drink Minimum, 8 p.m.
Haluwa: On the Loose, 8 p.m.
San Francisco Kitchen: Scott King, 6:30 p.m.
Terminus: Haishen; Conduit; Novako, 8 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's: Robert & Rich, 6:30 p.m.

Pittsfield
Over the Moon: Miner & Ryan, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Paul Warnick, 2 p.m.; Moneykat Band, 7 p.m.; Maty Luneau, 9:30 p.m.
The Goat: Mike Jetti, 9 p.m.

Salem
Luna Bistro: Phil Jacques, 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 12
Bedford
Copper Door: Rob Dumais, 11 a.m.
Murphy's: Steve Aubert, 10 a.m.; Steve Baker, 1 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: Chris Powers, 4 p.m.

Contoocook
Cider Co.: Joel Begin, 1 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Dave Ayotte Duo, 5 p.m.

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

Hampton
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Ray Zerkle, 1 p.m.
Smuttynose: The Funeral Puppets, 5:30 p.m.

Hudson
Lynn's 102: Billy Stephens, 4 p.m.

Laconia
Fratello's: Kyle Dumais, 6 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Chuck n John, 2 p.m.

Manchester
Bonfire: free line dancing, 7 p.m.

Derryfield: J-Lo, 5 p.m.
The Goat: Mike Jetti 10 a.m.; Andrew Dostie 7 p.m.
Strange Brew: One Big Soul Jam, 7 p.m.

Milford
Riley's Place: blues jam, 1 p.m.

Nashua
Stella Blu: Johnny Angel, 3 p.m.

tro, Sunday, May 19, 12:30 p.m.
 • **Nick Callas** Music Hall Lounge, Friday, May 24, 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

• **Juston McKinney** Colonial, Saturday, May 25, 8 p.m.

• **Brad Mastrangelo/Steve Scarfo/Jeff Koen** Tupelo, Saturday, May 25, 8 p.m.

• **James Dorsey** Headliners, Saturday, May 25, 8:30 p.m.

• **Jason Cordova/Liam Hales** McCue's, Saturday, May 25, 8:30 p.m.

• **Will Noonan** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, May 25, 8:30 p.m.

• **Piff the Magic Dragon** Colonial, Wednesday, May 30, 8 p.m.

• **Brian Glowacki** Rex, Thursday, May 31, 7:30 p.m.

• **Brian Beaudoin** Headliners, Saturday, June 1, 8:30 p.m.

• **Tim McKeever** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, June 1, 8:30 p.m.

• **Tony V** McCue's Saturday, June 1, 8:30 p.m.

• **Frank Santos Jr., R-Rated Hypnotist** Makris, Thursday, June 6, 8 p.m.

• **Hasan Minhaj** Nashua Center for the Arts, Thursday, June 6, 8 p.m.

ACE GOES PLACES



Ace Aceto has gone from doing stand-up sets at bars and nightclubs in his hometown of Westerly, Rhode Island, to opening for comedians like Jon Stewart and Lewis Black. He's even played leading roles in Shakespeare plays and written a few children's books. He returns to Headliners (DoubleTree By Hilton, 700 Elm St., Manchester, headlinersnh.com) on Saturday, May 11, at 8:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 plus fees.

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Venues
Amato Center for the Performing Arts

56 Mont Vernon, Milford, 672-1002, amatocenter.org

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

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

Chunky's
 707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com

Colonial Theatre
 609 Main St., Laconia, 800-657-8774, coloniallaconia.com

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

Headliners Comedy Club
 DoubleTree By Hilton, 700 Elm St., Manchester, headlinersnh.com

Kooks Cafe & Beach Bar

1191 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 380-0552, kooksnh.com

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

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

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

Main Street Grill
 126 W. Main St., Hillsborough; 290-4887, mainstreetgrillandbar.com

Makris Lobster & Steak House
 354 Sheep Davis Road in Concord; 225-7665, eatalobster.com

Martha's Exchange Restaurant & Brewery
 185 Main St., Nashua, 883-8781, marthas-exchange.com

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

Portsmouth, mccuescomedy-club.com

Murphy's Taproom
 494 Elm St., Manchester, scampscomey.com/shows

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

The Music Hall Lounge
 131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org

Nashua Center for the Arts
 201 Main St., Nashua, 800-657-8774, nashuacenterforthearts.com

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

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

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



Cory Gee

Ruby Room Comedy
 Shaskeen, 909 Elm St., Manchester, 491-0720, rubyroom-comedy.com

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

Strange Brew Tavern
 88 Market St., Manchester, 666-4292, strangebrewtavern.net

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

Weekly comedy nights
 • **Wednesday** Ruby Room at the Shaskeen, 9 p.m.
 • **Thursdays** Laugh Attic at

Strange Brew, 8:30 p.m.
 • **Saturday** Murphy's Taproom, 8 p.m.

Events

• **Tim McKeever** Headliners at Makris, Thursday, May 9, 9 p.m.

• **Gianmarco Soresi** Music Hall Lounge, Thursday, May 9, 8:30 p.m.

• **Jay Leno** Music Hall, Friday, May 10, 8 p.m.

• **Mother of a Comedy Show** Rex, Saturday, May 11, 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

• **Ace Aceto** Headliners, Saturday, May 11, 8:30 p.m.

• **Joey Carroll** McCue's, Saturday, May 11, 8:30 p.m.

• **Marty Caproni** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, May 11, 8:30 p.m.

• **Brian Glowacki** Music Hall Lounge, Saturday, May 18, 6 p.m.

• **Philip Anthony** Chunky's Manchester, Saturday, May 18, 8:30 p.m.

• **Jim McCue** McCue's, Saturday, May 18, 8:30 p.m.

• **Cory Gee** Headliners, Saturday, May 18, 8:30 p.m.

• **R-Rated Hypnotist** Luna Bis-

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

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

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Andrea Paquin 2 p.m.; RockSpring, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.
Grill 28: Phil Jaques, 11 a.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Matt Fuller, 11 a.m.
Luna Bistro: Jim Tyrell Dueling Pianos, 12:30 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Fratello's: Richard Cumming, 6:30 p.m.
 5:30 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Monday Night Muse with Lisa Guyer, 7 p.m.

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

The Goat: Musical Bingo Nation, 7 p.m.; Johnny Friday, 9 p.m.
Salona: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

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

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

Portsmouth
The Goat: Musical Bingo Nation, 7 p.m.; Andrew Dostie, 9 p.m.

Tuesday, May 14
Bedford
Murphy's: Lewis Goodwin, 5:30 p.m.

Concord
Barley House: Irish session, 6 p.m.
Hermanos: State Street Combo,

6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: open mic, 8 p.m.

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

Laconia
Fratello's: Duke Snyder, 5:30 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Clint Lapointe, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: karaoke, 8 p.m.
KC's Rib Shack: Paul & Nate open mic, 7 p.m.
Stark Brewing: Endless Skies Band, 7 p.m.
Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 8 p.m.

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

Portsmouth
The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.
Press Room: Soggy Po' Boys, 9 p.m.

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

Seabrook
Backyard Burgers: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 15
Bedford
Murphy's: Dalton Sayball, 5:30 p.m.

Concord
Hermanos: State Street Combo, 6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.
Uno: Garrett Smith, 6 p.m.

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

Epping
Telly's: Johnny Angel, 7 p.m.

Hampton
Smuttynose: Redemption, 5:30 p.m.

Wally's: Steve Dennis, 7 p.m.

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

Laconia
Fratello's: Rickard Cumming, 5:30 p.m.

Manchester
Derryfield: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Joe Winslow, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: 603 line dancing 7 p.m.; Mike Jetti, 10 p.m.
Stark Brewing: Cox karaoke, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: open mic w/ Will Bemiss, 8 p.m.

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

Milford
Riley's: Acoustic Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Stonecutters Pub: open mic, 8 p.m.

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

Seabrook
Chop Shop: DJ Manny karaoke, 7:30 p.m.



SMALL-SCREEN CHANTEUSE

You might not recognize **Jenny Owen Youngs** by name, but if you've watched TV series like *Weeds*, *Grey's Anatomy* or *Nurse Jackie*, you've heard her poignant, whimsical take on indie folk pop. She stops by the Press Room (77 Daniel St., Portsmouth, 431-5186, pressroomnh.com) on Saturday, May 11, at 7 p.m. for an all-ages show. Tickets range from \$20 to \$23, plus fees.

NH MADE & THE GREAT NEW ENGLAND Craft & Artisan Show



April showers bring
 May Flowers show

A ONE DAY SHOW
 MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND
10-6 Saturday, May 11

MERRIMACK OUTLETS IN TAX-FREE NH



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GNECraftArtisanShows.com

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Trivia

Events

- **The Office 21+ trivia night** Thursday, May 9, 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com).
- **Cult Classics 21+ trivia night** Thursday, May 16, 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com).
- **2000s trivia night** Friday, May 17, 7 p.m. at 603 Brewery (42 Main St., Londonderry, 603brewery.com).
- **Harry Potter family-friendly trivia night** Sunday, May 19, 6 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com).
- **'00s Music 21+ trivia night** Thursday, May 23, 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com).
- **21+ trivia night** Thursday, May 30, 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (707 Huse Road, Manchester; chunkys.com).

Weekly

- **Thursday** trivia with Game Time Trivia at Mitchell BBQ (50 N. Main St., Rochester, 332-2537, mitchellhillbbq.com) at 6 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Reed's North (2 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2143, reednorth.com) from 6 to 8 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Station 101 (193 Union Sq., Milford, 249-5416) at 6:30 p.m.
- **Thursday** music trivia at Day of the Dead Taqueria (454 Charles Bancroft Hwy. in Litchfield, 377-7664) at 6:30 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia with Geeks Who Drink at the Barley House (132 N. Main St., Concord, thebarleyhouse.com) at 7 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** Opinionation by Sporcle trivia at Uno Pizzeria & Grill (15 Fort Eddy Road in Concord; 226-8667) at 7 p.m.



The Office

- **Thursday** trivia at Hop Knot (1000 Elm St., Manchester, 232-3731, hopknotnh.com) at 7 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Shooters Sports Pub (6 Columbus Ave., Exeter, 772-3856) at 7:15 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Liquid Therapy (14 Court St., Nashua, 402-9391) at 7:30 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Game Changer Sports Bar (4 Orchard View Dr., Londonderry; 216-1396, gamechangersportsbar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Strange Brew (88 Market St., Manchester, 666-4292) at 8 p.m.
- **First Thursday of every month** trivia at Fody's (9 Clinton St., Nashua; fodystavern.com) at 8 p.m.

- **First and third Thursday of every month** trivia at To Share Brewing (720 Union St., Manchester, tosharebrewing.com) at 6:30 p.m.
- **Friday** trivia at Biergarten Anheuser-Busch (221 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack) from 6 to 8 p.m.
- **Sunday** trivia at Mountain Base Brewery (553 Mast Road, No. 111, Goffstown, 315-8382) at 4 p.m.
- **Monday** Pub Quiz at Shaskeen (909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, shaskeenirishpub.com) at 7:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday** trivia at Able Ebenezer Brewing (31 Columbia Circle, Merrimack, 844-223-2253) at 6 p.m.
- **Tuesday** trivia at Sea Dog Brewing (5 Water St., Exeter, 793-5116) at 6 p.m.
- **Tuesday** trivia at Second Brook Bar & Grill (1100 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, secondbrook.com) at 7 p.m.
- **Tuesday** trivia at Fody's (187 Rockingham Road, Derry, 404-6946, fodystavern.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** trivia at Gibb's Garage Bar (3612 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth, gibbsgaragebar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.
- **Tuesday Geeks Who Drink** trivia at Peddler's Daughter (48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlersdaughter.com), from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Community Oven (845 Lafayette Road, Hampton, 601-6311, thecommunityoven.com) at 6 p.m.
- **Wednesday** Brews & Qs trivia, 21+, at Feathered Friend (231 S. Main St., Concord, 715-2347, featheredfriendbrewing.com) at 6 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Lithermans (126 Hall St., Concord, lithermans.beer) at 6 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Otto (33 Water St., Exeter, 810-6886) at 6 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Spyglass Brewing Co. (306 Innovative Way, Nashua, 546-2965, spyglassbrewing.com) at 6 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Topwater

- Brewing (748 Calef Hwy., Barrington, 664-5444) at 6 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Popovers (11 Brickyard Sq., Epping, 734-4724, popoversonthesquare.com) from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
- **Wednesday** The Greatest Trivia in the World at Revolution Taproom and Grill (61 N. Main St., Rochester, 244-3042, revolutiontaproomandgrill.com/upcoming-events) at 6:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at Don Ramon (6 Whitney St., Merrimack, 420-8468) from 7 to 9 p.m.
- **Wednesday Kings Trivia** at KC's Rib Shack (837 Second St., Manchester, 627-7427, ribshack.net), sponsored by Mi Campo, in Manchester 7 to 9 p.m..
- **Wednesday** trivia at City Hall Pub (8 Hanover St.; Manchester, 232-3751, snhhg.com) at 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday World Tavern Trivia** at Fody's Tavern (9 Clinton St. in Nashua, fodystavern.com, 577-9015) at 8 p.m.
- **Second Wednesday of every month** trivia at Park Theatre (19 Main St., Jaffrey; 532-9300, theparktheatre.org) at 7:30 p.m.

Concerts

Venues

Angel City Music Hall
179 Elm St., Manchester, 931-3654, angelcitymusic hall.com

BankNH Pavilion
72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, banknhpavilion.com

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

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

Cisco Brewers
35 Corporate Dr., Portsmouth, ciscobrewersportsmouth.com

Colonial Theatre
609 Main St., Laconia, 800-657-8774, coloniallaconia.com

Concord City Auditorium
2 Prince St., Concord, theaudi.org

The Flying Goose
40 Andover Road, New London, 526-6899, flyinggoose.com

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

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

Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom
169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton

Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com

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

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

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

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

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

The Majestic Theatre
880 Page St., Manchester, 669-7469, majestictheatre.net

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

The Music Hall Lounge
131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusic hall.org

Nashua Center for the Arts
201 Main St., Nashua, 800-657-8774, nashuacenterforthearts.com

The Orchard Chapel
143 Exeter Road, Hampton Falls, 244-0202, thewordbarn.com

Palace Theatre
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

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

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

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

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

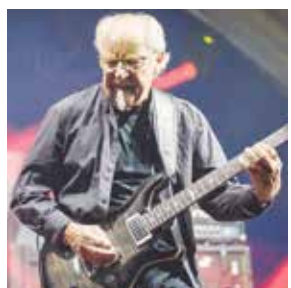
Tupelo Music Hall
10 A St., Derry, 437-5100, tupelomusic hall.com

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

Shows

- **OneBeat** Wednesday, May 8, 7 p.m., Word Barn

- **Martyn Joseph** Wednesday, May 8, 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge
- **Ride** Wednesday, May 8, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace
- **Louise Bichan** Thursday, May 9, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- **Gaby Moreno** Thursday, May 9, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- **The Wood Brothers** Thursday, May 9, 8 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts
- **The Vanity** Thursday, May 9, 8 p.m., Rex
- **Nazareth** Thursday, May 9, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Ariel Posen** Friday, May 10, 7 p.m., Press Room
- **Damn Tall Buildings** Friday, May 10, 7 p.m., Word Barn
- **Big Yellow Taxi: The Music of Joni Mitchell** Friday, May 10, 7 p.m., The Strand
- **Teddy Thompson** Friday, May 10, 7:30 p.m., Rex
- **Kansas** Friday, May 10, 8 p.m., Chubb Theatre
- **Front Bottoms** Friday, May 10, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **Ariel Posen/Justin Saladino** Friday, May 10, 8 p.m., Press Room
- **Zac Francis** Friday, May 10, 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge
- **Dueling Pianos** Friday, May 10, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **PMAC Jazz Night** Saturday, May 11, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., Music Hall Lounge
- **Kenny Garrett Quartet** Saturday, May 11, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- **Josey Scott's Saliva/Tantric** Saturday, May 11, 8 p.m., Angel City
- **Jenny Owen Youngs/Emily**

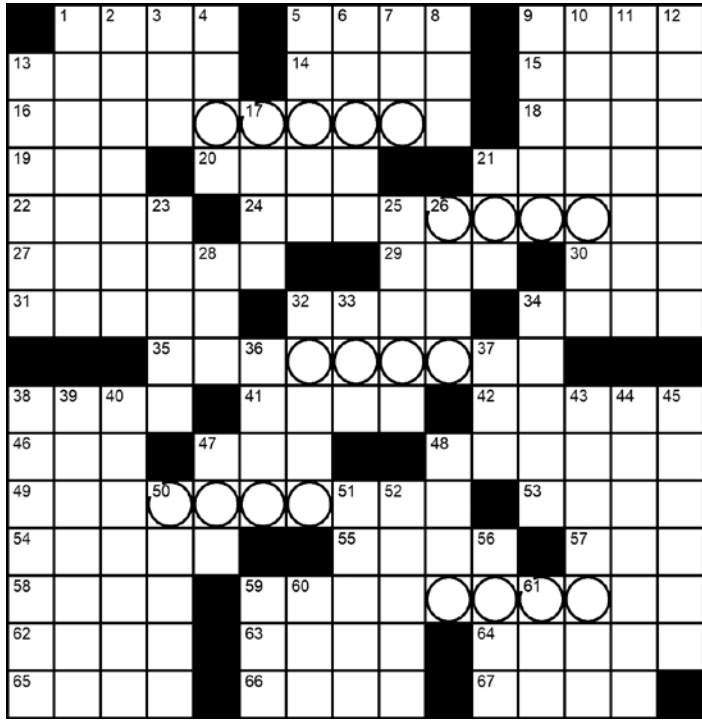


Martin Barre

- Kinney** Saturday, May 11, 8 p.m., Press Room
- **The Wood Brothers** Saturday, May 11, 8 p.m., Music Hall
- **Frankie Cosmos** Saturday, May 11, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace
- **Martin Barre** Saturday, May 11, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Dueling Pianos** Sunday, May 12, 12:30 & 4:30 p.m., Luna Bistro
- **Bandits on the Run** Sunday, May 12, 7 p.m., Music Hall Lounge
- **Albert Cummings Band** Sunday, May 12, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- **Rickie Lee Jones** Sunday, May 12, 7 p.m., Tupelo
- **Yellowhouse Blues Band** Monday, May 13, 7 p.m., Jimmy's
- **David Foster & Katharine McKee** Wednesday, May 15, 7 p.m., Music Hall
- **Smile Empty Soul** Wednesday, May 15, 7 p.m., Angel City
- **Griffin William Sherry** Wednesday, May 15, 8 p.m., Press Room
- **Candlelight: The Music of Hans Zimmer** Thursday, May 16, 6 p.m., Rex

- **Fleetwood Macked** (Fleetwood Mac tribute) Thursday, May 16, 8 p.m., LaBelle Derry
- **Dueling Pianos** Thursday, May 16, 8 p.m., Makris
- **Candlelight: The Music of Coldplay** Thursday, May 16, 8:30 p.m., Rex
- **Tapestry: The Music of Carole King** Friday, May 17, 7:30 p.m., Chubb Theatre
- **Choir! Choir! Choir!** Friday, May 17, 7:30 p.m., Rex
- **The Linda Ronstadt Experience** Friday, May 17, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **Gary Hoey** Friday, May 17, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **dub apocalypse** Friday, May 17, 8 p.m., BNH Stage
- **Trixter** Friday, May 17, 9 p.m., Angel City
- **Counterfeit Cash** (Johnny Cash tribute) Saturday, May 18, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Rex
- **Lakes Region Symphony Orchestra** Saturday, May 18, 7 p.m., Colonial
- **Larry Carlton** Saturday, May 18, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Jimmy's
- **Mullett** Saturday, May 18, 8 p.m., BNH Stage
- **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** Saturday, May 18, 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Our Last Night/Broadside/Normandie** Saturday, May 18, and Sunday, May 19, 7:30 p.m., Casino Ballroom
- **Dueling Pianos** Saturday, May 18, 8 p.m., Fody's Tavern
- **Granite State Blues Challenge** Sunday, May 19, 1 p.m., Bank of NH Stage

"No Fear"—just the first parts of the phobias.



- Across**
1. "___ the weather up there?"
 5. Hurricane response org.
 9. Pleased
 13. Occupied, as a desk
 14. Tehran's location
 15. Shine partner
 16. Ancient Greek mathematician who couldn't bring his triangle theorem out into the open?
 18. Comcast and Spectrum, for two
 19. Abbr. after a seller's suggested price
 20. Seat of Washoe County, Nevada
 21. Like fishnets
 22. "Good for life" pet food brand
 24. Job interview subject, even when you can't face the work?
 27. Alpacas' cousins
 29. "Boom Clap" performer Charli ___
 30. 1055, to Caesar
 31. Mr., in Spain
 32. ___ stands
 34. Spanakopita cheese
 35. 1998 National League MVP who's not big on germs?
 38. Spice Girl who turned 50 in April 2024
 41. "___ I a stinker?" (Bugs Bunny line)
 42. Tricks
 46. Cold War broadcast across the Atlantic, for short
 47. Bowling target
 48. Unfortunate event
 49. Exactly right, but without the blood?
 53. Lawnmower brand that means "bull"

54. Play dirty, per a Michelle Obama catchphrase
55. Rowboat need
57. Coating material
58. Is repentant of
59. "Like that's believable, even at this awful height!"
62. Admin.'s aide
63. One of the Hawaiian Islands
64. Nervous utterances

65. Chaotic state
 66. Tiny puff of smoke
 67. Act gloomy
- Down**
1. Seat at a barn dance, maybe
 2. Footstool
 3. When doubled, a guitar effect
 4. "A ___ Is Born"
 5. Shrek's wife
 6. It might be clerical
 7. Old ewe in "Babe"
 8. Response, for short
 9. "Peer Gynt" composer Edvard
 10. Nimble
 11. Road-surface material
 12. Songwriter Buddy who co-founded Capitol Records
 13. Gives away the ending of
 17. 100 ___ ("Doritos & Fritos" duo)
 21. Mystery guest moniker
 23. Internet comedy group since 2002
 25. Live and breathe
 26. ___-1 ("Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire" vehicle)
 28. Legendary Notre Dame coach Parseghian
 32. Acid in proteins
 33. Ant. antonym
 34. Goethe "deal with the devil" character
 36. Injure badly
 37. '80s anti-missile plan, for short
 38. List of events
 39. Ineffectual
 40. Like homes without TVs, slangily

43. Chance to take your shot?
 44. Symptom of otitis
 45. Multipurpose utensils
 47. Chapel bench
 48. "___ Breckinridge" (Gore Vidal novel)
 50. Dawson, Combs, Anderson, Karn, O'Hurley, and Harvey, e.g.
 51. ___ Arcade (business trying to look cool in "Wayne's World")
 52. Absorb eagerly
 56. "You rebel ___" ("Return of the Jedi" line)
 59. Impress
 60. "Bali ___" ("South Pacific" highlight)
 61. P, in the Greek alphabet
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KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

1	3+	48×	
2÷			2-
	6+		
7+			2

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WORKSPACE:

CHALLENGING

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

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RULES

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- 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.
- Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

2÷	3-	3
2	4	1
1	2	3
3	1	4
4	3	2

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

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

Five four-letter weather words ☑□□□

Four punctuation marks □□□□

Four eight-letter words □□□□

Three four-letter fish □□□

Spongy, swampy area □

Last Week's Answers: COAX LYNX HOAX JINX CRUX FLEX FAUX / BARITONE SOPRANO TENOR / JAMAICA ECUADOR ICELAND / LIGHT HEAT / LOON TERN

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

Gotta serve some puzzle

Across

- '03 Story Of The Year hit 'Until The Day ___'
- Mexico's 'Labios Compartidos' band
- Frank Sinatra 'The Night We Called It ___'
- Cher said sooner or later '___ Sleep Alone'
- '38 Special '___ Been The One'
- Like Jedi Skywalker, drummer Bullen of Joe Strummer & The Mescaleros
- Face To Face 'A Miss Is As Good As ___'
- Shopping center Blink-182 takes

- their girls to on 'Time To Break Up'
- Split Enz-inspired Goo Goo Dolls song?
- '77 Judas Priest album for consecutive bad things
- Dylan '___ Went Out One Morning'
- 'The Flying Lip Lock' Nugent
- 'Electric Love' guy
- 'Superwoman' singer White
- Hall & Oates 'Some Things Are Better Left ___'
- Stevie Wonder's mother and 'Signed, Sealed & Delivered' co-writer Mae Hardaway
- Cranberries will miss us on 'When You're ___'

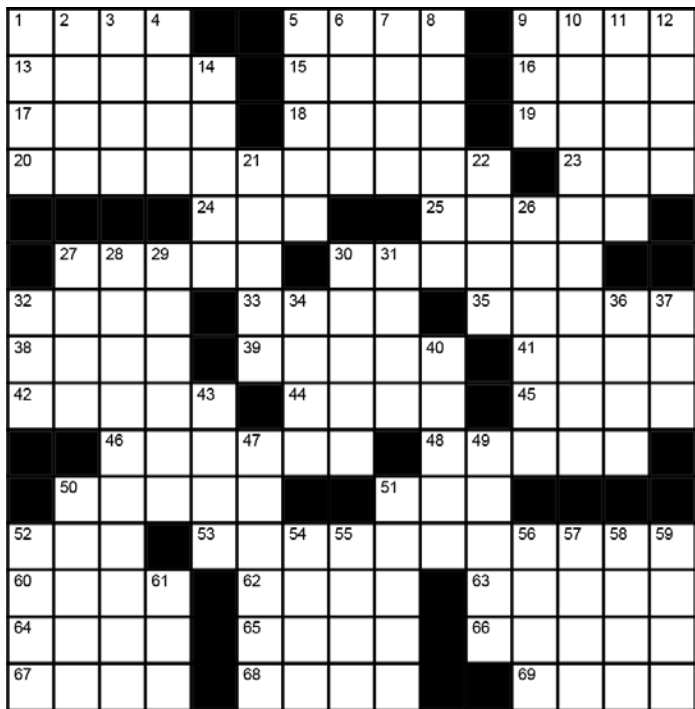
- Coheed & Cambria 'The ___ (Of Blood & Rank)'
- Grateful Dead "___ said was come on in"
- J. Geils 'Must ___ Lost'
- The Police, e.g.
- Half of 80s metalers, w/Armored
- Seal digs the '___ Lisa' painting
- '72 Allman Brothers 'Blue Sky' album '___ Peach'
- Great White album that reeled you in?
- Talking Heads 'Girlfriend Is Better' singer David
- Evan of Lemonheads
- Restroom facility, to British band
- 'Can't Wait One Minute More' NY band
- Santana/Chad Kroeger hit 'Why ___'
- Cut, as a member
- My Darkest Days feat Zakk Wylde '___ Star Dancing'
- Paul Simon '___ Hermanos'
- Moreno of West Side Story
- Like tour that ends all square
- Public rage over new star
- 'On Call' Kings Of ___

- Carol Burnett singing friend Martha
- ___ The Hoople

Down

- ZZ Top "Lord I thought ___ in Heaven"
- Child star/singer Lovato
- Scotland's Sutherland Brother that is not Gavin
- Jazz's Fitzgerald
- Ashlee Simpson lip synced or did this on SNL
- Like distant seating area
- Smooth jazz guitarist that gets zeroes?
- Improvises banter to crowd (hyph)
- Sam Cooke was on this Will Smith boxing flick soundtrack
- 'Hungry Like The Wolf' band
- Lady Antebellum wants 'Just ___' with a date's goodnight
- '20 David Gilmour single '___ Have Ghosts'
- Georgia band that is not right-handed?
- Alt Godfathers Yo La ___
- Sing/songer Gundersen named

- after ark driver?
- Goer that smashes windows after a no- show
- 'Hey Dude' Brits ___ Shaker
- Everly Brothers '___ Do Is Dream'
- Duffy will '___ Your Parade' if slighted
- Stabbing Westward album that strips of divinity?
- John Mayer song about an advertising sign?
- 'Give Him A Great Big Kiss' Shangri-___
- Luke Combs got the lower hand on 'She Got The Best ___'
- Kiss misspell 'Rock And Roll All ___'
- Morbid Bloodrock song
- Buck-Tick album for a no-no
- 'We're An American Band' producer Rundgren
- 'Like A Rolling Stone' keyman Al
- Aussies ___ I
- Kind of 'Chicken' to Little Feat
- Country singer Rockie
- Bell of Fuel
- Bob Dylan played ___ Southeastern University in FL
- Anastasio of Phish
- Late 80s MTV VJ Curry
- 'Epidemia' metalers III ___
- BT Express '___' ('Til You're Satisfied)
- Cobra Starship 'The City ___ War'
- Big Interview host Rather



R&R answer from pg 40 of 5/2



Jonesin' answer from pg 39 of 5/2



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 XX.

King Classic Sudoku

Puzzle A

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

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Difficulty: ★

King Classic Sudoku

Puzzle B

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

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Difficulty: ★★★

King Classic Sudoku

Puzzle C

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

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Difficulty: ★★★★★

SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *Surrender: 40 Songs, One Story*, by Bono, born May 10, 1960.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) I am not sticking to my lane but I am not swerving all over the road either. You might say I'm flying a hot air balloon over some very interesting terrain. If you can't make it work in two dimensions, add a third.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) We just needed to be at our best, which would mean at least being rehearsed. At least.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) We wrote the song that we needed to hear. After you write it, listen to it.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) If you're a rock band that formed in the late 1970s, you have a Beatles view of the world or you have a Stones view. Though Mick Jagger was the greatest frontman ever, we wanted to be the Beatles more than we wanted to be the Stones, in the sense that The Beatles changed their sound on pretty much every album. It's only rock and roll.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) Such was Adam's confidence that it took us a few months to discover his musical bluffing, that he was not playing the right notes in the right order or in any particular key. It didn't seem to matter. It doesn't.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) ... I understood that in the end I am one quarter of an artist without Edge, Adam, and Larry. More than an eighth, less than a half.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) I am becoming aware that the life of a romantic can sometimes be confusing for the heart. I have evidence, I am reading Shakespeare's sonnets. Good idea, try those.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) Even if you're at the back of a stadium or a festival crowd, still we want your

complete attention. It is up to you where you direct your attention.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) Did our band want to create a soundtrack for change or help create the change itself? I ran from this question. Run back.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) Romantic love, an epic subject, wears itself out unless it moves toward the real and away from the fantasy. Time to do the dishes, romantically.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) The song ['Beautiful Day'] had liftoff and lifted us out of wherever we were in our lives, brought us into orbit and back to earth in four minutes and five seconds. Because what's the use of liftoff if ... you don't get the advantage of perspective? Climb a hill and take a look around.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) When I wrote my first song as an eighteen-year-old, money was the last thing on my mind. What was on my mind was making something from nothing. What was on my mind was music. Art. What's on your mind? 🍷

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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words that 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 "9 to 5" star (5)	_____
2 "Emma" author (6)	_____
3 "30 Rock" actress (9)	_____
4 "Hollywood Game Night" host (5)	_____
5 famous zoologist (7)	_____
6 Dr. Quinn of "Dr. Quinn" (7)	_____
7 "The Piano" screenwriter (7)	_____

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WS	YM	KI	PI	EN
KR	LYN	ODA	GO	SE
DA	ST	LL	FON	CAM
ON	AU	CH	AKO	OUR

Last Week's Answers: 1. LOST 2. DISCARDED 3. CURMUDGEON 4. BORON 5. EXCESSIVE 6. SHARK 7. WALDOS

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Sudoku Answers from pg 40 of 5/2

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty: ★ 4/15

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 4/17

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 4/19

Crepe de la Weird

The latest plane failure story — about the emergency slide that fell off a Boeing 767 leaving JFK Airport last week — gets a “whodathunkit” follow-up, the New York Post reported. On April 28, the slide washed up right in front of the beachside home in Belle Harbor, Queens, of Jake Bissell-Linsk, who happens to be the attorney who filed a federal lawsuit against Boeing after the Alaska Airlines door blowout in January. Belle Harbor is about 6 miles southeast of JFK. “I didn’t want to touch it, but I got close enough to get a close look at it,” Bissell-Linsk said. He said a Delta Airlines crew arrived a few hours later and threw the slide into the back of a truck. “We haven’t decided if the slide is relevant to our case,” he noted. *NY Post, April 29*

Animal Antics

The large animals are restless lately. On April 28, four zebras made a break for it from a trailer at a highway exit in Washington State, The New York Times reported. Kristine Keltgen was hauling them to her petting zoo in Anaconda, Montana, when the latch on the trailer became loose and the zebras “bolted out.” Police officers and volunteers headed up

the effort to corral them, but David Danton of Mount Vernon, Washington, was a ringer: Danton is a former rodeo clown and bullfighter. He and his wife happened to be driving by and stopped to help. “It was kind of divine intervention,” Danton’s wife said. Danton built a makeshift chute leading to a horse pen on a nearby farm. “It’s just about being quiet, working them gentle and not getting excited,” he said. As of May 2, one of the zebras was still on the lam, but Keltgen was sure it would be found. *NY Times, April 29*

The Golden Age of Air Travel

Passengers aboard an American Airlines flight from Washington, D.C., to Phoenix on April 25 were delayed by about 90 minutes after their flight had to make an unplanned stop in Oklahoma City, Simple Flying reported. While AA’s official statement called the problem a “mechanical issue,” social media reports indicated that the toilets became clogged, and the plane had to land for maintenance. One traveler posted: “I was on this flight. Apparently, the lavatory tanks were NOT emptied from the previous LAX to DCA flight the night before.” *Simply Flying, April 27*

Tourists Behaving Badly

Fujikawaguchiko, Japan, “is a town built on tourism,” said Michie Motomochi, the owner of a cafe in the city. So it says a lot that the town began constructing a large black screen on a stretch of sidewalk that is a favorite spot for viewing and photographing Mount Fuji in the distance. The Associated Press reported that construction began on April 30; the screen will be 8 feet high and 65 feet long. “I welcome many visitors,” Motomochi said, “... but there are many things about their manners that are worrying,” such as littering, crossing the road in traffic, ignoring traffic lights and trespassing. The town has reportedly tried other tactics — signs in multiple languages and security guards — to no avail. *AP, April 30*

Suspicious Confirmed

Ashley Class of Charlotte, North Carolina, was stumped by her toddler’s reports of monsters in the wall of her bedroom, NPR reported. For months, Saylor told her mom she could hear something, but Class chalked it up to the stress of a new baby in the house. She and her husband deployed “monster spray” (water) and pretended to look for the monsters. But finally, Class called a pest control specialist, who went

into Saylor’s room with a thermal camera. “It lit up like Christmas,” Class said. “It was floor to ceiling.” Behind Saylor’s wall was a 100-pound honeycomb and about 50,000 bees, which the beekeeper removed. But not before the bees had done tens of thousands of dollars in damage. “It’s been a nightmare,” Class said. *NPR, April 30*

Surprise!

When David Loop of Sierra Pacific Furbabies, a feline rescue organization in California, found a box dumped in front of their office in April, the attached note explained that the “kitten” was found “in Mt. Rubidoux hiking path.” But when he opened the box, Loop said instantly, “I’m pretty sure this is a bobcat kitten.” Sure enough, Newsweek reported, when Loop contacted a local wildlife center, they thought the bobcat kitten was 3 to 5 weeks old. The furball has been transferred to a wildlife center where it will hang out with other bobcats and eventually be reintroduced to the wild. *Newsweek, April 30*

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

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