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FEBRUARY 13 - 19, 2025

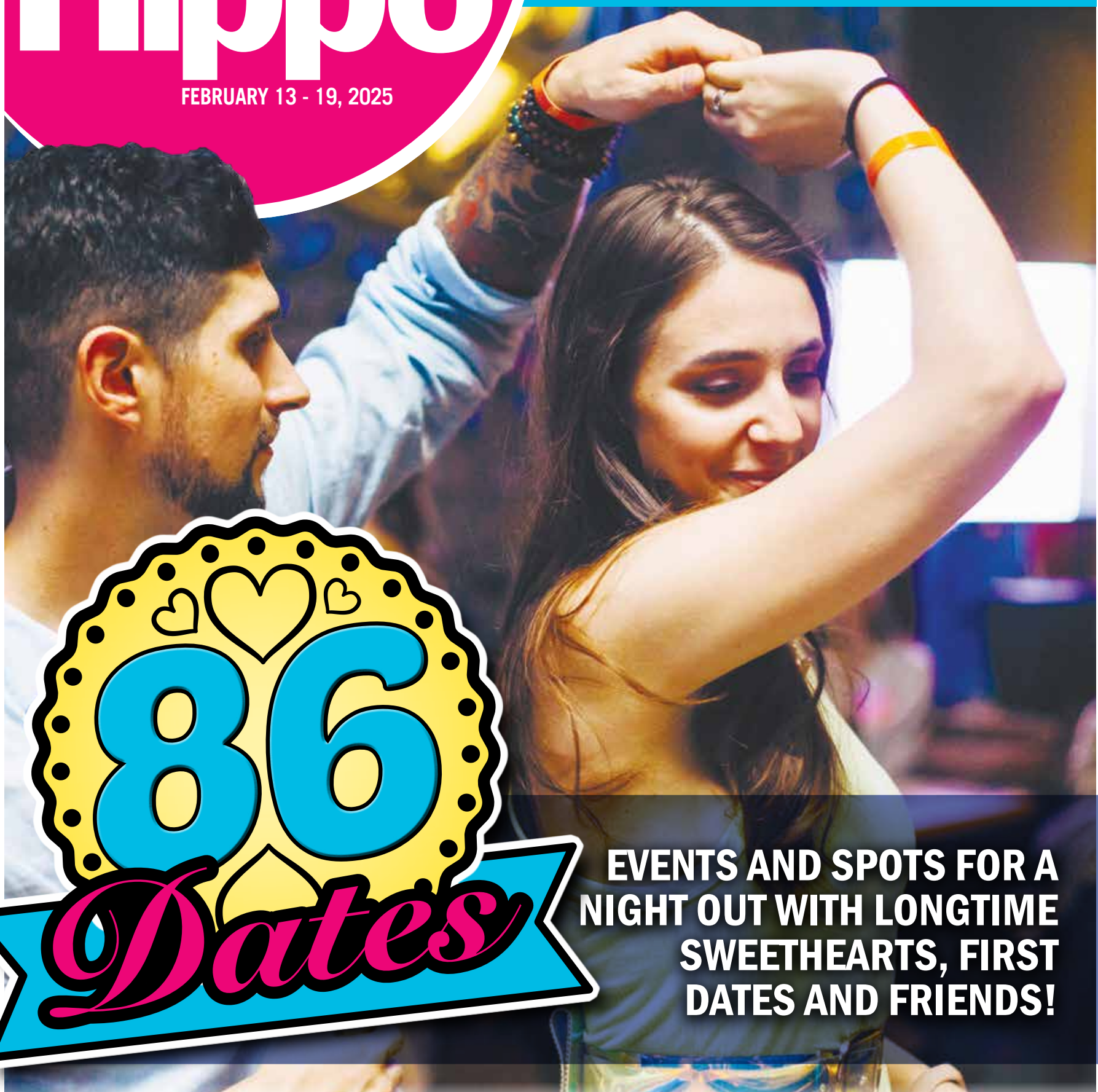
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ON THE COVER

10 Whether you're planning a date with your sweetie for Valentine's Day (which is, like, now — Friday, Feb. 14), an outing with a buddy or a get-to-know-you activity with someone new, we've got some ideas (86 of them) for places and happenings that can offer you new experiences, fun activities for two or even a little adventure.

ALSO ON THE COVER

Have you voted? Vote now for best ice cream, best spa and best bookstore! Voting is open in Hippo's Best of 2025 readers poll now through Feb. 28. See hippypress.com.

In this week's food section, John Fladd finds out about the new Manchester eatery, Rock n Roll Meatballs (see page 20).

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NEWS & NOTES

Fritz retires

Fritz Wetherbee, broadcaster and longtime teller of stories from New Hampshire history on WMUR-TV's *New Hampshire Chronicle*, has announced his retirement. "For nearly 25 years, Wetherbee has brought the history, folklore and charm of New Hampshire to life through his signature segment, 'Fritz Wetherbee's New Hampshire,' on *New Hampshire Chronicle*. His unmistakable voice, quick wit and unparalleled knowledge of the state have made him a household name and an integral part of New England's cultural fabric," according to a press release from WMUR. "A five-time Emmy Award winner and a New Hampshire native, Wetherbee's career in broadcasting spans more than half a century," the release said.

"I've had the privilege of telling New Hampshire's stories for most of my life, and I wouldn't trade it for anything," Wetherbee said in a statement in the release. "But now, it's time for me to step back, take a breath and enjoy the history I've been so lucky to share."

"WMUR will air a special tribute, *I'll Tell You the Story: A Thank You to Fritz Wetherbee*, on Feb. 24 at 7 p.m.," the release said. An archive of 60 of Wetherbee's past segments will be available for viewing via WMUR.com starting Monday, Feb. 24, and all 5,000 pieces will eventually be available, the release said.

Mpox

An adult from Merrimack County was identified as having

mpox and "is currently self-isolating and recovering at home" and their illness poses "no current risk to the public," according to a New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services press release on Feb. 7. The individual's illness is likely related to their recent travel to eastern Africa, where there is an ongoing outbreak of Clade 1 mpox, the genetic type of mpox the individual has, the release said. "There is no evidence that clade 1 mpox is spreading from person to person in New Hampshire or within the United States. This is the first clade 1 mpox diagnosis in New Hampshire and the third ... in the United States," the release said. The department is "conducting a disease investigation to identify anyone who may have had close contact with the individual. There have been no public locations identified where exposure may have occurred," the release said. The virus is spread "primarily through direct physical contact with someone who has mpox and has developed an infection skin rash," according to a statement from State Epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chan in the release. For more on mpox, see the department's webpage about the illness including information about the vaccine at dhhs.nh.gov.

Mission Zero

On Friday, Feb. 7, no adults were waiting in a New Hampshire hospital emergency department for a bed in an inpatient psychiatric treatment facility, with two adults waiting in correctional facilities, according to a press

release from the N.H. Department of Health and Human Services and New Hampshire Hospital. "As a result, New Hampshire Hospital will end the day with open beds for the first time in recent memory," the release said. The DHHS project Mission Zero is "a collaborative effort to eliminate hospital emergency department psychiatric boarding," according to dhhs.nh.gov. "Today gets us closer to that goal," DHHS commissioner Lori Weaver said in the Feb. 7 press release. "The collaborative efforts among DHHS, the New Hampshire Hospital Association, NAMI NH, hospitals and advocates are making a real difference in the lives of the people we collectively care for." See the "Mental Health" section of the DHHS website for the department's 10-year mental health plan and more on Mission Zero.

More museum time

The Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (27 Navigator Road in Londonderry; aviationmuseumofnh.org) will expand its regular schedule starting Wednesday, March 5, according to a press release. The museum will be open five days a week (an additional two days from its current schedule): Wednesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. The museum will celebrate the new schedule with a ribbon-cutting and cake on Wednesday, March 5, at 10 a.m., the release said. Admission costs \$10 for adults and kids 13 and up; \$5 for age 6 to 12, 65+ and veterans and active military. Kids 5 and under get in

The Pembroke Historical Society will host a presentation on "Vanished Veterans: An Illustrated Introduction to NH's Civil War Monuments and Memorials" on Thursday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m. by historian George Morrison at the **Pembroke** Town Library, 313 Pembroke St. in Pembroke. The event is free and open to the public. Call 566-1031 for info.

Flag Hill Distillery & Winery in **Lee** will host the snowshoe race the County Line Derby on Sunday, Feb. 23, with racers following a .42-mile course around the vineyard, snow or no, according to a press release. The event is free but tickets are required and are available at CountyLineDerby2025.eventbrite.com. The event begins at 9:30 a.m.; racers are "tasked with ... creating a racer persona," the release said, and can win Best In Style prizes. Spectators can also compete for a Best Derby Outfit prize, the release said.

The Franco American Centre will hold a Mardi Gras celebration on Sunday, Feb. 23, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Alpine Club (175 Putnam St. in **Manchester**) featuring Mardi Gras-themed snacks, family-friendly Hurricane Punch, making a Mardi Gras mask, creating a mini-float, a Mardi Gras parade, Mardi Gras bingo and more, according to a Centre email. Tickets cost \$20 for adults, \$10 for teens and \$5 for kids, plus fees, at facnh.com.

Science Cafe NH will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 6 p.m. at Soel Sistas Cafe, 30 Temple St. in **Nashua**, for a panel discussion about wastewater, according to an email. The group meets on the third Tuesday of each month; find them on Facebook.

for free.

During the upcoming February school vacation week, the museum will also be open additional days — 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday Feb. 25, through Thursday, Feb. 27, the release said.

Hike Andres

The Andres Institute of Art (106 Route 13 in Brookline; andresinstitute.org) will hold a guided hike of its sculpture-filled trails during February school vacation on Thursday, Feb. 27, at 10 a.m.

The hike has a suggested age of 8 and up and will be on the Quarry Trail or the Parkway Trail, depending on conditions, according to an Andres newsletter. The hike will be 45 to 60 minutes with stops at sculptures, the newsletter said. The hike will start at the AIA welcome center, where trekking poles are available for sale for \$20, the newsletter said. Sign up for this hike by emailing the number of attending hikers and ages of participants as well as contact info to president@andresinstitute.org.

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Eagles fly high at SB



The Big Story – Super Bowl: The Kansas City Chiefs' effort to chip away at the Patriots dynasty took a hit on Sunday when they got crushed in a not-as-close-as-it-looks 40-22 final vs.

the Philadelphia Eagles. The story of this game was how Philly's D-line manhandled the KC O-line in a dominant defensive performance that gave **Patrick Mahomes** no time to think, let alone throw. The win also gives Philly a double no one else can claim: They're the only franchise to beat both **Tom Brady** and **Mahomes** in a Super Bowl. Guess now even the loons in Philadelphia endlessly calling for **Nick Sirianni's** head will finally pipe down 'cause he's a Super Bowl champ.

Sports 101: Name the current Patriot who caught a touchdown against them for Atlanta in SB 51.

News Item – Dynasty Update: As we mentioned, the KC dynasty took a hit Sunday. Their loss means the following go on their resume: (a) no three-peat, (b) no fourth SB win, (c) a second SB rout for the Mahomes-Reid era vs. tight games for all three Patriots losses, (d) Mahomes remains four SB titles behind **Tom Brady**, and (e) at 2-0, Brady will always be undefeated vs. Mahomes in playoff match-ups.

News Item – Adam V: It was a no-go for the greatest kicker who ever lived in this year's voting for the Pro Football Hall in Canton. The four new players, **Jared Allen**, **Eric Allen**, **Sterling Sharpe** and **Antonio Gates**, are all Hall-worthy I guess. Though I don't think they were better at their position than **Adam Vinatieri** was at his, which means he should be in.

News Item – Former Patriots in The Big Game: The only one who did anything was KC's **JuJu Smith-Schuster**, who had two catches for 16 yards.

The Numbers:

6 – second most ever Super Bowl sacks made by the Philly defense.

39 – meager receiving yards all-world tight end **Travis Kelce** was held to in the SB.

57 – years lowest rushing yard total for **Saquan Barkley** in Sunday's win over KC.

... Of the Week Awards

Good Timing Award – Nick Sirianni: He put a SB win on the resume just as he became a free agent coach. That's called leverage.

Do Nothing Award – Red Sox: Since there weren't any new signings of an on-the-cheap, one-year contract deal for a journeyman reliever, they did nothing to

help their incomplete team with spring training days away.

Random Thoughts:

Why do they do a Marine flyover when no one can see it when the Super Bowl is played in a dome like on Sunday?

Watching the Celts and Cavs on TNT and I was thinking someone should check analyst **Grant Hill** for a pulse. Yikes — boring.

A Little History – Rare NBA Feat: That would go to **Kareem Abdul Jabbar**, who revealed in the most interesting internet factoid of the Week he's likely the only one who saw the historic Laker moments in person of **Kobe Bryant** going for 81 in 2006 and when **Elgin Baylor** scored a (since eclipsed) NBA record 71 points in Madison Square Garden in November 1960 when he was a high school kid living in NYC.

Said comparing them is apples and oranges because Kobe did his in the three-point-shot era (he had nine) and Baylor's happened when the league was more balanced, because the top 100 players in the world were crammed into the league's eight teams. Today those 100 would be spread over 30 teams and all would be starters.

Sports 101 Answer: Current Patriots back-up tight end **Austin Hooper** scored the second TD of the game in Atlanta's 34-28 OT loss to the Patriots in the greatest SB ever played.

Final Thought – Why Do They Always Get the MVP Vote Wrong: In the Pats' first Super Bowl **Tom Brady**, despite throwing for under 150 yards, was named MVP. Except he didn't deserve it. **Ty Law** did for scoring the game's first TD on a pick six and being the focal point in shutting down the most prolific passing attack in league history in their 23-20 upset of the St. Louis Rams. Brady was again MVP while throwing for a meager 201 yards for Tampa Bay in SB 56. Except the story was TB defense holding the NFL's highest-scoring offense to just eight points, and LB **Devin White** was all over the field for the Bucs and should have won.

My point is the QB unfairly wins MVP half the time in reputation more than results. Case in point: Sunday.

I know **Jalen Hurts** had a terrific game. But he was mostly in position to do it because Philadelphia's dominant defensive performance makes their field position and giant time of possession edge the story of the game. So common sense suggests the best person on the D should have been MVP. That was edge **Josh Sweat**, who was disruptive all game long with 2.5 sacks and six more solo tackles. So he gets my vote. *Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com.*

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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Headed for the Big Show

Brigid the Terrier has been tapped to compete at the most prestigious dog show in America. As reported in a Feb. 6 online article by Manchester Ink Link, Brigid, whose formal name is Kilkenny's Smiling Face, was scheduled to compete at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show at Madison Square Garden on Feb. 11. The Manchester Glen of Imaal Terrier was judged on how well she conforms to breed standards, racing a 100-yard dash, and performing tricks to accumulate points toward winning the competition for Best in Breed, and — hopefully — Best in Show.

QOL score: +1

Comment: *Brigid has been competing since she was 6 months old, and carries the distinction CGCA, which stands for the title of Good Canine Citizen, Advanced, the article said.*

You could be at home taking a nap

In a recent study of how workers use their available Personal Time Off, New Hampshire workers were rated eighth in the nation for not using all the time off they were entitled to last year. In a survey by internet gaming company Solitairied.com, New Hampshire workers left an average of 4.18 days unused in 2024, and 55 percent of them didn't use all their personal time off.

QOL score: -1

Comment: *Workers in Maryland, Massachusetts and Hawaii had the most unused vacation time in 2024, while Kansas, Missouri and Michigan workers had the least. See the complete survey results at solitairied.com/where-americans-left-the-most-pto-unused.*

Too much lead

As reported by WMUR in a Feb. 4 online article, "A new report shows that the number of children in New Hampshire with elevated levels of lead in their blood is creeping up to the highest point since 2019." The study examined lead exposure in children 5 years of age and under. It found more than 1,100 young children with lead levels high enough to meet the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's standards to recommend quick action to find and remove the source of any lead in the children's environment.

QOL score: -2

Comment: *According to the WMUR article, "Health experts said the numbers are higher because more children are being tested.... Nationwide, the biggest source of lead exposure is old paint. Health officials said New Hampshire homes are at an especially high risk because more than half the homes statewide were built before 1980, around the same time lead paint was banned in the United States."*

The end of an era

WMUR reported on Feb. 4 that the Portsmouth Police Department has retired its last Crown Victoria. For decades, the "Crown Vic" was the car of choice for police departments across North America, until production was slashed, beginning in 2006. Portsmouth's last Crown Vic has been donated to the "Crown Victoria Museum, a nonprofit organization near San Francisco that showcases police cars from across the country," according to WMUR.

QOL score: +1, for contributing to history

Comment: *According to the WMUR story, "Portsmouth's Cruiser 18 will be displayed with its original markings and emergency equipment."*

QOL score last week: 54

Net change: -1

QOL this week: 53

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THIS WEEK BIG EVENTS

FEBRUARY 13 AND BEYOND

Friday, Feb. 14

Legendary South African vocal group **Ladysmith Black Mambazo** will perform at the Dana Center (Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, anselm.edu) tonight at 7:30 p.m. This a cappella vocal group has embodied the intricate rhythms and harmonies of their native South African musical traditions and has continued to engage global audiences for over 60 years while garnering five



Grammy Awards and 19 nominations. Tickets cost \$45.

Thursday, Feb. 13

Learn how to hand-sew a small notepad in the traditional **Japanese Stab Binding** style and personalize it with assorted papers and embellishments in a class by paper artist Mindy Mitrano tonight at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org). Space is limited. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. This class is open to adults 18+.

Friday, Feb. 14

Symphony NH will perform **Illuminated Ensembles: Heart-Strings – A Night at the Regency Ball**, featuring musical highlights made famous by *Bridgerton*, at the Bank of NH Stage (16 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com), tonight at 7:30 p.m., with a pre-show reception at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$37 through the Capitol Center website.

Friday, Feb. 14

Brandy Wells, aka “**The Breakthrough Medium**,” will take the stage at Chunky’s Cinema Pub (707 Huse Road, Manchester, 206-3888, chunkys.com) tonight at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30.

Saturday, Feb. 15

Humorist and state treasure **Rebecca Rule** will present a book talk and signing about her new book, *New Hampshire Trivia and More: Facts and Fancy*, at the New Hampshire Historical Society (30 Park St., Concord, 228-6688, nhhistory.org) this afternoon at 2 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 17

The Community Players of Concord (435 Josiah Bartlett Road, Concord, 224-4905, communityplayersofconcord.org) will hold **auditions** for their upcoming May production of **Thornton Wilder’s *Our Town*** tonight and

tomorrow night, Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 6:30 p.m. Auditions will consist of readings from the script (sides will be available at auditions). For questions about auditions contact Cindy Dickinson at cdcarolinablue@gmail.com or call 924-1925.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

Gibson’s Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsons-bookstore.com) will host a **panel discussion by horror authors** and book signing this evening at 6:30 p.m. Horror Authors Eric LaRocca (*At Dark I Become Loathsome*), Clay McLeod Chapman (*Wake Up and*

Open Your Eyes), EK Sathue (*youth-juice*) and Dennis Mahoney (*Our Winter Monster*) will appear as part of their whirlwind New England Tour to chat all things spooky. This event is free and open to the public.



Save the Date: Friday, March 14

After you watch the Oscars on Sunday, March 2, use that knowledge at **Red River Theatres’ Oscar After-Party Trivia Night** on Friday, March, 14 at 5:30 p.m. at Pembroke Pines Country Club (45A Whittemore Road in Pembroke). Tickets cost \$125 per person and include dinner, trivia, and two movie passes to a future screening at Red River Theatres in Concord. The evening will also feature a silent auction and funds raised from the event support Red River Theatres. See redrivertheatres.org/2025oscarafterparty.

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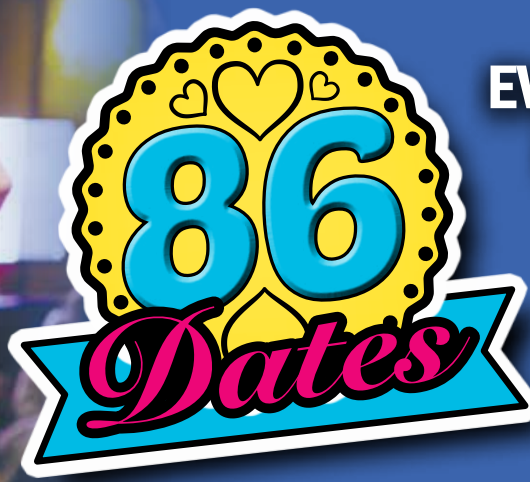


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EVENTS AND SPOTS FOR A NIGHT OUT WITH LONGTIME SWEETHEARTS, FIRST DATES AND FRIENDS!

Compiled by Amy Diaz
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Planning a first date, a date night with a longtime sweetheart or just a “let’s do something different” outing with a friend? Here are some ideas for places to spend time together. (Most information comes from the locations’ websites or social media pages. Call or otherwise get in touch to check on specific days before heading out.)

Dinner and a movie

Dinner and a movie is a classic outing but there are ways to give it a little extra oomph.

At **Red River Theatres** (11 S. Main St. in Concord; redrivertheatres.org) offers a dinner-and-a-movie package: \$40 gets you two regular movie passes plus a \$25 gift card to Concord restaurants Revival Kitchen & Bar, Hermanos or Dos Amigos.

At **Chunky’s Cinema Pub** (707 Huse Road in Manchester; chunkys.com) and **Smitty’s Cinema** (630 W. Main St. in Tilton; smittyscinema.com) you can order dinner while you watch your movie. Both theaters also offer non-movie-based events. Smitty’s GameLab offers arcade games and axe-throwing and the cinema hosts comedy nights — next up is a Boston Comedy Festival show on Friday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. (tickets cost \$20). At Chunky’s, offerings include Thursday night trivia weekly at 7:30 p.m.; scratch ticket (Friday, Feb. 21, at 7 p.m.) and theater candy (Sunday, Feb. 23, at 1 p.m.) bingo; Feud Gone Wild (Friday, Feb. 21, at 8:30 p.m.); Paint Night (next up is Valentine’s Day paint night on Friday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.) and regular comedy shows (catch Frank Santorelli on Friday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 15, at 8 p.m.).

The Flying Monkey (38 S. Main St. in Plymouth; flyingmonkeynh.com) has two movies most weeks on the February and March schedule including a G or PG movie on Wednesdays and a movie on Thursdays. On Thursday, Feb. 13, catch 2024’s *Wick-*

ed at 6 p.m.; on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m. catch *The Lego Batman Movie*. The Flying Monkey has a movie night dinner menu as well as a selection of beer, wine and cocktails.

At **O’neil Cinemas Brickyard Square** (24 Calef Highway in Epping; oneilcinemas.com) you can get a glass of chardonnay with your bucket of popcorn and enjoy a production from The Metropolitan Opera, which are broadcast live and in encore screenings to theaters including O’neil. Next up is *Fidelio*, Beethoven’s only opera, which is broadcast live on Saturday, March 15, at 1 p.m. (with an encore screening on Wednesday, March 19, at 1 p.m.).

Find other theaters screening the Met Opera as well as other theatrical productions, anniversary screenings of older films, concerts and more via **Fathom Events**. Starting with 2001’s *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone* on Thursday, Feb. 13, Fathom has upcoming screenings of the first four Harry Potter films Thursday, Feb. 13, through Sunday, Feb. 16, and Thursday, Feb. 20, through Sunday, Feb. 23.

Like a movie, but live

A theatrical production checks that same box of a shared experience and a story you can discuss over drinks afterward. Some shows on the schedule in the next few weeks:

- The Community Players of Concord (communityplayersofconcord.org) will present *The Gods of Comedy* Friday, Feb. 14, through Sunday, Feb. 16, at the Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St. in Concord). Tickets cost \$20, \$18 for 65+.
- The Majestic Studio Theatre (880 Page St. in Manchester; majestictheatre.net) presents the Neil Simon comedy *The Last of the Red Hot Lovers* Friday, Feb. 14, through Sunday, Feb. 16. Tickets cost \$15 to \$20.
- The Nashua Theatre Guild (nashuatheatreguild.org) will present **An Evening of One-Acts** at the Court Street Theatre

(14 Court St. in Nashua) Friday, Feb. 21, through Sunday, Feb. 23. Tickets cost \$20; \$18 for 65+.

• Theatre Kapow’s *Every Brilliant Thing* spent a weekend at the BNH Stage in Concord and is now headed for the Winnepesaukee Playhouse in Meredith Friday, Feb. 21, through Sunday, Feb. 23, where tickets cost \$25 to \$30. See Michael Witthaus’ story about the production on page 14 of the Feb. 6 issue of the Hippo (which you can find in the digital library at hippopress.com).

• Cue Zero Theatre (cztheatre.com) will present *The Wild Party*, a musical set in the 1920s, Friday, Feb. 28, through Sunday, March 2, at the Arts Academy of New Hampshire (19 Keewaydin Drive in Salem). Tickets cost \$20.

• *Escape to Margaritaville*, a musical comedy featuring Jimmy Buffett classics, is the next multi-week theatrical production at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org), running Friday, Feb. 28, through Sunday, March 23. Tickets cost \$39 through \$53.

• Bedford Off Broadway (bedfordoffbroadway.com) will present the comedy *Boeing Boeing* on the weekends Friday, March 7, through Sunday, March 16, at the Bedford Town Hall (70 Bedford Center Road in Bedford). Tickets cost \$15, \$12 for seniors.

Go dancing

Whether you have been dancing together for years or you are looking to try out something new, there are several dance-related events, many of which will teach you the basics before you hit the floor in earnest.

Looking to learn how to swing dance? Henniker Brewing Co. (173 Centerville Road in Henniker; hennikerbrewing.com) will hold a **Valentine’s Sip and Swing** on Friday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$30 per couple, which includes two beverages and a lesson in dancing from The Hidden

Door Studio, according to a post on Henniker Brewing’s website. (Other fun at Henniker Brewing? Thursday night trivia weekly at 6 p.m. and Wednesday night weekly disc golf putting in their factory at 5:30 p.m., through March 26, as well as live music and more.)

Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road in Newmarket; rockinballroom.club) will host a **Valentine’s Day Dance Party with the New Legacy Swing Band** on Friday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 in advance, \$30 on the day. The evening will start with a dance lesson at 7:15 p.m. followed by the band at 8 p.m. The event is BYOB with a light menu and beverages available for purchase.

The New Hampshire Jazz Orchestra will play the **Valentine’s Swing Dance** on Saturday, Feb. 15, at 6 p.m. at Murphy’s Taproom & Carriage House in Bedford. Get the dance lesson at 6:30 p.m. and be ready when the band plays starting at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$33.85. See nhjazzorchestra.com/upcoming.

In March, you can head to the BNH Stage (16 S. Main St. in Concord; ccanh.com) for **Swing Dance Night featuring New Hampshire Jazz Orchestra** on Saturday, March 22, at 6:30 p.m. (for a dance lesson; the band starts at 7 p.m.). Tickets cost \$30.75.

Paper Moon Dance Studio (33 Depot St. in Merrimack; papermoondance.com) will hold a **Mardi Gras Social Dance** on Saturday, March 8, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Call 943-1106 for details on this event and the studio’s other offerings.

For something a little spicier, check out the **It Takes Two To Tango Workshop** from Royal Palace Dance Studio (5 N. Main St. in Concord; royalpalacedance.com) on Saturday, Feb. 15, at 7 p.m. The cost is \$45 per person and no experience is required. Royal Palace Dance Studio, which also has a Manchester location, offers private lessons and group classes in a variety of dance styles including swing, ballroom, salsa and more.

Or heat things up with salsa dancing. **Bella Vita Dance Academy** (Eastside Plaza, 859 Hanover St. in Manchester; bellavitadance.com) will hold its **603 Salsa & Bachata Social: Valentine's Day Edition** on Friday, Feb. 14, with a lesson at 8 p.m. and a dance from 9 p.m. to midnight. Tickets cost \$20 for solo admission and \$35 for a couple, plus fees.

Feeling a little bit country? Most Sunday nights from 6 to 8 p.m. **603 Line Dance** (603linedance.com) brings country line dancing, with a lesson, to **Bonfire** (950 Elm St. in Manchester; bonfiremanch.com).

603 Line Dance also brings line dancing to **The Goat** (50 Old Granite St. in Manchester; goatnh.com/manchester/calendar) on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 to 10 p.m.

603 Line Dance will also bring country to the **Lakeport Opera House** (781 Union Ave. in Laconia; lakeportopera.com) for **Cozy & Country Line Dance Night** on Saturday, Feb. 22, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15.

Line Dance with Ginger has Saturday socials slated for Feb. 22, March 1 and March 22 at the **Old Town Hall** in Bedford at 7 p.m. The cost is \$10 and includes a quick lesson. See linedancemax.com.

Country fans can also head to the **Freddie and the Freeloaders Country Band** and **603 Line Dance** on Saturday, March 8, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 and include line dance lessons, which will kick off the evening with **Kim Carpentino** from 603 Line Dance, followed by guided line dancing during band breaks, according to the **Rockingham Ballroom** website, where you can find other upcoming country line dance events.

Or check out one of the many DJed dance parties on a theme on the schedule at area venues. **Nashua Center for the Arts** (201 Main St. in Nashua; nashuacenterforthearts.com) will host a **Gimme Gimme Disco** ABBA-themed disco dance party on Friday, Feb. 28, at 8 p.m.; tickets cost \$21 to \$24, plus fees. The **Lakeport Opera House** in Laconia will host a **Taylor Swift Inspired Dance Party** on Saturday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m.; tickets cost \$20.

Get physical

Dance isn't the only active outing idea. **Remix Skate & Event Center** (725 Huse Road in Manchester; skateremix.com) offers another way to enjoy music and movement. The all-ages **Friday Night Roller Remix** runs from 8 to 11 p.m.; the cost is \$20 for a two-hour skate, \$30 for a three-hour skate. On Saturday, Feb. 15, from 9 to 11:30 p.m. it's **Heartbreak Night: Music of Taylor & Friends** for 18+; tickets cost \$20. On Saturday, Feb. 22, from 9 to 11:30 p.m. it's **Laraland Roller Disco Presents: Millennial Mixtape** with DJ **Diedre Dagata**; event is \$20, 18+. On Saturday, March 1, from 9

to 11:30 p.m., it's **March into the '90s** with **Shawn Caliber & DJ Myth**; the event costs \$20 per person and is 18+.

More fun on skates? The **Everett Arena in Concord** (15 Loudon Road) has public ice skating Sundays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with \$6 admission, \$6 skate rentals. See concordnh.gov or find the arena on Facebook. Public ice skating at the **JFK Memorial Coliseum** (303 Beech St. in Manchester) is available most Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., as well as some Monday and Wednesday mornings, and on Saturdays and Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m., all through the end of March. See the schedule at manchesternh.gov. Skate rentals cost \$5.

Another new challenge you could try together: **Indoor climbing. NH Climbing & Fitness** (10 Langdon Ave. in Concord; nhclimbinggym.com) offers a trial package for beginners for \$50 which includes an introduction to climbing class, rentals and more. **Vertical Dreams** (250 Commercial St., Manchester, 625-6919, 25 E. Otterson St., Nashua, 943-7571; verticaldreams.com) offers a beginner lesson package for \$40. See the websites for hours and additional information.

SkyVenture New Hampshire (100 Adventure Way in Nashua; skyventurenh.com) also offers rock climbing (\$20 per person) as well as indoor skydiving, surfing and fishpipe. The "Surf, Pipe, Fly & Climb" package costs \$130, and you can inquire about individual activities.

Or, just break stuff together. **Rage Cage NH** (37 E. Hollis St. in Nashua; ragedcagenh.com) offers a two-person smash room for one hour for \$120 (\$60 per person). Or book a **Glow Paint Splatter Experience** (with a canvas that's yours to keep) for \$25 per person. Or do both for \$80 per person.

The Break Room (843 Hanover St. in Manchester; thebreakroomnh.com) offers 10-minute (Lunch Break, \$25 per person), 20-minute (Case of the Mondays, \$40 per person) and 30-minute (Rage Quit, \$50 per person) breaking sessions.

Fun and games

Enjoy a challenge together with dates that focus on a game or puzzle.

At a brewery, bar or restaurant somewhere there is **trivia** most nights of the week. Make it a multi-couple date (teams seem to consist of between four and eight players), join another team or compete as a team of two, depending on the rules of each location. Find a listing of trivia nights most weeks in our **Nite** section.

Or play a game with just your partner. Escape rooms provide puzzles usually based on a theme — **Heist of the Moon Diamond**, for example, at 102 **Escape in Londonderry**

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— and are booked usually for about an hour. Check the websites of the escape rooms for booking procedures. Area escape rooms include:

- **102 Escape** 123 Nashua Road, Unit 32, in Londonderry; 102escape.com
- **Break Free Escape Games** 10 Main St. in Nashua; breakfreeescapegames.com
- **Escape Room Concord** 240 Airport Road in Concord; escaperoomconcordnh.com
- **Granite State Escape** 795 Elm St. in Manchester; escapenh.com
- **Key To Escape** 3 Bud Way, Unit 21, in Nashua; keytoescape.com
- **LOK'd! Room Escape** 1500 S. Willow St. in Manchester; lokdrocks.com

Compete one-on-one at **Boards & Brews** (941 Elm St. in Manchester; boardsandbrewsnh.com), where you can choose from their more than 2,000 games (reserve a table for \$5 per person) and order from their menu, which includes starters, salads and sandwiches, entrees and desserts.

Or try bowling. **Boutwell's Bowling Center** (152 N. State St., Concord; boutwellsbowl.com) is open Sundays from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Mondays 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursdays 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

King Bowling Lanes (751 Mast Road, Manchester; kinglanes.com) is open for public bowling Sunday, 1 to 6 p.m.; Monday, 3 to 9 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 1 to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 1 to 10 p.m.

Lakeside Lanes (2171 Candia Road in Manchester; lakesidelanes.com) has open bowling Sunday, noon to 9 p.m.; Monday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Saturday, noon to 10 p.m.

Leda Lanes (340 Amherst St., Nashua, ledalanes.com) is open Monday, noon to 10 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Thursday, noon to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Merrimack Ten Pin (698 DW Highway in Merrimack, merrimacktenpin.com), which also has an arcade, opens every day at 10 a.m. See the website for the breakdown of hours, cost and lane availability.

Strikers East Bowling Center & Function Room (4 Essex Drive in Raymond, strikerseast.com), which also has an arcade with 20+ games, is open to public bowling Tuesdays 5 to 9 p.m.; Wednesdays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursdays 5 to 9 p.m.; Friday, 2 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Yankee Lanes (216 Maple St. in Manchester; yankeelanesentertainment.com) is open Sundays from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. and

Mondays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to midnight.

Or throw an axe. These area axe-throwing locations, as well as Block Party Social, whose offerings include axe-throwing, offer food and drinks so you can make a night of it. **Axe Play** (142 Lowell Road in Nashua; axe-play.com) is open Monday from 4 to 9 p.m.; Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m.; Friday from 4 to 10 p.m.; Saturday from noon to 10 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 9 p.m.

Axl's Throw House (4 Bud Way in Nashua; axelsthrowhouse.com) is open Wednesday and Thursday at 5 p.m. (until 9 and 9:30 p.m., respectively); Friday from 4 to 11 p.m.; Saturday from noon to 11 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 7 p.m. Axl's also hosts Thursday night karaoke and occasional comedy shows.

Block Party Social (51 Zapora Drive in Hooksett; blockpartysocial.com) offers axe-throwing as one of its attractions, which include arcade games, laser tag, rope course and zip line, cornhole and billiards, Crazy Darts and climbing walls.

Par 28 (23 South Broadway in Salem; par28.com) offers axe-throwing as well as indoor golf simulators and is open Monday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Thursday from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to midnight and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

RelAxe Throwing (157 Gay St. in Manchester, relaxethrowing.com), which also offers splatter paint, is offering Valentine's specials for prebooked axe-throwing time (one hour for two people is \$40) or splatter paint time (one hour of splatter paint for two people is \$35 or \$45, depending on the paint) or both (\$75 to \$85 for two people) or axe-throwing and knife throwing (two people, one hour, \$65).

The Rugged Axe (377 S. Willow St. in Manchester, theruggedaxe.com) offers 20 percent off for February Thursday theme nights booked in advance including for Galentine's Day (Feb. 13), Date Night (Feb. 20) and National Kahlua Day (Feb. 27).

Cheap dates

You can have a good time without breaking the bank. Here are a few date ideas that are free (or, you know, with transportation and perhaps a pre- or post-date meal, have a free element).

The **Currier Museum of Art** (150 Ash St. in Manchester; currier.org) offers free admission for New Hampshire residents on the second Saturday of each month. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. Extend the date by using that money you've saved to eat at the museum's Winter Garden Cafe, which is open Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The museum is also kicking off a new



"Art off the Walls" evening event series on the third Thursday of each month, starting with Thursday, Feb. 20, from 5 to 8 p.m. when admission is free, the band Pickleback Jack will perform and gallerist Bill Stelling will discuss the 1980s New York City art world, inspired by the Jean-Michel Basquiat and Ouattara Watts exhibit, according to the museum's Facebook page.

First Fridays also offer a good walk-around outing without a specific admission charge. The Center for the Arts in New London hosts that town's **First Friday Gallery Stroll** — the next event is slated for Friday, March 7, which will feature a program at the Tracy Memorial Library from 6:30 to 8 p.m. called "Fierce Females: Women in Art." See centerfortheartsnh.org.

When the warm weather returns so will **Intown Concord's "First Fridays"** events, which usually feature a seasonal theme, stores open until 8 p.m. and food trucks. The first First Friday is slated for Friday, May 2. See intownconcord.org.

Get classical music concerts for free via local community music schools that offer regular programming open to the public.

At the **Manchester Community Music School** (2291 Elm St. in Manchester; mcmusicschool.org), you can attend faculty performances for free with preregistration. On Thursday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m., see "The Flute: At Play."

Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St. in Concord; ccmusicschool.org) offers a Bach's Lunch series on some Thursdays from 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. Next up, "Love Heals" on Thursday, Feb. 13, at 12:10 with the Hodes Family and Kent Allyn, and "Making Magic with Ken Burns" on Thursday, Feb. 20, featuring pianist Jaqueline Schwab, who has played in Burns' documentaries.

Walker Lectures, some of which include musical performances, are free at the Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St. in Concord; theaudi.org). Up next is "A Walk for Sunshine: Lessons from the Appalachian Trail with Jeff Alt" on Wednesday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. The NH Ukkeladies will perform at a Walker Lecture on Wednesday,

April 2, at 7:30 p.m. See walkerlecture.org.

The **William H. Gile Community Concert Series** presents free musical performances via the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St. in Concord; ccanh.com). Next up is Yes Indeed! featuring Metta Quintet plus special guests "celebrating the great American blues tradition," according to the website, where you can reserve seats for the event.

Make stuff

In addition to looking at art together, you can also make art together.

You're Fired, which has locations in Bedford (25 S. River Road), Concord (133 London Road) and Salem (264 North Broadway; all at youre-firednh.com), is a walk-in studio where you can pick from a wide selection of ceramic items to paint.

At **The Canvas Roadshow** (25 S. River Road in Bedford; thecanvasroadshow.com), pick a project from the calendar — upcoming events with openings as of last week include Resin Art Ocean Wave on Saturday, Feb. 15, 6 p.m. and 3D Liquid Glass Art on Friday, Feb. 21, at 6:30 p.m. with prices varying based on project. (For example, a Cozy Knit Blanket project on Tuesday, March 4, at 6:30 p.m. costs \$85.)

Studio 550 Art Center (550 Elm St. in Manchester; 550arts.com) offers one-day workshops including Date Night in the Pottery Studio, a "one-hour crash course on the pottery wheel" where each person gets a pottery wheel and can make a creation. The cost is \$35 per person. About one date night is offered per month; the next one up is Saturday, March 29, at 6 p.m.

Art Alley Cats (46 N. Main St. in Concord; artalleycats.com) offers a variety of weekly and month events and workshops, including its own First Friday Art Market (at DIY Craft and Thrift, also at 46 N. Main St. from 4 to 8 p.m.). Weekly events include Let's Get Sketchy Fridays from 6 to 8 p.m., when you can drop in and learn basic drawing skills, and Watercolor Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. that include guided watercolor tutorials. Both have a suggested donation of \$15 per person.

Creative Ventures Gallery (411 Nashua St. in Milford; creativeventuresfineart.com) offers one-day workshops such as “Springtime Quilling Workshop” on Saturday, March 8, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. (\$35 per person).

Make food

Or make and explore food together.

LaBelle Winery offers craft- and food-related events at both its Amherst (345 Route 101) and Derry (14 Route 111) locations (see labellewinery.com). Upcoming food events that aren’t yet labeled as sold out include Decorate Focaccia Bread in Amherst on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m. (\$50 per person) and Wine Blending in Derry on Wednesday, March 5, at 6 p.m. (\$40 per person).

Vine 32 Wine & Graze Bar (25 S. River Road in Bedford; vinethirtytwo.com) offers wine and also charcuterie board workshops. On Thursday, Feb. 13, for example, a Galentine’s Day Charcuterie Workshop will allow you to construct a board of meats and cheeses and more (with a wooden board to take home) and let you build your own bouquet at a flower bar; the cost is \$103.22.

The Culinary Playground (16 Manning St. in Derry; culinary-playground.com) has a line-up of Date Night Couples Cooking classes for \$165 per couple, BYOB.

Upcoming classes include Vegetarian Dining with classes at 6:30 p.m. on April 4 & 5 and April 11 & 12 and Cinco De Mayo with classes at 6:30 p.m. on May 2 & 3 and May 9 & 10. See the menus on the website.

At **Dancing Lion Chocolate** (917 Elm St. in Manchester; dancinglion.us), classes focus on chocolate and croissants. A Thursday, May 8, hands-on class teaching croissant-making costs \$135 per person and you can take home what you make. The “Down & Dirty Truffles” class on Thursday, June 12, will include making chocolate ganache, tempering chocolate and making truffles, according to the website (\$135 per person).

Enjoy music together

Though you probably won’t be heading to a big concert for a first date, ticketed shows — which we list every week in our **Concert** listings — make a good treat for a friend or longtime significant other whose musical taste you are acquainted with. For example, **Ladysmith Black Mambazo** will play the Dana Center at Saint Anselm College in Manchester (tickets.anselm.edu) on Friday, Feb. 14, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$45.

At the **Tupelo Music Hall** (10 A St. in Derry; tupelomusichall.com) you’ll find a menu of flatbreads, sandwiches, snacks, desserts and more as well as the line up of

music and comedy. On Thursday, Feb. 13, at 8 p.m. catch **Dueling Pianos** (tickets cost \$22). Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Catch an **up-and-comer in the local and regional music scene** at the smaller venues in the area. Michael Witthaus looked at a few in the Jan. 16 issue of the Hippo (which you can find in our digital library at hippypress.com; see page 10). For example, catch **Low Lily**, a Vermont-based American roots band, on Sunday, March 2, at 6 p.m. at the **Andres Institute of Art** in Brookline (andresinstitute.org).

Enjoy music and a local beer or music and a meal with the gigs listed in our **Music This Week**, which runs each week in our Nite section. Here you can find performances at area bars, breweries and restaurants — as well as upcoming **karaoke** nights, another date idea for the musically inclined.

Laugh

As with music, comedy offers you the opportunity to go big, keep it casual or fall somewhere in between with your outing.

Get weekly laughs at spots like **Strange Brew Tavern** (88 Market St. in Manchester; strangebrewtavern.net), which holds its weekly **Laugh Attic** comedy open mic every Thursday at 9 p.m., and at **Shaskeen** (909 Elm St. in Manchester), which hosts **Ruby Room Comedy** every Wednesday

at 9 p.m. — next up is Alex Giampapa with Casey Watson and Avery Quinn on Feb. 19.

Or check out **Headliners’** line-up of comedy most weekends at **Chunky’s** in Manchester (chunkys.com) as well as at **Headliners Comedy Club** at **DoubleTree** by **Hilton** Manchester Downtown, where next up is Kyle Crawford on Friday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 15, at 8:30 p.m. (tickets cost \$20 plus fees), and other locations around the state. See headlinersnh.com for the schedule and to purchase tickets.

Many Fridays you can also find comedy at the **Rex Theatre** (23 Amherst St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org). The upcoming schedule includes **New York Comedy Night** on Friday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. with Tom Daddario and Chris Roach (tickets cost \$39).

The **Tupelo Music Hall** in Derry (tupelomusichall.com) also offers a monthly **Tupelo Night of Comedy** — next up on Friday, Feb. 14, at 8 p.m. featuring Harrison Stebbins, JJ Jones and Andrea Henry (tickets cost \$25).

Find these and other comedy shows, including nationally touring comedians like **Nikki Glaser** (Wednesday, March 26, at 7 p.m. at the Cap Center in Concord) and **Sebastian Maniscalco** (Thursday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m. at the SNHU Arena, 555 Elm St. in Manchester; snhuarena.com) in our **Comedy This Week** listings, which run each week in the Nite section. 🍷



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The gods must be funny

Lend Me A Tenor playwright's latest hits Concord

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

The old adage “Be careful what you wish for” guides *The Gods of Comedy*, the latest production from Community Players of Concord. The 2019 Ken Ludwig play makes its New Hampshire debut on Feb. 14 at Concord City Auditorium. It looks at what happens when a pair of deities are beseeched from the heavens and actually arrive.

The story begins when two professors, Ralph and Daphne, find a rare manuscript while on a holiday in Greece, only to see it inadvertently destroyed when they return to their Ivy League university. This prompts a cry for on-high assistance that miraculously produces Dionysus, the god of misrule and partying, and Thalia, who's the muse of comedy.

It's classics weekend at the college, so the

The Gods of Comedy

When: Friday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 16, 2 p.m.

Where: Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord

Tickets: \$20 (\$18 under 18 and 65+) at communityplayersofconcord.org

gods are sidetracked by costumed students and campus partying, while the frazzled professors try to solve the problem of the lost work, a Euripides play. Meanwhile, additional gods of varying demeanor manage to make things more complicated.

“It's part fantasy and classic literature — there's a lot of Shakespeare references, which I really appreciate,” Elizabeth Lent, the play's director, said by phone recently. “There are ancient Greek references as well, but also a lot of silliness, as they get into a lot of interesting antics and situations.”

This is the Players' fifth play by Ludwig, well-known for his 1986 Tony winner, *Lend Me a Tenor*. Lent has directed two of them, 2004's *Shakespeare In Hollywood* and Ludwig's 2017 revival of *Murder on the Orient Express*. She's pleased to present a relatively fresh work with up to date elements.

“I really do like the fact that it's contemporary,” Lent, who's been with Concord Community Players since the early 1980s, said. “I've been directing for a very long time and have directed lots of old stuff. I was really interested in trying something new, and Ludwig appeals to me.”

The cast includes Emily Thompson playing Daphne, John Julian, Alex Hutton, Kal Hachi and Suzanne Watts as Dionysus and



L to R - Kal Hachi, Emily Thompson and Suzanne Watts. Photo by Michael Von Redlich.

Thalia, along with Heather Carmichael, Dana Sackos, Griffin Stuart, Seth Bunke and, making her Players debut, Jeri Lynn Owen. Set designer is Craig Walker, costumes are by Suzanne Potoma and Gay Bean, and lighting by Steven Meier.

Lent had the play cast the night auditions were finished.

“The chemistry is so good with these folks,” she said. “They're all very talented and dedicated. Everyone comes to every rehearsal, even the tiniest little roles. They all like each other, which is really kind of wonderful, and they're having such a good time. It's so joyful to watch them work.”

Among the hijinks occurring is one of the gods inhabiting two of the other characters.

“They get possessed, and these two

actresses that are making the transformation are hilariously funny doing it,” Lent said. More importantly, everything ends on a happy note. “For me, it's exciting to watch these folks just having such a blast with it.”

Lots of laughs, a cast enjoying themselves and an upbeat finale is just what's needed at this particular moment in time, and *The Gods of Comedy* is poised to provide all that.

“When the gods come down, they're given a mission; this woman, Daphne Ring, needs an adventure and a happy ending, and they deliver,” Lent said, who described the play as “a clever mashup of the best kinds of knockabout comedy across the ages” in a press release. “We'd love to see everybody in the audience. Because it's so new, it's very exciting for us to be performing it.”

Art

Exhibits

- “**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 Landscape 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 and she earned her BFA from New Hampshire Institute of Art in 2011, according to the event's website. Prior to pursuing a fine art degree she painted only with pastels, and now she paints primarily in oils and pastels and commonly paints over acrylic under-paintings or

tonal under-paintings with oil paint, according to the website. 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 Poinsettia: 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

- **Last of the Red Hot Lovers**, the

Neil Simon comedy, presented by the Majestic Theatre (880 Page St., Manchester; majestictheatre.net) Friday, Feb. 14, through Sunday, Feb. 16 — 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets cost \$15 to \$20.

- **Shrek Jr.** will be presented by Franklin Middle School at the Franklin Opera House (316 Central St. in Franklin; franklinoperahouse.org) on Friday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 15, at 2 & 7 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 16, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and seniors, \$8 for students and children.

- **Never Say Can't**, a solo autobiographical multimedia show performed by Brian Moses, at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester; palacetheatre.org) on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m.

- **An Evening of One-Acts** presented by the Nashua Theatre Guild (nashuathatreguild.org) will be on stage at the Court Street Theatre (14 Court St. in Nashua) Friday, Feb. 21, through Sunday, Feb. 23. Shows are 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets cost \$20; \$18 for 65+.

- **Every Brilliant Thing** from Theatre Kapow spent a weekend at the BNH Stage in Concord and is now headed for the Winnepesaukee

Playhouse in Meredith Friday, Feb. 21, through Sunday, Feb. 23, where tickets cost \$25 to \$30. Shows are 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. See Michael Witthaus' story about the production on page 14 of the Feb. 6 issue of the Hippo at hippopress.com. See tkapow.com.

Classical

- **Illuminated Ensemble — HeartStrings** a concert from Symphony NH featuring candle lighting, a string quartet and a pre-concert reception with wine and chocolate on Friday, Feb. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the Bank of NH Stage (16 S. Main St., Concord, ceanh.com). Tickets cost \$37. See symphonynh.org.

- **Eroica Inspirations** The New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra will present a program featuring Michael Torke's “Bright Blue Music,” Rachmaninov's “Variations on a Theme by Pagnini” and Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 “Eroica” on Saturday, Feb. 22, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 23, at 2 p.m. at Seifert Performing Arts Center (44 Geremonty Drive, Salem). Tickets cost \$35 for adults, \$30 for seniors, \$10 for students and \$5 for Salem students. See nhphil.org.

LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS

The Majestic Theatre will present Neil Simon's comedy *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* Friday, Feb. 14, through Sunday, Feb. 16, at the Majestic Theatre Studios (880 Page St. in Manchester; majestictheatre.net). According to a Majestic press release, the play tells the story of Barney, who is “middle-aged and married, overworked and overweight” and “wants to join the sexual revolution before it's too late and arranges three

seductions: the first, Elaine Navazio, proves to be a foul-mouthed bundle of neuroses; Bobbi Michele is next, a 20-ish actress who's too kooky by half; finally comes September and Jeanette Fisher, a gloomy, depressed housewife who happens to be married to Barney's best friend.” Showtime is

7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets cost \$20 for adults, \$15 for 65+ and 17 and under. Photo: Jeff Caron, Becky Rush. Courtesy.

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

'Puddle' likely drowned engine

CAR TALK



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:
So, I drove my GMC Terrain through — I'm guessing — like 2 feet of water.

Even though it was only 2 feet deep, the splash was so big that water came up over the hood and the engine

died. I saw some white smoke.

The engine would not restart, so I had it towed home. It makes no sound when I try to start it. So now I'm letting it dry out.

Do you think everything will be alright when it dries out? — Luke

No, I don't. I think you lunched it, Luke. Even if it was only 2 feet of water (Why are there fish in the back seat, Luke?), that's enough to ruin an engine.

Your car creates a wake — as do any other cars nearby. And if the water gets high enough to reach the air intake, even for a moment, the engine is toast.

Here's what happens in water: Normally, the engine sucks in air. That air is mixed with vaporized fuel, and that mixture is then compressed by a piston inside the cylinder.

Then that compressed mixture is ignited, and it expands to create power.

But if, instead of air, you draw water into the cylinders, when a piston comes up to compress everything, it can't compress water.

So your piston has a catastrophic collision with the water, and everything connected to the piston bends or breaks.

It's called hydro-locking. We have a funeral dirge we play at the garage when a hydro-locked car gets towed in.

Your only possible saving grace may be your insurance company. If you have comprehensive insurance on this thing, you can call them and tell them what happened.

Assuming it was truly not your fault — if the puddle was a surprise, or there was no way to know how deep it was — they should consider it an accident.

Of course, if you tried to go through it with a water skier in tow, I wouldn't mention that to them.

One way or the other — with your money or theirs — you either need to rebuild this engine or replace the vehicle. Good luck. And be very wary of puddles from now on.

Visit Cartalk.com.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Hello, Donna,
Have enjoyed your column for years in the Hippo. The photos will show a carving of some type that my grandfather bought back from France during WWI in 1919. It appears to be ivory or marble. It's approximately 5 inches in diameter. The frame is a dark hardwood with a curved glass top. Any idea on rarity or value?

Thanks.

Gene

Dear Gene,

Thank you for reading the Hippo and my column.

What you have is a Victorian era (last part of the 1800s) carved meerschaum in a convex glass frame. Meerschaum is a form of clay that was used for lots of smoking pipe carvings.

Your carving is of a religious subject



and most ones I found to compare it to ran in the \$200 range. I found some in a higher range but on average the ones marketing were in that range. Some of the meerschaum carvings that had other subjects and details also brought more. Value depends on the condition of the inside carving, glass and frame.

Thank you for sharing and I hope this helped.

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

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for whenever

New stuff

• Check out two new exhibits at the **Children's Museum of New Hampshire** (6 Washington St. in Dover; childrens-museum.org) that will be unveiled to the public on Saturday, Feb. 15, during the morning (9 a.m. to noon) and afternoon (1 to 4 p.m.) sessions. "Little Farmers," an exhibit designed for children ages 0 to 5, features farm-themed activities "curated specifically for this age," according to the museum website. "Play Loft" is an open space for active play, such as games like Floor Is Lava, according to the website. Also on Saturday, Lindsey and her Puppet Pals will perform at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Admission costs \$14.50 for everyone over 12 months old, \$12.50 for 65+.

Winterfest

• Squam Lakes Association, 534 Route 3 in Holderness, will hold its **Winterfest** on Saturday, Feb. 15, from noon to 3 p.m. The free event will include ice skating, sledding, mini golf, scavenger hunts and more, according to a press release (BYO skates and sleds). See squamlakes.org.

Kids on stage

• Londonderry High School will present **Footloose! The Musical** at the Derry Opera House (29 West Broadway in Derry) on Thursday, Feb. 13, and Friday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 15, at 1 and 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for adults; \$10 for seniors and students. See derryoperahouse.org.

• Franklin Middle School will present **Shrek Jr.** at the Franklin Opera House (316 Central St. in Franklin; franklinoperahouse.org) on Friday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 15, at 2 & 7 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 16, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and seniors, \$8 for students and children.

• Palace Youth Theatre will present **Big Fish**, the small cast edition performed by student actors in grades 2 through 12, at the Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org) on Wednesday, Feb. 19, and Thursday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$19 for adults, \$16 for ages 6 to 12.

For kids on stage

• **Look Both Ways: A Tale Presented in 10 Blocks**, part of the Cap Center's educa-



Children's Museum of New Hampshire. Image from their newsletter.

tional series, will be on stage in the Chubb Theatre of the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St. in Concord; ccanh.com) on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 10:30 a.m. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. The show is 63 minutes with no intermission and is suggested for kids in grades 5 and up and families, according to the website. "10 blocks. 10 unique tales. There's something for everyone across these 10 vignettes about identity, compassion, fear, and friendship — as told through puppetry, dance, music, projections, audience participation, kamishibai (paper theater), and more," according to the website's description. Tickets cost \$8.

For kids on screen

• Chunky's Cinema Pub (707 Huse Road in Manchester; chunkys.com) has two special kid-friendly screenings on the horizon. On Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 11:30 a.m., catch **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG, 2010) as part of the Little Lunch Date Series.

On Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 11:30 a.m. **Dog Man** (PG, 2025) will screen on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 11:30 a.m. at a sensory-friendly screening with lights up and sound down.

Save the date

• **Dartmouth Health Children's Battle of the Badges**, a hockey game featuring firefighters, police officers and first responders, will take place Sunday, March 16, at 1 p.m. at the SNHU Arena (555 Elm St. in Manchester; snhuarena.com). Presented by the Elliot Perry Foundation, the Battle of the Badges "proceeds are used to help kids with critical services such as support when they are in pediatric intensive care and management of chronic illnesses, as well as patient and family support services," according to Dartmouth Health Children's website, childrens.dartmouth-health.org, where you can find Battle of the Badges information under events. Tickets cost \$16. Find more about the Elliot Perry Foundation at elliotperry.org.

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By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

News from the local food scene

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

• **Chocolate and raspberries:** The martini-and-cupcake pairing at Copper Door (15 Leavy Drive, Bedford, 488-2677, or 41 S. Broadway, Salem, 458-2033, copperdoor.com) for February is a Chocolate Raspberry Martini, made with double chocolate vodka, dark creme de cacao, raspberry liqueur, cream, raspberry puree, and chocolate syrup, garnished with a glittered raspberry, for \$14.75, and a Red Velvet Cupcake, with red velvet cake, a raspberry preserve filling, and cream cheese frosting, garnished with a white chocolate cup and glittered berries for \$11.

• **Investing in kettle corn:** Ken and Meredith Thomas, the owners of Ken's Corn (68 Chester Road, Derry, 208-661-0282, kenscorn.com), have announced an unusual investment strategy to expand their kettle corn business. Using Honeycomb Credit (honeycombc credit.com) the Thomases are asking individuals to lend them expansion money, to be paid back with interest, rather than working through a traditional bank. Contact Ken's Corn at kenscornnh@gmail.com.

• **Extremely good ports in the storm:** WineNot Boutique (25 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, winenotboutique.com) will host a Grand Port Tasting Thursday, Feb. 13, from 6 to 8 p.m. Explore seven distinct styles of Portuguese ports, from youthful ruby to aged tawny, in an evening of rich flavors. Tickets are \$50, through eventbrite.com.

• **Bottle your own wine:** Join the winemakers at Averill House Vineyard (21 Averill Road, Brookline, 244-3165, averillhousevineyard.com) Sunday, Feb. 16, for a special Valentine's Sunday Bottle Your Own experience, which includes a two-hour tasting, tour and bottle-your-own event. One bottle of wine is included, and additional bottles may be filled and purchased. Note: The wine being bottled is pre-selected by the vintner based on the weekly bottling schedule. Included will be a charcuterie board with chocolate, cheese, nuts and meats. Tickets are \$69 per person, through exploretock.com. 🍷

Even after 28 years in the business Kevin Cornish finds himself relearning a basic lesson of restaurant ownership: it doesn't matter how delicious a dish is if none of your customers order it.

"We had a vegetarian meatball," he said. "After cooking them seven days in a row without one person ordering them, we had to get rid of it."

Rock 'n Roll Meatballs, on Manchester's Elm Street, is Cornish's new restaurant, themed around — perhaps not surprisingly — 1980s rock music and meatballs. After three decades of running his successful barbecue restaurant, KC's Rib Shack, Cornish has decided to open a second place to indulge one of his other great passions, live music.

"I love live music," Cornish said. "It's probably my biggest hobby. This place [the restaurant's location] has been opened twice with different people running it and pretty much closed twice. Manchester hasn't always supported live music all that much. Especially in something this size, you need a scene to create a scene. There's got to be little, ragged rock clubs for big rock clubs to succeed. My band used to play at Mad Bob's and if we brought 25 people it was great. It was a little hole in the wall and a little bar, but in New Hampshire you can't have a bar — you have to have a restaurant."

Cornish had seen a few meatball-specific restaurants on the West Coast and liked the idea. He and three partners decided to adopt that formula for their menu. Despite his number of years as a restaurant owner, though, Cornish found that developing recipes for the new place required a long process of trial and error.

"When it came to the meatballs," he said, "for one day or several days, we'd just work



Swedish Meatballs. Courtesy photo.

on beef meatballs, or beef and pork meatballs, or chicken meatballs. For months leading up to this, my wife was so sick of eating chicken meatballs — she was like, 'What do we have for dinner tonight?' Meatballs, you know?"

Ultimately, developing the recipe turned out to be a group project.

"We would come in and we lined this whole bar up with all the ingredients we would need. Each of us would take a table, and a bowl, and work up a recipe. It was nice to get in here and cook seven different types of meatballs in an afternoon, and being able to try them right next to each other. By coming in here and having everybody make a different one ... we were able to zero in on, 'Wow, we really like the flavor of this, but maybe, but we like the mouth-feel of this one, maybe that's because this one was made with bread as opposed to this one made with panko breadcrumbs,' and things like that. So we were able to kind of tweak and zero in on it and that's what we did."

Even after the kinks in a recipe have been

ironed out, there's still no guarantee that it will work on the restaurant's menu. Which brings us back to the vegetarian meatball.

Rock 'n Roll Meatballs' menu is centered around five core meatballs: a standard red-sauce one, a Swedish meatball in a creamy sauce, a brisket-macaroni and cheese one, a "Thanksgiving" meatball made with ground turkey and stuffing, and a chicken Parmesan one.

One of the biggest surprises, though, was an appetizer that sold well from opening day onward. "The escargot is great," Cornish said, a bit perplexed. "It's a very simple dish, and it's selling great." 🍷

Rock n Roll Meatballs

179 Elm St., Manchester, 931-3654, rocknrollmeatballs.com

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FOOD

What's your food story?

Project looks at relationships to what we eat

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

Shanta Lee knows that you have a fascinating story about food, and she wants to hear it.

"We all are connected as humans to food," she said. "Whether or not we want to walk across that bridge, whether or not

it's something either warm and cozy for us, or painful and uncomfortable, we all have a connection and a relationship to food."

Lee is an artist, oral historian, photographer and poet. Her current project is called *Food Stories: We Are What We Eat*. She is gathering stories from people from different backgrounds that tell something

specific about their relationships with food.

"It's a discussion between food, memory, identity and our stories," she said. "And the main goal is to get people thinking about 'How do these things intersect?' It's all the different ranges and ways that we are connected to food — not just personal stories either, but also individuals



Shanta Lee. Courtesy photo.

who work in food industries, people who work with food sustainability, people who work with food insecurity, ordinary people who recall why they really can't stand a certain kind of food."

Ultimately, Lee said, these stories will culminate in an exhibition.

"Those stories, those vignettes, those visuals, those are all going to be within an exhibition that's happening at some point in the fall this year in Manchester," she said. "I'm still looking for a place. At some point soon, I'll be putting out a call to artists, and inviting them to contribute to this exhibition as well, if they have their own pieces that they want to be a part of this exhibition about food."

One of the parts of Lee's project that excites her is a book that will tie in with the exhibition.

"When the exhibition takes place," she said, "There will be a booklet, what you might traditionally call an exhibition catalog, and some of the stories will be in there. There might be some of the questions that I use to help prompt the writers who contributed the stories, so that maybe people can continue talking about the food stories, and still engage with the project."

Some of the early stories she has received have been engrossing, Lee said.

"There is a story I just got from a person named Taffi: 'One afternoon I was washing chicken feet and cleaning gizzards before putting them in the freezer. Each pair of chicken feet seemed to be speaking to me. I loved the unusual textures and colors of both chicken feet and the skins

of gizzards, so I ran for my camera. I took pictures of various arrangements. For years, I've been concerned about the food I eat. I grow and put up most of what I eat. I buy my meat from farmers I know.'"

"So, Lee observed, "it's talking about this deep relation to food and also the relationship to this specific kind of food."

Another story came from a novice cook who was deeply determined to bake lasagna but got distracted by a video game and burned it to cinders.

"It was a funny story," Lee said, "because we've all been there. We try so hard, we toil on it, on the dish, and then it burns. Again, whether it's a bridge that brings together or a bridge that involves some kind of reaction to [a shared experience], there's always a story with it and you don't need much when it comes to involving or including food."

Lee will collect stories for the next three or four months.

"I'm going to wrap up collecting stories by early June," she said, "so I can prepare for the exhibition in the fall. People will be able to submit their stories to me through my website, ShantaLee.com, but I also have a Facebook page called Food Stories. People can DM me there, if they want. Ballot boxes will be showing up in different places in Manchester, so if people are so inclined to put pen to paper, they could do that."

Ultimately, Lee said, this project is about the way food brings people together. "There's a whole range of what attracts us to or detracts us from food," she said, "but it's also a social and cultural lubricant. There's a reason we have the phrase, 'breaking bread together.'"

Food Stories

To find out more about the Food Stories project and Shanta Lee's partners in the project, visit shantalee.com/foodstories, her "Food Stories" Facebook page, or [instagram.com/mz.shanta_lee](https://www.instagram.com/mz.shanta_lee).

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FOOD



DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

Trinidad Sour

It's easy to fall into a rut.

Ruts are comforting. They provide predictability and structure in a chaotic world with too many unwelcome surprises.

So it's easy — for me, at any rate — to fall back on simple utility cocktails, made from three ingredients; four if you count ice. Some sort of spirit, something sour, and something sweet — this is the basic structure of a daiquiri, a gimlet, a margarita or a sour.

But a rut — no matter how comforting — can close you off from new possibilities. In this case, the mind-expanding novelty is using Angostura bitters as the main alcohol. Normally bitters are used — extremely sparingly — bring a bitter flavor to help balance out an otherwise sweet drink. Most of them, though, are suspended in a base that averages around 45 percent alcohol, or 90 proof. So, there is no reason why you *couldn't* drink them in more substantial amounts.



Trinidad Sour. Photo by John Fladd.

from the Angostura — but not mint or rosemary, or any herb that you're probably familiar with. You can try reading the label, but the Angostura Co. has kept their ingredients secret for over 200 years with the kind of secrecy usually reserved for nuclear codes.

So what are we left with?

Bittersweet fruitiness with herbs and the tiniest bit of rye in the background. This is the kind of cocktail you would drink with — OK, I don't know what the day-to-day life of a monastic abbot is, but if he gets any vacation time and were to take a holiday in the Caribbean, this is what he would drink, wearing sandals, and a tropical shirt covered with pictures of little monks on it.

He would have checked into the hotel under the name Costello — a tiny, private joke that would make him smile to himself. The staff would greet him with fondness, and he would greet them by name in return.

At the bar by the pool, the bar manager would tap the young woman on duty on the shoulder and send her to wait on other customers, while he would mix this cocktail without needing to be told.

"Long flight?" he'd ask the abbot. "You look like you could use this."

"Bless you, Leo," the abbot would say, with a look of relieved fondness on his face. "You, sir, are a saint."

"I'll take your word for it," Leo would say. 🍷

1½ ounces Angostura bitters — you will probably want to use a knife to pry off the plastic cap that limits you to a dash of bitters at a time, or you'll spend the next 15 minutes shaking your wrist to fill a jigger

½ ounce rye whiskey

¾ ounce fresh squeezed lemon juice

1 ounce orgeat — this is a sweet almond syrup, usually used in tropical drink; here it is used to balance out the bitter herbiness from the bitters

Combine all ingredients with ice in a cocktail shaker.

Shake it. At this point, you know how to do this.

Strain into a coupé or Nick & Nora glass.

Ask your digital assistant to play "Pressure Drop" by Toots and the Maytals.

Spend the next two and a half cocktails trying to identify what it is you're tasting.

Probably the least useful word to describe this particular drink is "delicious." It is actually delicious in fact — that's not the issue. There's a sweet, sherry-like, almost raisiny flavor that isn't actually all that much like raisins or sherry. There's a sweetness in the front end, but a bitter aftertaste that is nothing like dark chocolate or anything else you would call "bittersweet." There are herbal notes

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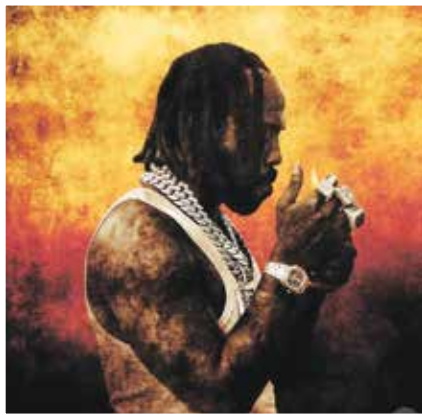


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POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS, MOVIES AND MORE

EST Gee, *I Ain't Feeling You (Bonus Edition)* (Interscope Records)



This 30-year-old Louisville, Kentucky-born rapper lost a good number of fans after trying actual singing on for size for a couple of albums or so, but his return to straight spitting in this one does go pretty hard, aiming for the same intensity as 2021's *Bigger Than Life or Death*. Of course, "intensity" isn't an attribute that's usually applied to him, what with his mumbly, disjointed style; he's been dubbed a "less coherent Rich Homie Quan" among other things, but I was captivated enough by opener "Free Rico" and its wooferrattling, from-the-mountaintop kettle-drum beat to get past the pedestrian trap

undergirding that serves as its base. "The Streets" winds and roils in hypnotic, serpentine fashion, evincing casual excitement and an endless supply of oxygen, instantly lending the record grower potential rather than evoking some texted-in flavor-of-the-week exercise. "Do My Own Stunts" is the underground stoner-a-thon, for those who live for that kind of thing. **A** —Eric W. Saeger

Friko, *Where We've Been, Where We Go from Here* (ATO Records)



In In-Case-You-Missed-It news, this album didn't hit my radar until just now, so you have my sincere apologies if you're already deeply familiar with it. I'm literally a year late on it, but in my defense the angle here is that on Saturday, March 8, they'll be at The Sinclair in Cambridge, Mass., and besides, at the rate indie bands come and go in the endless flux of our no-attention-span zeitgeist, it's worth mentioning. This Chicago duo, claiming to be inspired by such acts as Minski and such, are, as some have noted, remindful of Radiohead and Arcade Fire, but there's a wild-horses feel to these frightwiggly tunes; they incorporate some

of the decent things (few though they were) about Aughts-indie bands like New Young Pony Club and Los Campesinos, for one thing the amateurish group-singalong sound that was a staple at Bowery Ballroom shows and later refined by Arcade Fire. The overall effect is like being subjected to a cult initiation; you want to learn the lyrics because the melodies sound so bloody important, a rare thing these days. **A** —Eric W. Saeger

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Happy Valentine's Day to those who celebrate, and even to those who haven't dated or even talked to another human being since the 1990s (good choice)! It is another two months before the South Korea-originated "Black Valentine's Day," when people who celebrate being "happily single" take themselves out to dinner and a movie and then go home to descend into madness in front of reruns of *Classic Concentration* on the Buzzr channel, as opposed to us totally happily married people who spend most of our time living like Fred Flintstone, half-watching *Match Game '78* while trying to figure out how to hide ridiculously impulsive Amazon purchases from our spouses, do you guys even know how much money buying a 20-pack of button-cell batteries for kitty laser pointers can save you in the long run? But I digress, someone stop me, the record companies are gearing up for a long year of releasing albums and trying to figure out a way to out-sell **Chappell Roan**, who won the Best New Artist Grammy award the other week for such things as dressing up like Carol Kane in *Scrooged*, giving attitude to random people with cameras, and of course her masterstroke, adding gravelly Ed Banger beats to microwaved Madonna oatmeal and summarily dispatching a battalion of record company mafiosi to pressure low-information writers from Nylon and such to proclaim her marginally listenable album *The Rise and Fall of a Midwest Princess* to be the greatest thing since Reese's Cups. This too shall pass, as you know (by the way, are Zola Jesus and Poppy still relevant, someone please tweet at me), but in the meantime we have albums to discuss, new ones that are coming out on Valentine's Day, let's get it over with. First things first, speaking of Buzzr, guess who's got an album coming out on Friday? None other than **Richard Dawson**! But wait, it's not *that* Richard Dawson, the creepy touchy-grabby British dude from *Family Feud*, it's a different one, some British folkie whose voice sounds like a drunk Basset hound! Nothing normal is going on here, this man has been using a literally broken guitar as his go-to instrument for years, he just likes the sound of it. His trip has been described as "the folkie version of Captain Beefheart's approach to blues music." In other words it's completely horrible, but our pals at Domino Records are releasing this monstrosity nevertheless, so I'm compelled to listen to it, so I am. OK I'm not anymore, it sounds like the Unabomber singing a love song to his first-grade teacher on a wooden Fisher Price guitar from 1959. If you honestly love this I hate you.

• Usually when I hear the term "space rock" I start barfing uncontrollably, figuring I'm about to hear something that sounds like Spacemen 3 or a Loot Crate version of Pink Floyd, but British band **Doves** are pretty awesome: They actually sound kind of like Elbow! *Constellations For The Lonely*, their new one, features the tune "Renegade"; it's psychedelic, yes, but singer Jimi Goodwin's voice is seriously neat.

• Oh, great, notoriously awful singer **Neil Young** has once again found some old tapes in his goat barn and made an album out of them. *Oceanside Countryside* was recorded in 1977 but never released until now; it features "Field of Opportunity," a fiddle-driven bluegrass jam that's OK if you like bad singing with your bluegrass.

• Finally we have *Sleepless Empire*, the latest LP from Italian goth-metal spazzers **Lacuna Coil**. The song "Gravity" is doomy and epic, of course, less so when the Cookie Monster-voiced dude is doing the singing, more so when the hot chick singer is trying to sound like an *America's Got Talent* contestant. It's fine for what it is.

—Eric W. Saeger

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POP CULTURE BOOKS

The Heart of Winter, by Jonathan Evison (Dutton, 368 pages)

A 70-year marriage is unfathomable to most. After all, approximately half of all marriages end in divorce (not a myth, according to a recent Forbes article), and, logistically, you'd have to marry young and you'd both have to live beyond the average life expectancy to hit that 70-year mark. But if a marriage were to endure for 70 years — how?

The Heart of Winter by Jonathan Evison sheds some light on this as it follows Abe and Ruth Winter's journey from college-age courting (very reluctantly on Ruth's part) to 90th birthdays and end-of-life planning.

The book gets off to a slow start as Abe unenthusiastically allows his family to celebrate his 90th birthday. Evison does the reader no favors by naming dozens of characters up front: the Winters' living children — Anne, Kyle and Maddie — plus their significant others and their kids and their kids and their pets, plus family friends.

It seems trivial to point this out now that I've finished the book and mostly enjoyed it, but the fact is that it almost made me put it down and not pick it up again — too many people to try to remember, plus dialogue that makes their grown children sound like teenagers, which adds to the confusion around who's who. Meanwhile, Abe is lamenting that he's still alive, making for a depressing start.

But get past the beginning and you'll find the answers to that "how" question, laid out by Evison in shifting perspectives between Ruth and Abe, and shifting timelines between present day and various impactful years in their marriage.

The answers, it seems, are resilience, patience, perseverance and tolerance, a recipe of big words mixed with steadfast love.

From the moment they meet in college, it's clear that Abe and Ruth are very different people, and Ruth does her best to avoid

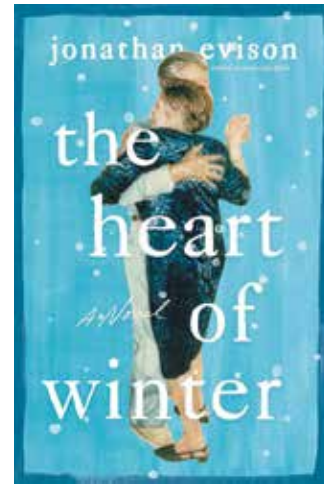
him at all costs. But Abe is enamored by her spirit and free will and eventually wears her down. They date, and before she can graduate Ruth gets pregnant. They get married, and Ruth is suddenly a stay-at-home mom with little use for her books of poetry and lofty ideals.

Ruth is not unhappy, but she isn't exactly happy either. And so Abe, without Ruth's knowledge, accepts a job and buys a farmhouse on Bainbridge Island, a ferry ride away from the hustle and bustle of Seattle and not exactly the kind of life Ruth thought she'd be living when she was deep into her studies of the liberal arts. But Abe is convinced she will love life on the farm, where she can garden and raise chickens and take care of the kids. She's mad, really mad, at his presumptuousness but ultimately acquiesces, and another chapter of their life together begins.

Ruth does like living on the farm, as it turns out, at least for a while. But as Abe focuses on his growing business and ensuring his family is financially set, Ruth has moments of restlessness. Keep in mind that we're exploring 70 years of life together, so of course life doesn't always go smoothly. They experience a number of situations that could have ended another couple: Abe's unilateral decision to move the family, the tragic loss of a child, a brief infidelity (Ruth), an even briefer exploration of sexuality (also Ruth), absentee parenting (Abe) and differing political views (Ruth's views being "pseudocommunist malarkey" and "unreasonable optimism," as far as Abe is concerned).

And through it all, Evison keeps bringing us back to present day, where they squabble like the old married couple they are.

"Minor inconvenience?" Abe says to



Ruth about the CPAP machine she insists he use. "You try strapping that contraption on! Every time I open my mouth, I'm like a human leaf blower."

"One of these mornings, you're just not gonna wake up, you know?"

"Good," he said. "Then I won't have to hear about it anymore."

They can joke at times, but they also have to face some harsh truths about old age. Ruth thinks, at one point while worrying about Abe falling in the driveway, "Everything was a high-risk proposition after eighty. To rage against the dying of the light sometimes meant shoveling the walkway or driving after dark." (I love how Evison deftly references Dylan Thomas's "Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night" here, subtly showing that Ruth's love of poetry never fully dies.)

And, as Ruth undergoes an invasive procedure to save her life, she questions whether it's worth it to keep fighting. "While she wasn't without use, the world was hardly dependent on her participation."

But Abe is not ready to try life without her, and his 90th-birthday thoughts of preparing for death turn into a steadfast need to be Ruth's caretaker, despite their children's misgivings. He drives through snow on city roads that terrify him to be with her at the hospital, and, with the deepest sense of love and commitment, brings her back to their farmhouse and tries his best to take care of her.

Like Abe and Ruth, I'm glad I made it past the beginning of their story. *The Heart of Winter* reminded me that love can last even through the darkest of times if your heart is in it. **B+** —*Meaghan Siegler*

Books
Author events

- **Horror Fiction Fest** with authors Eric LaRocca, Clay McLeod Chapman, EK Sathue, and Dennis Mahoney at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 6:30 p.m.
- **Tess Chakkalakal** will talk about her new book, *A Matter of Complexion*, at the Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth, themusichall.org) on Thursday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$56 and include a signed book.
- **JoJo Moyes** will talk about her new book, *We All Live Here*, in conversation with Jodi Picoult at the Music Hall Historic Theater (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, themusichall.org) on Thursday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$54.50 and include a signed book.
- **Brad Timm** will talk about his new book, *Wildlife Out Your Window*, at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com) on Saturday, Feb. 22, from 2 to 4 p.m.
- **Christine Murphy** will talk about her new novel, *Notes on Surviving the Fire*, at Gibson's

Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 6:30 p.m.

• **KD Mason**, a New Hampshire author, will talk about his Jack Beale mystery series at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com) on Saturday, March 1, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Writer events

• **Pros and Cons of Self-Publishing** presented by author William Graser on Saturday, Feb. 15, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Bookery (844 Elm St., Man-

chester, bookerymht.com).

Writers groups

• **Manchester City Library Writers' Group** meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Hunt Room at the library (405 Pine St., Manchester; 624-6550, manchesterlibrary.org) and is open to writers of all abilities and ages. Sign-up is required; sign up via the library calendar on the library's website. Virtual attendance is available. For information, call 624-6550, ext. 7620, or email tkimsey@manchesternh.gov.

• **Merrimack Valley Writers' Group** All published and unpublished local writers who are interested in sharing their work with other writers and giving and receiving constructive feedback are invited to join. The group meets regularly. Email pembrokenhtownlibrary@gmail.com.

• **Time to Write** writing workshop is held on the first Monday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at The Word Barn (66 Newfields Road, Exeter; thewordbarn.com). Writers of all genres are welcome; registration is required and space is limited.

September 5 (PG-13)

The ABC Sports crew covers a terrorist attack at the 1972 Olympics in West Germany in *September 5*, a swift, tense re-creation of the historical event.

These Olympics are at the dawn of live-via-satellite coverage, we are told, with all the news networks sharing windows on one satellite. Working with a six-hour time difference between Munich and the east coast of the U.S., the ABC sports crew put together packages of sports as well as live sporting events broadcasts. These share screen time with stories from ABC News, such as on-site Peter Jennings (Benjamin Walker) interviewing David Berger (Rony Herman), an American-born Israeli weightlifter, about competing in Germany as the country tries to separate new West Germany from its Nazi past. Then, early, Munich time, in the morning on Sept. 5, the TV crew hears gunfire. They scramble to send out staff and with the help of translator Marianne (Leonie Benesch) they put together that shots were fired in the Olympic Village and that Israeli athletes have been taken hostage. ABC Sports head Boone Arledge (Peter Sarsgaard) demands that the story stay with Sports, and not New York-based ABC News, and works with Geoffrey (John Magaro) to feed as much news and live footage as possible to on-air anchor Jim McKay (shown here in the real-world footage). They build the live coverage capacity as they're airing it — sending Peter Jennings to a neighboring Olympic Village dorm building to report what he's seeing in the Israeli rooms and pushing a studio camera out onto the lawn to get live shots of the building and the terrorists who occasionally step onto the



September 5

balcony. Even the word “terrorists” becomes something of a spur-of-the-moment addition to the coverage, according to the movie — Peter Jennings uses “Palestinian guerillas,” guessing before there's confirmation that the group Black September may be involved. Boone decides to go with terrorists, which is how the German police refer to the hostage-takers.

As they maneuver cameras and solder telephone wires to get Peter's reports live on air, the team, in particular Boone, are laser-focused on the “how” of what they're doing, only slowly realizing that, for example, Olympic village rooms have TVs that receive the ABC broadcast. Thus, they realize, does their ability to offer live coverage outstrip the inexperienced German police's ability to take that coverage into account with their own plans to attempt to rescue the hostages.

September 5 is a tight retelling of the roughly day-long stand-off mostly focused on how the Sports crew is both watching history and making history for how they

are telling the story and how it sets the template for future news coverage. There is no “we're doing it for the ratings” mustache twirler here, it is just kind of a story of people trying to make the right decisions based on the limited information they have and the sometimes at-odds desires to get the story (and get it first) and not to cause harm. While the movie has solid performances all around, I can see why it is the movie's no-slack-in-the-rope story that garnered the movie its one Oscar nomination for Best Original Screenplay. **B+** Available for rent or purchase.

Nosferatu (R)

A young couple are terrorized, in different ways, by the demonic Count Orlok in *Nosferatu*, a remake of F.W. Murnau's 1922 *Nosferatu* that is full of vibes.

Like, this film looks creepy-beautiful — even the scenes of, say, a coffin full of rats have a kind of grotesque loveliness. This movie reminded me a lot of *Maria* (which

is on Netflix), its nomination-mate in the Best Cinematography category of this year's Oscars (*Nosferatu* also got nods for costume design, hair and make up and production design — again, all praise for the look of the thing). Both *Nosferatu* and *Maria* (Angelina Jolie's biopic of Maria Callas) are beautiful to look at and cast a spell that puts you in the art-book-worthy worlds they create. But I fell asleep multiple times during *Maria*, and *Nosferatu* crept along in a way that eventually stopped building tension and just had me wishing we'd get to the vampire factory already.

Newly married goofus Thomas Hutter (Nicholas Hoult) travels to Transylvania for a document signing with Count Orlock (Bill Skarsgård, looking like a living corpse) that even in the 19th century feels like it should have been an email. Melancholy-afflicted Ellen Hutter (Lily-Rose Depp), his wife, afraid at home, is wrapped up in foreboding, with moments of mania and what seems like possession. Herr Knock (Simon McBurney), Thomas's boss, maneuvers for Orlock to, I guess, drain the life out of Thomas so Orlock can come and be with Ellen, who he first seduced years ago somehow. The movie hits all the beats, looks great doing it, but doesn't push beyond. I feel like, with the plague, the dread of a mysterious plague ship, the inability of science (such as it is) to help Thomas or Ellen, the movie had all kinds of places to dig into something more, to make this story terrifying and relevant. Instead, the “innovation” here seems to be a few boobs shots. **C+** Available for rent and in theaters.

CONTINUED ON PG 30 ►

Film**Venues****Bank of NH Stage in Concord**

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

Capitol Center for the Arts

44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.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, flying-monkeynh.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, redrivertheatres.org

Regal Fox Run Stadium 15

45 Gosling Road, Newington, regalmovies.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, thestrandover.com

Wilton Town Hall Theatre

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

Screenings

• *The Brutalist* (R, 2024) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord Thursday, Feb. 13, at 1:45 & 6 p.m.

• *A Complete Unknown* (R, 2024) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, Feb. 13, at 3:45 & 6:45 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 14, through

Monday, Feb. 17, at 12:45, 3:45 & 6:45 p.m.; Tuesday, Feb. 18, through Thursday, Feb. 20, at 3:45 & 6:45 p.m.

• *Paddington in Peru* (PG, 2025) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, Feb. 13, at 4:20 & 6:40 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 14, through Monday, Feb. 17, at 1:30, 4 & 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Feb. 18, through Thursday, Feb. 20, at 4 & 6:30 p.m.

• *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (PG, 2001) will screen via Fathom on Thursday, Feb. 13, and Thursday, Feb. 20, at Apple Cinemas in Merrimack and Hooksett (at 7 p.m.); Cinemark Rockingham Park in Salem (3 p.m. plus at 6:30 p.m. in 3D) and Regal Fox Run in Newington (at 1 p.m. and at 6 p.m. in 3D).

• *Wicked* (PG-13, 2024) will screen Thursday, Feb. 13, at 6 p.m. at Flying Monkey in Plymouth.

Oscar Nominated Shorts

— Animation will screen at Red River Theatres on Friday, Feb. 14, at 2:45 & 7 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 15, 3:30 & 7:45 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 16, at 2:45 & 7 p.m.; Monday, Feb. 17, at 2:45 & 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 4:10 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6:20 p.m.

Oscar Nominated Shorts

— Live Action will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Friday, Feb. 14, at 12:30 & 4:45 p.m.; Saturday Feb. 15, at 5:30; Sunday, Feb. 16, and Monday, Feb. 17, at 12:30 & 4:45 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 19, and Thursday, Feb. 20, 4:10 p.m.

Oscar Nominated Shorts

— Documentary will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Saturday, Feb. 15, at 2:15 p.m.; Sunday, Feb. 18, at 6:20 p.m.; Thursday, Feb. 20, at 6:20 p.m.

• *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (PG, 2002) will

screen via Fathom on Friday, Feb. 14, and Friday, Feb. 21, at Apple Cinemas in Merrimack and Hooksett (at 7 p.m.); Cinemark Rockingham Park in Salem (6:30 p.m.), and Regal Fox Run in Newington (6 p.m.).

• *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (PG, 2004) will screen via Fathom on Saturday, Feb. 15, and Saturday, Feb. 22, at

Apple Cinemas in Merrimack and Hooksett (at 7 p.m.); Cinemark Rockingham Park in Salem (3:15 & 6:30 p.m.), and Regal Fox Run in Newington (1 p.m.).

• *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (PG-13, 2005) will screen via Fathom on Sunday, Feb. 16, and Sunday, Feb. 23, at Apple

Cinemas in Merrimack and Hooksett (at 7 p.m.); Cinemark Rockingham Park in Salem (3:15 & 6:30 p.m.), and Regal Fox Run in Newington (1 p.m.).

• *GoldenEye* (PG-13, 1995) will screen at Chunky's in Manches-

ter (chunkys.com) on Sunday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m. as part of a five-course Farmers Dinner with Chef Keith Sarasin. Dinner costs \$75; \$110 with wine pairing.

• *How to Train Your Dragon* (PG, 2010) will screen at Chunky's in Manchester on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at 11:30 a.m. as part of the Little Lunch Date Series.

• *Dog Man* (PG, 2025) will screen at Chunky's in Manchester on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 11:30 a.m. at a sensory-friendly screening.

• *The Lego Batman Movie* (PG, 2017) will screen at Flying Monkey in Plymouth on Wednesday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m.

• *Every Little Thing* (NR, 2025), will screen at Sweeney Hall auditorium at NHTI in Concord as part of the NHTI Friday Night Film Series on Friday, Feb. 21, at 7 p.m. Admission costs \$10 at the door, cash or check.

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Shake it:** A group of Boston area musicians with a love for funk, **Booty Vortex** play an early Valentine's Day show at a romantic spot. Break out the dancing shoes and get out to get down for an evening of throwback dance music from bands like Earth, Wind & Fire and Wild Cherry. Along with winery selections will be a full bar with themed cocktails, beer and non-alcoholic drinks. Thursday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m., LaBelle Winery, 14 Route 111, Derry, \$40 at labellewinery.com.

• **Dy-no-mite:** Before he hit it big playing J.J. on the '70s sitcom *Good Times*, **Jimmie Walker** worked as a stand-up comic at Black Panther gatherings in Harlem and toured with Motown revues. Friday, Feb. 14, 6 p.m., Newfound Lake Inn, 1030 Mayhew Turnpike, Bridgewater, \$25 and up at eventbrite.com.

• **Song man:** After his band Ghost of Paul Revere parted ways in 2022, **Griffin William Sherry** began a solo career; his first record, *Hundred Mile Wilderness*, dropped last fall. Recorded in Nashville with an engineer who's worked with Sierra Hull and Brandi Carlile, the album's title is a reference to the stretch of the Appalachian Trail that passes through Sherry's home state of Maine. Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St., Manchester, \$33 at palacetheatre.org.

• **Light show:** Beginning with the landmark album *Dark Side of the Moon*, **Floydian Trip** recreates Pink Floyd's touring years before Roger Waters and David Gilmour began feuding. The tribute act combed through countless audio and video clips culled between 1973 and 1981 for an authentic concert experience that includes lights, projections, lasers and a very convincing psychedelic sound. Sunday, Feb. 16, 7 p.m., Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry, \$40 at tupelohall.com.

• **Plus one:** Spontaneity defines the live experience of **Session Americana**, a musical collective begun over a decade ago that draws from the rich Boston Americana community. For an upcoming show, they're joined by singer, songwriter and fiddle player Eleanor Buckland, who got her start with the trio Lula Wiles. She recently accompanied the group on a tour of Europe. Sunday, Feb. 16, 8 p.m., Word Barn Meadow, 66 Newfields Road, Exeter, \$28 at portsmouthnhtickets.com.

NITE

History and song

Guy Davis returns to Flying Goose

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

History through song and storytelling imbues the performance of Guy Davis. His 2024 album, *The Legend of Sugarbelly*, was inspired by a woman murdered in Georgia during the early 20th century, a tale Davis's uncle would share every time he visited. Though the victim's name was a mystery, everyone was aware of her killer's identity.

"I knew the story by heart, it was like a ceremony between my uncle and I," Davis said by phone recently. "Not only did my whole family know this man, that same man at one point was assigned by the Ku Klux Klan to kill my grandfather, because he was a Black man. I'll just say that my grandfather's death at his hands never did take place; a lot of mitigating circumstances that had to do with family looking out for each other, that kind of thing."

The Legend of Sugarbelly began as a song and later became a play that debuted at Crossroads Theatre in New Brunswick, N.J., in 2022. Davis will draw from the work at an upcoming New London show, and do a monologue from the theatrical version.

"That uncle who used to tell me the story, he died the day I finished writing the play," Davis noted poignantly.

The son of actors and civil rights leaders Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, Davis grew up with people like Harry Belafonte and Sidney Pointier stopping by his home.

"I remember my dad introducing me to Malcolm X and having to reach way up and him having to reach way down to shake my hand," he said. Meeting boxer Joe Louis at a Harlem fair housing protest was another favorite memory.

Davis found music at a Vermont summer camp run by John Seeger, Pete's brother, where he learned banjo, later adding six- and 12-string guitar to his repertoire. He grew so dedicated to banjo that one day on a hike that stopped at an estate auction, he bid all his money on an armless rocking chair. "I was 25 cents short, but then the guy running the auction looked at me and said, 'Here, I'll give you the quarter.'"

It was perfect for practicing, which the camp counselors let him do during rest time.

"They allowed me to take my rocking



Guy Davis. Courtesy photo.

chair, sit it outside the cabin with my banjo, and just sit, rock and play," he said. "I wasn't any good ... but I was trying to learn that basic baton stroke that Pete does."

He'd meet the legendary folksinger a few years later, after seeing him in concert on a camp day trip. "I came home and I found

chasing anyone off the stage who came up to sing with him," he said. "A bunch of us would just follow him around, and when he went on stage, we'd ... back him up. If his guitar or banjo was on the floor of the stage while we sang, he seemed to not mind if I picked one of them up."

Seeger figured prominently in the recent Bob Dylan biopic *A Complete Unknown*, and Davis was asked to comment on Edward Norton's Oscar-nominated portrayal of the man he'd grown to call "Uncle Pete" — along with his wife, "Aunt Toshi" — as the interview wound down.

He enjoyed it, Davis began. "He captured something of Pete, and I can't quite explain what it was, but there's a sense of humility, a sense of decency, a sense of being a helping hand," he said, then added his take on the film's subject. "As far as Timothee Chalamet is concerned; after seeing the movie, I think I knew less about Bob Dylan after than I did before." 🍷

GUY DAVIS

I remember my dad introducing me to Malcolm X and having to reach way up and him having to reach way down to shake my hand, "

Pete Seeger standing in my living room," Davis recalled. "I didn't know he knew my folks. He asked me a couple of questions, and then over the years, I got to go up to his cabin and meet his daughters.... His door always seemed to be open for the rest of his life to me. I was very grateful."

In his 20s, Davis began playing with Seeger. "Pete made the mistake of never

Guy Davis

When: Thursday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Flying Goose Pub, 40 Andover Road, New London
Tickets: \$30, call 526-6899 to reserve

MUSIC THIS WEEK

<p>Auburn Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road, 622-6564</p> <p>Barrington Nippo Lake Restaurant 88 Stagecoach Road, nippobluegrass.com</p> <p>Bedford Copper Door 15 Leavy Drive, 488-2677</p> <p>Murphy's Carriage House 393 Route 101, 488-5875</p> <p>Bow Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St., 228-8508</p> <p>Bristol Kathleen's Irish Pub 90 Lake St., 744-6336</p> <p>Brookline The Alamo Texas Barbecue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13, 721-5000</p> <p>Concord The Barley House 132 N. Main St., 228-6363</p> <p>Hermanos Cocina Mexicana 11 Hills Ave., 224-5669</p> <p>Lithermans 126B Hall</p>	<p>St., 219-0784</p> <p>Tandy's Pub & Grille 1 Eagle Square, 856-7614</p> <p>T-Bones 404 S. Main St., 715-1999</p> <p>Uno Pizzeria 15 Fort Eddy Road, 226-8667</p> <p>Contoocook Gould Hill Farm & Contoocook Cider Co. 656 Gould Hill Road, 746-3811</p> <p>Deerfield The Lazy Lion 4 North Road, 463-7374</p> <p>Derry Fody's Tavern 187 Rockingham Road, 404-6946</p> <p>LaBelle Winery 14 Route 111, 672-9898</p> <p>Dover Auspicious Brew 1 Washington St., 953-7240</p> <p>Cara Irish Pub & Restaurant 11 Fourth St., 343-4390</p> <p>Epping Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy., 679-8225</p>	<p>Epsom Hill Top Pizzeria 1724 Dover Road, 736-0027</p> <p>Exeter Sea Dog Brewing Co. 5 Water St., 793-5116</p> <p>Gilford Patrick's 18 Weirs Road, 293-0841</p> <p>Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St., 497-8230</p> <p>Hampton CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road, 929-7972</p> <p>The Goat 20 L St., 601-6928</p> <p>L Street Tavern 603 17 L St., 967-4777</p> <p>Smuttynose Brewing 105 Towle Farm Road</p> <p>Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave., 926-6954</p> <p>Whym Craft Pub & Brewery 853 Lafayette Road, 601-2801</p> <p>Henniker Henniker Brewing Co. 129 Centerville Road, 428-3579</p>	<p>Hudson The Bar 2B Burnham Road</p> <p>Luk's Bar & Grill 142 Lowell Road, 889-9900</p> <p>Lynn's 102 Tavern 76 Derry Road, 943-7832</p> <p>Jaffrey Park Theatre 19 Main St., 532-9300</p> <p>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125, 369-6962</p> <p>Laconia 405 Pub & Grill 405 Union St.</p> <p>Fratello's 799 Union Ave., 528-2022</p> <p>Litchfield Day of the Dead Mexican Taqueria Mel's Funway Park, 454 Charles Bancroft Highway, 377-7664</p> <p>Londonderry Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road, 437-2022</p> <p>Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road, 432-3210</p>	<p>Manchester Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545</p> <p>Bonfire 950 Elm St., 663-7678</p> <p>Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road, 623-2880</p> <p>The Foundry 50 Commercial St., 836-1925</p> <p>Fratello's 155 Dow St., 624-2022</p> <p>The Goat 50 Old Granite St.</p> <p>Great North Aleworks 1050 Holt Ave., 858-5789</p> <p>The Hill Bar & Grille McIntyre Ski Area, 50 Chalet Ct., 622-6159</p> <p>KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St., 627-RIBS</p> <p>Keys Piano Bar & Grill 1087 Elm St., 836-7796</p> <p>Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St., 644-3535</p> <p>Pizza Man 850 E. Industrial Park Drive, 623-5550</p> <p>Salona Bar & Grill 128 Maple St., 624-4020</p> <p>Shaskeen Pub 909 Elm</p>	<p>St., 625-0246</p> <p>South Side Tavern 1279 S. Willow St., 935-9947</p> <p>Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St., 625-4444</p> <p>Strange Brew 88 Market St., 666-4292</p> <p>Meredith Twin Barns Brewing 194 DW Highway, 279-0876</p> <p>Merrimack Homestead 641 DW Highway, 429-2022</p> <p>Tomahawk Tavern 454 DW Highway, 365-4960</p> <p>Tortilla Flat 595 DW Highway, 424-4479</p> <p>Milford Brickhouse 241 Union Sq., 672-2270</p> <p>Riley's Place 29 Mont Vernon St., 380-3480</p> <p>Stonecutters Pub 63 Union Square, 213-5979</p> <p>Moultonborough Buckey's 240 Governor Wentworth Hwy., 476-5485</p> <p>Nashua Casey Magee's Irish Pub 8 Temple St., 484-</p>	<p>7400</p> <p>Fody's Tavern 9 Clinton St., 577-9015</p> <p>San Francisco Kitchen 133 Main St., 886-8833</p> <p>Spyglass Brewing 306 Innovative Way, 546-2965</p> <p>New Boston Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road, 487-1362</p> <p>Newbury Goosefeathers Pub Mt. Sunapee Resort, 1298 Route 103</p> <p>Pembroke Pembroke City Limits 134 Main St., 210-2409, pembrokecitylimits.com</p> <p>Pittsfield Over the Moon 1253 Upper City Road, 216-2162</p> <p>Portsmouth The Gas Light 64 Market St., 430-9122</p> <p>The Goat 142 Congress St., 590-4628</p> <p>Mojo's West End Tavern 95 Brewery Lane, 436-6656</p> <p>Press Room 77 Daniel St., 431-5186</p>	<p>Thirsty Moose Tap-house 21 Congress St., 427-8645</p> <p>Rochester Porter's 19 Hanson St., 330-1964</p> <p>Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway, 458-2033</p> <p>Dreo 254 N. Broadway, 824-6337</p> <p>Salisbury Black Bear Vineyard & Winery 289 New Road, 648-2811</p> <p>Seabrook Backyard Burgers & Wings 5 Provident Way, 760-2581</p> <p>Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road, 760-0030</p> <p>Somersworth Earth Eagle North 350 Route 108, 841-5421</p> <p>Sunapee The Livery in Sunapee Harbor 58 Main St., thelivery.org</p> <p>Sunapee Community Coffee House 9 Lower Main St., 398-8214</p> <p>Warner The Local 15 E. Main St., 456-3333</p>
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Thursday, Feb. 13

<p>Auburn Auburn Pitts: open jam, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Bedford Copper Door: Lewis Goodwin, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Concord Hermanos: Eric Chase, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Derry Fody's: music bingo, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Dover Auspicious Brew: hip-hop night with performances by Homie Juan, Greg Sopper, D James, DJ Champey, hosted by Marc G, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Epping Telly's: Ralph Allen, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Epsom Hill Top: music bingo w/ Jennifer Mitchell, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Hampton CR's: John Chouinard, 6 p.m. Smuttynose: Dani Sven, 5:30 p.m. Whym: music bingo, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Hudson Luk's: Mike Forgette, 6 p.m. Lynn's 102: karaoke w/ George Bisson, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Kingston Saddle Up Saloon: karaoke w/ DJ Jason, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Laconia 405 Pub & Grill: The Lone Wolf Project, 6 p.m. Fratello's: Duke Snyder, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Londonderry Stumble Inn: Jonny Friday, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Manchester Derryfield: Chad Verbeck, 6 p.m. Fratello's: Tim Kierstead, 5:30</p>	<p>p.m. Goat: DJ Cri\$\$, 9 p.m. Shaskeen: EDM night, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Merrimack Homestead: Liz Ridgely, 5:30 p.m. Tomahawk: Chad LaMarsh, 6 p.m. Tortilla Flat: Johnny Angel, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Milford Riley's Place: open mic, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Nashua Casey Magee's: open mic, 7:30 p.m. Fody's: DJ Rich Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.</p> <p>Pembroke Pembroke City Limits: Mikey G. 7 p.m.</p> <p>Pittsfield Over the Moon: open mic, 6 p.m.</p>
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Friday, Feb. 14

<p>Portsmouth The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m. Press Room: S.C.O.B.Y. w/ Megan From Work, & FFO: Chillin, 8 p.m.</p> <p>Salem Copper Door: Peter Pappas, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Seabrook Backyard Burgers: musical bingo, 6:30 p.m. Red's: Andrea Paquin, 7 p.m.</p> <p>Somersworth Earth Eagle: open mic w/Dave Ogden, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Warner The Local: Tyler Levs, 5 p.m.</p>	<p>Alton Bay Foster's Tavern: Henry LaLiberte, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Bedford Murphy's: Tyler Levs, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Bristol Kathleen's: Irish Session, 7 p.m.</p>
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LEGEND OF COMEDY

Steve Sweeney was among the first comedians to perform at the legendary Ding Ho nightclub in Boston. He did stand-up at Denis Leary's first Comics Come Home benefits at Boston Garden, he's appeared in movies like *Celtic Pride*, *There's Something About Mary* and *Next Stop Wonderland*, and there might even be a stop on the Freedom Trail devoted to him. He heads north to Fulchino Vineyard (187 Pine Hill Road, Hollis, 438-5984, fulchinovineyard.com) on Friday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$35 plus fees.

Brookline
Alamo: Ramez Gurung, 6 p.m.

Concord
Forum: Gavin Silver, 8 p.m.
Hermanos: The Coterie, 6:30 p.m.

Derry
LaBelle: Disco Party w/ Booty Vortex, 7:30 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Johnny Angel, 8 p.m.

Hampton
CR's: The Two of Us, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Gendron, 9 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
Wally's: Rob Benton, 9 p.m.
Whym: Stephen Decuire, 6:30 p.m.

Hudson
Luk's: Jodee Frawlee, 7 p.m.
Lynn's 102: karaoke w/George Bisson, 8 p.m.

Jaffrey
Park Theatre: Witts End Band, 6 p.m.; Ayla Brown & Rob Belamy, 7:30 p.m.

Kingston
Saddle Up Saloon: Dan Fallon, 6:30 p.m.

Laconia
405 Pub and Grill: Chris Lester, 7 p.m.
Fratello's: Kyle Dumais, 5:30 p.m.

Litchfield
Day of the Dead: music bingo, 6:30 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Whiskey Tango, 8 p.m.

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Ian Archibald, 6 p.m.
Derryfield: Emily's Garage Band, 8:30 p.m.
The Foundry: Ciera MacKenzie, 6 p.m.

Fratello's: Doug Thompson, 6 p.m.
The Goat: The Far, 9 p.m.
Keys: Dueling Pianos, 7:30 p.m.
Murphy's: Sean O'Brien karaoke night, 8:30 p.m.
Shaskeen: Fungksui, 8 p.m.
South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke, 9 p.m.

Meredith
Twin Barns: The Sweetbloods, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Joanie Cicatelli, 6 p.m.

Milford
Brickhouse: The Slakas, 8 p.m.
Riley's: M.C. Gill, 8 p.m.
Stonecutters Pub: DJ Dave O karaoke, 9 p.m.

Moultonborough
Buckey's: Red Hat Band, 6:30 p.m.

Nashua
Casey Magee's: karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
SFK: Dan Fallon, 6:30 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's: Clint Lapointe, 6:30 p.m.

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits: Will Kindler & the Vampire Bird 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Jack Plante, 9:30 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Press Room: Adrienne Mack-Davis w/ Becky Krill, Dj Cilla, The Sound Around Us, & Dj 32French, 7 p.m.

Salem
Dreo: Dave Clark, 7 p.m.

Sanbornton
Steele Hill Resort: Kat Ivy, 6 p.m.

Seabrook
Red's: Frank Crivello, 8 p.m.

Sunapee
The Livery: JD & The Stone-

asons, 7 p.m.
Sunapee Community Coffee House: Click Horning, 7 p.m.; open mic, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 15
Alton Bay
Foster's Tavern: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.

Bedford
Murphy's: Clint Lapointe, 6 p.m.

Bow
Chen Yang Li: Jack Ancora, 7 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: Chris Powers, 6 p.m.

Campton
Mad River Coffee: Jack Ancora, 3 p.m.

Concord
Forum: acoustic circle with Brian Anthony Booth, 2 p.m.; Badger's Drift, 8 p.m.
Hermanos: Matt Poirier, 6:30 p.m.

Contoocook
Contoocook Cider Co.: Chris Lester, 1 p.m.
Two Villages Art Society: Brad Myrick Duo, noon

Dover
Auspicious Brew: Slim Volume, Tin Fish, Kara Holbert Howe, 8 p.m.

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

Epsom
Hill Top: Project 416, 7 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: live music, 7 p.m.

Hampton
The Goat: James Stark, 9 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
Wally's: Wildside, 9 p.m.

Henniker
Henniker Brewing: Kerry Coffin, 3 p.m.
Pats Peak: Scott & Wally, 6 p.m.

Hudson
Luk's Bar: Matt Bergeron, 7 p.m.
Lynn's 102: Hush\$\$\$, 8 p.m.

Jaffrey
Park Theatre: Eve Pierce, 6 p.m.; Jimmie JJ Walker & Friends, 7:30 p.m.

Laconia
405 Pub and Grill: Dave Zangri, 7 p.m.
Fratello's: Richard Cumming, 5:30 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Lewis Goodwin, 6 p.m.

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Tom Boisse, 6 p.m.
Bonfire: Maddi Ryan, 8 p.m.
Derryfield: Chad LaMarsh Band, 8:30 p.m.
The Foundry: Paul Driscoll, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Paul Gormley, 6 p.m.
The Goat: Musical Brunch with Brooks Hubbard, 10 a.m.
Great North Aleworks: Upright Dogs, 4 p.m.
The Hill: Peter Pappas, 5:30 p.m.
Pizza Man: NKM, 5:30 p.m.
Shaskeen: Emo Edition, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: Craig Thomas & Bluetopia, 9 p.m.

Meredith
Twin Barns: Dakota Smart, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Stephen Decuire, 6 p.m.

Milford
Brickhouse: Vales End, 8 p.m.

Moultonborough
Buckey's: Carolyn Ramsay Band, 6:30 p.m.

Nashua
Casey Magee's: Jenni Lynn Duo, 8 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's: Henry LaLiberte, 7 p.m.

Newbury
Goosefeathers: Karen Grenier, 3 p.m.

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits: Angela Stewart, 4 p.m.; Free Will, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Jason Michelson, 9:30 p.m.
Press Room: 2000's w/ Tysk Tysk Task, Doug., & Retract, 7 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Bad @ Math, 9:30 p.m.

Salem
Dreo: Dani Sven, 7 p.m.

Sanbornton
Steele Hill Resort: Dan Fallon, 6:30 p.m.

Seabrook
Red's: Jay Grattton Band Duo, 8 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 16
Barrington
Nippo Lake Restaurant: HydroGeo Trio, 6 p.m.

Bedford
Copper Door: Nate Comp, 11 a.m.

Brookline
Alamo: Chris Powers, 5 p.m.

Hampton
Whym: karaoke, 9 p.m.

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

Manchester
The Goat: Chris Fitz Grice, 10 a.m.
Strange Brew: One Big Soul Jam, 7 p.m.

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

Nashua
Spyglass: acoustic Sunday w/ Johnny Roberts, 2 p.m.

Newbury
Goosefeathers Pub: Jack Anco-

ra, 2 p.m.

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits: Sunday Jazz Jam with Gary, 1:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: James Stark, 9 p.m.
Press Room: Sunday Jazz Brunch: Joe Pino Quintet, 12 p.m.; Waylon & CO.: A Tribute To Waylon Jennings w/ giuliano, 6 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Lilly Innella, 11 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 17
Dover
Cara Irish Pub: open mic, 8 p.m.

Gilford
Patrick's Pub: open mic, 6 p.m.

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

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

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Another Shot Duo, 7 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Phil Jacques, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: 603 line dancing, 7 p.m.
Salona: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Chris Powers, 5:30 p.m.
Nashua
Fody's: karaoke night, 9:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Chris Fritz Grice, 9 p.m.
Press Room: Noah Guthrie, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 18
Concord
Barley House: Irish session, 6 p.m.



ENTER THE VORTEX

Get ready to pre-party for Valentine's Day with **Booty Vortex**. This fine and funky disco band will sweep you and your special someone off your feet with their blend of good-time spirit and excellent musicianship. Their annual Valentine's show takes place at LaBelle Derry (14 Route 111, Derry, 672-9898, labelwinery.com) on Thursday, Feb. 13, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$40 plus fees.



A SWINGIN' VALENTINE

If you want to lindy hop your way into your valentine's heart, there's no better time than at a **New Legacy Swing Band** show. This jazz orchestra has charmed the Granite State with their blend of swing, R&B and rock 'n' roll from across all musical eras. Don't miss their return to the Rockin Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket, 448-8000, rockinballroom.club) on Friday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$25 to \$30 plus fees.

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Hermanos: Kid Pinky, 6:30 p.m.

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

Hampton

L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.

Laconia

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

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Mostly 90's, 8 p.m.

Manchester

Fratello's: Paul Lussier, 5:30 p.m.

The Goat: karaoke w/ George Cox, 8 p.m.

KC's Rib Shack: Paul & Nate open mic, 7 p.m.

Merrimack

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

Nashua

Spyglass: Kevin Horan, 5 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9

p.m.

Rochester

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

Seabrook

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

Red's: Chad Verbeck, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 19

Concord

Forum: Gary Smith, 8 p.m.

Hermanos: Kid Pinky, 6:30 p.m.

Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.

Uno Pizzeria: Danny & McCa-rthy, 6 p.m.

Derry

Fody's: karaoke, 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: Chris Tylor, 5:30

p.m.

The Goat: 603 line dancing, 7

p.m.

Stark Brewing: Cox karaoke, 8 p.m.

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

Merrimack

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

Milford

Riley's: karaoke, 7 p.m.

Stonecutters Pub: open mic, 8 p.m.

Pembroke

Pembroke City Limits: Dan Fallon & Co., 7 p.m.

Portsmouth

The Goat: Chris Powers, 9 p.m.

Press Room: Marco Benevento, 7 p.m.

Seabrook

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

Red's: Dave Clark, 7 p.m.

GALENTINE'S DAY



As with Christmastime celebrations of Festivus, Valentine's Day has its own TV-created holiday offshoot. Here are a few of the area events planned for Galentine's Day, which, as Leslie Knope told us, is Feb. 13 (Thursday this year).

Sip and Shop at the Artisan Hotel at Tuscan Village (17 Via Toscana, Salem, 912-8450, marriott.com), from 5 to 7 p.m. This event is described as "a vibrant evening of shopping featuring a variety of local, female-owned businesses" with light bites and a cash bar.

Sweat & Sweets at Worthy Mind & Movement (48 S. Main St., Concord, 323-596-7849, worthy mindandmovement.com), beginning at 5:30 p.m. Begin with a 45-minute workout class, then reward yourself with cupcakes and macarons from Savvy Sweets and Treats (Bow, 387-0241, savvysweetsandtreats.com) and a complimentary glass of bubbly, coffee, tea or hot cocoa. Tickets are \$25 through the Mind & Movement website.

Galentine's Day Charcuterie Workshop at Vine 32 Wine and Graze Bar (Bedford Square, 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 935-8464, vinethirtytwo.com), from 6 to 8 p.m. A charcuterie workshop where you can build your own board with meats, cheese and more. Tickets are \$90.

Valentine's Cookie Decorating at Wine on Main (9 N. Main St., Concord, 897-5828, wineonmainnh.com), from 6 to 8 p.m. Learn icing techniques and decorating tips to create four professional-looking cookies with Confections by Kate (723-5187, confectionsbykatenh.com). While you work, taste four wines from around the world. The event costs \$65 per person, which includes all materials and the wine tasting.

Valentine's Paint Night at Positive Street Art (48 Bridge St., No. 3F, Nashua, 589-9003, positivestreetart.org), from 6 to 8 p.m. Each participant will craft a unique art piece on canvas, and as the night unfolds, watch as the two halves merge into a unified masterpiece. A paint session for two, including snacks and beverages is \$80, at zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/valentine-paint-night--2025.

Sip and Paint Fundraiser at Flannel Tavern (345 Suncook Valley Road, Chichester, 406-1196, flanneltavern.com), from 5 to 8 p.m. This event will raise money for Heart and Sole Dance Studio (1921 Dover Road, Epsom, 736-0025, heartandsolestudio.com). Tickets are \$30 per person, with a total of 40 spots available. Venmo @ robynmllette.

Galentine's Day at Junction 71 (Pennichuck Square Shopping Center, 707 Milford Road, Merrimack, 213-5201, junction71.wixsite.com/mysite) from 5 to 8 p.m. There will be refreshments and prize giveaways at this shopping event.

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.net, 8:30 p.m.

Events

• **Dave Russo/Steve Sweeney** Fulchino Vineyard, Hollis, fulchinovineyard.com, Friday, Feb. 14, 6 p.m.
• **Jimmy Dunn, Kristy Kielbasinski, Andrew Della Volpe** Epping Community Theatre, eppingtheater.org, Friday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m.
• **Frank Santorelli** Chunky's, Manchester, chunkys.com, Friday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m.
• **Kyle Crawford** Headliners, Manchester, headlinersnh.com, Friday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m.
• **Tony Vega** Nashua Center for the Arts, nashuacenterforthearts.com, Friday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m.
• **Jim McCue/Liam Hales** McCue's, Portsmouth, mccuescomedyclub.com, Friday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m.
• **JJ Walker** Park Theatre, Jaffrey, theparktheatre.org, Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.
• **Jimmy Dunn, Kristy Kielbasinski, Andrew Della Volpe** Flying Monkey, Plymouth, flying-monkeynh.com, Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.
• **Frank Santorelli** Chunky's, Manchester, chunkys.com, Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m.

Manchester, headlinersnh.com, Friday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m.

• **Tony Vega** Nashua Center for the Arts, nashuacenterforthearts.com, Friday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m.

• **Jim McCue/Liam Hales** McCue's, Portsmouth, mccuescomedyclub.com, Friday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m.

• **JJ Walker** Park Theatre, Jaffrey, theparktheatre.org, Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.

• **Jimmy Dunn, Kristy Kielbasinski, Andrew Della Volpe** Flying Monkey, Plymouth, flying-monkeynh.com, Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m.

• **Frank Santorelli** Chunky's, Manchester, chunkys.com, Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m.

• **Emily Ruskowski** McCue's, Portsmouth, mccuescomedyclub.com, Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m.

• **Ray Harrington/Kindra Lansbury/Ben Quick/Paul Landwehr** Backyard Brewery Manchester, Friday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m.

• **Anthony Rodia** Colonial, Laconia, coloniallaconia.com, Friday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m.

• **Feud Gone Wild** Chunky's, Manchester, chunkys.com, Friday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m.

• **Ben Pratt** Chunky's, Manchester, chunkys.com, Saturday, Feb. 22, 6 p.m.

• **Dave Russo/Lenny Clarke** Fulchino Vineyard, Hollis, fulchinovineyard.com, Saturday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m.

• **Frank Santorelli** Headliners,

Manchester, headlinersnh.com, Saturday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m.

• **Anthony Rodia** Nashua Center for the Arts, nashuacenterforthearts.com, Saturday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m.

Manchester, headlinersnh.com, Saturday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m.

• **Will Noonan** Chunky's, Manchester, chunkys.com, Saturday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m.

• **Ace Aceto** McCue's, Portsmouth, mccuescomedyclub.com, Saturday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m.

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Concerts

Venues

Andres Institute of Art 16 Route 13, Brookline, andresinstitute.org

Averill House Vineyard 21 Averill Road, Brookline, 371-2296, averillhousevineyard.com

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

Button Factory Stage 99 Islington St., Portsmouth, portsmouthnhtickets.com

The CAKE Theatre 12 Veterans Square, Laconia, 677-6360, thecaketheatre.com

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

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

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

Dana Center Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, tickets.anselm.edu

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

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

Franklin Opera House 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, franklinoperahouse.org

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

Goosefeathers Pub 1298 Route 103, Newbury, mountsunapee.com

Hermit Woods Winery 72 Main St., Meredith, hermitwoods.com

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

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

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

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

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

Livery at Sunapee Harbor 58 Main St., Sunapee, nhmusiccollective.com

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

Milk St. Studios 6 Milk St., Dover, 568-7836, milkststudios.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

Pembroke City Limits 134 Main St., Pembroke, pembrokecitylimits.com

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

The Range 96 Old Turnpike Road, Mason, 878-1324, therangemason.com

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

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

The Spotlight Room 96 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

Shows

• **Candlelight: a Tribute to Queen** (6 p.m.) and **Valentine's Day Special** (8:30 p.m.), Thursday, Feb. 13, Rex

• **Mikey G** Thursday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **Booty Vortex** Thursday, Feb. 13, 7:15 p.m., LaBelle Derry

• **Nicholas Payton** Thursday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's

• **Guy Davis** Thursday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m., Flying Goose

• **Dueling Pianos** Thursday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **S.C.O.B.Y./Megan From Work/FFO: Chillin** Thursday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m., Press Room

• **Groundspore** Friday, Feb. 14, 6:30 p.m., Milk St. Studios

• **Jordan TW Trio** Friday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m., Word Barn

• **Adrienne Mack-Davis** Friday,

Feb. 14, 7 p.m., Press Room

• **JD & the Stonemasons** Friday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m., Livery

• **New Legacy Swing Band** Friday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m., Rockin Ballroom

• **Will Kindler/Vampire Bird** Friday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **Symphony NH: Illuminated Ensembles** Friday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m., BNH Stage

• **Ladysmith Black Mambazo** Friday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m., Dana Center

• **Olatuja** Friday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's

• **Ayla Brown & Rob Bellamy** Friday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m., Park Theatre

• **Tony Vega** Friday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts

• **Yasmin Williams** Friday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace

• **Coyote Smoke/Regals** Friday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m., Stone Church

• **18th Annual PMAC Jazz Night: Dream a Little Dream** Friday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., Music Hall Lounge

• **Karen Grenier** Saturday, Feb. 15, 3 p.m., Goosefeathers

• **Angela Stewart** Saturday, Feb. 15, 4 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **Justin Cohn** Saturday, Feb. 15, 6 p.m., Zorvino

• **Are You Ready For It?** (Taylor Swift tribute) Saturday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m., Tupelo

• **Free Will** Saturday, Feb. 15, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **New Jazz Underground** Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's

• **Griffin William Sherry** Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m., Rex

• **Cold Engine** Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m., Stone Church

• **Memories of Patsy** (Patsy Cline tribute) Saturday, Feb. 15, 7:30 p.m., Lakeport Opera House

• **2000s/Tysk Tysk Task/Doug/Retract** Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m., Press Room

• **Mango Catch!** Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m., Button Factory

• **Jack Ancora** Sunday, Feb. 16, 2 p.m., Goosefeathers

• **Yesterday Once More** (Carpenters tribute) Sunday, Feb. 16, 3:00 p.m., Lakeport Opera House

• **Tom DiMenna** Sunday, Feb. 16, 4 p.m., BNH Stage

• **Waylon & Co.** (Waylon Jennings tribute) Sunday, Feb. 16, 6 p.m., Press Room

• **Floydian Trip** (Pink Floyd tribute) Sunday, Feb. 16, 7 p.m., Tupelo

• **Jason Palmer Public Option** Monday, Feb. 17, 7 p.m., Jimmy's

• **Noah Guthrie** Monday, Feb. 17, 7 p.m., Press Room

• **Early James** Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's

• **Marco Benevento** Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m., Press Room

• **Dan Fallon** Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **Joss Stone** Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall

• **Yes Indeed!** Thursday, Feb. 20, 6 p.m., Chubb Theatre

• **Trade** Thursday, Feb. 20, 7 p.m., Hermit Woods

• **Natalie MacMaster & Donnell Leahy** Thursday, Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m., Palace

• **Joss Stone** Thursday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m., Nashua Center for the

Arts

• **Harvest & Rust** (Neil Young tribute) Thursday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m., LaBelle Derry

• **Dan Fallon Band** Thursday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m., Stone Church

• **Diaspora Radio: Parallel Lines, Blondie** Thursday, Feb. 20, 9 p.m., Press Room

• **Who's Bad** (Michael Jackson tribute) Friday, Feb. 21, through Sunday, Feb. 23, 7 p.m., Palace

• **Jim Tyrell** Friday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **Ward Hayden & the Outliers** Friday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m., Rex

• **Tommy Castro and the Painkillers** Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's

• **Lynch Mob** Friday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m., Tupelo

• **Balacava/Spirit Ghost** Friday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m., Press Room

• **The Warren Haynes Band** Friday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m., Chubb Theatre

• **Vance Gilbert** Friday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge

• **North Village/Truck Stop Messiah** Friday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m., Stone Church

• **Condition/Black Vinegar/The Saturn Cycle** Friday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m., Button Factory

• **Wolfman Jack** (Grateful Dead tribute) Friday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m., BNH Stage

• **The 603s** Saturday, Feb. 22, 3 p.m., Goosefeathers

• **Chris O'Neill & Peter Prince** Saturday, Feb. 22, 4 p.m., Stone Church

• **Lee & Dr. G./Catwolf** Saturday, Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m., Milk St. Studios

• **Cash Unchained** (Johnny Cash tribute) Saturday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m., BNH Stage

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG 25

Back in Action (PG-13)

Mild-mannered suburban parents are actually former super spies in *Back in Action*, a one-notch-above-average older-kid family comedy.

Matt (Jamie Foxx) and Emily (Cameron Diaz) were once fighting dudes on airplanes but now they are parents to sassy teen Alice (McKenna Roberts) and computer kid Leo (Rylan Jackson), who both just think their parents are standard-issue uncool Olds. But then Matt and Emily catch 14-year-old Alice and her fake ID at a club and when club muscleheads try to give them some trouble Alice is shocked to watch her parents lay waste to the thick-necked bros. Also shocked is Chuck (Kyle Chandler), Matt and Emily's old boss who thought they were dead before their "Boomers fighting" video goes viral. If he can find them, so can all the various bad-

dies who might be looking for them, he says right before he's shot on their front porch. Thus must Matt and Emily grab their kids and go on the run to find a hidden MacGuffin item that they think might buy them some protection. Matt hid the item at the home of Emily's mom — former MI6 agent Ginny (Glenn Close), with whom Emily has always had a difficult relationship.

This movie is not as cute-fun as the various *Spy Kids* movies that have done this general "secret spy parents" concept but more fun than the Mark Wahlberg movie (2023's *The Family Plan*) that did something similar on Apple TV+. It is a perfectly cromulent movie for families in the PG-13 range, with fun-enough "parents are lame" and "teens, ugh" jokes, that benefits from the natural charisma of Jamie Foxx and Cameron Diaz even if their couple chemistry never really ticks above "sure, whatever." It does, however, serve as a good reminder that it's

enjoyable to see Cameron Diaz in movies. **B-** *Streaming on Netflix.*

Sonic the Hedgehog 3 (PG)
Sonic and his increasing number of friends take on another angry hedgehog-thing in *Sonic the Hedgehog 3*.

In the second movie, Sonic (voice of Ben Schwartz) added Tails (voice of Colleen O'Shaughnessy) and, spoiler I guess, eventually Knuckles (voice of Idris Elba) to his found family, which also includes humans Tom (James Marsden) and Maddie Wachowski (Tika Sumpter). Now they will all be tasked with taking on Shadow (voice of Keanu Reeves), another hedgehog-or-whatever treated shadily by the humans who harbors all sorts of grudges. He is working with Professor Robotnik (Jim Carrey), grandfather to Dr. Robotnik (also Carrey), to build a weapon and enact vengeance, yada yada. Mostly, this movie is

Carrey physical comedy, cartoon character sassy jokes and occasional battles. I was neither particularly delighted nor demoralized by all of this while my kids seemed to have fun and that is kinda the point. The deeper into Sonic lore we go, the more it is about the world of characters and their doo-dads and magical gem things and, sorry, Sonic, Marvel has already used up all that space in my brain. I care less than I did back in the first *Sonic* when we were more about the Sonic-James relationship. But for kids, this mythology stuff seemed great — particularly in the credits scenes that they reacted to with a "Captain Marvel's pager!" level of excitement to the appearance of a new character. So, like **B-** for the "kid entertainment for your dollar" ranking? *In theaters and available for rent or purchase.* 🍷

NITE MUSIC & EVENTS

Trivia
Trivia events

- **Easy A trivia** Thursday, Feb. 13, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com).
- **Oscar Winners trivia** Thursday, Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com).

Other games

- **21+ Scratch Ticket Bingo** at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com) on Wednesday, Feb. 12, 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 with Raise the Bar at Henniker Brewing (129 Centerville Road, Henniker, hennikerbrewing.com) 6 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Reed's North (2 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2143, reedsnorth.com) from 6 to 8 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia with Raise the Bar at June Cork Pub (66 Third St., Dover, thejuncorkpub.com) 6 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 Raise the Bar at The Derryfield (625 Mammoth Road, Manchester, thederryfield.com) 7 p.m.

- **Thursday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Hart's Turkey Farm (223 DW Highway, Meredith, 279-6212, hartsturkeyfarm.com) 7
- **Thursday** Opinionation by Sporcle trivia at Uno Pizzeria & Grill (15 Fort Eddy Road, Concord; 226-8667) at 7 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Chantilly's Restaurant (1112 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, find them on Facebook) 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 with Raise the Bar at The Big Bean (163 Water St., Exeter, thebigbeancafe.com) 7 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Shooters Sports Pub (6 Columbus Ave., Exeter, 772-3856) at 7:15 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Liquid Therapy (14 Court St., Nashua, 402-9391) at 7:30 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Game Changer Sports Bar (4 Orchard View Dr., Londonderry; 216-1396, gamechangersportsbar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.
- **Thursday** trivia at Strange Brew (88 Market St., Manchester, 666-4292) at 8 p.m.
- **First Thursday of every month** trivia at Fody's (9 Clinton St., Nashua, fodystavern.com) at 8 p.m.
- **First and third Thursday of every month** trivia at To Share Brewing (720 Union St., Manchester, tosharebrewing.com) at 6:30 p.m.
- **Friday** trivia at Biergarten Anheuser-Busch (221 DW Highway, Merrimack) from 6 to 8 p.m.
- **Friday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Cheers (17 Depot Square, Con-

- cord, cheersnh.com) 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** trivia with Raise the Bar at Thirsty Moose (360 DW Highway, Merrimack, thirstymoosetaphouse.com) 7 p.m.
- **Monday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Wing-Itz (256 Central Ave., Dover, wing-itz.com) 7 p.m.
- **Monday** Pub Quiz at Shaskeen (909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, shaskeenirishpub.com) at 7:30 p.m.
- **Monday** trivia with Good Thomas at Red's (530 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-0030, seabrook.redskitchenandavern.com) 8 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 with Raise the Bar at Axe & Ale (9 Old Shore Road, Gilford, axe-ale.com) 6:30 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 with Raise the Bar at The Old Salt (490 Lafayette Road, Hampton, oldsalthn.com) 7 p.m.

- **Tuesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Thirsty Moose (83 Washington St., Dover, thirstymoosetaphouse.com/dover) 7 p.m.
- **Tuesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Thirsty Moose (72 Portsmouth Ave., Exeter, thirstymoosetaphouse.com/exeter) 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, Portsmouth, gibbsgaragebar.com) from 8 to 10 p.m.
- **Tuesday Geeks Who Drink** trivia at Peddler's Daughter (48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlersdaughter.com), from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia at 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 with Raise the Bar at Earth Eagle Brewing (350 Route 108, Somersworth, eartheaglebrewings.com) 6 p.m.

- **Wednesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Patrick's Pub (18 Weirs Road, Gilford, patrickspub.com) 6 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at East Derry Tavern (50 E. Derry Road, Derry, eastderrytavern.com) 6 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Flannel Tavern (345 Suncook Valley Road, Chichester, flanneltavern.com) 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** trivia with Raise the Bar at Thirsty Moose (795 Elm St., Manchester, thirstymoosetaphouse.com/Manchester) 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Thirsty Moose (21 Congress St., Portsmouth, thirstymoosetaphouse.com/portsmouth) 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Gate City Casino Lounge (55 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, thegatecitycasino.com) 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Otto Pizza (110 Brewery Lane, Portsmouth, locations.ottoportland.com) 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Empty Pint (17 Second St., Dover, emptypintbrewing.com) 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday** trivia with Raise the Bar at Wing-Itz (603 Lafayette Road, Hampton, wing-itz.com) 7 p.m.
- **Wednesday World Tavern Trivia** at Fody's Tavern (9 Clinton St. in Nashua, fodystavern.com, 577-9015) at 8 p.m.

R&R answer from pg 32 of 2/6



Jonesin' answer from pg 31 of 2/6



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 33.

King Classic Sudoku

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

Puzzle A

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Difficulty: ★

King Classic Sudoku

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

Puzzle B

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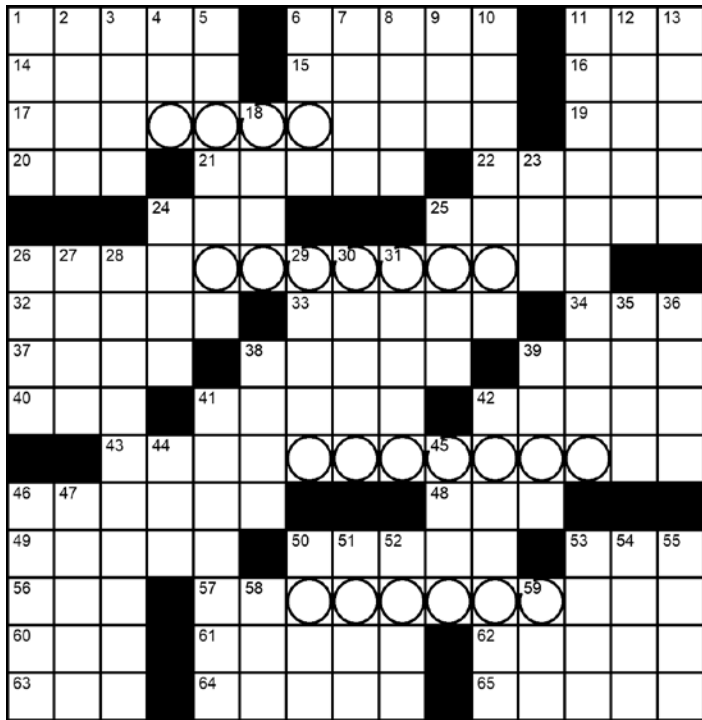
Difficulty: ★★

King Classic Sudoku

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

Difficulty: ★★★

"We're Golden"—at least, hiding in the long answers.



Across

- 1. Classic auto, for short
- 6. Pancake order
- 11. Keeps in the loop, in a way
- 14. In ___ fertilization
- 15. Ali's boxing daughter
- 16. Panama, e.g.
- 17. Easter egg found within a sub-way system?
- 19. Former Notre Dame coach Parseghian
- 20. Nonspecific number
- 21. Mauritian of long ago
- 22. Bashful coworker?
- 24. Sidekick
- 25. Puts down on paper
- 26. Herb specifically designated for a tomato sauce?
- 32. Makes level
- 33. 2000s corporate scandal subject
- 34. Spit some bars
- 37. Scan the print
- 38. Notions
- 39. Circle dance at some weddings
- 40. Onetime Dirk Benedict costar
- 41. Ordinary
- 42. Ring-collecting Sega character
- 43. Atypically sunny weather at the highest peak of the Alps?
- 46. Donnie ___, 1997 Johnny Depp role
- 48. Surprised cry
- 49. Not as frequent
- 50. "Let's Make ___"
- 53. ___ Lankan
- 56. Media attention
- 57. Short break from reading fables?
- 60. Bronze, for one

- 61. Cliched
- 62. Adjusts accurately
- 63. Badminton divider
- 64. Clear, as a whiteboard
- 65. Striped equine

Down

- 1. "Severance" rating
- 2. "Muy ___"

- 3. Teensy
- 4. Telugu-language 2022 movie that was big in the U.S.
- 5. Thingamabobs
- 6. Wheelless vehicle
- 7. Salsa holder
- 8. Pretentious manner
- 9. Progressive Field team, on scoreboards
- 10. "Agatha All Along" star Hahn
- 11. Book opener?
- 12. "___ diem"
- 13. Lingers
- 18. Without help
- 23. Goal
- 24. Fishing hole
- 25. "___ gonna tell them?"
- 26. Long-lasting hairstyle
- 27. Walkie-talkie signoff
- 28. Place to stake out some steaks
- 29. Do the audio again
- 30. Shaq's surname
- 31. Cheery refrain
- 35. Operatic performance
- 36. Agreement
- 38. "It ___ laugh"
- 39. Ding Dong alternative
- 41. Remove from a large container
- 42. "The beer that made Milwaukee famous"
- 44. Sugary suffix
- 45. Baumbach who frequently works with Adam Driver
- 46. "Family Guy" dog
- 47. Grazing area

- 50. Continent with the longest coastline
- 51. They may get connected
- 52. Fencing sword
- 53. Concertgoer's souvenir
- 54. Someone sorry
- 55. "Insecure" actress Rae
- 58. Need correction
- 59. Thin Lizzy's "The Boys Back in Town"

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EASY

2÷	24×		8+
		1-	
48×	1		
		2÷	

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CHALLENGING

5-	11+	12+	3+		36×
				12×	
60×	2÷	10×			
		11+		6+	
	24×		6	4-	20×
		3÷			

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RULES

- 1 Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- 2 The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
- 3 Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

16×		5+	2-
1	4	2	3
4	2	3	1
1-		3-	
2	3	1	4
	1	2÷	
3	1	4	2

2÷	6	4-	5	18×	4	4
2-	4	5	1	6	3	2
	6	3	4	2	1	5
3+	1	2	3	5	4	6
40×	5	4	2	3	6	1
	2	1	6	4	8+	5
	2	1	6	4	8+	5

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Five types of pasta □□□□
- Five words with three vowels in a row □□□□
- Three gases □□□
- Most-populous continent □
- Direction of the sunset □

Last Week's Answers: : PORK FORK CORK CORE BORN MORE PORT CORN HORN FORT / CLOUDY SUNNY WINDY HAZY / MYSTERY SITCOM NEWS / BABE RUTH / ARCTIC

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

SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *The Backyard Bird Chronicles*, by Amy Tan, born Feb. 19, 1952.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *I am not the kind to boast. So I waited a day before sending my birder friends the photos and video. Stay humble.*

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *I would know a lot more about Golden-crowned Sparrows if I went to their home turf in Alaska or northwestern Canada. Maybe so.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *Whenever a bird stuffs itself silly and also grabs a beakful of food to go, I suspect it is feeding either nestlings or the female who is brooding the next. We can hope so.*

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *How does a ground feeder learn to become a perching feeder bird? Why was this thrush so persistent in doing what it normally does not do and also cannot easily do? Really tasty snacks?*

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *I've been spending more hours a day staring at birds than writing. Whatever works for you.*

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *Many kinds of birds will come to the same feeders at the same time, and they might be birds that don't normally hang out together in the wild.... Everyone likes the food court.*

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *I give kudos to Scrub Jays for their ingenuity and persistence. I too am persistent. Play to your strengths.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *I pride myself a bit too much on having the best food for wild bird guests. I would never serve dried mealworms instead of live! It's nice to do something nice.*

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *Birdwatching is disruptive to Zoom meetings. One time, I jumped out of my chair and yelled, 'Purple Finch!' Woooooo!*

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *More astonishing, the female in the nest box returned a brief version of this song. ... She sounded plaintive — I suffer alone in darkness for our future children. Or maybe she was complaining: Where's the frigging food? The male ... looked around the yard, then flew into the nest box with the meal for his mate. Don't eat the fries on the way home.*

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *I had rarely seen an owl in the wild, and now I see two every day, all day long. You have to know what to look for.*

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *One of the Golden-crowned Sparrows in breeding plumage ... resembles a gray tennis ball with a sparrow's face plastered on it. Don't play tennis with a Golden-crowned Sparrow. 🐣*

7 LITTLE WORDS

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

- | CLUES | SOLUTIONS |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 the Buckeye State (4) | _____ |
| 2 a person's person (7) | _____ |
| 3 inn (7) | _____ |
| 4 consisting of a single piece (7) | _____ |
| 5 opportunity for employment (7) | _____ |
| 6 common baby garment (6) | _____ |
| 7 electric resistance (6) | _____ |

IO	LF	ING	ESE	ON
AUB	OP	OLD	GE	MA
OH	ER	EN	IE	EF
ON	OH	GE	ON	ES

Last Week's Answers: SILVER 2. SCULPTURE 3. GARDENERS 4. BRUNO 5. MOZART 6. AUTOMOBILES 7. ANTARCTICA

Sudoku Answers from pg 32 of 2/6

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty: ★ 1/20

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty: ★★ 1/21

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 1/23



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The Neighbors

In Seminole County, Florida, Alan Davis, 69, is famous for all the wrong reasons, ClickOrlando reported. Davis' unsightly property has been the bane of his neighbors' existence for 25 years, and this year, as he celebrates the anniversary of his first county code violation, he's added another element: a 6-foot-tall fiberglass representation of a human butt. Also in his yard: stacks of scrap metal, steel drums, rusted appliances, tarps, junked vehicles and towering weeds. Davis calls the yard a "political protest" against the county government. "I pile it up intentionally to aggravate them," he said. As of mid-January, Davis owed the county \$5.4 million in fines, with more accruing every day. "I'm not going to pay it," Davis said. "I do what I want on my property." Twice, the county has paid to haul away thousands of pounds of junk, but Davis just starts collecting again. "Freedom has a look. This is what it looks like," he said. *Click Orlando, Feb. 6*

Unexpected Guest

On Feb. 4, a guest at the Boulevard 17 hotel in Vlissingen, The Netherlands, returned to her room after taking her dog for a walk and found a gray seal taking a

nap on the floor, NL Times reported. "Fortunately, she didn't try to touch it," said Valentijn Damen of the hotel ownership group Pier 7. "She walked up to the restaurant to get help." The Zeeland Animal Welfare Foundation responded, and with assistance from the Sea Animal Rescue Team Netherlands RTZ, they put the seal in a basket and removed it to the beach. Officials said gray seals "look for a place to rest and sometimes lie in the middle of the terrace or on the road." *NL Times, Feb. 5*

Sign of the Times

Pennsylvania State Police are working to track down the perpetrator of a crime that's no yolk ... or joke. The Associated Press reported that on Feb. 1, 1,100,000 eggs were stolen from the back of a trailer in Antrim Township, and no leads have come in. "In my career, I've never heard of a hundred thousand eggs being stolen," said Trooper Megan Frazer. But then, egg prices have rarely been so high. "We're hoping that somebody knows something," Frazer said. That would be eggs-cellent. *AP, Feb. 5*

What's in a Name?

Before she was born, a cosmetologist from McDonough, Georgia, told the

New York Post on Jan. 27, her mom wanted to name her either Tequilla Sunrise or Shaylee Shian. After the birth, her dad merged the names and signed the papers, and Tequilla Shian was introduced to the world. Tequilla was bullied and got in trouble with teachers, who thought she was making up her name, until she started going by Shian when she was 11. As an adult, she has embraced her first name again. "I have heard the same jokes over and over again," she said. "Kids would ask if my parents were alcoholics or if they were drunk naming me." Interestingly, Tequilla is a teetotaler: "I myself don't drink -- people find that very funny, that the girl named Tequilla doesn't drink." *NY Post, Jan. 27*

Don't Try This at Home

JAMA Cardiology published a case on Jan. 22 that might put followers of the carnivore diet off their meat. The subject arrived at a Tampa, Florida, hospital with yellow oozing nodes on his palms, elbows and soles of his feet, the New York Post reported. He told doctors that he was following a diet consisting of entire sticks of butter, 6 to 9 pounds of cheese and hamburger patties daily. He said his overall health had improved — he had lost

weight and gained energy and cognitive functioning. But the painless ooze had started nearly a month earlier. Blood tests revealed his cholesterol level was more than 1,000 mg/dL — about five times what is considered healthy. He was diagnosed with xanthelasma, in which excess lipids ooze from the blood vessels. The report didn't reveal the man's fate. *NY Post, Jan. 24*

Truth Is Stranger Than Netflix

A 3-year-old girl who was visiting Fraser Island in Queensland, Australia, on Jan. 17 was bitten by a dingo, ABC reported. The Queensland Park and Wildlife Service said the girl was bitten on the back of a leg as her family strolled the beach. The family said they were regular visitors and had scanned the beach for dingoes, but "dingoes are quick and it happened suddenly," said head ranger Linda Behrendorff. Other people came to assist in fighting the dingo off using a kayak paddle. The toddler didn't go to the hospital and is expected to recover. *ABC, Jan. 20*

Sources according to uexpress.com. From the editors at AndrewsMcMeelSyndication. See uexpress.com/contact

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Find in the Bourbon section

2-year aged straight bourbon in American in white oak char #4, blended with just the right amount of NH maple syrup. Delicately sweet, all while letting the younger bourbon shine through. Made with estate grown grains. Perfectly balanced, this bourbon can be used in cocktails, all while being fantastic on the rocks.

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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.

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AMRUT FUSION SINGLE MALT WHISKEY

Find in the Whiskey section

"One of the great whiskies found anywhere in the world"
- Jim Murray

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

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Quiver Old Fashioned

- 1.5 oz Quiver Honey
- 1 oz Bourbon
- 3 dashes Angostura Bitters

Is a traditional Lithuanian honey spirit, reimagined. 6x Distilled, charcoal filtered cane neutral spirit; 80 Proof finished. Non-blended American clover honey is the backbone of the spirit. All natural ingredients, No artificial colors or flavors, Gluten free, No sugar added. Delicate spices that shine include Vanilla, Cinnamon, Nutmeg.

SAVE \$2 NOW ONLY \$37.99

QUIVER SPICED HONEY SPIRIT

Find in the Cordial section

Is a traditional Lithuanian honey spirit, reimagined. 6x Distilled, charcoal filtered cane neutral spirit; 80 Proof finished. Non-blended American clover honey is the backbone of the spirit.

All natural ingredients, No artificial colors or flavors, Gluten free, No sugar added. Delicate spices that shine include Vanilla, Cinnamon, Nutmeg.

SAVE \$2 NOW ONLY \$37.99



LUCKY SEVEN THE HOLIDAY TOAST BOURBON WHISKEY

Find in the Bourbon section

5-year Kentucky bourbon further blended with other bourbon with similar characteristics. American double oak barrel finished expression that's been toasted and charred. Finished in a secondary barrel for several months until it hits their flavor profile and proofed to 115. Serve neat or on the rocks.

SAVE \$2 NOW ONLY \$67.99



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



MOLON LABE WHEATED BOURBON WHISKEY

Find in the Bourbon section

4-year aged in American white oak char #4. A softer, more delicate expression that trades toffee for honey and a creamy mouth feel reminiscent of cereal. Soft notes of orange, vanilla, and cinnamon throughout. Made with estate grown grains.

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