

the Hippo

MARCH 13 - 19, 2025

**CORNERED BEEF
EXPLAINED P. 20**

**NORDIC
BLUEGRASS P. 26**

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

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MARCH 13 - 19, 2025
VOL 25 NO 11

News and culture weekly serving Metro Southern New Hampshire
Published every Thursday
(1st copy free; 2nd \$1).
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ON THE COVER

10 Sure, maple syrup is great on pancakes and waffles, but what else can it do? In this week's cover story, John Fladd looks at the surprising uses for maple, from an adornment for barbecue to a flavoring for beer.

ALSO ON THE COVER We've got maple on the mind this week because this weekend is Maple Weekend in New Hampshire, when sugar houses (who are enjoying a good year, according to our story) offer tours and samples. See page 18. It is also the season for St. Patrick's Day (Monday, March 17) eats. John talks to meat experts about corned beef (page 20). And Michael Witthaus talks to Frigg, a band playing "Nordgrass" — a Nordic take on Western folk and bluegrass (see page 26).

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NEWS & NOTES

TB patient

According to a press release from March 7, the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services and the Manchester Health Department identified a person with tuberculosis who was at the Families in Transition Adult Shelter and the 1269 Cafe in Manchester while infectious. "Anyone who visited these facilities from October 1, 2024, through January 31, 2025, could have been in contact with the individual and testing is available to find out if they were exposed to the bacteria that causes TB," the release said. "People who believe they may have been exposed can also contact their primary care provider to request TB testing. Anyone without a primary care provider can call 211 to establish care." On average, 12 people are diagnosed with TB in the state each year, the release said. Call DHHS at 271-4496 or visit dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/disease-prevention/infectious-disease-control/tuberculosis-tb.

Scam restitution

Homeland Security Investigations with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Hampshire are seeking to identify victims of a gift card fraud scheme for victim restitution purposes, according to a U.S. Department of Justice press release. "In December 2023, Homeland Security Investigations, the Internal Revenue Service's Criminal Investigations, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS), and the Concord, New Hampshire Police Department (CPD) began investigating a sophisticated gift card fraud scheme that is perpetuated by criminal organizations in China. This network has established a base of operations in New Hampshire due to the State's tax-free retail environment and is responsible for millions of dollars in consumer losses," the release said. The filing period for victims is open until June 30. "Potential fraud victims who had gift card funds stolen or used without authorization between October 1, 2023, and January 11, 2024 ... are asked to provide the gift card number(s) and receipt

or proof of purchase to HSINewEnglandVictimAssistance@ice.dhs.gov. Please also include the victim's name and contact phone number," the release said.

Baby shower

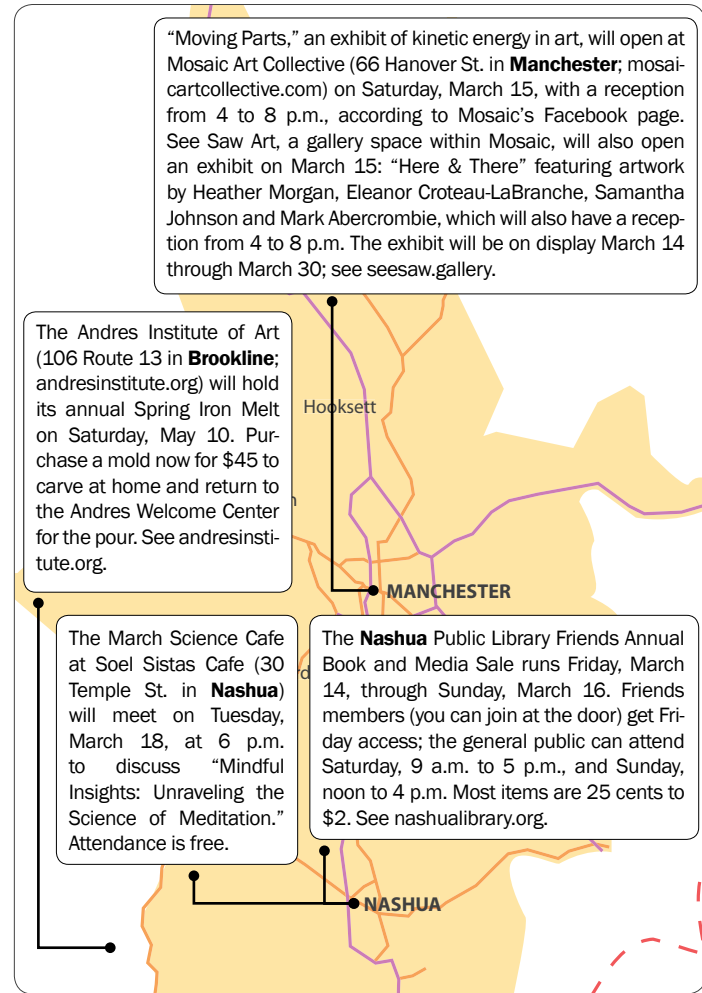
United Way of Greater Manchester is asking for donations for its annual Community Baby Shower on Wednesday, April 23, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the United Way of Greater Nashua office, according to a press release. The United Way is accepting new and gently used baby items including strollers, high chairs, carriers/backpacks, pack & plays, cribs (mattresses not accepted), diapering items, feeding supplies, clothes and more, the release said. Donations can be dropped off at 20 Broad St. in Nashua between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays by April 18, the release said. The United Way also has a donation registry: tinyurl.com/2025BBSHWR. Email info@unitedwaynashua.org or see unitedwaynashua.org.

"Moving Parts," an exhibit of kinetic energy in art, will open at Mosaic Art Collective (66 Hanover St. in **Manchester**; mosaicartcollective.com) on Saturday, March 15, with a reception from 4 to 8 p.m., according to Mosaic's Facebook page. See Saw Art, a gallery space within Mosaic, will also open an exhibit on March 15: "Here & There" featuring artwork by Heather Morgan, Eleanor Croteau-LaBranche, Samantha Johnson and Mark Abercrombie, which will also have a reception from 4 to 8 p.m. The exhibit will be on display March 14 through March 30; see seesaw.gallery.

The Andres Institute of Art (106 Route 13 in **Brookline**; andresinstitute.org) will hold its annual Spring Iron Melt on Saturday, May 10. Purchase a mold now for \$45 to carve at home and return to the Andres Welcome Center for the pour. See andresinstitute.org.

The March Science Cafe at Soel Sistas Cafe (30 Temple St. in **Nashua**) will meet on Tuesday, March 18, at 6 p.m. to discuss "Mindful Insights: Unraveling the Science of Meditation." Attendance is free.

The **Nashua** Public Library Friends Annual Book and Media Sale runs Friday, March 14, through Sunday, March 16. Friends members (you can join at the door) get Friday access; the general public can attend Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. Most items are 25 cents to \$2. See nashualibrary.org.



1 GREAT LOCATION

2 GREAT SHOWS

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NFL 2025 begins



The Big Story – NFL Year Opens: The new business year starts today with the opening of free agency, where the real action takes place over the next 10 days. The next

time to add talent is

over three days during the 90th annual NFL draft beginning on April 23. And the final big time is after June 1 when teams can cut players and lessen the cap hit by splitting their contracts over 2025 and 2026.

Sports 101: Name the 10 who once played for the Patriots who are in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

News Item – Patriots FA Start: Despite being flush with free agent cap space with acknowledged huge holes on the O-line and at lead receiver they passed on immediate opportunities to address them right out of the gate. They wouldn't meet the price of KC and Seattle to bring old friend **Joe Thuney** and wideout **DK Metcalf** to Foxboro. The 33-year-old Thuney, coming off a First Team All Pro season, has one year left on his \$15 million and cost the Bears just a fourth-round pick to get him. For Metcalf, Pittsburgh gave up a second-round pick and \$150 million over the next five years to trade for him. A lot of dough, yes, but that's the going rate for high-end receivers.

If they had done that, they could have used their fourth overall pick to get a high-value left tackle to fill their three biggest holes, then focused their two third-round picks and remaining FA money to fortify the interior defense, which they started doing by signing Mike Vrabel's edge rusher in Tennessee, **Harold Landry**.

So it sounds like more talk, little action again.

News Item – More Patriots Thoughts:

Travis Hunter: Not that the Patriots have to follow it if they decided take Henry. But he was listed as a DB at the Combine, which indicates where many believe he's best suited to play. Given their previously stated Top 3 need that lowers the odds that NE will take him at 4.

Will Campbell: Does 3/8 of an inch in arm length really mean that much? The LSU left tackle is the highest-rated O-lineman on the Big Board. But the chatter about him is his arms are too short because they measure 32 5/8 inches in length, which is below the accepted 33 inches minimum for a left tackle.

Cooper Kupp: With Metcalf, **Tee Higgins**, **Davante Adams** and **Deebo Samuel** off the table what would you give to L.A. to get the once great but on the back nine wide-

out? A fourth-round pick?
Joe Milton: It would be stupid for the Patriots to trade their backup QB as the rumor mill is saying they might. They should showcase him in pre-season at least, because a strong showing raises his value even higher.

The Numbers:

30 – in case my Cowboys-loving friend **George Copadis** has forgotten, the number of years since "America's Team" last even got to the Super Bowl.

84 – combined points scored by **Peyton Pritchard** (43) and **Derrick White** (41) to fill in the gap for the missing **Jayson Tatum**, **Jrue Holiday** and **Kristaps Porzingis** in Wednesday's 128-118 win over Portland.

Of the Week:

Thumbs Up – Joe Mazzulla: For correctly treating Saturday's game with the Lakers as more than just a regular regular-season game by playing Tatum 45 minutes, **Jaylen Brown** 41 and **Al Horford** a season-high 38, leading to a 111-101 statement win.

Best Game of the Week – Nikola Jokic: For the **Larry Bird** play-alike putting up the first 30-point, 20-rebound, 20-assist game in NBA history in Friday's low-scoring 149-141 win over Phoenix.

Radio and TV Broadcasters Phew of the Week: They were spared the arduous task of trying to pronounce the first name of Sox prospect **Jhostynxon Garcia** for at least another year after he was optioned to the minors last week.

And don't ask me, I don't have a clue.

Random Thoughts:

I heard all the chatter about Metcalf not being a good fit for **Josh McDaniels'** system. But shouldn't offensive coordinators find ways to get talented receivers the balls in the way that capitalize on their outstanding skills over just fitting them into the system? Isn't that what coaching is about?

Sports 101 Answer: The 10 Patriots Famers are **Nick Buoniconti**, **John Hannah**, **Mike Haynes**, **Ty Law**, **Curtis Martin**, **Junior Seau**, **Randy Moss**, **Richard Seymour**, **Andre Tippett** and **Darrelle Revis**.

Final Thought: True, most are happy with **Mike Vrabel** as the choice for Pats head coach. But given that the barren roster had far more to do with their going 4-13 than **Alex Van Pelt** or even **Jerod Mayo** did, that puts personnel chief **Elliot Wolf** in the spotlight. With holes all over the roster he needs to deliver at least six players in free agency and the draft who can contribute in a significant way next season. Otherwise they won't be much better.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Pi Day

Friday, March 14, is National Pi Day — as in π , 3.14... . The McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center in Concord is holding a Pi Day Lunar Eclipse celebration from 12:01 to 3 a.m. on Friday, an all ages event that includes Pi activities, watching the lunar eclipse and pizza, according to starhop.com (registration required). Sal's Pizza in Manchester and Derry is tossing itself into the spirit of the day, by offering \$3.14 off every extra-large pizza when you use the code "PIDAY" in store or online.

QOL score: +1 (.1415926....)

Comment: According to the Sal's website, an extra-large pizza is 19 inches in diameter. Using the formula $C=\pi d$, that works out to a circumference of approximately 59.7 inches.

Potholes will get worse from now on

Between fluctuations in temperature and the hard wear we put our roads through, potholes are an unavoidable hazard of driving in New Hampshire. According to a Feb. 17 article in Discover magazine, we should expect them to only get worse. The article quoted Jennifer Jacobs, a civil engineer at the University of New Hampshire. "[Roads] are designed to operate under certain climate or weather conditions," she said. Jacobs and her team have used climate change models to calculate the damage to roads under hotter weather and more extreme temperature shifts, and have determined that the calculations that are used to estimate how much maintenance our roads will need might be significantly inaccurate in coming decades.

QOL score: -1

Comment: The Discover magazine article went on: "To resist the forces of climate change, the team recommends making asphalt layers 7 to 32 percent thicker, with layers getting heftier as temperatures rise."

Winnie graduates

As reported by WMUR in a March 5 online article, Winnie, an emotional support dog with the state's 911 call centers, has graduated from her training and is ready to start full-time work providing support to New Hampshire's emergency dispatchers. According to WMUR, with the help of her trainer Abigail and the Hero Pups organization, Winnie "was recognized by the New Hampshire Department of Safety's Division of Emergency Services and Communications for completing training."

QOL score: +1

Comment: WMUR quoted Mark Doyle, the director of emergency services and communications: "Winni has been specifically trained to provide emotional support and mental health wellness for our team. Since Winni completed her training and joined the team full-time around the start of the new year, her impact has been immediate and overwhelmingly positive."

Downward dog. And cat. And maybe bunny.

As reported by The Concord Monitor in a March 10 online story, a local program is pairing yoga practitioners with animal partners. "To encourage the adoption of animals in their shelter and foster connections between humans and their four-legged counterparts," the article reads, "Pope Memorial SPCA holds yoga classes twice a month where participants can practice poses alongside shelter pets."

QOL score: +1

Comment: Spending time with an animal has been shown to lower stress in humans, the SPCA said in the article, as does yoga.

QOL score last week: 57

Net change: +2

QOL this week: 59

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THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS

MARCH 13 AND BEYOND

Sunday, March 16

Dartmouth Health Children's **Battle of the Badges Hockey** presented by the Elliot Perry Foundation will take place today at 1 p.m. at SNHU Arena (555 Elm St. in Manchester; snhuarena.com) when Team Police and Team Fire face off in this annual fundraiser. Tickets cost \$16 for adults; kids 12 and under can



get in for free. See childrens.dartmouth-health.org/events for more.

\$24.75 through ticketmaster.com.

Friday, March 14

Cowboy Bebop Live will come to the Nashua Center for the Arts (201 Main St., Nashua, 800-657-8774, nashuacenterforthearts.com) tonight at 8 p.m. The Bebop Bounty Big Band brings together storytelling and high-octane jazz in a complete multimedia experience highlighting the story of critically acclaimed anime *Cowboy Bebop* on the big screen with live music. Tickets start at \$39.

Saturday, March 15

The Manchester Historic Association (129 Amherst St., Manchester, 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org) will present a lecture, "**All Aboard for Pine Island Park!**," at the Millyard Museum today from 11 a.m. to noon. Free with Museum admission. RSVP at 622-7531 or history@manchesterhistoric.org.

Saturday, March 15

Learn how to make **Ukrainian Easter Eggs**, which elaborately decorated with dye and hot wax, from Ukrainian artisans today from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and Dunay, March 16, from 2 to 4 p.m. The cost is \$44 per person or \$30 per person for groups of four at NH School of Languages and Arts, 3J Taggard Drive in Nashua. Sign up by emailing mariabronfine@gmail.com.

Saturday, March 15

"**Uncensored: Underground Art Experience**" will be held today from 6 to 8 p.m. at 20 Garden Walk in Manchester, according to an email from Porsche Jones, one of the artists whose work will be displayed (others include Hazel Heywood of Grindark Studios, Jenn Coffey, Dapper Thom, Jenny Tibbits, Hannah Rowell-Jore and more). Admission is free to this exhibit "which showcases work that is political or otherwise too provocative for your average show. Not suitable for all ages," the email said.

Saturday, March 15

Join To Share Brewing (720 Union St., Manchester, 836-6947, tosharebrewing.com) tonight at 7 p.m. for the **Hardcore Queens Breaking Up Band and Drag Show**, hosted by Glamme Chowdah. Tickets for this 21+ show are \$15 cash at the door. 🗨️



Save the Date! Friday, March 21

Ventriloquist and comedian Jeff Dunham will take the stage at the SNHU Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, snhuarena.com) Friday, March 21, at 7 p.m. as part of his **Artificial Intelligence Tour**. Tickets start at \$66.

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6-9pm

March 16
12-6pm

Live Music By The Reel McCoys
12-2pm
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4:30pm

March 17
3-9pm

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4-8pm

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MEATY, SAVORY, MAPLE?

CHEFS DESCRIBE THE SURPRISING SIDE OF MAPLE SYRUP



By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

When you think of maple syrup, you are much more likely to think of pancakes or waffles than smoked fish, but Michael Williams would like the opportunity to change that.

“Maple-smoked fish is very, very good,” Williams said. “A maple-smoked sturgeon would be mind-blowing.”

Williams, who operates Eden’s Table Farm in Dunbarton, a farm and market dedicated to high-end, locally produced foods, with his wife, Pastry Chef Addie Leader-Zavos, believes that American eaters have always looked at maple products too narrowly, particularly in New England.

“New England has always been a step behind, culinarily speaking,” he said. “I think it stems from the Puritans’ distrust of any kind of pleasure.”

Northern New England leads the nation in maple syrup production — according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA.gov), New Hampshire produced 149,000 gallons of syrup last year. (An impressive achievement, con-

sidering what a rough production year it was, although it pales in comparison to Vermont’s 3.1 million gallons.) But, until relatively recently, the region has taken a conservative approach to how maple has been used in food and drink.

In recent years, however, chefs and brewers in New England, and especially New Hampshire, have become more adventurous in their uses of syrup and have found a demand for them.

Dennis Molnar is the co-owner of Concord Craft Brewing in Concord. He said that in recent years maple-forward beers have become a regular part of his brewery’s seasonal rotation. This year he and his team have focused on Maple Bourbon Brown Ale, as opposed to last year’s Logger Lager.

“We kind of alternate,” Molnar said. “We did something a little bit different this year, but we also used maple. We [made] our brown ale and we aged it in maple bourbon barrels and added a little bit of maple syrup at the tail end to get just a touch of sweetness back into it.”

Molnar said that, compared to some other ingredients, maple syrup is fairly easy to work with. “We need to have it uncontam-

inated because any bacteria or wild yeast will change the character of the beer,” he said. But a simple heat-up of the syrup, or buying material that’s already pasteurized is the fix. The bourbon barrels that the beer is aged in come from a producer in Maine, he said. “Maple was already used in the bourbon,” he said, “[but it] doesn’t tend to impart much flavor to the barrel; we end up getting sort of the char and the burnt-y flavor, but it doesn’t change the alcohol content. There’s not sort of an alcohol shiver at the end or anything. So we get mostly bourbon [notes] from that, and then we add back a little bit of maple to sort of restore some of that sweetness.”

Sweetness, of course, is one of the primary characteristics of maple syrup, but Chef Keith Sarasin, chef/owner of The Farmer’s Dinner pop-up restaurant (thefarmersdinner.com) and of Aatma Curry House in Milford, says it’s maple’s musky, perfumy notes that make it such a versatile ingredient to pair with other strong flavors.

“It’s funny,” Sarasin said. “At Curry House we use maple in two different dishes. We actually use it in our butter chicken, which is one of our secret ingredients. We use smoked maple syrup from Ben’s Sugar Shack. We add a little bit of that just as a quick touch, kind of our signature little special thing. Maple syrup works a lot like jaggery.” Jaggery, a raw sugar used in Indian cooking, has many similarities to maple syrup, he said.

“And since we study food from the sub-continent,” Sarasin continued, “we’ve learned that it’s a beautiful replacement for jaggery. Well, you know, jaggery’s got that little, that sourness to it, that kind of earthy quality.”

“That depends on where the jaggery comes from, too,” he said. “South Indian jaggery is a lot more like that. North Indian jaggery is floral, and so it reminded me of the different grades of maple syrup, like that dark amber kind of [syrup] mimics South Indian jaggery,” he said.



Photo courtesy of Concord Craft Brewing.

The theme of Sarasin’s pop-up restaurant The Farmer’s Dinner focuses on fine-dining applications of local and seasonal ingredients, so maple is prominent in many of his white-tablecloth dishes, he said.

“I think everyone thinks of maple syrup as this sweet dessert-based thing, but one of the things that we like to do is to use it in gastriques. A gastrique is basically a kind of a sauce or a glaze, with a soured, vinegar-like property. It’s like a reduction of a sauce. So I’ll do a maple gastrique with duck quite a bit because it works so darn well together. Anytime you have fat, you need to balance it with a high level of acidity.” And maple syrup helps round out that acidity, he said.

This is a use that Chef Chris Viauld of Greenleaf Restaurant in Milford puts maple to as well.

“I just did a maple-gochujang glazed duck breast for a dinner,” he wrote in an email. Gochujang is a traditional fermented salty chili paste from Korea. “And Emilee has a maple semifreddo on the current menu at Greenleaf and has done a maple creme brulee in menus past.”

Emilee is Viauld’s wife, Emilee Viauld, the pastry chef at his restaurants, and owner of Sweet Treats by Emilee (facebook.com/EmileesSweetTreats), a bespoke baking business. She said that maple syrup

Maple Gastrique Recipe by Keith Sarasin

Ingredients

½ cup maple syrup (preferably Grade B or dark amber for deeper flavor)
½ cup apple cider vinegar (or balsamic for a richer gastrique)
1 Tablespoon shallots, finely minced (optional, for added depth)
½ teaspoon black pepper (optional, for mild spice)
½ teaspoon salt
1 Tablespoon butter (optional, for a silky finish)

Instructions

1. Reduce the Vinegar:
• In a small saucepan over medium heat, add the vinegar.
• Let it simmer until reduced by about half (5-7 minutes), concentrating the acidity.

2. Add the Maple Syrup:

• Stir in the maple syrup and bring the mixture to a gentle simmer.
• Allow it to reduce for another 5-8 minutes, stirring occasionally, until it thickens slightly.
• The consistency should be similar to a thin syrup—it will continue to thicken as it cools.

3. Season and Finish:

• Stir in the salt and black pepper.
• If using, whisk in the butter for a silkier texture.
• Remove from heat and let it cool slightly.

4. Strain (optional):

• If you used shallots, strain the gastrique through a fine-mesh sieve to achieve a smoother sauce.

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vos uses maple syrup for are a little more traditional. One is her Maple Sticky Buns.

“We also sell a Maple Nut Pie,” she said. “It’s like a pecan pie, but with walnuts.” Again, the earthy notes of dark maple pair well with the slightly bitter flavor of the walnuts, and the velvety texture of the syrup contrasts with the crunchiness of the nuts. “During the holidays,” she said, “I bake it as a hand pie.”

Emily Sliviak is the Marketing Manager for Ben’s Sugar Shack in Temple, one of the largest producers of maple syrup in New Hampshire. She said that while much of the maple syrup Ben’s sells is widely used in traditional ways she has seen it used more and more in recent years paired with savory dishes.

“We literally glaze all of our bacon, all of our sausage, all of that stuff with maple syrup,” Sliviak said. “So, as far as savory things go, salmon is great; we do an entree

Miso Caramel by Emilee Viaud

“This is good to have on hand to add to ice cream or as a glaze to pies, cookies, and with coffee.”

Ingredients

- 1 cup pure NH maple syrup
- 2 Tablespoons room-temperature unsalted butter
- 1/2 teaspoon miso paste (add more for more salty taste)
- 1/3 cup room-temperature heavy cream

Instructions

Bring maple syrup in a medium-sized pot over medium heat to a boil. Simmer maple syrup until candy thermometer reaches 230°F.

Turn heat down to low, add room-temp butter and whisk until incorporated.

Add heavy cream and whisk until combined.

Add miso and whisk in.

Pour caramel through a fine mesh strainer and let cool at room temperature

pairs well with the cream in a semifreddo. “It’s a frozen dessert,” she said. “It means semi-frozen. So really all it is is whipped cream and whipped cooked eggs and sugar. And then you can add really any flavoring to that, but I like adding maple because of the sweetness and how the richness of a dark maple complements that heavy cream.” She leans toward dark grades of maple syrup. “It’s got a more intense maple flavor. Yeah, and then really when you’re cooking with maple syrup, it is just so sweet. So you really want to try and find the balance, not make a dessert that ends up being overly sweet.”

Chef Viaud likes to pair maple with contrasting flavors. “One of the ingredients that I like to pair with maple is miso,” she said. Even though it’s a surprising combination, she said, “that’s actually probably my No. 1 thing I like to pair with maple. People always think of nuts, like a walnut or a pecan maple dessert, but with miso the fermentation and the saltiness really balances well with maple. If you just make a simple sugar cookie and want to put a maple glaze on it, you just add the miso. You can cook down miso to get it more flavorful — it’s very salty, where if you cook it down a little bit it actually gets more concentrated. You can add it to glazes. You can add it to fillings. It can go well in a caramel. You could also make a miso-maple ice cream.”

Pastry Chef Addie Leader-Zavos of Eden’s Table Farm agrees that maple syrup’s sweetness makes it an obvious choice to use in sweet applications. She likes to use it in European dishes, where it is nontraditional and adds an unexpected complexity.

“I like to base canelés around it,” she said. “They’re a French custardy pastry made with beeswax. They aren’t very common here, but there was a war fought over them.”

The two other applications Leader-Za-

Crispy Maple Dijon Panko Crusted Salmon from Ben’s Sugar Shack

Serves 4.

- 4 salmon fillets, skin on
- 1 cup panko bread crumbs
- ¼ cup Ben’s Maple Sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- ½ cup butter, melted
- ½ cup mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons of Dijon or whole-grain mustard

Preheat oven to 400°F.

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Place salmon fillets on the prepared bak-

ing sheet, skin side down.

Combine the mayonnaise and mustard in a small bowl. Combine the breadcrumbs, maple sugar, salt, garlic powder, black pepper, and melted butter in another bowl.

Spread the mayo/Dijon mixture evenly on the tops of the salmon. Gently press the bread crumb mixture onto the top of the fillets, fully coating each one.

Bake in a preheated oven for 12-15 minutes. The thickness of each fillet will determine cooking time, the crust should be golden brown and the salmon should flake easily with a fork.

Serve immediately with your favorite sides.



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Courtesy photo.



Maple Glazed Ribs. Courtesy photo.

here with the maple glaze on it. And then we have rotisserie chickens here. We use a maple glaze and then we stuff the chicken with a bunch of fresh rosemary and it comes out really good. That's one of my favorites."

Maple's affinity for smoke has become widely recognized in recent years by the grilling and barbecue communities. Steve Chase is the owner of Steve's Original Sauces in Belmont. He said that while one of his sauces is spicy, with a maple background flavor, he wants to be very clear that he makes it with barbecuing in mind.

"I've been teaching people for years that I'm not a hot sauce guy," he said emphatically. "Because people come and they say, oh, they look at the name, you know, 'SOS,' and they think it's hot. So I kind of just, over the years, I said, 'OK, let me come up with something for these folks.' So I took my sugar shack maple sauce as my base. I took that into the kitchen and redid it a little bit to make it hot for them. It created a little smoky maple. And because it's maple, I added a little bit of cinnamon to it as well to go with it. Cinnamon is a spice that has some heat to it as well. I just used a cayenne pepper powder as my heat in that, and it just developed into just a really beautiful, like little sweet maple with the cinnamon, and then the back end gives you that nice heat hit that people love to have, and it's just turned into just a wonderful flavor sauce that people love."

For Chase, maple is a natural pairing for smoky flavors, which makes it well-suited for barbecued meats.

"[My sauces] have a very subtle smoky maple flavor," he said. "It's not overly sweet; the maple just enhances what is in the bottle. Some people really love the smoke. If you're not able to do any smoking, you can marinate your meat, your chicken, your pork, your beef — you can marinate it in this sugar shack maple and it will give it a nice smoky flavor."

That sounds fine for a home cook, but what about professionals? Do competition barbecuers look at maple sauces as a cheap trick and avoid it, or is it something you might actually see at a high level of smoking?

Jayna Todisco is the head cook of the championship barbecue team A Mazie Q. She is a World Barbecue Championship competitor and the Grand Champion of the Back to BAYSics (Ironman) BBQ Competition. She said maple is her go-to special ingredient.

"In a competition environment," Todisco said, "maple to me lends itself with so many benefits over other sweeteners, so I use it in my injections. I use it in my sauces. I use it as a finishing sauce. It does really well. I just, I can't sing its praises too much because to me it's probably the one finishing glaze on most of my meats. We compete majorly, and ... of my four meats three have it. I have a world champion recipe because I did win a world championship on that one alone. And when people are asking, like, 'What is that? What makes it so well? And I'm like, 'It really is maple syrup. It really is. Like, that's what it is. That's all it is.' I just literally take a paintbrush and I paint it

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Maple Glazed Ribs from Dan DeCourcey, owner of Up in Your Grill Food Truck (493-3191, upinyourgrill.com)

- Maple Glaze**
- 1 cup NH maple syrup
 - 2 Tablespoons apple cider vinegar
 - 1 Tablespoon coarse salt
 - 1 Tablespoon paprika
 - 1 teaspoon granulated garlic
 - 1 teaspoon granulated onion
 - ½ Teaspoon of finely ground black pepper
 - ½ Teaspoon of cayenne pepper (or more for extra kick)

Mix glaze ingredients in a saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat stirring frequently. Turn down heat to low and simmer for 5 minutes.

Smoke ribs as you normally would. If you wrap the ribs during the smoking process add a half cup of glaze to the wrap as a braising liquid.

Glaze unwrapped ribs during the last 20 minutes of your cook. Enjoy!



Courtesy photo.

with maple syrup and that is it.”

Todisco said maple often takes judges by surprise.

“No one is expecting it,” she said. “And when you put it on hot meat, the way it mixes with the juices, you really can’t identify it because during the cooking process somehow it executes such a different flavor than when it starts. You can still tell it’s maple if you’re looking for it, but for the most part everybody’s like, ‘What is that?’ Because when you do barbecue, people are looking for honey or brown sugar or something like that, but no one’s expecting maple. I love it.”

Ultimately, Michael Williams of Eden’s



Maple Margarita. Photo by John Fladd.

Table Farm said, the growing use of maple in different cuisines and applications is a reflection of a sea change in the way the public thinks about its food. “Slowly,” he said, “we’re moving toward an awareness of eating locally and being more aware of where our ingredients come from. Maple definitely has a part in that.” 🍁

Maple Margarita by John Fladd

- 2 ounces jalapeño-infused blanco tequila – I like Tanteo
- 1 ounce fresh squeezed lime juice
- ½ ounce dark maple syrup

Pour the tequila, lime juice and maple syrup over ice in a cocktail shaker. Seal the shaker and shake it vigorously until you hear the ice start to break up.

If you were to ask your digital assistant to play “Tequila” by The Champs, who could blame you?

Strain over fresh ice in a rocks glass, and drink while considering that while the world is a messy and suboptimal place in many ways, there are compensations.

Many bartenders will limit their use of maple syrup to a Maple Old-Fashioned, because its sweetness often overwhelms other ingredients. Tequila has enormous strength of personality, however, and is not easily overwhelmed. Maple goes exceptionally well with acidic fruits, and lime juice, as has been observed on many occasions, is everybody’s friend. This cocktail is juicy-tasting, with a residual jalapeño heat. It goes down very easily. It’s something of a constant in life that one margarita can easily become two, then a party. This margarita could usher in a relaxing weekend, or perhaps a lost one.



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Serving up a tale

Gastrobrewery hosts dinner and storytelling

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

“Sean’s Red Scarf” is a playful story about a greedy man who lets a leprechaun fool him into opening an accessory shop. Simon Brooks has been spinning such tales for more than 30 years, and it may be among those he’ll tell after a dinner at a Nashua gastrobrewery hosting the latest in its Legends & Lore storytelling series.

Or maybe, Brooks said recently, it’ll be a darker yarn.

“A lot of people think that folk and fairy tales are mostly for kids, but when you actually listen to a lot of them they’re really deep,” he said. For example, “The Lonely Boat Man” is about using imagination as a defense against life’s hardships, with an ending that lands differently depending on the

Legends & Lore Storytelling Series: Tales from the Seanchai

When: Sunday, March 16, 6 p.m. (dinner seatings begin at 4:15 p.m.)

Where: Rambling House Food & Gathering, 57 Factory St., Suite A, Nashua

Tickets: \$20/person at ramblingtale.com. Ticket price includes entry to performance and does not include dinner, drinks, or gratuity.

Adult content, not for children.

listener.

In it, a fisherman named Hagen runs from a socially awkward moment; all the guests at a public dinner have been asked to perform for their share, and his entertainment skills are nonexistent. Outside, he finds a beautiful woman in need of a boat ride to her home. He obliges, and falls in love along the way to the mysterious island where she lives.

In Brooks’ capable hands, the Scottish folk tale, also called “The Fairy Bride,” is magical, its denouement both beautiful and devastating. Hagen’s escape is redemptive and life-affirming, even after things change and he’s once again alone, with the memory of brief happiness the only salve for a solitary existence. However, he now has a story to tell.

Just the basic bones are provided here, so as not to spoil it for anyone who’d like to hear the whole tale on Brooks’ website (diamondscreed.com).

Brooks has appeared frequently at the Nashua venue, and the upcoming St. Patrick’s Day event will be his third one there.

“It’s one that both Rambling House and I get very excited about,” he said. “I have Irish ancestry, and so I tell mostly Irish stories. There might be a Scottish or Welsh story thrown in because it’s Celtic.”

The evening will include a farm-to-table meal with an Emerald Isle feel — “the chef is absolutely incredible, it’s some of the

best-tasting food I’ve ever had,” Brooks said — followed by dessert and, perhaps, a mug of their Oscar F.O.W. Wilde Nitro Stout. After the tables are cleared, tale-spinning begins.

Rambling House has designated Brooks as the evening’s Seanchai (pronounced, shan-ah-key), described as “a storyteller tasked with keeping alive the Irish myths, folklore and legends that inspire a people. In ancient Ireland, the seanchai was held in high esteem and would regularly attract large crowds to hear the long-form poems and tales they had to tell.”

Opened in 2012, the Factory Street restaurant is named after the Coosane Rambling House, a rural family home in County Kerry, Ireland, that served as a gathering place for locals to gather and share conversation, song, dance and storytelling. It was a favorite spot of Maurice Gleeson, scion of the family that runs Rambling House and nearby TaleSpinner Brewery.

Born in England, Brooks is well-versed in many storytelling traditions and is vigilant about properly honoring all of them. As he’s keenly aware that his interpretation of a story may not hew exactly to its original telling, he’s careful to understand the cultural norms informing each one.

“I try to [tell a story] as authentically as I possibly can so that I’m not homogenizing it,” Brooks said. To that end, he spent years



Simon Brooks. Courtesy photo.

transforming the anglicized version of a Japanese folk story he’d found in a children’s book into something that felt genuine, even availing a fellow storyteller from Japan to translate websites he couldn’t read.

“She gave me insight into how to tell the story and not Europeanize it, but actually keep it in the way a Japanese storyteller might tell it,” he said. “Having done all this digging and delving, I was able to then tell that story properly, from a place of authenticity, rather than just taking a Japanese story and making it mine.”

Brooks has also written a book aimed at young readers that encourages both children and adults to “take these stories and make them your own ... make them relevant to your life experiences and the life that you live. Because that makes it more personal. It makes it way more fun for both the teller and the listener.”

Art

Exhibits

• **“Nature’s Gallery”** at the Audubon’s Massabesic Center (26 Audubon Way, Auburn, nhaudubon.org), in partnership the Manchester Artists Association, celebrates “creativity and nature’s beauty” via pieces in a variety of media from 15 local artists, according to the website. This exhibit will run from through Friday, April 25. The Massabesic Center is open Wednesdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **“Ann Agee: Madonna of the Girl Child”** will be on display at the Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St., Manchester, currier.org) through Thursday, June 5.

• **“Actual Size,”** an exhibit of paintings by local artist CE Whiting, will be on display at the Community Art Gallery at the Peterborough Town Library (2 Concord St. in Peterborough; 924-8040, peterboroughtownlibrary.org) from the first week in March until the end of April.

• **“Let’s Keep It Real,”** an exhibit of works by Barbara Morse, will be on display at the Cunningham Gallery at the Jaffrey Civic Center

(40 Main St., Jaffrey, 532-6527, jaffreyciviccenter.com) through Friday, March 28. The Civic Center is open Wednesdays through Fridays, noon to 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• **Concord School District 2025 Art Show** will run through Wednesday, April 2, at the Citywide Community Center (14 Canterbury Road, Concord).

• **“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.

• **“Simply Nature”** at New Hampshire Audubon’s McLane Center (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, nhaudubon.org) will run through Saturday, May 3. The exhibit features a small portion of photographer Pierre Garand’s catalog of nature photography.

• **“Queer Joy as an Act of Resistance,”** a partnership between

Queerlective and Teatotaler at Totally Tea+Coffee Concord (2 Capital Plaza; totally.cafe), will feature works of art from local artists that reflect the show theme in media including painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, digital art and mixed media, according to queerlective.com. The show will run through Saturday, May 17, with an opening reception Saturday, March 15, 6 to 8 p.m.

Workshops and classes

• **Bloom Bar Popup** at Local Street Eats (112 W. Pearl St., Nashua) on Wednesday, March 19, at 6 p.m. featuring a collaboration with Fortin Gage Floral Boutique. For \$40 per person, receive a bouquet and vase and bouquet guidance from Amber Morgan, owner of Fortin Gage, plus a glass of prosecco (full menu available for purchase). See local-streeteats.com/events to register.

• **Spring classes at Kimball Jenkins** (266 N. Main St., Concord, kimballjenkins.com) for ages 2-7, 8-17 and adults will start March 31. Find the lineup of classes online.

Theater

• **Sister Act** at the Rep, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, seacoastrep.org, will run through Sunday, March 16, with shows at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

• **Escape to Margaritaville,** a musical comedy featuring classic Jimmy Buffet songs, will be on stage at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester, palace-theatre.org) through Sunday, March 23, with shows Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 & 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. plus Thursday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m.

• **Gruesome Playground Injuries,** described as a “darkly comic, atypical love story,” will run at the Players’ Ring Theatre (105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, 436-8123, playersring.org) through Sunday, March 16 — 7 p.m. on Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets cost \$29, \$26 for students, 65+, military and first responders.

• **Boeing Boeing,** a comedy, will be presented by Bedford Off Broadway (bedfordoffbroadway,

com) through Sunday, March 16, at the Bedford Town Hall (70 Bedford Center Road in Bedford). Shows are 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets cost \$15, \$12 for seniors.

• **Rockin’ Daddios** presented by the Majestic Theatre (880 Page St., Manchester, majestictheatre.net) on Sunday, March 16, with the songs of the 1950s and 1960s in doo-wop style.

• **Discovering the Magic with Andrew Pinard** The Hatbox Theatre (hatboxnh.com) doesn’t have a physical location but is presenting monthly shows “Discovering Magic with Andrew Pinard” on select Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Kimball Jenkins carriage house, 266 N. Main St., Concord. The next show is Wednesday, March 19.

Classical

• **Bach’s Lunch: A Celtic Journey** concert features the Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord, ccmusicschool.org) folk faculty (a trio of fiddlers — Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki, Liz Faiella, Audrey Budington —

and guitarist Dan Faiella) playing songs in the Celtic tradition on Thursday, March 13, from 12:10 to 12:50 p.m. The event is free.

• **Ireland with Michael** combining music, dance and storytelling with Michael Londra on Thursday, March 13, at 7 p.m. at the Stockbridge Theatre (Pinkerton Academy, Derry, pinkertonacademy.org/stockbridge-theatre). Tickets cost \$20 to \$40.

• **Student Recital** at Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord, ccmusicschool.org) on Friday, March 14, at 6 p.m. Event is free.

• **Chopin Piano Concerto** the winter concert of the Nashua Chamber Orchestra takes place Saturday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. at Nashua Community College and Sunday, March 23, at 3 p.m. at Milford Town Hall. See nco-music.org.

• **Beauty & Virtuosity** from Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra featuring Brahms and Dvořák Sunday, March 23, at 3 p.m. at the Music Hall (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, themusichall.org). Tickets cost \$25-\$45, \$15 for students. See portsmouthsymphony.org.

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Time to experiment?



By Ray Magliozzi

*Dear Car Talk:
I have a 2003 Chevy Trailblazer 4.2L. The front differential is shot. I bought it not knowing that. I have talked to shops around my area, and it's going to be around \$5,000 to replace, if they can find me one.*

My question: Can I just remove the front CV axle shafts and drive it? I know I won't have 4WD, but I can live with that.

Please let me know. Thanks. — Travis

I have good news for you, Travis: This is the perfect vehicle on which to find out.

It's time for an experiment. I think you can turn your Trailblazer into a rear-wheel-drive vehicle. As you say, you'd have to start by removing both front axles.

That'll prevent the front wheels from turning the differential gears when the car is moving. I don't remember how the axles are connected to the front differential on this truck. Sometimes there's a flange, sometimes they go right into the differential itself. If your axles go inside the differential, then when you remove the axles, the differential oil will leak out. But who cares? You're not going to be using it anyway. And it's already

shot. So, it's just a matter of draining the oil and disposing of it properly.

Once the front wheels are free of the axles and can turn freely and independently, they have no need for a differential, so steering and turning won't be affected.

Next, you could try to remove the front drive shaft. That'll prevent the transfer case from turning the front differential gears if you (or someone else) accidentally put it in 4WD. If you can do that without making the transfer case leak, I'd do that, too.

If not, just leave the transfer case in 2WD, so the front driveshaft never turns. At that point, you have a rear-drive-only vehicle, and you're just carrying the differential around with you — as if it were your favorite bowling ball.

This stuff is probably beyond the scope of your average DIYer, Travis. So, I'd have a shop do it for you and test it out. It's not a big job but it requires some tools you probably don't have.

Then save the parts, just in case the experiment fails. I don't think it will. But even if it does, you'll be no worse off than you are now — needing a new front differential. Or a different car.

Visit Cartalk.com. 🍌

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

*Good morning, Donna,
I am wondering what is the worth of these dishes and if you are interested or know someone who would be. Doing thorough cleaning and these have been stored over 20 years.*

*Thank you!
Carol*



Dear Carol,
Mass-produced large dish sets from the 1930s and 1940s seem to have made it through time, most only being used during holiday occasions and the rest of the time being stored in china cabinets.

There are many different companies and patterns. 24kt gold designs are not uncommon and this doesn't seem to affect values. So many were made that the value usually is in serving pieces. All need to be in perfect condition with no chips, discoloration, cracks etc.

In today's use anything that's not microwave safe is not welcomed often. Using china cabinets seems to be a thing of the past as well.

With all this, Carol, I would say the val-

ue of a set like this would be in the \$50 range. But finding a market could be tough. Most people, like yourself, are always cleaning out!

I hope you find a new home for them.

Thanks for sharing.

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

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for whenever

Kids on stage

• The Palace Youth Theatre will present an hour-long *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical* Thursday, March 13, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St. in Manchester; palacetheatre.org). Then on Wednesday, March 19, and Thursday, March 20, at 7 p.m., the Palace Teen Apprentice Company will present *Once Upon a Mattress Youth Edition* at The Rex Theatre (23 Amherst St. in Manchester). Tickets cost \$16 to \$19.

• The Peacock Players present their Spring Youth Mainstage Production *Shrek The Musical Jr.* with shows Friday, March 14, and Friday, March 21, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 15, and Saturday, March 22, at 2 p.m., and Sundays, March 16, and March 23, at 2 p.m. at Janice B. Streeter Theatre, 14 Court St. in Nashua. Tickets cost \$15 to \$18 for adults, \$12 to

\$15 for students and seniors.

• The Kids Coop Theatre will present the musical *The Prom* at the Derry Opera House (29 W Broadway in Derry; deryoperahouse.org) on Friday, March 14, and Saturday, March 15, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, March 16, at 2 p.m. See kctnh.org.

• And if your kid is looking to be on stage, the Riverbend Youth Company is holding auditions Sunday, March 16, and Monday, March 17, for 8th- through 12th-graders for *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*, which is slated for a June performance at the Amato Center in Milford. See amatocenter.org/riverbend-youth-company for audition details.

Cookie season

• Win those Thin Mints and Samoas at **Girl Scout Cookie Bingo** at Chunky's Cinema Pub, 707 Huse Road in Manchester (chunkys.com), on Sunday, March 16, at 6 p.m. Tickets cost \$13.99.

• Or, if you just want to cut to the **cookie eating**, check out the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, the local Girl Scout organization, at girlscoutsgwm.org, where you can find cookie booths near you. Multiple spots are slated to operate

in the greater Concord, Manchester and Nashua areas this weekend.

Family music

• Grammy-nominated **family musician Alastair Moock**, whose music is described as upbeat Americana for all ages, will play a concert on Saturday, March 15, at 10 a.m. at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St. in Dover; childrens-museum.org), according to the Museum's website. The concert is part of regular admission for the morning play session (which runs from 9 a.m. to noon; the museum is also open from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturdays). Admission costs \$14.50 for everybody over 12 months; \$12.50 for 65+.

St. Pat's fun

St. Patrick's Day Party is the theme at Cowabunga's, 725 Huse Road in Manchester, on Thursday, March 13, from 5 to 8 p.m., according to the website. Prices start at \$20 per child for two hours of bouncing and more; adults and infants get in free with a paying child, the website said. See cowabungas.com.

Save the date

The Currier Museum of Art (150 Ash St. in Manchester; currier.org) will hold a five-week in-person class called "**Art Explorers**" for ages 5 to 7 on Saturdays, starting March 22, 10 to 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$200 and the class will feature exploration of a variety of art forms and media including watercolors, pencil, sculpture and more, according to the website.

Camp fun

Jason Cote, studio operations director at the **Concord Karate Studio** (89 Fort Eddy Road, Suite 3, Concord; 224-KICK; cks-nh.com), emailed with information on the studio's camps. Concord Karate will have three weeks of summer camp — June 23-27, July 28-Aug. 1 and Aug. 18-22, running daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with early drop-off and late pick up options, the email said. The camps will include karate games, summer learning, snacks, karate class, a field trip and more. See the website for more. For our listing of camps, check out the Feb. 27 issue of the Hippo in our digital library at hippypress.com. If you have a summer camp that's not listed in the story, let us know at adiaz@hippypress.com. 🍌



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News from the local food scene

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

• **New head of NH Food Bank:** New Hampshire Food Bank (700 E. Industrial Park Drive, Manchester, 669-9725, nhfoodbank.org) has appointed a new Executive Director. Formerly the head of New Generation, Elsy Cipriani began her new role at New Hampshire Food Bank on March 3. Cipriani has worked in organizations helping vulnerable people in California, New Jersey, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

• **Steel Chef:** Tickets are still available for the New Hampshire Food Bank's 9th Annual Steel Chef Challenge, to be held Saturday, March 15, at the Doubletree Expo Center (700 Elm St., Manchester, 625-1000). Approximately 680 guests will watch a live, timed cooking competition featuring some of New Hampshire's best chefs. As the competition heats up, guests will enjoy a fabulous dinner curated by celebrity chef Marcus Samuelsson. Proceeds will benefit the New Hampshire Food Bank. Tickets are \$150 each at nhfoodbank.org/steelchef.

• **Mystery dinner:** Averill House Vineyard (21 Averill Road, Brookline, 244-3165, averillhousevineyard.com) will host "The Leprechaun's Secret," a four-course mystery food and wine pairing, Saturday, March 15, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Dress in your finest Irish attire and prepare for an evening of sipping, sleuthing and savoring. Enjoy Averill House Vineyard wines alongside an Irish-inspired secret menu. Tickets start at \$59 through exploretock.com.

• **Crafts and corned beef:** The Capital City Fine Spring Craft & Artisan Show will take place at the Capital City Sports Complex (10 Garvins Falls Road, exit 13 of I-93, in Concord) on Saturday, March 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, March 16, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will feature 100 exhibitors including craftsmen, artists, authors and specialty food makers, according to a press release. The event will also feature green beer and corned beef to celebrate St. Patrick's Day as well as eats from Sidelines Cafe, the release said. Admission costs \$5 (valid both days) and is free for ages 14 and under. See GNECraftArtisanShows.com.

• **Celebrating whiskeys:** Kick off St. Patrick's Day weekend with a whiskey dinner at Unwined (1 Nashua St., Milford, 213-6703, unwinednh.com) on Thursday, March 13, at 6 p.m. The four-course dinner will feature some of Unwined's favorite



FOOD

Sap season

New Hampshire celebrates the sweet stuff at Maple Weekend

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

Last year was a rough one for maple syrup makers. For many sugar houses, production was down by 90 percent compared to typical years. A dry summer, followed by a harsh freeze in November, and then an early, warm spring combined to stress maple trees and seriously limit the amount of sap syrup makers could harvest.

This year is much better. "We have more of a traditional year this year," said Andrew Chisholm, President of the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association (nhmapleproducers.com). "We've had a really cold winter, which is one of the

big ingredients for having a good maple season. We have a fairly good snowpack out in the woods, which is another good ingredient. The forecast here for the foreseeable future is these perfect warm days and freezing nights. It looks like we are going to be producing maple syrup in New Hampshire through the month of March. I think some of our North Country maple sugarhouses will get into an April sugar season this year."

Syrup makers depend on being able to harvest a large amount of maple sap to boil down and concentrate its natural sugars into syrup. They depend on warm days and cold nights to keep the sap running from the trees' roots to their branches and back again, to be able to harvest the most sap. Chisholm said



Sap buckets. Photo courtesy of Maple Producers Association.

having snow on the ground in the woods is a very good sign.

"One of the most damaging things that we

Maple Weekend Events

On Saturday, March 15, and Sunday, March 16, maple producers across the state will open their doors to visitors. Here are some of the sugar houses participating according to the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association at nhmapleproducers.com, where you can find more locations across the state.

• **2 Sappy Guys** (324 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford, 860-7992) will be open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days with tours of the maple sugar bush and sugar shack, according to their Facebook page.

• **Ackerman Brothers** (137 Amherst Road, Merrimack, 714-9784) will be open 4 to 8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

• **Babel's Sugar Shack** (323 Hurricane Hill Road, Mason, 878-3929) will be open for visitors on Saturday, March 15, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, March 16, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• **Ben's Sugar Shack** (8 Webster Highway, Temple, 924-3111, bensmaplesyrup.com) Ben's is open every weekend in March, Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with tours and samples, according to a Facebook post. The Temple location also has a deli/cafe selling breakfast and lunch.

• **Blue Roof Sap Camp** (6 Carter Hill Road, Canterbury, 234-5067, sugarbonesfarm603.com) will be open during Maple Weekend.

• **Blueberry Hill Sugarworks**

(31 Blueberry Hill Road, Raymond, 300-6837, wickedsappy.com) will be open both days, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• **Briar Bush** (160 Briar Bush Road, Canterbury, 809-6393, briarbushfarm.com) will be open Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. according to its website. All available grades of syrup will be available for purchase as well as goat's milk products. There will also be a small goat-petting area.

• **Brookview Sugar House** (154 Gage Road, Wilton, 731-5214) will be open to the public during Maple Weekend.

• **Charmingfare Farm** (Route 27, Candia; visitthefarm.com) will hold its "Maple Express" event this weekend and next (March 22-23) with horse-drawn/ tractor rides, sugar shack tour and more. See website for admission cost and hours.

• **Clarkridge Farm** (31 Martin Farm Road, Goffstown, 620-0406, clarkridgefarm.org) will be open during Maple Weekend.

• **Dill Family Farm** (61 Griffin Road, Deerfield, 475-3798, facebook.com/DillFamilyFarm) will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

• **Hillcroft Farm** (266 South Hill Road, New Boston, 487-5047).

• **Ice Mountain Maple** (276 Queen St., Boscawen, 341-4297, icemountainmaple.com) will be open during Maple Weekend,

according to the NHMPA website.

• **Journey's End Maple** (295 Loudon Road, Pittsfield, journey-sendmaplefarm.com) will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days. Activities will include a vendor pop up event, a menu of maple items and more. Journey's End will be the site of the Governor's Tapping on Friday, March 14, at 3:30 p.m., according to their Facebook.

• **Just Maple** (475 School St., Tilton, 520-2373, justmaple.com) will be open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday with maple concessions (including maple boiled hot dogs, maple baked beans, maple bean soup, etc), live music and educational tours, including a visit to a working sugar shack.

• **K & O's Saphouse** (83 Bumfagon Road, Loudon, 848-0044) will be open during Maple Weekend.

• **Kaison's Sugar House** (75 Forest Road, Wear, 660-6019) will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday only so the owners can visit other sugar houses on Sunday. Sugar maker Mike will eagerly answer any questions about maple production. Maple products including maple syrup, maple lollipops and maple drops (small hard candies) will be available for purchase. Cash only.

• **Lamb's Maple Syrup** (228 Shaker Road, Canterbury, 783-9912) will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Maple products will be available, cash only.

• **Ledge Top Sugar House** (25 Oak St., Boscawen, 753-4973) will be open Saturday, March 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and closed Sunday. Visit for treats including maple milkshakes and homemade old-fashioned doughnuts.

• **Maple Saint** (28 Lang Road, Deerfield, 235-7167) will be open Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• **Mt. Crumplit Farm** (207 Lull Road, New Boston, 325-5900).

• **Munson's Maple** (44 Blueberry Hill Road, Raymond, 303-8278).

• **North Family Farm** (341 Shaker Road, Canterbury, 783-4712, northfamilyfarm.com)

• **Peterson Sugarhouse** (28 Peabody Row, Londonderry, 247-5289)

• **SMD Maple Syrup** (6 Falcon Drive, Merrimack, 978-815-6476, facebook.com/SMDMapleSyrup)

• **Sugar House at Morningstar Farm** (30 Crane Crossing Road, Plaistow, 479-0804) will be open both days, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be a pancake breakfast both days, fresh cider doughnuts, maple dogs, farm animals and syrup production.

• **Sunnyside Maples** (1089 Route 106 North, Loudon, 783-9961, sunnysidemaples.com)

• **Windswept Maple Farm** (845 Loudon Ridge Road, Loudon, 435-4003, windsweptmaples.com)



Boiling. Photo courtesy of Maple Producers Association.

can have from a maple industry point of view is not having snowpack in the woods. Having early snow in the woods will insulate the roots so you don't get the root system into a hard freeze. And then when we do get the hard freeze, the snowpack will keep us insulated. But then also, this time of year, when we start to get the warm-ups, the snow pack will cool the woods down a bit at night so we don't get a thermal runaway, if you will."

Chisholm said that while it's tricky to depend on nature to stick to a schedule on the calendar, this year's sugaring season has come at exactly the right time for Maple Weekend.

"Maple Weekend is the Super Bowl of the New Hampshire maple industry," he said. "It's when our maple producers throughout the state of New Hampshire open their doors and welcome neighbors, friends, family and customers in to experience a New Hampshire maple tradition that dates back generations on some of these farms."

Even among maple syrups, New Hampshire maple syrup is something special, Chisholm said. "Our maple is potential-ly some of the best maple in the world," he

said. "USDA statistics put New Hampshire as some of the highest-priced maple in the world, so maybe there's a correlation there. Price demand would suggest that maybe we are some of the best. Also, I always try to point out the fact that in New Hampshire, if you go to a sugar house in New Hampshire, the trees where your maple syrup came from are not far away. I always say, 'Show me a bottle of New Hampshire maple and I can show you where the trees are that produce that maple.' That is not something you will find in Canada or really some other places. It's unique to New Hampshire." 🍁

New Hampshire Maple Weekend

Saturday, March 15, and Sunday, March 16

For a directory and a map of sugar houses holding open houses during the weekend, visit nhmapleproducers.com.

Gov. Ayotte will open the weekend, ceremonially tapping a maple tree in a ceremony at Journey's End Maple Farm (295 Loudon Road, Pittsfield, 435-5127, journeysendmaplefarm.com) on Friday, March 14, at 3:30 p.m.

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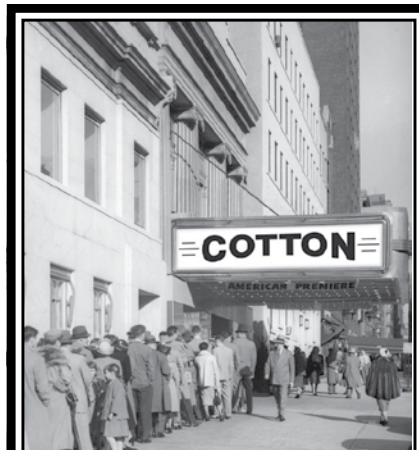
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FOOD

Corned beef — a user's guide

It's a New England thing

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com



Courtesy photo.

According to James Malik, the first thing you need to know about corned beef is that it's not particularly Irish.

"[Corning beef] was a traditional means of preservation," he said. "We associate it with St. Patrick's Day here. It is an Irish-American thing, an Irish *New England* thing. But corned beef is not what's traditionally eaten on St. Patrick's Day in Ireland. This is very much Irish-American and very, very popular here in New England. It's a boiled dinner, usually served with cabbage, carrots, rutabaga and onion."

Malik, who describes himself as "an old-school butcher," has been working with premium meat for more than 21 years. He is one of the managers and butchers at Wicked Good Butchah in Bedford. And he takes his corned beef very seriously.

"So corned beef, typically," he said, "when we're talking about corned beef for a boiled dinner, it is a brisket, and it is corned or brined in a salt solution. Now there's two styles. There's the famous red style that everybody gets in the grocery store. And then there's the gray style, which is a very traditional New England style — the real corned beef. The difference is they're both brined in a salt water solution, but the gray has just salt and water, where the red uses sodium nitrate or something called Insta-cure No. 1, which contains sodium nitrate. It keeps the red color on the external layer of the meat as well as the interior. But the gray is the traditional New England style. That's what we do here in-house."

One reason why corned beef is associated with Irish and Jewish immigrants is that it usually is made with brisket, a very tough and therefore traditionally inexpensive cut of beef. How tender or tough a cut of meat is largely determined by how much work those muscles had to do during an animal's lifetime. More exercise results in more connective tissue, which has to be broken down with long, slow cooking.

"The brisket is from the chest," said Rick Lemay from Lemay & Sons in Goffstown, a beef processing house and butcher shop. "It's right front-and-center. It's what we call the front plate, and right behind that ends up being your short ribs." He said that corned short ribs are delicious. "You don't hear about it very often," he said, "but it's a pretty neat item. I've actually tried it with a chuck roast too. The corning process really is just a curing method."

Because a brisket has so much connective

tive tissue holding it together, the corning process involves soaking it in brine for anywhere from 10 to 21 days.

"We take the full 21 days," James Malik said. "After that 21 days, we then take out the briskets from that brining solution and then we soak them for 24 hours in clean cold water to draw out any excess salt. And you're still left with a wonderfully brined piece of meat that has that nice traditional corned beef flavor. The biggest step in all this is when you're brining. To know that your salt solution is the correct amount of salt, you put a potato in your bucket, and when the potato floats, you have the correct amount of salt to begin brining your corned beef."

Jay Beland is in charge of brining the corned beef at Lemay and Sons. He adds spices to the salt in his brining solution. "For a 10- to 15-pound brisket," he said, "I'll use two gallons of water, two tablespoons of pink curing salt, and a cup of whole black peppercorns." He adds an additional cup of cracked — but not powdered — peppercorns, two cups of coriander seeds — one whole and one cracked, and the same with yellow mustard seeds, and a cup of pickling spice. "That's my water," he said. "That is my brine."

Beland brines his brisket for about 10 days, then smokes it at 225 degrees, until it reaches an internal temperature of 180 degrees. James Malik, on the other hand, is a great believer in braising his corned beef.

"When people hear 'boiled dinner,'" Malik said, "their first thought is to go ahead and put it in a pot of water and boil the ever-loving Jesus out of it. I would tell you that the best way to do this is to do more of like a braise in the oven. Believe it or not, you can dry it out by over-boiling it for too long. I put it in my big lobster pot and I time it out. You'll find you get a much better piece of meat that way, much more enjoyable." 🍷



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DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

The Daydream of Milky Joe

At the moment, I am working on a project that involves thinking deeply about a couple of cows celebrating a Girls' Night Out. Never mind why. That just seems to be where my life is right now — thinking about cow girlfriends at a bar, laughing, drinking and flirting with a rugged beefcake of a stranger, only to find out to their chagrin that he is an ox. (Look it up.)

The obvious question as far as I'm concerned is this: What would they drink?

Initially the answer seems obvious: white Russians, or mudslides, or something with cream in it. But I can imagine the conversations the cows would have:

"Really? Drinking our own body fluids? Doesn't that seem a little — wrong?"

Then there are obvious plays on words — moo-tinis, moo-garitas or moo-jitos, but I'm not entirely sure how one would go about making them.

Then, out of nowhere, as often happens when one opens oneself up to the Universe, I discovered a drink called The Nightmare of Milky Joe. I don't know where the name comes from — there's no dairy in it — but it sounded promising. After some tinkering, a surprisingly delicious not-quite-tiki drink came into focus.

Let's call it —

The Daydream of Milky Joe

1 flavorful jalapeño pepper — it would be nice if it had some heat, but it is more important that it has good flavor

1 ounce golden rum

1 ounce dark rum

1 ounce sweet coconut cream — Coco Lopez is a classic brand, but there are other good ones, so use whichever one brings joy to your life

½ ounce crème de banana

½ ounce fresh squeezed lime juice

4 ounce grapefruit soda — I like Pink Ting, but Jarritos or Fresca would work well too



The Daydream of Milky Joe. Photo by John Fladd.

Roughly chop the jalapeño, and muddle it in the bottom of a cocktail shaker. (This means crush it with a cocktail muddler, a wooden spoon, or a small soda bottle.)

Add the dark and gold rums, then dry shake the mixture — shake it without ice. Flavorful chemicals in a chili pepper, including capsaicin, the one that makes it taste hot, are soluble in alcohol, but not in water, so shaking the crushed jalapeño with alcohol before adding any watery ingredients will help extract heat and flavor into the cocktail.

Add ice, the coconut cream, crème de banana, and lime juice, then shake again, until you hear the ice start to break up.

Strain the mixture over crushed ice in the fanciest glass you own, then top it with grapefruit soda and stir.

This drink is something truly rare in this weary world: a happy surprise. Rum and coconut obviously go well together, but the surprise comes in how much the jalapeño and lime add to this enterprise. We've established on many occasions that lime is everybody's friend. It is super friendly with rum, and delightful with coconut, but if you think about it for a moment, it is also really, really good with chilis; think of a fresh salsa. The lime is a bridge from Spice City to Smooth Town, and the grapefruit soda is the water under it. 🍷

◀ 18 whiskey picks. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. with a welcome cocktail, and each course will feature its own pairing of whiskey or whiskey cocktails. Tickets are \$125.

• **Chili cook-off:** St. Peter's Episcopal Church (Mammoth Road at 3 Peabody Row Londonderry; stpeterslondonerry.org) will

hold its 8th annual Chili and Chowder Cook-Off on Saturday, March 22, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. To compete with a chili or chowder, register at 4:15 p.m.; kids can compete in a Kids' Dessert Competition. Admission for attendees is a \$15 donation (\$7 for children 10 and under). 🍷

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POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS, MOVIES AND MORE

Free Range, Lost & Found (self-released)



'Tis the season for music journalists getting inundated with spam from agents and record companies whose artists are scheduled to perform on various stages at the SXSW festival in Austin, Texas. This year's conference ends on Saturday, March 15, so if you're down in Austin reading this remotely, there might still be time to plan a visit to this person's 8:15 p.m. show on the 15th at the Dear Life Showcase, which'll be held at All The Sudden. The nym belongs to one Sofia Jensen of Chicago, who previously dazzled listeners with her 2023 album *Practice*; the overall vibe is easy listening Americana

with lots of quirky but eminently listenable indie-weirdness on board. Lots of Norah Jones energy going on here, of course, but with a few vocally acrobatic twists; in the dobro-washed bluegrass tune "Storm" she browses the scale like a savvy farmers market shopper, finding hidden jewels of melody that are pretty unique. Well worth your time. A+ —Eric W. Saeger

Good Looks, Lived Here For A While (Keeled Scales Records)



Also performing on SXSW's final day is this hometown Austin four-piece, who gravitate to feel-good rock that combines jam band, alt-country and '90s radio-indie in fun ways. That's not to say they aren't serious-minded; the lyrics on this one take jabs at such things as "job creators" ("they're just stealing our labor") and that sort of thing, and besides, they've got plenty to be existentially discombobulated about; while leaving the venue where they'd just played the record release show for their critically acclaimed 2022 debut LP *Bummer Year*, lead guitarist Jake Ames was hit by a car crossing the street, fracturing his skull and tailbone. This album almost never happened, in other words, but after a lot of rehab and despair they've cobbled a seriously listenable set of songs reminiscent of Barenaked Ladies duking it out with Tom Petty ("If It's Gone") and Hank Williams Jr. ("Can You See Me Tonight") in a dark alley. I couldn't hate these guys if I tried. A+ —Eric W. Saeger

fracturing his skull and tailbone. This album almost never happened, in other words, but after a lot of rehab and despair they've cobbled a seriously listenable set of songs reminiscent of Barenaked Ladies duking it out with Tom Petty ("If It's Gone") and Hank Williams Jr. ("Can You See Me Tonight") in a dark alley. I couldn't hate these guys if I tried. A+ —Eric W. Saeger

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Today we'll talk about the albums coming out on March 14, because that makes perfect sense, like it wouldn't be timely or hip to talk about some military coronet album that came out in 1918, now would it? Unfortunately, the first thing we'll need to talk about here is the fast-approaching 12th album from Nyack, New York's favorite (because there aren't any others) progressive-rock band, **Coheed and Cambria!** That band, as everyone knows, is cut from the same cloth as Mars Volta, Thank You Scientist and Muse, specializing in the sort of arena-rock style invented by Queen, whose albums were mostly comprised of half-written obnoxious filler tunes with one or two overwritten orchestral pieces added into the mix to get musically untrained critics to write nice things about them. Ahem, in the hierarchy of musical genres, Coheed and all those guys occupy the rung that sits just under Tool, Pendulum and Linkin Park; Coheed's stuff is music for people whose post-grad sensibilities demand that they not get caught listening to actual techie-prog-metal because they don't want to scare off future employers, so what Coheed does instead is throw a bunch of random musical notes in a blender and hope to attract the sort of listener who takes LinkedIn seriously (have you guys ever watched any of LinkedIn's user-submitted short videos? They're all basically "career-promotional videos," starring and written by people who double-major in marketing and business, and any time they come within a country mile of criticizing anything about corporate culture that obviously bugs them, a chimpanzee in a power suit zaps 'em with a taser and they get back to the script). Anyway, if that describes you, and you want to stick with listening to anodyne milquetoast tripe instead of something interesting like Pendulum or Mozart, then Coheed's new album, *The Father Of Make Believe*, is for you! Yup, like Billy The Exterminator used to say, I can't wait to get my hands on this horrible new critter and tell you good folks all about it! So the single, "Searching for Tomorrow," is like Linkin Park doing power pop, like, if Beavis and Butthead had jobs as human resources directors, they'd totally head-bang to it. If Dashboard Confessional had rabies it'd probably sound something like this (lightbulb moment: I'm going to start calling this band "LinkedIn Park!").

• **Circuit des Yeux** is the stage name of Chicago-based singer/songwriter Haley Fohr, whose four-octave vocal range is a big deal to people who don't like normal singing but instead prefer people who can both squeak like a Munchkin and mumble like Lurch from *The Addams Family!* While we're on the subject, I always thought the super-high notes on allegedly four-octave-range-possessing chanteuse Mariah Carey's "Fantasy" were generated by a computer, but this multi-talented blah blah blah person's new album is called *Halo On The Inside*, and it spotlights a Trent Reznor-sounding single called "Megaloner" where she sings like the dude from Roxy Music, which is impressive.

• Electronic rock band **Courting** is from Liverpool, England, which goes to show you that not every band from Liverpool is as famous as The Beatles. Their new album *Lust for Life* has a single, "Pause At You," that sounds like Aha meets Gang Of Four meets Hives; it's OK.

• And finally we have **Whatever the Weather**, which is what British electronic producer/musician Loraine James likes calling herself in order to confuse old people or something. *Whatever The Weather II* is her new album, with the single "12°C," a sluggish noise-electro ambient thingamajig that goes nowhere, but they're your ears. —Eric W. Saeger

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POP CULTURE BOOKS

Ends of the Earth, by Neil Shubin (Dutton, 235 pages)

Unless visiting all seven continents is on your bucket list, you probably don't think a lot about the northern and southernmost parts of the planet. The Arctic and Antarctica make for a good documentary every couple of years (*Antarctica: A Year on Ice* and *March of the Penguins* come to mind) but then the subject retreats for most of us, ice usually confined to a rink or a drink. Not so for scientists like Neil Shubin who have spent years journeying to places with temperatures most rational people would rather avoid.

In *Ends of the Earth*, Shubin recounts his polar experiences, which began when he pitched a tent as a student with three other researchers in Greenland in 1988. Just staying alive in such an unforgiving landscape is a challenge, and when gear or equipment breaks there is no Amazon delivery.

And yet, "There is something almost magical about living in an environment where the sun never sets for a month or more while being disconnected from the rest of humanity," Shubin writes. "Running streams exiting melting glaciers hold water so pure we drink it unfiltered from the source. Every babbling glacial brook could be a water fountain or, for extraordinarily hearty souls, a bath." Isolated with a few others sharing the experience, "The world becomes small and intense." Shubin isn't a travel writer, but he might as well be, with the sheen he puts on the arctic experience.

The Antarctic Treaty of 1959 established that the continent, most of which is layer upon layer of ice, be used for scientific study; since then 29 countries have established 70 research bases, the most prominent of which is the U.S.-run McMurdo Station, where more than 1,000 people work during the summer, 300 in winter. (Fun fact: You can take a break from watching live panda or eagle cams and watch McMurdo cam on a government website, at least until Elon Musk finds out about it.)

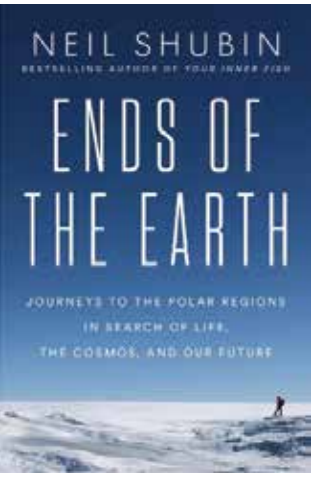
There, one of the exercises new research-

ers experience early on is a "mock crevasse rescue" — highlighting that one of the dangers of living in this environment is falling into a practically invisible 200-foot crack in the ice. There are methods to pull people out, but still not everyone survives, and honestly, the photograph of a massive crevasse in this book is the stuff of nightmares for people who don't enjoy being cold. Astonishingly, a member of Shubin's team volunteered to be lowered into a crevasse so the group could practice a rescue, and he was so moved by the beauty of what he saw that "his shouts from 20 feet down were as if he was undergoing religious ecstasy."

In fact, there seems to be a scientific ecstasy that permeates polar research with its out-of-this-world experiences and extraordinary sights, such as blue ice, ancient ice that looks like a "shiny version of an aquamarine" and which, when melted to drink, "means consuming water from snow that fell when Neanderthals roamed the Earth," Shubin writes.

While the Arctic region is inhospitable to humans and most forms of flora and fauna we know, it has its own hardy life, including a tree called the Arctic willow, which instead of growing upward grows sideways and either atop the ground or below it. (Arctic leaf peepers will want to know that the leaves of this tree turn orange in August.)

And life in Antarctica includes cousins to New England's woolly bear caterpillars, the fuzzy ones with the weather-predicting stripes. In the Arctic they spend most of their life frozen and awaken only for a few summer months to feed on willow leaves before freezing solid again. This cycle occurs for seven to 15 years, Shubin writes, until the caterpillar becomes a moth and lives out the rest of its short life: "Nearly a decade of freezing and thawing, feeding, and basking, all the while avoiding predators, is all in the



service of two weeks of flying and mating."

Shubin walks us through the science of how animals survive polar temperatures — and humans, too, including the story of a skier who had an accident that left her mostly submerged in ice for more than an hour. After she was cut from the ice, doctors were able to restart her heart at a hospital. She eventually made a full recovery. Shubin

quotes a doctor who says, "You're not dead until you're warm and dead" — miserable as it may be, cold often works in the service of life.

Scientists working in polar regions deal with the cold with a combination of high-tech clothing and purposeful exercise. "I'll routinely do abdominal crunches when I get into my cold sleeping bag before going to sleep each night. The burst of activity makes for a cozy furnace inside," Shubin writes.

It is asides like these that make *Ends of the Earth* mostly compelling even though Shubin, ever the scientist, at times teeters into AP science class mode. Now a professor at the University of Chicago, he comes by that naturally, yet his ability to make science engaging resulted in a PBS series based on his 2008 book *Your Inner Fish*. Credit Shubin, also, with the ability to write seriously about climate change in an apolitical manner. He is an observer, not a flamethrower, and yet wants all of us to consider what will happen as ocean levels rise up to 120 feet in the next few centuries. (There will be more woolly bear caterpillars for one thing.)

Shubin recalls the famous commencement speech given by David Foster Wallace in which the late author describes a fish asking another, "What is water?" In *Ends of the Earth* he invites us to consider what is ice other than an annoyance glazing our driveways. The answers are more complex than we might think. **B** —Jennifer Graham

Books Author events

- **Ariella Isabella** will talk about her new romantasy novel, *A Secret Shared with Sirens*, at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Thursday, March 13, at 6:30 p.m.
- **Henry Winkler**, author of *Being Henry ... The Fonz and Beyond*, will share anecdotes from his life and career at the Music Hall Historic Theater (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, themusichall.org) on Friday, March 14, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$59 to \$200 plus fees.

- **Betsy Small** will talk about her new book, *Before Before: A Story of Discovery and Loss in Sierra Leone*, at Balin Books (375 Amherst St., Nashua, balinbooks.com) on Saturday, March 15, at 2 p.m.
- **Lucy Score** will talk with author **Meghan Quinn** about Score's latest romance novel, *Story of My Life*, at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord) on Sunday, March 16, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$29 and include a pre-signed deluxe edition copy of the book. A photo line follows the event. See gibsonsbookstore.com.
- **Betsy Small** will talk about her new

book, *Before Before: A Story of Discovery and Loss in Sierra Leone*, at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com) on Tuesday, March 18, at 6:30 p.m.

Virtual events

- **Nature book club** hosted by NH Audubon will meet via Zoom every other month on the second Thursday of the month starting in March. The club will be facilitated by Devin Guilfoyle, Newfound Center Coordinator and Environmental Educator. March 13: *The Serviceberry*, by Robin Wall

Kimmerer. May 8, *Return to the Sky*, by Tina Morris. Visit nhaudubon.org to register for a session.

History, stories, discussions & lectures

- **Wildlife Out Your Window: Fascinating Facts About 100 Animals Commonly Seen in the Northeast U.S.** presented by wildlife ecologist Brad Timm, on Tuesday, March 18, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Fox State Forest (309 Center Road, Hillsborough). Free to the public. Walk-ins will be welcome but RSVPs are strongly encouraged; go to forestsociety.org/events.

Mickey 17 (R)

Robert Pattinson plays a man who agrees to be killed over and over again in service to an interplanetary colonization mission in 2054 in *Mickey 17*, a sci-fi comedy from Bong Joon Ho.

Because he first agreed to participate in some scheme involving macarons proposed by on-the-make friend Timo (Steven Yeun, having fun being wonderfully sleazy), mid-21st-century goober Mickey Barnes (Pattinson) owes a lot of money to a sadistic, well-connected loan shark. He can't pay so he decides to flee Earth entirely and join a space mission to Niflheim, which is being touted as a, like, big beautiful planet that humanity will populate with the true believers of Kenneth Marshall (Mark Ruffalo), a failed politician who is a mix of petty man-baby and tech weirdo. Mickey agrees to serve as an Expendable — someone whose physical body is scanned and whose mind and soul are downloaded into a backup drive. He does dangerous work, mostly for experiment purposes, like going out in the highly radioactive environment of space to see how long it takes him to die. When he does die from radiation or intentional poisoning to test a new chemical or whatever, a new Mickey body is printed out from a 3D printer that uses the ship's organic waste as the printing material. His soul is uploaded to it, making him a seamless Mickey with basically all of the previous lives' memories.

Though being sold as some kind of "pure" paradise, Niflheim is actually an ice- and snow-covered planet that is home to a highly lethal virus and to large, roly tardigrade-meets-millipede-like creatures. After scientists kill Mickey with the virus over and over to create a vaccine, the humans can set out to explore the planet,



Mickey 17

which is how Mickey 17, that is the 17th iteration of Mickey, comes to fall through some ice and is left for certain death.

But Mickey doesn't die. He's found and rescued by the Creepers, as the people have taken to calling the wormy but rather cuddly creatures. He trudges back to the ship that is still serving as everyone's home base and learns that he, 17, has been so written off that the scientists have already printed out a Mickey 18, a Mickey 18 who is hanging out in Mickey's apartment waiting for the Mickeys' girlfriend, Nasha (Naomi Ackie).

Robert Pattinson really does seem to be having maximum fun with Mickey. I need to stop being surprised by what a great job Pattinson does with playing weirdos. He fully dives in to the Mickeys, who are similar but not quite the same. OG Mickey is twitchy and desperate not to be sawed in pieces by a loan shark. Timo describes Mickey 17 as "the soft one." Mickey 18 has a hair trigger and is full of righteous,

if not entirely focused, rage. Pattinson makes these Mickeys, especially 17 and 18, the two we spend the most time with, distinct oddballs.

Also going big is Ruffalo, who is, however consciously, doing a Trump riff — Trump with a side of Musk and I felt sort of pre-exhausted at the notion that a good chunk of culture for the next four years will likely be wrestling with these personalities. Marshall, setting off to be ruler of his planet, is joined by his wife Ylfa (Toni Collette), a deranged political wife of the old school (the canny member of the pair) who is obsessed with ideas of refined civilization. They are A Lot, these characters, and the movie maybe does more "do you Get It?" with them than it needs to.

Ultimately, Pattinson saves this movie from just being, like, cheap sketch comedy about This Moment We're In. He keeps the action nicely off-kilter and helps add heart to the story. **B** In theaters 🍷

Film

- *Mickey 17* (R, 2025) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatres.org, on Thursday, March 13, at 3:45 & 6:45 p.m.; Friday, March 14, through Sunday, March 16, at 12:45, 3:45 & 6:55 p.m.; Monday, March 17, through Wednesday, March 19, at 3:45 & 6:55 p.m.
- *Black Bag* (R, 2025) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatres.org, on Thursday, March 13, 4:20 & 6:30 p.m.; Friday, March 14, through Sunday, March 16, at 2:15, 4:30 & 6:45 p.m.; Monday, March 17, through Thursday, March 20, at 4:30 & 6:45 p.m.
- *Arthur the King* (PG-13, 2024) will screen at Flying Monkey in Plymouth on Thursday, March 13, at 6 p.m.
- **Oscar Nominated Shorts — Documentary** will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatres.org, on Thursday, March 13, 6:20 p.m.; Sat-

- urday, March 15, at 12:15 p.m.; Tuesday, March 18, and Thursday, March 20, at 6:30 p.m.
- *A Complete Unknown* (R, 2024) will screen at the Music Hall in Portsmouth on Thursday, March 13, at 7 p.m.
- *The Boxer* (1997) will screen at Park Theatre in Jaffrey, theparktheatre.org, on Thursday, March 13, 7 p.m.
- **Oscar Nominated Shorts — Live Action** will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatres.org, on Friday, March 14, at 12:30 & 4:45 p.m.; Saturday, March 15, at 5:30; Sunday, March 16, at 12:30 & 4:45 p.m.; Monday, March 17, at 4:10 p.m.; Wednesday, March 19 and Thursday, March 20, at 4:10 p.m.
- **Oscar Nominated Shorts — Animated** will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatres.org, on Friday, March 14, at 2:45 & 7 p.m.; Saturday, March 15, at 3:30 &

- 7:45 p.m.; Sunday, March 16, at 2:45 & 7 p.m.; Monday, March 17, at 6:20 p.m.; Tuesday, March 18, at 4:10 p.m.; Wednesday, March 19, at 6:20 p.m.
- *Fidelio*, a broadcast of The MET: Live in HD, will screen via Fathom on Saturday, March 15, at 1 p.m. at Apple Cinemas in Hooksett and Merrimack, O'neil Cinemas Brickyard Square in Epping and Regal Fox Run and in an encore presentation on Wednesday, March 19, at Apple Cinemas in Merrimack and Hooksett (6:30 p.m.), O'neil Cinemas in Brickyard Square in Epping (1 p.m.) and Regal Fox Run in Newington (1 p.m.). It also screens on Saturday, March 15, at 1 p.m. at the BNH Stage in Concord.
- *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* (PG-13, 2016) will screen at the Flying Monkey in Plymouth on Saturday, March 15, at 6 p.m.
- *Angels in the Outfield* (PG, 1994) will

- screen on Wednesday, March 19, at 6 p.m. at Flying Monkey in Plymouth.
- *Snow White* (PG, 2025) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, redrivertheatre.org, on Thursday, March 20, at 4 & 6:30 p.m.; Friday, March 21, through Sunday, March 23, at 1:30, 4 & 6:30 p.m.; Monday, March 24, through Thursday, March 27, at 4 & 6:30 p.m.
- *Rad Day 2025*, a celebration of the release day of the BMX racing film *Rad* in 1986, via Fathom Events, fathomevents.com, on Thursday, March 20, at O'neil Cinemas Brickyard Square in Epping at 7 p.m. and 3 & 7 p.m. at Regal Fox Run in Newington.
- *The Iron Mask* (1929), a silent film presented with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, will screen at Flying Monkey in Plymouth on Thursday, March 20, at 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$15.

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NITE Nordgrass

From Finland, it's Frigg

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com



Frigg. Photo by Marek Sabogal.

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Stories and dance:** Michael Londra brings his PBS series *Ireland With Michael* to the stage. The show blends music, dance and stories, as the Emmy-nominated Voice of Riverdance shares his affinity with them, backed by a traditional Irish band and dancers. Thursday, March 13, 7 p.m., Stockbridge Theatre, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry, \$35 and up at stockbridgetheatre.com.

• **What's up sweetcakes?** Enjoy jazz inspired by a popular anime series at **Cowboy Bebop Live**. Japanese composer Yoko Kanno's music helped drive the edgy Japanese series, from her earworm theme song "Ask DNA" to the jumping jazz number that opened the 2001 movie, "TANK!" An all-star 14-piece ensemble performs in support of the big-screen multimedia presentation Friday, March 14, 8 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts, 201 Main St., Nashua, \$39 at etix.com

• **Long green weekend:** Four days of St. Patrick's fun commences with **Shamrock & Roll**-themed music bingo from DJ Paul Corwin on Friday night, with Celtic band Loch Mór and the Pogues-inspired Rebel Collective the next day. Sunday, it's music from the Reel McCoys and a set from McGonagle School of Irish Dance. Dan Fallon performs on the big day. Friday, March 14, through Monday, March 17, Biergarten, 221 DW Highway, Merrimack; schedule at budweisertours.com.

• **Canyon lady's prime:** Drawing primarily from her 1970s heyday, **The Linda Ronstadt Experience** is a stirring tribute. *American Idol* Season 15 contestant Tristan McIntosh is convincing on ballads like "Long Long Time" and "Blue Bayou," the Roy Orbison song she made her own, and shines on the early hit "Different Drum." She's a believable doppelgänger for Ronstadt as well. Saturday, March 15, 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St., Manchester, \$39 at palacetheatre.org.

• **Cross-Canadian Celtic:** Hailing from Ontario, **The Glengarry Boys** occupy a unique musical intersection, blending Highland Scots, Irish and French Canadian idioms for a thrilling and energetic performance. Given the Celtic flavor of the band's sound, they're an especially popular item around St. Patrick's Day, where they perform plenty of traditional songs along with their original material. Sunday, March 16, 7 p.m., Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry, \$39 at tupelohall.com. 🍷

With a blend of Celtic, American bluegrass, and a Nordic fiddle tradition designated by the UN as an "intangible cultural heritage of humanity," Frigg is truly a world music band. As St. Patrick's Day approaches, a show in Manchester will dip into their Irish roots while showcasing the lively Nordgrass style that's made their reputation.

Fans of Nickel Creek will enjoy Frigg's lively all-instrumental sound. The band was founded in 2000 by sibling fiddlers Alina Kivivuori and Esko Jarvela and mandolin player Petri Prauda. The current lineup includes Juho Kivivuori on double bass, guitarist Topi Korhonen and fiddler Tero Hyväluoma, who played his first Frigg gig in 2005.

In a recent phone interview, Prauda, who along with mandolin also plays cittern and bagpipe, discussed the band's swing through New England and their music.

"The sound of Frigg comes from a fusion of different musical cultures," Prauda said, "but especially the Kaustinen fiddle tradition."

That's the style selected by UNESCO for its singularity, named after the village in Finland that both Kivivuori and Jarvala hail from; Hyväluoma grew up nearby. It originated in the 17th century and has been passed down for generations, music characterized by a rhythmic sound that's driven by syncopated bowing.

Their latest album, *Dreamscapes*, released in February, finds Frigg delicately moving in a new direction. On "Västakusten Twist," the mood is bouncy, atmospheric, rising symphonically, while "Valsette" has a contemporary flow influenced by the American bluegrass bands they've long admired. "Troll's Twilight" offers chamber music elements.

Some of the change is due to a reconfiguration of the original four fiddle band, due to the departure of Tommi Asplund.

"It was a hard decision for him, and of course, hard for us to let go of him," Prauda explained, "but we decided we try to continue with three fiddles now only.... There's some arranging work to be done, but we have been

touring every now and then a few times with just three fiddles previously."

The work on the new record began a couple of years ago with informal composition camps.

"We were thinking, what can we do that we haven't tried yet, so we tried this time a bit more experimental approach," Prauda said, adding with a laugh that he felt, after a recent relisten, "it just sounded like Frigg to me. So maybe these experiments are quite subtle."

The band's name comes from the Nordic goddess of love and wisdom. "Which I think are really great values today ... look at the news; it seems like we need more love and wisdom in the world," Prauda observed. "But the name got picked out just simply. We were looking in a dictionary and it was one of the first names that somehow stuck out there for us."

Initially they were unaware of how people in the U.S. use the word, but there's a song on 2017's *Frost on Fiddles* called "Friggin' Polska," and Prauda acknowledges "there are many things in the world connected to Frigg ... yoga, hippie things or cafes, but we didn't think of that at the time at all. We just thought

it's a cool name."

Frigg has many Polska dance songs in its repertoire. The lively style had its heyday in the 18th and 19th centuries and is usually played in three-quarter time, "but there are many different kinds," Prauda explained. "Slower and faster, and the rhythmic phrasing can be very different.... It became a very popular dance in Sweden, and Finland, especially."

Though it's true no one sings in Frigg, Prauda notes, "We have put a lot of effort in thinking and planning and practicing how the energy in the music flows in which direction, so that when you make purely instrumental music, it still has some kind of feeling, a storyline, mental landscapes, images. I think that is quite characteristic to Frigg's music." 🍷

Frigg

When: Friday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Dana Center (Saint Anselm College), 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester

Tickets: \$45 at anselm.edu

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Weekly comedy nights

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

Events

- **Jokers of Magic** Rex, Manchester Thursday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.

- **Mike McDonald's Boston Irish Comedy Night: Kelly McFarlane/Mike Donovan/Mark Riley** Rochester Opera House, Friday, March 14, 8 p.m.
- **Jim McCue** McCue's, Portsmouth, Friday, March 14, and Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m.
- **Jim Colliton** Music Hall Lounge, Portsmouth, Saturday, March 15, 5 p.m. and 8

- p.m.
- **Juston McKinney** Chubb Theatre at the Cap Center, Concord, Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m.
- **Johnny Pizzi** Chunky's, Manchester, Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m.
- **Mark Scalia** Headliners, Manchester Saturday, March 15, 8:30 p.m.
- **Patton Oswalt** Music Hall, Portsmouth, Thursday, March

20, 7:30 p.m.

- **Giulio Gallarotti** Music Hall Lounge, Portsmouth, Thursday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.
- **Jeff Dunham** SNHU Arena, Manchester, Friday, March 21, 7 p.m.
- **Trae Crowder** Music Hall, Portsmouth, Friday, March 21, 8 p.m.
- **Peter Antoniou** Music Hall Lounge, Portsmouth, Saturday, March 22, 5 and 8 p.m.

- **Will Noonan/Tim McKeever/Jolanda Logan** Hampshire Hills Milford, Saturday, March 22, 7 p.m.
- **Lenny Clarke/Ken Rogerson/Dave Russo** Fulchino Vineyard, Hollis, Saturday, March 22, 7 p.m.
- **Zane Lamprey** Brickhouse, Milford Saturday, March 22, 8 p.m.
- **Harrison Stebbins** Chunky's, Manchester, Saturday, March 22, 8 p.m.

MUSIC THIS WEEK

Alton Bay
Foster's Tavern 403 Main St., 875-1234

Auburn
Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road, 622-6564

Barrington
Nippo Lake Restaurant 88 Stagecoach Road, nip-pobluegrass.com

Bedford
Copper Door 15 Leavy Drive, 488-2677

Murphy's Carriage House 393 Route 101, 488-5875

Bow
Chen Yang Li 520 S. Bow St., 228-8508

Bristol
Bristol House of Pizza 115 Lake St., 744-3765

Kathleen's Irish Pub 90 Lake St., 744-6336

Brookline
The Alamo Texas Barbecue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13, 721-5000

Concord
The Barley House 132 N. Main St., 228-6363

Hermanos Cocina Mexicana 11 Hills Ave., 224-5669

Lithermans 126B Hall St., 219-0784

Tandy's Pub & Grille 1 Eagle Square, 856-7614

Uno Pizzeria 15 Fort Eddy Road, 226-8667

Contoocook
Gould Hill Farm & Contoocook Cider Co. 656 Gould Hill Road, 746-3811

Derry
Fody's Tavern 187 Rockingham Road, 404-6946

Dover
Auspicious Brew 1 Washington St., 953-7240

Cara Irish Pub & Restaurant 11 Fourth St., 343-4390

Epping
Holy Grail 64 Main St., 679-9559

Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy., 679-8225

Epsom
Hill Top Pizzeria 1724 Dover Road, 736-0027

Exeter
Sea Dog Brewing Co. 5 Water St., 793-5116

Gilford
Patrick's 18 Weirs Road, 293-0841

Goffstown
Village Trestle 25 Main St., 497-8230

Hampton
CR's The Restaurant 287 Exeter Road, 929-7972

The Goat 20 L St., 601-6928

L Street Tavern 603 17 L St., 967-4777

Smuttynose Brewing 105 Towle Farm Road

Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave., 926-6954

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

Henniker
Henniker Brewing Co. 129 Centerville Road, 428-3579

Hudson
The Bar 2B Burnham Road

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

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

Kingston
Saddle Up Saloon 92 Route 125, 369-6962

Laconia
405 Pub & Grill 405 Union St.

Fratello's 799 Union Ave., 528-2022

Litchfield
Day of the Dead Mexican Taqueria Mel's Funway Park, 454 Charles Bancroft Highway, 377-7664

Londonderry
Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road, 437-2022

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

Bonfire 950 Elm St., 663-7678

Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road, 623-2880

Firefly 21 Concord St., 935-9740

The Foundry 50 Commercial St., 836-1925

Fratello's 155 Dow St., 624-2022

The Goat 50 Old Granite St.

The Hill Bar & Grille McIntyre Ski Area, 50 Chalet Ct., 622-6159

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

Olympus Pizza 506 Valley St., 644-5559

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

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

Shaskeen Pub 909 Elm St., 625-0246

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

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

Strange Brew 88 Market St., 666-4292

Wild Rover 21 Kosciuszko St., 669-7722

Meredith
Twin Barns Brewing 194 DW Highway, 279-0876

Merrimack
Homestead 641 DW Highway, 429-2022

Tomahawk Tavern 454 DW Highway, 365-4960

Tortilla Flat 595 DW Highway, 424-4479

Milford
Brickhouse 241 Union Sq., 672-2270

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

Stonecutters Pub 63 Union Square, 213-5979

Moultonborough
Buckey's 240 Governor Wentworth Hwy., 476-5485

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

Fody's Tavern 9 Clinton St., 577-9015

Peddler's Daughter 48 Main St., 821-7535

Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse 48 Gusabel Ave., 882-4070

Spyglass Brewing 306 Innovative Way, 546-2965

New Boston
Molly's Tavern & Restaurant 35 Mont Vernon Road, 487-1362

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits 134 Main St., 210-2409, pembrokecitylimits.com

Pittsfield
Over the Moon 1253 Upper City Road, 216-2162

Portsmouth
The Gas Light 64 Market St., 430-9122

The Goat 142 Congress St., 590-4628

Press Room 77 Daniel St., 431-5186

Rochester
Porter's 19 Hanson St., 330-1964

Salem
Copper Door 41 S. Broadway, 458-2033

Dreo 254 N. Broadway, 824-6337

Seabrook
Backyard Burgers & Wings 5 Provident Way, 760-2581

Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road, 760-7706

Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road, 760-0030

Somersworth
Earth Eagle North 350 Route 108, 841-5421

Sunapee
Sunapee Community Coffee House 9 Lower Main St., 398-8214

Tilton
Dox on Winnisquam 927 Laconia Road, 527-8381

Warner
The Local 15 E. Main St., 456-3333

Thursday, March 13

Alton Bay
Foster's Tavern: Eric Grant, 5 p.m.

Auburn
Auburn Pitts: open jam, 7 p.m.

Bedford
Copper Door: Lewis Goodwin, 7 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: open mic, 6 p.m.

Concord
Common Man: Mary Fagan, 6:30 p.m.

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

Dover
Auspicious Brew: Tumble Over, The Jerritones, Andy Klosenski, 8 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: Justin Bethune, 7 p.m.

Epsom
Hill Top: music bingo w/ Jennifer Mitchell, 7 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

Hampton
CR's: Greg Decoteau, 6 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
Smuttynose: Andrea Paquin, 5:30 p.m.

Whym: music bingo, 6:30 p.m.

Hudson
Luk's: Mike Forgette, 6 p.m.
Lynn's 102: karaoke w/George Bisson, 8 p.m.

Kingston
Saddle Up Saloon: karaoke w/ DJ Jason, 7 p.m.

Laconia
405 Pub and Grill: Tom Boisse, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Duke Snyder, 5:30 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Jonny Friday Duo, 7 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.
Goat: DJ Cri\$\$, 9 p.m.
Shaskeen: Special Guest, 8 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Steph Decuire, 5:30 p.m.
Tomahawk: Chad LaMarsh, 6 p.m.

Tortilla Flat: Dave Clark, 6 p.m.

Milford
Riley's Place: open mic, 7 p.m.

Nashua
Casey Magee's: open mic, 7:30 p.m.
Fody's: DJ Rich Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
Peddler's Daughter: Irish tunes w/ Jim & Joe, 8 p.m.
Shorty's: Jamie Hughes, 6 p.m.

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits: Cinnamon Jazz Trio, 7 p.m.

Pittsfield
Over the Moon: open mic, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.
Press Room: The Dirty Grass Players w/ Jatoba, 7 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.

Seabrook
Backyard Burgers: music bingo w/ Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.
Red's: Freddie Catalfo, 7 p.m.

Somersworth
Earth Eagle: open mic w/Dave Ogden, 6 p.m.

Music, live and in person

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



REELING IN THE SEASON

Since the age of 12, **Jordan Tirell-Wysocki** has been one of New Hampshire's greatest ambassadors for Celtic Music. He honed his craft in Ireland, played at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival and recorded the theme music for *New Hampshire Chronicle*. Observe St. Patrick's weekend with him at the Park Theatre (19 Main St., Jaffrey, 532-9300, theparktheatre.org) on Friday, March 14, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 plus fees.

Warner
The Local: Frontwoods, 5 p.m.

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

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Dave Zangri, 9:30 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Press Room: King Kyote w/ The Scraps, 8 p.m.

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

Planks, 8 p.m.

Dads, 12 p.m.

Friday, March 14
Alton Bay
Foster's Tavern: Rebecca Turmel, 6 p.m.

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

Salem
Dreo: Jonny Friday, 7 p.m.

Henniker
Pats Peak: Rebecca Turmel Duo, 6 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's: 2 Drink Minimum, 6:30 p.m.

Kingston
Saddle Up Saloon: Rustfeather Duo, 1 p.m.

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

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: Chuck and John, 4 p.m.

Manchester
The Goat: Mike Jetti, 10 a.m.
Shaskeen: Rap Night, 9 p.m.
Strange Brew: One Big Soul Jam, 7 p.m.

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

Nashua
Peddler's Daughter: Ramblin Rogues, 2 p.m.
Spyglass Brewing: Jeff Mrozek, 2 p.m.

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits: Black Pudding Rovers, 1:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
Press Room: Joe 'Doc' Fuller, Ramona Connelly, & Friends, 12 p.m.; Sharon Jones, 6 p.m.

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

Monday, March 17
Bedford
Murphy's: Liz & Dan Faiella, noon; On The Tear, 3:30 p.m.; Sean Dennehy, 7 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: St. Patrick's Day, 10:30 a.m.; bingo, 5 p.m.

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

Epping
Holy Grail: Max Sullivan, 11 a.m.; Circle Back Duo, 2 p.m.; Kitchen Party, 6 p.m.
Telly's: Johnny Angel, 5 p.m.

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Dave Clark, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Another Shot, 8 p.m.

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Jack Ancora, 6 p.m.

Bonfire: The Mockingbirds, 8 p.m.

Derryfield: Off The Record, 8:30 p.m.

Foundry: Dakota Smart, 6 p.m.

Fratello's: Joanie Cicatelli, 6 p.m.

The Goat: Hijacked, 9 p.m.

Olympus Pizza: Chris Taylor, 7 p.m.

South Side Tavern: Cox Karaoke, 9 p.m.

Strange Brew: Peter Higgins, 8 p.m.

Meredith
Twin Barns: Paul Driscoll, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Jessica Olson, 6 p.m.

Milford
Brickhouse: Jamelot, 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.

Peddler's Daughter: Pop Farmers, 9:30 p.m.

Spyglass Brewing: Sonic Avionics, 6 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's: Ralph Allen, 6:30 p.m.

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits: Jazzy Rivera/Chris Salemme, 6 p.m.

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Big Picture, 8 p.m.
Red's: Rob & Jody, 8 p.m.

Sunapee
Sunapee Community Coffee House: Nate Goyette, 7 p.m.; open mic, 8 p.m.

Tilton
Dox on Winnisquam: Justin Jordan, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 15
Alton Bay
Foster's Tavern: Ciera MacKenzie, 6 p.m.

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

Bow
Chen Yang Li: Tom Boisse, 7 p.m.

Bristol
Bristol House of Pizza: NKM, 6 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: Rich Wallace, 6 p.m.

Contoocook
Contoocook Cider Co.: Dan Fallon, 1 p.m.

Dover
Auspicious Brew: Tin Fish, Matriarch, Liza Lynehan, 8 p.m.

Epping
Holy Grail: Karen Grenier, 7 p.m.

Telly's: Rob & Jody, 8 p.m.

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Michael Graham, 6 p.m.

Hudson
The Bar: Point of Entry, 8:30 p.m.

Luk's Bar: Paul Driscoll, 7 p.m.

Lynn's 102: Whiskey Tango, 8:30 p.m.

Jaffrey
Park Theatre: The Fiddling Thomsons, 2 p.m.; Waking Finnegan, 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: Joe McDonald, 6 p.m.

Stumble Inn: Bite The Bullet, 8 p.m.

Manchester
Backyard Brewery: Frontwoods, 6 p.m.

Bonfire: Eric Grant Band, 7 p.m.

Derryfield: Dancing Madly Backwards, 8:30 p.m.

Foundry: Justin Cohn, 6 p.m.

Fratello's: Peter Pappas, 6 p.m.

The Goat: Musical Brunch with Brooks Hubbard, 10 a.m.; Sunset View, 9 p.m.

The Hill: Stephen Decuire, 5:30 p.m.

Shaskeen: special guest, 8 p.m.

Strange Brew: Cheryl Arena, 9 p.m.

Meredith
Twin Barns: Chris Torrey, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Paul Gormly, 6 p.m.

Nashua
Casey Magee's: Workin' Stiffs Band, 8 p.m.

Peddler's Daughter: Wooden

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits: Dusty Gray, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Chad Verbeck, 9:30 p.m.

The Goat: Mike Jetti, 9 p.m.

Press Room: Woodland Sparks, 2 p.m.; Caiola, 7 p.m.

Salem
Dreo: Lewis Goodwin, 7 p.m.

Seabrook
Chop Shop: 21 Guns, 8 p.m.
Red's: Chad LaMarsh, 8 p.m.

Sunday, March 16
Alton Bay
Foster's Tavern: Mikey G, 5 p.m.

Barrington
Nippo Lake Restaurant: Little Wishbone, 6 p.m.

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

Brookline
Alamo: Chris Powers 5 p.m.

Concord
BNH Stage: JD & The Stonemasons, 6 p.m.

Contoocook
Contoocook Cider Co.: Brad Myrick, 1 p.m.

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

Hampton
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.

Hudson
Lynn's 102: Triple Play, 4 p.m.

Jaffrey
Park Theatre: The Grateful



JOHNNY PIZZI

Johnny Pizzi has made his name as a versatile comedian who can tailor his act for audiences of all ages. While he's drawn crowds at nightclubs throughout New England, his shows at retirement homes has brought him a devoted following. He returns to Chunky's (707 Huse Road, Manchester, chunkys.com) on Saturday, March 15, at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 plus fees.



LUCK OF THE IRISH

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day season with four of the funniest comedians from Boston, as Ding Ho Comedy Club alumnus Mike McDonald hosts the Boston Irish Comedy Night at the Rochester Opera House (31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com) on Friday, March 14, at 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$33 to \$38, plus fees.

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

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

Goffstown
Village Trestle: D-Comp, 11:30 a.m.

Hampton
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.

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

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

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: 603's, 5 p.m.

Manchester
Derryfield: D-Comp, 4:30 p.m.
Fratello's: Phil Jacques, 5:30 p.m.

The Goat: 603 line dancing, 7 p.m.

Murphy's: Sean Dennehy & Sean O'Brien, 8 a.m.; On The Tear, 11:30 a.m.; Elizabeth "Besty" Green & Winds of Erie, 3 p.m.; Justin Jordan, 6:30 p.m.; Keith's Band, 7 p.m.

Salona: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

Shaskeen: J.D. & The Stone-masons, The Rebel Collective, 12 p.m.

Wild Rover: live music, 11 a.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Sean Coleman, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
Fody's: karaoke night, 9:30 p.m.
Peddler's Daughter: Bagpipers, 3 p.m.; Pop Farmers, 5 p.m.

Portsmouth
The Goat: live music brunch, 8 a.m.

Seabrook
Red's: Lewis Goodwin, noon; Doug Mitchell Duo, 3 p.m.; Tim Parent Band, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 18

Concord
Barley House: Irish session, 6 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.

Manchester
Fratello's: Jordan Quinn, 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: Chris Powers, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
Spyglass Brewing: Chuck Alaimo, 5 p.m.

Portsmouth
Press Room: Soggy Po' Boys, 9 p.m.

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

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

Wednesday, March 19

Concord
Hermanos: live music, 6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.
Uno Pizzeria: Tyler Levs, 6 p.m.

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

Dover
Auspicious Brew: open mic, 7 p.m.

Hampton
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.

Hudson
Lynn's 102: I Know That Tune Bingo, 6 p.m.

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

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

Manchester
Fratello's: Sean Coleman, 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: Dalton Sayball, 5:30 p.m.

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

Seabrook
Chop Shop: DJ Manny karaoke, 7:30 p.m.
Red's: David Hoffman, 7 p.m.



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NITE MUSIC & EVENTS

Trivia

Trivia events

• **Golden Girls trivia** Thursday, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com).

Other games

• **Board Game Speed Dating** for ages 25 to 39 at Talespinner Brewery (57 Factory St., Nashua, ramb-lingtale.com, 318-3220) on Thursday, March 13, from 6 to 8 p.m.

• **21+ Scratch Ticket Bingo** at Chunky's in Manchester (chunkys.com) on Friday, March 14, and Wednesday, March 26, at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$13 and include a \$5 food voucher.

• **Cribbage Tournament** weekly on Sundays at 4:30 p.m. at Stone Church (5 Granite St. in Newmarket; 659-7700, stonechurchrocks.com)

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 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 Sporelle 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 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, gamechanger-sportsbar.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, Concord, cheersnh.com) 8 p.m.

• **Sunday** trivia at Mountain Base

Brewery (553 Main 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** Pub Quiz at Shaskeen (909 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0246, shaskeenirishpub.com) at 7:30 p.m.

• **Tuesday** trivia at Able Ebenezer Brewing (31 Columbia Circle, Merrimack, 844-223-2253) at 6 p.m.

• **Tuesday** trivia 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 at the Forum Pub (15 Village St., Concord, 552-0137), at 8 p.m.

• **Tuesday Geeks Who Drink** trivia at Peddler's Daughter (48 Main St., Nashua, 821-7535, thepeddlers-daughter.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** Brews & Qs trivia, 21+, at Feathered Friend (231 S. Main St., Concord, 715-2347, featheredfriendbrewing.com) 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 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, flannel-tavern.com) 6 p.m.

• **Wednesday** trivia at Talespinner Brewery (57 Factory St., Nashua, ramb-lingtale.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 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 Gate City Casino Lounge (55 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, the-gatecitycasino.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.

Concerts

• **Rascal Flatts/Chris Lane/Lauren Alaina** Thursday, March 13, 7 p.m., SNHU Arena, Manchester

• **The Dirty Grass Players/Jatoba** Thursday, March 13, 7 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth

• **The Blue Ribbons** Thursday, March 13, 7 p.m., Hermit Woods, Meredith

• **Cinnamon Jazz Trio** Thursday, March 13, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **TR3 With Tim Reynolds** Thursday, March 13, 7:30 p.m., BNH Stage, Concord

• **Choir! Choir! Choir!** Thursday, March 13, 8 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts

• **Jasmine Rivera & Chris Salemme** Friday, March 14, 6 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **PJ Donahue** Friday, March 14,

and Saturday, March 15, 6:30 p.m., Rochester Opera House

• **The Gibson Brothers** Friday, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Rex, Manchester

• **Frigg** Friday, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Dana Center, Saint Anselm College

• **TR3 Featuring Tim Reynolds** Friday, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's, Portsmouth

• **Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki** Friday, March 14, 7:30 p.m., Park Theatre, Jaffrey

• **Cowboy Bebop Live** Friday, March 14, 8 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts

• **Liv Greene & Elise Leavy** Friday, March 14, 8 p.m. Music Hall Lounge, Portsmouth

• **King Kyote** Friday, March 14, 8 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth

• **Asmarine/Eric Newport** Friday, March 14, 8 p.m., Button

Factory Stage, Portsmouth

• **The Fiddling Thomsons** Saturday, March 15, 2 p.m., Park Theatre, Jaffrey

• **Woodland Sparks** Saturday, March 15, 2 p.m., Press Room

• **Joyce Andersen** Saturday, March 15, 4 p.m., Stone Church, Newmarket

• **Anrea Paquin & April Cushman** Saturday, March 15, 6:30 p.m., Milk St. Studios, Dover

• **Caiola** Saturday, March 15, 7 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth

• **Dusty Gray** Saturday, March 15, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **Waking Finnegan** Saturday, March 15, 7:30 p.m., Park Theatre, Jaffrey

• **The Linda Ronstadt Experience** Saturday, March 15, 7:30 p.m., Rex, Manchester

• **Ilya Yakushev** Saturday,

March 15, 7:30 p.m., Concord City Auditorium

• **Liv Greene** Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge, Portsmouth

• **Bearly Dead** Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace, Portsmouth

• **Dueling Pianos** Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m., Strand, Dover

• **Bees Deluxe** Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m., Button Factory, Portsmouth

• **Dueling Pianos** Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m., BNH Stage, Concord

• **The Breakers** (Tom Petty tribute) Saturday, March 15, 8 p.m., Music Hall, Portsmouth

• **Joe "Doc" Fuller, Ramona Connelly & Friends** Sunday, March 16, 12 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth

• **Rockin Daddys** Sunday,

March 16, 2 p.m., Majestic Theatre, Manchester

• **Black Pudding Rovers** Sunday, March 16, 2 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **JD and the Stonemasons** Sunday, March 16, 6 p.m., BNH Stage, Concord

• **The Honey Bees** Sunday, March 16, 6 p.m., Andres Institute, Brookline

• **Sharon Jones** Sunday, March 16, 6 p.m., Press Room, Portsmouth

• **Glengarry Bhoys** Sunday, March 16, 7 p.m., Tupelo, Derry

• **Cowboy Bebop Live** Sunday, March 16, 7 p.m., Music Hall, Portsmouth

• **Eric Lindell** Sunday, March 16, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's, Portsmouth

• **Reckoners** Monday, March 17,

• **Bailey's Mistake** Monday, March 17, 7 p.m., Rochester Opera House

• **Dervish** Monday, March 17, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey, Plymouth

• **Peter Wolf** Tuesday, March 18, 7 p.m., Music Hall, Portsmouth

• **The New New Hampshire** Tuesday, March 18, 7 p.m., Hermit Woods, Meredith

• **Jordan Tice** Tuesday, March 18, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall Lounge, Portsmouth

• **Miner & Ryan** Wednesday, March 19, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits

• **Lee Brice** Wednesday, March 19, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall, Portsmouth

• **Don White** Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m., BNH Stage, Concord

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The finer things

Across

- 1. I ___ Her Standing There
- 4. 80s 'Be Near Me' pop band
- 7. 'Smooth Criminal' Alien ___
- 14. Green Day album after ¡Uno! and ¡Dos!
- 15. Sarah Jarosz is neither 'Here ___ There'
- 16. Steve Miller "Some people call me ___"
- 17. Vote of support, as new prospect auditioning
- 18. Long-running UK mag (abbr)
- 19. Paul McCartney 'Uncle Albert/___ Halsey'
- 20. "Shot through the heart and

- you're to blame, you give ___"
- 23. '06 Three Days Grace album (hyph)
- 24. RCA competitor
- 25. Armenian rockers ___ Of A Down
- 29. NRBQ 'Ridin' In My ___'
- 31. '66 'Fresh Cream' opener that meant "non-specific urethritis"
- 33. Soundtrack for Will Smith boxing movie
- 34. This Louisiana dance is a jig or one step
- 37. '01 Blink-182 album 'Take Off ___ And Jacket'
- 40. Sevendust song for a masochist
- 42. '03 Pete Dinklage album 'Day ___'

- 43. Morcheeba '___ Built In A Day' (
- 45. Bumpy 'Road' Chris Rea drives down
- 46. Star might have a hot one poolside
- 47. She dances on the sand for Duran Duran
- 48. All-female 'Freaks Of Nature' band Drain ___
- 49. Put away, as rare guitar
- 52. Eric Johnson 'Cliffs Of Dover' album 'Ah ___ Musicom'
- 54. Miami Sound Machine 'Falling In Love' song (hyph)
- 58. Stars do this with aromatic oils for their well-being
- 61. Bret Michaels never takes his off his head
- 64. Alice In Chains 'Right Turn' EP
- 65. He'll release a statement for a big shot (abbr)
- 66. Star fake hotel room names
- 67. Limb where Wilco got a 'Shot'
- 68. Rich Kids' Midge
- 69. Like closest seat
- 70. Bassist Kinchla of Blues Traveler
- 71. More, to Mexican band Maná

Down

- 1. Gorillaz 'Plastic Beach' single
- 2. Leon & Mary Russell 'You ___ My Mind'
- 3. Rusted Root song to knit to?
- 4. Beach Boys '___ Lee, The Healer'
- 5. '79 Motörhead album for a B52 aircraft
- 6. '91 Prince hit he puts in coffee
- 7. Boston '___ I'll Never Be' (1,3)
- 8. 1996's 'Popular' band that hits the beach?
- 9. This may hurt post-hard partying show
- 10. Ben Peters eats 'Burgers And ___'
- 11. You walk on it, after big hit
- 12. Giant US record label
- 13. Brooks of The Producers
- 21. No Doubt '___ Me Mr'
- 22. 'Your Ma Said You Cried In Your Sleep Last Night' Kenny
- 26. Hoboken band Yo La ___
- 27. 'Candle In The Wind' John
- 28. Like Led Zep's 'Mountain Hop'
- 30. Rush "He's ___ world man"
- 32. Cherry Poppin' Daddies 'Zoot ___ Riot'

- 34. Stars ride in golf ones at festivals
- 35. Ugly Kid Joe 'Everything ___ You'
- 36. '90 World Party album 'Good-bye ___'
- 37. '93 Melissa Etheridge album '___ Am'
- 38. '95 Bjork album for afterwards
- 39. Peter Gabriel discovery Joseph
- 41. 'Into The Night' Benny
- 44. "Life is just a fantasy" Aldo
- 48. Police 'Tea In The ___'
- 50. White Lion's Golden Earring cover '___ Love'
- 51. Clear, as a tape
- 53. All Saints 'I Know Where ___'
- 55. Half of 60s Brits, w/Procol
- 56. Kinks 'Preservation Act' was a rock one
- 57. What label does for hot newbies
- 59. Sail holder for star's yacht
- 60. 'Business As Usual' hip-hoppers
- 61. Outlaw, as a hardcore album
- 62. Kind of pint after show
- 63. Actress/video director Long

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Todd's books are available on Amazon.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14			15			16							
17			18			19							
20			21			22							
23			24			25				26	27	28	
			29	30		31	32			33			
34	35	36			37				38	39			
40				41		42							
43					44			45					
46				47		48							
49			50	51		52	53			54	55	56	57
			58			59				60			
61	62	63						64				65	
66								67				68	
69								70				71	

R&R answer from pg 31 of 3/6

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

Sudoku Answers from pg 31 of 3/6

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty: ★ 2/17

NITE SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

King Classic Sudoku

Puzzle A

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

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Difficulty: ★

King Classic Sudoku

Puzzle B

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

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Difficulty: ★★

King Classic Sudoku

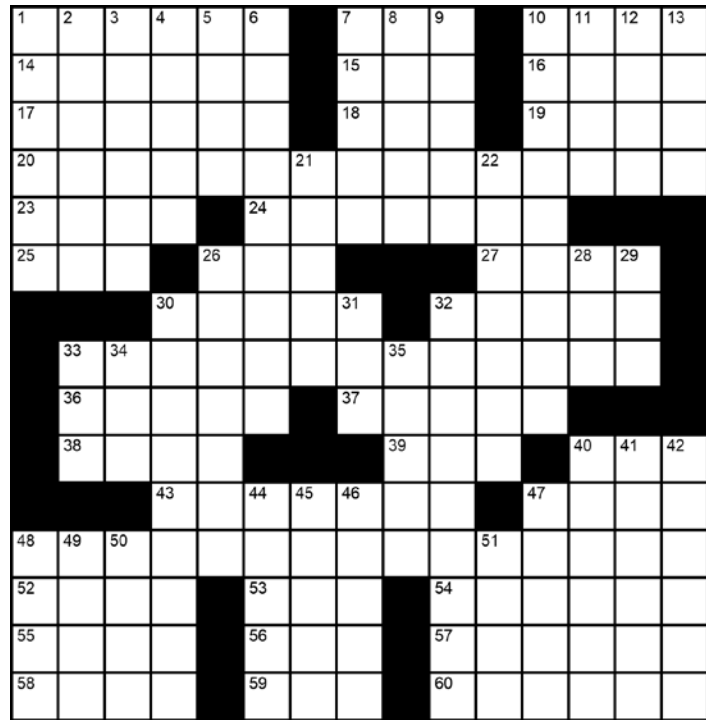
Puzzle C

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

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Difficulty: ★★★

“Gallery Display”— you’ll know it when you see it.



- 52. Tiger noise, to the under-2 set
- 53. It may be tapped
- 54. Palindromic 1976 greatest hits album with the track “Ma-Ma-Ma Belle”
- 55. Jai ___ (fast game)
- 56. Noteworthy stretch
- 57. Having an outer layer, like fruit
- 58. Tailless domestic cat
- 59. Shortest Morse code unit
- 60. Like some beer or bread

- 30. International auto race
- 31. Puppy sound
- 32. Peachy keen
- 33. Trim a lawn
- 34. Melber of MSNBC
- 35. 1/20th of a ream
- 40. Bikes with engines
- 41. Egg dish (in this economy?)
- 42. Yankovic genre
- 44. Annoyed
- 45. Prefix before dactyl
- 46. Use a shovel on
- 47. Cathedral city of Tuscany
- 48. Airport people mover
- 49. Hi, in Hidalgo
- 50. Actor McGregor
- 51. “Swan Lake” bend

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Down

- 1. Low end of the choir
- 2. Belgian beer Stella ___
- 3. Grayson who was the title character in the Apple TV+ thriller “Servant”
- 4. “Funny Girl” composer Jule
- 5. Nautical hello
- 6. Collection of animals
- 7. Restaurant chain with root beer floats
- 8. Jolt
- 9. Healthy cereal brand
- 10. Reason for a siren
- 11. Something proven
- 12. ___ Festival 2 (recently announced sequel to a 2017 disaster)
- 13. Like some gummy candies
- 21. Irish actor Kristian of “Our Flag Means Death”
- 22. “Training Day” director Fuqua
- 26. Calligraphy introduction?
- 28. Classic Japanese drama form
- 29. Beats creator

Across

- 1. Aromatic resin
- 7. Pose the question
- 10. Letters before gees
- 14. “Like sands through the hourglass, so ___ days of our lives ...”
- 15. “Got it!”
- 16. Spread on a BLT
- 17. Remain aboard
- 18. Negative responses
- 19. Almond shade
- 20. Boxer Liston and his new constitution?
- 23. German article
- 24. Looking with no subtlety
- 25. 157.5 deg. from N
- 26. Luau garland
- 27. Take care of
- 30. ___ Rafferty, “Baker Street” singer
- 32. Accept, like a coupon
- 33. Mixed drink with gin, vermouth, cheese, vegetables, and pastry crust?
- 36. Speechify
- 37. Groan-inducing

- 38. Malbec, for one
- 39. “Celebrity Jeopardy!” winner Barinholtz
- 40. Swab the deck
- 43. Hang on the line
- 47. “Brave New World” happiness drug
- 48. Scottish player who’s a hit at all festivities?

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

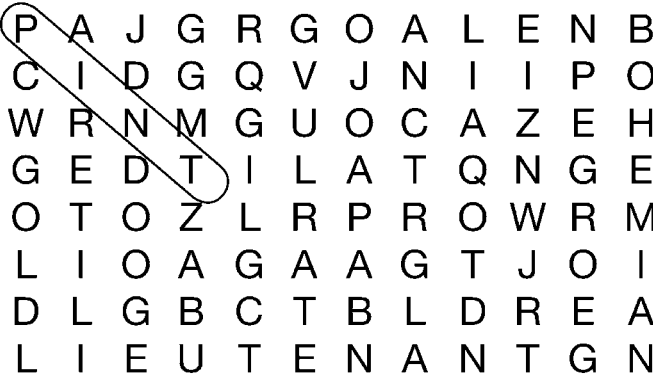
Find and Circle...

- Four units of volume
- Four four-letter words starting with GO
- Three Navy ranks
- Comedy duo Burns and Allen
- Queen classic: “___ Rhapsody”

Last Week’s Answers: KNUCKLE ELBOW ANKLE WRIST KNEE / MOUSE WHALE PANDA MOOSE / ORANGE PAPAYA BANANA / TRADING PLACES / PEPSI COKE

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12/16



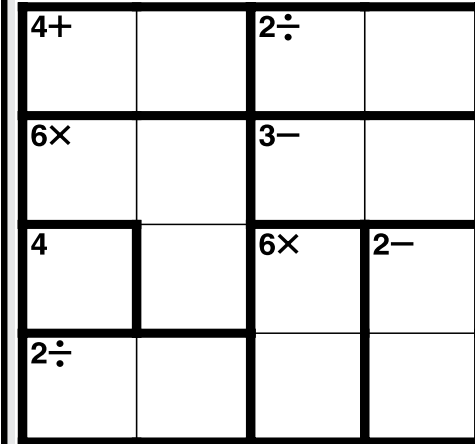
Jonesin’ answer from pg 32 of 3/6



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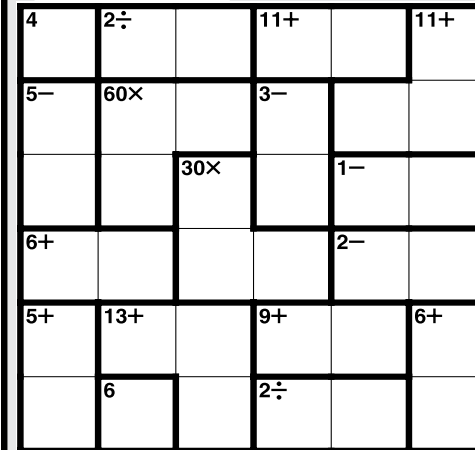
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EASY



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CHALLENGING



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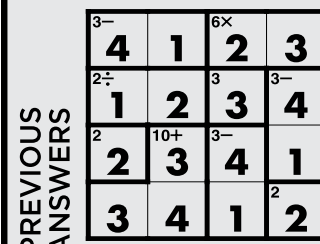
12-9-24

RULES

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

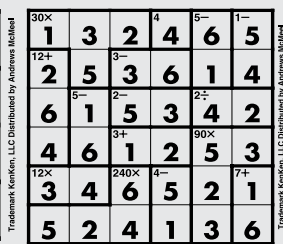
outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

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



PREVIOUS ANSWERS

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SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *Have I Told You This Already?*, by Lauren Graham, born March 16, 1967.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *And then, one day, I made my first batch of marmalade. Like everything on the Internet, the 'right' way to make marmalade is hotly contested, and first I spent about four hours trying to figure out which marmalade guru was for me. A worthwhile investment of time.*

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *During my first few years of elementary school, I fell in love with reading and would read anything I could get my hands on as long as it was about a horse, or a girl who had a horse, or a girl who wanted a horse and got one even if she lived with her family in a small walk-up apartment in Manhattan. Those are good books.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *I'm certain I graduated from college, but I haven't seen my diploma in over twenty years. I can't find the parking ticket I got yesterday. It's probably sitting in some drawer alongside the one I can't find from last week. Probably.*

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *If you've missed Gilmore Girls, the truth is that I've missed you too, and this book is one way of keeping our conversation going. Conversing is good for you.*

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *You spend so much of your early life looking up to people older than you and figuring they know things you'll someday know too, then one day you're looking for advice from a doctor who (hopefully) knows more than you do except for not having seen Broadcast News, and life's questions become more complicated.... Or simpler, depending on how you look at it.*

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *When life gives you lemons, make lemonade, the saying goes. But I didn't have lemons, I had oranges. Orangeade is a thing.*

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *I subscribe to Master Class, where I have taken classes in mastering the art of French cooking, tortilla making, floral arrangements, hostage negotiation, and how to be Christina Aguilera. Where does the mastery end? It goes in circles.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *Sometimes, I'll go into the kitchen to find that book*

I've been reading and two hours later I have organized the silverware drawer but have zero recollection of what I came into the kitchen for. So it's kind of a trade-off.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *Some hosts drop by the drawing room to say hello (Conan, Leno), some don't (Letterman, Ellen, unless it's around Halloween and she's hiding in your dressing room in order to scare the bejeezus out of you). Some actors make it all up. Some actors, I'd later learn, have writers from their show write them completely fabricated funny stories. Everyone has their own technique.*

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *I learned quickly that at awards shows, the most famous people were courted by the best designers, and the rest of us got what gowns were left over.... And they were still nice.*

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *I had a makeup artist whom I loved working with tell me she probably wouldn't be seeing me for a while because Nicole Kidman had booked her for the year. FOR THE WHOLE YEAR. Like how does that even work? Is she on call....? For Nicole Kidman she is.*

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *... not only did Cher not have a movie with Oscar buzz, I don't think she had anything she was promoting ... but no one cared, so excited were they by the possibility of having Cher on the show, and thusly I learned that there are exceptions to the Hollywood bylaws, and one of them just says CHER. Do you believe in life after love? 🍀*

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 very large Australian bird (4)	_____
2 large, crested bird (9)	_____
3 New Zealand rail (4)	_____
4 ground-dwelling parrot (6)	_____
5 fastest-running bird (7)	_____
6 bird rediscovered in 1948 (6)	_____
7 King or Emperor bird (7)	_____

EA	WA	CH	SSO	TA
RY	OS	PO	KA	NGU
RH	WE	TRI	HE	KA
CA	PE	IN	KA	KA

Last Week's Answers: 1. DIZZY 2. YARDBIRD 3. FATS
4. CANNONBALL 5. BILLIE 6. DUKE 7. SATCHMO



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MAR
22



PETE BEST
AND THE PETE BEST BAND

MAR
27



WALTER TROUT

MAR
29



BAD ANIMALS
THE HEART TRIBUTE

MAR
30



YOUNG DUBLINERS

APR
01



DAVID SEDARIS

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Awwwwwww

Looking for love? If you're in Dodauer Forest in northern Germany, you're in luck. The Associated Press reported on March 4 about the Bridegroom's Oak, a 500-year-old tree that has served as a mailbox for the lovelorn for over a century. The custom originated with a couple whose relationship was opposed by the woman's father; they left messages for each other in the tree's knothole and eventually married in 1892. Here's how it works: People send a letter (address: Brautigamseiche, Dodauer Forest, 23701 Eutin, Germany), and the postmaster delivers it to the tree. Visitors can climb a 10-foot ladder to retrieve a few letters, leaf through them and choose a pen pal. "The resulting pen pal relationships have even led to a few marriages," noted the postal service. *AP, March 4*

Bright Idea

James Coxall, 42, of Castle Camps, a village in Cambridgeshire, England, was sick of driving around — and sometimes driving into — an 8-foot-long, 4-inch-deep pothole that had been in the road for more than a year, The Washington Post reported. So Coxall, a carpenter, repurposed a pair of jeans his daughter had grown out of, filling the legs with wood and old shirts and

attaching some shoes at the hems. Then he fashioned an anchor to hold the contraption upright — or upside down, as it were — and put it in the pothole, so that it looked like someone was head-down in the hole. He thought it might spur some action on the hole, and indeed, on Feb. 27, the county filled the hole. "They fixed the hole," Coxall said. "They just got another several million to do in Cambridgeshire." *Washington Post, Feb. 27*

Surprise!

Dean Harrison and two of his friends were fishing on his open-top boat on Feb. 28 when a 900-pound bottlenose dolphin crashed onto the 16-foot vessel, the Associated Press reported. The men were along the far north coast of New Zealand's North Island when they saw dolphins playing nearby. "This one decided to jump on board and say hello," Harrison said. The 11-foot-long dolphin's wild movements snapped "every single fishing rod we had in the boat," Harrison said, and severely damaged the bow. The animal was stuck, so the men alerted New Zealand's conservation agency, which directed them to a boat ramp an hour away. While they motored toward help, they kept the dolphin wet with a hose and a towel. At the ramp, members of the

Maori tribe prayed for the dolphin, which they named Tohu, which means "sign." Harrison has also renamed his boat Tohu. *AP, March 5*

Questionable Judgment

Newsweek reported on March 5 that a Reddit post has blown up. The post details a stunt that landed a man and his brother-in-law in small claims court over medical bills of more than \$2,000. While the poster was napping in a hammock with his shirt off, his BIL filled his navel with super glue, he said. When he awoke, the glue was dry, and he was hesitant to aggressively try to remove it because of scars from an earlier gall bladder surgery. The BIL "thought it was funny right up until we left for the emergency room," the poster wrote. But after the BIL wouldn't cover his medical bills, the poster won in court. "This has caused a major rift in my family," he wrote. "My wife is upset, and her family thinks I overreacted." But Redditors are on his side: "This was straight-up malicious. This wasn't a prank," one wrote. *Newsweek, March 5*

Irony

CTV News reported that three framed paintings were stolen from St. Andrew's

Church in Little Steeping, England, on Feb. 23. One was a painting of the Lord's Prayer; the second depicted Moses delivering the Ten Commandments; and the third illustrated the commandments — including "Thou Shalt Not Steal." While the church was unclear about the value of the paintings, they held "sentimental" value to the parishioners. *CTV News, March 3*

Weird Science

Li Zhang, a professor of physiology and neuroscience at the University of Southern California, has authored a study showing that laboratory mice would leap into action to help their companions who were incapacitated, NPR reported on March 2. Their behavior included biting the unconscious mouse, biting its tongue and licking its eyes — and "eventually pulling the tongue out of the mouth of this unconscious one" to clear its airway, Zhang said. The response was much stronger for mice that had been caged together for a long time, he said. *NPR, March 2*

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

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