

# the Hippo

NOV 28 - DEC 4, 2024

A CHRISTMAS  
CAROL P. 40

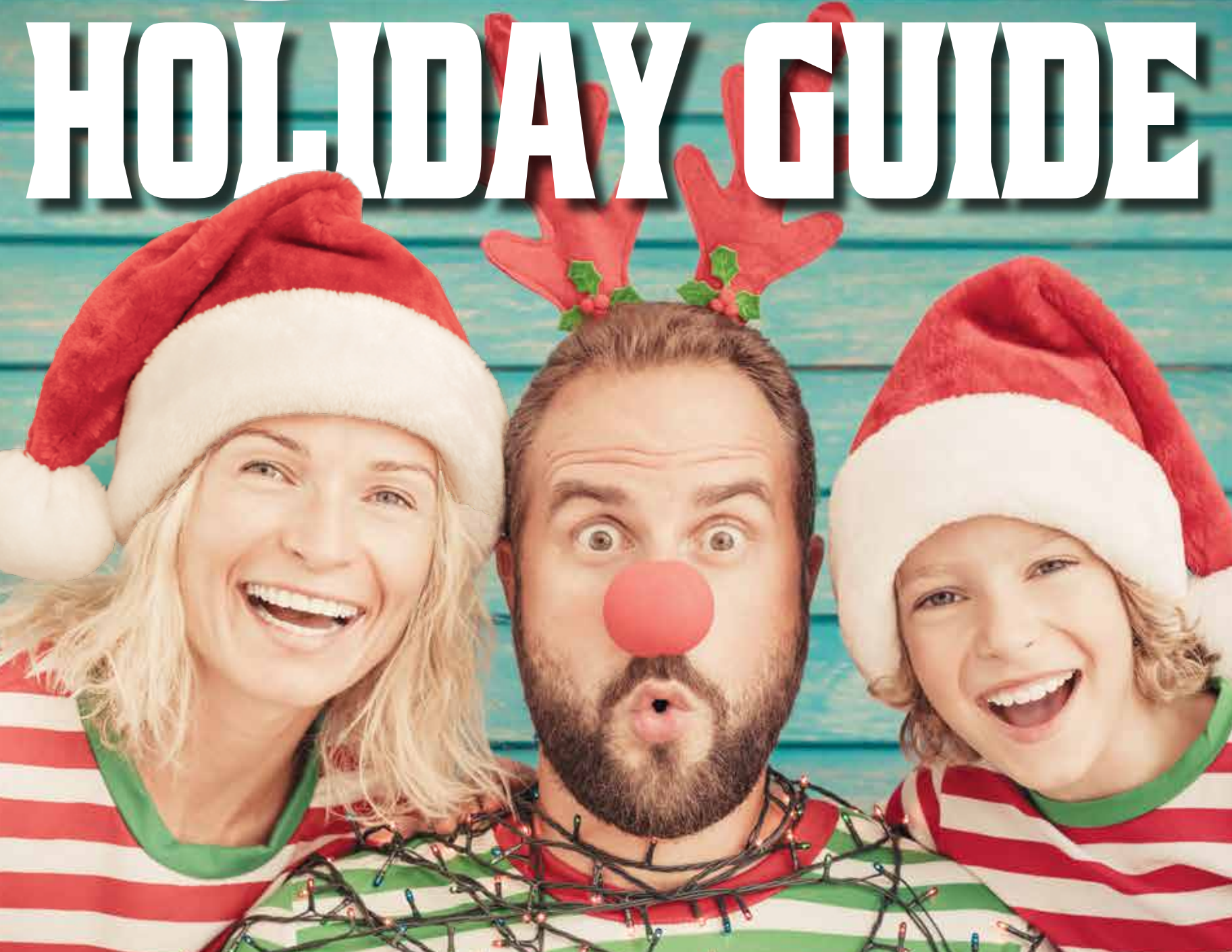
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LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

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# 2024

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**ON THE COVER**

**10** It's our annual Holiday Guide! We've got all the fun happening from Thanksgiving Eve through New Year's Day. Find all the theater, music, arts, food, movies and more to fill your schedule with seasonal excitement.

**ALSO ON THE COVER** Michael Witthaus takes a look at one of this season's many *A Christmas Carol* productions (page 40). Find a new take on Indian takeout in Milford (page 44). And for this long weekend we have So. Much. Music. Check out the supersized Music This Week starting on page 50.

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**KICK OFF THE**  
*Holidays*  
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**The Biergarten hours:    The Gift Shop hours:**

|            |                   |               |            |                   |               |
|------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|-------------------|---------------|
| <b>FRI</b> | <b>Nov<br/>29</b> | <b>11-9pm</b> | <b>FRI</b> | <b>Nov<br/>29</b> | <b>11-7pm</b> |
| <b>SAT</b> | <b>Nov<br/>30</b> | <b>11-6pm</b> | <b>SAT</b> | <b>Nov<br/>30</b> | <b>11-6pm</b> |
| <b>SUN</b> | <b>Dec<br/>1</b>  | <b>11-5pm</b> | <b>SUN</b> | <b>Dec<br/>1</b>  | <b>11-5pm</b> |

**Red Cross Blood Drive Friday, 11/29 from 11am – 5pm**

# NEWS & NOTES

## E-ZPass scam alert

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation reported that a smishing scam targeted New Hampshire residents by texting people with links to settle outstanding toll amounts, according to a Nov. 19 press release. “NH E-ZPass will never send text messages requesting payment for tolls with late fees,” the release said. Check accounts via the official NH Turnpike E-ZPass website, [ezpassnh.com](http://ezpassnh.com). “Those who receive a fraudulent text can file a complaint with the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center [atc3.gov](http://atc3.gov). That is a site dedicated to sharing information on Internet crimes across law enforcement agencies. Recipients can also forward the suspicious message to 7726 (SPAM) to alert their mobile provider,” the release said.

## Support for youth

The New Hampshire Department of Corrections and the Manchester Police Athletic League announced a partnership program called the CHOICES initiative, a “restorative justice program aimed at fostering positive community impact by supporting high-risk youth in greater Manchester,” according to a Nov. 22 Corrections release. “The CHOICES initiative — Creating Hope, Opportunities, Inspiring Change, Excellence & Success — builds on MPAL’s mission of strengthening bonds between young people and law enforcement while addressing the challenges faced by at-risk youth. Through this collaboration, NHDOC will provide unique mentorship opportunities by involving

individuals under the department’s supervision, who have completed training and demonstrated their commitment to community betterment,” the release said. In addition to mentorships, the program will participate in guided visits to state prison facilities for candid discussions about the long-term impact of choices, the release said. For more information on CHOICES and MPAL and NHDOC’s work with youth, see [manchesterpolicethleticleague.org](http://manchesterpolicethleticleague.org).

## Google news

New Hampshire Attorney General John M. Formella is joining other state attorneys general and the United States Department of Justice in “proposing a package of remedies to end Google’s unlawful monopoly over internet search engines and to restore competition to benefit consumers,” according to a press release from the Attorney General’s office on Nov. 21. “In a landmark decision in August 2024, a D.C. federal district court judge ruled that Google violated federal antitrust laws by illegally maintaining a monopoly in online search and search text ads. At issue now are the remedies the court will impose to end Google’s improper conduct that has stifled competition and harmed consumers, and the steps necessary to restore competition for the benefit of consumers,” the release said.

“The proposed final judgment, ... filed with the court seeks to end ... Google’s search distribution contracts and revenue sharing agreements by prohibiting Google

from paying to be the initial default search engine on any phone, device, or browser. Google is also required to share its data and information ...with rivals to improve the competitive choices available to consumers,” the release said. A hearing on the proposed remedies is scheduled to begin on April 22, the release said.

## Dam news

According to a press release, The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services announced that the Governor and Executive Council approved \$475,000 for the Fiske Dam Removal project in the town of Hinsdale and this Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund grant was awarded to the Nature Conservancy. The Fiske Dam Removal project will restore riparian and wetland functions on a portion of the Ashuelot River, according to the release. The concrete dam removal will also restore aquatic organism passage and reconnect 7.44 miles of upstream river and streams in the Ashuelot River System to the Connecticut River and Atlantic Ocean with additional benefits that include restoration of approximately 154 river and stream miles for fish, mitigation of flood risks for Hinsdale and surrounding community areas, creation of a permanent Ashuelot River access point and providing conservation areas with improved water quality for ecosystem health, according to the release.

## Girl Scout news

Girl Scouts from New Hamp-

**Concord** Community Music School (23 Wall St. in **Concord**, [ccmusic-school.org](http://ccmusic-school.org)) will feature Zefira Trio (violinist, cellist and pianist) for its Bach’s Lunch on Thursday, Dec. 5, at 12:10 p.m.

Author Ty Gagne will discuss his new book *The Lions of Winter: Survival and Sacrifice on Mount Washington*, about a 1982 four-day search for two missing ice climbers on Mount Washington, with Laura Knoy on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 6:30 p.m. at Gibson’s Bookstore (45 S. Main St. in **Concord**).

Balin Books (Somerset Plaza, 375 Amherst St. in **Nashua**; [balinbooks.com](http://balinbooks.com)) will host two authors on Saturday, Nov. 30. At 11 a.m., Hattie Berstein will sign and discuss her book *Don Quixote’s Hammer: Tapping into the Healing Power of the Nervous System*. At 2 p.m., U.S. Marshal Steve Monier will sign and discuss his book *No One Has To Die* about the 2007 standoff in Plainfield.

Damian Costello will discuss “Maple, Medicine of Connection: Indigenous Wisdom and Communal Medicine” at the **Pembroke** Town Library (313 Pembroke St.) on Monday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Blessed Sacrament Parish (14 Elm St., **Manchester**, 622-5445, [blessedsacramentnh.org](http://blessedsacramentnh.org)) will serve a Thanksgiving feast Thursday, Nov. 28, from noon to 2 p.m. All are welcome.

The United Way of Greater Nashua will hold its next “Coffee and Causes” talk on “Preventing Falls and Fires at Home” on Friday, Dec. 6, from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Dartmouth Health Lower-Level Conference Room in **Nashua**. The event is free; register at [tinyurl.com/Dec2024-Coffee](http://tinyurl.com/Dec2024-Coffee).

shire and Vermont were recognized for their achievements at a Young Women of Distinction ceremony held by the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains on Nov. 10 in Bedford. Eight of the 13 Girl Scouts who earned Gold Awards (the highest award in Girl Scouts) attended the event to talk about their projects, which require 80 service hours, according to a press release. The event also honored Silver Award and Bronze

Award winners, the release said. Girls interested in learning more about Girl Scouts can check out “Explore Girl Scouts” events on Wednesday, Dec. 11, 6 p.m., at Northwood School, 511 First NH Turnpike in Northwood and on Tuesday, Jan. 7, at 6 p.m. at Peter Woodbury School in the music room, 180 County Road in Bedford. See [girlscoutsgwm.org](http://girlscoutsgwm.org).

**Christmas Tree Farm at The Rocks**

Holiday Craft Fair: Nov. 23! Cut-your-own Christmas trees in Bethlehem, NH. [forestsociety.org/holidays](http://forestsociety.org/holidays)

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# The path forward

Father and son filmmakers talk about their newest documentary

*The Ride Ahead* is a documentary from the father-son director team of Dan and Samuel Habib that follows 21-year-old Samuel as he navigates the challenges of growing up while he experiences GNAO1, a rare genetic neurodevelopmental disorder that caused his cerebral palsy, epilepsy and speech challenges, according to the film's website. The duo won at the 44th Annual News and Documentary Emmy Awards in 2023 with their New York Times Op-Doc *My Disability Roadmap*, which is essentially a trailer for this documentary. The film was first screened as a New Hampshire premiere at the opening night of the New Hampshire Film Festival. The Concord premiere will be on Monday, Dec. 2, at the Bank of NH Stage (16 S. Main St.) at 6 p.m. *The Ride Ahead* will also be screened at Red River Theatres (11 S. Main St., Concord) at various times from Tuesday, Dec. 3, to Thursday, Dec. 12. Visit [rideaheadfilm.com](http://rideaheadfilm.com) for more information or [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com) and [redrivertheatres.org](http://redrivertheatres.org) for tickets.

**Q:** Can you give a brief overview of the film and the kind of the journey that this endeavor has taken you and Samuel on?

**Dan Habib:** *The Ride Ahead* is a new feature-length documentary that Samuel and I just finished this past year. It's been four years in the making. We produced it right through Covid, which was a big challenge, but it started out because, as Samuel may share a little bit in his comments, Samuel had a very inclusive school experience, a lot of great friends here in Concord, in Concord High School, but then you graduate and it's very confusing to know how to transition to adulthood for a lot of people, not just people with disabilities. Samuel had a lot of questions about his education, his employment, relationships, where he's going to live, how he's going to make new friends, right? I mean, things you talk about all the time. So we just hatched this idea that he could both learn how to navigate the path of adulthood by reaching out to mentors in the disability world who had already been through that transition about their experiences while making a film about that journey, about that exploration of all these questions.

## The Ride Ahead

Concord premiere Monday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m. at Bank of NH Stage, 16 S. Main St., [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com)  
Tickets \$22.25 plus small fee

Screenings Tuesday, Dec. 3, to Thursday, Dec. 12, at Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St., Concord, [redrivertheatres.org](http://redrivertheatres.org); typical screening times are 1:30, 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.



Dan and Samuel Habib.

We started researching it back in 2019 and Samuel started thinking about people he wanted to interview, some of whom he knew for years, like Pete Jones and Judy Heumann and Bob Williams, some people he had just heard about and he wanted to reach out to. The film is documenting Samuel's journey into adulthood while he reaches out for guidance from these badass adults with disabilities all over the country. We decided to also film it from a first-person point of view. Samuel has two GoPro cameras mounted on his wheelchair, one facing in, one facing out, that filmed Samuel's life experiences throughout that time, and then we would hire professional crews to film the interviews. One of the really important things we decided from the beginning was to hire a majority disabled film and outreach crew. The majority of the people that had paid jobs in this film are disabled people. And that's very unique in the documentary industry, so we're really proud of that too.

## What were some challenges in making the film?

**Samuel Habib:** Setting up and getting all of the interviews done was the most challenging part of creating the film. We had a lot of misadventures during our travels. On our flight to Indianapolis to interview Andrew Peterson, they turned my power wheelchair on its side both ways — and it got damaged both ways! On our trip to D.C. to interview Judy Heumann and Bob Williams, we had a six-hour flight delay, and then as we were finally boarding our plane, another passenger talked down to me, like I was a 3-year-old. On our New York City trip to interview Keith Jones and Maysoun Zay-

id, I had a seizure. But we still got the filming done on all the trips!

## What were some of the highlights of making the film?

**SH:** The interviews were awesome, they blew my mind. I reviewed the best sections from the interviews with my dad and we picked out the most powerful lines. I wanted to have lots of humor in the film, so we included some hilarious lines from interviews, especially Keith Jones and Maysoun Zayid. But Judy Heumann was pretty funny too. My favorite line in the film is Keith telling me his advice for sex: Rule number one.... Rule number two.... All the way down to 100: 'Bag it up.' And then we added the animation of the condom going all the way over me and my wheelchair — that really cracked me up.

## What do you want audiences to take away from the film?

**SH:** My goal for the film is that people won't talk down to disabled people. I want everyone to know that disabled people demand respect and rights. And I want other young adults with disabilities to have the same opportunities that I've had for health care, inclusive education, college, assistive technology, jobs, making friends, advocacy, and independent living. I hope parents who will watch this film will see that they should include their kids in everything, like my family has done. And I hope schools and colleges who watch this film will commit to include disabled students alongside their non-disabled peers. All of my schools have been inclusive and that made a big impact on my education, and led to my life now as a filmmaker. Our film will let people learn from disability role models like Judy Heumann and Bob Williams about how to live a full life with a disability as they transition to adulthood. This film will help people understand how to talk to me and other people with communication challenges. Be patient and do not talk down to me. Ask me how I best communicate. Slow down the pace of the conversation to create more space for me to contribute. If you don't understand me, ask me to repeat what I said. If I'm typing on my device, don't start another conversation — please wait for me to finish.

Young people with disabilities who have seen the film so far have told me that they have the same questions as I do about dating, sex, moving out of their own

CONTINUED ON PG 53 ►

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# Football's big weekend



**The Big Story – Football on Thanksgiving Weekend:** It's the best weekend of the regular season in the NFL and college games, where along with the usual family debates, arguments and

near fistfights, the motto is, eat, drink and watch football. Enjoy.

**Sports 101:** What was the shortest overtime in a game in NFL history?

**News Item – Sale Wins Cy Young:** You can't blame the Red Sox for sending him away. But you just knew after all the misery his avalanche of injuries caused them as it cost them \$120 million for 11 measly wins that he would miraculously get healthy and turn back into the guy he once was. Which he did by going 18-3 to win the Cy Young Award last week.

**News Item – Ovechkin Closing in on Gretzky:** I know I checked out on hockey sometime after the Rangers finally won the Cup in 1994, but I had no idea **Alex Ovechkin** was so close (894 to 865), as he went to the short-term injured list last week, to passing The Great One as the most prolific goal scorer in NHL history. I had thought that record was unapproachable.

**News Item – Rodgers to Jets a Total Failure:** The Coach has been fired. The GM has now been fired. And the team is 3-8 after finishing 7-10 last year. So the yacking from Jetland that **Aaron Rodgers** in New York meant the Super Bowl was a lock has turned out to be just the latest blast of hot air coming from the Big Apple.

### The Numbers:

**9** – incredible place the Patriots could actually pick in Round 1 of the 2025 draft despite their awful 3-8 (at my early deadline) record thanks to the dearth of horrible NFL teams who can finish below them.

**528,750** – dollars paid at auction last week for **Ted Williams'** 1946 MVP trophy.

### ... of the Weekend – Top 5 Games:

**Tradition at its Best – Bears-Lions, 12:30 p.m.:** It would be better if it were the Packers, because the Bears stink and that would also take me back to the first one of these I've seen when the Lions handed GB their only loss in 1962. But nothing's better than the game on Thanksgiving in Detroit and this time the Lions are headed to the SB.

**Most Competitive College Game – #3 Texas-#15 Texas A&M, Saturday 7:30 p.m.:** The winner gets a spot in the SEC Championship game.

**Rivalry Game, Saturday at noon:** UM is unranked this time but Michigan vs. Ohio

State is the best rivalry in college football. Plus we get to see **Ryan Day** and **Chip Kelly** in action.

**Indy at New England – Sunday at 1 p.m.:** This was once *the* game, but now it's a chance to see more of **Drake Maye**.

**Best NFL Game – Eagles at Ravens, Sunday, 4:25 p.m.:** **Derrick Henry** and **Saquon Barkley** are the top two rushers in the NFL, while **Lamar Jackson** and **Jalen Hurts** are exciting two-way threats. Buckle up.

### Random Thoughts:

Sorry, **Sam Kennedy**, but I don't believe a word you said at last week's presser about the Red Sox being willing to spend big this offseason. Actions speak louder than words. Until we see it, you're just a mouthpiece for an owner who doesn't have the guts to face the music himself. The outspoken thing has worked out pretty well financially for **Kendrick Perkins**. But I've got to think a lot of past and present NBA players think he's pretty mouthy for a guy with a dinky five points per game career score.

**Sports 101 Answer:** The shortest OT in an NFL game is 13 seconds, which is how long it took Chicago's **Dave Williams** to take the OT kickoff 92 yards to the house to beat Detroit on Thanksgiving Day 1980.

**A Little History – Game on Thanksgiving 1980:** Making the Bears' win even more improbable was QB **Vince Evans** running 4 yards for a TD as time expired to tie it at 17-17 after the PAT. Then came Williams' TD meaning they'd scored 13 points in 13 seconds for the 23-17 win. Oh, and they had been down 14-3 in the fourth quarter.

### Final Thought – Local Sports Things to Be Thankful for at Thanksgiving

I wasn't for drafting a QB this early in the rebuild because I thought they needed more talent in place to help him when he did arrive. But the Patriots brass appears to have gotten it right with **Drake Maye** and he's making what was a dull, boring team before he started to play a lot more interesting to follow.

**Derrick White** and **Jrue Holiday** — Tatum and Brown get all the attention, but these two accept lesser roles than they'd have elsewhere because they're true team players who just want to win. Ditto for ageless **Al Horford**.

The young core already at Fenway and the four others not far from getting there promise to make it exciting for several years. But only if **John Henry** is willing to spend to bring in high-end pitching this winter to complement those everyday players.

Happy Thanksgiving.

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



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## NEWS & NOTES

# QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

## Some rain, some drought

The U.S. Drought Monitor for New Hampshire reported on Nov. 21 that a small section of southeastern Rockingham County was in “extreme drought” while portions of Rockingham, Hillsborough and Cheshire counties were still in “severe drought” with the rest of those counties plus all of Merrimack, Sullivan, Strafford and Belknap counties listed as in “moderate drought” along with parts of Grafton and Carroll counties. The rest of the state was labeled as “abnormally dry,” the map reported.

**QOL score: -1**

**Comments:** According to WMUR, the report looks at rainfall Tuesday to Tuesday, so it does not include the rain from the second half of last week — here’s hoping the next report, which you can find at [drought.gov/states/new-hampshire](https://drought.gov/states/new-hampshire), is more promising.

## Fun for data nerds

New Hampshire’s Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau has released an application that allows users to examine data for the 234 incorporated cities and towns in the state. In an Oct. 23 email the ELM I — part of the Department of Employment Security — explained, “Data on many topics are available ranging from population and demographics as well as income, labor force, educational attainment, housing units, and property taxes. Additional information on school and day care enrollment, as well as other specific data provided by the municipalities, can be compared.” If you’ve ever wondered what the average weekly wage in Derry is, for instance, it’s \$1,281. Or it ever seemed to you that there are more men than women walking around Concord, you’re right — there are 22,879 men, versus 21,170 women (as of 2023).

**QOL score: +1**

**Comment:** To access the application, visit [nhes.nh.gov/elmi](https://nhes.nh.gov/elmi).

## We’re woodworking winners

New Hampshire carvers dominated the recent New England Woodworking Competition, which featured works by professionals, amateurs and students, held at the University of New Hampshire in Durham. In a Nov. 15 press release, The Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers wrote that there were 150 entries from New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont and Massachusetts including more than “60 elementary, middle school, high school and college students.” The three Judges Awards all went to Granite Staters: David Foote of Barrington; Ronald Litalien of Canterbury and Ted Blachly of Warner, the release said. In the student categories, Michael Franta of Contoocook won first prize in the Middle School division (for “Cherry Wood Coffee Table”) and Gabriela Crinigan of UNH won first prize in the College division (for “Tooth Box”). New Hampshire woodworkers swept the Amateur Woodworkers division: Joe Marshall of Nashua in Carving; Edward Marks of Nashua for Turning between Centers; Ron Marcoux of Bedford for Bowl Turning; Jim McLaughlin of Warner for Amateur and David Labrie of Manchester for Traditional, the release said.

**QOL score: +1**

**Comment:** To see this year’s winners and their winning works, visit the Guild of New Hampshire Woodworkers website at [gnhw.org](https://gnhw.org).

**QOL score last week: 74**

**Net change: +1**

**QOL this week: 75**

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# THIS WEEK BIG EVENTS NOVEMBER 28 AND BEYOND

## Saturday, Nov. 30

Brookford Farm (250 West Road, Canterbury, 742-4084, brookfordfarm.com) will host **Christmas with the Cows** today and Sunday, Dec. 1, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (as well as next Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8). This German-themed event will feature musician-led caroling with the cows from 3 to 5 p.m., opportunities to feed calves and piglets, campfire and hayrides, samples of salami and sauerkraut as well as crafts-to-make for purchase (gnome home, wreaths, candles) plus Christmas trees and farm-to-table foods. The farm



website.

General admission tickets (for ages 13+) are \$10 online and \$15 at the door. Children's tickets (3 to 12 years old) are \$7 online and \$10 at the door. Children 2 and under attend free. No pets. Visit [brookfordfarm.com/events](http://brookfordfarm.com/events).

will feature a German Christmas market and items such as German wurst, sauerkraut, hot mulled wine, goulash and stollen, according to the

Main St. in Pembroke; [pembrokecitylimits.com](http://pembrokecitylimits.com)) will host **Poets on the Loose**, a gathering of local poets (all welcome) today at 1:30 p.m.

## Saturday, Nov. 30

The Rotary Club of Merrimack will kick off its annual **Christmas Tree Sale** today at Watson Park (447 DW Highway in Merrimack) open weekdays 4 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 8 to 8 p.m. and Sundays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. until the trees sell out. See [merrimackrotary.org](http://merrimackrotary.org).

## Saturday, Nov. 30

Aquanett will bring the rock and metal of the 1980s to Lakeport Opera House (781 Union Ave., Laconia, 519-7506, [lakeportopera.com](http://lakeportopera.com)) on tonight at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$15 to \$38.56, plus fees.

## Saturday, Nov. 30

Pembroke City Limits (134

free admission to the farm, live music and storytelling, the Children's Christmas Choir at 6:30 p.m. and more, according to [candiafarmersmarket.org](http://candiafarmersmarket.org).

## Sunday, Dec. 1

There will be a showing of the classic **silent WC Fields comedy *So's Your Old Man*** (1926) today at the Wilton Town Hall Theatre (40 Main St., Wilton, 654-3456, [facebook.com/wilton-townhalltheatre](http://facebook.com/wilton-townhalltheatre)) at 2 p.m. This silent film will have live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis. Admission is free; donations are accepted, with \$10 per person.

## Wednesday, Dec. 4

Chunky's (707 Huse Road in Manchester; [chunkys.com](http://chunkys.com)) will host a 21+

## Save the Date! Saturday, Dec. 7

Heavy metal band **In This Moment** will play the SNHU Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, [snhuarena.com](http://snhuarena.com)) Saturday, Dec. 7, as part of its **Godmode** tour. The show will feature the song "I Would Die for You" from the soundtrack of *John Wick: Chapter 4*, and performances by Kim Dracula, Nathan James and Mike's Dead. Tickets start at \$37.



## Friday, Nov. 29

The Candia Farmers Market will partner with Charmingfare Farm (774 High St. in Candia) for a **Holiday Gift Barn Open House** today from 5 to 9 p.m. featuring 29 vendors (most from the past season of the market),

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[nashuachoralsociety.org](http://nashuachoralsociety.org)

This project was funded in part by grants from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, and the Nashua Arts Commission



# 2024 HOLIDAY GUIDE



Time for the Hippo's Holiday Guide! Let your season of holiday fun start with our annual listing of events from Thanksgiving Eve through New Year's Day. Find your tree lightings, craft fairs, rockin' holiday shows, classical music holiday shows, screenings of Scrooged and so much more.

Know of a bit of holiday cheer we missed? Let us know at [adiaz@hippopress.com](mailto:adiaz@hippopress.com). Now pull up your calendar and start loading your schedule with holiday fun!

## Get ahead of things Party the night before Thanksgiving

Compiled by Michael Witthaus  
[mwitthaus@hippopress.com](mailto:mwitthaus@hippopress.com)

From big shows to corner bars, there are plenty of ways to lengthen the upcoming four-day weekend with a pre-game party. The sober and sober-curious call it Friendsgiving, while more than a few lean into Drinksgiving. Whatever the name, it's a night that provides a great excuse to meet and catch up with family and friends ahead of the big feast.

Here's a range of choices, including an evening of blues shredding, lots of trivia events, solo musicians and even a few opportunities for karaoke. When one thinks about it, belting out "My Heart Will Go On" for a gaggle of pals may be a perfect activity for the moment.

**603 Bar & Lounge** (368 Central Ave., Dover, 742-9283) The regular Hip-Hop Wednesday event hosted by J-Rawk happens with a Friendsgiving twist.

**Alamo Texas Barbecue** (99 Route 13, Brookline, 721-5000) DJ Trivia happens at 7 p.m., come out and test your ephemeral knowledge.

**American Legion Post 70** (169 Walton Road, Seabrook, 474-2430) Karaoke is back, it's a night of singing and entertainment, hosted by DJ B-rad.

**American Legion Post 72** (164 Wolfboro Highway, Alton, 875-3461) Ghost Riderz play classic rock and country tunes.

**Auspicious Brew** (2 Washington

St., Dover, 953-7240) Open mic with Rich Amorim at this local music-friendly kombucha brewery, the first in New Hampshire.

**Backyard Brewery** (1211 S. Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-3545) Trivia with Bill Seney.

**Barley House** (132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363) Holy Cow Music Bingo puts a College of Musical Knowledge degree to the test.

**Big House** (322 Lakeside Ave., Laconia, [bighousenightclub.com](http://bighousenightclub.com)) Annual Turkeyoke Karaoke Bash.

**Bonfire** (950 Elm St., Manchester, 217-5600) DJ Mike Benoit spins the hits.

**Brick House Restaurant & Brewery** (241 Union Square, Milford, 378-0092) New Hampshire-based rock, punk and jam band Vales End performs.

**Buckey's** (240 Governor Wentworth Highway, Moultonborough, 476-5485) FuzzBoxx plays rock covers.

**Chapel + Main** (83 Main St., Dover, 842-5170) Dan Blakeslee and Calabash Club kick off the holiday season, and Krampus, C+P's Belgian holiday ale, is also in the spotlight.

**Chop Shop** (920 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-7706) Karaoke and Cocktails with DJ Dale.

**Copper Door** (15 Leavy Drive, Bedford, 488-2677) Justin Jordan plays covers at 6 p.m.

**Copper Door** (41 S. Broadway, Salem, 458-2033) Clint Lapointe plays favorite

**Page 10** Drinksgiving

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**Page 16** *The Nutcracker* and *A Christmas Carol*

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hits at 6 p.m.

**CR's The Restaurant** (287 Exeter Road, Hampton, 929-7972) Bob Tirelli sings and plays classic rock songs.

**Defiant Records & Craft Beer** (609 Main St., Laconia, 527-8310) It's an Ugly Sweater Christmas Party on the night before T-Day with singer/songwriter Mike Loughlin performing.

**Derryfield** (625 Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-2880) The D-Comp Duo is back for what's become a tradition on Thanksgiving Eve.

**Revo Casino & Social House** (887 Central Ave., Dover, 742-9632) The former Dover Bowl is rebranded and reopened as the Samantha Rae Duet entertains.

**Fody's** (9 Clinton St., Nashua, 577-9015) World Tavern Trivia — impress your friends and family

**Forum Pub** (15 Village St., Concord, 552-0137) Gardner Berry of Mama Kicks fame and more plays solo.

**Fratello's Italian Grille** (155 Dow St., Manchester, 624-2022) Joanie Ciatelli plays solo. She cites classic rock influences from classic rock influences including Fleetwood Mac, The Pretenders and The Who.

**Governors Inn** (78 Wakefield St., Rochester, 332-0107) Freddie Catalfo, remembered for his time in the band Rose Cold Reaction, plays solo.

**Grill 28** (Pease Golf Course, 200 Grafton Road, Portsmouth, 766-6646) Jordan Quinn sings and plays. Her version of Al

Green's "Let's Stay Together" is always a set standout.

**Hermit Woods Winery** (72 Main St., Merideth, 253-7968) Songwriter Round-up puts original music in the spotlight, with Sam Luke Chase and Jay Psaros. The event is hosted by Katie Dobbins.

**Hill Top Pizzeria** (1724 Dover Road, Epsom, 736-0027) Trivia at 6:30 p.m.

**Homestead** (641 DW Highway, Merrimack, 429-2022) Casey Roop plays an eclectic mix of solo acoustic covers.

**Jimmy's Jazz & Blues Club** (135 Congress St., Portsmouth, [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com)) Guitar prodigy Quinn Sullivan plays with his band; tickets \$17.50 – \$57.50.

**KC's Rib Shack** (837 Second St., Manchester, 627-RIBS) Trivia night at the barbecue hot spot.

**Keys Piano Bar** (1087 Elm St., Manchester, 836-7796) Jonny Friday & Friends ring in the long weekend.

**Lafayette Club** (34 High St., Nashua, 889-9860) Rabbit's Foot mixes originals with covers from Phish, Talking Heads, The Dead and Edgar Winter, to name a few.

**Lilac City Grille** (103 N. Main St., Rochester, 332-3984) Go-to guitarist Tim Theriault plays solo at 7 p.m.

**Liquid Therapy** (14 Court St., Nashua, 402-9391) Thanksgiving Eve celebration with beer specials.

**Lithermans Limited Brewing** (126B Hall St., Concord, 219-0784) TAPsgiving provides the perfect opportunity to catch

up with friends and family before the holiday chaos begins.

**Lynn's 102 Tavern** (76 Derry St., Hudson, 943-7832) Night Owls play covers, including a bunch of new songs added to their show.

**Michael's Flatbread** (8 Stiles Road, Salem, 893-2765) The Regular Gents host a Thanksgiving Eve Bash.

**Murphy's Taproom** (494 Elm St., Manchester, 644-3535) Jonny Friday Duo moves across town to play at 9:30 p.m.

**North Side Grille** (323 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-3663) Food and drink specials all night long.

**Old School Bar and Grill** (49 Range Road, Windham, 458-6051) Craft cocktails and dinner specials.

**Over the Moon Farmstead** (1253 Upper City Road, Pittsfield, 210-2409) Doug Mitchell performs.

**Par28** (23 S. Broadway, Salem, 458-7078) Live DJ, Downeast Cider tasting, food and drink specials.

**Patrick's** (18 Weirs Road, Gilford, 293-0841) Game Time Trivia happens.

**Penuche's Alehouse** (16 Bicentennial Square in Concord; 228-9833) will feature the band UP at 9 p.m.

**Pembroke City Limits** (134 Main St., Pembroke, 210-2409) Dusty Gray returns to play country rock at this music-centric

spot.

**Portsmouth Gas Light** (64 Market St., Portsmouth, 430-9122) DJ Koko and DJ Bounce trade off beats at the Ultimate Reunion Party, \$35 at portsmouthnhtickets.com.

**Red's Kitchen + Tavern** (530 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-0030) Fred Ellsworth plays solo.

**Reed's North** (2 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2143) Joe Leary plays rock reimagined from 3 to 6 p.m. and Ben Dobrowski of the Dobros performs at 6:30 p.m.

**Riley's Place** (29 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 380-3480) Open mic with Eric Lamarche.

**Rochester Opera House** (32 N. Main St., Rochester, 335-1992) Bearly Dead, a tribute act that's attracted both Mike Campbell of Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers and Jerry Garcia's Wolf Guitar, which appeared in 2018.

**Saddle Up Saloon** (92 Route 125, Kingston, 347-1313) Thanksgiving Rockin' Eve featuring the return of Rustfeather.

**Shaskeen** (909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246) Annual party returns with DJ Myth and host Shawn Caliber at 9 p.m.

**Stone Church** (5 Granite St., Newmarket, 659-7700) Karaoke.

**Strange Brew** (88 Market St., Manchester, 666-4292) Open mic, which is

usually hosted by Jordan Quinn and Scott Armstrong.

**Stumble Inn** (20 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, 422-3210) The Slakas return to play covers and preside over a fun time.

**Telly's** (235 Calef Highway, Epping, 679-8225) Roc & Ron play covers.

**The Goat** (142 Congress St., Portsmouth, 590-4628) Rob Pagnano plays solo.

**The Goat** (50 Old Granite St., Manchester, 603-4628) Cover band Turn It Up! goes for a country vibe.

**The Local** (2 E. Main St., Warner, 456-6066) Brad Myrick makes a rare appearance with PJ Donohue.

**The Nest** (181 Plaistow Road, Plaistow, 974-1686) Bite the Bullet performs classic rock covers.

**Thirsty Moose** (21 Congress St., Portsmouth, 427-8645) Holly Heist, New England-based cover and original act featuring Alex Roy of Sparks the Rescue.

**To Share Brewing** (720 Union St., Manchester, 836-6947) Multi-decade themed party with DJ Maltese spinning sets from the '80s, '90s and '00s from 5 to 8 p.m. Dress up like your fave decade (or don't).

**Toll Booth Tavern** (740 Second NH Turnpike North, Franconstown, 588-1800)



Jordan Quinn.

Sheepdip plays rock classics.

**Tomahawk Butchery & Tavern** (454 DW Highway, Merrimack, 365-4960) Chad LaMarsh plays solo acoustic tunes.

**Uno Pizzeria & Grill** (15 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, 226-8667) Tyler Levs performs solo.

**Wally's Pub** (144 Ashworth Ave., Hampton, 926-6954) Scott Brown & The Diplomats rock the house.

**Whym Craft Pub & Brewery** (853 Lafayette Road, Hampton, 601-2801) Cribbage for a Cause night at the brew pub. 🍷



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# First run, then pie

## Turkey trots and other holiday season road races

Compiled by John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

Looking to get in a quick 5K before your holiday feast? Here are some of the road races happening this season.

### Thanksgiving Day races

*All of these races are on Thursday, Nov. 28*

- The **Fisher Cats 5K** sponsored by Dartmouth Health and the Fisher Cats will take place at 9 a.m. at Delta Dental Stadium (1 Line Drive, Manchester). Prior to the race there will be a Lil' Turkey Trot at 8:30 a.m. Race-day registration and bib pickup will be available from 7:30 to 8:45 a.m. at the stadium. Registration costs: adult (ages 12+) \$30 in advance, kids (11 and younger) \$15, Stonyfield Lil' Turkey Trot (8 and younger) \$10, virtual 5K \$30. All proceeds will benefit the New Hampshire Food Bank. See millenniumrunning.com.

- The **Rotary Club of Merrimack's 5K Turkey Trot** starts at 8 a.m.. See merrimack5k.com.

- The 16th annual **BAC and Bow Police Department Turkey Trot** will be held at 8 a.m. at 55 Falcon Way, Bow. Registration: adult \$35, youth \$25, kids \$15. Same-day registration increases price by \$5. See runsignup.com.

- The **Dover Turkey Trot** starts at 8:30 a.m. and is described as a 5K race for runners and walkers of all ages and abilities, according to doverturkeytrot.com. The start and finish is at Garrison Elementary School in Dover (to raise money for the Garrison School PTA) and registration costs \$25 in advance, \$30 on the day for adults; \$12 in advance, \$15 on the day for fourth grade and under.

- The **Hampstead Turkey Trot**, a 5K, starts at 8:30 a.m. at St. Anne's Church (26 Emerson Ave. in Hampstead). Registration costs \$23 for adults (18-61), \$18 for seniors (62+) and for children (5-17). Registration on race day (from 7 to 8:10 a.m.) costs \$28 for adults, \$23 for seniors and children. See sites.google.com/site/recreationhampstead.

- The **Free Fall 5K** starts at 8:30 a.m. and begins and ends at the Rochester Community Center (150 Wakefield St. in Rochester). Registration costs \$25 for adults, \$20 for ages 13 to 17, \$15 for ages 7 to 12, and is free for 6 and under (plus \$5 to register on race day). See freefall5k.com.

- The 17th annual **Gilford Youth Center Turkey Trot 5K Race and Family Walk** will start at 9 a.m. (8:45 a.m. for walkers) at the Youth Center (19 Potter Hill Road in Gilford). Registration costs \$26 per person or \$90 for a family of up to five people. See gilfordyouth-center.com.

- The 18th annual **Lake Sunapee Turkey Trot**, a 5K where costumes are encouraged

and proceeds go to the recreation department, starts at 9 a.m. at the Sunapee Harbor gazebo with a 1K Chicken Run for kids starting at 8:15 a.m. and going down Lake Avenue. Registration costs \$30 for ages 13 to 64, \$15 for ages 65 and up and \$5 for ages 12 and under (kids 12 and under running in the Chicken Run are free). See sunapeeturkeytrot.com. The event will feature a pie sale; pies are \$10 each.

- The 30th Annual **Windham Turkey Trot**, which offers 1-, 3- and 5-mile options, starts at 9 a.m. at 74 Blossom Road in Windham. Registration costs \$30. See shepherdsparnery.net/turkey-trot.

- The **Brookline Turkey Fun Run/Walk** begins at 8 a.m. at 1 Mason Road in Brookline. The race is a 5K out-and-back course on a mixture of asphalt and hard packed crushed gravel. Registration is \$20 and ends Nov. 27. Visit runsignup.com/Race/NH.

- The **GDTC Thanksgiving 5K Turkey Trot** will take place at 39 Pond Road in Derry at 9 a.m. Online pre-registration is \$25 for adults (13 and older) and \$10 for kids (12 and under). A Virtual GDTC Turkey Trot is \$10. Registration ends Tuesday, Nov. 26. Same-day registration will be \$5 more, if there are spaces left. For all entries the organizers request a donation of any non-perishable canned good or dry food item.

- The 22nd Annual **Great Gobbler 5K** will take place at Nashua High School South (36 Riverside St., Nashua). The 5K race starts at 8 a.m. sharp. The Little Gobbler Fun Run (400m) starts at 7:30 a.m. at the South Track. Registration is \$30 for adults (18 and older), \$25 for youths (17 and younger). The Little Gobbler (400m) Fun Run is free (ages 2-10). Registration on race day will cost \$35 for adults and \$30 for youth.

### Thanksgiving Weekend races

- The Amherst Junior Women's Club will hold its 25th **Trot Off Your Turkey 5K & 1 Mile Fun Run** on Friday, Nov. 29. The fun run starts at 9 a.m. and the 5K starts at 9:30 a.m.; both runs start and end at the Congregational Church in Amherst. Registration costs \$30 for the 5K, \$10 for the fun run. See ajwnh.org.

- Bishop Brady High School (25 Columbus Ave. in Concord; bishopbrady.edu) will hold its **Galloping Gobbler 4-mile race** on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 9:30 a.m. Registration costs \$30 for ages 16 and up and \$20 for ages 15 and under. Bib pickup is 8 a.m. on race day. Find the link to the registration site via Bishop Brady's Facebook page.

### Rest of the season

- **BASC Santa Claus Shuffle** is on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 3 p.m. on Elm Street in Manchester before the Manchester City Christ-

mas Parade. The 3-mile out-and-back course starts and finishes at Veterans Park in downtown Manchester and includes four "aid stations" featuring the four favorite Santa food

groups: chocolate, cookies and milk, candy and maple, according to the website. The first 1,400 participants to sign up get a Santa suit to run in. Stonyfield Organic Lil' Elf Runs (of 100 yards) start at 2:30 p.m. Registration costs \$30 for adults in person or virtually (12+) in advance, \$35 on race day; \$25 for youth (12 to 20), \$30 on race day, and \$10 for kids (11 and younger) in advance or on race day, and \$10 for the Stonyfield Lil' Elf Run (8 and younger). See millenniumrunning.com to register.

- The 2024 **Jingle Bell Run**, a 5K where festive costume dress is encouraged, will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, at 8:30 a.m. at Northeast Delta Dental Stadium in Manchester. Registration costs \$45 after Nov. 1, \$50 on the day for timed runners; \$40 after Nov. 1 and \$45 on the day for untimed runners (both include shirt and jingle bells), and \$30 for virtual runners, according to events.arthritis.org.

- The **Ugly Sweater 4-Miler** will take place Saturday, Dec. 14, at Backyard Brewery and Kitchen (1211 S. Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-3545, backyardbrewerynh.com) at 9 a.m. . All race proceeds will go to benefit three local animal rescue groups: the Humane Society of Greater Nashua, New Hampshire SPCA, and the Monadnock Humane Society. This 21+ event will include a post-race party. Registration is \$40 (\$50 on race day). Visit runscore.runsignup.com.

- **Yule Light Up the Night** on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 4:30 p.m. at the New Hampshire Speedway in Loudon. Run the 2.1-mile course through the "Gift of Lights" display. Registration costs \$25 for adults (12+) in advance, \$30 on the day; \$15 for youth (4 to 11) in advance, \$20 on the day, \$10 for kids (3 and younger), . See millenniumrunning.com to register.

- The **Running on Empty 4-Mile Race** will take place Saturday, Dec. 21, at 11 a.m. at Bishop Brady High School (25 Columbus Ave., Concord). There will be prizes for the top three male and female finishers, and rubber duckies for winners in each age category. Registration is \$30 at runreg.com/life-in-the-slow-lane.

- The Apple Therapy and Derry Sports & Rehab **Millenium Mile** is a one-mile downhill race on Wednesday, Jan. 1, at 2 p.m. Registration costs \$20 for adults (12+) in advance, \$25 on race day; \$15 for youth (11 and under), \$20 on race day, and \$20 for virtual runners. See millenniumrunning.com. 🍏

Lil Elf Run at the Santa Claus Shuffle. Photo courtesy of Millennium Running.



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# Stroll into the season

Nashua's annual Holiday Stroll lights up the night

By Zachary Lewis  
zlewis@hippopress.com

The magical time of the year of the 29th Annual Nashua Winter Holiday Stroll has arrived. Paul Shea is the Executive Director of Great American Downtown in Nashua and spoke to the Hippo about the holiday staple.

"The winter holiday stroll takes place each year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving in Nashua," Shea said.

Attendees will be greeted by a community of cheer that involves "downtown businesses, area nonprofits, vendors, musicians, other performers and of course, the well-known gentleman from the North Pole and his wife, Santa and Mrs. Claus," Shea said.

Kids will be excited by a fun addition inspired by hot chocolate.

"We will be having a kids' ride in the early afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m. which is a teacup ride that is dubbed Santa's Cocoa Cruisers. That will be located at the intersection of High and Main Street," Shea said.

Little ones can meet Santa and Mrs. Claus too from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Nashua Center for the Arts. "So [for] folks with younger kids that may have an early bedtime, this is a really great opportunity to get out and to get kind of into the holiday spirit without being out in the chilly evening," Shea said.

They will be at the Hunt Memorial Building from 6 to 9 p.m. "That is a return to tradition. For a number of years, Santa was located at another location, and we're very excited to be back at the Hunt Memorial Building," Shea said.

Sculpture has a place in the stroll. "We will have live ice sculpture carving at City Hall," Shea said.

Everything begins with the procession. "Gathering in front of City Hall begins at 4 p.m.," Shea said, "and the stroll will step off after we all light our strolling candles ... at 5 o'clock. We will head up Main Street to the City Hall to the Hunt Memorial building where the City Christmas tree is located for the big lighting." Santa Claus and the mayor of Nashua will do the countdown.

After the lighting, all of downtown Nash-



Jonee Earthquake. Courtesy photo.

ua will be in the festive spirit.

"This year we also have an Artist and Artisans Holiday Bazaar, which will be located on West Pearl Street, near to the Nashville Performing Arts Center. It will be an outdoor holiday shopping market with approximately 20 to 25 vendors with all sorts of great offerings, locally crafted goods, jewelry, fun and funny items, and some beautiful artwork," he said.

There will be three sets of music and more than 10 stages throughout the Holiday Winter Stroll. "There will be no shortage of things to do and see. Of course, a lot of great food from our food truck vendors and fair style food vendors and a lot of great downtown restaurants will be serving some of their, some of the favorites that they bring out to the stroll each year along Main Street as well."

A shuttle service will begin at 3 p.m. that will leave from Holman Stadium as well as Rivier University.

"We do recommend that people take advantage of that and they're welcome to stay throughout the afternoon and evening," Shea said. "The last returning bus will depart from the downtown drop-off location to the parking lots at Holman and Revere at 9.30 p.m. That is the kind of calling time for the public. The stroll stops off at 5, and then the event itself ends at 9 p.m."

"It's a great opportunity for the community to come together ... It's a great way for people to catch up and see familiar faces when they're home for the holidays. And it is, it's really just a rich, joy-filled evening of festive fun," Shea said. 🍷

## 29th Annual Nashua Winter Holiday Stroll

**When:** Saturday, Nov. 30

4 p.m. Gathering at City Hall to receive candles

5 p.m. Stroll procession begins

5:45 to 9 p.m. Stroll and explore downtown

**More:** [downtownnashua.org/holidaystroll/](http://downtownnashua.org/holidaystroll/)



Nashua Holiday Stroll. Courtesy photo.

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# Dancing mice, angry ghosts

## Where to find *The Nutcracker* & *A Christmas Carol*

Compiled by Zachary Lewis  
zlewis@hippopress.com

There are lots of theatrical productions of the holiday classics *The Nutcracker* and *A Christmas Carol* this season.

### A Christmas Carol

- The **Palace Theatre** (80 Hanover St., Manchester) presents *A Christmas Carol* from Nov. 29 through Dec. 29, with showtimes on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. and Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets range from \$35 to \$59. Visit [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org) or call 668-5588.

- **Gerald Dickens**, the great-great-grandson of Charles Dickens, brings his one-man performance of *A Christmas Carol* to the **Nashua Center for the Arts** (201 Main St., Nashua) on Friday, Nov. 29, at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$29 to \$69. Visit [nashuacenterforthearts.com](http://nashuacenterforthearts.com) or call 657-8774. Dickens will also perform at the **Dana Center** (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester) on Thursday, Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m.

- The **Souhegan Valley Chorus** presents *A Christmas Carol in Concert*, a choral presentation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, on Sunday, Dec. 1 at 4 p.m. at First Congregational Church (10 Union St., Milford). Tickets are available in advance from members or at the door. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors, free for age 12 and younger. Visit [souheganvalleychorus.org](http://souheganvalleychorus.org).

- The **Players' Ring Theatre** (105 Marcy St., Portsmouth) presents *A Christmas Carol* from Dec. 6 through Dec. 23. Shows are on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 and 7 p.m. as well as select Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$18 to \$32 and the show is not included in ticket packages. Visit [playersring.org](http://playersring.org) or call 436-8123.

- Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative pres-

- ents *A Christmas Carol* at the **Colonial Theatre** (609 Main St., Laconia) on Friday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. The performance is from an original adaptation by New Hampshire native Joel Mercier and the show features Granite State actors of all ages, according to the website. Tickets range from \$18 to \$22. Visit [coloniallaconia.com](http://coloniallaconia.com) or call 657-8774.

- The **Rochester Opera House** (31 Wakefield St., Rochester) presents *A Christmas Carol* from Friday, Dec. 13, through Sunday, Dec. 22, with showtimes on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 5 p.m. and an additional performance on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. Tickets range from \$22 to \$30. Visit [rochesteroperahouse.com](http://rochesteroperahouse.com) or call 335-1992.

- The **Players' Ring Theatre** (105 Marcy St., Portsmouth) presents *What the Dickens*, an improvised comedy version of *A Christmas Carol*, Sunday, Dec. 31, at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$15. Visit [playersring.org](http://playersring.org) or call 436-8123.

### The Nutcracker

- The Methuen Ballet Ensemble performs *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 1 and 4 p.m. at the **Dana Center** (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). The show features Sabi Varga and Emily Entingh. Tickets cost \$38. Visit [tickets.anselm.edu](http://tickets.anselm.edu) or call 641-7700.

- Safe Haven Ballet performs *The Nutcracker* at the **Colonial Theater** (609 Main St., Laconia) on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 14, at 4:30 p.m., at the **Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord)** Tickets cost \$45 for adults and \$40 for students and seniors at the Colonial Theater and between \$44 and \$54 at the Cap Center. Visit [safehavenballet.org/events](http://safehavenballet.org/events) for more info.

- Northeastern Ballet Theatre performs *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 7 p.m.

- and Sunday, Dec. 1, at 2 p.m. at the **King-swold Regional Art Center** (396 S. Main St., Wolfeboro). There will be additional performances at the Johnson Center (30 Academic Way, Durham) on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost between \$25 and \$30. Visit [northeasternballet.org](http://northeasternballet.org) or call 834-8834.

- New England Dance Ensemble presents *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, Nov. 30, and Sunday, Dec. 1, at 4 p.m. at the **Seifert Performing Arts Center** (4 Geremonty Drive, Salem). Tickets cost \$41.50 to \$61.50. Visit [nede.org](http://nede.org) for more info or call 1-800-595-4TIX.

- Sole City Dance presents *The Nutcracker* at the **Rochester Opera House** (31 Wakefield St., Rochester) Thursday, Dec. 5, through Sunday, Dec. 8. Showtimes are 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 5, Friday, Dec. 6, and Saturday, Dec. 7, and 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8. Tickets cost between \$24 and \$28. Visit [solecitydance.org](http://solecitydance.org).

- The **Seacoast Repertory Theatre** (125 Bow St., Portsmouth) presents a unique modern rendition of *The Nutcracker* that will run from Thursday, Dec. 5, through Sunday, Dec. 22. Their rendition is a reimagining that infuses the timeless tale with jazz and contemporary flair. Ticket prices range from \$37 to \$68. Visit [seacoastrep.org](http://seacoastrep.org) or call 433-4793.

- The Bedford Dance Center presents *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 6 p.m. at the **Dana Center** at Saint Anselm College (100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). Tickets cost \$23. Visit [tickets.anselm.edu](http://tickets.anselm.edu) to purchase tickets online or call or call 641-7700.

- Portsmouth School of Ballet presents *The Nutcracker* at the **Dover High Auditorium** on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 5 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 10 a.m and 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$25, can only be purchased with cash or check and can be purchased at the box office or in advance at 95 Brewery Lane in Portsmouth. Visit [psb-nh.com/performances](http://psb-nh.com/performances) or call 319-6958.

- **St. Paul's School Ballet Company** will

- present *The Nutcracker: Act II* on Friday, Dec. 13, and Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m. at Memorial Hall, St. Paul's School (325 Pleasant St. in Concord). The show is free, first come first-served, and the show lasts about an hour.

- Turning Pointe Center of Dance presents *The Nutcracker* at the **Concord City Auditorium** (2 Prince St., Concord) on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 at the door or \$23 in advance. Visit [turningpointecenterofdance.com](http://turningpointecenterofdance.com) or call 485-8710.

- New England School of Dance presents *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 6 p.m. at the **Stockbridge Theater** at Pinkerton Academy (5 Pinkerton St., Derry). Tickets cost \$30 and \$35 on the day of the performance. Visit [newenglandschoolofdance.com](http://newenglandschoolofdance.com) or call 935-7326.

- Dance Visions Network presents *The Nutcracker Suite Acts I & II* on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 12:30 and 5:30 p.m. at the **Dana Center** (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). Tickets cost \$25. Visit [tickets.anselm.edu](http://tickets.anselm.edu) to purchase tickets online or call 641-7700.

- **Ballet Misha** presents *The Nutcracker* on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 1 and 6 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 22, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). Tickets cost between \$30 and \$35. Visit [tickets.anselm.edu](http://tickets.anselm.edu) to purchase tickets online or call 641-7700.

- The New Hampshire School of Ballet presents *The Nutcracker* on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 2 p.m. at the **Concord City Auditorium** (14 Canterbury Road, Concord). Tickets can be purchased at the door and are \$25. There will be an additional performance on Sunday, Dec. 30, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester). Tickets cost \$30 and can be purchased at the box office or online at [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org) or call 668-5588.

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# Beyond Scrooge

More holiday stories on stage

Compiled by Zachary Lewis  
zlewis@hippopress.com.

Sure, *The Nutcracker* and *The Christmas Carol* are great, but there is even more to the holiday theater season. Get your fill of the Grinch and the Herdman family, Anna and Elsa, kids' ballets, off-Broadway talents and much more at these seasonal theatrical productions.

- The Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org) will feature Disney's *Frozen* presented by Ogunquit Playhouse Wednesday, Nov. 27, through Sunday, Dec. 22, with shows Wednesdays through Thursdays (except for Thanksgiving). The Music Hall also presents *Nat Zegree: The Nat Before Christmas* on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m.; and *Juston McKinney's Comedy Year In Review 2024* on Thursday, Dec. 26, at 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 27, at 8 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 28, at 4:30 and 8 p.m.

- Pontine Theatre presents *A New England Christmas* at the Plains School (1 Plains Ave., Portsmouth) Friday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 15, with performances on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The show includes musical accompaniment by Ellen Carlson of the New Hampshire Fiddle Ensemble. Tickets are priced at \$32 for general admission and \$29 for seniors and students. Visit [pontine.org](http://pontine.org).

- Majestic Productions also brings *Sh-Boom! A Christmas Miracle*, a musical full of '60s doo-wop hits and holiday classics, to the Majestic Theatre (880 Page St., Manchester). Performances are on Friday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 2 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$22 for adults, \$18 for seniors 65+ and \$15 for children age 17 and under. Visit [majestictheatre.net](http://majestictheatre.net).

- Bedford off Broadway will present *Christmas Belles*, a Jones Hope Wooten



Pontine Theatre.

comedy, from Friday, Dec. 6, through Sunday, Dec. 15, with Friday and Saturday performances at 8 p.m. and the Sunday Matinees happen at 2 p.m. at the Bedford Town Hall (Corner of 70 Bedford Center Rd. & 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford). This show is directed by Joe Pelonzi with Pat Napolitano as Stage Manager and the cast consists of Lisa Colburn, John Cunha, Deb Curtis, Colleen Deitrich, Claire Fry, Cody Goodwin, Stella Kloc, Alex Lemay, Karyn Russell Merriman, Joshua Sanborn, and Hilerie Flathers Wiecking. General admission is \$15, \$12 for students and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the door, or in advance at Brown Paper Tickets, [brownpapertickets.com/event/6486217](http://brownpapertickets.com/event/6486217).

- Break a Leg Legally presents *Debbie Macomber's A Gift to Remember* by Joseph Robinette at The Strand (20 Third St., Dover). Performances are scheduled for Fridays, Dec. 6 and Dec. 13, and Saturdays, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14, at 8 p.m., and Sundays, Dec. 8 and Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. The play takes place on Christmas Eve during a snowstorm as a group of strangers are on a train to Boston from Bangor, Maine, and there are train engine troubles and track problems ahead. Tickets are \$20 for evening shows and \$18 for matinee

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[www.festivaloftreesforshare.org](http://www.festivaloftreesforshare.org)

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performances. Visit [breakalegally.com](http://breakalegally.com) or call The Strand at 343-1899.

• The Concord Dance Academy invites you to its **Spectacular Holiday Show** at the Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord). Performances are on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 1 and 6 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 1 p.m. The event includes a family baked goods sale, a holiday 50/50 raffle and a complimentary Santa photo. Tickets are \$25. Call 226-0200 or visit [concord-danceacademy.com](http://concord-danceacademy.com).

• Bedford Youth Performing Company presents **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever** at the Derryfield School Theatre (2108 River Road, Manchester) with performances on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 1 p.m. The play is an adaptation of Barbara Robinson's holiday classic that tells the story of the Herdmans, the worst kids in the history of the world, who take over the annual Christmas pageant. Ticket prices are \$17.50 for adults and \$16 for students and seniors. Call 472-3894 or visit [bypc.org](http://bypc.org).

• Con Tutti will present a solstice concert with storyteller Tony Lee called "**Sending You Light!**" on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. at South Church (292 State St. in Portsmouth). Tickets cost \$20 at [contutti.org](http://contutti.org).

• The New Hampshire School of Bal-

let presents its annual holiday performance at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). The event will feature students performing dances to festive seasonal songs on Sunday, Dec. 8, with shows at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$18. Call 641-7700 or visit [anselm.edu/dana-center-humanities](http://anselm.edu/dana-center-humanities).

• Majestic Productions brings to stage **A Christmas Story: The Musical** at DerryOpera House (29 W. Broadway, Derry). Performances are on Friday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$22 for adults, \$18 for seniors 65+ and \$15 for children age 17 and under. Visit [majestictheatre.net](http://majestictheatre.net) or call 669-7469

• Peacock Players present their **Holiday Spectacular** at Court Street Theatre (14 Court St., Nashua). This musical cabaret features holiday favorites and musical theater classics. Shows are scheduled for Friday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$12 to \$18. Visit [peacockplayers.org](http://peacockplayers.org) or call 889-2330.

• Safe Haven Ballet presents **The Grinch**, a ballet choreographed by Miranda Bailey, at the Chubb Theatre (44 S. Main St., Concord, [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com)) on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 4:30 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$31 to \$44. Visit [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com) or call 225-1111. 🟢

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# A night of Merriment

## Shop Concord and meet Santa

By John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

Downtown Concord's annual Midnight Merriment event will begin at 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6. Many downtown businesses will remain open throughout the evening and offer special bargains and promotions to Merriment shoppers.

The event will be started by a Parade of Lights down Main Street.

Jessica Martin, the Director of Intown Concord is one of the organizers. She said Midnight Merriment has become a Concord tradition.

"It's been 32 years," she said. "It's pretty great." She said the whole downtown business community throws itself into the festivities each year. "Probably 80 percent [of the businesses] participate in some capacity," she said. "It's a fun alternative to online shopping."

Throughout the evening carolers will stroll through downtown, and there will be s'mores and cocoa served in Bicentennial Square. Families will be able to take pictures with Santa Claus in front of the Statehouse. The

Concord Art Market will set up in the Eagle Square Atrium to sell its holiday crafts and art in a "Winter Giftopolis." Holiday music will be piped onto the street.

"There will be lit-up wreaths," Martin said. "It will be a really festive holiday atmosphere."

Martin said many downtown businesses will offer creative promotions for the evening. She pointed to Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St.) as an example. "They will offer progressive discounts," she said. "The later you shop, the bigger the discount."

New this year is the Parade of Lights. Participants will march along Main Street, each lit up in some way. It is the brainchild of DJ Nazy, the well-known local mobile DJ.

"The Parade of Lights is an idea that I had a couple of years ago," Nazy said. "I thought it would be something fun to bring to Concord and have people come downtown and shop and just be part of the season."

At least 10 groups are signed up to participate in this first Parade of Lights.

"My vision is just to have Main Street lit up with the spirit of the season," Nazy said, "with people marching with lights and



vehicles lit up, and just having a fun time. My dream would be to have people lining the streets and just everybody really getting into the season and just enjoying themselves. And then obviously we're downtown so we'll shop at local businesses." 🍀

### Midnight Merriment

**Where:** Downtown Concord

**When:** Friday, Dec. 6, from 5 p.m. to midnight. The Parade of Lights begins at 5:30 p.m. Main Street will be closed from Hills Avenue to Loudon Road from 4 to 6:30 p.m. to accommodate the parade. Parking downtown will be free on streets and in city garages after 7 p.m., but guests are asked to avoid parking in the Capitol Shopping Plaza (Market Basket Plaza) unless patronizing businesses in that location.

**More:** [intownconcord.org](http://intownconcord.org)

## More shoppportunities

- **Record Store Day Black Friday**, Friday, Nov. 29, will feature special releases at area independent record stores; see [recordstoreday.com](http://recordstoreday.com) for a list of releases scheduled for the day and a list of participating shops.
- **Pitchfork Records & Stereo** (2 S. Main St., Concord, 224-6700, [pitchforkrecordsconcord.com](http://pitchforkrecordsconcord.com)) will open its doors at 8 a.m. See the website for a rundown of possible releases; while they can't hold an item, they can confirm, if you call in advance, if they will have the title, according to the website.

- **Great American Downtown** (6 Main St., Nashua, 883-5700, [downtownnashua.org](http://downtownnashua.org)) will sponsor **Plaid Friday** again this year on Nov. 29. Wear plaid to participating Nashua businesses, and receive discounts and special promotional deals. Check back with the website for updates on participating businesses.

- **Manchester** will celebrate **Small Business Saturday**, Nov. 30, with a kickoff event from 9 to 11 a.m. at Bookery (844 Elm St. in Manchester; [bookerymht.com](http://bookerymht.com)), which will be open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. "Pick up some free coffee, tote bags and a printed list of deals, while supplies last," according to a Facebook post on the city's Economic Development office's Facebook page. At Bookery, they'll offer games and a performance from the Ukeladies (slated to perform from 2 to 4 p.m.), according to the bookstore's website. Mayor Jay Ruais and the Greater Manchester Cham-

ber will be on hand; the chamber reported about four dozen Manchester businesses will be offering special discounts and promotions.

- Many Dover businesses will have **Plaid Friday** deals. Parking will be free downtown on Friday, Nov. 29. Visit the Dover Chamber of Commerce at [dovernh.org](http://dovernh.org).

- Shop at museum stores on **Museum Store Sunday**, Dec. 1. Museum Store Sunday offers a special shopping experience in one-of-a-kind stores, showcasing broad assortments of highly curated, unique, mission-related gifts. Participating museum stores include the **Currier Museum of Art** (150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, [currier.org](http://currier.org)), the **SEE Science Center** (200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400, [see-sciencecenter.org](http://see-sciencecenter.org)), the **Canterbury Shaker Village** (288 Shaker Road, Canterbury, 783-9511, [shakers.org](http://shakers.org)), **American Independence Museum** (1 Governors Lane, Exeter, 772-2622, [independencemuseum.org](http://independencemuseum.org)), **Portsmouth Historical Society** (10 Middle St., Portsmouth, 436-8433, [portsmouthhistory.org](http://portsmouthhistory.org)) and the **New Hampshire Boat Museum** (399 Center St., Wolfeboro, 569-4554, [nhbm.org](http://nhbm.org)). Visit [museumstoresunday.org](http://museumstoresunday.org).

- Celebrate **Cider Monday**, Dec. 2. As an alternative to shopping online on Cyber Monday, some small businesses, especially independent bookstores, will offer a free cup of cider to customers. Participating book-

stores will include **Toadstool Bookshop** (12 Depot Square, Peterborough, 924-3543, [toadbooks.com](http://toadbooks.com)), **Balin Books** (Somerset Plaza, 375 Amherst St., Nashua, 417-7981, [balinbooks.com](http://balinbooks.com)) and **Innisfree Bookshop** (Mill Falls Marketplace, 312 DW Highway, Meredith, 279-3905, [innisfreebookshop.com](http://innisfreebookshop.com)).

- Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, [gibsonsbookstore.com](http://gibsonsbookstore.com)) will host a **Holiday Book Recommendation Night** with publisher sales reps, Wednesday, Dec. 4, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Experts will be on hand to help you find the perfect book for the most difficult-to-shop-for person on your list. It will be an evening of refreshments and refreshing books as publisher reps come out to share the titles they are most excited about. Gibson's bookbuyers rely on our sales reps to point out upcoming titles to read and watch out for, and tonight you can get it straight from the source.

- And once you've shopped, the Griffin Free Public Library (22 Hooksett Road, Auburn, 483-5374, [griffinfree.org](http://griffinfree.org)) will host a **Wrapping Party** Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.. Bring your holiday gifts to wrap. Paper, bags, tape, bows, ribbon and scissors will be provided. Holiday snacks and refreshments will be available. — *Compiled by John Fladd* 🍀

# 2025

Happy New Year

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# Shuffle and then parade

## Santas are coming to town

Compiled by John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

For downtown Manchester, the kickoff of the holiday season is the Manchester Holiday Parade and the road race that precedes it, The Santa Shuffle.

Barry Lewandowski is the Marketing Director of Millennium Running in Bedford, a company that organizes road races in New Hampshire throughout the year, including the Santa Shuffle, which he said is one of the high points of his year.

“There’s just such a fantastic mood,” he said. “You’ve got 2,000 runners in Santa suits stopping at four stations along the way for chocolate [snacks], mint, maple, and milk and cookies.”

The Shuffle is a 3-mile run through downtown Manchester, immediately before the Holiday Parade.

“A lot of times, running can be a solo sport,” Lewandowski said, “but this is a great chance for everyone to get together and have some fun. There are people trying to run fast, but generally, it’s a family event.” Santa Claus will be at this year’s run, he

said, along with Miss New Hampshire, who will be dressed as a princess.

Lewandowski said the positive mood at the race is infectious. “There’s a continual festive spirit,” he said. “When you’ve got that many people dressed as Santa, it’s a little awe-inspiring. Looking down from City Hall on a sea of Santas, it’s just really fun.”

Sophia Koustas is the organizer of this year’s Holiday Parade. She said the theme of this year’s parade is “Light Up the Night.” “The theme was actually voted on by the community,” she said. “We ran a poll with about five or six different themes.” She said other potential themes were Vintage Holidays, Seasons of Giving, and Magical Creatures.

For Koustas, the parade is personal. “I live downtown,” she said, “so it was a very heartwarming moment last year, you know, just being involved in the parade and seeing the community spirit that I don’t see on a day-to-day basis. It was just a very nice perspective of the city coming together to just celebrate and be together.”

Koustas is planning for a big parade this

year. “Last year we had over 65 groups [marching in the parade].” I would say that we’ll have 65 to 70 groups this year.” The groups will include clubs, civic organizations, local businesses and marching bands. If the past is a guide, many of the groups will distribute candy to children watching the parade go by. “We don’t throw candy,” Koustas emphasized. “We pass the candy in order not to hurt anyone. So, yes, whichever organizations that are in the parade that would like to, absolutely, they can do that. They can *pass* that out.”

Listening to Koustas, it was easy to imagine this was a topic that had come up in planning meetings.

“Just to make sure that nobody gets hurt,” she clarified. “It doesn’t take a lot, just a little bit of caution.”

Much like Barry Lewandowski, Koustas is looking forward to the festive spirit that the parade brings to the community.

“It warmed my soul last year,” she said. Everybody was just ready to be part of it. The spectators were wonderfully aligned all along Elm Street. I had the opportuni-



Santa Claus Shuffle. Courtesy photo.

ty toward the end to walk the parade, along with the floats once the last float had passed. It was just a very heartwarming moment. I’m looking forward to reliving that.”

### Parade and Shuffle

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 7

**Where:** downtown Manchester

**Stonyfield Yogurt Lil’ Elf Runs** (100 yards) begin at 2:30 p.m.

**BASC Santa Shuffle Race** (3 miles) begins at 3 p.m. The race will start and finish at Veterans Park on Elm Street. The first 1,400 runners to register get free Santa suits to wear during the race.

To register and for more information, visit [millenniumrunning.com/santa](http://millenniumrunning.com/santa).

**The Manchester Holiday Parade** starts at the Brady Sullivan Building at 1750 Elm St. at 4 p.m., and proceeds down Elm Street, finishing at Veterans Park.

# Lights, trees and parades

## Celebrate the season with lights displays, tree festivals and community gatherings

Compiled by John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

Find parades, tree lightings and more mostly outdoor celebrations of the season.

- **LaBelle Lights** at LaBelle Winery (14 Route 111, Derry) are now on display and will be open Tuesdays through Sundays (closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas) from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. until Sunday, Jan. 19, with different themes each week including Luau Week, Holiday Pajama Week, Ugly Holiday Sweater Week, Hidden Elves Week and more. Tickets range from \$4 to \$19 and are free for children 3 years old and younger. Visit [labelle.com/lights](http://labelle.com/lights).

- **Bektash Shriners Festival of Trees** (189 Pembroke Road, Concord) features decorated artificial trees and wreaths up for silent auction. Refreshments will be available at Candy Cane Cafe. Hours are Wednesday, Nov. 27, Friday Nov. 29, and Saturday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for those 12 years old and older and free for children under 12. Visit [bektashshriners.org](http://bektashshriners.org).

- **Gift of Lights at NH Motor Speedway** (1122 Route 106, Loudon) consists of more than 250 light displays spanning 2½ miles

through a 150-foot tunnel from Thursday, Nov. 28, through Sunday, Jan. 5. This year the drive-thru light show will feature a 150-foot RGB Tunnel of Lights, arches, toys, and numerous scenes including the popular 12 Days of Christmas. Tickets are \$35 per car load, \$60 per bus, limousine or RV, and \$2 in addition per person when there are more than 15 guests. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the New Hampshire chapter of Speedway Children’s Charities. Gift of Lights will open at 4:30 p.m. nightly, depending on weather conditions. Visit [nhms.com](http://nhms.com).

- **Plaistow Festival of Trees** will be held over three days at the Plaistow Fish and Game Club (18 May Ray Ave., Plaistow, 382-3675, [plaistowfishandgame.com](http://plaistowfishandgame.com)). It will be open in the evening on Friday, Nov. 29, on Saturday, Nov. 30, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 1, from noon to 5 p.m. There will be a raffle table drawing and a tree drawing as well as a craft fair, snack bar and breakfast with Santa Saturday morning at 8 a.m. The money raised will benefit Children Less Fortunate.

- **Milford’s 5th Annual Festival of Trees** will be held on Friday, Nov. 29, and Saturday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will take place at the Colonel Shepard

House (29 Mont Vernon St., Milford). There is an entry fee of \$5 per person; \$20 maximum per family, and children 8 and under are free. There will be more than 30 trees and baskets decorated by area businesses, clubs and individuals. Proceeds will go to support the Share Outreach program, whose mission is to provide food, clothing and emergency financial services to area families in need. Visit [festivaloftreesforshare.org](http://festivaloftreesforshare.org).

- **Spooky World** (454 Charles Bancroft Highway, Litchfield, 424-7999, [nightmarenewengland.com](http://nightmarenewengland.com)) has transformed its Haunted Hayride into **Holly Jolly Journey**, a “magical winter wonderland.” **New England’s Greatest Holiday Light Show** will open on Friday, Nov. 29, at Mel’s Funway Park (454 Charles Bancroft Highway, Litchfield, 424-2292, [melsfunwaypark.com](http://melsfunwaypark.com)). Kids 12 and younger get in free during opening weekend, Friday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 1. Experience millions of dazzling lights, immersive displays, festive photo ops with Santa and more most nights through Sunday, Jan. 12.

- **Concord’s 39th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration** (107 Main St.) is on Friday, Nov. 29, from 4 to 7 p.m. It will kick off the holiday season at the Statehouse plaza. There will be hot chocolate, hot cider, a hot food cart, a children’s costume competition,

a magic show, a DJ, a burn barrel for marshmallow cooking, clowns, animal balloons, and the lighting of the Christmas tree when Santa does the countdown as he arrives via fire truck. Visit the event’s Facebook page @ [ConcordChristmasTreeLightingCelebration](https://www.facebook.com/ConcordChristmasTreeLightingCelebration).

- The 15th Annual **Southern NH Festival of Trees** includes trees up for raffle, food, a scavenger hunt, a Polar Express train ride, entertainment by local schools, theaters, church groups and dance studios, baked goods and Santa. The Festival opens on Friday, Nov. 29, at 5 p.m. and runs through Saturday, Dec. 7, at 5 p.m. at the Sherburne Hall of the Pelham Municipal Building (6 Village Green, Pelham). Tickets are \$5 for those 12 years old and older, free for children under 12. Raffle tickets are \$5 for 25. Visit [snhfestivaloftrees.pelhamcommunityspirit.org](http://snhfestivaloftrees.pelhamcommunityspirit.org).

- Join Castle in the Clouds (455 Old Mountain Road, Moultonborough, 476-5900, [castleintheclouds.org](http://castleintheclouds.org)) for its annual tradition of **Christmas at the Castle** on Saturday, Nov. 30, Sunday, Dec. 1, Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8., from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The historic Lucknow Mansion will be decorated and in the Carriage House there will be an artisan fair, hot cocoa and holiday cookies, a craft table and photos with Santa. Adult tickets are \$25, children

are \$15, and children 4 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased on site or online through the Castle's website.

• Celebrate Laconia hosts the **Lights Festival Holiday Parade** on Saturday, Nov. 30, starting at 5 p.m. with floats, bands, cars and more. The parade begins at Laconia High School (345 Union Ave., Laconia) and ends at Stewart Park for the annual tree lighting, where trees will be lit for the City on the Lakes Holiday Walk. Food trucks, music and activities will take place from noon to 8 p.m. Visit [celebratelaconia.org](http://celebratelaconia.org).

• A **Very Derry Holiday** is on Saturday, Nov. 30, with activities from 1 to 8 p.m. It will be a fun-filled day of parades, activities, entertainment, shopping, visits with Santa and the downtown tree lighting. The Nutfield Holiday Parade will start at 1 p.m. at Veterans Hall. Visit the event's Facebook page @VeryDerryHoliday.

• The **Christmas in Wolfeboro Parade** will take place on Saturday, Nov. 30, from 3 to 4 p.m. and will go from Brewster Academy (80 Academy Drive, Wolfeboro) to Mill Street, where Santa will light the community Christmas tree. Before the parade there will be a Gingerbread House Jubilee at Harmony Coffee House (21 Central Ave.). Visit [wolfeborochamber.com/events](http://wolfeborochamber.com/events).

• Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown, 887-8463, [zorvino.com](http://zorvino.com)) will hold a **Christmas Tree Lighting** Saturday, Nov. 30, at 5 p.m. There will be a food truck and Bistro bar will be open, and the vineyard's antique bus will be decorated and offering rides around the property. There will be a special reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" before the lighting of the tree. This is a free event, but donations for the Sandown Food Pantry will be welcomed.

• The 53rd **Salem Holiday Parade** (Main Street, Salem) will start at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 1. This year's theme is The Nightmare Before Christmas. Visit [salemnhparade.org](http://salemnhparade.org).

• The **Town of Bow holiday tree lighting ceremony** is on Sunday, Dec. 1, from 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. at the Bandstand (1 Knox Road, Bow). The Bow Middle School chorus will be performing holiday songs, Santa will be there for visiting and there will be games, crafts, refreshments, food and a letter-to-Santa station. Visit [bownh.gov](http://bownh.gov).

• The Penacook Village Association will host the **19th Annual Penacook Tree Lighting** ceremony on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at Boudreau Square on Village Street. Attendees can assemble around 5:30 p.m. to hear carols and singing featuring the Penacook Elementary School Chorus and Blanchard Family Singers, and watch Santa arrive courtesy of the Concord Fire Department.

• Exeter's 26th **Annual Festival of Trees** is free and open to the public on Wednesday, Dec. 4, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursday, Dec. 5, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Exeter

Town Hall (10 Front St., Exeter). Decorated trees will be up for silent auction including a special tree filled with gift cards and certificates. Proceeds go to The Community Children's Fund. Visit [exeterareacharitable-foundation.org](http://exeterareacharitable-foundation.org).

• The Southern New Hampshire Chamber of Commerce (81 Main St., Salem, 893-3177, [southernnhchamber.com](http://southernnhchamber.com)) will hold its **Third Annual Festival of Wreaths** Thursday, Dec. 5, from noon to 7:30 p.m. at the Searles School and Chapel (3 Chapel Road, Windham, 890-6259, [searleschapel.com](http://searleschapel.com)). There will be refreshments, music, and photo opportunities with Santa and his favorite elf, Buddy.

• The **9th Annual Raymond Festival of Trees** will be at New Life Church (84 Nottingham Road, Raymond) on Thursday, Dec. 5, and Friday, Dec. 6, from 3 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit their Facebook page @RaymondFestivalofTrees.

• The Bedford Women's Club will host its **Annual Festival of Trees** on Friday, Dec. 6, from 4 to 7 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 7, from 1 to 5 p.m., at Bedford Presbyterian Church (4 Church Road, Bedford, 472-5841, [bedfordpresbyterian.org](http://bedfordpresbyterian.org)). Admission is free. Dozens of fully decorated trees with various themes will be on display to win in the raffle. There will be holiday merchandise from local vendors and musical entertainment by local performers. Santa will listen to wishes and pose for you to take photos. There will also be a free craft area for children, door prizes and more. Visit [bedfordwomensclub.org/festival-of-trees](http://bedfordwomensclub.org/festival-of-trees).

• The 15th annual **Dover Festival of Trees** will take place on Friday, Dec. 6, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Rivermill at Dover Landing (2 Washington St, Dover, 343-2192, [rivermill-nh.com](http://rivermill-nh.com)). The event is free and open to the public. The festival will feature 35 elaborate trees sponsored and decorated by local businesses. The event also includes live choir performances, free goodie bags and a scavenger hunt for children, refreshments and holiday desserts, and Santa. Visit [dovernh.org/FOT](http://dovernh.org/FOT).

• Experience what Christmas was like 400 years ago at the **Candlelight Stroll/Vintage Christmas at Strawberry Banke** (14 Hancock St., Portsmouth) with decorated historic houses, role players and holiday traditions. There will be a bonfire, hot apple cider, performances by Ice Dance International's Currier and Ives Vintage Skaters, shopping at Pickwick's at the Banke and the "History Lights Our Way" candlelight stroll. Visit from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. or 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 6 through Dec. 22, with an accessible and sensory-friendly stroll on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 2 to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$32

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for adults, \$16 for children 5 to 17 years old and free for children under 5 years old. Visit [strawberybanke.org](http://strawberybanke.org).

• Goffstown's annual tree lighting event, **Friday Night Under the Lights**, will take place on Friday, Dec. 6, on Main Street from 5 to 8 p.m. Visit [goffstownmainstreet.org/friday-night-lights](http://goffstownmainstreet.org/friday-night-lights).

• The Salem Animal Rescue League will hold its **Winter Carnivale and \$2,500 Shopping Spree Raffle** Friday, Dec. 6, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Castleton Banquet and Conference Center (58 Enterprise Drive, Windham, 898-6300, [castleton-bcc.com](http://castleton-bcc.com)). The event will feature an artisan chocolate tasting by Loon Chocolate, food and drink, dancing, live and silent auctions, games, a selfie station, contests, raffles and more. Tickets are \$100 per person or \$1,000 for a table of 10 and can be purchased at [sarlnh.maxgiving.bid/about-us](http://sarlnh.maxgiving.bid/about-us).

• Concord will hold a **Parade of Lights** Friday, Dec. 6, along Main Street starting at 5:30 p.m. as part of its **Midnight Merriment Festival**.

• Enter a haunted house with rabid reindeer and cannibalistic elves at **Fright Kingdom's Fright Before Christmas** (12 Simon St., Nashua) on Friday, Dec. 6 (7 to 9:30 p.m.), Saturday, Dec. 7 (6 to 9 p.m.), Friday Dec. 13 (7 to 9:30 p.m.), and Saturday, Dec. 14 (6:30 to 9 p.m.). Tickets are \$36. Visit [frightkingdom.com](http://frightkingdom.com).

• Hooksett's **Light Up the Village** celebration will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7, featuring a Santa Parade, photos with Santa, food and drink from The Robie Store, musical performances, a craft fair, a holiday storytime, caroling, and more. The goal is to raise \$20,000 to light up key buildings in Hooksett. Visit [lightupthevillage.wordpress.com](http://lightupthevillage.wordpress.com).

• Brookside Congregational Church (2013 Elm St. in Manchester; [brooksidecc.org](http://brooksidecc.org)) will hold its **Brookside Holiday Lights Night** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. The evening will feature live music, nativity animals, winter carnival games, a fire pit, smores, a lighted story walk and more.

• **Portsmouth's Illuminated Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting** is on Saturday, Dec. 7. The tree lighting is at 5:30 p.m. and the parade begins at 6 p.m. and goes from Islington Street to Market Square. There will be a **Downtown Shop and Stroll** immediately following the Parade. Visit [cityofportsmouth.com/recreation](http://cityofportsmouth.com/recreation).

• Join a festive gathering at the corner of West Merrimack and Franklin streets in Manchester, Sunday, Dec. 8, from noon to 3 p.m. for **Merry Making on West Merrimack**, a day filled with live music, live ice sculpture carving, seasonal crafts, more than 20 vendors, raffles from Manchester businesses and more.

• The theme of this year's **Hampstead**



Exeter Festival of Trees.

**Christmas Parade** is "A Storybook Christmas." The parade starts on Main Street on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 1 p.m. with refreshments and an appearance from Santa afterward. Visit [@HampsteadColonialChristmasParade](https://www.facebook.com/HampsteadColonialChristmasParade) on Facebook.

• The theme for **Merrimack's Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting** on Sunday, Dec. 8, is "A Charlie Brown Christmas." The parade begins at 3 p.m. at the Commons Shopping Plaza (515 DW Highway) and ends at the Town Hall parking lot (6 Baboosic Lake Road), where the tree lighting will take place. Visit [merrimack-parksandrec.org](http://merrimack-parksandrec.org).

• The **Christmas in Amherst Village House Tour** will take place Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sponsored by the Congregational Church of Amherst, this tour has become a favorite tradition. Ready for the holidays with traditional and unique decorating ideas, every home is unique in size and style and each will be a surprise. Tickets are \$40 in advance, \$45 on the day of the event. Online tickets must be purchased by Dec. 9 and will be mailed to participants. Visit [ccamherst.org/cav](http://ccamherst.org/cav).

• The 10th Annual **Hollis Luminaria Stroll & Town Band Concert** on Saturday, Dec. 14, will include more than 2,000 luminaria lanterns, a Santa tractor parade, holiday craft shopping, a chili and cornbread dinner, music performances in Monument Square, a gingerbread house contest and a bake sale. The stroll and tree lighting will be at 4 p.m. at Monument Square. The Lit Tractor Parade will begin at 4:30 p.m. Visit [hollisluminaria.org](http://hollisluminaria.org).

• The **Gilford Village Candlelight Stroll** is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 14, from 5 to 7 p.m. The Gilford Community Band will perform at the Gilford Community Church. Make s'mores and visit Santa at Village Field, enjoy hot chocolate, cookies and craft making at Gilford Public Library and more. Visit their Facebook page [@ GilfordVillageCandlelightStroll](https://www.facebook.com/GilfordVillageCandlelightStroll).

• Pats Peak will have **New Year's Eve fireworks** on Sunday, Dec. 31, from 9:20 to 9:40 p.m. There will be live music in the Sled Pub from 6 to 9 p.m. Visit [patspeak.com](http://patspeak.com).



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# Santa Season

Where kids can find holiday fun

Compiled by John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

Here are some events tailored to kid and family fun.

• There will be **Family Gingerbread House Decorating** sessions at the Goffstown Public Library (2 High St, Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstownlibrary.com) throughout December. Pre-built gingerbread houses and decorating supplies will be provided. Space is limited and registration is required. One registration per family. Visit the Library's website for dates.

• **Santa's Wonderland 2024** at Bass Pro Shops, running now until Dec. 24, offers free Santa photo sessions (advance reservations required), a free shareable video with Santa photos, a Christmas toy shop for holiday gifts and more. Visit [basspro.com/shop/en/santas-wonderland](http://basspro.com/shop/en/santas-wonderland) to reserve a time slot.

• **Charmingfare Farm** (774 High St., Candia, [visithethefarm.com](http://visithethefarm.com)) has lots of holiday family fun on the calendar. The **Christmas Tree Spree** will be Friday, Nov. 29, and Saturday, Nov. 30. Admission costs \$22 per person or \$159 for four people and a tree. The day will also include visits with the barnyard animals, a horse-drawn ride, a visit with Santa's reindeer and a campfire. **Santa's Christmas** runs weekends through Dec. 22, plus Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24. Pick a time when you buy tickets for either a four-person or a 10-person sleigh ride. The event includes a stop at the North Pole, Mrs. Claus' Bakery, a visit to the barnyard, an opportunity to shop for Christmas trees, a campfire, a special mailbox for letters to Santa and the big man himself. The week post-Christmas, Charmingfare holds an **Encore of the Lights** event, where attendees can "climb aboard our horse-drawn ride and travel 30 minutes through Christmas light displays and see the reindeer at the North Pole," according to the website.

• The Loon Preservation Committee's

Annual **Holiday Open House** at The Loon Center (183 Lees Mill Road, Moultonborough) is on Saturday, Nov. 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It's a day of family fun with horse-drawn wagon rides, holiday treats, balloon animals, kids' crafts and a visit from Santa. Visit [loon.org/loon-center](http://loon.org/loon-center).

• **Brookford Farm** (250 West Road, Canterbury, 742-4084, [brookfordfarm.com](http://brookfordfarm.com)) will celebrate **Christmas With the Cows** Saturdays, Nov. 30 and Dec. 7, and Sundays, Dec. 1 and Dec. 8, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission tickets are \$10 (\$15 at the door) and children 3-12 years old are \$7 (\$10 at the door). Children 2 and under are free.

• The Educational Farm at Joppa Hill (174 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford) will host a **Visit From Santa** on Saturday, Nov. 30, from 4 to 7 p.m. Seasonal treats will be available at the Farm's farmstand, and animals will be available for petting. Attendance is free, but donations to the Educational Farm are welcome. Visit [theeducationalfarm.org](http://theeducationalfarm.org).

• **Elf Training Sessions** are back at the Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry). The sessions are Monday, Dec. 2, through Wednesday, Dec. 4, with multiple time slots each day: On Monday and Tuesday, there will be sessions at 3:30, 5:30, and 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday, there will be an additional session for infants starting at 10 a.m. followed by sessions at 3:30 and 5 p.m. Activities include elf-themed crafts, songs, snacks and storytelling. Visit [derrypl.org](http://derrypl.org).

• There will be a **Christmas Holiday Program** for children, ages 1-5 in the Winchell Room at Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, [manchesterlibrary.org](http://manchesterlibrary.org)) on Thursday, Dec. 5, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. where kids can make Santa hats, decorate trees, play games such as "Pin the Heart on the Grinch" and more. This is a drop-in program.

• **UpReach Therapeutic Equestrian Center** (153 Paige Hill Road, Goffstown,

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497-2343, upreachtec.org) will host a **“Deck the Stalls,” a Holiday Open Barn**, Friday, Dec. 6, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. This free event is open to the public, featuring barn tours, the opportunity to meet some of the horses who live and work at UpReach, holiday treats, a hot chocolate bar, live music and an ugly holiday sweater contest.

- The YMCA of Downtown Manchester (30 Mechanic St. in Manchester; graniteymca.org) will hold a **Brunch with Frosty** on Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., a free event featuring a pancake breakfast, photos with Frosty the Snowman and more.

- Experience a **Victorian Christmas** at the Jones Farmhouse at the New Hampshire Farm Museum (1305 White Mountain Highway, Milton, 652-7840, nhfarmmuseum.org) on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Explore the decorated farmhouse and join in the holiday spirit with volunteers dressed in period attire. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$8 for seniors (65+), \$6 for ages 4-17, and children under age 4 enter for free. There’s a family pass available for \$30, which includes admission for two adults and kids or grandkids. Visit nhfarmmuseum.org/event/victorian-christmas.

- The Millyard Museum’s (200 Bedford St., Manchester) **Holiday Open House** is on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will include children’s holiday crafts, cookies and cider, old-fashioned board games, and a special visit with Santa Claus from noon to 1 p.m. Admission is free. Visit manchesterhistoric.org.

- Millyard Museum (200 Bedford St., Manchester) will also host **“Home for the Holiday: An American Girl Tea Party”** Saturday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participants are invited to bring their dolls and join in a tea party. Tickets are \$20 per person. Visit manchesterhistoric.org.

- There will be **Mom and Me Gingerbread House Workshops** Thursday, Dec. 5, and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the New Hampshire Farm Museum (1305 White Mountain Highway, Milton, 652-7840, nhfarmmuseum.org). This special workshop encourages the generations to come together in the kitchen at the 1760s historic Plummer Homestead. All supplies will be provided. The cost is \$20. Additional gingerbread houses will be available for \$15 each. There is a limit of 30 participants. RSVP on the Museum’s website.

- **S’mores with Santa** is returning to New Boston on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 4 to 6 p.m. Attendees can enjoy meeting Santa, making s’mores and sipping hot chocolate or cider while mingling with friends and neighbors. The gathering will also include singing Christmas carols and the official lighting of the Christmas tree. Santa will be present in the gazebo for the tree lighting at 4 p.m., and children are invited to visit with Santa afterward and bring an ornament from home to



Sleigh Ride at Charmingfare Farm.

place on the town tree. In case of inclement weather, the backup date is Sunday, Dec. 8. Visit newbostonnh.gov.

- The Friends of the Griffin Free Public Library will present a **Santa Breakfast** on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Auburn Village School Cafeteria (11 Eaton Hill Road in Auburn). Santa will arrive by firetruck by 8:45 a.m., the menu will include pancake, eggs, sausage and more. Tickets cost \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids up to grade 8 and free for kids under 3. Contact secretary@friendsofgriffinfree.org.

- The **2nd Annual Breakfast with Santa** will take place at the Bedford Event Center (379 S. River Road, Bedford, 997-7741, bedforeventcenter.com) Sunday, Dec. 8, from 9 to 11 a.m. featuring a breakfast buffet, coloring and craft activities, a Mail Your Letter to Santa station, photos with Santa, story time with Santa, and more. Children’s tickets are \$49 each, and adult tickets are \$59, through planningpod.com.

- The Children’s Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover) is hosting its annual **Jingle Bell Extravaganza** on Sundays, Dec. 8 and Dec. 15, with sessions from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Visitors can meet Santa, participate in hands-on holiday craft activities, experience a magical science experiment and receive a special treat. Pajama attire is welcomed for this festive event. Ticket cost \$22, children under 1 year old are free. Online ticket sales end 24 hours before the start of each event. To reserve a spot, visit childrens-museum.org.

- There will be a **Santa Storytime** at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, 836-6600, bookerymht.com), Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Santa will read stories.

- Join the Milford Recreation Department for **Breakfast with Santa** on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at the Milford Town Hall Auditorium (1 Union Square, Milford). Breakfast features pancakes and sausage and a visit with Santa. The event costs \$10 per person, children age 2 and under can attend free. Seating is limited; register by Dec. 8. Visit milfordnh.recdesk.com.

- **Santa Claus will helicopter in** to make a stop at the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (27 Navigator Road, Lon-

donderry, aviationmuseumofnh.org) on Saturday, Dec. 14, according to the Museum’s website. Santa is slated for touchdown at 11 a.m. and scheduled to stay for two hours (he’s scheduled to leave by fire truck at 1 p.m.). The event will feature hot chocolate, coffee, doughnuts and other holiday treats. Santa fans are asked to arrive at the museum by 10:45 a.m. The museum will be open free to visitors from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (admission will be charged from 1 to 4 p.m.).

- Londonderry Access Center TV (281 Mammoth Road) will host **Santa Live 2024** on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 1 to 3 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be present in the studio for children to visit and will be broadcast live on television. The event is free of charge operates on a first come, first served basis. Refreshments and coloring activities are provided for children while they wait. Each child will receive a gift and a candy cane. Parents are allowed to take pictures during the visit. Visit facebook.com/LondonderryAccessTV.

- Kimball Jenkins (266 N. Main St. in Concord; kimballjenkins.com) will hold two **Holiday Tea Meet and Greet** events on Saturday, Dec. 14, and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. featuring a light lunch and tea, holiday crafts and dancers from Safe Haven Ballet holiday productions. On Dec. 14, meet *The Nutcracker’s* Sugar Plum Fairy and friends. On Dec. 15, meet *The Grinch’s* Grinch, Cindy Lou Who and friends. Tickets cost \$40 for ages 13+ and \$30 for ages 2 to 12, which can be purchased via the Kimball Jenkins website under “events.”

- The Concord Public Library (45 Green St., Concord, 225-8670, concordnh.gov/1983/Library) will hold a **Teens & Tweens Winter Wonderland Candle Class** on Monday, Dec. 16, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Blanchard Room. Recommended for ages 10-17. RSVP required.

- Celebrate New Year’s Eve with a family-friendly event on Tuesday, Dec. 31, at the Children’s Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover). The festivities include two **“Countdowns to Midnight,”** one at 10:30 a.m. during the morning play session (9 a.m. to noon) and another at 2 p.m. during the afternoon session (12:30 to 3:30 p.m.). The highlight is the glitter ball descent from the museum’s 30-foot-high Build-It Fly-It towers as the countdown reaches zero. Reservations and pre-payment are required. Visit childrens-museum.org.

- The Concord Public Library (45 Green St., Concord, 225-8670, concordnh.gov/1983/Library) will host a **Noon Year’s Eve Party** on Tuesday, Dec. 31, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Ring in the new year at noon and celebrate with light refreshments and a special toast. Recommended for kids birth through elementary. RSVP via the Library website.

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# Handel, Vivaldi and holiday pops

## Classical music concerts

Compiled by Zachary Lewis  
zlewis@hippopress.com

Symphonies and choruses provide many of the sounds of the season.

• There will be an open rehearsal of **Handel's "Messiah"** on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 10 a.m., followed by a performance on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Church (22 Centre St., Concord). Visit [walkerlecture.org](http://walkerlecture.org).

• The **Vienna Boys Choir** will perform on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m. at the Nashua Center for the Arts (201 Main St., Nashua). *Christmas in Vienna* showcases the gifted group of child musicians. Ticket prices range from \$49 to \$99. Call 657-8774 or visit [nashuacenterforthearts.com](http://nashuacenterforthearts.com). They will also perform at the Colonial Theatre (609 Main St., Laconia) on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are the same. Visit [coloniallaconia.com](http://coloniallaconia.com) or call 657-8774.

• Symphony NH is set to hold its **Holiday Brass concert** in Manchester and in Nashua. Catch the Manchester performance on Thursday, Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St., Manchester, 668-5588, [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org)); tickets range from \$29 to \$39. The Nashua show is on Friday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary and Archangel Michael Coptic Orthodox Church (39 Chandler St., Nashua), tickets are \$40; call 595-9156 or visit [symphonynh.org](http://symphonynh.org).

• The Manchester Community Music School's (2291 Elm St., Manchester) **Holiday Pops Concert** is on Friday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. Individual tickets are \$45, or attendees can reserve a table of 10 for \$400. Visit [mcmusicschool.org](http://mcmusicschool.org) or call 644-4548.

• The Rockingham Choral Society will perform **A Rose in Winter** on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 3 p.m. at Exeter High School (1 Blue Hawk Drive, Exeter) and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. at Christ Church Episcopal (43 Pine St., Exeter). The concert will include secular, sacred and holiday works to evoke joy and hope, according to their website. Tickets are \$20 for general admission, \$18 for seniors and students, with children under 6 admitted free. Advance tickets can be purchased from members or online, with remaining tickets available at the door. Visit [rockinghamchoral.org](http://rockinghamchoral.org).

• Lakes Region Symphony Orchestra will hold its **holiday concert "Take a Bough"** at the Colonial Theatre (609 Main St., Laconia) on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. This annual holiday concert returns with a new selection of traditional carols with a "modern flair," interpreted by husband-and-wife team Alex and Rachel Hunton in a grand orchestral presentation. Ticket prices range



Souhegan Valley Chorus.

from \$12 to \$32. Visit [coloniallaconia.com](http://coloniallaconia.com) or call 657-8774.

• **Merry Merry Canterbury Concert & Cocktails** will feature music from the Symphony New Hampshire Quartet on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 4 to 7 p.m. with music at the Dwelling House Chapel and appetizers and drinks in the Hubbard Gallery at the Canterbury Shaker Village (288 Shaker Road in Canterbury; [shakers.org](http://shakers.org)). Tickets cost \$35.

• The Souhegan Valley Chorus invites you to a performance of **Handel's Messiah** to experience the powerful voices of their choir and soloists accompanied by an orchestra. There will be two performances: one on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. at Mont Vernon Congregational Church (4 S. Main St., Mont Vernon) and one on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. at Milford United Methodist Church (327 N. River Road, Milford). Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors, with children age 12 and under admitted free. Visit [souheganvalleychorus.org](http://souheganvalleychorus.org).

• The Manchester Choral Society on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. will usher in the holiday season with **Martin Sedek's "Gifts of the Season"** at Ste. Marie Parish (378 Notre Dame Ave., Manchester). The concert also features Bob Chilcott's "On Christmas Night," which will include eight familiar carol settings that follow the sequence of the Christmas story. The Children's Choir of Ste. Marie joins in under the direction of Katerina Nowik, along with harp, organ, oboe and flute, according to the website. Ticket prices range from \$26.50 to \$31.60. Visit [mesnh.org](http://mesnh.org) or call 472-6627.

• The Nashua Choral Society presents its annual **Holiday Concert "Christmas Garland"** on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church (216 E. Dunstable Road, Nashua). The performance of holiday favorites will include selections from Handel's "Messiah." Adult tickets are \$20, students \$10, and admission is free for children. Tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite or Darrell's Music Hall and at the

door. Visit [nashuachoralsociety.org](http://nashuachoralsociety.org).

• At the Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St. in Concord; [ccmusic-school.org](http://ccmusic-school.org)), the Canterbury Singers will offer a Holiday Recital and Singalong on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 12:10 p.m. (free). On Saturday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. the school will present a **Holiday Folk Concert**; tickets cost \$25 for adults, \$20 for students/seniors.

• Saint Joseph Cathedral (145 Lowell St., Manchester) will present a performance of **Handel's "Messiah" and Vivaldi's "Gloria"** on Friday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 per person online or at the door. Visit [stjosephcathedralnh.org/cathedralconcert](http://stjosephcathedralnh.org/cathedralconcert) or call 622-6404.

• The **Boston Pops Holiday Concert** comes to the SNHU Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000) on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m., conducted by Keith Lockhart. Tickets cost \$57 to \$92 and are on sale now. Visit [snhuarena.com](http://snhuarena.com).

• The New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra is holding its annual **Holiday Pops Concert** at the Seifert Performing Arts Center (44 Geremonty Drive, Salem) on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. The concert will feature Ron Goldstein's joyful Hanukkah Medley, Tchaikovsky's enchanting "Valse des Fleurs" (Waltz of the Flowers) and Polar Express, arranged by Jerry Brubaker. Visit [nhphil.org](http://nhphil.org) or call 647.6476.

• The **Tenors of New England** will be performing on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. at Saints Mary and Joseph Parish at St. Joseph Church (40 Main St., Salem). A free will offering will be accepted, no reservations needed, and all members of the public are welcome. Visit [thenewenglandtenors.weebly.com](http://thenewenglandtenors.weebly.com).

• The Rochester Opera House (31 Wakefield St., Rochester) hosts the **Strafford Wind Symphony** with a selection of holiday concert arrangements that celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah and the new year on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults, with free admission for children under age 12 but tickets still required. Visit [rochesteroperahouse.com](http://rochesteroperahouse.com) or call 335-1992.

• **Family Holiday Pops** with the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra is a Music Hall event that takes place off-site on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 7:30 p.m. at Portsmouth High School (50 Andrew Jarvis Drive, Portsmouth). Visit [portsmouthsymphony.org](http://portsmouthsymphony.org) or call 686-8133.

• The First Church (1 Concord St. in Nashua; [first-music.org](http://first-music.org)) will present the 4th Advent worship services **"Christmas at First"** with Cantata 61 with the Chancel Choir and First Music Chamber Strings on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. 🍀

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# A rockin' holiday

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Compiled by Zachary Lewis  
zlewis@hippopress.com

It's not all Hallelujah choruses. Here are some of the other musical and comedy performances on the holiday schedule.

• The **Trans-Siberian Orchestra: The Lost Christmas Eve Tour** heads to SNHU Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, snhua-arena.com) on Friday, Nov. 29, at 2:30 and 7 p.m. Other holiday shows at the arena include **Cirque Dreams Holiday** on Tuesday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m.; the **Boston Pops Holiday Concert** on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m., and the **Harlem Globetrotters 2024 World Tour** on Saturday, Dec. 28, at 2 and 7 p.m.

• At the Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org), the schedule is packed, with comedian **Emily Ruskowski's Thanksgiving Leftover Comedy Show** on Friday, Nov. 29, at 7:30 p.m.; the **Rock This Show Orchestra's Christmas Spectacular** on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 7:30 p.m.; **Symphony New Hampshire Presents Holiday Brass** on Thursday, Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m.; **The Scott Spradling Band Rockin' Big Band Christmas** on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; **The Eric Mintel Quartet A Charlie Brown Jazz Christmas** on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m.; a **Celtic Christmas** on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2 and 7:30 p.m.; the **New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus Winter Holiday Concert** on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m.; two performances of **Candlelight: Featuring Tchaikovsky & More** on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 6 and 8:30 p.m.; **Queen City Improv's Holiday Show** on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m., and **The Calamari Sisters' Feast of the Seven Fishes** on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m. as well as Sunday, Dec. 22, at 2 p.m.

• At the Stone Church (5 Granite St. in Newmarket; stonechurchrocks.com) holiday offerings include **Truffle Turkey** on Friday, Nov. 29, at 7 p.m.; an all ages **Christmas show featuring Dan Blakeslee and the Calabash Club and Jonee Earthquake Band** on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., and **San Souci (a Jerry Garcia tribute) Holiday Special** on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.

• At the Park Theatre (19 Main St., Jaffrey, 532-9300, theparktheatre.org) holiday offerings include **the Park Theatre Tree Trimming Party** with live music, mulled cider and eggnog on Friday, Nov. 29, at 6 p.m.; **The Heather Pierson Trio with A Charlie Brown Christmas** on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 7:30 p.m.; **Josee Vachon & Patrick Ross: A French Canadian Christmas Concert** on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 2 p.m.; **Electric Earth Concerts Presents: Holiday Fundraiser: Horszowski Trio** on Sunday,

Dec. 8, at 4 p.m.; **Project Shakespeare Presents: A Christmas Carol** on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 4 p.m.; **Granite State Ringers** on Friday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.; **Elvis Christmas Concert** starring Robert Black as Elvis and The Elvis Band on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m., and **Mr. & Mrs. Fezziwig's Player Piano Christmas Party** on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 2 p.m.

• 3S Artspace (319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth, 766-3330, 3sarts.org) offers holiday happenings including **Model Airplane's Funksgiving** on Friday, Nov. 29, at 8 p.m.

• Catch the **Jonee Earthquake Punk Rock Christmas Show** with Lobotomobile, Dirty Walter and the Smelltones and Raz to Stitchez on Friday, Nov. 29, at 9 p.m. at Shaskeen Pub (909 Elm St. in Manchester.

• At the Lakeport Opera House (781 Union Ave., Laconia, 519-7506, lakeportopera.com), upcoming events include a **Thanksgiving '80s Rock Party** on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 8 p.m.; **A John Denver Christmas** performed by Chris Collins and Boulder Company on Friday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m., and **A Holiday Evening with Clay Cook** on Friday, Dec. 20, and Saturday, Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m.

• The Word Barn (66 Newfields Road, Exeter, 244-0202, thewordbarn.com) presents a 12 Nights of Christmas series this December. The shows take place at the Orchard Chapel (143 Exeter Road in Hampton Falls) and include **Halley Neal and Sam Robbins** performing songs from their album *You and Me on Christmas Eve* on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 7 p.m.; **Rock My Soul Holiday Concert** on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m.; **Mr Sun. Plays Duke Ellington's Nutcracker** on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m.; **Kat & Brett Holiday Show** on Friday, Dec. 6, at 8 p.m.; **Home for the Holidays with Dustbowl Revival** on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 8 p.m.; **A Cape Breton Christmas with Còig** on Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m.; **Rasa's Christmas: Folk Tunes & Holiday Cheer** on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.; **A Nova Scotia Christmas with Cassie and Maggie** on Friday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m.; **Ed Gerhard Christmas** on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m.; **The Heather Pierson Trio with A Charlie Brown Christmas** on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3:30 p.m.; the **Jordan TW Trio Celtic Christmas** on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m.; **A Celtic Christmas with Luna-sa** on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 5 and 8 p.m.; **The Orchard Chapel Candlelight Carol Sing** on Friday, Dec. 20, at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 22, at 5:30 p.m., plus a family matinee version occurs on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 3 p.m.; and **A Winter Solstice Celebration with Low Lily** on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.

• The Majestic Theatre (880 Page St., Manchester, 669-7469, majestictheatre.net) presents **A Piano Christmas** featuring an

interactive piano sing-along cabaret with Robert Dionne on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

• LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst, and 14 Route 111, Derry, 672-9898, labellewinery.com) has a holiday schedule that includes **The Granite State Ringers Holiday Handbell Concert** in Amherst on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 2:30 p.m.; **Viva Las Elvis: Christmas In Vegas Concert** in Derry on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 4 p.m.; **Holiday Pops Concerts: Brass and Strings** featuring members of the New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra in Derry on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 4 p.m.; **Holiday Dinner and Show with NSquared Dance Company** in Amherst on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 6 p.m.; **Christmas with Neil: Tru Diamond Holiday Concert** in Amherst on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 2 p.m.; **Ice Princess Party & LaBelle Lights** in Derry on Friday, Dec. 27, and Sunday, Dec. 29, at 3 p.m., and a **Masquerade New Year's Eve Party** on Tuesday, Dec. 31, from 7 to 10:30 p.m.

• Nashua Center for the Arts (201 Main St., Nashua, 800-657-8774, nashuacenterforthearts.com) holiday events include **Fairytales of New York, The Ultimate Irish Inspired Christmas Concert** on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m.; **Christmas with the Tenors** on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 3 p.m.; **Seán Heely's Celtic Christmas** on Friday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m.; **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy's Holiday Party** on Tuesday, Dec. 10, at 7:30 p.m.; **Sara Evans' 21 Days of Christmas Tour** on Friday, Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m., and **Juston McKinney's Comedy Year In Review 2024** on Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 5 and 8 p.m.

• At Jimmy's Jazz and Blues Club (135 Congress St., Portsmouth, 888-603-JAZZ, jimmysoncongress.com) holiday-themed shows include **A Christmas Show with Sharon Jones and Company** on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m.; **Holiday Disco Vinyl Dance Party with The Glitter Boys** in The Gallery at Jimmy's on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 8 p.m. to midnight; **Warren Wolf's Christmas Vibes** on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m.; the **Jane Monheit Holiday Show** Saturday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m., and the **Stella Cole Holiday Show** on Monday, Dec. 23, at 7:30 p.m.

• Tupelo Music Hall (10 A St., Derry, 437-5100, tupelomusicahall.com) celebrates as they often do with **Gary Hoey's Ho! Ho! Hoey!** show on Friday, Dec. 6, at 8 p.m. Other holiday offerings include **Wizards of Winter** on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., and **Adam Ezra Group** playing two shows on New Year's Eve, one with dinner that begins at 5:30 p.m. and another show that starts at 9 p.m. without dinner.

• The **New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus** offers four opportunities to see their holiday show, "Joyful!" The chorus will per-

form Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m. at Christ the King Lutheran Church (3 Lutheran Drive in Nashua) with tickets for \$25 plus fees. Next, the chorus will perform Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. at the Bank NH Stage in Concord. On Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m., see the chorus at Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (22 Fox Run Road in Newington); tickets cost \$25 plus fees. The final performance in the series will be Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m. at the Rex Theatre in Manchester. See nhgmc.com.

• Capitol Center for the Arts (Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com) has several holiday musical events planned. The **New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus** presents their Holiday Concert on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. at the Bank of NH Stage (16 S. Main St.). The **Capital Jazz Orchestra** presents Holiday Pops on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. at the Chubb Theatre (44 S. Main St.); **NightOUT featuring the Free Range Revue** takes place on Friday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. This is a celebration of The Nightmare Before Christmas at the BNH stage.; **Mr. Aaron Holiday**, a holiday party from the local family entertainer, is on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 11 a.m. at the BNH stage.; **Cherish the Ladies: Celtic Christmas** will take place at the BNH stage on Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m.; The radio show *Greg and the Morning Buzz* presents its annual **Buzz Ball** on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m. at the Chubb Theatre.; The **Heather Pierson Trio plays a Charlie Brown Jazz Christmas** on Saturday, Dec. 21, at 2 and 7 p.m. at the BNH stage.; The **Big Easy New Year's Eve bash** at the BNH stage on Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 8 p.m.

• The Colonial Theatre (609 Main St., Laconia, coloniallaconia.com, 657-8774) has a stocking filled with holiday events that include **Eileen Ivers Joyful Christmas** on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 5 p.m. and **Christmas with the Celts** on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m.

• Holiday shows at The Flying Monkey (39 Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com) include **Seán Heely's Celtic Christmas** on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m.; **An Olde English Christmas with Herman's Hermits** starring Peter Noone on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m., and **Fairytales of New York, The Ultimate Irish Inspired Christmas Concert**, on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 7:30 p.m.

• At The Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusicahall.org) catch **MUSE: A Salute to Holiday Divas!** on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 7 p.m.; **T.3 - The Falalalonly Tour**, a trio of Broadway performers, on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m., and **A Sinatra Christmas** with Rich DiMare and Ron Poster at 5 and 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 18.

• The New Hampshire Theatre Project (959 Islington St., Portsmouth) will present *Evening*

**Lights: A Celebration of Joy and Illumination of the Holiday Spirit**, according to their website. The party takes place on Tuesday, Dec. 10, Wednesday, Dec. 11, and Thursday, Dec. 12, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. All tickets are \$50 and include refreshments. Visit [nhtheatreproject.org](http://nhtheatreproject.org).

• At the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, tickets. [anselm.edu](http://anselm.edu)) catch **A Cape Breton Christmas with Coig** on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 7:30 p.m.

• Jewel Music Venue (61 Canal St. in Manchester) will present a **Hachi Holiday Event** with Sippy, Wonka Willy, Daze Inn and Audrey on Friday, Dec. 20, starting at 8 p.m. See [jewelmusicvenue.com](http://jewelmusicvenue.com).

• The Strand (20 Third St., Dover, 343-1899, [thestrandoover.com](http://thestrandoover.com)) will feature a **dance party** on Saturday, Dec. 21, and Saturday, Dec. 28, both at 8 p.m.

• Pembroke City Limits (134 Main St. in Pembroke, [pembrokecitylimits.com](http://pembrokecitylimits.com)) will hold its **PCL Christmas Block Party with Jordan Quinn** on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 2 p.m. (with a Santa appearance, the website said).

• The Palace Theatre's (80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org)) holiday selection includes the annual **Chanukah at the Palace** featuring a musical performance by Bodi and starring psychological illusionist Kent Axell on Monday, Dec. 23, at 6 p.m.; **Recycled Percussion** multiple shows Tuesday, Dec. 31, through Sunday, Jan. 12, and comedian Jimmy

Dunn ringing in the new year at the Palace on Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 7:30 p.m.

• At Rochester Opera House (31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, [rochesteroperahouse.com](http://rochesteroperahouse.com)) **comedian Bob Marley** will perform on Thursday, Dec. 26, at 8 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 30, at 8 p.m., and Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 5 and 8 p.m.

• There will be a **Winter Ball at Phenix Hall: Home for the Holidays**, Saturday, Dec. 28, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Phenix Hall (38 N. Main St., Concord). Tickets are \$100 each. Visit [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com).

• At Chunky's Cinema Pub (707 Huse Road, Manchester, will celebrate the New Year with a 21+ **Drag Show Hosted by Karisma & Larissa Montes** on New Year's Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 10 p.m.

• Headliners Comedy Club has events for New Year's Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 31, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown (700 Elm St.) There are six packages that start at \$35. There is a 7 p.m. dinner and an 8 p.m. gala of **Dueling Pianos** as well as an 8 p.m. comedy show in the Ball Room and the **gala** at 10 p.m. **Comedians** include Will Noonan, Dan Crohn, and Amy Tee. There is also a 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. show with the comedy stylings of Anne Powell, Tim McKeever, Dave Decker, and Joe Espi. Headliners will present two **comedy shows** on Dec. 31 at Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester) at 7:30 and 9 p.m. with Steve Scarfo, Kyle Crawford, and Dan Croh. Visit [headlinercomedyclub.com](http://headlinercomedyclub.com) or call 988-3673.

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# Art for the holidays

See it, love it, maybe buy it

Compiled by Zachary Lewis  
zlewis@hippopress.com

Feast your winter wonder eyes on some spectacular art at local seasonal exhibits, arts and craft shows, strolls and fairs.

• Twiggs Gallery will be holding its final exhibition, “**GLOW**,” marking the gallery’s farewell after a 10-year run, with their doors closing on Dec. 14, according to a press release. The show spotlights the work of its dedicated art instructors. Twiggs Gallery (254 King St., Boscawen, twiggsgallery.org) is open Thursdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

• Pillar Gallery + Projects’ newest exhibit is “**NANO**” and the show runs until Wednesday, Dec. 18 at the Pillar gallery (205 N. State St., Concord). “**NANO**” is a juried exhibition focused on smaller works. Visit pillargalleryprojects.com.

• The seventh annual “**Small Works — Big Impact**” holiday exhibit is now at Creative Ventures Gallery (411 Nashua St., Milford) and will run until Dec. 21, showcasing work in various media from more than 30 area artists, with most pieces smaller than 12 inches in diameter, making them ideal for holiday gifts. The gallery’s hours are Tuesday and Wednesday from noon to 4 p.m., Thursday from noon to 6 p.m., Friday from noon to 4 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Visit creativeventuresfineart.com or call 672-2500.

• **The Craftworkers’ Guild shop in Bedford** (3a Meetinghouse Road, down the hill in the library parking lot) is open for the holiday season. The shop is open in November Thursdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and in December Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Sunday, Dec. 22. See thecraftworkersguild.org.

• “**Small Wonders Miniature Art Show**” is at the Mosaic Art Collective (66 Hanover St., Manchester; mosaicartcollective.com) through Sunday, Dec. 22. Mosaic is open Wednesdays through Fridays from 2 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m.

• The Seacoast Artist Association (130 Water St., Exeter) presents its themed group show “**Big Gifts Come in Small Packages**” for November and December. Artists are challenged to create beautiful and affordable work, with each piece priced at no more than \$100. The gallery is open Wednesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. Holiday hours begin on Monday, Dec. 9: Monday-Wednesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 a.m.; Friday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday noon to 4 p.m. Christmas Eve hours will be 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit seacoastartist.org.

• The New Hampshire Antique Co-Op (323 Elm St., Milford, 673-8499, nhantiquecoop.com) will host its **Annual Holiday Open House Friday**, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enjoy refreshments and sweet treats, a gift card contest, a scavenger hunt with prizes, a gallery preview tour of the new fine art exhibition “Light and Brush: Luminous and Tonal paintings from the 19th Century to Present.”

• **The Great New England Holiday Craft Market** will take place at Labelle Winery (14 Route 111, Derry) on Friday, Nov. 29, and Saturday, Nov. 30, from noon to 9 p.m. Visit labellewinery.com or call 672-9898.

• Pipe Dream Brewing (49 Harvey Road, Londonderry) will hold a **holiday craft fair** Friday, Nov. 29, from 5 to 9 p.m., featuring more than 10 local vendors selling handmade crafts and other Black Friday Deals. See pipedreambrewingnh.com.

• Two Villages Art Society (846 Main St. in Contoocook; twovillagesart.org) will hold its **2024 Winter Members Show and Sale, “A Celebration of Light,”** from Saturday, Nov. 30 to Saturday, Dec. 28. An opening reception with the artists will be held Saturday, Dec. 7 from noon to 2 p.m.

• The Capitol Center for the Arts will hold its first **Makers’ Market** Saturday, Nov. 30, at the Bank of NH Stage (16 S Main St, Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Discover unique, handcrafted treasures from local artisans.

• The creators of **Henniker Handmade & Homegrown** are hosting an exclusive boutique shopping experience, Henniker Handmade Holiday, featuring 12 artists and makers. This pop-up event will be held in the Henniker Community Center (at New England College, 57 Main St., Henniker) on Saturday, Nov. 30, from 2 to 5 p.m. Locally crafted wares will include needle felted wool ornaments, honey, beeswax candles, soaps, skin care items, fine art prints, woodworking, hand-printed apparel, handwoven textiles, wine and jewelry.

• The **Windham Holiday Craft Fair** is hosted by New England Vendor Events and will be held at Searles School and Chapel (3 Chapel Road, Windham) on Sunday, Dec. 1, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participants will be able to get a photo taken with Santa. Visit facebook.com/nevendorevent.

• Caya Reiki & Healing will present the second annual **Winter Wonderland Craft Market & Psychic Fair** on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hooksett American Legion (5 Riverside St., Hooksett). The event will feature many vendors and artisans. They have partnered with Hooksett’s **Light Up The Village** tour, which will present a

light ceremony near the Robie Store. Visit caya-healing.square.site.

• **Wrong Brain Night Bizarre** will featuring local artists and artisans on Monday, Dec. 2, from 6 to 10 p.m. at Chapel + Main (83 Main St. in Dover; chapelandmain.com), with a \$1 suggested admission donation.

• **Starry, Starry Weekend** will run Friday, Dec. 6, and Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Contoocook and Hopkinton villages with participating locations offering artisan crafts, special events and more. See discover-tooky.com/starrystarryweekend.

• **The Contoocook Artisans Holiday Fair** is set for Friday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at American Legion Post No. 81 (E.R. Montgomery Event Center, 169 Bound Tree Road, Contoocook).

• **The Winter Giftopolis by the Concord Arts Market** will take place on Friday, Dec. 6, from 5 to 11 p.m. during Intown Concord’s Midnight Merriment. This year’s event will be at the Atrium at 7 Eagle Square. Local artists and craftspeople will be selling their handmade gifts. Visit concordartsmarket.net.

• High Mowing School (77 Pine Hill Drive, Wilton) will host its annual **Pine Hill Holiday Fair** on Friday, Dec. 6, and Saturday, Dec. 7. Friday night is for adults, with shopping, music and a café from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., and family festivities are on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit pinehill.org.

• The First Baptist Church (121 Manchester St., Nashua, 882-4512, fbcnashua.org) will hold its **Olde-Fashioned Christmas Fair** Saturday, Dec. 7, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring a Christmas Cookie Walk, handcrafted items for sale, homemade jams, ornaments and other items handmade by church members. Santa will arrive at 9 a.m. and stay until noon.

• The **St. Nicholas Fair** will be held at Grace Episcopal Church, 30 Eastman St. in Concord, on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will feature hand-crafted items, second-hand jewelry, baked goods, used books, and white elephant items.

• The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Milford (20 Elm St., Milford) will hold its **holiday fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., including handcrafted items, a bake shop, and a carol sing-along at 1 p.m. Visit uucm.org/community/holiday-fair-2024.

• Arlington Street United Methodist Church (63 Arlington St., Nashua) will celebrate its **Holly Town Fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The fair will feature handmade items, crafts, candies, baked goods and a cookie walk, with lunch available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit asumc.org or call 882-4663.



Jason Hackler at the New Hampshire Antique Co-op Holiday Open House. Courtesy photo.

• St. Patrick Church (34 Amherst St. in Milford, stpatrickmilfordnh.org) will hold a **Craft Fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring a bake sale, crafts, a raffle, a silent auction and more.

• The Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Milford (20 Elm St, Milford, 673-1870, uucm.org) will hold a **Holiday Sale**, Saturday, Dec. 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be new and upcycled crafts, wreaths and holiday centerpieces, the Ritzy Boutique with gently used jewelry and household items, and a bakery. Breakfast and lunch will be available.

• The Somersworth Festival Association will host its **Holiday Craft Fair** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Somersworth High School (11 Memorial Drive, Somersworth) They will only accept cash for food purchased in the cafe. Visit nhfestivals.org.

• The 35th annual **Christmas in Strafford** event, showcasing more than 50 artists and craftspeople across 29 locations, is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 7, and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both days. Organizers are asking shoppers to help “Soup-port” the town food pantry with donation of a can or box of soup, according to the website. Visit christmasinstraftford.com.

• Saint Patrick’s Parish (12 Main St., Pelham, 635-3525, stpatrickspelham.com) will host its **Annual Christmas Craft Fair in its Parish Center**, Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. featuring local crafters, food, a homemade baked goods table and raffles.

• The Unitarian Universalist Church of Manchester (669 Union St., Manchester) will hold its **Holiday Gift Faire** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the fellowship hall. There will be a gift basket raffle, a cookie buffet walk, “It’s Better Than Take Out” frozen foods, tarot readings, a 50/50 cash raffle, gift shopping, a free holiday selfie photo area and more, according to their website. Visit uumanchester.org.

• The Concord Arts Market is hosting a **holiday art market** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Kimball Jenkins School of Art (266 N. Main St.). Visit [concordartsmarket.net](http://concordartsmarket.net).

• The Animal Rescue League of NH (545 Route 101, Bedford, 472-3647, [rescueleague.org](http://rescueleague.org)) will hold a **Holiday Fair** Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. featuring pet photos with Santa or the Grinch (by appointment), craft vendors, tree sales, a bake sale and more. Visit [rescueleague.org/holidayfair](http://rescueleague.org/holidayfair).

• There will be a **Winter Market** at Sanborn Mills Farm (7097 Sanborn Road, Loudon, 435-7314, [sanbornmills.org](http://sanbornmills.org)) Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Farm's workshop instructors will sell their wares. Warm refreshments will be available for purchase in the Sanborn Barn Dining Hall.

• The **Holiday Artist Maker Fair** will be held Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at French Hall (148 Concord St. in Manchester). See [nec.edu/artatfrench](http://nec.edu/artatfrench).

• A **Holiday Shopping Extravaganza** will be held Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Nashua Community College (505 Amherst St. in Nashua) featuring 85 artisans, craftsmen and specialty foods. Admission is \$5; ages 14 and under get in free. See [GNE-CraftArtisanShows.com](http://GNE-CraftArtisanShows.com).

• Brookside Congregational Church (2013

Elm St. in Manchester; [brooksidecc.org](http://brooksidecc.org)) will hold its **Christmas at the Brook** traditional New England Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. with a suggested admission donation of \$1.

• The **Nashua Holiday Craft Fair** will have crafters, vendors, food and drink, Santa and will take place on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Broad Street School (390 Broad St., Nashua). Visit [facebook.com/nevendorevents](http://facebook.com/nevendorevents).

• **Picker Artist Studios** (3 Pine St. in Nashua; [pickerartists.com](http://pickerartists.com)) will hold its **Holiday Open House** on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Chapel + Main (83 Main St. in Dover; [chapelandmain.com](http://chapelandmain.com)) will hold an **Arts and Drafts Holiday Fair** on Sunday, Dec. 8, from noon to 4 p.m.

• **Glimpse Gallery's** (Patriot Building, 4 Park St., Concord) newest exhibit begins on Monday, Dec. 9, and runs through Jan. 9, featuring works from artists Pat Arzillo, Byron Carr, Julie Daniels, Mark Ferland, David Wiggins, Barbara Morse and Michael McCormack, as well as a selection from curator Christina Landry-Boullion. The opening reception will take place on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 5 to 8 p.m.; RSVP by emailing [contact@theglimpsegallery.co](mailto:contact@theglimpsegallery.co). Visit [theglimpsegallery.com](http://theglimpsegallery.com) or call 892-8307.

• The **Holly Jolly Craft Fair** will be held

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\*Membership dues will begin automatically on January 1, 2025, at the regular rate. Must be 18 years of age or older and have a valid photo I.D. Offers expire 12/02/2024. No cash value. Additional restrictions may apply. Use promo code "Thankful24" at checkout.

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# Taste of the season

## Holiday food events

Compiled by John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

Find treats to eat and treats to give at these holiday events.

• **Brookdale Fruit Farm** (41 Broad St., Hollis, 465-2240, brookdalefruitfarm.com) will ship apples to friends, family or co-workers across the country. McIntosh, Cortland, Empire and Macoun varieties are available in 25 or 50 counts, beginning at \$37.50 plus shipping costs. Order over the phone; personalized card messages are free.

• Place your order for Holy Trinity Cathedral's (166 Pearl St., Manchester, 668-5087, holytrinitypncc.org) **Annual Frozen Food Sale** on Saturday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to noon. Quantities of favorite **Polish dishes** are limited; orders are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Order at holytrinitypncc.org/2024-htc-food-sale, or call the rectory at 622-4524.

• The **Holiday Shoppes at Tuscan Village** (9 Via Toscana, Salem, www.tuscanvillagesalem.com) runs through Christmas Eve. In November the Holiday Shoppes will be open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. In December they will also be open on Thursdays. The Market will be closed on Christmas Day. Vendors' offerings include hot chocolate, arancini, kettle corn and other treats as well as jewelry, home goods, seasonal decorations and more.

• The **New Hampshire Jingle Bells Winery Tour** is running weekends through Sunday, Dec. 29, from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. For \$65 for a single admission or \$125 for a couple, sample wines and light hors d'oeuvres at 15 New Hampshire wineries and receive an ornament at each location. See eventbrite.com to purchase tickets and see the list of participating vineyards.

• The Christmas-themed cocktail pop-up bar **Miracle** will return to Portsmouth from Wednesday, Nov. 27, through Thursday, Jan. 16, at The Goat (142 Congress St., Portsmouth, 590-4628, goatnh.com/portsmouth). This year's Miracle at the Goat will feature a kitschy festive décor and a themed cocktail menu with fan favorites such as the Christmopolitan and Snowball Old-Fashioned. New this year are Stocking Stuffer, Christmasaurus, Crooked Antler, Santa Slide and Koala Lalala. The venue is also offering a **Santa/Mrs. Claus Brunch** on Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• The Rockingham Brewing Co. (1

Corporate Park Drive, Unit 1, Derry, 216-2324, rockinghambrewing.com) will celebrate the holidays with three events: on Friday, Nov. 29, it will release its seasonal winter warmer, **Winter Wonderham**, flavored with allspice, ginger, nutmeg, cloves, and orange peel (7.5% ABV). Sunday, Dec. 8, it will host a **Holiday Artisan Market** from 1 to 4 p.m.; six to eight local artisans will have handcrafted work to help with your shopping list, and the Teenie Wienies (403-2336, twprovisions.com) food truck will be in attendance. And on Thursday, Dec. 19, **Santa Jake** will make an appearance for photo ops, accompanied by Tommy's Pizzeria (tommypizzeria.com).

• The theme for the **34th Annual Gingerbread House Contest and Exhibition** at the Portsmouth Historical Society (10 Middle St., Portsmouth) is Holiday Memories. The event will run from Friday, Nov. 29, through Monday, Dec. 30, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (until 7 p.m. on Fridays). Vote for your favorite house between Nov. 29 and Dec. 18. There will be a series of **Gingerbread House events** for Historical Society members and for the public throughout December. Visit portsmouth-history.org.

• The YMCA Allard Center (116 Goffstown Back Road, Goffstown, 497-4663, graniteymca.org/location/goffstown) will hold its annual **Holiday Food & Arts Market** Friday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 22, in the center's lobby. The market will feature food as well as handmade crafts and art created by the center's staff and members, according to a post on the Allard Center's website.

• The Barley House Restaurant and Tavern (132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, thebarleyhouse.com) will hold a **Holiday Jingle Jam** Saturday, Nov. 30, from 8 to 11 p.m. featuring DJ Maltese. This will be an evening of festive fun with karaoke, ugly sweaters, pictures with Santa, and festive treats all night long. Tickets are \$15 through Eventbrite.com.

• Learn to build a **Chocolate Holiday Cabin** at Van Otis Chocolates (341 Elm St., Manchester, 627-1611, vanotis.com) Saturday, Nov. 30, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Guests 21+ are welcome to bring their own wine or Champagne to enjoy during the class. Tickets are \$75.

• Saddle Up Saloon (92 Route 125, Kingston, 347-1313, saddleupsaloonnh.com) will host two **Holiday Sip & Shop** events: Sunday, Dec. 1, and Sunday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be live music, merry drink specials and hol-



Miracle popup at The Goat in Portsmouth. Courtesy of The Goat.

iday vibes. Warm up with a holiday drink as you browse unique handmade items from 20 local vendors.

• Chunky's Cinema Pub (707 Huse Road, Manchester, 206-3888, chunkys.com) will host a five-course **dinner-and-a-movie** screening of *Wicked* on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m., featuring dinner by The Farmer's Dinner chef, Keith Sarasin (\$110).

• LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst, and 14 Route 111, Derry, 672-9898, labellewinery.com) has a packed holiday schedule with events including a **Cooking with Wine Class: Christmas Recipes Demo and Tasting** on Wednesday, Dec. 4, from 6 to 7 p.m. (Amherst, \$40), a **Holiday Wreath Decorating Workshop** on Wednesday, Dec. 4, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. (Derry, \$124), a **DIY Stuffed Knit Christmas Tree Workshop** on Sunday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to noon (Amherst, \$64), a **Nutcracker Ballet Tea Party** with SNHDT on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. (Amherst, \$34), a **Wicked Wine Pairing Dinner** on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. (Derry, \$85), a **Holiday Cake Decorating Class** on Thursday, Dec. 19, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. (Derry, \$69), and a Masquerade New Year's Eve Party on Tuesday, Dec. 31, from 7 to 10:30 p.m. (Amherst, \$99).

• The Grazing Room at the Colby Hill Inn (33 The Oaks, Henniker, 428-3281, colbyhillinn.com) will offer several festive dining experiences this season, including a **Currier and Ives Dining Room Experience** on Wednesday, Dec. 4, a **Christmas Cheer Menu** beginning Wednesday, Dec. 4, "**It's Almost Christmas**" **high teas** on Saturday, Dec. 14, and Sunday, Dec. 15, a **New Year's Eve Sparkling Dinner** on Tuesday, Dec. 31, and a **Back to the '80s Brunch** on New Year's Day. Visit the Inn's website.

• Popzup Popcorn (Canal Street Mill, 22 Canal St., Suite 358, Somersworth, 314-

8314, popzup.com) will hold its **Second Annual Holiday Factory Sale**, Friday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• Averill House Vineyard (21 Averill Road, Brookline, 371-2296, averillhousevineyard.com) will hold a **Snowman Felting Workshop & Wine Tasting** on Friday, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. (the cost is \$50) and a **DIY Sea Glass Christmas Tree Workshop** on Thursday, Dec. 12, and Friday, Dec. 13, at 6:30 p.m. (cost is \$55), and a **New Year's Eve 2025 Celebration Dinner & Wine Pairing**, Tuesday, Dec. 31, from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

• The Canterbury Farmers Market will hold its **final market of the year** indoors on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Canterbury Elementary School (15 Baptist Road in Canterbury). See canterburyfarmersmarket.com.

• Zorvino Vineyards (226 Main St., Sandown; 887-9463, zorvino.com) has holiday events on the schedule including **Holiday Sip 'n' Shop** on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. featuring local vendors (admission is free but register for a ticket online in advance). There will be an **Oh, Snap! Gingerbread Decorating Night**, Thursday, Dec. 12, beginning at 5 p.m. (21+, \$45), and the **Tidings & Tinsel** group holiday party Friday, Dec. 13, starting with a cocktail hour at 6:30 and featuring dinner and dancing (the cost is \$75 per person).

• There will be a **Brunch with Santa** on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Castleton Banquet and Conference Center (58 Enterprise Drive, Windham, 898-6300, castletonbcc.com). Meet Santa, and enjoy a brunch buffet. Tickets are \$45 for adults, \$35 for children and \$12 for babies.

• 603 Brewery (42 Main St., Londonderry, 404-6123, 603brewery.com) will host two holiday celebrations this season: a **Holiday Movie Trivia Night and Abominable Hopman Beer Release** on Friday, Dec. 13, from 7 to 10 p.m., and an **Ugly Sweater Party** on Thursday, Dec. 19, from 5 to 10 p.m.

• Fulchino Vineyard (187 Pine Hill Road, Hollis, 438-5984, fulchinovineyard.com) will host a **Christmas Festival** Friday, Dec. 13, through Sunday, Dec. 15, with 90-minute slots to sign up to take family portraits with Mr. and Mrs. Claus. An adult ticket includes one free wine glass per adult and a complimentary wine tasting.

• Fulchino Vineyard (187 Pine Hill Road, Hollis, 438-5984, fulchinovineyard.com) will hold its **Christmas Festival** Friday, Dec. 13, through Sunday, Dec. 15,



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**November 29 & 30, 2024**



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**November 30,**

**December 1, 7 & 8, 14 & 15, 21 & 22  
and Christmas Eve**



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**December 27, 28, 29 & 31 (NYE), 2024**



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- Assumption Greek Orthodox Church (111 Island Pond Road in Manchester; 623-2941) will hold a drive-through **December foodfest** on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Order via the website by Tuesday, Dec. 10, for options including boneless baked lamb, lamb soulvaki, avgolemono, spinach pita and Greek pastries.

- The **Currier and Ives Cookie Tour** will take place Saturday, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and feature 16 stops at inns, restaurants, galleries and more in the Monadnock region. Cookie Tour tickets will be available starting Dec. 1. Tickets may be purchased at The Inn at East Hill Farm (460 Monadnock St., Troy, 242-6495, east-hill-farm.com) and Frogg Brewing (580 Sawyers Crossing Road, Swanzey, 547-7639, froggbrewing.com). Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased with cash only. Visit currierandivescookie.com.

- Celebrate a **Not So Silent Night** at Pipe Dream Brewing (49 Harvey Road, Unit 4, Londonderry, 404-0751, pipedreambrewingnh.com) Saturday, Dec. 14, from 6 p.m. until closing. The event promises to be Ho Ho Hopelessly Excellent.

- Make a weekend of cookie adventures with the 27th Annual **Holiday Inn to Inn Cookie Tour** on Saturday, Dec. 14, and Sunday, Dec. 15, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day at nine White Mountain inns stretching from Jackson to Eaton, with inns at least 15 minutes apart. See countryinnsinthewhitemountains.com/annual-holiday-inn-to-inn-cookie-tour.

- The Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Derry, 339-1664, culinary-playground.com) has adult+child cooking classes including **Cinnamon Rolls** on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to noon (\$58 per team) and **Homemade Pasta for Cheese Ravioli** on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. (\$52 per team). Adult class offerings include **Cake Decorating** on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. (\$65), **Focaccia Bread Art** on Sunday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to noon (\$65), and **Glazed Cinnamon Rolls** on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. (\$55).

- There will be a **Cookie Swap** at the Rogers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rogerslibrary.org) on Saturday, Dec. 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Contribute four dozen of your favorite homemade holiday cookies

and take home a wonderful cookie assortment! Please be sure to provide a recipe copy with your cookies. Registration is required.

- Salona Bar & Grill (128 Maple St., Manchester, 624-4020, facebook.com/Salona) will hold its **Annual Christmas Party** on Saturday, Dec. 21, beginning at 7:15 p.m. This is Salona's biggest party of the year. Food will be provided. There will be a yankee swap (\$25 gift); please bring a gift if you want to participate, and you will also take one home. There will be a contest for the most-swapped gift. DJ Davey Kay will play favorite Christmas carols.

- The Atkinson Resort & Country Club (85 Country Club Drive, Atkinson, 362-8700, atkinsonresort.com) will host **Santa's Holly, Jolly, Holiday Party** on Sunday, Dec. 22, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Legacy Ballroom. Enjoy a buffet breakfast, craft activities for the children, photos with Santa (don't forget to bring your camera), a story read by Santa, DJ entertainment and a dance party. Doors will open at 1 p.m.; guests should be seated for Santa's arrival at 1:15 p.m. Visit atkinsonresort.com/holiday-events for ticket information.

- The Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way in Bedford; bedfordvillageinn.com, 472-2001) will hold its **Feast of the Seven Fishes** on Monday, Dec. 23, starting at 6 p.m. This 21+ dinner costs \$125 per guest. The meal features passed and stationary hors d'oeuvres, three savory courses and a dessert station and is held in the Great Hall. Call or go online to reserve tickets. Other holiday meals include a **Christmas Eve Three-Course Menu** (\$125 for adults, \$75 for ages 10 and under) plus a Grand Dessert Buffet (4:30 to 8:30 p.m.); a **New Year's Eve Dinner** with seating times from 5 to 9:30 p.m. (\$110 per adult; see the website for the menu), and a **New Year's Day Brunch** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- The Birch on Elm (968 Elm St., Manchester, 836-1958, birchonelm.com) invites you to a **New Year's Eve night of elegant indulgence**, Tuesday, Dec. 31, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$200 through Eventbrite.com and include unlimited passed appetizers, a raw bar, two drinks, and a Champagne pour when midnight nears.

- Shaskeen Pub (909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, shaskeenirishpub.com) will hold its annual **New Year's Eve Bash** on Tuesday, Dec. 31, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. There will be an open bar, a free buffet, a free Champagne toast, and music by DJ Myth. Tickets are \$60 through ticketleap.com.

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# 'Party hearty, Marty'

Find holiday films from *The Polar Express* to *Scrooged*

Compiled by Amy Diaz  
adiaz@hippopress.com

Celebrate the season with classic holiday movies.

• Red River Theatres (11 S. Main St. in Concord; redrivertheatres.org) has its usual mix of big releases, like *Wicked*, and indies, such as the new documentary *A Ride Ahead* from Samuel Habib and Dan Habib, on the December schedule. For holiday-themed watching, the schedule includes *Merry Good Enough*, a 2023 release described on its website as “an indie, dark(ish) comedy about a dysfunctional family whose mom disappears on Christmas Eve,” through Thursday, Nov. 28, at 4 and 6:30 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 1, 1:45, 4 and 6:30 p.m. Catch *Elf* (PG, 2003) on Saturday, Dec. 14, and Sunday, Dec. 15, at 10 a.m. The Frank Capra classic *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946) will screen Wednesday, Dec. 11, tentatively at 7 p.m. (check with the theater closer to the time).

• Apple Cinemas in Merrimack (11 Executive Park Drive) and Hooksett (38 Cinemagic Way) will play some recent holiday films. The 2018 animated *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (PG) will screen in Hooksett Friday, Nov. 29, through Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 10:30 and 12:45 p.m. in Hooksett and daily through Thursday, Dec. 5, in Merrimack. *Elf* (PG, 2003) will screen once daily Friday, Dec. 6, through Thursday, Dec. 12 at both theaters. The 2000 live action *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (PG) will screen Friday, Dec. 20, through Thursday, Dec. 26, at noon, at Hooksett and once daily at Merrimack.

• Cinemark Rockingham Park (The Mall at Rockingham Park, 15 Mall Road in Salem; cinemark.com) will feature family films as part of its Holiday Movie Clubhouse. Saturday, Nov. 30, at 11:30 a.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 6 p.m. catch *Elf* (PG, 2003). Catch *The Polar Express* (G, 2004) on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 12:25 p.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m. The 2000 live action *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (PG) will screen Saturday, Dec. 14, at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 6:30 p.m.

• The Flying Monkey (39 S. Main St. in Plymouth; flyingmonkeynh.com) kicks off its December slate of movies with the live-action adaptation of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (PG, 2000) starring Jim Carrey on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 6 p.m. *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* (PG-13, 1989) will screen Thursday, Dec. 5, at 6 p.m. *The Polar Express* (G, 2004) will screen Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 6 p.m. *Love Actually* (R, 2003) will screen Thurs-



Scrooged.

day, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m. *Elf* (PG, 2003) will screen Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 6 p.m. *A Christmas Story* (PG, 1983) will screen on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 6 p.m. *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946) will screen Saturday, Dec. 21, at 1 p.m. For all films, doors open an hour before. The month finishes off with a film that gives New Year's Eve party vibes — Baz Luhrmann's 2013 *The Great Gatsby* starring Leonardo DiCaprio, which screens Saturday, Dec. 28, at 1 p.m.

• Fathom Events (fathomevents.com) has several holiday screenings on its schedule, with the films playing at multiple area theaters. The concert film *For King + Country's A Drummer Boy Christmas Live* will screen Thursday, Dec. 5, through Monday, Dec. 9, at area theaters including Apple Cinemas Merrimack & Hooksett, Cinemark Rockingham Park in Salem and Regal Fox Run in Newington. *André Rieu's Christmas Concert* will screen Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. at Apple Cinemas Merrimack & Hooksett, Cinemark Rockingham Park in Salem and Regal Fox Run in Newington and on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 3 p.m. at those same theaters. *I Am the Immaculate Conception* (2024) will screen at Apple Cinemas Merrimack & Hooksett, O'neil Cinemas Brickyard Square in Epping and Regal Fox Run in Newington on Thursday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 14, at 4 p.m. and Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m. *White Christmas* (1954) starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney will screen in a 70th anniversary presentation at O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square in Epping, Cinemark Rockingham Park in Salem and Regal Fox Run in Newington on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 1 p.m. (also 1:30 and 7 p.m. at Regal Fox Run) and on Monday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., and at Cinemark Rockingham Park in Salem and Regal Fox Run in Newington on Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m. A broadcast of The Royal Ballet's *The Nutcracker* will screen on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 3 p.m. at O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square in Epping and Regal Fox Run in Newington and Monday, Dec. 23, at



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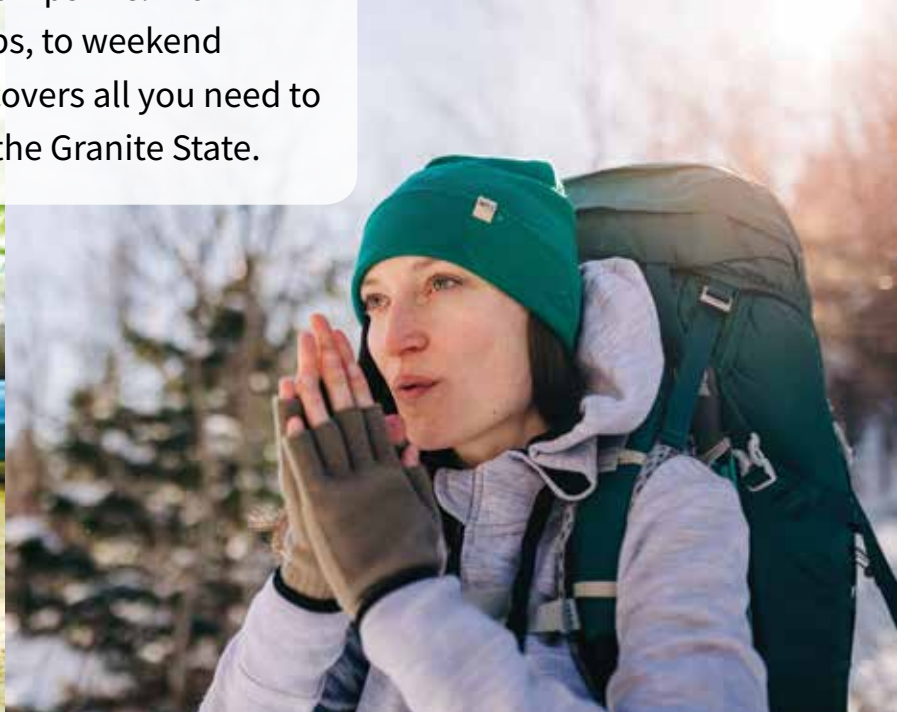
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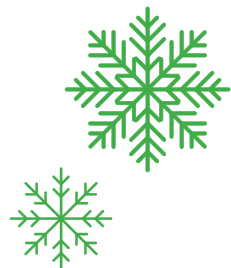


## Just in time for the holidays!

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7 p.m. at Regal Fox Run.

• Chunky's Cinema Pub (707 Huse Road in Manchester; [chunkys.com](http://chunkys.com)) has a packed holiday schedule. A 21+ screening of *Scrooged* (PG-13, 1988), the Bill Murray take on *A Christmas Carol*, will take place Thursday, Dec. 5, at 8 p.m. *The Polar Express* (G, 2004) will screen Friday, Dec. 6, through Thursday, Dec. 19; tickets are on sale now and include regular admission tickets and a ticket that comes with a bell and a Santa cookie. Special screenings include the Monday, Dec. 9, and Monday, Dec. 16, 5:30 p.m., which include a visit from Santa Claus, and the Wednesday, Dec. 11, screening at 11:30 a.m., which is sensory-friendly. A 21+ screening of *Elf* (PG, 2003) will screen Thursday, Dec. 12, at 8 p.m. *It's A Wonderful Life* (1946) will screen Sunday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. On Thursday, Dec. 19, an Ugly Christmas Sweater party accompanies a 21+ screening of *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* (PG-13, 1989) with prizes for ugly sweaters.

Other holiday-themed events at Chunky's include a 21+ trivia night about classic Christmas music on Thursday, Dec. 5, at 7:30 p.m.; a 21+ trivia night about classic Christmas movies on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m.; a *Nightmare Before Christmas* paint and party event on Friday, Dec. 27, at 8 p.m.; a family-friendly performance with comedy illusionist Ben Pratt on Sunday, Dec. 29, at 4 and 7 p.m.; 21+ "The New Year" scratch ticket bingo on Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 6:30 p.m., and a New Year's Eve drag show on Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 10 p.m.

• *The Magic Flute*, an encore broadcast of The MET: Live in HD, will screen at BNH Stage (16 Main St. in Concord, [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com)) and via Fathom Events ([fathomevents.com](http://fathomevents.com)) at Apple Cinemas in Merrimack and Hooksett, O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square in



Elf

Epping and Regal Fox Run in Newington on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 1 p.m.

• Park Theatre (19 Main St., Jaffrey, [theparktheatre.org](http://theparktheatre.org)) will screen the silent film *Oliver Twist* (1922) starring Jackie Coogan and Lon Chaney and featuring live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis on Friday, Dec. 13, at 7 p.m. as part of the theater's Dickens Fest programming. The screening will include a 10-minute adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* produced in 1910 by Thomas Edison, according to [silentfilmlivemusic.blogspot.com](http://silentfilmlivemusic.blogspot.com). The Park will also screen *A Christmas Story* (PG, 1983) on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 1 p.m. as part of the theater's Santa Party which features a sing-along with Santa, free popcorn and a candy cane (first come first served). *It's A Wonderful Life* (1946) will screen Dec. 14 at 7 p.m.

• The Strand (20 Third St., Dover, 343-1899, [thestrandoover.com](http://thestrandoover.com)) will screen *Elf* (PG, 2003) as part of its annual Christmas Break on a Budget event, which will also include cookie decorating, snowflake making, paper chain making and a story-time starting at noon on Saturday, Dec. 21. Admission costs \$20 for a family (up to four people) or \$8 per person. "Kids and adults can bring your pillows and blankets and find a spot on the dance floor to watch the movie," according to the website.

ART FROM PG 31

at the DoubleTree Hilton (2 Somerset Plaza, Nashua) on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. More than 75 artisans will be selling their holiday crafts, including holiday wreaths and centerpieces, reindeer and gnomes, country folk art and more. Visit [joycescraftshows.com](http://joycescraftshows.com).

• The Christmas Holiday Craft Fair from Bazaar Craft Fairs will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Nashua Bingo Hall (166 DW Highway, Nashua). See Bazaar Craft Fairs' Facebook page.

• The NH Audubon's Annual Holiday Craft Fair is Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the McLane Center (84 Silk Farm Road in Concord; [nhaudubon.org](http://nhaudubon.org)) featuring 30 local crafters, a food truck, a raffle and more.

• The 2nd Annual Manchester Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair will take place Satur-

day, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Club Canadian (128 S. Main St., Manchester, 623-9019, [clubcanadianinc.com](http://clubcanadianinc.com)). Santa will be there all day, taking pictures for free. Visit [facebook.com/nevendorevents](http://facebook.com/nevendorevents).

• The 13th Annual **Holidaze Bizaare from Wrong Brain** is happening Saturday, Dec. 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at a new location, the Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket). There is a \$1 suggested donation. Visit [facebook.com/wrongbrain](http://facebook.com/wrongbrain).

• The Word Barn (66 Newfields Road, Exeter, 244-0202, [thewordbarn.com](http://thewordbarn.com)) will host a **Block Printing Workshop** Sunday, Dec. 15, from noon to 2:30 p.m. Learn to make your own wrapping paper and bespoke gift tags. All materials will be provided, but bringing your glasses and an apron is highly recommended.

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# Holiday standard

## A Christmas Carol returns to Palace

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

A sure sign of the holiday season's arrival is the return of *A Christmas Carol* to the Palace Theatre in Manchester. The Charles Dickens tale of spiritual redemption always provides a reliable way to spark a fire in even the coldest heart. The Palace's Artistic Director, Carl Rajotte, believes this year's production has even more to offer.

To begin with, the technical toys at the company's disposal are constantly being tweaked. A new video wall installed in 2019, but too late for that year's run, was used for the first post-pandemic production. In subsequent years, they've found new ways to leverage the technology.

### A Christmas Carol

**When:** Fridays, 7:30 p.m., Saturdays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m. through Dec. 29, and Thursday, Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester

**Tickets:** \$35 and up at palacetheatre.org

"We're playing a lot more with special effects this year and we're definitely doing different videos," Rajotte said by phone ahead of an initial first act rehearsal. "It's not just here's the brand-new video wall. It's complementing other things; we're getting better with combining the lighting, the projections and the special effects."

There are new costumes, and new blood. "Four people from *Jersey Boys* have stayed on to do *Christmas Carol*," Rajotte said. "We have Austin Mirsoltani back from *Beautiful*. He played Gerry Goffin in that; he's playing Bob Cratchit this year. There are quite a few new people to the show. It's fun."

When Rajotte came to the Palace in 2002 he was charged with bringing magic back to the perennial holiday production. At the outset, he had desire and a vision but not much else to work with. "They didn't really have the money back then to hire a composer," he said. "We had to use a lot of public domain or a cappella music. We even did tracks for many years."

In 2013 the show went on tour, providing Rajotte with an opportunity to upgrade.

"I said to the board and the president,

'We've got to create our own music now; we have to hire a composer,'" he recalled. Joe Mercier, a local composer, came on board. "We created a whole new show — the same script, but all new music. Then the year after that tour, we brought it back to the stage here. It's been that music since then."

Colorful, kinetic and professionally cast, the Palace's unique version of *A Christmas Carol* has evolved into an effort on par with Broadway shows and national touring companies. It's a crowning achievement for a company that in recent years has consistently punched above its weight class.

Though it's a well-oiled machine, the presence of actors who haven't done the Dickens story before keeps Rajotte and his team on their toes. "We know it like the back of our hands, nothing shocks us," he said, "but we forget sometimes that for people brand new to the show, it is not an easy project. There's a lot to do, and a lot to learn."

The Palace Youth Theatre company is again represented, with 140 young actors split into four teams. Rajotte noted that many of them have been part of



A Christmas Carol. Photo Courtesy of the Palace Theatre.

the show for years, like Jenna Bienvenue, who plays Elizabeth in *Spirit of Christmas Past*. "She's an adult now, a professional. I asked her, in front of everybody on the first day, 'How many *Christmas Carols* have you done?' She said, 'Well, gosh, I can't count. Ever since I was 8, I've done it every single year.'"

The presence of the youngsters reminds Rajotte about what's important in the family-friendly show. He often hears them singing along to adult numbers from their dressing room, which is next to his. "I love this show so much; we think about it all year long," he said. "My goal when I put this together 22 years ago was to make it feel like it's coming from a child's point of view, that it's how they would see things." 🍀

## ARTS

# THE ROUNDUP

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

• **Open house:** The New Hampshire Antique Co-op will host its annual holiday open house Friday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Visitors will enjoy delicious refreshments and sweet treats, a gift card contest, a scavenger hunt with prizes, and a gallery preview tour of a new fine art exhibition, "Light and Brush: Luminous and Tonal Paintings from the 19th Century to Present," according to the press release. The event is family-friendly and free. Call 673-8499 or visit nhantiquecoop.com.

• **Call for art:** See Saw Art (66 Hanover St., Suite 201, Manchester) has an open call exhibition "Presently" with submissions due on Saturday, Nov. 30. All media are welcome — 2D, 3D, video works, performance — and they ask that one to four works be submitted to be considered, according to their website.

"Presently" aims to exhibit small works at an approachable price, and traditional fine art paintings, prints and photographs will be considered, as well as ready-made textile, clothing, ceramics and crafts, according to their website, but there is no overall theme. All sizes of works will be considered, but smaller works are preferred due to gallery limitations. The exhibit will run from Saturday, Dec. 14, through Friday, Dec. 22. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 4 to 8 p.m. and a closing reception on Sunday, Dec. 22, from 4 to 8 p.m. Visit seesaw.gallery.

• **Call for actors:** Auditions for the Community Players of Concord production of *The Gods of Comedy* will be held Sunday, Dec. 8, and Monday, Dec. 9, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Community Players Studio (435 Josiah Bartlett Road, Concord). They ask that those who sign up become familiar with both of the monologues listed on their website. It is not necessary to memorize the monologues, but participants will be asked to present them at their audition, as well as to cold read scenes from the script, which will be provided, according to their website. There is also a list of character descriptions which might be helpful

as you consider auditioning. Questions can be emailed to Director Betty Lent at bettylent54@gmail.com. Visit communityplayersofconcord.org/gods-of-comedy/ for more information.

• **Call for more actors:** Bedford Off Broadway will hold auditions for their winter show *Boeing-Boeing* by Marc Camoletti, which will be presented on Fridays through Sundays, March 7 through March 16. The show will be directed by Declan Lynch with Pat Napolitano as stage manager, according to a press release. Rehearsals are Sunday afternoons and Monday and Wednesday evenings with tech week starting Sunday, Dec. 2. Auditions will be held Monday, Dec. 9, and Tuesday, Dec. 10, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Bedford Town Hall (70 Bedford Center Road and 3 Meetinghouse Road in Bedford across from the library), the release said. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script, which calls for two men and four women. Email declanlynch1093@gmail.com for information.

• **Author event:** At Balin Books (375 Amherst St., Somerset Plaza, Nashua) on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 11 a.m., author Hattie Bernstein will be speaking on and signing copies of her book *Don Quixote's Hammer*. The book asks "What if cancer

wasn't, as scientific consensus holds, a case of errant genes or recalcitrant cells? What if there was a problem in the body's wiring, an electrical issue that hobbled the impulse transmitted from the brain to the organ, disrupting internal balance, and initiating disease?" Hattie is a journalist who has written for the Boston Globe, was a freelancer for the New York Times, and was the recipient of the third national Media Award from the Research Society on Alcoholism, according to the event's website. Visit balinbooks.com or call 417-7981.

• **Greatest year in the history of film?** "1999: The Year in Film" will be the topic of a Zoom discussion from the Derry Public Library (derrypl.org) on Monday, Dec. 9, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Register online to discuss the *The Matrix* of it all.

• **Get in the winter spirit:** The black-and-white movie, described as an "anarchic slapstick action comedy" *Hundreds of Beavers* will screen on Friday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. at NHTI in Sweeney Hall in Concord. Admission costs \$10. See the trailer for the movie, which features a cast of beavers (human-sized mascot-y looking versions of the bucktoothed creatures), at hundredsofbeavers.com. 🍀



## Alice in a Winter Wonderland

Jan Brett's new book tour

By Zachary Lewis  
zlewis@hippopress.com

Jan Brett is releasing a new book, *Alice in a Winter Wonderland*, on Tuesday, Nov. 26, and is traveling to 17 cities in 23 days to get the word out on her newest story, which she wrote and illustrated over a two-year period. Brett has won many awards and is a New York Times No. 1 bestselling author.

The author and illustrator of *The Mitten*, *The Nutcracker* and *The Snowy Nap*, among countless other books, is launching her new book tour at Oyster River High School on Friday, Nov. 29, in partnership with Durham Public Library and Gibson's Bookstore. Registration for the 530-seat event is already at capacity.

"Everybody knows about Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, which was published in the 1800s. I always loved the book when I was little. I loved the whimsy of it. I loved the topsy-turvy-ness. It sort of reflected the way I used to feel as a child. It's like you never know what's coming up next," Brett said.

Brett has put a twist on the story. "I set my book in Alaska, because I wanted to take away from the very British ... sides and references to that part of England. The Cheshire Cat, there was a kind of cheese in Cheshire that had this cat on it, and so [Carroll] put that in the book."

The beauty of the tundra, past and present, inspired her too. "I've always been fascinated by glaciers and the glaciation of North Amer-

ica and how human beings lived there," she said.

"There were all these megafauna from the Pleistocene that lived at the same time as human beings. I thought that was really, really cool. I've always loved that idea and wished I could travel back in time," Brett said, "so I found a way to travel back in time through this story. [Alice] falls through the rabbit hole. It was a hole in the glacier and then she finds an underground world."

The Cheshire Cat is converted into a Pleistocene animal, the smilodon.

"Smilodon is a saber-toothed cat. It's got these huge fangs, and it ... lived in the United States, in Alaska and really North America, more like Canada, along with woolly mammoth, short-faced bear, which was a huge, woolly rhino. There were also mastodons, which is another kind of elephant likely to have fur, so I put those in the book," Brett said.

One ancient hoofed mammal that is still around today is Brett's favorite. "Actually we have one creature that I've been really obsessed with, which is a muskox.... It's like a very, very furry kind of half-ox, half-sheep kind of animal. I've done a couple books about it."

Despite updates to the classic, Brett's adaptation is a sincere and thoughtful retelling.

"Probably one of my favorite pages is the



griffin because I think it's such a cool creature. It's supposed to guard treasure and you see it in the Middle East, but it's a mythic figure that obviously Lewis Carroll really liked. He loved puzzles and math, so I tried to tip my hat a little bit to that," she said. Carroll was a Mathematical Lecturer at Christ Church,

a college at Oxford, and his knowledge and curiosity about the world made his book a joy for countless generations. Brett puts the same care into her new telling of the story.

"I tried to put a lot of little puzzles in it," Brett said. "I loved to just get my pointer finger out and just like go around the page and see what I could see and maybe there would be something fun to look at and something that would be informative.... It's not like everything has to have a reason. It's just fun to be able to spot things, so that was the underlying reason for all the detail and why it took two years to do it."

At each stop of the tour, Jan Brett will talk about her story and take time to sign books.

"Every time I do a book I write about how I got the idea," Brett said. "Hopefully [readers will] go to those places someday and extend their frame of reference and if they themselves want to be a writer or an artist they'll just say, 'Oh, look at this, this is the way she does it. I wonder how I'm going to do it?'" 🍷

### Save the date

• **Zach Umperovitch**, builder of contraptions of all shapes and sizes, is inviting everyone to join him at SEE Science Center on Thursday, Dec. 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. for a free public event to celebrate the launch of his new book. Zach worked for three and a half years with Rube Goldberg's granddaughter Jennifer Geoge and illustrator Ed Steckly to create a book that anyone can use to **build 25 machines**. Zach will have several machines on display and attendees can purchase a book and get it autographed, according to their website. Advance signup is required for this free event. A News Q & A with Zach Umperovitch can be found in the June 13 issue of the Hippo at hippopress.com. Visit see-sciencecenter.org or call 669-0400 for more info on the event, and check out @ZachsContraptions on YouTube and @zachscontraptions on Instagram. 🍷

in Manchester; see-sciencecenter.org, 669-0400) is open Tuesdays through Friday (closed Thanksgiving) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (last admission at 3 p.m.) and Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (last admission at 4 p.m.). Admission costs \$14 per person for ages 3 and up.

• The **Aviation Museum of N.H.** (27 Navigator Road in Londonderry; aviation-museumofnh.org) will be open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission costs \$10 for ages 13; \$5 for ages 6 to 12 and 65+ and veterans and military, and is free for kid 5 and under.

• **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center** (2 Institute Drive in Concord; starhop) is open Wednesdays through Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission costs \$13 for adults, \$12 for 62+ and ages 13 through college, and \$10 for kids ages 3 to 12 (kids 2 and under get in free).

## KIDDIE — POOL —

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### Trip to the museum

Looking for an out-of-the-house thing to do this long weekend?

- The **Children's Museum of New Hampshire** (6 Washington St. in Dover; 742-2002, childrens-museum.org) is open Tuesday, Nov. 26, for its morning session (9 a.m. to noon); Wednesday, Nov. 27, for morning and afternoon (1 to 4 p.m.) sessions; Friday, Nov. 29, and Saturday, Nov. 30, for morning and afternoon sessions, and Sunday, Dec. 1, for the morning session. Reserve a spot online in advance; admission costs \$12.50 for everyone over 12 months and \$10.50 for 65+.
- **SEE Science Center** (200 Bedford St.

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# Stick with a trickle charger



By Ray Magliozzi

*Dear Car Talk: You've had several columns about a guy who doesn't drive often and wants to keep his battery from dying between starts.*

*You recommended a trickle charger to keep the battery topped up.*

*Another reader wrote in to recommend a "quick disconnect," which is a switch under the hood that disconnects the battery. You said that — as long as you avoid a cheap one — the quick disconnect is a viable option.*

*Here's my question: When you disconnect the battery with one of these quick switches, does this still make your radio lose its preset stations and the engine have to relearn its programming? — Mike*

Yes. That's why our first choice is a trickle charger — sometimes called a battery tender. It plugs into a wall socket, attaches, via clamps, to the battery terminals, and automatically keeps the battery at full charge between starts, without overcharging it.

Since the battery remains connected,

you won't lose your radio and seat presets. Nor your saved engine parameters. None of those things is a huge deal to lose. The engine quickly re-establishes the parameters, and you can choose your presets again. But it is an inconvenience.

We have a device at the garage that saves those presets. We use it when we install a new battery, so the customer doesn't whine to us about their lost presets. It's a little piece of equipment called a computer memory keeper. It's powered by a 9-volt battery. It plugs into the car's power port/cigarette lighter, and it sends enough power back through that circuit to maintain the saved settings.

You can probably find one at your local auto parts store or online, and I'd be surprised if it costs you more than \$10. But if you're leaving a car idle for months or a whole season, then you have to worry about the 9-volt battery dying. So, personally, I think it's just easier to use a trickle charger, Mike.

Visit [Cartalk.com](http://Cartalk.com).

## INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

*Hello, Donna,  
Can you provide any information on this black plastic pin? I have provided a few photos to try to help. Thank you in advance.  
Jenny*

Dear Jenny,  
First I want to say thank you for all the pictures. Multiple views help always.

Your pin is from the Victorian Era. Used for mourning times. It is a cameo style (which means the center woman is raised, not recessed into it. That would be considered an intaglio.)

Even though it feels like plastic, it's most likely Gutta Percha. That is made from a sap from special trees. Very common in that era.

Your pin looks to be in great condition for the age. Remember being a mourning pin it was mainly used just for that purpose back then. It's a nice piece of history, Jenny.

The value on one like yours would be in the \$100 range. Thanks for sharing with us.

*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](mailto:footwdw@aol.com), or call her at 391-6550.*

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# weekly DISH

## News from the local food scene

By John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

• **Last bit of recipe:** In the Nov. 21 issue of the Hippo, the last chunk of the recipe for “Paper Bag Apple Pie” was sliced off. The missing instructions read:

“Fasten with paper clips. Bake at 425°F for 1 hour. Split the bag to open.”

• **New salad source:** A branch of the fast-casual restaurant chain Sweet Green has opened in the Market and Main shopping complex off River Road in Bedford. The menu focuses on fresh, light dishes like salads and protein bowls. Sweet Green is at 7 Market St, Suite 2, Bedford, 978-650-3965, sweetgreen.com, and is open seven days a week, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

• **New supermarket:** A new Whole Foods Market will open in Nashua, Tuesday, Dec. 10. The 44,600-square-foot store will be located at 272 DW Highway. The store will open at 9 a.m. on opening day. Regular store hours will be 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

• **New coffee:** Nashua-based company Rare Breed Coffee (2 Pittsburgh Ave., Nashua, 578-3338, rarebreedcoffee.com) has released a limited-time seasonal coffee called Sleigher. Rare Breed describes the coffee blend as “indulgent” with “notes of brown sugar, orange spice, and vanilla.” See rarebreedcoffee.com.

• **Rescue and recreation:** Tickets are on sale now for the Winter Carnevale and \$2,500 Holiday Shopping Spree Raffle to benefit the Salem Animal Rescue League (4 Sarl Drive, Salem, 893-3210, sarlnh.org). The SARL Winter Carnivale will be held at the Castleton Banquet and Conference Center (58 Enterprise Drive, Windham, 898-6300, castletonbcc.com) on Friday, Dec. 6, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. The event will feature artisan chocolate tasting by Loon Chocolate, food and drink, dancing, live and silent auctions and more. Tickets are \$100 per person or \$1,000 for a table of 10 and can be purchased through the SARL website.

• **Gingerbread houses:** To Share Brewing (720 Union St., Manchester, 836-6947, tosharebrewing.com) will host a gingerbread house workshop Sunday, Dec. 1, at 4 p.m. Build and decorate your own gingerbread house. The price is per house; sharing is recommended. Each house will have sugar windows and the base will include battery-powered lights. Tickets are \$55 through oopsiartedagain.as.me.

# FOOD

## Punk rock Indian cuisine

Aatma Curry House offers your Saturday dinner

By John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

According to Chef Keith Sarasin, opening a restaurant can feel a lot like a bad break-up.

For the past two and a half years Sarasin and his team have been running Aatma Curry House as a pop-up restaurant. For one or two nights they would cook and serve their food at specific events, but they didn’t have a permanent home. During that time, Sarasin was looking for a location for a brick-and-mortar Indian restaurant.

“We found three different locations over the course of those two and a half years,” he said, “and each time something would happen that was out of our control. And by the third time this happened, we were looking at a place in Kittery, and when it fell through, it was a lot like a heartbreak or a break-up in a relationship where you just go through these deep emotions of, ‘I’m so close!’ Ultimately I used that frustration and anger and angst to come up with the concept of Atma Curry House.”

Aatma represents an unusual restaurant concept. Customers place their orders throughout the week, then pick it up at a predetermined time each Saturday. One of the advantages of this system is that it gives Sarasin and his staff an opportunity to connect with customers individually.

“We get to have interaction with every single person and talk about our passion and feed them little extra things,” Sarasin said. “We love throwing surprises and handwritten notes in every single solitary order.”

That passion is reflected in Aatma’s very ambitious goal. “It’s punk rock,” Sarasin said. “It’s turned-up food; the flavors are there and super traditional. A lot of times the food that we eat in the West when it comes to Indian food is muted or toned down, not just from a spiciness standpoint but from a spice and flavor standpoint. We decided on Day 1 that Curry House was going to bring the best Indian comfort food that exists in the entire Northeast.”

Part of that mission involves giving customers food that they are familiar with, but at the same time trying to expand their understanding of what Indian cuisine can be.



Courtesy photo.

“We have our staples,” Sarasin said. “For instance, we have our Aatma Butter Chicken, and our butter chicken is based off of the original premise of the dish in Moti Mahal in Delhi, but we add a couple of secret ingredients to it that makes it very New England.” (Moti Mahal is a respected chain of restaurants in India that originally introduced iconic Indian dishes to the West, butter chicken being one of them.) “So we have our staples like butter chicken, dal, things of that nature, but every week we add new menu items and change dishes out to encourage people to try things that are different beyond just what they’re used to.”

Another way the staff at Aatma challenges preconceptions of Indian dishes is by “putting a New England spin” on them. Sarasin used gulab jamun, an Indian dessert spiced with cardamom, rose water or saffron and served in a sugar syrup, as an example. “We have a classic gulab jamun that stays on the menu all the time and they’re made the exact same way, very traditional. Sugar syrup is added just like it typically is with a little bit of cardamom but then our spin on

CONTINUED ON PG 45 ▶

### Aatma Curry House

75 Mont Vernon St., Milford  
Aatma takes orders online Sunday through Thursday, for pickup between 1 and 3 p.m. on Saturday. Visit the website, aatmacurryhouse.com, to order and to find out what dishes are on the menu in a given week.

# IN THE KITCHEN

WITH **JONATHAN BUATTI**



Jonathan Buatti . Courtesy photo.

Jonathan Buatti, owner and head baker at Bearded Baking Co. (819 Union St., Manchester, 647-7150, beardedbaking.com)

Jon started his culinary career at a family friend's restaurant in Hampton Beach. Jon was typically a bus boy at the restaurant but volunteered to take a plated dessert shift in an attempt to switch it up. From there, he graduated from Salem High School's Culinary Tech program, earned his associate's degree in Baking and Culinary Arts from Southern New Hampshire University, and his bachelor's degree in Culinary Management from SNHU. In 2019 Jon purchased the Bearded Baking Co. (formally known as Michelle's Gourmet Pastries and Deli), where he is currently providing customers with breakfast, lunch, pastries and custom cakes. In the fall of 2020 Jon was selected to compete on Food Network's *Holiday Baking Championship*.

**What's your must-have kitchen item?**

It's a combo of cake-decorating tools for me — a bench scraper and an offset spatula. With those two things, I can do anything. The bench scraper is brilliant because it allows me to get cakes perfectly at 90 degrees — perfectly flush with the board and level on top. And then the offset spatula allows me to pull the edges cleanly on top, so if you look at a cake head on, it looks like a square.

cupcake or something. It would be a wild moment.

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

Our Bismarcks at the shop are awesome. Just a long-john, a yeast doughnut with raspberry jam filling, whipped cream and powdered sugar.

**What's the biggest baking trend you see in New Hampshire right now?**

It's not a thing in particular, but in the wake of Covid everybody wants things in like single servings and smaller portions — individual serving sizes of any sort. Cookies and brownies and cupcakes — anything that you can get packaged on its own is really popular. There seems to be an attitude of, 'Oh no; I don't want my stuff touching anyone else's stuff.'

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

It would have to be barbecue — ribs or brisket or something, just a good barbecued meal. It's sweet and smoky. Barbecue, wings, barbecue chicken pizza, pulled pork, the list goes on and on.

**What is your favorite local eatery?**

For my wife and me, the Crown Tavern is our crown jewel. It's our go-to spot. We had our wedding shower there and a lot of our big life events.

**What's your favorite thing to cook at home?**

My wife and I like to make a Sopa Toscana, like a take on the soup at Olive Garden. It's a kale soup with a creamy base and potatoes and all the Italian spices — oregano, basil and everything.

**What celebrity would you like to see eating something you've baked?**

I am obsessed with Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson. It would be funny because he's obviously very health-conscious, so I would see him eating a

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 44

it is we actually add maple syrup to that syrup and it is absolutely mind-blowingly good how well it works."

Sarasin said his vision for Aatma is to marry tradition with rebellion; it has been a tricky needle to thread. "That's where I was at personally after feeling defeated, but also the spirit of India

is based off of these things. When you think about Indians kicking out the British Raj, or the story of how tea was forced upon them and they created something beautiful out of it, you realize that this is a very Indian attitude. I hope this is an homage to that tradition."

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## Blue Moods, Force and Grace (Posi-Tone Records)



American jazz trumpet legend Freddie Hubbard has been gone since 2008, and of course he'll never be forgotten, especially not by the — let's just say it, often snobby crowd (mostly composed of deeply obsessed jazz musicians) who can rattle off a mile-long list of his most interesting instrumental maneuvers. This is the third "Blue Moods" release — or curation, if you will — from Posi-Tone, and it aims to address that very disconnect, wherein non-standard originals by various masters are made inaccessible to new fans possessed of an ounce of curiosity about what led to our current age of anything-goes-but-only-up-to-a-point era of

jazz. There's much beauty and whiz-bang-ery here, of course, but the smoothness of the songs is the most striking aspect of the collection; in such compositions as "On The Que-Tee," the players — a quartet led by sax player Diego Rivera, assisted by an alternating pair of pianists — seem to want to jam forever, and the listener finds themselves wishing for exactly that. Sublime and wonderful, this. **A+** —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

## Peter Murphy & Boy George, "Let The Flowers Grow" (Metropolis Records)



Now that 2024's culture-war-rooted election is over, it's safe to say that this chill-electro single can be listened to with open minds from all corners, particularly since it's such an exquisite little tune. The story here is that this highly unlikely team-up of '80s icons (Boy George, who needs no introduction, and Peter Murphy of goth legends Bauhaus) coalesced when Murphy heard a work-in-progress demo of George's half-finished tune, fell in love with it and finished it up in 20 minutes. It's a melancholy but hopeful piece of chill-techno balladry with plenty of retro-'80s sound to it, lyrically dedicated to the process of coming

out, a reality I experienced recently with someone close to me, someone I'd long casually surmised was gay but from whom I'd never expected to hear an admission thereof. The pair sing of a mother's tears watering the ground so that flowers can grow, of a father facing an alternate-universe mirror image of himself for the first time. This thing isn't just powerful, it's supremely empowering; the video is absolutely amazing. **A+** —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

## PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Nov. 29 isn't just any Friday filled with new album releases, it is a Black Friday, the jolliest time of the year, when all the bands and record companies prepare for a relentless onslaught of random album-buying, from consumers, who have holiday gifts to buy! For people in the music-selling business, it's that time of year that recalls the scene in the 1975 film *Jaws*, when all the nice townspeople gather at the town meeting to discuss why they must keep the beaches open even though there's a humongous shark swimming around looking for human-shaped snacks; in this metaphorical context, the record companies need you people to buy albums even though most of those albums will swallow your aesthetic senses whole, in one bite, nom nom nom, leaving you butt-twerking or believing that bands like Franz Ferdinand are composed of decent musicians! Extending this ridiculous violation of literary license, you can just think of me as Quint: I'll protect all you nice people from awful bands and DJs and nepo-baby singers named after European cities, but it'll cost you, and you'll need to load up my boat with fresh boxes of saltines! OK, let's put on our rubber diving suits, hop into the totally safe aluminum shark cage, and dive into the blackness to see what we'll find, maybe there's something good! Uh oh, here comes a big one, it's corporate-soundtrack-maker **Bear McCreary** with *The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power Season 2: Amazon Original Series Soundtrack*, when did J.R.R. Tolkien have time to write more stories about Bilbo Baggins, I wonder. I do have Amazon Prime but haven't watched that show, is it as good as those other *Game of Thrones* cartoons or whatever they are? I don't know, but I do know that the lead-off track from this album is "Old Tom Bombadil," and it features Rufus Wainwright, singing in his folksy Bono-meets-Pete Seeger tenor, warbling Tolkien's words verbatim from the chapters "The Old Forest" and "In the House of Tom Bombadil" from *The Fellowship of the Ring*. I gather that this denotes a depressing scene in the show, which, again, I have not watched, because I don't watch sad cartoons about dragons.

• Onward and whatnot, let's dissect an actual holiday album, *Christmas Vacation*, from cowboy-hat singer **Walker Hayes**. This singing man is of course a nepo baby (drink!), the son of a rich U.S. congressperson, but I will not hold that against him, because he likes jingle bells and Santa just like normal people do. Unfortunately, the "Christmas Vacation" in this case has nothing to do with the Chevy Chase movie, it is a twangy country-Christmas joke song about how awkward it is when Grandma brings over her new boyfriend and how it's so funny that the ashes of her first husband, your grandfather, are kept in an urn and that you have to drink your yearly holiday beer toast with his urn all alone and it's weird. You know how it is, right?

• Yes, it's holiday time, a special time for those of you who are so rich you just throw money out your car window. If you're that rich and you're also a fan of former Cream guitarist **Eric Clapton**, you'll want to know about *Eric Clapton's Crossroads Guitar Festival 2023*, a \$90 box set featuring every star from Joe Bonamassa to Molly Tuttle playing random songs. Look at this, there's H.E.R. playing a cover of Lenny Kravitz's "Are You Gonna Go My Way," the least uninteresting thing on board.

• Lastly it's famous indie rock band **Wilco** with *Hot Sun Cool Shroud*, an EP featuring six or seven tunes they left off their 2023 *Cousin* album. "Hot Sun" is a pretty neat mid-tempo thing, utilizing an edgy-poppo-edgy song structure. —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

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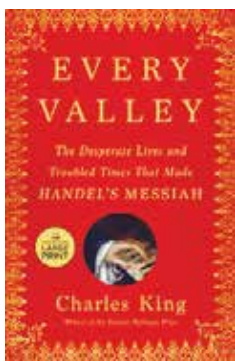
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**POP CULTURE BOOKS**

*Every Valley*, by Charles King (Doubleday, 277 pages)



George Frideric Handel was not the only inspired composer to emerge during the period of time known as the Enlightenment; Bach, Beethoven, Haydn and Mozart were also products of 17th- and 18th-century Europe.

But beloved as all of these composers are, it is Handel who reigns throughout the Christmas season, thanks to his preeminent work *Messiah*.

It's widely known that Handel composed the music in just 24 days, but there's much more to the story than that. It took a village, as it were, to create *Messiah* as we know it today. In *Every Valley*, Georgetown University professor Charles King examines the players in this story and weaves their stories together, against a cultural backdrop that is not so different from ours as we might think.

"The Enlightenment as most people actually experienced it had fewer wigs and masked balls than we might imagine today, and far more pain and muddling through," King writes, as he lays out the cultural and economic landscape of the time.

"Politicians and critics traded barbs via pamphlets and cartoons in much the same way that social media works now. Insurrections, riots, and rebellions regularly shook the governing establishment." Wars fomented, and slavery flourished.

Meanwhile, an eccentric, wealthy bachelor named Charles Jennens — "so afraid of the cold that he lay under six blankets in winter and four in summer" — became enamored of the idea that the prophecies and promises of the Hebrew scriptures, coupled with their fulfillment in the New Testament, offered hope for the challenging age and could best be conveyed in a musical performance. He began work on what he called a "Scripture Collection" with the thought that he might engage a past-his-prime composer to set the verses to music.

"At the heart of [Jennens'] work was not so much a statement of faith as a test of will — an affirmation of something Jennens himself had always found hard to believe in," King writes. "It was the staggering pos-

sibility that the world might turn out all right."

King became interested in the full story of *Messiah* after listening to a 1927 performance recorded in England that brought both him and his wife to tears. He learned that Handel was a celebrated musician even as a young man (in his 20s, his reputation was already such that one person would make the sign of the cross ironically when his name was mentioned). But by the time he was recruited to write this oratorio, Handel was nearing the age of 60, physically ailing and suspected to be past his prime professionally.

King takes us from the early days of Handel's professional life, from "Rinaldo" and "Water Music," to the composer's association with members of the royal family and notables like Alexander Pope and Jonathan Swift. And because King is writing the definitive book on *Messiah's* creation, his narrative frequently devolves into side stories of secondary characters, such as the salacious personal life of Susannah Cibber, the woman who would perform the alto solos at *Messiah's* premiere and experience a sort of salvation through her association with the work.

These stories, while interesting enough, at times feel a bit like an unwelcome interruption into the most compelling one: the intersection of the lives of Jennens and Handel, men who seem to have needed each other like Woodward needed Bernstein.

Jennens was the epitome of what Americans call "the elite" — he "apparently had no ambition other than to lead the life of a gentleman" and seemed to have been something of a hot-house flower. But he filled his home with books, music and art, creating "a private sanctuary filled with evidence of what the world could be, rather than reminders of what it usually was." And he had a special affinity for Handel, whom he called "the Prodigious," and collected all his music with the zeal of your typical American Swiftie.

Meanwhile, an aging Handel was suffering from competition and losing patrons. While an extraordinarily gifted musician and composer, he had, throughout his career, relied on others for "words and stories [he] might render into song." When he set out to

put to music the scripture collection that Jennens had named *Messiah*, he completed the work in a little over three weeks, but it may or may not have been as divinely inspired as we have been led to believe.

According to King, a statement that has been attributed to Handel about the creation of the "Hallelujah Chorus" — "I did think I did see all Heaven before me, and the great God himself" — is dubiously sourced a century later. (He also throws water on the oft-told story of how audiences came to stand during the Chorus.)

Jennens was not present when *Messiah* debuted before an audience of about 700 in Dublin, with the proceeds of the night going to a local hospital and infirmary and to pay off the debts of "incarcerated paupers." It was better-received by the audience, one of whom called it "a species of musick different from any other," than by the man who had first imagined it, and Jennens later demanded changes, and for a while didn't want to be associated with it. (He wrote to a confidante, "His *Messiah* has disappointed me.")

It's just as well, as popular history has largely forgotten Jennens's role, while time has elevated *Messiah* and its composer to mythic proportions. The original work, which took up both sides of 130 pages, still exists in a vault at the British Library and can be viewed online (and in photographs in this book), ink blots and all.

As for the story of its creation, it's hard to see how anyone could craft a history more comprehensive than what King has produced in *Every Valley* although it's not for the casual reader or the seasonal *Messiah* enthusiast who lacks an attendant desire to delve into the history of the age. It's a serious and scholarly work that keeps its distance from the religious ecstasy that its subject inspires, and insists on schooling the readers on European history, whether they're interested or not.

Moreover, in his curious need to draw parallels to contemporary society, King at times seems to tread dangerously close to political commentary.

However, for those seeking holiday reading that is not of the Hallmark variety, *Every Valley* hits all the high notes. **B+** —Jennifer Graham

**Books**

**Author events**

• **U.S. Marshal (ret.) Steve Monier** will talk about his new book, *No One Has to Die: Inside the Longest Armed Standoff in the History of the U.S. Marshals*, at Balin Books (375 Amherst St., Nashua, balinbooks.com) on

Saturday, Nov. 30, at 1 p.m.

• **Ty Gagne**, a certified Wilderness First Responder, will talk about his new book, *The Lions of Winter: Survival and Sacrifice on Mount Washington*, at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 6:30 p.m.

**History, stories, discussions & lectures**

• **Maple, New Hampshire's Medicine of Connection** presented by Damien Costello on Monday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m. at the Pembroke Town Library (313 Pembroke St., 485-7851). Free and open to the public.

• **Public Health in Practice** presented by Ophelia Dahl on Friday, Dec. 6, from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Jaffrey Civic Center (40 Main St., Jaffrey, 532-6527) as part of the Stories to Share series. A reception follows. Admission is free; go to [jaffreyciviccenter.com/stories](http://jaffreyciviccenter.com/stories) to reserve a seat.

• **Veterinary Episodes** presented by Charles Devinne on Friday, Jan. 3, from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Jaffrey Civic Center (40 Main St., Jaffrey, 532-6527) as part of the Stories to Share series. A reception follows. Admission is free; go to [jaffreyciviccenter.com/stories](http://jaffreyciviccenter.com/stories) to reserve a seat.



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**Wicked (PG)**

Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande make for a winning pair in the thoroughly charming *Wicked*.

As you probably know from the book, the play, the cast album, etc., *Wicked* offers the backstory of *The Wizard of Oz*'s Wicked Witch of the West, here called Elphaba (Erivo), the role first played on Broadway by Idina Menzel. After a rough childhood due to her green skin and her father and the townspeople's horrible treatment of her, a grown Elphaba finds slightly more acceptance at Shiz University, a Hogwarts-y school where her sister Nessarose (Marissa Bode) has enrolled. Their father tells Elphaba to stay to take care of Nessarose, who uses a wheelchair and is perfectly capable of taking care of herself, she tries unsuccessfully to tell people. Elphaba soon finds her own spot there when Madame Morrible (Michelle Yeoh) spots Elphaba's extraordinary magic abilities. Galinda (Grande), the pink-wardrobe-wearing blonde who was originated by Kristin Chenoweth, accidentally agrees to be Elphaba's roommate in an attempt to suck up to Morrible. Galinda's grand ambition is to become a sorceress — and to marry Prince Fiyero (Jonathan Bailey), a super handsome party boy who transfers to Shiz. Elphaba's plan is to become skilled enough at magic to meet and work with the Wizard of Oz (Jeff Goldblum). She wants to be cheered not feared by her fellow Ozians and if he maybe wants to make her not-green, that would be OK too.

Beneath all these hopes and dreams is a darker political undercurrent. Once upon a time, Oz used to be a place where humans and animals, who could talk, worked and lived side by side. But now there are only two animal professors left at Shiz and Elphaba overhears a kind of animal resistance meeting where they discuss animals who have disappeared and other well-known animal orators who have lost their ability to speak.

That aspect to the story and a later scene where some animals undergo a transformation packs a surprisingly emotional (and dark) punch and maybe makes the movie scarier than your standard PG movie. Odd to say about talking animals but it grounded all the magic and the pink fluff of Galinda in something unexpectedly real. This is fairy tale land, but not a perfect sugary one, which makes for a more nuanced story.

But that is probably not why we're all here. The movie does right by the music — sure, Grande can feel a little “doing a Kristin Chenoweth” at times, but she creates a fully formed character who can match the heft her songs require. Erivo is likewise absolutely great. If there's any knock (not really) on her performance, it's that she is so absolutely stunning at all times that the “ew, she's



*Wicked*

green!” stuff is a hard sell. Her “Defying Gravity” is chills-inducing and she is equally at ease with both the intensity and comedy elements of her character. The look of the movie is a delight — a fantastical explosion of color and production design that manages to make Oz look, mostly, like a physical setting rather than just images on a green screen. The costumes are also quite lovely, with wit and thoughtfulness about what they're trying to convey about the characters. You know, a fun movie that is a joy to watch on a big screen — what a nice holiday treat! **B+**

*Rated PG for some scary action, thematic material and brief suggestive material, according to the MPA on [filmratings.com](http://filmratings.com). Directed by Jon M. Chu with a screenplay by Winnie Holzman and Dana Fox, *Wicked* is two hours and 40 minutes long (worth it for the fun Menzel and Chenoweth cameo) and distributed in theaters (which ask you to please not sing, like, there was a sign and everything; a singalong version will be released on Dec. 25) by Universal Studios.*

**Gladiator II (R)**

*Gladiator II* Maximus-es so hard, even though the character died in the now-24-year-old original film, that I'm hoping Russell Crowe got royalties.

The movie is set some 16 or so years after the action of the first movie, with Rome still being a corrupt empire and Connie Nielsen, who is now 59 years old in real life, still looking fabulous. We meet simple non-Roman guy Hanno (Paul Mescal) and his wife Arishat (Yuval Gonen), who are just two crazy kids in love, doing chores, but then having to suit up in armor when the “suit up” horn sounds. It seems the Roman navy is nearly at the walls of their city in Numidia. The Romans, led by general Acacius (Pedro Pascal), attack. Arishat is a good archer but Acacius himself calls for her to be killed when she kills one of the Roman soldiers fighting next to him, thus Making It Personal for Hanno, who wants not just revenge against the whole Roman army, which quickly defeats the city, but specific revenge against Acacius.

CONTINUED ON PG 54 ▶



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By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Holiday junk:** Throwing open the doors of its theater for Thanksgiving, **Recycled Percussion** performs its new *LOVEalicious* show. Band leader Justin Spencer recently completed the grueling World Marathon Challenge, seven races in seven days across seven continents. He's thankful for that, and for the recent opening of a permanent *Chaos & Kindness* store in the Mall of New Hampshire. Thursday, Nov. 28, 6 p.m., CAKE Theatre, 12 Veterans Square, Laconia, \$49 and up at tix.com.

• **Pirate party:** Fronted by a jaunty guitar player in a long jacket and trifold hat, **Jonee Earthquake Band** kicks off a free Black Friday show in downtown Manchester, with Lobotomobile, Dirty Walter & the Smelltones and Ragz to Stitchez. In the spirit of the day, the event includes some doorbuster deals. On Saturday the punk pirate band plays Christmas songs at the Nashua Holiday Stroll. Friday, Nov. 29, 9 p.m., Shaskeen Pub, 909 Elm St., Manchester, joneearthquake.com.

• **Psycho chickens:** Led by a loquacious singer who's also written a couple of books, **The Fools** have a documentary in the works. The Ipswich, Mass., rockers have been recording recent shows for a live album that's in the works, so a return to a favorite New Hampshire haunt should be fun. Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m., Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry, \$37 at tupelohall.com.

• **Irish Christmas:** An eclectic Christmas concert set in Central Park; **Fairytales of New York** is the latest effort from the company behind *Seven Drunken Nights – The Story of The Dubliners*. The show mixes classics like “O Holy Night” and “White Christmas” with Irish sing-alongs and pop holiday tunes such as “Step Into Christmas,” along with *Riverdance*-style step dancing. Sunday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts, 201 Main St., Nashua, \$39 and up at etix.com.

• **Roots standards:** **Gillian Welch & David Rawlings** are leading purveyors of Americana. The couple are currently touring their seventh studio album, *Woodland*, a record born from a 2020 tornado. Monday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, \$71.25 and up at ccanh.com. 🍷

## NITE

# Winner's circle

### Original songwriters at BNH Stage

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

An eight-week competition at Patrick's Pub in Gilford sponsored by NH Music Collective culminates with performances from the winners and semi-finalists at the BNH Stage in downtown Concord on Dec. 1.

Singer-songwriter Ian Archibold took top honors in the final round on Nov. 18 and will headline the show. Second-place winner Ian Galipeau will perform ahead of Archibold, and Temple Mountain — the nom de tune of singer, guitarist and songwriter Eric Impallomeni — rounds out the bill-topping trio.

The rest of the performers are an eclectic bunch. Adrienne Mack-Davis offers hip-hop and R&B, Arthur Terembula has a rustic sound that's somewhere between Tom Waits and a Smithsonian field recording, while Brendan Cleary, Willy Chase and Jason Oberstein sit comfortably in the folk, singer-songwriter genre.

The show is an excellent way for fans of original music to broaden their horizons. Take, for example, Ian Galipeau's song “The Little Things.” A worthy counterpart to Jason Isbell's “If We Were Vampires,” it distills a lifetime of love, marriage, parenthood and death with breathtaking precision. He'll likely play that along with material from his 2022 album *Like We Were Never Here At All* and his most recent single, “Floorboard,” another storytelling gem.

Archibold released an EP, *Parallel*, in 2016, and cites influences ranging from The Beatles to Bruno Mars and Coldplay. His song “Valley of Uncertainty” is a good example of how he joins those disparate threads to craft a singular sound. He hails from Panama but has performed around the New England region for a while.

A well-traveled Long Island native, Temple Mountain blends deft finger-picking guitar with atmospheric vocalizing that recalls Elliot Smith, a singer-songwriter he cites as an influence. Lyrically idiosyncratic, with a bio stating that he



First, second and third place winners of the Patrick's Pub Songwriter Competition. Pictured L to R: Ian Archibold, Ian Galipeau, Temple Mountain. Courtesy photos.

has “a psychology background,” his songs charmingly probe the human experience.

NHMC is riding a successful wave of late. The idea for its monthly Sunday Sessions is to book a local performer in the BNH Stage's intimate Cantin Room, then move into the main theater when ticket sales hit a certain level. This month, Charlie Chronopoulos sold out the big space, and a few months earlier, singer/songwriter Taylor Hughes came within a few dozen seats of doing the same.

“So far, we've had three shows go to the big stage,” NHMC principal John McArthur said by phone recently. “We book a lot of bar gigs ... breweries and wineries, stuff like that, where they're doing mostly cover songs. But this opportunity to perform original music in front of a listening audience, this is what I live for.”

The third annual singer/songwriter contest at Patrick's attracted entries from as far away as Rhode Island. “This is how starved indie artists are,” McArthur said. “People that in past years would

have gotten in didn't. We're trying to build a community of songwriters and indie singing, and it's starting to work.” Brad Myrick, who founded the musician-friendly organization, agreed with his partner McArthur.

“I love that we can tie one thing that we're doing to support songwriters and original music and segue that into a proper theater show promoted well and in a city like Concord that has some movement,” he said. “These are the kinds of things that I didn't have the ability to do five or 10 years ago ... that we've grown to where we can do that feels really good.”

It's a two-way street for artists and NHMC, which books a wide range of area venues, Myrick continued.

“John set up the open mic as a way to have a forum to hear some new people and invite some folks,” he said. “It's opened up some new performers for us, and it works great for them. They come up here and get new fans. It's building something. I want people to say there's a scene in New Hampshire. I want that to be felt and be real.” 🍷

#### NHMC Sunday Sessions: Songwriter Showcase

**When:** Sunday, Dec. 1, 6 p.m.

**Where:** BNH Stage, 16 S. Main St., Concord

**Tickets:** \$18.75 at ccanh.com

“This opportunity to perform original music in front of a listening audience, this is what I live for.”

JOHN MCARTHUR

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worth Ave., 926-6954

**Whym Craft Pub &**  
**Brewery** 853 Lafayette  
Road, 601-2801

**Hillsboro**  
Main Street Grill and  
Bar 126 W. Main St.,  
290-4887

**Hudson**  
The Bar 2B Burnham

Road  
**Luk's Bar & Grill** 142  
Lowell Road, 889-9900

**Lynn's 102 Tavern** 76  
Derry Road, 943-7832

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

**Kingston**  
Saddle Up Saloon 92  
Route 125, 369-6962

**Laconia**  
The Big House 322  
Lakeside Ave., 767-2226

**Defiant Records &**  
**Craft Beer** 609 Main  
St., 527-8310

**Fratello's** 799 Union  
Ave., 528-2022

**High Octane Saloon**  
1072 Watson Road,  
527-8116

**Litchfield**  
Day of the Dead Mex-  
ican Taqueria Mel's  
Funway Park, 454  
Charles Bancroft High-  
way, 377-7664

**Londonderry**  
Coach Stop Restau-  
rant & Tavern 176

Mammoth Road, 437-  
2022

**Stumble Inn** 20 Rock-  
ingham Road, 432-3210

**Manchester**  
Backyard Brewery  
1211 S. Mammoth  
Road, 623-3545

**Bonfire** 950 Elm St.,  
663-7678

**Derryfield Country**  
**Club** 625 Mammoth  
Road, 623-2880

**The Foundry** 50 Com-  
mercial St., 836-1925

**Fratello's** 155 Dow  
St., 624-2022

**The Goat** 50 Old Gran-  
ite St.

**Great North Aleworks**  
1050 Holt Ave., 858-  
5789

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

**Keys Piano Bar &**  
**Grill** 1087 Elm St.,  
836-7796

**Olympus Pizza** 506  
Valley St., 644-5559

**Murphy's Taproom**  
494 Elm St., 644-3535

**Pizza Man** 850 E.  
Industrial Park Drive,  
623-5550

**Salona Bar & Grill** 128  
Maple St., 624-4020

**Shaskeen Pub** 909  
Elm St., 625-0246

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

**Stark Brewing Co.**  
500 Commercial St.,  
625-4444

**Strange Brew** 88 Mar-  
ket St., 666-4292

**To Share Brewing** 720  
Union St., 836-6947

**Meredith**  
Giuseppe's 312 DW  
Highway, 279-3313

**Hermit Woods** 72  
Main St., 253-7968

**Twin Barns Brewing**  
194 DW Highway, 279-  
0876

**Merrimack**  
Homestead 641 DW  
Highway, 429-2022

**Tomahawk Tavern**  
454 DW Highway, 365-  
4960

**Milford**  
Brickhouse 241 Union  
Sq., 672-2270

**Riley's Place** 29 Mont  
Vernon St., 380-3480

**Stonecutters Pub** 63  
Union Square, 213-5979

**Moultonborough**  
Buckey's 240 Govern-  
or Wentworth Hwy.,  
476-5485

**Nashua**  
Casey Magee's Irish  
Pub 8 Temple St., 484-  
7400

**Fody's Tavern** 9 Clin-  
ton St., 577-9015

**Liquid Therapy** 14  
Court St., 402-9391

**San Francisco Kitch-**  
**en** 133 Main St., 886-  
8833

**New Boston**  
Molly's Tavern &  
Restaurant 35 Mont Ver-  
non Road, 487-1362

**Newmarket**  
Stone Church 5 Gran-

## Tuesday, Nov. 26

**Concord**  
Barley House: Irish session, 6  
p.m.  
Hermanos: Paul Bourgelais, 6:30  
p.m.  
Tandy's: open mic, 8 p.m.

**Hampton**  
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.  
Wally's: music bingo, 7 p.m.

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

**Manchester**  
Fratello's: Paul Lussier, 5:30  
p.m.  
KC's Rib Shack: Paul & Nate  
open mic, 7 p.m.  
The Goat: karaoke w/ George  
Cox, 8 p.m.

**Meredith**  
Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois,  
5:45 p.m.

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

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

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

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

**Wednesday, Nov. 27**  
**Bedford**  
Copper Door: Justin Jordan, 6  
p.m.

**Concord**  
Barley House: Holy Cow Music  
Bingo, 6 p.m.  
Forum Pub: Gardner Berry, 8 p.m.  
Hermanos: Brian Booth, 6:30 p.m.  
Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.

Uno Pizzeria: Tyler Levs, 6 p.m.

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

**Dover**  
Auspicious Brew: open mic with  
Rich Amorim night, 6:30 p.m.  
Chapel + Main: Dan Blakeslee  
and the Calabash Club, 7 p.m.  
Revo Casino: Samantha Rae  
Duet, 9 p.m.  
603 Bar: hip-hop Wednesday  
hosted by J-Rawk

**Epping**  
Telly's: Roc & Ron, 8 p.m.

**Francestown**  
Toll Booth Tavern: Sheepdip

**Hampton**  
CR's: Bob Tirelli, 6 p.m.  
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.  
Tino's Kitchen & Bar: Jordan  
Quinn, 6 p.m.  
Wally's: Scott Brown & The  
Diplomats, 9 p.m.

**Hudson**  
Lynn's 102: Night Owls, 8:30  
p.m.

**Kingston**  
Saddle Up Saloon: Rustfeather,

7 p.m.

**Laconia**  
Big House: Turkeyoke Karaoke  
Bash, 9 p.m.  
Defiant Records & Craft Beer:  
Thanksgiving Eve party with  
Mike Loughlin, 5:30 p.m.  
Fratello's: Richard Cumming,  
5:30 p.m.

**Londonderry**  
Stumble Inn: The Slakas, 8 p.m.

**Manchester**  
Bonfire: DJ Mike Benoit, 9 p.m.  
Derryfield: D-Comp, 8:30 p.m.

Fratello's: Joanie Cicatelli, 5:30  
p.m.

The Goat: Turn It Up, 9 p.m.  
Keys: Jonny Friday and Friends,  
7 p.m.  
Murphy's: Jonny Friday Duo,  
9:30 p.m.  
Shaskeen: DJ Myth and Shawn  
Caliber, 9 p.m.  
Stark Brewing: Cox karaoke,  
8 p.m.  
Strange Brew: Hi-Fi Sound  
System w/ Lisa Marie, 9 p.m.  
To Share Brewing: DJ Maltese,  
5 p.m.

**Meredith**  
Hermit Woods: Katie Dobbins  
presents Songwriter Roundup  
with Sam Luke Chase and Jay  
Psaros, 7 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
Homestead: Casey Roop, 5:30  
p.m.  
Tomahawk: Chad LaMarsh, 6 p.m.

**Milford**  
Brickhouse: Vales End, 8 p.m.  
Riley's: open mic with Eric  
Lamarche  
Stonecutters Pub: open mic, 8  
p.m.



## THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR

You can count on two things from a **Drew Dunn** show: side-splitting standup comedy and a cavalcade of comedians. Dunn, who recently finished a tour with Boston comedy superstar Dane Cook, brings his talented comedian friends to the Nashua Center for the Arts (201 Main St., Nashua, 800-657-8774, nashuacenterforthearts.com) on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$29 plus fees.

### Music, live and in person

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

|  |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| ite St., 659-7700  | 9372  | Market St., 430-9122  | St., 431-5186  | St., 330-1964   | Road, 890-1032  | <b>Suncook</b><br>Oddball Brewing 6<br>Glass St., 210-5654,<br>oddballbrewingnh.com | <b>Reed's North</b> 2 E.<br>Main St., 456-2143                      |
| <b>Pembroke</b><br>Cavern Sports Bar<br>351 Pembroke St., 485-<br>7777           | <b>Pittsfield</b><br>Over the Moon 1253<br>Upper City Road, 216-<br>2162  | <b>The Goat</b> 142 Con-<br>gress St., 590-4628                     | <b>Thirsty Moose Tap-</b><br>house 21 Congress St.,<br>427-8645  | <b>Salem</b><br>Copper Door 41 S.<br>Broadway, 458-2033 | <b>Seabrook</b><br>Backyard Burgers<br>& Wings 5 Provident<br>Way, 760 2581 | <b>Tilton</b><br>Dox on Winnisquam<br>927 Laconia Road,<br>527-8381                 | <b>Windham</b><br>Windham Restaurant<br>59 Range Road, 870-<br>9270 |
| <b>Pembroke City Limits</b><br>134 Main St., 210-2409,<br>pembrokecitylimits.com | <b>Plaistow</b><br>The Nest Pub & Grill<br>181 Plaistow Road,<br>974-1686 | <b>Grill 28</b> Pease Golf<br>Course, 200 Grafton<br>Road, 766-6466 | <b>Rochester</b><br>Governor's Inn 78<br>Wakefield St., 332-0107 | <b>Michael's Flatbread</b> 8<br>Stiles Road, 893-2765   | <b>Chop Shop Pub</b> 920<br>Lafayette Road, 760-<br>7706                    | <b>Warner</b><br>The Local 15 E. Main<br>St., 456-3333                              |   |
| <b>Penacook</b><br>American Legion Post<br>31 11 Charles St., 753-               | <b>Portsmouth</b><br>The Gas Light 64                                     | <b>Mojo's West End Tav-</b><br>ern 95 Brewery Lane,<br>436-6656     | <b>Lilac City Grille</b> 103<br>N. Main St., 332-3984            | <b>Par28</b> 23 S. Broadway,<br>458-7078                | <b>Red's Kitchen + Tav-</b><br>ern 530 Lafayette<br>Road, 760-0030          |   |   |
| <b>Press Room</b> 77 Daniel  | <b>Porter's</b> 19 Hanson   |   |  |   |   |   |   |

|   |  |   |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Moultonborough</b><br>Buckey's: FuzzBoxx, 6:30 p.m.  | <b>Warner</b><br>The Local: Brad Myrick Duo, 5 p.m.<br>Reed's North: Joe Leary, 3 p.m.; Ben Dobrowski, 6:30 p.m. | <b>Contoocook</b><br>Contoocook Cider Co.: Willy Chase, 1 p.m.  | <b>Dads</b> , 6 p.m.  | <b>New Boston</b><br>Molly's: 21st & 1st, 6:30 p.m.  | Valley, St. Clementine, 8 p.m.<br><b>Revo Casino</b> : Neon Wave, 9 p.m.   |
| <b>Nashua</b><br>Lafayette Club: Rabbit's Foot, 8 p.m.<br>Liquid Therapy: karaoke w/ Armand, 6 p.m.   | <b>Reed's North</b> : Joe Leary, 3 p.m.; Ben Dobrowski, 6:30 p.m.  | <b>Dover</b><br>Auspicious Brew: The Orrs, 2000's, Otis, 8 p.m.<br>Chapel + Main: Disco Sucks all vinyl DJ night with Zach Tremblay, 7:30 p.m.<br>Revo Casino: Blue Matter Band, 9 p.m.   | <b>Kingston</b><br>Saddle Up Saloon: LU NH Music, 7:30 p.m.   | <b>Newmarket</b><br>Stone Church: Turkey Jam, 7 p.m.   | <b>Epping</b><br>Telly's: Johnny Angel, 8 p.m.   |
| <b>Newmarket</b><br>Stone Church: Karaoke, 9 p.m.   | <b>Thursday, Nov. 28</b><br><b>Bedford</b><br>Murphy's: Ed Chenoweth, 10 a.m.; Steve Baker, 1:30 p.m.            | <b>Litchfield</b><br>Day of the Dead: music bingo, 6:30 p.m.  | <b>Laconia</b><br>Fratello's: Kyle Dumais, 5:30 p.m.  | <b>Pembroke</b><br>Pembroke City Limits: The Regals, 7 p.m.  | <b>Gilford</b><br>Patrick's Pub: Travis Cote, 6 p.m.   |
| <b>Pembroke</b><br>Pembroke City Limits: Danny Savage, 5 p.m.; Dusty Gray, 7 p.m.   | <b>Manchester</b><br>Shaskeen: EDM Night, 9 p.m.   | <b>Londonderry</b><br>Coach Stop: Dave Clark, 6 p.m.<br>Stumble Inn: Mica's Groove Train, 8 p.m.  | <b>Landonia</b><br>Fratello's: Kyle Dumais, 5:30 p.m.   | <b>Portsmouth</b><br>Gas Light: Max Sullivan, 9:30 p.m.<br>Grill 28: Freddie Catalfo, 6 p.m.<br>Mojo's: Dave Maclean, 6 p.m.<br>Press Room: North Village & Soulcolour, 5:30 p.m.<br>Thirsty Moose: Business Time, 9:30 p.m.   | <b>Goffstown</b><br>Village Trestle: Redemption, 6 p.m.  |
| <b>Plaistow</b><br>The Nest: Bite the Bullet  | <b>Milford</b><br>Brickhouse: Riff Raff, 8 p.m.<br>Riley's Place: open mic, 7 p.m.                               | <b>Manchester</b><br>Backyard Brewery: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.<br>Bonfire: Katrina Gustafson, 9 p.m.<br>Derryfield: Jimmy's Down, 8 p.m.<br>The Foundry: Garrett Smith, 6 p.m.<br>Fratello's: Jamie Hughes, 6 p.m.<br>The Goat: 7 Day Weekend, 9 p.m.<br>Great North Aleworks: open mic, 5:30 p.m.<br>Olympus: Ralph Allen, 7 p.m.<br>Revo Casino: karaoke with DJ George Cox, 9 p.m.<br>Shaskeen: Jonee Earthquake Band with Lobotomobile, Dirty Walter & The SMelltones and Ragz to Stitchez, 9 p.m.<br>South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke, 9 p.m.<br>Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 8 p.m. | <b>Hampton</b><br>CR's: Steve Sibulkin, 6 p.m.<br>Galley Hatch: Wolf & Honey, 5 p.m.<br>The Goat: Mike Jetti, 9 p.m.<br>L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.<br>Wally's: Fast Time, 9 p.m.   | <b>Seabrook</b><br>Red's: Phil Maurice, 8 p.m.   | <b>Hampton</b><br>L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.<br>Whym: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.  |
| <b>Portsmouth</b><br>The Goat: Rob Pagano, 9 p.m.<br>Thirsty Moose: Holly Heist, 9:30 p.m.  | <b>Nashua</b><br>Casey Magee's: open mic, 7:30 p.m.  | <b>Gilford</b><br>Patrick's Pub: Holy Cow music bingo, 7 p.m.   | <b>Manchester</b><br>Backyard Brewery: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.<br>Bonfire: Katrina Gustafson, 9 p.m.<br>Derryfield: Jimmy's Down, 8 p.m.<br>The Foundry: Garrett Smith, 6 p.m.<br>Fratello's: Jamie Hughes, 6 p.m.<br>The Goat: 7 Day Weekend, 9 p.m.<br>Great North Aleworks: open mic, 5:30 p.m.<br>Olympus: Ralph Allen, 7 p.m.<br>Revo Casino: karaoke with DJ George Cox, 9 p.m.<br>Shaskeen: Jonee Earthquake Band with Lobotomobile, Dirty Walter & The SMelltones and Ragz to Stitchez, 9 p.m.<br>South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke, 9 p.m.<br>Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 8 p.m. | <b>Windham</b><br>Windham Restaurant: Chad Lamarsh, 8 p.m.   | <b>Hudson</b><br>Luk's Bar: Todd Trusty, 7 p.m.<br>Lynn's 102: Off The Record, 8:30 p.m.   |
| <b>Rochester</b><br>Governors Inn: Freddie Catalfo, 6 p.m.<br>Lilac City Grille: Tim Theriaul, 7 p.m.   | <b>Portsmouth</b><br>The Press Room: North Village & Soulcolour, 6 p.m.  | <b>Goffstown</b><br>Village Trestle: Swipe Right, 6 p.m.  | <b>Manchester</b><br>Backyard Brewery: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.<br>Bonfire: Katrina Gustafson, 9 p.m.<br>Derryfield: Jimmy's Down, 8 p.m.<br>The Foundry: Garrett Smith, 6 p.m.<br>Fratello's: Jamie Hughes, 6 p.m.<br>The Goat: 7 Day Weekend, 9 p.m.<br>Great North Aleworks: open mic, 5:30 p.m.<br>Olympus: Ralph Allen, 7 p.m.<br>Revo Casino: karaoke with DJ George Cox, 9 p.m.<br>Shaskeen: Jonee Earthquake Band with Lobotomobile, Dirty Walter & The SMelltones and Ragz to Stitchez, 9 p.m.<br>South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke, 9 p.m.<br>Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 8 p.m. | <b>Friday, Nov. 29</b><br><b>Alton Bay</b><br>Foster's Tavern: Rebecca Turmel, 6 p.m.  | <b>Jaffrey</b><br>Park Theatre: Heather Pierson, 7:30 p.m.   |
| <b>Salem</b><br>Copper Door: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.<br>Michael's Flatbread: The Regular Gents, 6:30 p.m.                                      | <b>Bedford</b><br>Murphy's: Tyler Levs, 6 p.m.   | <b>Hampton</b><br>Main Street Grill and Bar: Jordan Quinn, 6 p.m.   | <b>Hillsborough</b><br>Main Street Grill and Bar: Jordan Quinn, 6 p.m.  | <b>Seabrook</b><br>American Legion Post 70: karaoke with DJ B-rad<br>Chop Shop: karaoke with DJ Dale, 8 p.m.<br>Red's: Fred Ellsworth, 7 p.m.  | <b>Kingston</b><br>Saddle Up Saloon: Dueling Pianos, 8 p.m.  |
| <b>Seabrook</b><br>American Legion Post 70: karaoke with DJ B-rad<br>Chop Shop: karaoke with DJ Dale, 8 p.m.<br>Red's: Fred Ellsworth, 7 p.m. | <b>Bristol</b><br>Kathleen's: Irish Sessiun, 7 p.m.  | <b>Hudson</b><br>Luk's: Jeff Mrozek, 7 p.m.<br>Lynn's 102: karaoke w/George Bisson, 8 p.m.  | <b>Hudson</b><br>Luk's: Jeff Mrozek, 7 p.m.<br>Lynn's 102: karaoke w/George Bisson, 8 p.m.  | <b>Windham</b><br>Windham Restaurant: Chad Lamarsh, 8 p.m.   | <b>Laconia</b><br>Fratello's: Richard Cumming, 5:30 p.m.   |
| <b>Brookline</b><br>Alamo: Casey Roop, 6 p.m.   | <b>Concord</b><br>Forum Pub: Hometown Eulogy, 8 p.m.<br>Hermanos: Brian Booth, 6:30 p.m.                         | <b>Jaffrey</b><br>Park Theatre: The Grateful  | <b>Meredith</b><br>Twin Barns: Mikey G, 5 p.m.  | <b>Saturday, Nov. 30</b><br><b>Alton Bay</b><br>Foster's Tavern: Randy McGravey, 6 p.m.  | <b>Londonderry</b><br>Coach Stop: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.<br>Stumble Inn: Swipe Right Band, 8 p.m.  |
|   |  |   | <b>Merrimack</b><br>Homestead: Sam Hammerman, 6 p.m.  | <b>Bedford</b><br>Murphy's: Justin Bethune, 6 p.m.   | <b>Manchester</b><br>Backyard Brewery: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.<br>Bonfire: Lexi James, 9 p.m.<br>Derryfield: Lisa Love Exp, 8:30 p.m.<br>Foundry: Ian Archibold, 6 p.m.<br>Fratello's: Chris Taylor, 6 p.m.<br>The Goat: Musical Brunch with Mike Jetti, 10 a.m.; The Far, 9 p.m.<br>Great North Aleworks: Paul Nelson, 4 p.m.<br>Keys: dueling pianos, 8 p.m.<br>The Pizza Man: PopvDaddy, 5:30 p.m.<br>Murphy's: live music, 9:30 p.m.<br>Revo Casino: DJ Massappeal, 9 p.m.<br>Shaskeen: Garden Grove, 9 |
|   |  |   | <b>Milford</b><br>Stonecutters Pub: DJ Dave O karaoke, 9 p.m.   | <b>Bow</b><br>Chen Yang Li: Tom Boisse, 7 p.m.   |  |
|   |  |   | <b>Moultonborough</b><br>Buckey's: Candi Tremblay, 6:30 p.m.  | <b>Brookline</b><br>Alamo: Travis Rollo, 6 p.m.  |  |
|   |  |   | <b>Nashua</b><br>Casey Magee's: karaoke, 9:30 p.m.  | <b>Concord</b><br>Barley House: Holiday Jingle Jam with DJ Maltese, featuring karaoke and a holiday party, 8 p.m.<br>Eagle Square Farmers Market: Justin Cohn, 9 a.m.<br>Forum Pub: acoustic circle, 2 p.m.; Sea Shanty Night, 8 p.m.<br>Hermanos: Matt Poirier, 6:30 p.m. |  |
|   |  |   |   | <b>Contoocook</b><br>Contoocook Cider Co.: Colin Hart, 4 p.m.<br>Contoocook Farmers Market: Hank Osborne, 9 a.m.   |  |
|   |  |   |   | <b>Dover</b><br>Auspicious Brew: Shguaro, Glad   |  |

## COMEDY WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS

If you need a laugh after a stressful Thanksgiving dinner, why not check out **Emily Ruskowski**? The up-and-coming Boston comedian brings her found family of comedians to the Rex (23 Amherst St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org) on Friday, Nov. 29, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$29 plus fees.



p.m.  
**Strange Brew:** The Whole Loaf, 9 p.m.

**Meredith**  
**Giuseppe's:** Bob Kroepel, 5:45 p.m.  
**Twin Barns:** Jamie Hughes, 5 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Stephen Decuire, 6 p.m.

**Moultonborough**  
**Buckey's:** karaoke w/ DJ Ghoulay, 6:30 p.m.

**Nashua**  
**Casey Magee's:** Workin Stiffs Band, 8 p.m.  
**Downtown, main stage:** Jonec Earthquake Band and The Imposers, 5 p.m.

**New Boston**  
**Molly's:** The Incidentals, 6:30 p.m.

**Pembroke**  
**Pembroke City Limits:** Jam Tomorrow, 6:30 p.m.

**Pittsfield**  
**Over the Moon:** Angela Stewart, 6 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
**Gas Light:** Garrett Smith, 9:30 p.m.

**Press Room:** Jamie McLean Band & Reckoners, 7 p.m.  
**Thirsty Moose:** The Rippers, 9 p.m.

**Salem**  
**Par28:** DJ Styles, 7 p.m.

**Seabrook**  
**Red's:** Rob & Jody, 8 p.m.

**Suncook**  
**Oddball Brewing:** Rebecca Turmel, 4 p.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 01**  
**Bedford**  
**Copper Door:** Lilly Innella, 11 a.m.

**Contoocook**  
**Contoocook Cider Co.:** Andrew Geano, 1 p.m.

**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** D-Comp, 3:30 p.m.

**Hampton**  
**L Street:** karaoke, 9 p.m.  
**Whym:** Max Sullivan, 1 p.m.

**Jaffrey**  
**Park Theatre:** Josee Vachon & Patrick Ross, 2 p.m.

**Laconia**  
**Fratello's:** Kyle Dumais, 5:30 p.m.

**Manchester**  
**Bonfire:** line dancing, 7 p.m.  
**The Goat:** Mike Jetti, 10 a.m., MB Padfield, 9 p.m.  
**Strange Brew:** One Big Soul Jam, 7 p.m.

**Meredith**  
**Giuseppe's:** open stage w/ Lou Porrazzo, 5:45 p.m.

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

**Pittsfield**  
**Over the Moon:** open mic, 4 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
**The Goat:** Rob Pagnano, 9 p.m.  
**Press Room:** Recent History, 11 a.m.

**Salem**  
**Copper Door:** Phil Jacques, 11 a.m.; Say Darling, 5 p.m.

**Monday, Dec. 2**  
**Dover**  
**Cara Irish Pub:** open mic, 8 p.m.

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

**Hampton**  
**L Street:** karaoke, 9 p.m.

**Hudson**  
**The Bar:** karaoke with Phil, 7 p.m.

**Laconia**  
**Fratello's:** Richard Cumming, 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.  
**Keys:** Blues Jams & open mic, 6 p.m.  
**Salona:** music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.  
**Strange Brew:** music bingo, 8 p.m.

**Meredith**  
**Giuseppe's:** Lou Porrazzo, 5:45 p.m.

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

**Milford**  
**Brickhouse:** line dancing, 6:30 p.m.

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

**Portsmouth**  
**The Goat:** musical bingo, 7 p.m.; Mike Jetti, 9 p.m.

**Tuesday, Dec. 3**  
**Concord**  
**Barley House:** Irish session, 6 p.m.  
**Tandy's:** open mic, 8 p.m.

**Hampton**  
**L Street:** karaoke, 9 p.m.  
**Wally's:** music bingo, 7 p.m.

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

**Manchester**  
**Fratello's:** Jordan Quinn, 5:30 p.m.  
**KC's Rib Shack:** Paul & Nate open mic, 7 p.m.  
**The Goat:** karaoke w/ George Cox, 8 p.m.

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

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

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

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

**Wednesday, Dec. 4**  
**Bedford**  
**Copper Door:** Justin Jordan, 6 p.m.

**Concord**  
**Tandy's:** karaoke, 8 p.m.  
**Uno Pizzeria:** Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.

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

**Dover**  
**Auspicious Brew:** open mic night, 6:30 p.m.

**Epping**  
**Telly's:** Kimya, 8 p.m.

**Hampton**  
**L Street:** karaoke, 9 p.m.

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

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

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

**Manchester**  
**Derryfield:** Chad LaMarsh, 8:30 p.m.

**Fratello's:** Colin Hart, 5:30 p.m.  
**The Goat:** 603 line dancing, 7 p.m.  
**Keys:** Jindo music bingo, 7 p.m.  
**Stark Brewing:** Cox karaoke, 8 p.m.  
**Strange Brew:** open mic w/ Jordan Quinn & Scott Armstrong, 8 p.m.

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Joanie Cicatelli, 5:30 p.m.

**Milford**  
**Riley's:** acoustic open mic, 8 p.m.  
**Stonecutters Pub:** open mic, 8 p.m.

**Nashua**  
**Liquid Therapy:** karaoke w/ Armand, 6 p.m.

**Pembroke**  
**Pembroke City Limits:** Joe Fuzz, 7 p.m.

**Pittsfield**  
**Over the Moon:** Doug Mitchell, 6:30 p.m.

**Portsmouth**  
**Press Room:** QVickDraw, 8 p.m.

**Rochester**  
**Governors Inn:** Dave Girard, 6 p.m.

**Salem**  
**Copper Door:** Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.  
**Sayde's:** Blakat, 6:30 p.m.

**Seabrook**  
**Chop Shop:** DJ Manny karaoke, 7:30 p.m.  
**Red's:** Dave Clark, 7 p.m.



## BLAST FROM THE PAST

In the 1980s, **The Fools** were burning up the airwaves with their doo wop-inspired hit "It's a Night for Beautiful Girls" and opening for bands like the Knack and Van Halen. Forty years later, the band is still going strong, with 18 albums and a documentary film to their name. Don't miss their show at Tupelo (10 A St., Derry, 437-5100, tupelomusichall.com) on Saturday, Nov. 30, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$37 plus fees.

### Film

- **Pom Poko** (PG, 1994) Tuesday, Nov. 26, at 7 p.m., when it will be subtitled at Apple Cinemas in Merrimack and Hooksett, Cinemark in Salem, O'neil in Epping and Regal Fox Run. See fathom-events.com.
- **A Real Pain** (R, 2024) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatres.com, Tuesday, Nov. 26, through Thursday, Nov. 28, at 4:15 & 6:45 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 1, at 2, 4:15 and 6:45 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 2, through Thursday, Dec. 5, at 4:15 & 6:45 p.m.
- **Wicked** (PG, 2024) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatres.com, Tuesday, Nov. 26, through Thursday, Nov.

28, at 3:30 & 7 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 1, at noon, 3:30 & 7 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 2, through Thursday, Dec. 5, at 3:30 & 7 p.m.

- **Merry Good Enough** will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatres.org, on Tuesday, Nov. 26, through Thursday, Nov. 28, at 4 & 6:30 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 29, through Sunday, Dec. 1, 1:45, 4 & 6:30 p.m.
- **The Tale of the Princess Kaguya** (PG, 2013) Wednesday, Nov. 27 (subtitled), at 7 p.m. at the Apple Cinemas, Cinemark in Salem and Regal Fox Run (O'neil in Epping will see the Monday screening). See fathomevents.com.
- **Wicked** (PG, 2024) will have a sensory-friendly screening on

Wednesday, Nov. 27, at 11:30 a.m. at Chunky's in Manchester, chunkys.com.

- **Warren Miller's 75** will screen at Flying Monkey in Plymouth on Friday, Nov. 29, at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$24.50.
- **It's the Old Army Game** (1926) with W.C. Fields on Sunday, Dec. 1, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre (40 Main St., Wilton; find them on Facebook) as part of its silent film series, with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis. Admission is free, though a \$10 donation is suggested.
- **The Ride Ahead** (2024) a documentary by Samuel Habib and Dan Habib, will screen at BNH Stage in Concord, ccanh.com, on Monday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m.

- **The Ride Ahead** (2024) a documentary by Samuel Habib and Dan Habib, will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatres.org, Tuesday, Dec. 3, through Thursday, Dec. 5, at 4 & 6:30 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 6, through Sunday, Dec. 8, at 1:30, 4 & 6:30 p.m.; Monday, Dec. 9, at 4 & 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 10, at 4 p.m.; Wednesday, Dec. 11, and Thursday, Dec. 12, at 4 & 6:30 p.m.
- **Tosca** in an encore broadcast on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at 6:30 p.m. at the Apple Cinemas and 1 p.m. at O'neil and Regal. See fathom-events.com.
- **The Polar Express** (G, 2004) will screen at Chunky's in Manchester, chunkys.com, Friday, Dec. 6, through Thursday, Dec.

19; tickets are on sale now and include regular admission tickets and a ticket that comes with a bell and a Santa cookie. Special screenings include the Monday, Dec. 9, and Monday, Dec. 16, 5:30 p.m. which include a visit from Santa Claus, and the Wednesday, Dec. 11, screening at 11:30 a.m., which is sensory-friendly.

- **Hundreds of Beavers** (2024) will screen at NHTI Sweeney Hall in Concord on Friday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m. Admission costs \$10.
- **My Neighbor Totoro** (G, 1988) Saturday, Dec. 7, through Wednesday, Dec. 11, at Apple Cinemas in Hooksett and Merrimack, O'neil in Epping, AMC Londonderry, Cinemark in Salem and Regal Fox Run in Newington. Not all the-

aters will screen all days; see website for times and for a breakdown of which screenings are dubbed or subtitled. See fathomevents.com.

- **The Magic Flute**, an encore broadcast of The MET: Live in HD, will screen at BNH Stage in Concord, ccanh.com, on Saturday, Dec. 7, at 1 p.m.
- **Matisse: From MoMA and Tate Modern** (2014) on Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 1:30 p.m. at the Park Theatre (19 Main St., Jaffrey, theparktheatre.org, 532-9300).
- **Aida**, a broadcast of The MET: Live in HD, will screen at BNH Stage in Concord, ccanh.com, on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 12:30 p.m.

## COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

### Venues

**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

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

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

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

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

**Murphy's Taproom** 494 Elm St., Manchester, scampscomeidy.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

**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

• **Brian Glowacki** Music Hall Lounge, Wednesday, Nov. 27, 5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

• **Dave Russo and Friends** Fulchino Vineyard, Friday, Nov. 29, 6 p.m.

• **Emily Ruskowski's Thanksgiving Leftover Comedy Show** Rex, Friday, Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m.

• **Juston McKinney** Flying Monkey, Saturday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m.

• **Kelly MacFarland** Music Hall Lounge, Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m.

• **Rob Steen** Chunky's, Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m.

• **Jim Bishop** McCue's, Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m.

• **Drew Dunn** Nashua Center for the Arts, Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m.

• **Joey Carroll** Headliners, Saturday, Nov. 30, 8:30 p.m.

• **Tom Cotter** Music Hall Lounge, Sunday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m.

• **Lenny Clarke** Rex, Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.

• **Gary Gulman** Nashua Center for the Arts, Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m.

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◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 6

family's home, how to respond when people talk down to them, work, and college. That means a lot to me.

**Would you want to talk about how important community has been in making the film?**

**DH:** I think film is the most team-oriented creative medium because you have to work with so many talented people to pull it off. We did build a community, you know, as I said, a majority disabled community of creative people to do the film. All of our musicians and people who did the score are all disabled, the animators are disabled, social media manager, our co-producer, our executive producer. So that was really important to us because if Sam was going to tell his story about his own perspective on living as a disabled man, we wanted the whole team to understand that perspective and many of them to have lived it. That was a big part of building community right there but I also think, Samuel, would you say that building community among your mentors, the people like Maysoon and Keith and others, was that also how you would see community-building being important here?

**SH:** Yeah.

**DH:** Yeah. So I think also building this

community of mentors that Samuel could continue to learn from ...

**What are you up to now, Samuel?**

**SH:** I continue to work part time at the Westchester Institute for Human Development doing film work and presentations. The past few years, I've been in college at NHTI, the local community college in Concord, New Hampshire, working toward my liberal arts associate's degree. I have been taking one class a semester and have a 3.0 GPA. So far I have taken Sociology, Cultural Anthropology, Psychology, Contemporary Ethical issues, U.S. History, Social Media Strategy, Mindful Communications, Western Civilization, Geology, Statistics, and Environment and Society. I also joined the student senate club at school. I'm taking this semester off for the film launch, and then I'm planning to attend Southern New Hampshire University, a four-year college. I also had a job last summer at a music venue in New Hampshire called Meadowbrook, scanning tickets. I got to see a bunch of free shows! I'm planning to volunteer at a local performing arts center this fall and winter. Through my film work and the job and volunteer work, I am hoping to make more friends and maybe find a girlfriend. —Zachary Lewis 🐼



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**Concerts**

**Venues**

**Averill House Vineyard** 21 Averill Road, Brookline, 371-2296, averillhousevineyard.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

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

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

**Dana Center Saint Anselm College**, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, tickets.anselm.edu

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

**The Flying Monkey** 39 Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flying-monkeynh.com

**Franklin Opera House** 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, franklinoperahouse.org

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

**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, press-roomnh.com

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

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

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

**SNHU Arena** 555 Elm St., Man-

chester, 644-5000, snhuarena.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**

• **Robert Dionne** Tuesday, Nov. 26, 7 p.m., Majestic

• **Quinn Sullivan** Wednesday, Nov. 27, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's

• **Bearly Dead** (Grateful Dead tribute) Wednesday, Nov. 27, 8 p.m., Rochester Opera House

• **Trans-Siberian Orchestra** Friday, Nov. 29, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.

• **North Village/Soulcolour** Friday, Nov. 29, 6 p.m., Press Room

• **Jane Siberry** Friday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m., Word Barn

• **Truffle Fry**, Nov. 29, 7 p.m., Stone Church

• **Model Airplane** Friday, Nov. 29, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace

• **Four Horsemen** (Metallica tribute) Friday, Nov. 29, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Halley Neal & Sam Robbins** Saturday, Nov. 30, 7 p.m., Stone Church

• **Rock This Town Orchestra** Saturday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m., Rex

• **Morgan James** Saturday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's



Gillian Welch & David Rawlings

• **Heather Pierson Trio** Saturday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m., Park Theatre

• **The Fools** Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Reckoners & Jamie McLean Band** Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m., Press Room

• **Aquanett** (80s tribute) Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m., Lakeport Opera House

• **Magical Mystery Doors** (Beatles/Doors tribute) Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m., Chubb Theatre

• **Aunt Peg/Curmudgeon** Saturday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m., Rochester Opera House

• **Memories of Patsy Cline** Sunday, Dec. 1, 2 p.m., Rex

• **Josee Vachon & Patrick Ross** Sunday, Dec. 1, 2 p.m., Park Theatre

• **Granite State Bell Ringers** Sunday, Dec. 1, 3 p.m., LaBelle Amherst

• **Viva Las Elvis** (Christmas Elvis tribute) Sunday, Dec. 1, 4 p.m., LaBelle Derry

• **Say Darling** Sunday, Dec. 1, 6 p.m., Press Room

• **Songwriter Showcase** Dec. 1, 6 p.m., BNH Stage

• **Fairytale of New York** Sunday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts

• **Rock My Soul Holiday Concert** Sunday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Word Barn

• **The Last Waltz Celebration featuring The The Band**

**Band** Sunday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Chubb Theatre

• **Alisan Porter** Monday, Dec. 2, 7 p.m., Music Hall Lounge

• **Dave Gerard & Truffle Monday**, Dec. 2, 7 p.m., Jimmy's

• **Gillian Welch & David Rawlings** Monday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., Chubb Theatre

• **Vienna Boys' Choir** Tuesday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., Colonial

• **Highway to the Ranger-Zone open mic night with Andrew North and the Rangers** Wednesday, Dec. 4, 6 p.m., BNH Stage

• **Mr. Sun Plays Duke Ellington's Nutcracker** Wednesday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m., Word Barn

• **Headhunters** Wednesday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's

• **Ari Hest** Thursday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m., Flying Goose

• **Symphony NH** Thursday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m., Rex

• **Beates vs. Stones** Thursday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m., Colonial

• **Frank Black** Thursday, Dec. 5, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace

• **Kat & Brett Holiday Show** Friday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m., Word Barn

• **The Cartells** Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Concord City Auditorium

• **Mairead Nesbitt & Jordan Tyrell-Wysocki Trio** Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., BNH Stage

• **John Denver Christmas** Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Lakeport Opera House

• **Sean Heeley's Celtic Christmas** Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts

• **Pink Talking Fish** (Pink Floyd/Talking Heads/Phish tribute) Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey

• **Grand Funk Railroad** Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Chubb Theatre

• **Tim McCoy Rock Quartet/Creatures/Them** Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., Stone Church

• **Gary Hoey** Friday, Dec. 6, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Griffin House** Saturday, Dec. 7, 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., Music Hall Lounge

• **In This Moment** Saturday, Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m., SNHU Arena

• **Top of the World** (Carpenters tribute) Saturday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m., Chubb Theatre

• **Dustbowl Revival** Saturday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m., Word Barn

• **Lakes Region Symphony Orchestra** Saturday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m., Colonial

• **Roomful of Blues** Saturday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m., BNH Stage

• **Scott Spradling Band** Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., Rex

• **Sean Healey's Celtic Christmas** Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts

• **Taylor Hughes/Rebecca Turmel** Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., Park Theatre

• **Carbon Leaf** Saturday, Dec. 7, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Diaspora Radio: The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill** Saturday, Dec. 7, 9 p.m., Press Room

• **Horszokowski Trio** Sunday, Dec. 8, 1:30 p.m., Park Theatre

• **Nefesh Mountain** Sunday, Dec. 8, 2 p.m., Rex

• **New Hampshire Gay Men's Chorus** Sunday, Dec. 8, 3 p.m., BNH Stage

• **Holiday Pops** Sunday, Dec. 8, 4 p.m., LaBelle Derry

• **Capitol Jazz Orchestra** Sunday, Dec. 8, 4 p.m., Chubb Theatre

• **Eileen Ivers** Sunday, Dec. 8, 5 p.m., Colonial

• **Joe Pino Quintet** Sunday, Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m., Press Room

• **MUSE: A Salute to Holiday Divas** Sunday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m., Music Hall Lounge

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 48

Hanno is enslaved and sold to Macrinus (Denzel Washington), who sees the spark of a promising gladiator in him. He brings Hanno into his training school, promising him that if he is successful, Macrinus will see that Hanno gets a chance to kill Acacius.

Meanwhile, Acacius returns to Rome and the very petulant club kids who are the twin Emperors Geta (Joseph Quinn) and Caracalla (Fred Hechinger). They tell him to buckle up for their big plans to conquer India and Persia. When Acacius gets home, he sighs to his wife that these doofuses are the worst (paraphrasing). Surprise! — his wife is Lucilla (Nielsen), sister to Joaquin Phoenix's Commodus in the first movie, who is still trying to be the adult in the room through a series of addled emperors and regain the “dream of Rome.” Never once will you think to your-

self “hey, what became of Lucilla’s kid from the first movie” because the movie makes it instantly pretty clear what became of him and retcons some extra action for his character that felt very *The Rise of Skywalker* (not complimentary).

Lucilla and her dumb “dream of Rome” plans and Acacius and the various senators (including one played by Derek Jacobi, the other one of the I think only two actors to return from the first movie) and even Hanno and his revenge are all very small potatoes compared to the big, velvet-covered hamery of Denzel Washington. His character is all-singing, all-dancing robes and jewelry awesomeness. At first he’s presented as just another guy on the come-up, trying to take money from the elite of Rome. But then we find out that he has — successfully — been playing a much longer, somewhat lunatic

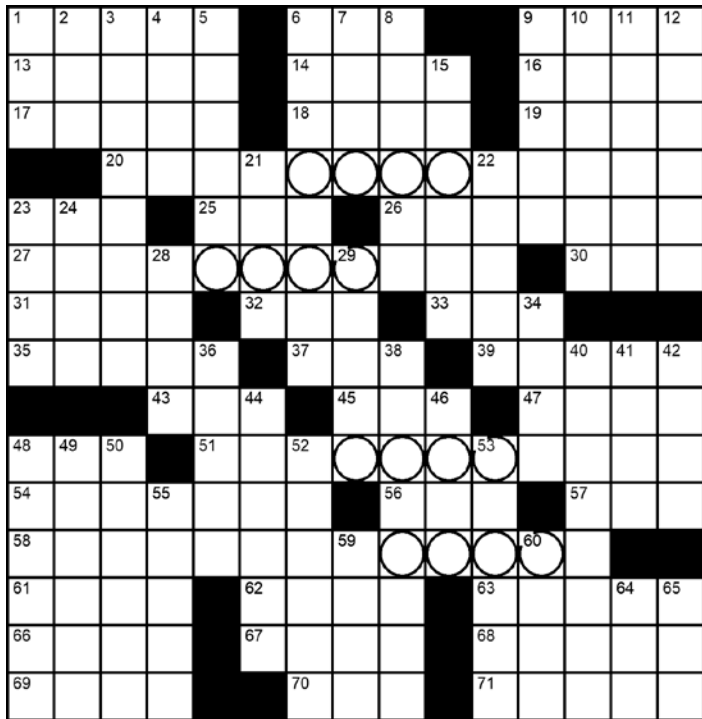
game. And Washington is eating all of this up with absolute relish, having a total blast whether he’s trying to sell Hanno on the benefits of the gladiator career path or waving around a severed head in front of a horrified senate.

Washington doing his Denzel Washington laugh while shmoozing the movers and shakers — chef’s kiss. The movie when he’s not around: a bunch of “thinking about the Roman Empire” mush that doesn’t even keep its logic together with itself, much less actual Roman history. To be clear, I am not looking for accuracy with the timeline here, but I am looking for characters’ motivations to make sense from scene to scene. It’s like in this two-and-a-half-hour meander around the greater Rome metropolitan area the movie itself forgets who is on whose side and why. And through it all, characters — from

the gladiators in the Colosseum green rooms to Lucilla’s whole personal drama — will not shut up about the long dead Maximus, which helps (along with some lackluster battles and general “I’ve got your echoes in eternity” retreading of story details) to make everything feel like a flatter, duller copy of the first movie. A for Washington, C for everything else, so, like **B-**

*Rated R for strong bloody violence including one very silly laugh-out-loud moment during the end, according to the MPA on filmratings.com. Directed by Ridley Scott with a screenplay by David Scarpa, Gladiator II is two hours and 30 minutes long and is distributed by Paramount Pictures* 🍷

# "Whole Grains"— wordplay that's good for you.



**Across**

- 1. No longer dangerous
- 6. Cut (down)
- 9. "Take \_\_\_ from me ..."
- 13. Pizza topping, technically
- 14. "Lucky Jim" novelist Kingsley
- 16. Salacious
- 17. True to a cause
- 18. "Archer" character Kane
- 19. Night, at the Musée
- 20. 2002 Disney title duo
- 23. "Much \_\_\_ About Nothing"
- 25. 1960s TV Tarzan Ron who died in 2024
- 26. "Didn't see you there!"
- 27. Almost there
- 30. Kyoto currency
- 31. Think ahead
- 32. Title for Galahad or Guinness
- 33. Singer Sumac
- 35. Place to get the highlights?
- 37. Statute
- 39. Make happy
- 43. Grass roll
- 45. Brain activity meas.
- 47. Volunteer's offer
- 48. Abbr. in many Black church names
- 51. '70s sitcom character always talking about "the big one"
- 54. 1930s world heavyweight champion whose son was on "The Beverly Hillbillies"
- 56. Mid-afternoon drink
- 57. High points
- 58. Terrain that's tough to predict, or a representation of the circled letters
- 61. "Monsieur Hulot's Holiday" writer Jacques

- 62. Cold cuts shop
- 63. Out of style
- 66. Ht. above sea level
- 67. Aspiring DA's exam
- 68. Greek salad item
- 69. Mineral deposit
- 70. U.S. Election Day, e.g.
- 71. Command to an attack dog

**Down**

- 1. Gallaudet University subj.
- 2. Confucian principle
- 3. Support small businesses, perhaps
- 4. Berry in a bowl
- 5. Former Fed head Janet
- 6. Kuala Lumpur's country
- 7. Muscat's country
- 8. Schedule space, metaphorically
- 9. "L.A. Law" character Becker
- 10. Without slack
- 11. Christmas tree decoration
- 12. Slithering constrictor
- 15. Strut about
- 21. Former American automaker
- 22. Herb in stuffing
- 23. Hooded vipers
- 24. "3 Feet High and Rising" group \_\_\_ Soul
- 28. Hawaiian mackerels
- 29. Took a curved path
- 34. Arabic alphabet starter
- 36. Jack Sprat's dietary rule
- 38. Experiment area
- 40. Word that forms a retronym when appearing before "guitar"
- 41. Baseball field cover
- 42. Concludes
- 44. Hanukkah toy nobody actually plays with, spelled more Yiddishly
- 46. Earth goddess of Greek mythology
- 48. Beer brand from Holland
- 49. Hawaiian "thank you"
- 50. Left
- 52. Jim Varney's movie series alter

- ego
- 53. South African restaurant chain known for peri-peri chicken
- 55. Pantothenic acid, in a vitamin complex
- 59. Actress Summer of "Firefly"
- 60. "Giraffe in Flames" painter
- 64. Brink of a holiday
- 65. FDR or JFK

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THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

**EASY**

|    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|
| 7+ |    | 1- |    |
| 3+ | 1- |    | 1  |
|    | 6× |    | 1- |
| 4  | 2÷ |    |    |

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**CHALLENGING**

|     |     |     |     |     |    |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| 20× |     |     | 11+ | 12× |    |
| 3÷  | 12× | 3   |     |     | 5- |
|     |     | 10+ |     |     |    |
| 3   | 3+  |     | 72× | 5-  | 1- |
| 4-  | 2   |     |     |     |    |
|     | 1-  |     | 2   | 12× |    |

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**RULES**

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

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

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

**PREVIOUS ANSWERS**

|    |   |   |   |    |   |
|----|---|---|---|----|---|
| 7+ | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3+ | 2 |
| 3  | 3 | 2 | 4 | 1  |   |
| 2÷ | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3  |   |
|    | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4  |   |

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**WORD★Roundup™**  
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

**Find and Circle...**

- The Monkees (last names)
- Three punctuation marks
- CD: \_\_\_\_\_
- Two General Motors brands
- Two neighboring countries

Last Week's Answers: SALISBURY SIRLOIN FLANK SKIRT CHUCK ROUND CUBE / JOHN PAUL / HOTEL MOTEL / IRELAND ITALY / JUPITER SATURN

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2/15

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T | M | P | E | R | I | O | D | N | W | L | G |
| C | O | M | M | A | L | S | A | H | P | M | H |
| Z | C | R | J | T | E | T | I | N | D | I | A |
| N | V | H | K | N | S | R | B | U | I | C | K |
| E | R | B | O | I | N | E | S | M | I | T | H |
| L | Q | J | K | H | Y | P | H | E | N | N | Z |
| O | J | A | C | H | E | V | R | O | L | E | T |
| D | P | D | I | S | C | O | M | P | A | C | T |

# Home studios

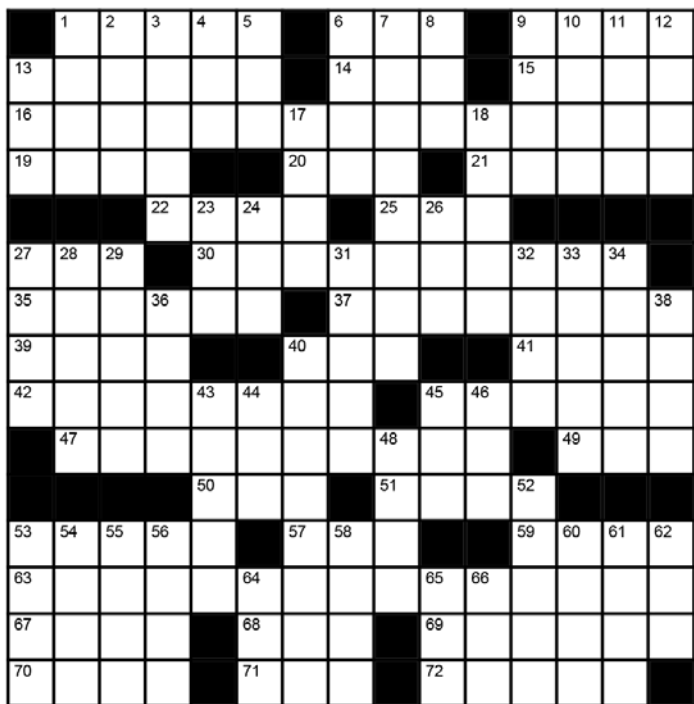
**Across**

1. Dance under a horizontal bar without falling
6. Arctic Monkeys ‘\_\_ Wanna Know’
9. Silver guitar neck feature
13. Replacements got one good ‘\_\_ Thunder’
14. Frank Sinatra ‘\_\_ Tide’
15. Performances Ashley Simpson may fake
16. Ramones “Twenty-four hours to go” song
19. Jack Vidgen said ‘\_\_ Am’ when asked
20. ‘Here With Me’\_\_ Speedwagon
21. ‘Hello, This Is Joannie’ Paul
22. Italian singer for zilch
25. Size of rapper Kim
27. Part of ‘Losing My Edge’ band, w/Soundsystem
30. Andrew Wood band \_\_ Bone
35. ‘No One’ pianist/singer Keys
37. \_\_ Rock And Roll To Me
39. Flinstones pet-inspired ‘24/7’ guy
40. Maggie’s last name, to Beatles
41. James Arthur “All I want \_\_ fly with you”
42. Concert photograph
45. Neal McCoy ‘The \_\_ A Dying Breed’
47. ‘Happy Together’ band

49. ‘Out Of Range’ DiFranco
50. Might plug into a Fender one
51. Bus driver: “We have to step \_\_!”
53. Airtight David Gray song that uses a cover story?
57. Irish band for actor Holbrook
59. Beastie Boys’ Yauch
63. James Brown Rocky IV song for Apollo Creed’s entrance
67. Like affordable guitar from someone else
68. Smashing Pumpkins ‘Once \_\_ While’
69. Elle King ‘Ex’s \_\_’
70. 30 Seconds To \_\_
71. Guitar pioneer/maker Paul
72. Flaming Lips’ Wayne

5. Porcupine Tree ‘Fear \_\_ Blank Planet’
6. Not Twisted Sister’s Snider, but ‘Groove Is In The Heart’ band \_\_-Lite
7. Outdated Fear Factory album?
8. Fall Out Boy “Who will \_\_ when I wake up next to a stranger”
9. Rapper Flavor \_\_
10. ‘All Time High’ Coolidge
11. What some tours might not “break”
12. Media guy Turner and ‘Cat Scratch Fever’
13. Like self-reliant bands (abbr)
17. Rude star that has to wait in line might act like one
18. PC computers used by some bedroom songwriters
23. U2 “Why \_\_ walking away?”
24. Vancouver punks that died on the way to the hospital?
26. Prominent 80s label that will provide Form 1040?
27. Libertines asked ‘What Became Of The Likely \_\_’
28. Jazz composer/actor Eastwood

29. “\_\_, blow your horn!”
31. ‘Cry Love’ John
32. Singer Day in Animal House
33. Buena \_\_ Social Club
34. ‘Too Low For Zero’ John
36. ‘Every Waking Moment’ Citizen \_\_
38. 8-track cassette quality (hyph)
40. ‘Yes’ Boston band with bass, sax and drums
43. Red Hot Chili Peppers got a ‘Purple \_\_’ on their shirt
44. Illinois band that sings w/closed lips?
45. Composer Bernstein (abbr)
46. Pearl Jam “I wonder everyday \_\_ look upon your face”
48. Kinks “And in a dark brown voice she said \_\_”
52. Like late for showtime
53. Former members are band’s this
54. “Left Eye” Lopez of TLC
55. ‘For Emma, Forever Ago’ Bon \_\_
56. Estate auction actions
58. Silverchair ‘\_\_ Song (Open Fire)’
60. The Belmonts leader
61. Be in pain, post-show
62. Nelly Furtado ‘Mi Plan’ song that means more in Spanish
64. ‘Bat Macumba’ Gilberto
65. Garageband is on this computer
66. Producer/artist Brian that worked w/Laurie Anderson



**Down**

1. ‘(What’s So Funny ‘Bout) Peace, Love, & Understanding’ writer Nick
2. Melody Gardot ‘Your Heart \_\_ Black As Night’
3. Will Smith “Here come the \_\_ Black”
4. Repeated word in Soul Coughing single

**R&R answer from pg 40 of 11/21**



**Jonesin’ answer from pg 39 of 11/21**



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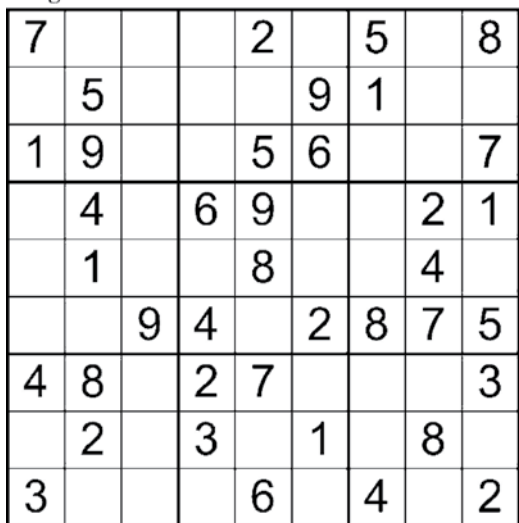
Todd’s new book Rock and Roll Crosswords Vol. 1 is available now on Amazon.

**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 53.

**King Classic Sudoku**

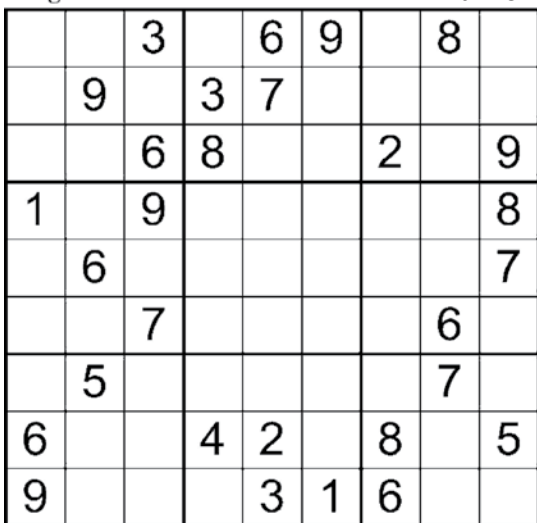
**Puzzle A**



Difficulty: ★

**King Classic Sudoku**

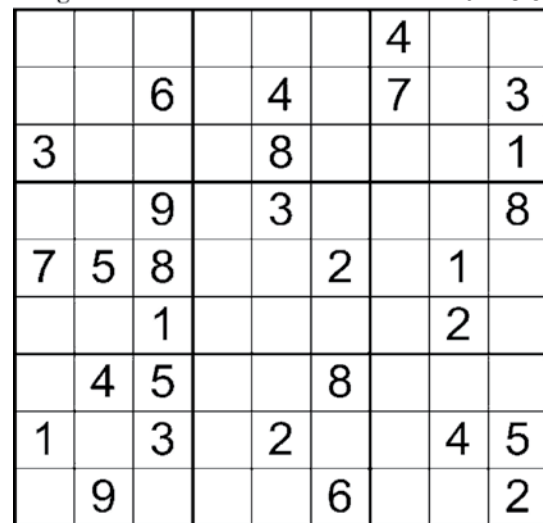
**Puzzle B**



Difficulty: ★★★

**King Classic Sudoku**

**Puzzle C**



Difficulty: ★★★★★



**SIGNS OF LIFE**

All quotes are from *Fäviken*, by Magnus Nilsson, born Nov. 28, 1983.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** Many chefs think pan-frying is the simplest way to cook things, but it is not. Think again.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** A very long time ago, a huge cow stood licking a block of ice in Ginnungagap, the yawning void before the universe was made. Moo.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** If it tastes good, it is right, and if it doesn't taste good, try again. Simple.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** This little ritual of talking to everyone and interacting with the guests serves two purposes: the first is making people feel relaxed and at home, and the second is gaining feedback. Two for one.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** When cooking the way I describe, it doesn't matter whether a spoon contains 8 or 14 millilitres, just pick a spoon that seems right and go for it. Go for it.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** I am planning to go for a little ski in the forest. In summer this would usually be to pick something for the restaurant, but at this time of year it is mostly to get out, to think. A little ski can help a lot.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** There is ... always at least one dish on the menu that contains one or more vegetables as the main attraction. Preferably more.

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** ... I have always tried to become a little bit better at what I do every time I do it, regardless of whether it is a small thing, such as how best to clean a stainless-steel work surface, or a significant thing such as roasting a whole bird or peeling a carrot. A little is a lot.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** We organize the gardens in what we feel is the most sensible way to promote excellent quality. Every plant is assigned a new spot every year, following a very strict crop-rotation schedule. Organize for quality.

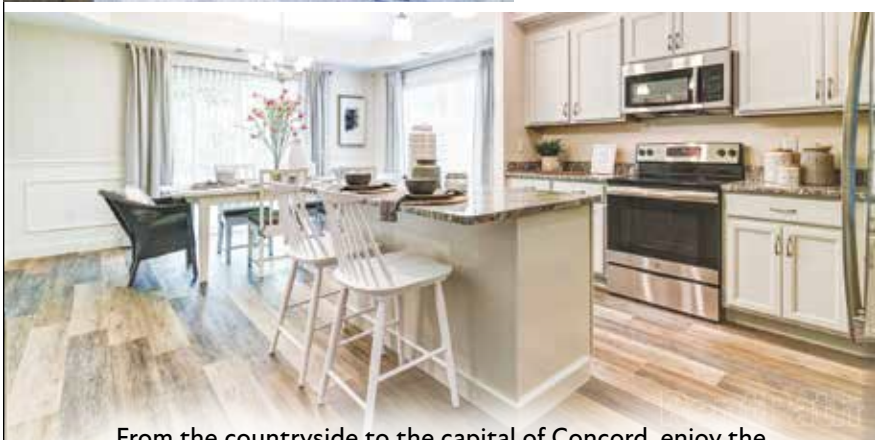
**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** The important idea is not always to do things without compromise, but with thought-through attention and decisions that lead, little by little, towards creating a better result. Little by little.

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** Until four years ago I hadn't grown much more than a few potatoes myself. I see it as an ongoing project [to learn more about] what a really good vegetable looks like, what makes it good.... Ponder the single Brussels sprout.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** *Fäviken Magasinet* is going to be one of the world's great restaurants — at least, it is if I can help it. Perhaps not in the traditional way, but in its own way. The only way to go. 🍷

# Welcome Home to the Greens at Pembroke Phase II

Unique Townhome-style apartment living in Pembroke, New Hampshire



From the countryside to the capital of Concord, enjoy the best of both worlds at The Greens, where the links are just across the street, and the cultural hub of New Hampshire is only 10 minutes away. Tucked amongst the trees next to the Pembroke Pines Country Club, yet conveniently located on Route 3, The Greens offer spacious floor plans, first-floor master bedroom suites, in-home laundry, and garage parking, as well as a fitness center and dog park. Be the first to reside in these new construction apartments!

## 7 LITTLE WORDS

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

| CLUES                  | SOLUTIONS |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 1 European nation (7)  | _____     |
| 2 European nation (8)  | _____     |
| 3 European nation (6)  | _____     |
| 4 European nation (11) | _____     |
| 5 European nation (7)  | _____     |
| 6 European nation (7)  | _____     |
| 7 European nation (11) | _____     |

|     |      |     |      |     |
|-----|------|-----|------|-----|
| IA  | HER  | EE  | TZE  | BUL |
| OVA | RLA  | ICE | DS   | LAN |
| NET | SWI  | GAR | AUST | RIA |
| GR  | LAND | ND  | MOLD | CE  |

Last Week's Answers: 1. DOORBELLS 2. SOUR 3. MOUNTAINEER 4. DOLLAR 5. LAWBREAKER 6. CHARADES 7. CONSTANTLY

## Sudoku Answers from pg 40 of 11/21

**Puzzle A**

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

Difficulty: ★ 11/4

**Puzzle B**

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 11/6

**Puzzle C**

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

Difficulty: ★★★★★ 11/8



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**Suspicion Confirmed**

Customs officials at the Lima, Peru, airport spotted something unusual about a man boarding a flight on Nov. 8, The New York Times reported. The unnamed 28-year-old, a citizen of South Korea, was returning home with a planned stopover in France, but he was notable because of his extremely swollen stomach, officials said. When asked to lift his shirt, he revealed a creepy, crawly cargo: 320 tarantulas, 110 centipedes and nine bullet ants. Each bug had its own plastic bag, all of which were attached to two girdles wrapped around the man's body. The 35 adult tarantulas were each about the size of a human hand. All the bugs are native to the Amazon region of Peru, said Walter Silva, a government wildlife specialist. He added that the discovery was "part of the illegal wildlife trafficking that moves millions of dollars." The tarantulas are on the country's endangered species list. The man was arrested with charges pending. *NY Times, Nov. 16*

**Field Report**

Norwegian fisherman Harald Engen got a message on Nov. 11 that his 32-foot boat's trawl nets had snagged something most unusual, the Anchorage Daily News

reported. Turns out the USS Virginia, a 377-foot nuclear-powered submarine, had been chugging away from Tromso, Norway, with a Norwegian Coast Guard vessel escorting it, when its propellers became entangled with the nets. As a result, the Coast Guard had to cut the nets to free the submarine. They assured Engen that he would be reimbursed for his nets. *Anchorage Daily News, Nov. 18*

**Can't Possibly Be True**

KSNW-TV reported on Nov. 17 that Gina Morgan and her husband, Ronnie, felt double the bad luck when they both struck a deer while driving. Not such a weird occurrence near Wichita, Kansas—but Gina and Ronnie hit the SAME deer while driving in different directions. "We were in two different vehicles, driving in two different directions, and we managed to hit the same deer," Gina explained. "It was just at the point where the sun had gone down." Damage to Gina's car was estimated at \$6,000; Ronnie's car had a push bar, so it sustained less impact. *KSNW-TV, Nov. 17*

**Gimme a Sign**

Transportation workers in Boulder, Colorado, had to go out on Nov. 19 to

take down some "freelance" road signs that had mysteriously appeared in the city, 9News-TV reported. The signs, which appeared in four different locations, warned drivers to "Get Off Your Damn Phone" and "Don't Kill Any Kids Today," along with other messages. Boulder Police spokesperson Dionne Waugh said the signs are professionally made and installed, but officials don't know who put them up. "I'm guessing that it's a concerned citizen that is kind of fed up with the behavior they're seeing in their neighborhoods," said police commander Darren Fladung. He suggested there are more appropriate ways to get those messages out. *9News, Nov. 19*

**Latest Religious Message**

Why settle for a middleman when you can confess your sins straight to Jesus Christ himself? Worshippers at St. Peter's Church in Lucerne, Switzerland, are baring their souls to a hologram Jesus powered by AI, the Daily Mail reported on Nov. 20. And already, at least two-thirds of the people who have received the image's grace have called it a "spiritual" experience. "Though it's a machine, it gave me so much advice," one person said — like, "Your task is not to judge,

but to accompany with love." The AI Jesus can even speak 100 different languages. It was trained at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts using the New Testament. *Daily Mail, Nov. 20*

**Weird Science**

University of Richmond professor and neuroscientist Kelly Lambert has been training rats to drive tiny cars since 2019, the New York Post reported. "Unexpectedly, we found that the rats had an intense motivation for their driving training, often jumping into the car and revving the 'lever engine' before their vehicle hit the road," Lambert said. She and her fellow scientists concluded that the rats' excitement was a Pavlovian response to treats and operating the vehicles — but even when the treats were removed, they were ready to put the pedal to the metal. "They remind us that planning, anticipating and enjoying the ride may be key to a healthy brain," Lambert said. *NY Post, Nov. 17*

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



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Thurs, Feb 13th, 7:30pm



**ELLIS PAUL**  
Thurs, Feb 27th, 7:30pm



**AZTEC TWO STEP 2.0**  
Thurs, Mar 6th, 7:30pm



**BRITTANY MOORE**  
Thurs, Mar 20th, 7:30pm



**WILLY PORTER &  
TOM PIROZZOLI**  
Thurs, Mar 27th, 7:30pm



**LONESOME ACE  
STRING BAND**  
Thurs, Apr 3rd, 7:30pm



**SAM ROBBINS**  
Thurs, Apr 10th, 7:30pm



**GARNET ROGERS**  
Wed, Apr 23rd &  
Thurs, Apr 24th, 7:30pm



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**TAB BENOIT**

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 13 | 8:00 P.M.



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