

the Hippo

JANUARY 23 - 29, 2025

VOTE! BEST OF 2025



SEE PG. 3

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

FREE

Winter Creations

THE ART OF ICE SCULPTURE
PLUS A LOOK AT CONCORD'S
WINTER FEST

INSIDE: HIPPO'S WEDDING SECTION P.14

FREE JUNK CAR REMOVAL!
We will pay up to \$600
for some cars and trucks.



HELP WANTED!

55 Hall Rd.
Londonderry
425-2562

Please mention this Hippo ad

WE SELL PARTS!

Early Detection Saves Lives

FREE local Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening



Call Equality Health Center
603-225-2739



News and culture weekly serving Metro Southern New Hampshire
Published every Thursday
(1st copy free; 2nd \$1).
195 McGregor St., Suite 325,
Manchester, N.H. 03102
P 603-625-1855 F 603-625-2422
hippopress.com
email: news@hippopress.com



ON THE COVER

10 In this week's cover, Zachary Lewis takes a look at that very wintry art, ice sculpture. He talks to a few of the sculptors ahead of this weekend's Concord, NH Winter Festival, which features ice sculpture as one of its main events. On the cover and above, David Barclay is sculpting in a photo from Intown Concord from a previous Winter Fest.

ALSO ON THE COVER, It's the fun kind of voting — voting for pizza! Voting for salons that do awesome nails! Voting for a place to ski now that we finally have snow! Go vote in Hippo's Best of 2025 readers' poll at hippopress.com.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

NEWS & NOTES

4 NEWS IN BRIEF

6 Q&A

7 SPORTS

8 QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

9 THIS WEEK

WEDDINGS

14 HIPPO'S WEDDING SECTION

THE ARTS

18 SOUNDS OF CONTRADANCE

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

19 KIDDIE POOL

Family fun events this weekend.

20 TREASURE HUNT

There's gold in your attic.

20 CAR TALK

Automotive advice.

FOOD

22 WEEKLY SPECIALS Fire & Ice Chili competition; The Halal Spot; Cook with John Fladd

POP CULTURE

24 REVIEWS CDs, books and more. Find film listings on page 30.

NITE

26 BANDS, CLUBS, NIGHTLIFE
Nite Roundup, concert & comedy listings and more.

27 MUSIC THIS WEEK

Live music at your favorite bars and restaurants.

29 COMEDY THIS WEEK

Where to find laughs

30 TRIVIA NIGHTS

Find some friendly competition.

31 CONCERTS

Big-ticket shows.

ODDS & ENDS

21 SUDOKU

32 JONESIN' CROSSWORD

32 KEN KEN, WORD ROUNDUP

33 SIGNS OF LIFE

33 7 LITTLE WORDS

34 NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Join us for SIMULATOR SATURDAYS!

Try our Professional Flight Simulator

included with Aviation Museum admission

Simulator suitable for age 13 and up; more info at aviationmuseumofnh.org

SATURDAYS 1-4 PM

27 Navigator Road, Londonderry • (603) 669 - 4820

H&R BLOCK

Don't stress it this year.

Tax preparation service expertise, no matter how you file

NORTH SIDE PLAZA
Your kind of place!

Cityside Laundromat • Fantastic Sams • Hannaford Supermarket
H & R Block • Mathnasium • NH Liquor & Wine Outlet
Tellica Imaging • Radiant Nail & Spa
Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse • Workout Club

DW Highway North • Manchester • northsideplazanah.com

EDITORIAL

Executive Editor

Amy Diaz
adiaz@hippopress.com

Editorial Design

Jennifer Gingras
hippolayout@gmail.com

Copy Editor

Lisa Parsons
lparsons@hippopress.com

Features Editor

John Fladd, ext. 130
jfladd@hippopress.com

Staff Writer

Zachary Lewis, ext. 123
zlewis@hippopress.com

Contributors

Michelle Belliveau, Jennifer Graham, Henry Homeyer, Chelsea Kearin, Dave Long, Eric W. Saeger, Meghan Siegler, Dan Szczesny, Michael Witthaus

Listings

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

BUSINESS

Publisher

Jody Reese, Ext. 121
jreese@hippopress.com

Associate Publisher

Dan Szczesny

Associate Publisher

Jeff Rapsis
jrapsis@hippopress.com

Production

Jennifer Gingras, Nathan Hoell

Circulation

Ext. 35

Advertising Manager

Charlene Nichols, Ext. 126
cnichols@hippopress.com

Account Executives

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

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

Unsolicited submissions will not be returned or acknowledged and will be destroyed. Opinions expressed by columnists do not represent the views of the Hippo or its advertisers.

VOTE NOW!

Jan 15 -
Feb 28



**BEST OF
2025**



**Scan to
VOTE**

Go to hippopress.com to vote and find the winners of past Best Of polls.

NEWS & NOTES

Birds & frogs

The New Hampshire Audubon's annual Backyard Winter Bird Survey is slated for Saturday, Feb. 8, and Sunday, Feb. 9, and the Audubon will hold a webinar about how to participate in the survey on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 6:30 p.m. Go to nhaudubon.org to sign up to learn how to observe birds and submit data, identify commonly confused bird species and more, according to the Audubon's newsletter. Instructions for participating in the count are also available on the website, the newsletter said.

The Massabesic Center in Auburn will also offer a Backyard Winter Bird Survey Practice Walk on Monday, Jan. 27, at 9 a.m. The event is free but RSVP online.

In the newsletter the NH Audubon also introduced its newest animal ambassadors: Northern Leopard Frog tadpoles. The frogs will have green and spotted skin and be on display at the Audubon's centers, the newsletter said.

Volunteers & games

The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (27 Navigator Road, Londonderry, 669-4877, aviationmuseumofnh.org) will hold a volunteer open house on Wednesday, Feb. 5, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. for those interested in volunteering at the museum and its programs, according to a press release. Those interested in attending can call and leave a message or e-mail cbates@nhahs.org.

Or just visit the museum to check out the exhibit of vintage aviation-themed board games, on display for a final weekend, along with the "Holiday Festival of Toy Planes and Model Aircraft," through Sunday, Jan. 26. The museum is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m., the release said.

Class of 2026

Leadership New Hampshire, a program that seeks to help participants "explore critical issues facing the Granite State, gain a deeper

understanding of its regions and communities, and create high-level, statewide connections," is accepting applications for its class of 2026 through March 15. Those selected will participate in a 10-month program, according to a press release.

"Applications are open to anyone who has lived or worked in New Hampshire for at least one year," the release said. See leadershipnh.org to apply or contact Leadership New Hampshire Associate Director Mandy Sliver at mandy@leadershipnh.org for more information.

RIP David Lynch

Celebrate director David Lynch, who died last week, with a screening of his 2001 film *Mulholland Drive* (which is rated R) on Thursday, Jan. 30, at 6:30 p.m. at Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St. in Concord. Lynch received a Best Directing nomination for the film, which he wrote and directed and which stars Naomi Watts. See redrivertheatres.org.

Reed's North in **Warner** will host a seaglass tree workshop on Sunday, Jan. 26, at 4 p.m. Register to learn to make this craft for \$65 per person via Reed's North's Facebook page.

Bella Vita Dance Company will hold a 603 Salsa & Bachata Social at 859 Hanover St. in **Manchester** on Friday, Feb. 14, starting at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 solo admission, \$35 for a couple (\$5 more at the door). Lessons will run until 9 p.m., when the social dance will start. See bellavitadance.com.

Live Free Animal Rescue (livefreerescue.com) will hold its Great Gatsby Furball on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 5 to 10 p.m. at Zorvino Vineyards in **Sandown**. Tickets cost \$125 and include a cocktail, dinner and dessert, according to the website, where you can find a link to purchase.

LaBelle Winery in **Derry** will host a *Yellowstone*-inspired dinner party on Friday, Jan. 31, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. featuring a three-course meal inspired by the TV show as well as games like cornhole and a mechanical bull, according to labellewinery.com, where you can purchase tickets (\$85 per person).

Tickets are on sale now for the Granite Game Summit, a celebration of board games that will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton in **Nashua** with events Thursday, March 6, through Sunday, March 9. Tickets cost \$80 and allow admission for all days (\$35 for kids 13 and under). See granitegamesummit.com.



**Live free and
own your energy**

Solar | Batteries | Generators

GraniteStateSolar.com | (603) 369-4318

57 Ryan Rd, Bow, NH 03304



Female AWAKENING

Let's normalize talking about female pleasure and vaginal treatments

O-Shot[®]

AVIVA

femiWave[™]

MORPHEUS⁸
by INMODE

FORMA V

Women's bodies undergo so many changes as the result of pregnancy, aging and hormonal shifts. At Renew MediSpa we are honored to deliver to you the very best in non-surgical treatment options for a vast array of intimate wellness concerns including:

- Vaginal Laxity
- Vaginal Pain
- Decreased Libido
- Decreased Sensation
- Difficulty with Orgasm
- Lichen Sclerosus
- Labia Enlargement
- Urinary Incontinence



Scan the QR Code
to learn more!

Save 30%
Model Call Limited Time



Dr. Lisa Vuich
Expert Injector, Laser Specialist



Southern New Hampshire's Premier Medispa since 2006
603-931-4345 | RenewMediSpa.com



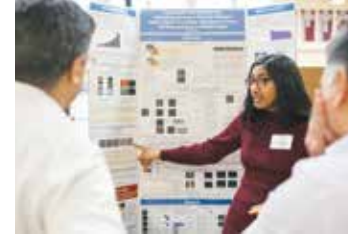
Science fair pair

Middle and high school students show their skills

The New Hampshire Science and Engineering Exposition Association will be putting on its first middle school science fair in May, in addition to its high school science fair in March. Both fairs will be held at NHTI. Deb Schuh is the president of the organization and her husband, Dana Schuh, is the treasurer. They both spoke to the Hippo about the upcoming science fairs.

Q: How did the science fair come about?

Deb: So, many years ago, actually it was around early 2000 to 2003, there were ... some science teachers. One of them in Milford who was really into



Courtesy photo.

life sciences and bio sciences got together with another couple of teachers and people who were interested in doing a competition. I think someone had a connection to Manchester Community College, they had Manchester Community College run a fair back in 2003. It was mostly Milford and I think Seacoast Technology that played in it. That was sort of the first fair. So it started from then, and it's changed over the years ... it kind of just got started because science teachers wanted to get more involved.

Dana: The name of our organization is, all spelled out, New Hampshire Science and Engineering Exposition Association. The Association is really the group that runs the fair, but the fair is known as Expo....

Why did you all decide to branch out from high school to middle school students as well?

Deb: We have for years been attending the New Hampshire Science Teachers Association conferences, usually twice a year, and we hear a lot from middle school teachers. ... we clearly hear that there's an excitement at that age group for kids to start to participate in science, the teachers have looked for it. We want kids to have gotten into the sciences when they're a little bit younger and it's a cool thing to do ... Get that pipeline going a little earlier when the kids think it's fun and interesting. There's a lot of excitement at that age.

What sorts of projects or experiments do you expect to see in the middle school science fair as well as the high school one?

Deb: We went to one a couple years ago, I guess it was last year.... They had one that was fifth- and sixth-graders and they're doing things that play with gravity or play with growing something or how things move in general. It can be a little bit phys-

ics-oriented, like what you can do with water or what you can do with falling water and how things in the world react. So those, they're a little simpler, but they're sort of fun. ... When you get to high school, we have a complete range. We have plenty of projects

that if you're not a judge and qualified in that area, you can't even understand it. So it's very high level. There are high school students that are producing college-level projects. They are looking at photosynthesis and how that can help purify water, that kind of thing. They're looking at environmental studies. They're looking at biotech. ...

Dana: Well, I was just going to say, one of the things that's sort of reinforcing that it's fun is we have many judges that have been coming for over a decade, year after year, because they enjoy the event so much. These are judges from the schools, these are judges from industry, these are just people that love seeing the young kids showing their stuff with enthusiasm and nervousness.

Why is it important for younger kids to get involved in the STEM field?

Deb: It's kind of the same when you think about the big push for robotics. We

CONTINUED ON PG 31 ►

2025 New Hampshire Science and Engineering Expo

High School

When: Thursday, March 20

Where: NHTI Concord's Community College, Dr. Goldie Crocker Wellness center, 19-23 Institute Drive, Concord
Registration deadline for participants is Sunday, Feb. 9

Middle School

When: Thursday, May 22

Where: NHTI Concord's Community College, Concord
Registration deadline for participants is Tuesday, April 15, with final forms due by Sunday, April 27.

More: nhsee.org

Experience Alaska

at Holland America Line's 2025
On Stage Alaska® Travel Show



Space is
limited, so
register
today!



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025 • 6:00 PM

SHERATON NASHUA

11 TARA BOULEVARD • NASHUA, NH 03602

Book your 2025 or 2026 Alaska cruise or cruisetour
through AAA Travel and receive special bonuses¹ including:

- ◆ Up to \$75 Onboard Credit² per person on Alaska cruises
- ◆ Up to \$50 Onboard Credit³ per person PLUS up to \$50 per person³ in Denali Dollars on Alaska cruisetours
- ◆ Additional \$50 in Denali Dollars⁴ per person when you upgrade to a Denali Suite in Denali on an Alaska cruisetour
- ◆ \$25 CAD in Dawson Dollars⁵ per person when you book a Yukon cruisetour
- ◆ \$25 deposit⁶ per person on select sailings/cruisetours, and much more!

Register and learn more at AAA.com/OnStageAlaska

CALL: 603.669.0101

VISIT: AAA Travel

560 South Willow St., Manchester, NH

*Applies to all Alaska cruises (7-14 days in length) and cruisetours; Onboard Credit (OBC) and Denali Dollars are in U.S. dollars, are non-refundable, non-transferable, have no cash value, expire at the end of that cruise and may not be used in the casino, apply to new 2025 and 2026 bookings only and are available to first and second guests sharing a stateroom only. Combines with standard groups, select promotional fares and AMEX cardholder promotions. Not combinable with concessioned groups, Cruise Night or US promotions. Not applicable to third and fourth guests. All bookings and upgrades must be deposited or paid for within the applicable OSA booking window of January 9 - April 6, 2025 for cruise & cruisetour bookings. ¹Cruise Only OBC: OBC amount is based on stateroom category booked and length of voyage. 7-day cruises receive: Inside: \$1750 per person (maximum \$55 per stateroom); Outside View: \$75 per person (maximum \$50 per stateroom); Verandah: \$750 per person (maximum \$75 per stateroom) and Suites: \$50 per person (maximum \$40 per suite); 14-day cruises receive: Inside: \$25 per person (maximum \$50 per stateroom); Outside View: \$3750 per person (maximum \$75 per stateroom); Verandah: \$50 per person (maximum \$30 per stateroom) and Suites: \$75 per person (maximum \$50 per suite); Alaska cruisetours: OBC and Denali Dollar amount is based on stateroom category booked and type of cruisetour. Denali cruisetours 00-00 receive \$25 in Denali Dollars per person (maximum \$50 per stateroom) plus the following OBC: Inside and Ocean View: \$25 per person (maximum \$55 per stateroom); Verandah: \$1250 per person (maximum \$75 per stateroom) and Suites: \$50 per person (maximum \$30 per suite); Yukon cruisetours 01-05 receive \$40 in Denali Dollars per person (maximum \$30 per stateroom) plus the following OBC: Inside and Ocean View: \$25 per person (maximum \$50 per stateroom); Verandah: \$750 per person (maximum \$75 per stateroom) and Suites: \$50 per person (maximum \$30 per suite). Upgrade to a Denali Suite Offer: Applicable to Alaska cruisetours only. Maximum \$100 Denali Dollars per suite. Offer is capacity-controlled and may be modified or withdrawn without prior notice. Upgrade must be purchased during the OSA promotion window to receive the additional Denali Dollars. Other restrictions may apply. ²\$25 CAD Dawson Dollars Offer: Applicable to Yukon cruisetours 01-05 only. Maximum \$50 CAD per stateroom. Applies to all stateroom categories. Dawson Dollars are in Canadian currency, are non-refundable, non-transferable and have no cash value. \$25 per person deposit. Applies to passenger one and two only on Alaska cruise only and cruisetour itineraries. Bookings made on voyages requiring immediate final payment are not eligible for refund deposit. Contact your AAA Travel Advisor for full terms and conditions. Offers are capacity-controlled and may be modified or withdrawn without prior notice. Other restrictions may apply. **Unless otherwise indicated:** Rates quoted are accurate at time of publication & are per person, based on double occupancy. Rates, terms, conditions, availability, itinerary, taxes, fees, surcharges, deposit, payment, cancellation, terms/conditions & policies subject to change without notice at any time. (Cruise rates capacity controlled. Advance reservations through AAA Travel required to obtain Member benefits & savings, which may vary based on departure date. Rates may be subject to increase after full payment for increases in government-imposed taxes or fees & supplier-imposed fees. Blackout dates & other restrictions may apply. Not responsible for errors or omissions. Your local AAA club acts as an agent for Holland America Line. Call 1-800-832-8323 to learn how we assist and use your information, visit the privacy link at AAA.com. ©2025 Auto Club Services, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

WE ARE Alaska
Holland America Line®
SHARE THE JOURNEY

Great day for Manchester



The Big Story – OSU's Big Day: Monday was a great day for former Central High quarterbacks **Ryan Day** and **Chip Kelly** as they led Ohio State to a 34-23 win over Notre

Dame for the college football championship. They're the first locals to win a national championship since Concord's **Matt Bonner** won the NBA title in 2013-14 with the San Antonio Spurs. Congrats, fellas.

Sports 101: **Travis Kelce** (172) now has a sizable lead over **Jerry Rice** (151) for most catches in playoff history. Who are the three guys who round out the top five?

News Item – Celtics Play-By-Play Guy Drew Carter Drools Over Jayson Tatum Feat: Good god, young fella, pump the homer-ism brakes on Tatum climbing the list of the highest point totals by the age of 27. Journalists are supposed to give context, not drool. **Wilt Chamberlain, Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Oscar Robertson, Jerry West, Elgin Baylor and Bob McAdoo** didn't have two *gigantic* advantages Tatum's era has. Those guys couldn't enter the league until 22, while for JT it was 19. Plus there was no three-point shot then. Which means JT got a 4,312-point head start. Take that away and he's at 8,628, which isn't even in the top 25. Though many ahead of him also had his advantages.

News Item – Playoff Notes:

Player of the Weekend – Jayden Daniels: The dynamic rookie was the catalyst for Washington's shocking 45-31 upset of 1-seed Detroit by throwing for 299 and two TDs and running for another 51 yards.

Player of the Week II – Saquon Barkley: Ran for yards 205 on 26 carries and two TDs on runs of 78 and 62 yards.

Smartest Decision – Bills Coach Sean McDermott: For taking the FG to make it an eight-point lead over a TD on fourth and 1 with 3:29 left like most automaton analytics followers of the day. Because when Baltimore couldn't convert the two-point try to tie it at 1:33 the sure-thing FG won the game.

Turnovers Kill – Lesson 22,015: All the stats went to Baltimore. But they lost three and the Bills had none.

The Numbers:

2 – in **Shaq Mason** and **Joe Thuney**, guards playing in the playoffs for the Chiefs and Texans on Saturday who were shown the door by the offense-line-challenged Patriots.

6 – with two more in Philly's win, league record TD runs of 60 yards plus in one season by Barkley.

100 – percent for sure prediction/boast from **Rex Ryan** he was a shoo-in to become Jets coach for a second time. But not so, as he was out of it before he even got interviewed.

... Of the Week Awards

Thumbs Up – Major League Baseball: For banning Yankees fans/nitwits **Austin Capobianco** and **John Hansen** from all major league parks indefinitely for grabbing **Mookie Betts'** arm and ripping the ball out of his glove on a play down the line in the World Series to "help their team."

Sports 101 Answer: Nos. 3-5 all-time playoff reception leaders are **Julian Edelman** (116), **Rob Gronkowski** (98) and **Tyreek Hill** (96).

Prediction – Next Week NFL:

Buffalo 23-16: Bills finally get by KC thanks to the league laying down the law to the officials to not give KC any more game-changing gift calls.

Washington 27-24: Commanders stay the actual biggest story in D.C. by getting to their first SB since 1992.

Final Thought – Slump or Something Else for Celtics: On Sunday the Celtics were 8-8 in their last 16 games and playing awful basketball. What is the problem? Could be just a slump as guys like **Derrick White** and **Jrue Holiday** are not playing well. Could also be teams adjusted to defending their three-point barrages or the self-satisfied complacency of a one-time champ that doesn't have the hunger. It's likely all of that plays a role. But it's also time to call out the coach for the following:

Always making excuses for players rather than calling them out when they show little effort.

Having no alternative when threes aren't falling besides Tatum and **Jaylen Brown** driving.

Never getting a good shot at the end of a quarter or game. Same thing: Tatum isolates one on one, wastes too much time, then takes a horrible off-balance fade-away that bricks.

Dumb strategy to give two FT's when up by three with seconds left. That cost them Saturday's game vs. Atlanta and gave New Orleans a two-point shot for the win that went in and out on Friday.

An idiotic day-off rest plan, like when **Al Horford** and fragile flower **Kristaps Porzingis** played against the worst team in the league (New Orleans) and then sat the next night vs. Atlanta, who they have trouble against because they kill them on the boards.

In short: **Joe Mazzulla** isn't the only reason but he's killing them.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com. 🐘

Protection for your pride and joy

For the family you'd do anything for, life insurance could mean everything. We can help you find easy, affordable ways to protect their future. Call us today.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there. *



Rene C LeClerc Ins Agency Inc
Rene LeClerc CLU ChFC, President
1100 Hooksett Road, Suite107
www.reneleclerc.com
Bus: 603-668-0009



Dick Lombardi, Agent
1837 Elm Street
Manchester, NH 03104
Bus: 603-623-4675
dick.lombardi.gz15@statefarm.com

State Farm Life Insurance Company (Not licensed in MA, NY or WI)
State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company (Licensed in NY and WI)
Bloomington, IL

2001572

State Farm®

144008

Anxious? Stressed? Overwhelmed?

BEST SELLING
Customer Favorite!

When occasional stress and fear stop you from doing the things you love, it's time to reclaim your life with **AnxioCalm®**, a clinically studied formula that can offer you relief.**

For Adults and Children age 4 & up

Granite State Naturals
Family owned since 1971



AnxioCalm®

Fast-Acting Stress & Anxiety Relief**
Award-Winning Formula

CLINICALLY STUDIED Clinically studied to relieve occasional anxiety, stress, and nervous tension.*

90 TABLETS
DIETARY SUPPLEMENT

FREE Book With Purchase

170 N. State St., Concord, NH
(603) 224-9341 • Open Every Day!

*Relieves occasional anxiety and stress.
**THESE STATEMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN EVALUATED BY THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION. THIS PRODUCT IS NOT INTENDED TO DIAGNOSE, TREAT, CURE OR PREVENT ANY DISEASE.

144711

SOUTHERN NH'S WINTER PLAYGROUND

Lift serviced Snow Tubing on our

BONNEVILLE & SON Family Thrill Hill

– tickets \$35 per person

ONE \$68
GREAT RATE

Saturdays in January!
Includes skiing, snowboarding,
snow tubing, and rentals
\$68 from 3:30-9pm
\$58 from 5:30-9pm
Lesson tips available from
3:30-7:30pm.

BOB GILMAN FUN RACE Sunday, January 26th*

Sign up NOW
*Registration Required



Manchester, NH
Exit 8, I-93

MCINTYRE
SKI AREA

603.622.6159
50 Chalet Way, Manchester, NH
mcintyreskiarea.com

McintyreSkiArea McIntyreSkiAreaManchesterNH

NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

What about “Clear-o-Pathra”?

The results are in. On Monday, Jan. 13, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation announced the winners of this year’s “Name a Plow” contest to find official names for some of its snowplows. “After receiving 975 name suggestions and over 3,000 votes from across the state,” the agency posted on its Facebook page (facebook.com/NHDOT), “we are excited to showcase the ingenuity and humor of our Granite Staters.” The New Hampshire public suggested possible names in one round of voting in December, then chose from a slate of those names in another vote. The winning names were CTRL-SALT-DELETE with 21 percent of the votes, Tomie dePlowa and Live Free and Plow with 15 percent each, followed by Adam Sander and 6 Snow 3 with 13 percent each, The Big Lepowski with 12 percent, and Fritz Plowerbee with 11 percent.

QOL score: +1

Comment: *In its announcement, the NHDOT reminded drivers “to give snowplows plenty of room to work!”*

Cash, boom bang

In cooperation with the New Hampshire Lottery Commission, popular percussion-based band Recycled Percussion surprised students at Charlotte Avenue School in Nashua on Friday, Jan. 17 with a concert. The school was also presented with a check of \$2,500 from the Lottery Commission. According to a Jan. 17 press release from the Commission, “the Charlotte Avenue Elementary School was randomly selected through a New Hampshire Lottery Facebook contest that generated over 800 entries.”

QOL score: +1

Comment: *“Recycled Percussion is known as the original junk rock band and originally formed in Goffstown, NH,” the press release read. “The group performs across the globe using instruments built from recycled materials. Recycled Percussion placed third on season four of America’s Got Talent in 2009 and had a residency in Las Vegas for 10 years.”*

More broadband coverage

As reported by Nashua Ink Link in a Jan.13 online article, New Hampshire is halfway toward meeting its goal to provide broadband service to more than 40,000 unserved or underserved addresses across the state. “The project, part of \$122 million provided to the state for broadband under ARPA’s Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund, must connect a total of 48,016 homes and businesses by the end of 2026,” the article read. In a press release, Taylor Caswell, the Commissioner of the state Department of Business and Economic Affairs, was quoted as saying, “As of Dec. 1, about 28,000 addresses, or 58 percent, now have access to high speed, reliable internet access. This was an historic investment and the results are significant.”

QOL score: +1

Comment: *According to the same press release, “Well over 1,000 miles of fiber was installed, much of it in rural towns, but also places like the summit of Mount Washington, to help operations and communications at the state park and for the meteorologists at the Mt. Washington Observatory.” See nheconomy.com.*

QOL score: 52

Net change: +3

QOL this week: 55

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

Let us know at news@hippopress.com.

THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS

JANUARY 23 AND BEYOND

Friday, Jan. 24

The curtain rises on *Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr.* presented by the Majestic Academy of Youth/Teens (majestictheatre.net) at the Derry Opera House (29 W. Broadway, Derry) tonight through Sunday, Jan. 26. Showtimes are at 7 p.m. tonight; 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25; and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets cost \$12 to \$16.



rypl.org) today from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Love puzzles? This program is for you! You can donate your old puzzle to our puzzles, and take a new one home with you, whether you're just taking a puzzle or leaving one. All are welcome.

Saturday, Jan. 24

Positive Street Art (48 Bridge St., Nashua, 589-9003, positivestreetart.org) will host a reception this evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Artists Michelle Peterson, Laura Zorawovicz, Dei Xhrist and Yasamin Safarzadeh will present a body of work one year in the making. Webs, wool and wood, mostly collected from rural spaces, some from commercial salvage, have been claimed and reworked. This event will include an orchestral performance by NH Philharmonic instrumentalist lead Nicholas So, a sound art piece by Dei Xhrist, and a string figure performance piece.

Friday, Jan. 24

Esperanza Spaulding, one of the greatest jazz bassists playing today, will take the stage at the Nashua Center for the Arts (201 Main St., Nashua, 800-657-8774, nashuacenterforthearts.com) tonight at 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$59 and are available through the Center's website.

Saturday, Jan. 24

There will be a **Puzzle Swap** at the Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, [#### Saturday, Jan. 25](http://der-</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

The **Hooksett Winter Carnival** will take place at the Hooksett Memorial School (5 Memorial Drive, Hooksett, 485-9890, memorial.sau15.net) today from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be entertainment, vendors, snowshoeing, a bonfire with s'mores, a blood drive and more. Visit k16021.site.kiwanis.org/hooksett-winter-carnival.

Sunday, Jan. 26

Japan's famous **Yamato Drummers** will perform at the Chubb Theatre (44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com) this after-

noon beginning at 4 p.m. Tickets start at \$38, through the Capitol Center's website. 🎟️



Save the

Date! Saturday, Feb. 1

Queen City Black Market will be an event focused on the alternative, antique and oddity culture in New Hampshire. It will be held at the Henry J. Sweeney American Legion Post #2 (251 Maple St., Manchester, 623-9145, sweeneypost.org) on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 1 to 8 p.m. The market will pay homage to the alternative, punk, goth, DIY-scene in New Hampshire & New England. "Come join us and 20+ weirdo vendors" with a cash bar and food trucks, said the eventbrite page. Visit eventbrite.com to reserve a spot.

Fly High at 2025 Aviation Summer Camp



at the **Aviation Museum of N.H.**
at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport

Registration **NOW OPEN!**

In-depth look at **all aspects** of aviation
Hands-on activities / Noted guest speakers
Fantastic field trips / Pizza by helicopter

Two-week sessions:

Ages 10-13: June 16-27

Ages 14-17: July 7-18

Ages 10-13: July 28-Aug. 8

Camp runs **Monday-Friday**
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day

Generous financial aid available to cover up to 75 percent of tuition. Call for more info and to apply.

Contact **Nathaniel MacDonald**, Education Director
(603) 669-4820 ext. 405, nmacdonald@nhahs.org



Celebrating Flight!



For complete info and to register: aviationmuseumofnh.org/education/summer-camp

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

144585

Winter Creations

THE ART OF ICE SCULPTURE PLUS A LOOK AT CONCORD'S WINTER FEST

By Zachary Lewis
zlewis@hippypress.com

It is the time of year for ice sculpting and this is not a reference to clearing off the windshield in the morning. Ice sculpting is an art and the people involved in this pursuit are artists.

Jeff Day operates Ice Designs in Plymouth. This business handles all things ice. From sculpture to making the blocks themselves, to delivering ice bars across state lines, Day is in his element in the cold and is in the middle of an ice delivery.

"Right now we're bringing ice to another set of carvers in Maine. We supply ice to Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont to ice sculptors as well as ourselves. I guess I'd say we're the busiest of the ice sculptors in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. We also supply. So if it's not our ice we're carving, someone else is carving our ice, which is cool," Day said.

These cold waters run deep.

"I've been doing it since, I don't know,

I'm going to say like 1993, maybe. So quite a while ago. We're located in Plymouth, New Hampshire. We got a warehouse and big freezers. Our busy season is basically December through March and then we have a lot of outside jobs," Day said.

Day and his company have worked for corporations like Red Bull for snowboard competitions and exhibitions. "So for Red Bull, we've done ice jobs on top of ski mountains for their professional riders. It's cool. We've been blessed. We've done a lot."

In the beginning, the culinary world propelled Jeff into the ice sculpting world.

"I was a chef by trade and I moved right to San Diego. Every Sunday there was at least five sculptures at our brunch. I was like, I don't know, 20 years old. We did carve one in school and once I became a little more proficient as a chef and started being the boss I started doing a little carving on the side. Finally a chef asked me if I could carve something. He asked me if I could carve an eagle. I said, 'How many blocks do you have?' He says three. So, if I have a third block of ice, I made something that I felt represented the eagle well enough. It wasn't great, but like I always say, I made a lot of ugly ones for a while until I got it figured out."

Like a chef using an assortment of cutlery and utensils to craft the perfect dish, an ice sculptor relies on different tools.

"A chainsaw is very much a go-to for us," Day said. "We do chisels. I use chisels a lot. We do have power tools. Basically, they look like drill bits. They're from the milling industry, metalworking. We modify stuff in order to get what we need ... there's a few things out there that are made specific for us, but most of it's taken from other industries. We use grinders with sandpaper, aluminum

oxide sandpaper. And then we have some power tools, some brass and things like that that we put in die grinders."

A die grinder works at high speed. "Like a big Dremel," Day said. "It looks like a drill, but it's really not. It spins at like 25,000 RPMs, and we can plunge with it, and we can carve with it."

Ice Designs does not need to wait for a polar vortex to get blocks of ice.

"We produce our own ice, so we have 16 block makers. The block makers, they're called Clinebell block makers, and they make crystal clear ice. It takes us three days to make two blocks of ice. We have 16 machines that make 64 blocks a week. Each block is about 45 gallons of water and we freeze it from the bottom up."

There is a method to this freezing madness, Day said. "As it freezes, we have a circulator pump, and that pump moves the water around and gets rid of any oxygen that's in the water. And that's what makes it clear and any impurities or anything go to the top of the water."

The water sinks below and all the impurities rise to the top. "So when we cut the top of this off at the end of the three days, we end up with a rectangle, a big block of ice that weighs 300 pounds and is crystal clear." The block is 40 inches tall, 20 inches wide, and 10 inches thick, he said.

Everything beautiful comes from the effervescent ice. "We can take those, like right now we have 70 blocks with us and we're going up here and they're going to build a big ice bar event, so we can stack these blocks and make a 10-foot-tall horse if we want," Day said.

It is hard for Jeff to pick one favorite design over the years especially since Ice sculpture is such a passion for him. "We've done so many, it's been such a good run.

We've done some really cool dragons. I just did a competition last year, I did a dragon. I was pretty psyched about it. People ask if I have a favorite one. I don't know. There's been so many. I just really enjoy it," Day said.

For an installation Day typically pre-makes the pieces to be assembled on site but the sculpture is carved in real time.

"I call it the big project," he said. "And the next morning, the day of the event, I go and I get to carve that into ... a horse or a dragon or an astronaut or whatever the case may be. That's the best because it's the last day, all the other stuff is done and I try to uncover this and make this thing look killer, which is fun. The last day is enjoyable."

Day has the ability to carve and sculpt despite the season and has a few helpers to assemble the frozen magic.

"The weather is always a gamble, so we try to do as much ahead as possible," he said. "I have a huge freezer, a 26-by-36 freezer I can drive a forklift in at my warehouse, and we have two other freezers. ... I have a guy that helps me, Jamie, a high school friend for years, he's a retired police officer. My girlfriend, Holly, she helps me a ton. I have another friend, Alex, that helps out a little, and between them, we can get this all done. We're pretty darn efficient because we have to be."

Those with a passion to sculpt ice into whatever their heart desires just need to ask around to find their path into this world. "Find someone like myself and work for them. I carved ice on the side, like my side hustle for a long time, and I was competing and doing well with that," he said. "I went to Boston and got in with a guy named Steve Rose. Steve Rose and Bill Covitz. Those guys were absolute rock stars and they really humbled me. I worked with those guys a



Ice Sculpture from Eric Knoll. Courtesy photo.

lot and that really was the next step to help me get better at my game. Unfortunately, most of us sculptors are, I would say, 40 and older.”

Eric Knoll is on the younger side of ice sculptors in the world.

“Eric is the youngest guy and he’s got another job so he’s part-time as a side hustle and he’s doing a pretty good job,” Day said about Knoll.

Knoll was turned on to the art of ice sculpture at culinary school.

“I went to Johnson & Wales in Providence, Rhode Island, for culinary and started learning it in college, essentially. I’ve been doing it inside since I learned it. It’s been 15 years and I can’t stop doing it,” Knoll said.

“It actually is no longer taught in culinary school, but when I first learned it, it was for cruise ships and buffets and centerpieces, weddings and stuff like that,” he said.

Ice sculpture was where Knoll found another outlet, besides cooking, for his artistic gift. “I actually didn’t know what ice carving was. The first year I was at college they had a family event on the weekend and I walked by it and I was like, ‘What is this?’ Then I just tried to learn everything I could possibly learn about it. But before that, I mean, I can’t draw. I can’t paint. Am I creative? Absolutely.”

He recalls that one of his first competitions was in Keene, New Hampshire, “which they still have going and I still participate every year since and it’s just part of ice carving in the winter.”

Each competition inspires Knoll to make something different.

“I try to do new ones I haven’t done before at a competition because it’s a place to do it where you can kind of test the limits. You’re usually outside if things work out, the weather is cold enough. So you can do different things that you couldn’t do if the weather wasn’t cold.”

The ocean has been an inspiration. “The very first one I learned was a lighthouse, because obviously we’re in Rhode Island, so sticking with the theme,” he recalled. “But I’ve carved many different themes, different types of sculptures.”

These sculptures have led Eric around the globe. “I’ve gone to the World Championships up in Fairbanks, Alaska, for three years in a row, and that’s a whole different competition on its own. Usually like to stick with the nautical or sea creature theme, just a lot of detail you can do in those sculptures. One year I did a bunch of fish. I think the year before was a bunch of fish in a coral reef. I’ve done an eagle.”

One sea creature is still on his list to sculpt. “There’s an octopus that I haven’t done yet. I actually tried to do it in Keene two years ago and the weather was too warm ... and I was put right on Main Street with



Courtesy photo from Eric Knoll.

no sunshade, so it was just not feasible to pull that sculpture off. So one day, eventually, I will pull off an octopus. In Alaska I’ve done a full underwater scene. There was a shark. There were jellyfish in the sea, two or three other sea creatures on that one as well, but I’ve done a lot of other things. I carved a giant scorpion one year. I’ve done some realistic sculptures as well,” Knoll said.

At the Winter Festival in Concord he tied for first place in 2023 with Michael Legassey and he earned first place in 2019. Knoll is still deciding on what to sculpt for the Festival this year.

“I do not know yet. It really is weather-dependent. I usually wait until like the week before and look at the forecast of the weather to decide what type of design I can do and what type of sculpture. That’s usually how I prepare for a lot of the competitions. You do plan ahead, but you have a backup just in case the weather changes and you can’t actually carve what you’re trying to carve based on how warm or cold it is,” Knoll said.

Ice, unsurprisingly, is quite temperature-dependent. “There’s a lot of techniques involved, so you can actually fuse blocks of ice together or pieces together, but that can only really be achieved at 30 degrees or less or you’ve got to use dry ice and then it’s really messy and it’s not as easy to do as many of those fuses. Cold weather is what we look for in outside competitions.”

Knoll helps put on the Winter Festival with Intown Concord and The Hotel Concord and has been “part of it from the very beginning when it first started. I helped with a big part of planning it and growing it each year.”

Growth is important; the world of ice sculpting may be smaller than you think.

“Yeah, the community of ice carving is very small,” Knoll said. “That’s where I say, yeah, we compete against each other and obviously we’re competitive but we all are there to help each other and learn from each other. We’ll help stack each other’s blocks of ice.... It’s really a whole community and it’s a big team even though it’s a competition.”

AMERICAN JEWELRY & COIN

Cash for Gold, Silver, Platinum.
We buy and sell watches, gold, silver, coins, jewelry, and sports cards.



603-421-7482

515 Daniel Webster Hwy, Unit G, Merrimack

EXCLUSIVE CAT BOARDING

Individualized care in our cozy, stress-free environment.



VOTE
HIPPO
BEST OF 2025

THE CAT’S AWAY LODGE

By Appointment Only
(603) 724-4114 • catsawaylodge.com
117 West Main Street in Hillsboro

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Needle Felt Workshop

With Elaine Farmer

Feb. 8th • 1-4pm • \$45

Claim your spot at:

www.creativeventuresfineart.com



Creative Ventures gallery

411 Nashua Street
Milford NH
603.672.2500



CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Make a life-changing difference for a child in the New Year. Become a CASA.

Visit casanh.org

THE BAKESHOP
~On Kelley Street~



WINNER
HIPPO BEST OF 2024
READERS PICKS

Cakes for your special day

www.thebakeshoponkelleystreet.com

171 Kelley St., Manchester • 624.3500
Wed-Fri 7:30-2 • Sat 8-2 • Sun 9-1 • Closed Mon/Tues

...BUYING...

- Antiques
- Collectibles
- Jewelry
- Silver, Gold
- Complete Estates to Single Items

DONNA
FROM OUT OF THE WOODS

603-391-6550

141333

Celebrate winter

Concord holds its annual Winter Fest

By Zachary Lewis
zlewis@hippopress.com

Winter is definitely here, and what better way to celebrate the season than with a festival filled with an ice sculpture competition, a tour for delicious hot chocolate, and roasting marshmallows over a fire downtown?

“Winter Fest is on its seventh year,” said Jessica Martin, the executive director of Intown Concord, which puts on the event with the Hotel Concord.

“It started as the grand opening of the Hotel Concord. So it’s a partnership between Intown Concord and The Hotel Concord. There’s an ice carving competition, and every year we add different things to it and just see what people like, but the ice carving competition piece has remained the same,” Martin said.

Winter Festival takes place on Friday, Jan. 24, from 3 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 25, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. It’s the perfect place to see ice sculpting in action.

“So with the ice carving competition we reach out to some of New England’s best ice carvers and typically we get between four and six, this year I think we have six confirmed, and they are artists. They work with huge blocks of ice and they use chainsaws and they make art. It’s beautiful. A lot of them, which I always tell people because I think it’s interesting, a lot of them come from a culinary background,” Martin said.

Both Jeff Day and Eric Knoll have culinary backgrounds. “Which is interesting to me,” Martin said. “I would think they’d be chopping wood or something with chainsaws.”

Last year a winter Mickey Mouse was sculpted. There is no telling what artful creations will be brought out of the ice this year. “I think we’ve had people do an owl,



Ice sculpture from previous Winter Fest. Courtesy photo.

I think we had a dragon one, so it was really cool,” Martin said.

Speaking of culinary efforts, there are going to be tasty meals available at Winter Fest.

“This year we’re also including a little bit of a food truck-sustainable component,” Martin said. “We’re going to have quite a few different types of foods for people to try. Everything is pretty hearty and will help people warm up. We’ll have some propane heaters gathered around. We give away free s’mores, so we have fire pits for people to cook the s’mores on.” Food vendors include Batulo’s Kitchen, Bubble Bee Milk Tea, Cali Arepa NH, Canterbury Kettle Corn, Mi Corazon Taqueria, Teenie Wienies, and Wicked Tasty.

“Another thing that’s happening that’s new this year is we’re introducing a hot

CONTINUED ON PG 13 ►

Do You Love Your Hair?

Cut - Color Style only **\$85**

Hairpocalypse BARBERING & COSMETOLOGY
Big city style at a great neighborhood salon

VOTE FOR US HIPPO BEST OF 2024

904 Hanover St. Manchester 627-4301 | Hairpocalypse.com

144607

the **Y** YMCA



MORE THAN A GYM

You deserve **MORE** than just a room filled with weights and treadmills.

At the Y, we believe that true health encompasses body, mind, and spirit. We bring you **MORE** than just a workout. Discover the life-changing benefits of belonging. The Y isn’t just a gym—it’s your home for healthy living!

- **Discover Possibilities** at 4 local branches and YMCAs nationwide
- **Find Strength** in state-of-the-art Wellness Centers
- **Recharge** with supervised fun for kids while you exercise*
- **Stay Active** in cycling studios, basketball courts and gyms
- **Gain Confidence** swimming in indoor and outdoor pools
- **Make Connections** in group exercise classes
- **Receive Support** with personalized wellness coaching
- **Find Flexibility** with financial assistance

*Amenities vary by branch and membership type.

The Granite YMCA | www.graniteymca.org

Get **MORE** now!



144651

Concord Winter Fest

Friday, Jan. 24

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Art & Bloom at the Kimball Jenkins Estate Floral – Designers will be working with art from the Women’s Caucus for Art, NH Chapter. \$10 suggested donation.

3 to 9 p.m. Sponsored ice carvings on Statehouse lawn

Saturday, Jan. 25

10 a.m. pre-event activities in Concord
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Art & Bloom at the Kimball Jenkins Estate
10 a.m. Red River Theatres screens *Happy Feet*, \$5
11 a.m. Ice carving competition starts on

the Statehouse lawn

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ram Axe Throwing
11 a.m. to 4 p.m. McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center and the New Hampshire Astronomical Society: Activity about Europa, the ice moon, and sky viewing

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Darbster Rescue meet & greet with adoptable dogs on City Plaza
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Winter Fest Hot Cocoa Tour at participating downtown coffee shops

1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Wine on Main free wine tasting
3 p.m. ice carving competition ends
3:30 p.m. awards announcement
4 p.m. festival ends

cocoa tour throughout the downtown and people can buy a ticket to that,” she said. “That’s the only paid part of the event. You buy a ticket and you can go sample hot cocoa at five different cafes or coffee shops downtown,” Martin said. (See sidebar.)

Music will help set the festive mood too. “We’re going to have a DJ playing music throughout the day, so it will keep the energy up, and I think that will be a nice addition for this year.”

Some other organizations will be joining in on the fun. “We partner with a lot of other organizations, we don’t have them all confirmed yet, but I know Darbster Dogs will be there so people can come pet the puppies and potentially leave with a new furry friend. Several of the businesses downtown will do things. Wine on Main, for instance, is doing a free wine tasting during our event, that’s inside their store. The Concord Garden Club is doing an event at the same time called Art in Bloom at Kimball Jenkins. So people can come down to Winter Fest, they can do the hot cocoa tour, they

can go to Art in Bloom, they can do a wine tasting, there’s just a ton going on.”

The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center and the New Hampshire Astronomical Society will also have an activity about Europa on Saturday as well as Ram Axe Throwing. Red River Theatres will be showing *Happy Feet* for \$5 per ticket.

The sculpting of the ice takes place on the Statehouse lawn with sponsored ice carving taking place on Friday and the competition on Saturday.

“Most of these festivities happen on Saturday. On Friday, from 3 to 9, they are carving ice, and so people can come look at that if they want, but most of the other stuff that I mentioned is on Saturday. We’re going to have some really great ice carvings for people to see. Some of them will be interactive. Some of them we’ll have opportunities to take photos with,” Martin said. 🍷

The Hot Cocoa Tour

There are few things more comforting in the winter, whether it’s bracingly cold or miserable and drizzly, than a cup of cocoa.

In that spirit this year’s Winter Fest in downtown Concord will feature a hot cocoa tour. Participants will buy a ticket entitling them to a cocoa mug, a cocoa “passport” and cups of cocoa at five participating businesses on Concord’s Main Street during the Saturday of Winter Fest.

Berit Brown, Event and Marketing Manager for Intown Concord, said the cocoa tour is a good way for Winter Fest goes to “warm up after watching ice carving.” Each ticket is good for five cups of cocoa, she said.

These are the five stops on the tour:

Revelstoke Coffee (100 N. Main St., Concord, 715-5821, revelstokecoffee.com)

Brothers Cortado (3-5 Bicentennial Square, Concord, 856-7924, facebook.com/BrothersCortado)

Gibson’s Cafe (45 S. Main St., Concord, 715-5833, gibsonsbookstore.com/cafe)

The Bean and Bakery (15 Pleasant St., Concord, 228-3317, facebook.com/TheBeanandBakery)

TeaTotaler (2 Capital Plaza, North Main Street, Concord, 715-1906, teatallercafe.com)

Brown said this self-guided tour is a good excuse to spend an afternoon with an adult friend. At the same time, “It’s also the sort of thing you think about and say, ‘Ooh! I could bring my kid to that!’” she said.

The Cocoa Tour Passport is your chance

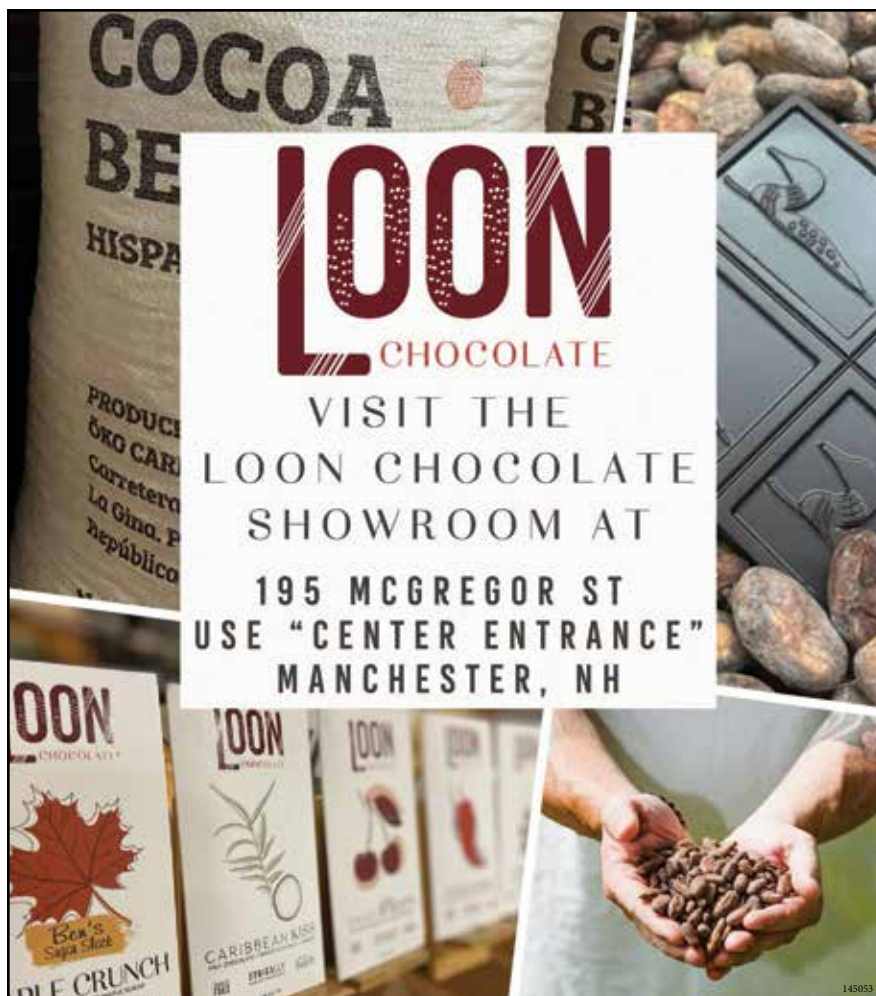
to write down impressions of each cocoa and take tasting notes on “how chocolatey each is, or how it smells, and what your favorites are,” Brown said. “We did a group taste test with some members of Intown Concord and the Chamber, and it struck us that other people could set up their own tasting panel.” — *John Fladd*

Winter Fest Hot Cocoa Tour

Where: five shops on Main Street in Concord

When: Saturday, Jan. 25, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$35 each, which includes a mug, a passport and five hot chocolates. Register for the Tour at members.intown-concord.org. InTown Concord website warns that only 70 mugs will be available, on a first-come-first-served basis. Pick up your mug and passport at the s’mores station at City Plaza during Concord NH Winter Fest between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.



Valentine's Day

DINNER FOR TWO

APPETIZER & SALAD	<i>Scallops Rockefeller on the Half Shell</i>	AND	<i>Burrata & Prosciutto Salad</i>
ENTREES: CHOOSE TWO	<i>Surf & Turf</i>		<i>Halibut Filet</i>
TWO SIDES INCLUDED	<i>Roasted Fingerling Potatoes</i>	AND	<i>Grilled Long Stemmed Artichokes</i>
DESSERT INCLUDED	<i>Petite Flourless Chocolate Torte</i>	AND	<i>Baci Chocolate Truffles</i>

SUGGESTED WINE PAIRINGS (AVAILABLE A LA CARTE)

SURF & TURF: AGUILA CREMANT DE LIMOUX ROSE BRUT LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON, FRANCE

HALIBUT FILET: SCALA CIRO ROSATO CALABRIA, ITALY

CHICKEN OSCAR: PRIMARIUS PINOT NOIR SANS SOUFRE, WILLAMETTE VALLEY, OREGON

DINNER FOR TWO: \$129.95

ORDER BY FEB. 7, 4PM / PICK UP FEB. 14, 10AM-5PM

6 0 3 . 6 2 5 . 9 5 4 4

HOURS: MON-FRI: 9-6 SAT: 9-2

815 CHESTNUT ST. MANCHESTER

ANGELASPASTAANDCHEESE.COM



THE BEDFORD VILLAGE INN
AND GRAND SOUTH HILL HOTEL

A new season of elegance
IS UNFOLDING



Begin the journey to your forever love story today...

EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS ON YOUR WEDDING DAY

Celebrate your love with an unforgettable wedding at the Bedford Village Inn, where timeless beauty meets rustic elegance.

Enjoy exclusive savings on all remaining 2025 dates in the Great Hall.



REDUCED CEREMONY FEE

Say "I do" with a romantic backdrop surrounded by love



REDUCED FACILITY FEE

Private use of our iconic Great Hall and Grounds



LOWER FINANCIAL MINIMUM

Savings that seem too good to be true and elegance that is never compromised

On select dates, you'll also receive...

1/2 OFF OPEN BAR &
A \$600.00 DÉCOR CREDIT TO STYLED BY BVI™



Visit bedfordvillageinn.com for more details.

144895

Wedding Feature



Yes, you should hire a wedding photographer

Weddings are one of the most important and memorable events in a person's life. From the vows to the first dance, every moment is a reflection of love, commitment, and joy. Capturing these moments is crucial, and the best way to do that is by hiring a professional wedding photographer. While smartphones and cameras are more advanced than ever, they can't replace the expertise and experience of a skilled photographer.

A wedding day is often a blur of emotions, conversations, and moments that pass by quickly. As the day unfolds, couples can easily miss out on key moments, like the look of a groom's face when he sees his bride for the first time or the laughter shared between family members. A wedding photographer's job is to capture these fleeting moments, preserving them for you to relive for years to come. These photographs are not only keepsakes for the couple but also for future generations.

Wedding photographers bring a level of professionalism that ensures your photos will be high-quality. They are experienced in managing lighting, composition, and angles to create stunning, timeless images. Professionals know how to handle various lighting conditions, from bright outdoor settings to dimly lit reception halls, and use the best equipment to produce clear, sharp images that tell a story.

Choosing to hire a wedding photographer means you can focus on enjoying your day without worrying about capturing every

moment. Photographers are experts at what they do, so you won't have to ask friends or family members to take pictures, which could detract from their ability to participate in the celebration. You can rest assured that your photographer will have everything covered, so you can stay present and relaxed.

A wedding photographer's portfolio is often a representation of their style, creativity, and technical skills. By hiring a professional, you gain access to a body of work that shows how they can capture moments in different settings, lighting conditions, and environments. You can assess whether their style aligns with your vision for your wedding album.

So maybe you realize that you need a wedding photographer but then how do you choose one?

Wedding photographers have distinct styles, from traditional and posed to candid and documentary. Before you start your search, it's essential to define the style you want for your wedding photos. Whether you want a modern, artistic look or a more classic approach, knowing your preferences will help narrow down your options.

Start by researching local photographers and reading online reviews. Personal recommendations from friends and family who have had positive experiences can also be valuable. Look through their portfolios to assess the quality of their work and the variety of images they capture. Keep an eye out for consistency and whether their style

CONTINUED ON PG 16 ▶



Award Winning
Formal Wear

Weddings · Rehearsal Dinners
Black Tie Events · Reunions



GONDWANA & Divine Clothing Co.

13 North Main Street, Concord, NH · Open 7 Days
603-228-1101 · GondwanaClothing.com

145048

Because you're the Bride

Leave it to us. Say YES to our beautiful bridal bouquets!

FREE Wedding Consultations!



Jacques
FLOWER SHOP
and Garden Center

712 Mast Road | Manchester NH 03102
(603) 625-5155 | jacquesflowers.com

MON - SAT 8AM - 6PM | SUN 9AM - 3PM
Open 7 days week, 364 days a year!

130398

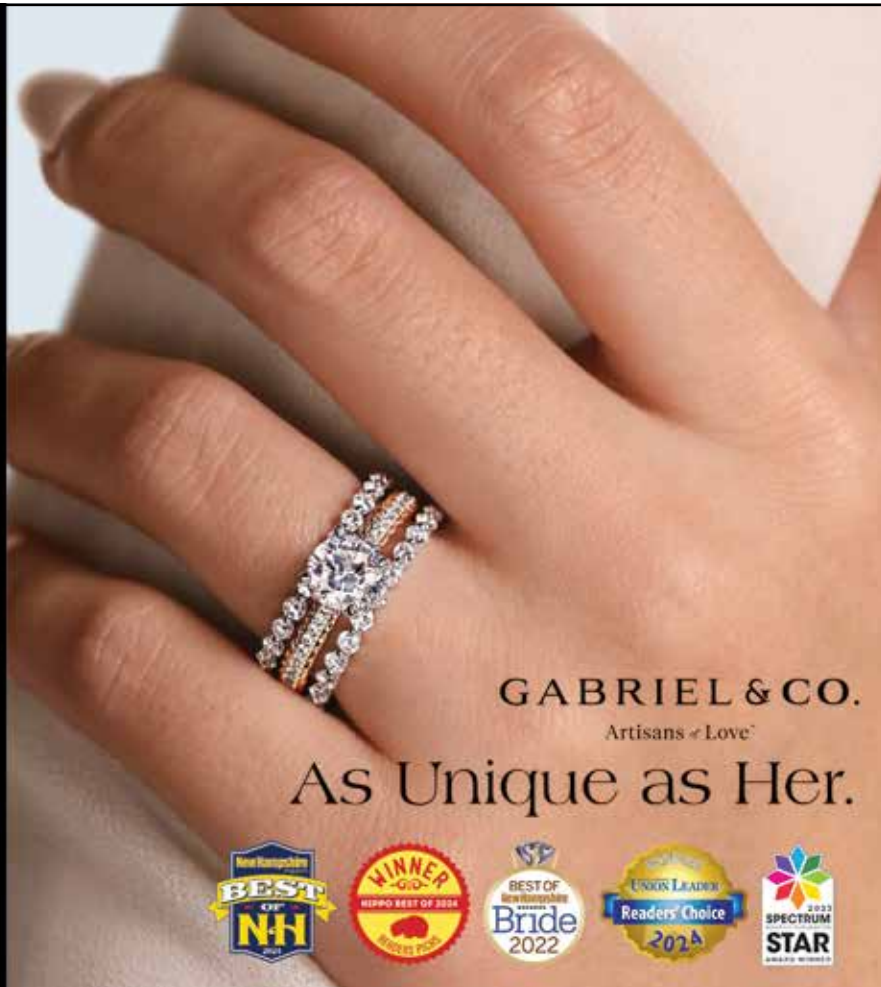


Bellman's
A FINE JEWELER



1650 Elm Street, Suite 102 | Manchester, NH 03101
(603) 625-4653 | www.bellmans.com

144880



GABRIEL & CO.
Artisans of Love

As Unique as Her.



EPIC WEDDING RECIPE

1. With soul mate, fall in love
2. Mix life until upside-down
3. Set Date & Destination
4. Gather Friends and Family
5. Combine with Wedding Vows
6. Cater with Smokeshow BBQ
7. Drop the Mic...



**In-house Smoked Meats • Hearty Homemade Sides
Southern Hospitality**



SMOKESHOW BBQ
231 S. Main St. Concord NH
603.227.6399
www.smokeshowbbq.com
catering@smokeshowbbq.com

139578



The long tradition of rice

An old tradition – and some newer alternatives

We've seen it time and time again: Spouses kiss and are presented as a couple, then exit toward a waiting vehicle as guests throw celebratory rice in the air. But why?

Rice was originally chosen because it symbolizes prosperity and fertility, according to Brides magazine. It's tossed as a sign of well wishes for the future. The tradition dates back at least to ancient Celts, who threw rice and other grains both as a newlywed blessing and to appease various gods, according to Brides. Not everyone followed along, however. Ancient Romans were said to toss wheat, Moroccans threw figs or dried dates, and Indians celebrated with flower petals.

Make or buy small packages of rice for your guests before the ceremony. Ushers can distribute the packets, or you can attach them to chairs or the wedding program. Ask ushers and other helpers to let guests know when the time is right. You might also consider listing the proper time to throw rice in the program. Most couples choose the moment they initially walk out of the venue, but others may want to do it

during a special photo.

More recently, fears have arisen that leftover grains might cause harm to wildlife long after the ceremony is over. Some government officials have even banned the practice. Brides magazine reported, however, that subsequent testing has shown no immediate danger to animals. Rice can pose a slip hazard, however, so someone should be on hand to sweep up once the happy couple has left the venue.

There are plenty of reasons beyond worries over wildlife to opt for something else instead of rice. Some people are looking for greener options, while others are planning to have children and therefore feel uncomfortable about rice's age-old symbolism of fertility. Then there are the inherent safety issues. Some options to consider go back to alternative traditions from places around the world like flower petals. Others now use birdseed, herbs, or biodegradable confetti. Some choose not to throw anything at all. Instead, have friends and family ring small bells or wave colorful ribbons.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 14

aligns with your preferences.

Once you've narrowed down a list of potential photographers, meet them either in person or virtually to get a sense of their personality and approach. It's crucial to feel comfortable with your photographer, as they will be a constant presence throughout your wedding day. Make sure they are friendly, approachable, and able to communicate clearly about your needs.

Wedding photography requires specific skills, so it's important to choose someone who specializes in weddings rather than someone who primarily shoots portraits or events. Inquire about their experience, particularly with weddings of a similar size and style to yours. A photographer with ample experience will know how to handle unexpected situations and will be more adept at capturing all the details that make

your day unique.

Wedding photography can be a significant investment, so it's important to understand the pricing structure. Ensure that you are clear about what is included in the package, such as the number of hours, the number of photographers, and any post-production work like editing and album creation. Discuss the photographer's policy for overtime or additional costs for travel, prints, or extra services.

Finally, trust your gut. Your wedding photographer will be with you on one of the most important days of your life, so it's vital that you feel confident in your choice. If you feel at ease with the photographer and confident in their ability to deliver high-quality images, it's a good sign that you've found the right fit.

This is your special day, make those memories and record them.

The Perfect Spot to...

Pop the Question
Create a Private Label Wine
Bottle with the Winemaker™ - includes a tour, charcuterie board, wine tasting and bottling the day's wine with the winemaker with the option of creating a private label.

Host your Wedding or Special Event
at our picturesque vineyard or inside the charming 1830's building

Valentine's 5 Course Dinner & Wine Pairing
Feb 14 & 15 | RESERVE NOW

21 Averill Rd, Brookline, NH • (603)-244-3165 • averillhousevineyard.com

144658

If it was written in the stars,
celebrate your marriage
under them!

..... ❖



McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center
We bring the universe to you

Schedule your tour today!

2 Institute Drive, Concord, NH 03301
www.starhop.com/hostunderthestars
(603)271-7527



Making Your "I DO" Dreams Come True

Custom design and redesign available



Goldsmiths Gallery, LLC "Turning Ideas into Memories"

2 Capital Plaza | 57 N. Main St. Concord, NH 03301
603-224-2920 | www.goldsmiths-gallery.com

Purveyors of responsibly sourced gemstones and recycled gold



GIFT VOUCHER
30% OFF
IN-STOCK AREA RUGS



Let your new journey begin here

603.882.5604

WWW.PRGRUGS.COM

227 MAIN ST, NASHUA NH

Community gathering

Music school series begins with contradance

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

An evening devoted to a centuries-long American folk music tradition will launch a series of public events from Concord Community Music School dubbed New England Roots & Branches. Contradance Music: The New England Contradance Repertoire will include a community jam session followed by a contradance called by a veteran and scholar of the style.

David Millstone began attending contradances soon after moving to New Hampshire's Upper Valley in the early 1970s. Within a couple of years he was regularly attending dances led by Dudley Laufman. Millstone called Laufman the most influential figure in spreading contradancing across America and especially in New England.

"People would refer to Dudley dances," Millstone said by phone recently. "He was a charismatic individual, and he was calling essentially every night from Maine to Connecticut back in the day. Other callers got interested, other musicians started playing, and the whole scene ... really took off."

Millstone was one of those inspired by Laufman; he began calling in the mid-'70s, and 50 years on he's doing it still, in addition to writing books and album liner notes and making movies about contradance. As a caller he becomes an integral part of the band, and at the Jan. 25 event he'll be working with four leading lights of New

England acoustic music.

Guitarist Dan Faiella will accompany fiddlers Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki, Audrey Budington and Liz Faiella, who organized the series. She's excited to have Millstone calling.

"My brother and I've worked with him through the years, and I used to go to his country dances," Liz Faiella recalled in a recent phone interview. "He's great at working with absolute beginners and really advanced dancers, getting everyone on the floor dancing comfortably and enjoying themselves."

In 2015 Liz received a New Hampshire Arts Council grant to explore contradancing across the state. "I got to bop around, visit all of these different contradances, talk to the people who organized them and get a sense of the history," she said. "I came away with a sense of how central it was to people's lives here."

As a musician she's also impressed by the many tributaries joined together to make New England's contradancing scene unique. "There's stuff from Ireland, England, coming from Cape Breton, and we've got Quebecois music coming down here," she said. "We've also got music from Appalachia, that sort of thing, and it's all been integrated into this really rich contradance music tradition."

All the band members are part of Concord Community Music School's folk department.

"It really is a dream team; I can't believe



Liz & Dan Faiella. Photo by Elizabeth Frantz.

I get to work with these guys," Liz said. "We all have been immersed in this scene and yet have our own takes on it. So it was kind of an opportunity to do some of what we do best, in sort of disentangling some of the genres."

Beginning with a dance was the logical way to kick off the series, she continued. "We're sort of starting out with 'OK, here's what we experience ... this convergence of all of these different styles.' Then, let's pick that apart a little bit, and in the next few concerts, we're going to celebrate different places that that music comes from."

On Saturday, April 5, Transatlantic Tunes: Celtic & British Isles Folk Tunes celebrates music from the United Kingdom that became part of New England's folk repertoire, and Music From North & South: Canadian & Appalachian Folk Tunes fin-

ishes the series on Friday, June 13.

Don't fret about fitting in at the upcoming event, cautions David Millstone.

"If you can walk, you can do these dances," he said, and welcoming newbies is a hallmark. "Experienced dancers will go up, say hello and invite people to dance, because that's how we all learned how to do this. You don't go to class for eight or 10 weeks ... you learn it on the fly." 🌱

Contradance Music: The New England Contradance Repertoire

When: Saturday, Jan. 25, 6 p.m.

Where: City Wide Community Center, 14 Canterbury Road, Concord

More: ccmusicsschool.org/event/new-roots-and-branches-1

Art

Exhibits

• **"Layers & Moments"** featuring selections from Ian Trask's "Strange Histories" and Ryan Swendenborg's "Winks" collection is on display at See Saw Art (66 Hanover St., Manchester; seesaw.gallery) through Sunday, Jan. 26. The gallery is open Fridays from 2 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m.

• **"Dan Dailey: Impressions of the Human Spirit"** featuring the works of Dan Dailey, described as "a New Hampshire artist whose creative ideas and innovations in glass have expanded the canon of art," will be on display at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester; currier.org) through Feb. 2. The show will feature more than 75 of Dailey's pieces which "span more than five decades and push the expressive boundaries of glass as an artistic medium, drawing on comics, pop art, art

deco, and 1960s pinup posters, as elements of his irrepressible sense of humor," according to a Currier press release. The Currier is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **"Stitched Together: Friendship, Feminism and Craft / Laura Morrison and Maureen Redmond-Seura"** runs through Saturday, Feb. 8, at Two Villages Art Society (846 Main St., Contoocook, twovillagesart.org). The gallery is open Thursdays through Sundays from noon to 4 p.m.

• **"Olga de Amaral: Everything is Construction and Color"** featuring works by the abstract artist from Latin America who "works with materials that she sources locally, such as raw wool, wood branches, luffa, horsehair, plastic, and most notably, gold" at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org, 669-6144) on view through Sunday, Feb. 16.

• **"Painting the Natural Land-**

scape Exhibit" from artist Diane Crespo will run at New Hampshire Audubon at the McLane Center (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord; nhaudubon.org) until Saturday, Feb. 22, according to the NH Audubon calendar. Crespo is a landscape painter living in southeast New Hampshire. Her paintings can be viewed at Diane Crespo Fine Art (27 Front St., Exeter; dianecrespofineart.com). The center is open Wednesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **"Jean-Michel Basquiat and Ouattara Watts: A Distant Conversation"** on display at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester; currier.org) through Feb. 23. The Currier is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **"The Legend of the Pointsettia: Paintings From Tomie DePaola's Holiday Classic"** will be on display at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester; currier.org) through the end

of February. The Currier is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **"Wildlife of New Hampshire Exhibit"** featuring the photography of Cameron Johnson of Dover at the New Hampshire Audubon's Massabesic Center (26 Audubon Way, Auburn; nhaudubon.org) through Saturday, March 1. The center is open Wednesdays through Saturdays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **"What/How Do We See"** is the winter exhibition at Art 3 Gallery (44 W. Brook St., Manchester; art3gallery.com). "In this exhibit, the viewer is asked to consider not only the subject matter ("What do we see?") but also the process behind it ("How do we see?")," according to the website. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 12:30 to 4 p.m. and by appointment.

Theater

Shows

• **"Piano Men"**, a musical produc-

tion featuring the works of Freddie Mercury, Elton John, Barry Manilow, Billy Joel, Carole King, Lady Gaga and more, runs at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester; palacetheatre.org) through Sunday, Feb. 9, with shows Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. and Thursday, Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$35.

• **"Grease, school edition"** will be presented by the Palace Youth Theatre on Wednesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 23 through Jan. 30, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester, palacetheatre.org).

• **"Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr."** presented by the Majestic Academy of Youth/Teens (majestictheatre.net) at the Derry Opera House (29 W. Broadway, Derry) on Friday, Jan. 24 through Sunday, Jan. 26.

will run at the Rex Theatre (23 Amherst, Manchester; palacetheatre.org) on Friday, Jan. 24, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 25, at 2 & 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 26, at 2 p.m. Tickets start at \$39.

• **The Silver Stars: Showstoppers!** A mix of dance, comedy skits and song performed by 55 and over performers will be presented on Wednesday, Feb. 5, and Thursday, Feb. 6, at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$12 to \$15.

Classical

• **"Familiar Classics for Brass" with Portsmouth Brass Quintet** a Family Matinee Series performance by the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 3 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 101 Chapel St., Portsmouth. The concert will feature music from baroque and classical periods, according to portsmouthsymphony.org. \$15 suggested donation at the door.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

KIDDIE

— POOL —

Family fun for whenever

More winterfest

• **Bedford Winterfest**, hosted by The Bedford Mom, will take place over two days this weekend. Day 1, Saturday, Jan. 25, will take place on the sledding hill behind Ann DeNicola Memorial Playground and feature sledding, activities for kids, face painting and more from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; see thebedfordmom.com. Admission is free but reservations are required.

Day 2 will take place at Joppa Hill Educational Farm (174 Joppa Hill in Bedford; theeducationalfarm.org) on Sunday, Jan. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free but reservations are required. Activities will include sledding, crafters, farm animals, s'mores, hot cocoa, arts and crafts, scavenger hunts and more, according to the website.

Movie morning

• Before you head to Concord's Winter Fest (see page 12 for details) head to Red River Theatres (11 S. Main St. in Concord; redrivertheatres.org) for a screening of 2006's *Happy Feet*, the animated movie (which won its year's animated feature Oscar) on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 10 a.m. Tickets cost \$5.



Happy Feet

Books!

• Annette LeBlanc Cate, author and illustrator of picture books including *Look Up!: Bird-Watching in Your Own Backyard* and *The Magic Rabbit*, will discuss her new release *Seven Little Ducklings* at Balin Books (Somerset Plaza, 375 Amherst St., Nashua; balinbooks.com) on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m. "When a plump mother duck awakens one morning, she's stunned to discover that her seven eggs have hatched in the night and all of her ducklings have wandered off. Now she has to search for them out in the wild!" according to a book description in a Balin email.

Save the date

• SEE Science Center (200 Bedford St. in Manchester; see-sciencecenter.org) will hold a **Community Discovery Night** on

Friday, Feb. 7, from 5 to 8 p.m. The event, whose theme will be "Celebrating Black Influence in Science," will feature food, music and science activities, according to the website, where you can register for this free event so the center can plan the food.

In other SEE news, registration is open now for the Center's **summer camps**. The weeklong camps begin in mid-July and have a variety of science-related focuses. See the website for details.

• The Derryfield Country Club (625 Mammoth Road in Manchester; thederryfield.com) will host a **Royal Princess Breakfast** on Saturday, March 1, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Kids can enjoy a brunch, story-time and games with costumed princesses. Tickets cost \$40 for children ages 2 to 12 and \$55 for adults. A \$65 VIP ticket for kids includes an early admission time, photo-ops and a tiara, according to the details available via the restaurant's website.

• Middle schoolers at High Mowing School (Pine Hill Campus, 77 Pine Hill Drive in Wilton; highmowing.org/hill-top) will present **The Hilltop Circus: An Unexpected Journey** on Friday, Feb. 28, at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 1, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The students' circus skills include "acrobatics, trapeze, juggling, clowning, unicycling, aerial fabric, wire-walking, trampoline, human pyramids and more," according to the press release. Admission is a suggested donation of \$12 for adults, \$6 for children; bring a donation for Wilton's Open Cupboard Food Pantry for a free bag of popcorn, the release said.

• The Nashua Historical Society will hold a **Little Red Tea Party** on Sunday, March 2, at the Florence H. Speare Memorial Museum library, located at 5 Abbott St. in Nashua. The all-ages event will feature tea, scones, petite sandwiches and other treats; a historical presentation about the story of Little Red Riding Hood; a STEM-inspired tea experiment; a craft; a raffle and more, according to a press release. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. and tea service starts at 1 p.m., the release said. Reservations cost \$20 per person, \$15 for children 12 and under, the release said. See nashuahistoricalociety.org/events. 🍪

...**BUYING**...
Gold is at an all-time high!

Cash in now with
NO NONSENSE buying:

**WRISTWATCHES
 COINS
 JEWELRY
 SILVER AND GOLD ITEMS**

Please call George at:
603-315-4382
Can travel to you!

Jones & Horan
 Horological Auctions

144312

Viking House
*Truly Warm & Stylish
 Winter Hats!*

Handmade in Poland!

*Soft merino wool, with incomparable
 faux fur often mistaken for real fur!*

19 N Main St, Concord, NH 603-228-1198 | vikinghouse.com

144728

**Shea & Shea
 Business Solutions, Inc.**

**Affordable Bookkeeping
 Solutions for your Peace of Mind!**

*Quickbooks Analysis and Cleanup,
 Monthly Bookkeeping & Payroll Services,
 S Corp Conversions & Small Business Consulting,
 Year End Tax Strategies
 To Save You Tax Dollars \$\$\$*

Robin Shea
 rshea@ssbusiness-solutions.com

Nashua, NH
Phone: 603-930-1218
Secure Fax: 866-778-3884
 www.ssbusiness-solutions.com

Quickbooks | Consulting |
 Bookkeeping | Payroll | Merchant Services
 | Year End Tax Planning | Quickbooks Data
 Analysis & Cleanup | Software Integration

144257

It's a balloon issue



*Dear Car Talk:
The air suspension is not working on my 2010 Buick Lucerne CXL. What do you think the problem is?*
— Jeff

By Ray Magliozzi Is your Buick listing, Jeff? Like the S.S. Minnow? Maybe it thinks it's on Lake Lucerne? Listing is typically what happens when these air suspensions fail — with the passenger in the left rear seat, for instance, suddenly looking up at the passenger in the right front.

This system essentially works with balloons. There's a balloon, or rubber bladder, at each wheel. And a compressor sends air into each bladder as a firmer suspension setting is called for. And then a solenoid-controlled valve lets air out of the balloons to soften the suspension when, for instance, your mother-in-law gets out.

And after 15 years, it's pretty likely that one or more of the rubber bladders have dried out and cracked and are leaking. But that's not the only possibility.

There's a compressor that sends air to the bladders, there's a regulator, hoses, valves, solenoids and other parts. And a leak from

any of those would cause the compressor to shut itself down, so it doesn't run continuously and burn itself out.

So, a mechanic really needs to get under your car and figure out what's leaking. If it's something simple, like a bad hose or a bad valve, you could get off pretty cheaply for now.

If it's a bladder, those are likely to cost you a good \$500 each to replace. And the problem is that if one has failed, it's a good bet that — due to age and similar use — they're all on their way to failing. So you can also opt to replace the entire air suspension system with a conventional shock and coil spring suspension. That's not cheap either, though. Probably \$1,500 to \$2,000.

Given the age of the car, I'd start by getting a real diagnosis. If it's one bag that's leaking, I'd put \$500 into fixing it, and then see how you feel about the car when the next one fails. But if you're listing on three sides, well, then listing might be the better option — Craigslist-ing. Good luck, Jeff.

Visit Cartalk.com. 🍷

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT



*Dear Donna,
I am a faithful reader who now has a question for you. This was in a junk drawer at my parents'. We recently cleaned the house out and I now have it.*

At first I thought it could be a bracelet, because they all connect. They are all painted metal and wheels all move so I'm not sure now. The lot of train pieces only measures 6 3/4 inches. So they have to be tiny toys? As I said, not sure. I also couldn't find any name on them.

*Thank you, Donna, for any help.
Melissa*

Dear Melissa,
They look like they could be made into a bracelet. How fun that would be. But I'm thinking they were always meant to be toys. They could have come from Germany or Japan. Without any markings it's hard

to tell. I did do some research for you and found some similar from the 1950s. They were from Japan so it's a possibility.

The value on the ones I found were in the \$50 range but had a few more than you do. They were part of a train set with signs and other stuff.

Melissa, I hope this was helpful to you. I also think a bracelet isn't a bad idea! 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, or call her at 391-6550. 🍷

NO MORE WINTER BLUES!

FAMILY FUN, DATE NIGHTS, FRIENDLY COMPETITION



30
Different
Craft beers
available!

- * The largest Axe Throwing venue in the state
- * Lumberjack Food Shack
- * Leagues
- * Corporate Outings
- * Open During School Vacation
- * Try something new this winter!



*** Best Spot for Some Friendly Competition**

www.theruggedaxe.com

NH's Largest Axe Throwing Venue!
377 South Willow St, Manchester
603-232-7936

TAKE A BREAK WITH US!

NH Break Room for Individuals, Groups, and More!

- We want you to feel the therapeutic euphoria of releasing stress through physical activity.
- * Customized/themed break rooms
 - * Glow in the Dark Room
 - * 1-6 People per room
 - * Gift Cards
 - * Therapeutic, Intense Energy Release

thebreakroomnh.com

THE BREAK ROOM NH
843 Hanover St, Manchester
603-935-9974



NOW HIRING...

THE BEST OF EVERYTHING!

Angela's

PASTA-CHEESE-WINE

WANTED
Cheesemonger
Sous Chef
Kitchen Assistant

BE A PART OF THE BEST OF EVERYTHING!

FULL TIME, PAID VACATION, FLEXIBLE FAMILY SCHEDULE. FUN CO-WORKERS, AMAZING CHEESES, TRAINING & TRAVEL PROVIDED

HOURS: MON-FRI: 9-6 SAT: 9-2 815 CHESTNUT ST. MANCHESTER
SEND RESUME IN CONFIDENCE TO:
INFO@ANGELASPASTAANDCHEESE.COM



144821

ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL
A Member of Covenant Health

NOW HIRING



INCREDIBLE BENEFITS INCLUDING

No co-pay or deductible with our HMO and PPO when using a St Joseph Hospital provider

Generous BAYLOR RN Program

Tuition Reimbursement

50% Reimbursement for YMCA childcare

Accredited Vizient RN Residency Training

Discounted Gym membership at YMCA

Wellness & Empathy Focused Employer

ABOUT ST JOSEPH HOSPITAL

St Joseph Hospital is a full-service, not-for-profit Catholic healthcare system serving the Greater Nashua area which includes a 208-bed acute care hospital and numerous outpatient clinics.

Contact Us

172 Kinsley St, Nashua, NH
603-884-3400

Text HAPPY to 78000

www.stjosephhospital.com/careers/



143356

LOOKING FOR NEW HIRES?



FIND THEM THROUGH

the Hippo

With unemployment below 3% in NH your best potential employees are not cruising the job boards. But they ARE reading the Hippo- the region's largest print publication!

Expand your pool of applicants by reaching the Hippo's local audience of 205,000 readers across southern New Hampshire.

Take advantage of our FREE design services to craft a hiring ad that stands out against other job listings!

For more information, call (603) 625-1855 Ext. 150

142103

PITCO

www.pitco.com/careers

Now Hiring

To apply: contact
hr@pitco.com or go to
www.pitco.com/careers.

Current Positions:

- Welders
- Sheet Metal Operators
- Shippers



Start Your Next Career with Pitco

BUILD A SUSTAINABLE CAREER

WE ARE A MANUFACTURER OF FOOD SERVICE EQUIPMENT

PITCO IS THE #1 PROVIDER OF FRYERS IN THE WORLD

144458



FOOD

Style and substance at Fire & Ice

Chili Cook-Off offers demonstrations of creativity

News from the local food scene

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

• **Just opened: Evviva Trattoria Bedford**, a Massachusetts-based chain restaurant featuring locally sourced, modern Italian cuisine served in a family-style atmosphere with a full bar serving beer, wine and specialty cocktails, has opened a site in Bedford at 5 Colby Court (471-3205, evvivatrattoria.com). It opens at 11:30 a.m. seven days a week and closes at 8 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday and at 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, according to the website. Evviva also has a location in Rochester, N.H.

• **Wine expo:** The 19th Annual **Winter Wine Spectacular** will take place at the Doubletree Expo Center (700 Elm St., Manchester, 625-1000) on Thursday, Jan. 23, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. This event is the culmination of New Hampshire Winter Wine Week and will feature more than 1,700 wines, 25 restaurants and winemakers and distributors. Tickets are still available for \$75 at eventbrite.com.

• **Highly anticipated chicken fingers:** After many weeks of anticipation, fried chicken fingers restaurant **Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers** will open for business on Tuesday, Jan. 28, in the former Cactus Jack's location (782 S. Willow St., Manchester, 263-3787, raisingcanes.com). This is the chain's first location in New Hampshire.

• **Possibly the best pairing:** Wine on Main (9 N. Main St., Concord, 897-5828, wineonmainnh.com) will host a **cupcake and wine pairing** event, Thursday, Jan. 30, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Participants will taste four mini-cupcakes from Savvy Sweets and Treats (Bow, 387-0241, savvy-sweetsandtreats.com) paired with four specially chosen wines. Tickets are \$35 and available through eventbrite.com. Because this event has proven to be popular in the past, a second date has been added, Wednesday, Jan. 29, also from 6:30 to 8 p.m. 🍷

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

For the past nine years the Amherst Lions Club has raised money for its community-based projects with a Fire and Ice Chili Cook-Off. Joan Ferguson is one of its coordinators.

"This is our ninth annual chili event," she said, "and the idea has been to provide a community event in the middle of winter when everybody is asking when spring will come. There's the chili, which is the fire, and the ice is making your own ice cream sundae."

Ferguson said the cook-off has become something of an Amherst institution.

"We think we have it down in terms of planning, at this point," she said, "but, you know, there's always something we can do better. For example, during Covid we did something radically different. We videotaped competitors going before judges and making their presentation. And then we filled the recipes online. And that year we were able to get really prestigious judges because the restaurants weren't open."

The 2025 Fire & Ice event will take place Friday, Feb. 7, in the Souhegan High School Cafeteria. Competitors submit crockpots of their chili to be judged. Judges will circulate around the room, to each table, and judge the submissions on taste, smell, heat, creativity and presentation. Attendees will pay to sample and eat the different chilis.

Amherst Chief of Police Anthony Ciamoli will be one of this year's judges. He said he loves chili but really looks forward to judging entrants' creativity and patience.

"Being a layman, I was really excited [last year] to see some of the work that people put into their presentation and different kinds of chili," he said. "Some were sweet, some were

hot, and some of the people truly prepared their little stations. They had turned their areas into small vignettes. One was a dinosaur scene. It was really cool. They take a lot of pride in it. That's a reason to make sure that we take each [submission] seriously."

Dan DeCoursey, owner of the Up in Your Grill Food Truck (493-3191, upinyourgrill.com), is another chili judge. He thinks first impressions are important.

"You're always going to start off with how it looks," he said, "so the presentation, right? Then you're looking at the product itself. In a contest like this one, the presentation is important. When you walk up [to a station] there could be a little story written on the side or, you know, they have garnishes out or, you know, different things and you're kind of getting the first impression. If there's a really interesting story, like ... I don't know, it's great-grandma's secret recipe from, you know, Mississippi that is now a family guarded secret and sought after by everyone. It just adds to the fun."

Joan Ferguson said the chili submissions themselves have been extremely creative in past years. "We've had venison entries," she said. "We've had beef, we've had chicken, and of course we've had vegetarian. We have very hot chili recipes and we have pleasant chili recipes. One [chili] will take the top of your head off and will be one that everybody finds savory. Don't ask me what people prefer because the pots usually go home empty."



2024 People's Choice winners Nancy Ferman and Kirk Rogers, courtesy Amherst Lions Club.

Chief Ciamoli agreed. "Everyone has had different bases," he remembered. "There was one table that I remember last year that actually had a vegetarian chili. Then there was your standard ground beef and some that had brisket. So it's really neat to be able to try all the different styles. Some have some fruit in it to soften things. There's work that goes into it."

Ciamoli has a double involvement in this year's cookoff. In addition to judging, the Amherst Police Department will be submitting a chili (which he will not be allowed to judge). He said his officers feel surprisingly motivated. "I was shocked because when I brought it up with them I said, 'I think we should do something brisket-based,' and then all of a sudden one of our officers I never hear from is like, 'Whoa, whoa, whoa! Hold the phones! I want in, man!'" 🍷

Amherst Lions Club 2025 Fire and Ice Chili Cookoff

When: Friday, Feb. 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. 7-12, free for children ages 6 and under, \$40 for a family of four or more.
Where: Souhegan High School Cafeteria, 412 Boston Post Road, Amherst. There is no fee to enter a chili. Competitors must register by Feb. 4.
Tickets: To purchase tickets, contact any Amherst Lion or purchase online. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for students ages Visit the Amherst Lions Club website at e-clubhouse.org/sites/amherstnh.

Chicken and waffles on South Willow

The Halal Spot loads up on flavor

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

The Halal Spot in Manchester serves chicken and burgers, but with a twist. As its name suggests, the Halal Spot's food is all halal; it meets stringent dietary guidelines.

The term "halal" refers to a set of dietary guidelines followed by Muslims, similar in many ways to Jewish kosher rules.

"Halal is the only meat that a Muslim person can eat," owner Sip Woodod said. "The

rules are that the animal must be raised in peace — not antagonized, not abused — in a safe environment and then put to sleep in a peaceful manner. This is a cultural tradition we've kept [as a family]. So we're like, 'If we're eating it ourselves, it doesn't matter where we are. This is the food we want to serve to the community'. And that's been working for us."

The menu focuses on a moderate number of items — a range of burgers and chicken sandwiches, with a few twists — chicken

and waffles, for instance, and "Nashville Hot" chicken sandwiches. One menu item is the Loaded Fries, a potato-based take on nachos. French fries are topped with extra

CONTINUED ON PG 23 ▶

The Halal Spot

1875 S. Willow St., Manchester, 606-8796

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

Zen and the art of Grape-Nuts

Grape-Nuts and Raisin Pie, from the 1932 General Foods Cookbook

- ¾ cup (100 g) Grape-Nuts cereal
- ¾ cup (128 g) golden raisins, chopped
- ¾ cup (160 g) brown sugar
- 2¼ cup (510 g) hot water
- ¼ cup (57 g) apple cider vinegar
- 3 Tablespoons butter
- Dough for a two-crust pie (see below)

Combine the Grape-Nuts, raisins, brown sugar, water, vinegar and butter in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat, then reduce the heat and simmer for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. As you do this, the mixture will seem far too soupy and thin to ever be a self-respecting pie filling.

The thing is, the raisins and Grape-Nuts, deep in their hearts, feel a little self-conscious. The raisins remember their grapey background and realize intellectually that

they could take back all the liquid they gave up in their youth, but they feel hesitant to relax completely and suck up all this fluid. The Grape-Nuts are ever so dry and know that they too have the theoretical ability to suck up all this fluid but are bashful about it at first.

So here is what you as the Pie Facilitator will do: Take the soupy, syrupy mixture off the heat and set it somewhere to cool completely. This might take an hour or more. Because it will take a while to cool, the Grape-Nuts and the raisins will have time to relax in this syrupy hot tub and really hydrate deeply.

After the mixture has cooled for an hour or so, preheat the oven to 425°F and prepare the pie crust.

There is of course absolutely nothing wrong with using a store-bought pre-made crust. If, on the other hand, you feel up to making it, an all-butter crust will add to the flavor of the fin-

ished pie. Perfecting your own personal crust-making technique can be a long and spiritual endeavor that deserves its own discussion, but here's one tip that has helped me greatly: freeze the butter, then grate it into the flour, to help bump up the crust's flakiness.

At this point your pie filling might be cool. If so, pour it into the bottom pie crust, then weave the strips of dough into a lattice top. This is way easier than it looks. If you don't know how to do it, look it up online. It's one of those tricks that everyone wants to show off as soon as they've learned it, so there are a million how-to videos that will show you what to do.

Bake the pie at 425°F for 10 to 12 minutes, then reduce the heat to 350°F and bake it for another 35 minutes or so, then remove it from the oven and allow it to cool com-



Grape-Nuts and Raisin Pie. Photo by John Fladd.

pletely before serving it.

You'd think that without an egg or some other binder the filling would be too loose, hydration hot tub or no, but it sets up

really well. The flavor is gently fruity; the shot of vinegar has rounded out the dried fruit sweetness and given it the very subtlest tang. The interesting thing here, though, is the apparent absence of the Grape-Nuts. It seems that upon giving itself up to relaxation and hydration, the cereal has become one with the pie. Has the Grape-Nuts spread its essence, or more specifically its protein filaments, throughout the filling, pulling it together texturally? It's a good bet.

Regardless, the Grape-Nuts, formerly the gravel of the cereal world, has, against all odds, achieved a Buddhist ideal, releasing its identity to become with the Universe. Or in this case a pie filling. 🍷

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 22

crispy chicken tenders, nacho cheese and shredded cheese, topped with a house sauce and a sprinkling of spices.

"I don't think new customers understand how loaded these really are," Woodod said. "One bowl is enough to fill up a couple of people. It's just something that grew up in our family's restaurant kitchen over 11 years, just experimenting."

Sip, his brother Kareem, and their sister Hannah grew up in restaurants. The Woodods started out in New York City — Queens, specifically — but moved to New Hampshire in 2012, where their father, Rajim, opened USA Chicken and Biscuit in downtown Manchester. As the years passed the family eventually opened three chicken



Photo by John Fladd.

restaurants. The Halal Spot is an opportunity for the second generation of Woodods to establish a food legacy of their own and to demystify halal food for their customers.

"Our goal is to keep a simple menu and

create a beautiful brand that gives back to the community," Woodod said. "We want to create a brand that we can potentially franchise and open in different neighborhoods and give that cultural feel of halal food."

The concept of The Halal Spot and its name are based on the idea of comfort food and the street carts his family ate from in Queens, Woodod said.

"In New York when you think about halal food most people think of chicken or beef with rice and a white sauce on top. When we would want to eat that food, we wouldn't say, 'Let's go eat halal food.' We would say, 'let's go to The Spot.' When we came here [to New Hampshire], we just stuck with it. That's where we got our menu and what inspired the name."

That same love of Halal food carts has guided the Halal Spot's menu development.

"We loved rice bowls you would get at the carts," Woodod said, "and we're going to continue to make it that way. When we add something to the menu or even when we're tweaking something, we sit as a family. Everyone eats it, and we decide. ... Everything that we've added so far has been a majority rule vote, from how the rice was made, to which add-ons were put on, to what sauce we use."

"Our goal is to grow with the community," he said. "Because the more the community grows, the more our business grows. That's something that our entire family believes in and it's something that we continue to stand on." 🍷



Inspired Classic American Fare

HANDCRAFTED COCKTAILS, LOCAL BEERS, WINES BY THE GLASS







Brunch | Lunch | Dinner | Patio Dining | Takeout | Special Events

22 Concord Street, Manchester, NH | 603.935.9740 | www.fireflynh.com



Where true love has reservations

now accepting Valentine's reservations ❤️ it's closer than you think



Serving dinner Valentine's week Tues-Fri 5-8:30 & Sat 4-8:30 603.622.5488

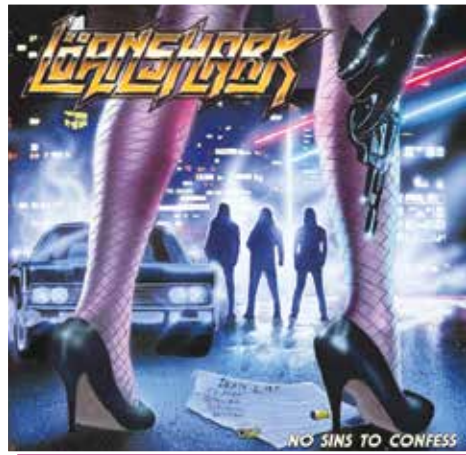
75 Arms St, Manchester. Reserve your table now online at www.cottonfood.com



POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS, MOVIES AND MORE

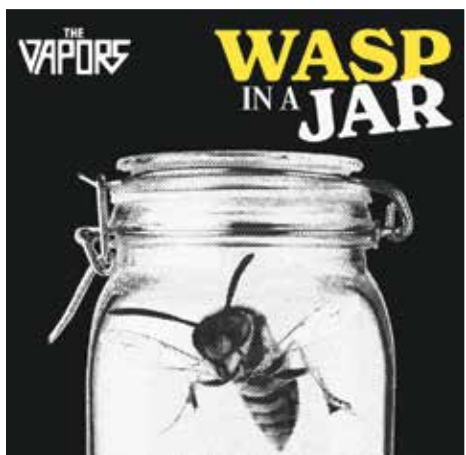
Löanshark, No Sins To Confess (Reigning Phoenix Music)



I swear I haven't developed some weird fetish for foreign heavy metal bands, cross my heart; you may have noticed that I pick a random metal band out of my overstuffed mailbox every few weeks, and it just so happened that this week it's yet another entry from Barcelona, Spain. I can make this short and sweet: If you ever wanted to hear what it would sound like if Scorpions and Alcatraz had a baby, it's this. The old-school hamster-wheel gets spinning really fast from the jump, with opener (no, I'm not making this up) "Electric Shockin' Waves," a headbanger that doesn't

break any new ground at all but nevertheless is a fine attempt; the singer sounds like a cross between Klaus Meine and Dio, which is about as generic as things could get. In case you're not sure what this is about, there's a cover version of NWOBHM cult band Marseille's "Open Fire" that sounds a lot like a forgotten hit from Europe, come to think of it. It's OK! **A** —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

The Vapors, Wasp In A Jar (Vapors Own Records)



Holy crow, stop the presses, this isn't stupid at all! I know it must be a shock to Gen-Xers (how's the imminent approach of your 60s feeling, kiddies?) to find that this U.K. New Wave band is still at it; you oldbies remember their big (OK, only) hit "Turning Japanese" from wayyy back in the day, but fact is, this isn't the only album they've released over the decades. Anyway, what was I saying — oh yes, it's not stupid, or at least it doesn't start out that way, with the hardcore thrasher "Hit The Ground Run." That one's followed by "The Human Race," a spazz-fest that's their

newest "Son Of Turning Japanese" entry, replete with a geeky, mildly catchy chorus. Later comes the obligato joke song, "Miss You Girl," with a challenging but stupid bass line and purposely sloppy feedback-washed guitar line (literally every New Wave band wrote one of these during the Reagan years). Whatever, it's a fun record, God bless 'em.

A —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

- Before we get into the new releases streeting this Friday, Jan. 24, I'd like everyone in the class to please pick up your copy of the Dec. 26, 2024, Hippo and take a look at the ribbing I gave former British boyband-numbskull **Robbie Williams** for the soundtrack for his album *Better Man (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)*, based on his biopic of the same name. You see, Variety just announced the numbers for the independently made Paramount-released movie (please ask your kids to leave the room, folks, this is for mature audiences only). Ahem, it was a record-breaker in the States, all right: It appeared in 1,291 movie theaters and made \$1 million, which would be great if it had cost \$5 to make, but guess what: it cost *\$110 million* to make! Even overseas, where people actually even know who that dude is, it's only made \$4.9 million! Now, it might have done better if Williams hadn't been portrayed by a *digitally animated chimpanzee* in the film, but you know what, I'm glad he was, because now maybe we have a new *Rocky Horror Picture Show* to mock and deride and laugh at. I'll tell you, I don't mind being right all the time, but this was like winning the Lotto!

- If you're old, you had a small psychological meltdown in 2021 when you were just trying to mind your own business and eat your Fiery Doritos and watch the Super Bowl halftime show and suddenly, instead of Tom Petty or Aerosmith actually playing the hits you used to listen to at kegers in 1986, there was some dude running around in a funhouse mirror-hall, lip-synching some Raffi-esque nursery rhymes, and you were like "How did this all happen?" It's hard to say, but that was **The Weeknd**, and he has a new album coming out this Friday, titled *Hurry Up Tomorrow*, which took forever to roll out even after being postponed, and is said to be "all over the place" genre-wise. "The Crowd" is one of the new songs, an Auto-Tune fest that's slow and foggy. "Timeless," with a feature from Playboi Carti, is a cleverly syncopated chillout that fares a lot better. *Late breaking: Oh for cripe's sake, this guy moved the release date again, back a week to Jan. 31, for anyone who takes this ridiculousness seriously.*

- Southern-roots-rock band **Larkin Poe** is often said to be a female version of Allman Brothers, mostly by journalists who don't know what they're doing. The band's new album, *Bloom*, is led up by the single "Little Bit," an unexciting slow-rock ballad that's like Melissa Etheridge trying to be relevant to both the Billboard chart guys and the Zoomer demographic, which is obviously not something anyone should ever try.

- Lol we certainly are on a roll this week, folks, what could possibly be next, I ask you seriously, what on earth will be the next thing I'll have to — oh look, it's Scottish post-rock whatever **Mogwai**, a band that's famous for the horribly horrible Pavement-meets-Spacemen 3 single "Take Me Somewhere Nice," deliver me from nonsense somebody please. Their new album is titled *The Bad Fire* and features a song called "Lion Rumpus," a shoegaze-ish thingamajig with lots of guitar distortion that is, as always, its only saving grace, although the fact that there's no singing on it is an added bonus. The video features the "lads" walking their dogs around Glasgow and asking people if they've even heard of Mogwai; most of them say "no" of course.

- Finally we have London-based indie-Bandcamper **Anna B Savage**, attempting to salvage something positive from this absolutely dreadful week of new releases, with her new one, *You and I Are Earth*. The single, "Agnes ft. Anna Mieke," is basically an overacted nick of Tori Amos for Zoomers who'd secretly rather be listening to something decent (they all are); too bad about that. —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

New England SHARPENING Company Inc.

Full service sharpening for home and industrial tools.

10% OFF with this ad

Pricing & Order Forms at: nesharpening.com
I also sharpen saws and axes.

28 Charron Ave. #14, Nashua
603-880-1776

OVEN BAKED OMELETTES

So Many Choices...

Chicken Cordon bleu, Reuben, Smoked Meat, or Create Your Own!

Voted the Best Breakfast!

VOTE FOR US: HIPPO BEST OF 2024

GET WHAT YOU DESERVE!

(603) 625-9660 • 136 Kelley St., Manchester • chezvachon.com
Open Thurs - Tues 7am - 2pm | Closed Wednesdays

Winter Location Now Open!

Indoor Petting farm & play area!

GSA Shares Available!

Farm store with our own eggs, fresh beef, pork & veggies! NH maple syrup & honey!

MADE IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

HOURS: Thurs & Fri: 10-6
Sat & Sun: 10-5
(603) 437-0535
jandffarmsnh.com
108 Ghester Rd. Derry

J&F FARMS
Derry, NH - Est. 1906

Sweet Fury, by Sash Bischoff (Simon & Schuster, 288 pages)

Check any list of the greatest American novelists and F. Scott Fitzgerald is likely in the top 10. Few of us escape high school without reading *The Great Gatsby*, but not all of us go on to read Fitzgerald's next novel, *Tender is the Night*, published in 1934.

That puts *Tender*-illiterates like me at a bit of a disadvantage going into *Sweet Fury*; a debut novel by Sash Bischoff that revolves around a modern, feminist interpretation of *Tender*.

The disadvantage is not prohibitive — you can still follow the storyline, and might even emerge with a desire to visit (or revisit) all things Fitzgerald. But a fear of missing out might hang over your reading, since Bischoff admits she embedded Easter eggs — inside jokes or references — nodding to Fitzgerald and his work throughout the book.

The story begins with the clinical notes of a psychiatrist, Jonah Gabriel, who has agreed to take on a new client, a Hollywood star named Lila Crane who is about to play the role of Nicole Diver in a modern adaptation of *Tender is the Night*, directed by her lover. The star and the therapist have an immediate rapport once they discover that they both went to Princeton and were both fans of Fitzgerald.

Crane had decided to see therapy because of trauma she suffered in childhood. Her father was abusive and had an alcohol addiction, and he was driving drunk, with Crane and her mother in the car, when they collided with another car, killing the father.

"I want your honest opinion," she says to Gabriel in their first session. "If someone has done something terrible to you, can you ever truly heal? Or will you always have a scar? Is there a way to erase the scar itself — and more importantly, erase that person's power to hurt you again?"

Since *Tender* also involves alcohol abuse and a car wreck, Crane believes she might

benefit from working out her own issues, which also, it turns out, include a past sexual assault. She enters therapy just as she becomes engaged to the man she's living with, an A-list director named Kurt Royall, who is a powerful, attention-seeking man 18 years her senior. Her mother, not surprisingly, has concerns, even if Lila does not.

The story swivels back and forth between the therapist's notes, Crane's journaling and what is happening in real time as production begins on this new, empowering version of *Tender*. Crane is excited about the production because, as she tells Gabriel, "Our version of *Tender* isn't another tragedy of the tortured white man. It's a feminist story of healing, of reparations."

From the first page, we're swimming in a story within a story within a story — *Tender* is about a psychiatrist who falls in love with a patient, and much of that book derived from Fitzgerald's relationship with his wife, Zelda, who had mental health issues that required psychiatric care.

But if you haven't read the Fitzgerald novel, don't go down the CliffsNotes rabbit hole like I did, as it will just leave your head spinning. Better to just read *Sweet Fury* on its own merits. That is, if you can get past the title and cover art — a silhouette of a nude woman's body — that makes the book look like some sort of cringe bodice-ripper. (Honestly, if I'd been reading on public transportation, I would have hidden the cover, and I'm not sure if that makes me a prude or a literary snob.)

The publicity for *Sweet Fury* promises *Gone Girl*-like pivots and twists, and after a slow start these come fast and furious, making it difficult to talk about the last half of the



book without significant spoilers. Let's just say that more than one character is not the person they are set up to be; in fact, hardly anybody is.

Bischoff knows how to turn a phrase — my mind keeps returning to her description of an opulent wrap-around porch stretching into a "single, satisfied grin." And she does an excellent job concealing the twists until their reveal; the story is well plot-

ted and foreshadowing is light. She unpacks everything with sufficient depth at the story's end.

If there's a fault in these stars, it's that Bischoff does not adequately convince us to love any of them as the story unfolds.

I never felt an emotional attachment to Lila, her mother, the scriptwriter, the therapist, the gay best friend or any of the myriad other characters. I read *Sweet Fury* as one watches the second season of a TV show you've never seen before, with clinical detachment. This is, no doubt, partly because I knew little about the book that was incessantly being referenced (even a cat is named Zelda — everything is Fitzgeraldized) but it's also partly because, as I found out at the story's end, much of what I thought I knew about these people wasn't true. And you can't love characters if you don't know them.

That said, will I re-read it now to connect the dots I missed the first time? Yes, of course — somewhat grudgingly. And if I'd loved Lila Crane like I want to love protagonists, I'd probably read *Tender is the Night*, too. But at this point, that's more time and energy than I want to invest in this particular fictional actress. At least until the movie comes out. **B-** —Jennifer Graham

Book

Author events

- **Mary Eisenhauer** will talk about her book *Reimagining Midlife* at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com) on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 1 to 3 p.m.
- **Annette LeBlanc Cate**, author and illustrator, will discuss her new release *Seven Little Ducklings* at Balin Books (Somerset Plaza, 375 Amherst St., Nashua; balin-books.com) on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m.
- **Matt Larson** will talk about his book *400s by 40: Tack-*

ling Middle Age in the Mountains of New Hampshire at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com) on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 4 to 5 p.m.

• **Jeffrey Boutwell** will talk about his book, *Boutwell: Radical Republican and Champion of Democracy*, at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Thursday, Jan. 30, at 6:30 p.m.

• **I.D. Marie** will sign copies of her books in her *Legends of Pangaea* series at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester,

bookerymht.com) on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 2 to 4 p.m.

History, stories, discussions & lectures

- **Beyond the Ballot Box: How to Advocate in the Granite State**, a free online workshop from the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications taught by Anna Brown and Mike Dunbar of Citizens Count, will be held Monday, Jan. 27, from noon to 1:30 p.m. Visit loeb-school.org.
- **Saying What You Mean with Clarity**, a free online

class from the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications taught by Laura Collins Cline, meets on four consecutive Tuesday evenings, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, Feb. 11 and Feb. 18, from 7 to 8 p.m. Visit loeb-school.org.

Writer events

- **Write What You Know: The Personal Narrative**, a free online class from the Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications taught by Sally Hirsh-Dickinson, meets on four consecutive Thursday evenings, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb.

13 and Feb. 20, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Visit loeb-school.org.

Book sales

- **Manchester City Library Winter Book Sale** Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the main branch (405 Pine St.). \$10 per average-size grocery bag filled with books. Bring your own bag or the library can provide one. Individual items can also be purchased, hardcovers \$2 each and most other materials \$1 each. Proceeds from the sale go to the library's museum pass program.

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **B.I.G. Dead:** Preposterous though it may look on paper, the sound of **Grateful for Biggie** makes sense. A melding of the Dead and the late Notorious B.I.G. interjects songs like “West L.A. Fadeaway” and “Eyes of the World” with lyrical flow from the late rapper, as jam band chops meet urban poetry. Watch two very different eras join together for a singular sonic experience. Thursday, Jan. 23, 8 p.m., Stone Church, 5 Granite St., Newmarket, \$20 at portsmouthnhtickets.com.

• **Blues return:** In the middle of the 2010s **Delanie Pickering** made a mark on the Concord music scene with incendiary guitar playing and inspired singing. Now that she’s relocated to the Cape, it’s been too long since she’s done an area show, but that changes when Johnny Hoy & the Bluefish hit town. Pickering joined the popular Martha’s Vineyard band after laying low for a bit following her arrival. Friday, Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m., BNH Stage, 16 S. Main St., Concord, \$28 at ccanh.com.

• **Metal ladies:** Three female-fronted Granite State bands appear at an event dubbed **Metal Queens & Burgers**. Under the Horizon is a power trio led by singer/bassist Izzy McIntyre that opened for Great White at Tupelo last summer. The Saturn Cycle, the duo of Ariana Docola and Jordan Leonard, use looping for a big sound and have a new album due next month. Vermillion recently appeared at Pizzastock. Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., BAD BRGR, 1015 Elm St., Manchester, \$10 at the door.

• **Comedy tonight:** **Steve Scarfo** will deliver the laughs at Chunky’s this weekend. A native Mainer, Scarfo came up in the Boston club scene and once took part in a mashup of *Survivor* and *Last Comic Standing* that’s worth a look on YouTube. Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., Chunky’s, 707 Huse Road, Manchester, \$20 at chunkys.com.

• **Southern accent:** After attending a weekly cumbia night in San Francisco, **Chuck Prophet** became fascinated with the rhythmic Colombia-based music. During treatments for a stage 4 lymphoma diagnosis, he marinated in it, which led to the making of *Wake the Dead*, a life-affirming live in the studio album made with his band and two members of cumbia combo ¿Qiensave? Wednesday, Jan. 29, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace, 319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth, \$22 and up at 3sarts.org. 🍌

NITE

Music meld

Co-bill promises collaboration

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

An upcoming show at Exeter’s Word Barn features a pair of unique performers both collaborating and performing their own music. Nate Sabat is an upright bass player who transforms his rhythm instrument into something all-encompassing. Rakish, the duo of Conor Hearn and Maura Shawn Scanlin, weds traditional Celtic music to modernity for a fresh sound.

The show is part of a four-date mini tour. “We’re really excited about it,” Hearn said, along with Scanlin, in a recent Zoom interview. “Nate’s going to play, and then we’ll play with Nate on his music, and Nate will play with us on our music.... it’s sort of this integrated thing that we’re trying to pull off.”

Rakish released their second-full length album, *Now, O Now*, in October. It’s a rich and varied work that kicks off with “Lonely Hotel Room,” a buoyant yet bittersweet ode to road weariness. The title track follows, one of two James Joyce poems set to music by Hearn, something he also did with W.B. Yeats’ “The Stolen Child” on their eponymous debut EP.

Hearn, a literature major at Tufts, delights in detecting song patterns in poetry. “Joyce was very interested in music, but we don’t necessarily hear the music that they had going on in their head when we read their poems except to the extent that we have their rhyme schemes and their meters and such,” he said. “To take a text like that and infer what a new melody could be lets us use some of our compositional muscles.”

The two took artistic risks on the new disc, like the Jamie Oshima-produced “765,” which echoes Natalie MacMaster’s 1999 crossover hit “In My Hands” with its fiddle electronica dance beat. It’s also the only track not helmed by Hearn and Scanlin, who elected to self-produce after working with Solas’s Seamus Egan on 2022’s *Counting Down the Hours*.

In addition to being lyrically compelling, with standout songs like “Island in the Sea” and “Lightly Come or Lightly Go,” *Now, O Now* stands out for another reason, Scanlin pointed out.

“The entirety of the album is all original musically, even excluding those two James Joyce poetry pieces,” she said, adding that she’s pleased to have it as a unifier, “instead

Rakish and Nate Sabat

When: Thursday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m.
Where: Word Barn, 66 Newfields Road, Exeter
Tickets: \$16 and up at portsmouthnhtickets.com



Rakish. Photo by Sasha Pedro.

of trying to come up with a thread about how JS Bach relates to this other old Irish tune relates to a tune that I wrote yesterday or something, which was the case on the previous album.”

Scanlin hails from Boone, North Carolina. Despite growing up in the Appalachian region, she initially studied classical music, but repeated trips to folk festivals with her parents got her interested in fiddlers like MacMaster, Hanneke Cassel and Liz Carroll. Hearn grew up in Washington, D.C., and got into Celtic music at summer camps and other places.

The pair met while both were attending different colleges, Hearn at Tufts and Scanlin at the New England Conservatory. Mutual friends and shared interests brought them together. They’d jam at Irish sessions at clubs like The Burren and The Druid; later they were in a band called Pumpkin Bread, before pairing up to focus on their shared favorite music.

One of the duo’s earliest supporters was Brian O’Donovan, a major force in New England’s Celtic music community and beyond before his death in 2023. “Brian was definitely the first to really elevate us and

what we were doing and give us a platform and throw gigs at us,” Hearn said. Scanlin concurred, saying, “in a more tangible sense Brian literally did give us our very first gig together as Rakish, so our relationship as a band goes back all the way.”

Recently Rakish was named as the inaugural Brian O’Donovan Legacy Artist, part of an effort to memorialize the man who, here in New Hampshire, regularly hosted events like Celtic Christmas at Derry’s Pinkerton Academy. The weekend after this interview they served as resident artists at the Boston Celtic Music Festival, which featured a musical tribute to

O’Donovan along with the awarding of six \$2,500 grants in his name, with Rakish being among the recipients.

“Brian brought so much to Celtic music,” Scanlin said, from connecting people State-side to folks back in Ireland as well as bringing the Northeast community and the rest of the U.S. together. “We’re really grateful to him, and also honored ... to be stepping foot into this Brian O’Donovan Legacy role for its very first year. We’re so excited to see where that fund goes, and just totally excited to be the first in that role.” 🍌

“Nate’s going to play, and then we’ll play with Nate on his music, and Nate will play with us on our music.... it’s sort of this integrated thing”

CONOR HEARN OF RAKISH

MUSIC THIS WEEK

Alton Bay Foster's Tavern 403 Main St., 875-1234	Lithermans 126B Hall St., 219-0784	Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St., 497-8230	Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125, 369-6962	Lynn's 102 Tavern 76 Derry Road, 943-7832	663-7678	Meredith Church Landing Mill Falls, 281 DW Highway, 866-613-8261	Spyglass Brewing 306 Innovative Way, 546- 2965	330-1964
Auburn Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road, 622- 6564	Tandy's Pub & Grille 1 Eagle Square, 856-7614	Hampton CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road, 929- 7972	Laconia 405 Pub & Grill 405 Union St.	Defiant Records & Craft Beer 609 Main St., 527-8310	The Foundry 50 Com- mercial St., 836-1925	Giuseppe's 312 DW Highway, 279-3313	New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road, 487-1362	Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway, 458-2033
Bedford Copper Door 15 Leavy Drive, 488-2677	Uno Pizzeria 15 Fort Eddy Road, 226-8667	The Goat 20 L St., 601- 6928	Lee Flag Hill Distillery & Winery 297 Route 155, 659-2949	Fratello's 799 Union Ave., 528-2022	Great North Aleworks 1050 Holt Ave., 858- 5789	Hermit Woods 72 Main St., 253-7968	Newbury Goosefeathers Pub Mt. Sunapee Resort, 1298 Route 103	Par28 23 S. Broadway, 458-7078
Murphy's Carriage House 393 Route 101, 488-5875	Contoocook Farmers Market 896 Main St., 746-3018	L Street Tavern 603 17 L St., 967-4777	Litchfield Day of the Dead Mexi- can Taqueria Mel's Fun- way Park, 454 Charles Bancroft Highway, 377- 7664	High Octane Saloon 1072 Watson Road, 527- 8116	The Hill Bar & Grille McIntyre Ski Area, 50 Chalet Ct., 622-6159	Twin Barns Brewing 194 DW Highway, 279- 0876	Newmarket Stone Church 5 Granite St., 659-7700	Sayde's Bar & Grill 136 Cluff Crossing Road, 890-1032
Bow Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St., 228-8508	Derry Fody's Tavern 187 Rockingham Road, 404- 6946	Smuttynose Brewing 105 Towle Farm Road	Lee Flag Hill Distillery & Winery 297 Route 155, 659-2949	Lee Flag Hill Distillery & Winery 297 Route 155, 659-2949	KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St., 627-RIBS	Wally's Pub 144 Ash- worth Ave., 926-6954	Northwood Northwoods Brewing Co. 1334 First NH Tpk., 942-6400	Seabrook Backyard Burgers & Wings 5 Provident Way, 760-2581
Brookline The Alamo Texas Bar- becue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13, 721-5000	Dover Auspicious Brew 1 Washington St., 953-7240	Wally's Pub 144 Ash- worth Ave., 926-6954	Keys Piano Bar & Grill 1087 Elm St., 836-7796	Litchfield Day of the Dead Mexi- can Taqueria Mel's Fun- way Park, 454 Charles Bancroft Highway, 377- 7664	Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St., 625- 4444	Stonecutters Pub 63 Union Square, 213-5979	Pembroke Cavern Sports Bar 351 Pembroke St., 485-7777	Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road, 760- 7706
Concord The Barley House 132 N. Main St., 228-6363	Cara Irish Pub & Restaurant 11 Fourth St., 343-4390	Whym Craft Pub & Brewery 853 Lafayette Road, 601-2801	Olympus Pizza 506 Valley St., 644-5559	Manchester Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545	Salona Bar & Grill 128 Maple St., 624-4020	Moultonborough Buckey's 240 Governor Wentworth Hwy., 476- 5485	Pittsfield Over the Moon 1253 Upper City Road, 216- 2162	Somersworth Earth Eagle North 350 Route 108, 841-5421
Brothers Cortado 3 Bicentennial Square, 856-7924	Chapel + Main 83 Main St., 842-5170	Henniker Pats Peak Sled Pub 24 Flanders Road, 888-728- 7732	Salona Bar & Grill 128 Maple St., 624-4020	Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road, 437-2022	Shaskeen Pub 909 Elm St., 625-0246	Nashua Casey Magee's Irish Pub 8 Temple St., 484- 7400	Portsmouth The Gas Light 64 Mar- ket St., 430-9122	Sunapee The Livery in Sunapee Harbor 58 Main St., thelivery.org
Feathered Friend 231 S. Main St., 715-2347	Milk St. Studios 6 Milk St., 568-7836	Hillsboro Main Street Grill and Bar 126 W. Main St., 290-4887	Stumble Inn 20 Rock- ingham Road, 432-3210	Stumble Inn 20 Rock- ingham Road, 432-3210	South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St., 935- 9947	Fody's Tavern 9 Clin- ton St., 577-9015	The Goat 142 Congress St., 590-4628	Sunapee Community Coffee House 9 Lower Main St., 398-8214
The Forum Pub 15 Vil- lage St., 565-3100	Epping Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy., 679-8225	Hudson The Bar 2B Burnham Road	Manchester Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545	Manchester Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545	Strange Brew 88 Mar- ket St., 666-4292	San Francisco Kitchen 133 Main St., 886-8833	Warner The Local 15 E. Main St., 456-3333	
Hermanos Cocina Mexicana 11 Hills Ave., 224-5669	Gilford Patrick's 18 Weirs	Luk's Bar & Grill 142 Lowell Road, 889-9900	Bonfire 950 Elm St.,	Bonfire 950 Elm St.,	Strange Brew 88 Mar- ket St., 666-4292	Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse 48 Gusbabel Ave., 882-4070	Rochester Porter's 19 Hanson St.,	

Thursday, Jan. 23	Auburn Auburn Pitts: open jam, 7 p.m.	Bedford Copper Door: John Chouinard, 7 p.m.	Brookline Alamo: open mic, 6 p.m.	Derry Fody's: music bingo, 8 p.m.	Dover Auspicious Brew: Watson Park, Kate Possi, Lisa Lynehan, 8 p.m.	Epping Telly's: Dave Clark, 7 p.m.	Epsom Hill Top: music bingo w/ Jennifer Mitchell, 7 p.m.	Goffstown Village Trestle: Justin Jordan, 6 p.m.	Hampton CR's: Steve Sibulkin, 6 p.m. L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m. Smuttynose: Casey Roop, 5:30 p.m. Whym: music bingo, 6:30 p.m.	Hudson Luk's: Chris Cyrus, 7 p.m. Lynn's 102: karaoke w/George Bisson, 8 p.m.	Laconia 405 Pub & Grill: Henry LaLib- erte, 6 p.m. Fratello's: Duke Snyder, 5:30 p.m. High Octane Saloon: karaoke w/ DJ Tim, 7 p.m.	Londonderry Stumble Inn: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.	Manchester Fratello's: Lewis Goodwin, 5:30 p.m. Shaskeen: EDM night, 8 p.m.	Meredith Giuseppe's: The Sweetbloods, 5:45 p.m.	Merrimack Homestead: Jamie Hughes, 5:30 p.m.	Tortilla Flat: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.	Milford Riley's Place: open mic, 7 p.m.	Nashua Casey Magee's: open mic, 7:30 p.m. Fody's: DJ Rich Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.	Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St., 625- 4444	San Francisco Kitchen 133 Main St., 886-8833	Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse 48 Gusbabel Ave., 882-4070	SFK: Chris Lester, 6:30 p.m. Shorty's: Pat Foley, 6 p.m.	Newmarket Stone Church: Grateful for Big- gie, 8 p.m.	Pembroke Pembroke City Limits: Colin Neovins, 7 p.m.	Pittsfield Over the Moon: open mic, 6 p.m.	Portsmouth The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m. Press Room: The Joshua Tree, 9 p.m.	Salem Copper Door: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m. Dreo: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.
--------------------------	---	--	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	---	--	---	--	---	---	---	---	--	--	---	--	--	---	--	---	--

Music, live and in person

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



TWO GREAT TASTES

If you love hip-hop and jam bands, you won't want to miss **Grateful 4 Biggie**. This Florida-based quintet fuses the Grateful Dead's expansive sound with the infectious rhythms and provocative lyrics of Biggie Smalls. They stop by the Stone Church (5 Granite St., Newmarket, 659-7700, stonechurchrocks.com) on Thursday, Jan. 23, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 plus fees.

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

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

Portsmouth
The Goat: music bingo, 9 p.m.;
Dana Breatly, 9 p.m.

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

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

Salem
Sayde's: music bingo, 7 p.m.

Seabrook
Backyard Burgers: music bingo
with Jennifer Mitchell, 7 p.m.
Red's: Lewis Goodwin, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 29
Concord
Barley House: Holy Cow Bingo,
6 p.m.
The Forum: Don Bartenstein, 8
p.m.
Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.
Uno Pizzeria: Dave Clark, 6 p.m.

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

Dover
Auspicious Brew: open mic, 6:30
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
Fratello's: Justin Jordan, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: 603 line dancing, 7 p.m.
Hop Knot: open mic night, 8 p.m.
Keys: music bingo, 7 p.m.
Stark Brewing: Cox karaoke, 8
p.m.
Strange Brew: open mic w/ Jordan
Quinn & Scott Armstrong, 8 p.m.

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Jeff Mitchell, 5:45
p.m.
Hermit Woods: Katie Dobbins,
Dan Sirois and Patrick Synan, 7
p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.

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

Newmarket
Stone Church: karaoke, 7 p.m.

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits: Tequila
Jim, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Press Room: Savor The Silence,
7 p.m.

Seabrook
Red's: Fred Ellsworth, 7 p.m.

Headliners
COMEDY CLUB

LOCAL & NATIONAL ACTS EVERY WEEKEND!



DOUBLE TREE
700 Elm St, Manchester

CHUBB THEATRE
Manchester

GET TICKETS ONLINE TODAY!
Tickets also available at the door

HeadlinersComedyClub.com
603-988-3673

VOTE FOR US HIPPO BEST OF

Many of our acts have been seen on:



RED RIVER THEATRES

January 25th at 10am



TICKETS \$5 On Sale Now!

WWW.REDRIVERTHEATRES.ORG
11 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CONCORD



A TAPESTRY OF SONG

Singer/songwriter Alice Leon has frequently cited Carole King as an influence on her own work. She's so inspired by the Rock and Roll Hall of Famer that she's put together a show called **Now and Forever: A Celebration of Carole King**. Don't miss her upcoming show at the Chubb Theatre (Chubb Theatre, 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com) on Thursday, Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$33.75 to \$56.75, plus fees.

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Weekly comedy nights

- **Wednesday** Ruby Room at the Shaskeen, Manchester 9 p.m.
- **Thursdays** Laugh Attic at Strange Brew, Manchester, strangebrewtavern.com 8:30 p.m.

Events

- **Steve Sweeney with Matthew P. Brown** Rockingham Ballroom, Newmarket, rockinghamballroom.club, Friday,

- Jan. 24, at 7 p.m.
- **Ben Seidman** Rex, Manchester, palacetheatre.org Friday, Jan. 24 through Sunday, Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m.
- **Annie Powell/Rob Steen** Liquid Therapy, Nashua, Friday, Jan. 24, 8 p.m.
- **2025 Comedy Bowl** from Queen City Rotary, St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Manchester, on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 6 p.m.
- **Jimmy Dunn** Amato Center,

- Milford, Saturday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m.
- **Steve Scarfo** Chunky's, Manchester, chunkys.com, Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m.
- **David Rattigan** McCue's, Portsmouth, mccuescomedyclub.com, Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m.
- **Tim McKeever/Annie Powell** Muse Bistro, Salem, Wednesday, Jan. 29, 8 p.m.
- **Ismo** Music Hall Lounge, Portsmouth, Thursday, Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m.

WELCOME VALLARTA TEQUILA BAR

The Newest from the Family of Vallartas, offering the Best Margaritas and Mexican Cuisine!




HAPPY HOUR
Every Day from 2-5pm
All 16oz Drafts are \$3

MARGARITA MONDAYS ALL DAY
Fresh, Jamaican, Jose Cuervo
Traditional Silver \$7.99

TACO TUESDAYS
\$1.49 Hard/Soft Shell, Shredded Chicken, Beef or Ground Beef
*Dine-in only, Minimum purchase nec.

MARGARTIA FLIGHTS
All Day Wednesdays \$9.99

Reservations Accepted • Online Ordering
827 Elm St. Downtown Manchester • 603-836-3106 • vallartatequillabar.com
Sun to Thurs 11am to Midnight | Late Night Fridays-Saturdays till 1am

Puerto Vallarta Mexican Grill • 865 Second St., Manchester • 603-935-9182
Nuevo Vallarta Mexican Restaurant • 791 Second St., Manchester • 603-782-8762

VOTE FOR US HIPPO BEST OF

Celebrating a special occasion? Our Private Party Room holds up to 30 people!

Trivia

Trivia events

• **2010s decade of music trivia** Thursday, Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com).
 • **General Knowledge trivia** Thursday, Jan. 23, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com).

Other games

• **21+ Live Feud Gone Wild** at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com) on Friday, Jan. 24, at 8:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$20.
 • **21+ Scratch Ticket Bingo** at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com) on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$13 and include a \$5 food voucher for that evening.

Weekly trivia

• **Thursday** trivia with ABC Trivia at Oddball Brewing (6 Glass St., Suncook, 210-5654, oddballbrewingnh.com) at 6 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia at Lithermans (126 Hall St., Concord, lithermans.beer) at 6 p.m.

• **Thursday** trivia at Reed's North (2 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2143, reednorth.com) from 6 to 8 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia at Station 101 (193 Union Sq., Milford, 249-5416) at 6:30 p.m.
 • **Thursday** music trivia at Day of the Dead Taqueria (454 Charles Bancroft Hwy., Litchfield, 377-7664) at 6:30 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia with Geeks Who Drink at the Barley House (132 N. Main St., Concord, thebarleyhouse.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia with Game Time Trivia at Hart's Turkey Farm (223 DW Highway, Meredith, 279-6212, hartsturkeyfarm.com) from 7 to 9:30 p.m.
 • **Thursday** Opinionation by Sporecle trivia at Uno Pizzeria & Grill (15 Fort Eddy Road, Concord; 226-8667) at 7 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia at Hop Knot (1000 Elm St., Manchester, 232-3731, hopknotnh.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Thursday Trivia Night with Bill Seney** at Bonfire Restaurant & Country Bar (950 Elm St., Manchester, bonfiremanch.com) at 7 p.m.

• **Thursday** trivia at Shooters Sports Pub (6 Columbia Ave., Exeter, 772-3856) at 7:15 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia at Liquid Therapy (14 Court St., Nashua, 402-9391) at 7:30 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia at Game Changer Sports Bar (4 Orchard View Dr., Londonderry; 216-1396, gamechangersportsbar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.
 • **Thursday** trivia at Strange Brew (88 Market St., Manchester, 666-4292) at 8 p.m.
 • **First Thursday of every month** trivia at Fody's (9 Clinton St., Nashua, fodystavern.com) at 8 p.m.
 • **First and third Thursday of every month** trivia at To Share Brewing (720 Union St., Manchester, tosharebrewing.com) at 6:30 p.m.
 • **Friday** trivia at Biergarten Anheuser-Busch (221 DW Highway, Merrimack) from 6 to 8 p.m.
 • **Sunday** trivia at Mountain Base Brewery (553 Mast Road, No. 111, Goffstown, 315-8382) at 4 p.m.
 • **Monday Trivia Night with Bill Seney** at Renegade's Pub (103

Nashua Road, Londonderry, renegadespub.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Monday** Pub Quiz at Shaskeen (909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, shaskeenirishpub.com) at 7:30 p.m.
 • **Tuesday** trivia at Able Ebenezer Brewing (31 Columbia Circle, Merrimack, 844-223-2253) at 6 p.m.
 • **Tuesday** trivia at Sea Dog Brewing (5 Water St., Exeter, 793-5116) at 6 p.m.
 • **Tuesday** trivia at Second Brook Bar & Grill (1100 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, secondbrook.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Tuesday** trivia at Fody's (187 Rockingham Road, Derry, 404-6946, fodystavern.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Tuesday** trivia at Lynn's 102 Tavern (76 Derry Road, Hudson, 943-7832, lynns102.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Tuesday Trivia Night with Bill Seney** at Shopper's Pub + Eatery (18 Lake Ave., Manchester, shoppersmht.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Tuesday** trivia at the Forum Pub (15 Village St., Concord, 552-0137), at 8 p.m.
 • **Tuesday** trivia at Gibb's Garage Bar (3612 Lafayette Road, Ports-

mouth, gibbsgaragebar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.
 • **Tuesday Geeks Who Drink** trivia at Peddler's Daughter (48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlersdaughter.com), from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Bert's Beers (545 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 413-5992, bertsnh.com) at 6 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Community Oven (845 Lafayette Road, Hampton, 601-6311, thecommunityoven.com) at 6 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** Brews & Qs trivia, 21+, at Feathered Friend (231 S. Main St., Concord, 715-2347, featheredfriendbrewing.com) at 6 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Otto (33 Water St., Exeter, 810-6886) at 6 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Spyglass Brewing Co. (306 Innovative Way, Nashua, 546-2965, spyglassbrewing.com) at 6 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Talespinner Brewery (57 Factory St., Nashua, ramblingtale.com, 318-3220) at 6:30 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Popovers (11 Brickyard Sq., Epping, 734-4724, popoversonthesquare.com)

from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** The Greatest Trivia in the World at Revolution Taproom and Grill (61 N. Main St., Rochester, 244-3042, revolutiontaproomandgrill.com/upcoming-events) at 6:30 p.m.
 • **Wednesday Trivia Night with Bill Seney** at Backyard Brewery (1211 S. Mammoth Road, Manchester, backyardbrewerynh.com) 7 p.m.
 • **Wednesday** trivia at Don Ramon (6 Whitney St., Merrimack, 420-8468) from 7 to 9 p.m.
 • **Wednesday Kings** Trivia at KC's Rib Shack (837 Second St., Manchester, 627-7427, ribshack.net), sponsored by Mi Campo, in Manchester 7 to 9 p.m..
 • **Wednesday** trivia at City Hall Pub (8 Hanover St., Manchester, 232-3751, snhhg.com) at 7 p.m.
 • **Wednesday World Tavern Trivia** at Fody's Tavern (9 Clinton St. in Nashua, fodystavern.com, 577-9015) at 8 p.m.
 • **Second Wednesday of every month** trivia at Park Theatre (19 Main St., Jaffrey, 532-9300, theparktheatre.org) at 7:30 p.m.

Film

Venues

Bank of NH Stage in Concord 16 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, banknhstage.com
Chunky's Cinema Pub 707 Huse Road, Manchester, chunkys.com
Cinemark Rockingham Park 12 15 Mall Road, Salem
Fathom Events fathomevents.com
The Flying Monkey 39 Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusic-hall.org
O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square 24 Calef Hwy., Epping, 679-3529, oneilcinemas.com
Park Theatre 19 Main St., Jaffrey, theparktheatre.org
Red River Theatres 11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, redriver-theatres.org
Regal Fox Run Stadium 15 45

Gosling Road, Newington, reg-movies.com
Rex Theatre 23 Amherst St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
Smitty's Cinema 630 W. Main St., Tilton, 286-3275, smittyscinema.com
The Strand 20 Third St., Dover, 343-1899, thestranddover.com
Wilton Town Hall Theatre 40 Main St., Wilton, wiltontown-halltheatre.com, 654-3456
Screenings
 • **Nosferatu** (R, 2024) will screen at Red River Theaters in Concord on Thursday, Jan. 23, at 3:30 p.m.
 • **A Complete Unknown** (R, 2024) will screen at Red River Theaters in Concord on Thursday, Jan. 23, 3 p.m.; Friday, Jan. 24, through Sunday, Jan. 26, at 12:45, 3:45 & 6:45 p.m.; Monday, Jan. 27, through Wednesday, Jan. 29, at



The Brutalist

3:45 & 6:45 p.m.; Thursday, Jan. 30, at 3:30 p.m.
 • **The Brutalist** (R, 2024) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord from Friday, Jan. 24, through Thursday, Jan. 30, at 1:45 & 6 p.m.
 • **Babygirl** (R, 2024) will screen at Red River Theaters in Concord from Friday, Jan. 24, through Sunday, Jan. 26, at 2, 4:30 & 7 p.m.; Monday, Jan. 27, through Thursday, Jan. 30, at 4:30 & 7 p.m.
 • **Black Dog** (R, 2024) will screen Friday, Jan. 24, at 7 p.m. at Sweetney Hall at NHTI in Concord.

Admission costs \$10. This "Chinese production (filmed in the Gobi Desert)" was the "winner of the 'Un Certain Regard' award at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival and [was] recently nominated in the 'Best Film Not in English' category at the BAFTA awards," according to a press release.
 • **Happy Feet** (PG, 2006) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 10 a.m.
 • **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. It will also screen live via Fathom at Apple Cinemas Merrimack and Hooksett, O'neil Cinemas Brickyard Square in Epping and Regal Fox Run in Newington. Encore presentations will screen via Fathom on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 6:30 p.m. at Apple Cinemas at Hook-

sett and Merrimack; at 1 p.m. at O'neil Cinemas Brickyard Square in Epping and at Regal Fox Run in Newington (where an additional encore will screen on Saturday, Feb. 1, at 1 p.m.).
 • **Way Down East** (1920), a D.W. Griffith silent film starring Lillian Gish and presented with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, will screen Sunday, Jan. 26, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre in Wilton.
 • **Between Borders** (2025) will screen via Fathom on Sunday, Jan. 26, through Tuesday, Jan. 28, O'neil Cinemas at Brickyard Square in Epping (7 p.m.) and Regal Fox Run in Newington (4 and 7 p.m.).
 • **Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince** (PG, 2009) will screen as part of a five-course dinner and a movie presentation with food from Chef Keith Sarasin on Sunday, Jan. 26, at 7

p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com). Tickets cost \$75 for dinner (vegetarian option) and \$110 with a VIP wine package.
 • **Wild Orchids** (1928), a silent film starring Greta Garbo presented with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, will screen on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at 7 p.m. at the Rex Theatre.
 • **Mulholland Drive** (R, 2001) will screen Thursday, Jan. 30, at 6:30 p.m. at Red River Theatres in Concord.
 • **Green and Gold** (2025) will screen via Fathom Friday, Jan. 31, through Thursday, Feb. 6, at 4 and 7 p.m. at Regal Fox Run in Newington.
 • **Happy Feet** (PG, 2006) will screen at Chunky's in Manchester on Tuesday, Feb. 4, at 11:30 a.m. as part of the Little Lunch Date Series.

Still waiting for your carrier to pick up your vehicle?
 Call American - we'll get you to Florida NOW!
 ★ Guaranteed Pickup Date and Time
 ★ Guaranteed Prices
Fast • Reliable
Safe • Convenient
\$100 OFF ROUND TRIP!
*Expires January 31, 2025
\$50 OFF ONE WAY!
*Expires January 31, 2025
 Ship quickly Nationwide
 Daily Trips to Florida
 Book your round trip now and save more
 USDOT #385723
AMERICAN
 AUTO TRANSPORTERS, INC.
1.800.800.2580 • shipcar.com
 Text- 617-shipcar (617-744-7227)
 VOTE HIPPO BEST OF 2025
 BBB 2023

AutoZone
 the Hudson Mall
 Everything you need, all in one place!
 AutoZone • East Coast Muscle & Fitness • Fetch a Pet • Great Clips
 Hannaford • H&R Block • Inner Dragon Martial Arts • Lavish Nail & Spa
 Papa Gino's • Saval Dance Academy • US Post Office
 77 Derry Rd. Hudson | TheHudsonMall.com
 144896

Concerts

Shows

- **Rakish/Nate Sabat** Thursday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m., Word Barn, Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Now and Forever: A celebration of Carole King with Alice Leon** Thursday, Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m., Chubb Theatre, Concord, ccanh.com
- **Steve Forbert** Thursday, Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m., Rex, Manchester, palacetheatre.org
- **Eldorado Slim** Thursday, Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's, Portsmouth, jimmysoncongress.com
- **Grateful for Biggie** (Grateful Dead/Biggie Smalls tribute) Thursday, Jan. 23, 8 p.m., Stone Church, Newmarket, stonechurchcrocks.com
- **Diaspora Radio: The Joshua Tree** Thursday, Jan. 23, 9 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **Slack Tide/Supernothing** Friday, Jan. 24, 6 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **Gunning & Cormier** Friday, Jan. 24, 7 p.m., Word Barn, Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Johnny Hoy and the Bluefish featuring Delanie Pickering** Friday, Jan. 24, at 7:30 p.m., BNH Stage, Concord, ccanh.com

- **Esperanza Spalding** Friday, Jan. 24, 8 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts, nashuacenterforthearts.com
- **Dirty Deeds (AC/DC tribute)** Friday, Jan. 24, at 8 p.m., Cap Center, Concord, ccanh.com
- **Zeppelin Reimagined** Friday, Jan. 24, 8 p.m., Tupelo, Derry, tupelomusichall.com
- **DJ Chad Banks** Friday, Jan. 24, 8 p.m., Button Factory Stage, Portsmouth, wscafm.org
- **Lzd Ppl, Trial By Sound, Section D** Friday, Jan. 24, 8 p.m., Stone Church, Newmarket, stonechurchcrocks.com
- **Frontwoods** Saturday, Jan. 25, at 3 p.m., Goosefeathers, Newbury, mountsunapee.com
- **Faith Ann Band and Rabbit Foot** Saturday, Jan. 25, at 6 p.m., Andres Institute, Brookline, andresinstitute.org
- **Kenny Brothers Band & Foxglove** Saturday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **The Fab Four: USA Meets The Beatles!** Saturday, Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m., Chubb Theatre, Concord, ccanh.com
- **Dueling Pianos** Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., BNH Stage, Concord, ccanh.com

- **Beatlejuice** Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., Tupelo, Derry, tupelomusichall.com
- **Soggy Po' Boys** Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., Word Barn, Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Reprise: A Phish Experience** Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., Stone Church, Newmarket, stonechurchcrocks.com
- **Mother Nimbus with Mango Catch Collective** Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., Button Factory Stage, Portsmouth, wscafm.org
- **Reprise: A Phish Experience** Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., Stone Church, Newmarket, stonechurchcrocks.com
- **Reed Foehl** Saturday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge, Portsmouth, themusichall.org
- **Sunday Jazz Brunch featuring Linda Pouliot Trio** Sunday, Jan. 26, at 10 a.m., Jimmy's, Portsmouth, jimmysoncongress.com
- **Yamato: The Drummers of Japan** Sunday, Jan. 26, 4 p.m., Cap Center, Concord, ccanh.com
- **Jim and Jordan Irish Sundays** Sunday, Jan. 26, at 4 p.m., Stone Church, Newmarket, stonechurchcrocks.com
- **Open mic hosted by Dave Ogden** Sunday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m., Stone Church, Newmarket, stonechurchcrocks.com

- **Will Evans** Sunday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m., Word Barn, Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Lee DeWyze** Sunday, Jan. 26, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall Lounge, Portsmouth, themusichall.org
- **Jimmy's Discovery Series Presents: The Blue Ribbons** Monday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m., Jimmy's, Portsmouth, jimmysoncongress.com
- **Songwriter Roundup with Katie Dobbins, Dan Sirois and Patrick Synan** Wednesday, Jan. 29, 7 p.m., Hermit Woods, Meredith, hermitwoods.com
- **Savor the Silence/Them Dewlap Boys/The Pomeroy's** Wednesday, Jan. 29, 7 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **Oma Sosa & Seckou Keita Soubra Trio** Wednesday, Jan. 29, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's, Portsmouth, jimmysoncongress.com
- **Chuck Prophet & His Cumbia Shoes** Wednesday, Jan. 29, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace, Portsmouth, 3sarts.com

- **New England Winter Blues Festival with Rick Estrin, Jerry Portnoy, Jason Ricci, "Sugar Ray" Norcia, Nick "Mr. Nick" David, with the Wicked Lo-Down** Thursday, Jan. 30, 7 p.m., Rex, Manchester, palacetheatre.org
- **Genticorum** Thursday, Jan. 30, 7 p.m., Word Barn, Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Matt Pond PA with Anya Marina and Bathtub Cig** Thursday, Jan. 30, 7 p.m., 3S Artspace, Portsmouth, 3sarts.org
- **The Press Room Presents The Press Room** Thursday, Jan. 30, 7 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com

- **Ace Frehley performing KISS hits** Thursday, Jan. 30, 8 p.m., Tupelo, Derry, tupelomusichall.org
- **Dinty Child/Mark Erelli** Thursday, Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m., Flying Goose, New London, flyinggoose.com
- **Adam Pascal & Anthony Rapp** Thursday, Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall, Portsmouth, themusichall.org
- **Not Fade Away Band** (Grateful Dead tribute) Thursday, Jan. 30, 8 p.m., Stone Church, Newmarket, stonechurchcrocks.com

R&R answer from pg 32 of 1/16

URGED	UNTO	SHES		
HORN	Y	POOR	PACE	
HARD	ERT	O	B	REATH
DR	I	A	ONE	SCHON
	CALM	WAGE		
AARON	LEWIS	DIDI		
GRITTY	IT	IS	PAT	
IGOTO	ASH	HOURS		
RUT	NILE	MARTIN		
LESS	GORDON	GANO		
	AKON	IDEA		
SHINE	GAVE	NWA		
LUCINDA	WILLIAMS			
IGOT	AGOD	ASCAP		
DENY	MOLE	STONY		

Jonesin' answer from pg 31 of 1/16

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

CONTINUED FROM PG 6
 need more high-tech skilled kids. ... So, the younger you can get them attracted to those kinds of things and the more fun they have with it, the more they're likely to stick with it. We want more schools. We sort of average anywhere between 11 and 18 schools a year. It goes up and down. ... You want it to be more students. You want more energy around those fields. Mostly we need a workforce on biology, on biotech, on everything with life sciences, on everything with environmental scienc-

es, right? We don't have enough of the ... even engineering and computers. We don't have enough of that skill set and we need more.

Does a student need their school to be a part of the fair to apply?

Deb: A lot of the students come in individually without school sponsorship, and then there's a bunch of kids that do come with school sponsorship. So it's a mix. We also can get home-school kids. —Zachary Lewis



THREE TIMES FAST

Beatlejuice has been New England's favorite Beatles tribute for the past 25 years. Their wide-ranging repertoire ranges from the Fabs' early days in Liverpool to the members' solo careers. They drop by Tupelo Music Hall (10 A St., Derry, 437-5100, tupelomusichall.com) on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$35 plus fees.

NITE SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

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

Puzzle A

©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Difficulty: ★

King Classic Sudoku

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

Puzzle B

©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Difficulty: ★★

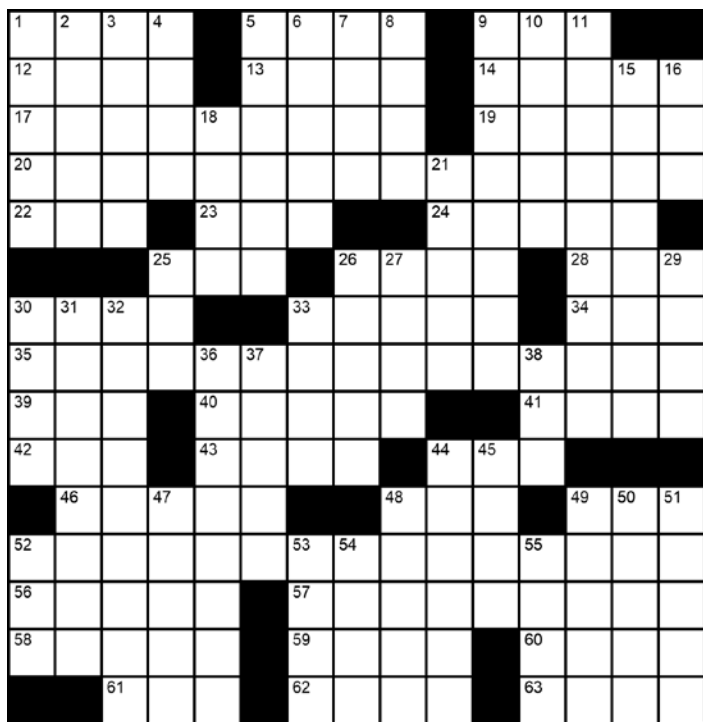
King Classic Sudoku

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

©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Difficulty: ★★★

"Welcome to 2025"—it's 3x15, squared



Across

- 1. Short but not sweet
- 5. Heavenly ring
- 9. Nice name?
- 12. Miami University location
- 13. Dry as a bone
- 14. Totally mad
- 17. Country that's officially the "Most Serene Republic"
- 19. Former small iPods
- 20. MM
- 22. Stadium cheer
- 23. The whole thing
- 24. "No Hard Feelings" band The ___ Brothers
- 25. Initials for home projects
- 26. Band known for elaborate videos
- 28. Thurston Howell ___ of "Gilligan's Island"
- 30. Segment between "Eat" and "Love"
- 33. Bird warble
- 34. Voice actor Blanc
- 35. XX
- 39. ___ carte
- 40. "The Jungle" novelist Sinclair
- 41. "American Fiction" actress Rae
- 42. 35mm camera initials
- 43. "Luck ___ my side"
- 44. Animation collectible
- 46. Arizona State University locale
- 48. Title bestowed on Stephen Fry in 2025
- 49. On vacation
- 52. V
- 56. No longer minor
- 57. 2013 disaster film portmanteau
- 58. "The Color Purple" protagonist

- 59. "Dallas Buyers Club" Oscar winner Jared
- 60. Of majestic proportions
- 61. Road repair stuff
- 62. Wilson of "Cars"
- 63. "Peter Pan" pixie nickname

Down

- 1. Cocktail with cranberry juice,

- informally
- 2. Moving van rental company
- 3. Hair care product
- 4. "Children of Blood and Bone" author Adeyemi
- 5. "Not even!"
- 6. "Part of Your World" singer
- 7. Suffix for Earth or finger
- 8. Air freshener target
- 9. Battery for smoke detectors
- 10. Deliver a lecture
- 11. Not just once
- 15. Places for big-name players
- 16. Point opposite WNW
- 18. Smoothie superfruit
- 21. Bird on a quarter
- 25. Color-changing substance
- 26. "Citizen Kane" director Welles
- 27. Potter's furnace
- 29. "Casablanca" character
- 30. '90s handhelds
- 31. University of Alabama cheer
- 32. Subsequently
- 33. Member of the Jackson 5
- 36. One with a way with words
- 37. Peeved
- 38. "Don't Stop ___ You Get Enough"
- 44. Fruit resembling a lemon
- 45. "CHiPs" costar Estrada
- 47. Presidential daughter of the 2010s
- 48. Play in the NHL
- 49. Giraffe's stripey relative
- 50. Supplied, as computer data
- 51. Monk's outfit

- 52. Car wash appliance, for short
- 53. Main port of Norway
- 54. Masticate
- 55. Tech news site once owned by CBS

© 2024 Matt Jones

KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

2÷		2-	
1-	12×		3-
	3+		
4+		2÷	

WORKSPACE:

©2024 KenKen Puzzle, LLC www.kenken.com

CHALLENGING

5-	2÷	3-	24×		2-
		1-	2-		
1-	15×	11+			3+
			6		
3-	5-	10+	20×		
				3÷	

WORKSPACE:

©2024 KenKen Puzzle, LLC www.kenken.com

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

6×	4	2-	1
2	4	3	1
3	2	1	7+
4	1	2	3
3-	4	1	2
2-	1	3	4

2-	6	4	3+	8+	5	2	5+
60×	3	5	2	5-	6	1	4
4	2	5	1	108×	3	6	3
4-	5	1	4	2	3	6	
1	12+	3	6	4	5	2	
2	6	1	60×	3	4	5	

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Four arachnids
- What NHL stands for
- Three punctuation marks
- Two five-letter relatives
- Two coin-flip possibilities

Last Week's Answers: PLUM KIWI PEAR LIME DATE / STRAIGHT FLUSH PAIR / TANGO SAMBA WALTZ / AUGUST APRIL JUNE / TASMANIA VICTORIA

© 2024 David L. Hoyt, Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

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

SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *Kind of a Big Deal*, by Shannon Hale, born Jan. 26, 1974.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) ‘Ouch,’ Josie said, because becoming an adult hurt. And then she had a cookie.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) Josie called Nina. Nina didn’t answer. She texted Nina. Several times. No immediate response. For now, she was on her own. Come on, Nina.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) The book was sitting there in her bag, waiting for her, full of promise and threats. And she honestly didn’t know what she hoped would happen. Which is fine.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) Josie’s routine was identical day after day, while her best friend was at the University of Chicago, attending fascinating lectures and dating interesting people. Was she?

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) There were parts of high school she would miss. Maybe forever. Those things did not include the smell. Everything’s a mixed bag.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) Josie’s familiarity with Missoula was mostly limited to the stretch between the condo and the grocery store. You know what you need to know.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) Josie was only 80 percent sure she knew what obfuscate meant, so she didn’t say it aloud. Smart.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) She spent a few minutes searching in the library’s online catalog and found something perfect. That’s all it takes.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) The whole experi-

ence reminded her of the dream ballets in musicals ... It wasn’t real, and yet it was more real — or more honest, anyway. Where the characters could be true about how they felt, could explore romance and ambition.... By dancing and singing about it. Musicals were better than real life. And if Josie could make a wish, she’d live in one forever. Pick a good one.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) She’d taken down an entire Zombloid army! While singing the Spice Girls! She could do anything. Darn right.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) Bruce waved when he saw her. He wasn’t wearing all denim today. Maybe that had been more of a laundry mishap than a conscious fashion choice. That happens.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) The warmth of the tea in her hand plus the kindness felt so wonderful, she almost teared up. Tea is nice. 🍵

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

- 1 luxury boat (5)
- 2 electricity unit (8)
- 3 fruit from the Middle East (7)
- 4 zero (6)
- 5 Arthurian knight (8)
- 6 composer Joplin (5)
- 7 informal photograph (8)

SOLUTIONS

ATT	GHT	RI	AP	KIL
OTT	SH	YAC	NC	LA
NAU	SN	OW	EL	OT
AP	HT	OT	SC	COT

Last Week’s Answers: 1. SHRILL 2. SOCCER 3. TENT 4. SALESPERSON 5. RESIN 6. ROOFTOP 7. BASEBALL

Sudoku Answers from pg 32 of 1/16

Puzzle A

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

Puzzle B

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

Puzzle C

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

Furniture & More, LLC
Deja Vu



We are an eclectic warehouse loaded with a vast collection of old, new, and unusual pieces! Come to shop or just to browse, we promise you’ll keep coming back!



Visit us on FB



113 Hillside Ave., Londonderry, NH 03053 | 603-437-5571

144486

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB
1-855-417-1306

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1002165 NSCB 0002999 0083445

Make the smart and **ONLY CHOICE** when tackling your roof!

LIMITED TIME OFFER! SAVE!

UP TO 50% OFF INSTALLATION

FREE ESTIMATE 1.833.370.1234

Expires 4/30/2025



Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast -FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

Dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400+ procedures. Real dental insurance - not just a discount plan. Get your free Information Kit with details! 1-855-526-1060 www.dental50plus.com/ads #6258

Attention oxygen therapy users! Discover oxygen therapy that moves with you with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. Free information kit. 1-866-477-9045

Aging Roof? New Homeowner? Got Storm Damage? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-878-9091

Water damage cleanup: A small amount of water can cause major damage to your home. Our trusted professionals dry out wet areas & repair to protect your family & your home value! Call 24/7: 1-888-872-2809. Have zip code!

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a **FREE 5-Year warranty** with qualifying purchase* Call 1-855-948-6176 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-610-1936

Bath & shower updates in as little as 1 day! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & military discounts available. 1-877-543-9189

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit dorranceinfo.com/ads

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$500,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. 833-

308-1971

DIRECTV Stream - Carries the most local MLB Games! Choice Package \$89.99/mo for 12 mos Stream on 20 devices at once. HBO Max included for 3 mos (w/Choice Package or higher). No contract or hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-866-859-0405

Replace your roof w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off install + Additional 10% off install (military, health & 1st responders.) 1-833-370-1234

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 3/30/25.) Call 1-844-501-3208

Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-833-399-3595

Home break-ins take less than 60

seconds. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets now for as little as 70c/day! 1-844-591-7951

MobileHelp America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety & peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! Call 1-888-489-3936

We buy houses for cash as is! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer & get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-844-877-5833

Consumer Cellular - same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees free activation. All plans feature unlimited talk & text, starting at just \$20/mo. Call 1-877-751-0866

Portable Oxygen Concentrator may be covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 877-305-1535

Reader Advisory: The National Trade Association we belong to has published this advertisement in order to avoid misunderstanding. Some advertisers do not offer employment and other services to the readers with manual, physical and other disabilities designed to help their clients establish and/or improve their business. Under NO circumstance should you send any money in advance or give your credit card number, bank account or other financial information to anyone who claims to guarantee loans regardless of credit and note that if a small repair company does business only when the phone is being to request any money before delivering to service. All funds are based on US dollars. Call free numbers may or may not reach the nation.

Bright Idea

Toilet paper shoppers in Kagoshima Prefecture in southern Japan have a new option, GoodNewsNetwork.org reported on Jan. 14: rolls made from used diapers and other hygiene products. The cities of Shibushi and Osaki worked together to recycle disposable diapers starting in April 2024. The used items are sanitized, bleached and shredded into a pulp to be mixed with recycled paper, to the tune of 30,000 rolls in the first two months of production. They're sold at \$2.70 for a dozen rolls. "Please support this eco-friendly product, which aims to promote a sustainable society by reusing local resources," said Takumi Obo, spokesperson for the Osaki Municipal Government's SDGs Promotion Council. *Good News Network, Jan. 14*

Irony

On Dec. 18 at the Family Dollar store in Mulberry, Florida, two shoplifters worked together to pull off a cleaning products heist, the Miami Herald reported on Jan. 10. The Polk County Sheriff's Office, referring to the couple as Mr. Clean and Ms. Dookie until an arrest is made, hatched a plan to distract employees. "The man walked around the store

gathering nearly \$500 worth of merchandise (like lots of Gain, Tide and Clorox products)," officers said, "whilst the woman ... (used) the restroom, without going to the restroom." While employees cleaned up the mess, Mr. Clean walked past the registers and out to a Ford van, where Ms. Dookie joined him, and they drove away. The odd couple are still at large. *Miami Herald, Jan. 10*

Wrong Place, Wrong Time

A coyote "made a mistake" on Jan. 13 and ended up in the refrigerated case of the produce section at an Aldi store in Chicago, WLS-TV reported. It was sequestered behind a selection of fine cheeses after roaming around the parking lot just minutes earlier. "It picked an odd location," said Stan Gehrt with the Cook County Coyote Project. "They do this sometimes. They're trying to hide from us." Gehrt said many of the animals who end up in a sketchy situation are those who haven't found a mate yet. The coyote will be evaluated by the Flint Creek Wildlife Rehabilitation group, which will determine whether it can be released back into the wild. *WLS, Jan. 13*

Least Competent Criminal

Victoria state police in Australia released a video on Jan. 9 in an effort to identify two would-be arsonists who bungled their crime, Yahoo! News reported. In the video, two people in dark hoodies attempted to set fire to a Melbourne fast-food outlet on Christmas morning, but one of them became engulfed in flames. The footage shows the person removing their fiery trousers and running away bare-cheeked; the other person was seemingly unharmed.

Mistaken Identity

As a group of schoolchildren walked home on Jan. 13 in Syracuse, New York, Onondaga County Sheriff's deputies approached the kids and said one girl, wearing a pink jacket and camo pants, was the suspect in a car theft nearby. WSTM-TV reported that another child started recording video as the 11-year-old girl and her friends denied the accusation and deputies put her in handcuffs. They showed the kids a picture of the suspect and said, "Girl, you gonna tell me this ain't you?" Eventually, one deputy noticed that the suspect had longer hair and "apologized," saying, "I'm sorry about it, but you matched the description

pretty clearly." The sheriff's department reviewed the situation and claimed the detainment was "lawful and reasonable," but Sheriff Toby Shelley met with the girl's mother afterward and called their conversation "productive." *WSTM, Jan. 15*

No Longer Weird

It's that time again, Florida: falling iguana season. Accuweather reported on Jan. 8 that as temperatures drop along the Gulf Coast and southeast Florida, cold-stunned iguanas are likely to fall out of trees after losing their grip on the branches. Residents are warned that the reptiles appear to be dead, but they're just sleeping. Fully grown iguanas can be up to 5 feet long and up to 25 pounds, so they present a danger to unsuspecting humans walking along the sidewalk. Professional iguana remover Michael Ronquillo warns against handling the lethargic animals, saying they can become defensive when they warm up. Plus, their droppings can contain salmonella. *Accuweather, Jan. 8*

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

Après Ski Award Winning Brewery & Exceptional Dining

20 Hand Crafted Beers on tap!

Rags to Riches NHIPA and Ragged Mountain Red Ale

Available in 4 pack cans and on draft. Growlers available, too!

We're close to Ragged Mountain Just 1 mile off exit 11 on I-89

CONCERT SERIES
DINTY CHILD & MARK ERELLI
Thursday, Jan. 30th, 7:30pm

Serving Lunch & Dinner Daily • FlyingGoose.com
603.526.6899 • 40 Andover Road, New London, NH

Happy New Year!
COME CELEBRATE WITH US AT
THE LUCKY MOOSE

Winning Happens Here

The Lucky Moose CASINO & TAVERN

16 Gusabel Ave, Nashua • (603) 864-0175 • luckymooscasino.com

Great Deals on All New Craft Spirits

Available at your local Outlet



LOUD LEMON ISLAND JAM AND LOUD LEMON SUMMER HUMMER

Find in the Cocktail section
Ready-to-Drink vodka lemonade canned cocktails.

SAVE \$3 NOW ONLY \$9.99 FOR 4-PK



WILD ATLANTIC IRISH WHISKEY

Find in the Irish Whiskey section

Distilled, matured & bottled in Ireland. Malt Irish Whiskey matured in an IPA beer barrel. Aged for over 4 years. Blend of the finest Irish triple-distilled grain and premium malt Irish whiskeys. Smooth 'no bite, no burn' finish.

SAVE \$2 NOW ONLY \$27.99



AMRUT FUSION SINGLE MALT WHISKEY

Find in the Whiskey section

A single malt whiskey distilled in India that is made from a unique blend of Indian barley and peated Scottish barley.

SAVE \$2 NOW ONLY \$65.99



SUGARWOOD 1790

Find in the Bourbon Whiskey section

A 9-year aged straight Kentucky Bourbon, single barrel with a mashbill 78% corn, 13% rye and 9% malted barley.

SPECIALY PRICED \$99.99

Smokin' Ginger Mule

- 2 oz Cask & Crew Ginger Spice Whiskey
- 3 oz ginger beer
- 1 tbsp fresh lime juice
- 2-3 fresh mint leaves
- Lime wedges and mint sprigs for garnish



CASK&CREW GINGER SPICE WHISKEY

Find in the Flavored Whiskey section

A blend of 51% Canadian rye and 49% barrel-aged American corn whiskey along with ginger root and spice. The end result reads like whiskey mixed with ginger ale, sweet up-front and finishing with a ginger zing!

SAVE \$3 NOW ONLY \$24.99

Coming Soon!



QUIVER SPICED HONEY SPIRIT

SAVE \$2 NOW ONLY \$37.99



LUCKY SEVEN THE HOLIDAY TOAST BOURBON WHISKEY

SAVE \$2 NOW ONLY \$67.99



MOLON LABE MAPLE BOURBON WHISKEY

SAVE \$2 NOW ONLY \$47.99



MOLON LABE WHEATED BOURBON WHISKEY

SAVE \$2 NOW ONLY \$47.99

145061



Discover Premier Shows

AT NEW HAMPSHIRE'S AWARD-WINNING VENUE!

JAN 30



ACE FREHLEY
PERFORMING ALL THE KISS HITS

JAN 31



CAPTAIN FANTASTIC
A TRIBUTE TO ELTON JOHN

FEB 1



BOOGIE WONDER BAND
THE MOST CELEBRATED DISCO BAND

FEB 6



MARTY FRIEDMAN

FEB 7/8



LOTUS LAND
A TRIBUTE TO RUSH



GET YOUR TICKETS AND VIEW OUR FULL SCHEDULE AT:

WWW.TUPELOMUSICHALL.COM

144807

the RESIDENCE at 1000 ELM



The Residence at 1000 Elm has it all: style, location, comfort, and convenience, all rolled into a modern, animal-friendly environment you will love coming home to! Located in the heart of Downtown Manchester, this community is within walking distance of restaurants, shopping, and entertainment, with easy access to I-293. **The Residence at 1000 Elm** offers beautifully renovated 1-3 bedroom apartment homes that showcase gleaming quartz countertops in both the kitchen and bathroom, stainless steel appliances, in-unit washer and dryer, and designer flooring throughout.

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

- Library
- Fitness Center
- Controlled Access
- Courtyard
- Animal Spa
- Micro Market
- Community Room
- Theatre
- Game Room
- Putting Green
- WiFi Lounge
- Covered Parking

1 MONTH FREE WITH A NEW 13 MONTH LEASE*

1000 ELM STREET
MANCHESTER, NH 03101

603.945.9784 | 1000ELM.COM



*1 month FREE with a NEW 13 month lease & \$500 initial security deposit with qualifying credit on all units.