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APRIL 2 - 8, 2026

BOOKS &
WINE P. 12

SHADES OF BLUE
P. 22

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ON THE COVER

8 Can't decide which pie, martini or iced coffee you want to try? Order a flight! In this week's cover story, John Fladd looks at some area restaurants offering flights of drinks and eats to allow you to try a lot of different flavors in one sitting. Featured photo: Mimosa flight from the Purple Finch Cafe. Courtesy photo.

ALSO ON THE COVER This week's food section has extra cheese, with a look at one more flight — the mac and cheese flight at The Goat in Manchester — and a trio of cheeses made in Lee from goat milk. The stories start on page 16. Michael Witthaus looks at the pairing of words and wine at a Concord wine shop (page 12). And he talks with Diane Blue, singer for Shades of Blue, ahead of the band's April 4 show in

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NEWS & NOTES

Bird news

The pair of peregrine falcons nesting at the Brady Sullivan Tower in Manchester welcomed an egg on March 25, according to the daily log for the Peregrine Cam, which you can access via nhaudubon.org/education/birds-and-birding/peregrine-cam. The cam offers live-streaming video of three angles on the nest via NH Audubon and the support of Peregrine Networks and Brady Sullivan Properties, according to the website. Last year the nest produced five eggs, of which three hatched.

Bird events

The NH Audubon's Massabesic Center, 26 Audubon Way in Auburn, will celebrate the return of nesting birds with two programs on Saturday, April 11. "NestWatch Volunteer Training: Eastern Bluebird and Tree Swallow Monitoring" will run from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and "Build-A-Birdhouse" will run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., according to the NH Audubon's newsletter. Register for either at nhaudubon.org.

Health care forum

The New Hampshire Insurance Department will hold the 2026 Commissioner's Health Care Policy Forum on Wednesday, April 29, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. "This first-of-its-kind event is designed to bring together policymakers, stakeholders, and interested members of the public for a proactive discussion on one of the most pressing issues facing New Hampshire residents and employers: the rising cost of health care among Granite Staters. The forum is the first event hosted by the Department specifically focused on examining ways to help bend the cost curve and promote greater transparency around the drivers of health care spending. The program will feature the rollout of New Hampshire's Total Health Care Expenditure findings, including the New Hampshire Health Care Dollar, 2023 and 2024 total statewide health care spending, and insights from the NHID Health Care Data Chartbook," according to a press release. The forum will take place at the New Hampshire Fire Academy Auditorium, 98 Smokey Bear Blvd. in Concord. Register at

bit.ly/3NyeIzY.

Baby shower

The United Way of Greater Nashua is collecting items for its Community Baby Shower, which is slated for April 22, according to a press release. Donate to the registry or drop off baby items to 20 Broad St. in Nashua, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., through Sunday, April 12. Items include baby clothes, car seats, diapers, board books and more; see unitedwaynashua.org/event/community-baby-shower.

Manchester Artists

The Manchester Artists Association will hold its April meeting on Monday, April 6, at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at the Michael L. Briggs Public Safety Building, 405 Valley St. in Manchester, featuring speaker watercolor artist Leah Keuhne, according to a press release. See manchesterartists.com.

CONCORD

“Emergence,” a spring juried members exhibition, will open Thursday, April 2, and run through Saturday, June 27, at the Center for the Arts Members Gallery, 428 Main St. in **New London**, with an opening reception slated for Saturday, April 4, from 3 to 5 p.m. “Emergence” highlights artwork inspired by themes of transformation, renewal, and the shifting energy that arrives as spring moves toward summer. The exhibition reflects both the natural transition from cold to warmth and the creative momentum that grows within a supportive arts community,” according to a press release. The gallery is open Thursday through Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. See cfanh.org.

MANCHESTER

The Queen City will be featured in its own board game with Monopoly: **Manchester** Edition, slated for release in late November, according to a press release.

HILLSBOROUGH

Dave Anderson of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests wraps up the Cottrell-Baldwin Environmental Lecture Series with a talk called “New Hampshire Forests – Past, Present and Future: 125 Years Protecting NH Landscapes and Landmarks Mammal Tracking in New Hampshire” on Tuesday, April 7, from 7 to 8:30 a.m. at Fox Forest’s Henry I. Baldwin Environmental Center, 309 Center Road in **Hillsborough**. See forestsociety.org/events to RSVP.

WINDHAM

Salem Animal Rescue League will hold a fundraising music bingo event on Friday, April 10, at 7 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m., at the Windham Country Club, 1 Country Club Road in **Windham**. Tickets cost \$60 and include dinner; see sarlnh.org.

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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

I've been meaning to clean out my freezer, anyway

As reported on the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection website (fsis.usda.gov), Ajinomoto Foods, a frozen food company that supplies many grocery stores, including Trader Joe's, has expanded a recall of frozen rice and frozen chicken products. "The establishment is recalling approximately 33,617,045 additional pounds of various ready-to-eat (RTE) and NRTE chicken and pork fried rice, ramen, and shu mai dumpling products, for a combined total of 36,987,575 pounds subject to recall" the USDA statement read.

QOL score: -1

Comment: *Approximately 9 million pounds of the recalled food was Trader Joe's Vegetable Fried Rice. According to the USDA website, "The problem was discovered when the establishment notified FSIS that it received multiple consumer complaints involving glass found in product."*

Easter shortages

As reported by New Hampshire Public Radio in a March 23 online article, cold weather and a delayed harvest have contributed to a local carrot shortage. NHPR reported that "a mid-January freeze and exceptionally hot weather this month in California, from where the majority of the national carrot supply originates, appears to have delayed harvests in the southern San Joaquin Valley," leading to shortages in area supermarkets. Additionally, according to a March 29 online article by WMUR, rising chocolate and candy prices have driven up the cost of this year's Easter candy. "Along with chocolate, candy prices are up nearly 12% over the past year," the article reported.

QOL score: -2

Comment: *You could grow your own. Carrots, that is, not candy. Late spring is the time to harvest your early-spring-planted carrots.*

Indoor bugs

As reported on March 26 New Hampshire Public Radio at nhpr.org, the large numbers of ladybugs that have been appearing in your house are, according to horticulturist Emma Erler, "not dangerous and they don't hurt the structure or lay eggs, but they are annoying." Erler said in the article that "[y]ou can vacuum them up with abandon as the species is invasive and in no danger of disappearing from the landscape." The native New Hampshire ladybugs tend to hibernate outside and it's the Asian ladybugs we're seeing indoors, the article said.

QOL score: -1

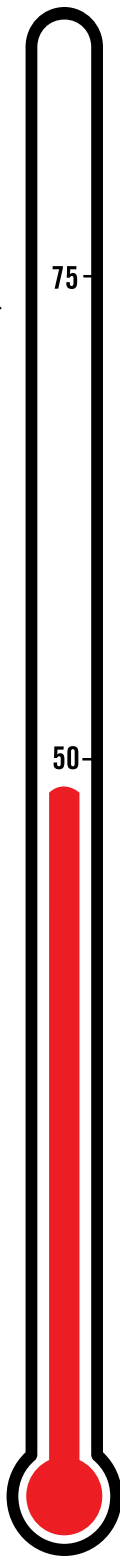
Comment: *One ladybug? Awww. More? Ewww.*

QOL score last week: 51

Net change: -4

QOL this week: 47

*What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire?
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Hoops heaven on Saturday



The Big Story – Final Fours: Down to the Final Four in both NCAA basketball championships this weekend. Can the only school to already do it, UConn, see their men's and women's programs both win the same title

in the same year for the third time after doing it in 2004 and 2014? On the women's side it'll be UConn vs. the South Carolina-TCU winner and UCLA vs. the Texas-Michigan winner. For the men it's UConn vs. Illinois and Michigan vs. Arizona. If the Michigan women won after deadline on Monday we could have Michigan-UConn both going for the double in the Finals. How cool would that be?

Sports 101: Name the five highest individual player scoring games in NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament history.

News Item – NCAA Tournament Notables:
• **Biggest Shot** – There were a lot, but since **Braylon Mullins's** three with seconds left sent UConn to the FF over 1-seed Duke, he gets it.

• **MVP So Far** – **Tarris Reed Jr.** has averaged 21.8 points and 13.5 rebounds in four games for 2-seed UConn.

• **Record Set** – **Hannah Hidalgo:** After going for 31 points, 11 rebounds, 10 steals, 7 assists and a near quadruple double, as Notre Dame upset 2-seed Vanderbilt 67-64 the ND guard set the all-NCAA record with 199 career steals.

News Item – Early Baseball Stories to Follow:

• The spring batting average for Merrimack's **Mickey Gasper** was .358 with a triple, two homers and seven RBI in 28 at-bats and it still wasn't enough to make the Red Sox varsity, even though the guy in front of him at second base, **Marcelo Mayer**, hit .196, and .220 his rookie season. So Gasper starts in Worcester.

• **Roki Sasaki** – It hasn't been all smooth sailing for the 21-year-old Japanese phenom this spring after an up and down Year 1. This spring the ERA was an astronomical 15.58 in four starts with 15 walks in 8.2 innings.

• **Prediction** – Forgot to say this last week, but I've got **Ceddanne Rafaela** having the breakout year to hit 25 homers.

The Numbers:

2.25 – ERA of the Boston bullpen over three games and 12 innings with a loss and a blown save by **Greg Weissert**.

21 – combined winning streak ended last week by the streaking Celtics since **Jayson Tatum's** return when they beat Oak City (12) 116-106 and Atlanta (9) 109-102 two nights later.

188 – opening day Red Sox payroll in millions down from 240 in 2025.

... Of the Week Awards

Thumbs Down – Roman Anthony Leading Off: Yes, he's likely to have their best OBP. But, even with that, how can leading off make sense? It guarantees their best RBI guy comes to bat 162 times with no one on base. And if they have their lowest-OBP guys bat 8 and 9 like usually happens, it'll be closer to 300. That's nuts.

Quote of the Week: "All I'm saying is, 'Young fella, we've already got one 'Ice-man,'" one-of-a-kind ABA/NBA scoring genius **George Gervin** told the Chicago Sun-Times after Chicago Bears QB **Caleb Williams** tried to trademark/steal his nickname.

The Phew Moment – Brad Stevens: It was when Top 5 in the league Celtics GM said he's staying after his name surfaced as a possible at UNC after **Hubert Davis** was fired on Tuesday.

Comedic Hiring of the Week – Luke Murray: When Boston College hired son of SNL legend **Bill Murray** to leave as UConn assistant to be new head basketball coach at BC.

Random Thought: Before you complain about the Sox payroll, remember Milwaukee had 2025's best record with just MLB's 23rd highest payroll at \$115 million.

Sports 101 Answer: The Top 5 NCAA Basketball Tournament scoring games are 61, **Austin Carr**, Notre Dame; 58, **Bill Bradley**, Princeton; 56, **Oscar Robertson**, Cincinnati; and Carr again, who scored 52 twice.

Final Thought – Who Acquired 2026 Red Sox: Most teams are a composite of acquisitions by the current GM and their predecessors, like the curse-busting 2004 Red Sox, where key guys like Manny, Pedro and Damon were **Dan Duquette's** doing, while **Theo Epstein** found Big Papi, Schilling and Varitek among others. Here are the key guys in the 2026 edition acquired by **Craig Breslow** and company:

Chaim Bloom drafted **Roman Anthony**, **Marcelo Mayer**, **Kevin Teel** (traded for **Garrett Crochet**) and **Kristian Campbell**, traded for **Abreu**, and acquired FA **Trevor Story**.

Dave Dombrowski drafted **Rafaela**, **Brayan Bello** and **Jarren Duran**.

Breslow traded for **Crochet** and **Sonny Gray**, and signed **Willson Contreras**.

Future: With five OF/DH guys, a boatload of starting pitchers here and in AAA, and talented but under-achieving young'n **Triston Casas** headed to the minors, they have the pieces to make a major trade this summer to fine-tune the Fenway team.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippopress.com.

THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS APRIL 2 AND BEYOND

Friday, April 3

The **New Hampshire Fisher Cats** open their 2026 season tonight at 6:03 p.m. at Delta Dental Stadium (1 Line Drive, Manchester, 641-2005, milb.com/new-hampshire). They will take on the Binghamton Rumble Ponies tonight and again tomorrow, Saturday, April 4, and Sunday, April 5, at 1:05 p.m. See milb.com/new-hampshire for tickets. The game will be preceded by a Hot Dog Happy Hour with food



and live entertainment beginning 90 minutes before game time.

Friday, April 3

The BNH Stage (16 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, cconh.com) will host **Lisa Joins a Cult** tonight at 7:30 p.m. for an immersive evening of exploring religious cults, why they happen and what keeps them going. Tickets are \$27 through the Capitol Center website.

Saturday, April 4

There's a **Baa Baa Bash** at Brookford Farm (250 West Road, Canterbury, 742-4084, brookfordfarm.com) from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday in April beginning today. Welcome spring with baby animals, muddy boots and maybe even a live animal birth. Buy feed bags and feed the animals. Admission is free. Visit brookfordfarm.com/events.

Saturday, April 4

The **Exeter LitFest** will run today from noon to 5 p.m. at Exeter Town Hall and feature authors including Chanda Prescod-Weinstein (whose

works include the April 7 release *The Edge of Space-Time: Particles, Poetry, and the Cosmic Dream Boogie*) and Catherine Newman (author of 2025's *Wreck*) among other author conversations, according to exeterlitfest.com. The day will also feature children's events at the Exeter Public Library starting at 10 a.m., the website said.

Saturday, April 4

Concord's **Giant Indoor Yard Sale** takes place today from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Everett Arena (15 Loudon Road, Concord), according to the event's Facebook page. Adult admission costs \$5, the page said.

Sunday, April 5

Catch Cecil B. Demille's first attempt at the Moses story when the 1923 silent film *The Ten Commandments* plays at the Wilton Town Hall Theatre on Main Street in Wilton, screened with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, today at 2 p.m.



Save the Date! April 17, 2026

The three-time Grammy Award-winning **Nitty Gritty Dirt Band** will perform at the Nashua Center for the Arts (201 Main St., Nashua, 800-657-8774, nashuacenterforthearts.com) Friday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m. as part of their "Farewell Tour, All the Good Times: 60 Years of Dirt." Tickets start at \$66, with a limited number of VIP passes available through the Nashua Center's website.

Thursday, April 2

It's time for your encyclopedic knowledge of the movie *Dirty Dancing* to pay off at **Dirty Dancing Trivia** tonight at 7:30 p.m. at Chunky's Cinema Pub (707 Huse Road, Manchester, 206-3888, chunkys.com). Tickets are \$7 through the Chunky's website.

Thursday, April 2

The new season of music at the Casino Ballroom on Hampton Beach kicks off tonight with **Melissa Ether-**

idge. Doors open at 7 p.m.; show starts at 8 p.m. See casinoballroom.com for tickets.

Friday, April 3

Jewel Music Venue (61 Canal St., Manchester, 819-9336, facebook.com/jewelnh) will host the Hachi presented **Wizard's Wasteland Tour** featuring headliners **Space Wizard** along with Swamp Wizard, She-Wolf, Aionow and Slang Dogs, according to Jewel's Facebook page, where you can find a link to purchase tickets.

Egg-Citing Egg Hunt!



Children 2 to 12 will hunt for a dozen candy filled eggs that are prepackaged for them to bring home. Find the Easter Bunny and you will find the eggs.

- Meet the Easter Bunny
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Flights of Tastiness

SMALL BITES AND SMALL SIPS OFFER A BIG FLAVOR EXPERIENCE

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippypress.com

Having a hard time picking just one thing from the menu? Fortunately, there is a tool to make life easier when you're feeling indecisive: flights. Originally the province of extra-fancy restaurants or vineyards, flights allow a guest to choose several — usually four to six — tasting-sized portions of beer or wine or even pancakes.

Looking to try a bunch of flavors in one sitting? Here are a few places offering flights.

Five beers at Rockingham Brewing Co. 1 Corporate Park Drive, Unit 1, Derry, 216-2324, rockinghambrewing.com, about \$7

Microbreweries were some of the first businesses to serve flights, and especially for breweries with large numbers of beer on tap or unusual flavors or styles of beer, flights are a good way to introduce a guest to a range of what a brewery has to offer, said Ali Leleszi, owner of the Rockingham Brewing Co.

"We offer custom flights of five different beers — 4-ounce samples — in our tap room," she said, "which allows our customers to choose a variety of beers rather than settling on just a full pint. It's usually first-time visitors who opt for a flight rather than a full pour. We definitely encourage [a flight] if people want to try a little bit of everything."

Leleszi said many people who order flights come in with a general idea of what style of beer they'd like to try.

"Usually," she said, "there's a style that they kind of gravitate toward and we can help them craft a flight that would be toward their preference. Oftentimes we have five different IPAs on [tap], so you could do a full hoppy flight if you'd like, or maybe people will go for a darker flight, but maybe they'll put a wild card in there for a beer that maybe they wouldn't have tried otherwise, that's outside of their comfort zone." On any given day Rockingham Brewing has 15 beers on tap. "And we have flights of five," Leleszi said, so they can order about a third of the menu at a time."

Ordering suggestion: "We're releasing a dortmunder, which is a traditional German-style lager, towards the end of April, Lelleszi said. "That's a returning beer for us. It's a collaboration with Kelsen Brewing. Also, sometimes we offer flight pairings...."

Four iced coffees or milkshakes or martinis at Yolk Grill 116 Bridge St., Pelham,



Breakfast themed milkshake flight at Yolk Grill. Courtesy photo.

635-09925, or 6 Elm St., Nashua, 864-0695, theyolkgrill.com; iced coffees are \$16.95, milkshakes are \$20.95, martinis are \$35.95

Emily Kurs from The Yolk in Pelham said a surprising number of Girls' Breakfasts Out involve drinking a flight of martinis.

"There can be one person who gets it, but ideally we have couples come in, usually two girlfriends going out for breakfast. It makes for a good little Girls' Day. You can pick three of our martinis that we have on our specials, and customize it however you like, and then we bring it on a little tray. Espresso martinis are always popular, and we have a chocolate bunny martini right now — it's called a Bad Bunny."

Kurs said the options for iced coffee flights are changed frequently.

"Usually every two to three weeks we try to change it up," she said. "We'll change up the flavors, we'll change up the topping, basically to just fit the theme of the month. Right now ... Easter is right around the corner. We have four different flavors related to Easter themes like Marshmallow Peeps. There's one that's carrot cake. It has a little brownie on top." Each serving of coffee is about 6 ounces, she said. "They come as black coffee topped with a little bit of whipped cream."

"The milkshakes follow the same theme," Kurs said, "but they have different toppings, so you won't be getting the same thing. ... The same idea, vanilla, Oreo. We do some cotton candy sometimes. Right now there's banana on there. We try to change up the flavors pretty often."

Ordering suggestion: "Honestly, I'm an Oreo girl," Kurs said, "so I love a nice Oreo milkshake with some vanilla frosting and Oreos on the rim. I'll put whipped cream on there, too."

Six flavors of ice cream at Social Club Creamery 138 N. Main St., Concord, 333-2111, socialclubcreamery.com

According to Cole Glaude, owner of Social



Wine flight at Flag Hill Winery and Distillery. Courtesy photo.

Club Creamery, ice cream flights are a popular Date Night activity.

"It's mostly couples in general that want to try a bunch of different flavors," he said. "In total, [a flight] is a lot of ice cream — I think maybe just a little too much for one person. And if they split a flight, it usually saves them money instead of getting a couple of different scoops of ice cream."

Social Club's flights have six half-scoops of ice cream.

"Basically," Glaude said, "it's just a sampler of six different flavors and it comes in a six-slot egg carton. I want to say in total it equals about three scoops of ice cream, but you get six different flavors, so it gets you a nice variety. You can try out a good majority of our menu without having to commit to one flavor."

The ice cream menu at Social Club has two sections — several varieties of familiar flavors that are available year-round, and several monthly flavors that are more unusual and only available for a limited time. Glaude said a flight allows enthusiasts to try all the new flavors at a time.

"A lot of people will try the four monthly specials," he said, "and then have an additional two, or sometimes they'll just do six of the classics that they've never been in before. Usually the staff will give them recommendations on their favorites, but it's completely up to the customer."

Ordering suggestion: "I would probably do at least two seasonals," Glaude said, "just so they could try out the monthly specials that we have going at the time. And then I would probably do honeycomb, salted caramel, peanut butter brownie, and then probably like maple latte — those aren't too far out, not like our deep fried pickle ice cream or anything like that."

Five wines or liquors at Flag Hill Winery and Distillery 297 N. River Road, Lee, 659-2949, flaghill.com, \$15

"We are a winery and distillery, so we produce

all of our own wines and spirits that we serve," said David Brustlin, from Flag Hill Winery and Distillery. "The flights in our tasting room are pretty straightforward. We have a wide range of products, and you can taste any five of them, so if you just want to do wines, if you just want to do spirits or you want to mix and match, so you just pick five. For wine we pour an ounce of each, and for spirits we pour a half ounce."

White wines are a popular category for flights, Brustlin said.

"People really like dry white wines," he said, "and our Flag Hill whites are very popular, but if people like sweeter whites, our Cayuga White [a fruity wine made from Cayuga grapes] and the La Crescent [a sweet dessert wine] are very well loved. We also have some carbonated wine, a bubbly version of the Cayuga White, which people love. Then we have a wide range of spirits. People tend to want to try our whiskey, because we grow our own corn, rye and wheat on site. We also have a wide range of fruit liquors that appeal to a wide audience. Probably our Maple Bourbon — which is our straight whiskey with maple syrup added to it — is the spirit that almost everybody tries."

Four margaritas at Raices Authentic Mexican Cuisine 2626 Brown Ave., Manchester, 932-2770, raicesnh.com, \$23.99

A flight of margaritas at Raices comes balanced on a model Ferris wheel.

"This is a margarita flight that we call La



Margarita flight on a Ferris wheel at Raices Authentic Mexican Cuisine. Photo by John Fladd.



Pancake flight at Purple Finch Cafe. Courtesy photo.

Rueda de la Fortuna,” said Jose, one of Raices’ bartenders, “and we have four flavors — blackberry, tamarind, mango, and strawberry.” This flight is very popular, he said. “A lot of people order this.... People share it with their friends.

Which one should you grab before your friends get to it? “My favorite is tamarind,” Jose said. Tamarind and mango.”

Four types of pancakes or mimosas at Purple Finch Cafe 124 S. River Road, Bedford, 232-1953, purplefinchcafe.com, pancakes are \$25

A pancake flight at the Purple Finch is big, manager Meagan Prudhomme said — shockingly big.

“You get two buttermilk pancakes; those are just plain. You get two chocolate chip pancakes. You get two blueberry pancakes and then two Fruity Pebbles. It comes with fresh fruit on the board, so there’s fresh strawberries, fresh bananas and fresh blueberries. And it comes with whipped cream on it. These are full-sized, 6-inch pancakes. It might be the perfect family meal. Everybody can split it. A lot of people even get it as an appetizer for big parties.”

Prudhomme said that far and away the most popular pancake in the pancake flight is the one made with Fruity Pebbles cereal.

“Everybody is really surprised that the Fruity Pebbles stay crispy,” she said, “because everybody assumes that with it going into the pancake batter that they would become soggy. But no! They’re nice and crispy and delicious.” The cereal doesn’t actually soak in pancake batter, she said. It is sprinkled across the tops of the pancakes before they are flipped, so it doesn’t have a chance to get soggy.

Perhaps the best thing about the pancake flight, Prudhomme said, is “that it goes really well with our mimosa flights. We have a couple — we have one called the Taste of New England, where you get a mimosa from each season. The spring one is a honey-lavender-lemonade mimosa. The summer is a pineapple sunrise. The fall one is apple cider. And the winter one is called the Jack Frost and it’s made with blue curacao



Pie flight at Slightly Crooked Pies. Photo by John Fladd.

and lemonade. We also have a Rainbow Mimosa flight, and that one is orange Aperol and then mango cherry. We have a tropical Midori, which is a green color. And then the last one is the honey lavender lemonade, just like from the New England one.”

Several small pies at Slightly Crooked Pies 1209 Elm St., Manchester, 661-4575, slightly-crookedpies.com, three 5-inch pies or six 3-inch pies are \$27

“I have found that a lot of people will look at a menu and they get overwhelmed,” Lauren Cline, owner of Slightly Crooked Pies, said. “And they have a hard time picking — ‘Do I want blueberry or do I want blueberry and lavender? Do I want cherry or cherry coconut crumble?’ And so if you do a pie flight you can try it all. And you can try a little bit of it all. With pies, you’re an attentive audience, you’re in a dedicated area, and you’re trying a dedicated product. And it’s a great way for you to be able to experience something that you might not be willing to commit to, right? So those of us who have food commitment issues, it’s a fantastic way to do that. And if you don’t like it, you didn’t really lose that much; it takes the second guess out of there.”

Five spirits at Manchester Distillery 284 Willow St., Manchester, 978-308-2867, manchesterdistillery.com, \$12

Liz Hitchcock, the owner of Manchester Distillery, has opinions about the order in which a flight-orderer should drink her spirits. She suggests moving from light liquors with some subtle flavors to progressively more assertive ones.

“You might start with our vodka [which has a clean, neutral flavor], then move into our gin, which is a crisp, American, citrusy-forward gin that finishes with classic gin flavors like juniper, coriander, and angelica root,” she said.

“We then offer a taste of our barrel-finished gin,” Hitchcock continued, “which sits in a high char, white oak barrel for 90 days and takes on the color of a whiskey and gives it a great new



Spirits flight at Manchester Distillery. Courtesy photo.



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flavor.” Barrel-aging gin is a fairly recent development in the distilling world, and many such gins are lightly sweetened, she said. “That actually gives me a little bit of a headache, so ours isn’t sweetened at all; it’s just finished in the barrel. Then you probably would move into what we consider a ‘contract whiskey.’ It is a typical whiskey that we have contracted from out of state, brought it in and finished in our own special way. We call it ‘Double Bluff’ because it’s a bit of a fun play on the fact that we’re kind of making up things as we go just like you do when you’re doing a bluff. It’s a bourbon whiskey and it’s got sweet corn with an honest rye. It’s smooth — in fact, even our barrel strength, which you can sometimes get in the tasting room, which is 110 proof, people are surprised at how smooth it is. And then finally, we finish usually with our chocolate liqueur called ‘Speedy,’ which is made with cocoa nibs, French vanilla beans, and sugar, which kind of is like the dessert at the end of the tasting.”

Four cupcake-sized cheesecakes at Big Dog Eats, Home of Choo Choo’s Cheesecakes 20 South St., Milford, 249-5008, bigdogeats.com, \$22

According to Shanna Allen, owner of Big Dog Eats, what makes her cheesecakes uniformly excellent is that they all start with the same perfect cheesecake base.

“Our cheesecakes are always the same flavor,” she said. “It’s the toppings and the crust that change. You always get that same decadent cheesecake that we have.”

A flight of cheesecakes might vary from season to season, Allen said, but, “they almost always have a plain with a graham crust, then some sort of a fruit compote. That’s a classic. The fruit goes on the side, for the people that don’t want anything. We usually have another flavor which we have all the time — maybe an apple crisp, or a turtle, or a plain cheesecake with a chocolate crust. We make different kinds of fruit creams, fresh fruit sauces and compote, lemon and lime curds. That all depends on the season.... Right now, for the end of March, we’ve done pistachio and then for April and for Mother’s Day we’re doing a blueberry-lemon, which has our lemon curd topped with our blueberry compote. Our cheesecakes aren’t inherently too sweet, so it really complements the sauces and toppings. They’re normally garnished with edible flowers.”

While you might think most of these four-packs of cheesecake are bought as gifts, Allen said that isn’t the case.

“We have some people come in twice a week,” she said, “just to get them for themselves to bring home for dinner, and again, for after dinner. A lot of people will get the four and sit and eat and have a cocktail and then they will share like half of each so they try all four flavors.”

Four mimosas or cocktails or mocktails or iced coffees at Friendly Toast Bedford 4 Main St., Bedford, 836-8907, thefriendlytoast.com/bedford-nh, \$19



Cheesecake flight at Big Dog Eats. Courtesy photo.



Drink flights at the Friendly Toast. Courtesy photo.

Drink flights at The Friendly Toast are inspired by one particular time of the week, COO Staci Pinard said.

“We’re known for our brunch,” she said, “but we’re really excited about our bar program as well. For us, what we serve from the bar really needs to match the food. So we recently launched a spring bar menu. So we do a seasonal bar menu and we currently have three featured flights on that. We have three alcoholic flights, and then we have a wellness mocktail flight as well.”

The most popular flight, Pinard said, is a classic mimosa flight.

“This is something we do — rotate with some seasonal flavors. We’re headed into spring, so we designed the mimosas around that.” This includes a ‘Market Square’ mimosa, she said — a classic orange juice-based version. “We have the Rose Berry Bliss,” she said. “This is a new addition to our menu. Most of our mimosas have your classic Champagne on it. This one actually features a really nice rosé prosecco, so you get a nice kind of rosé hint to it. We use our mixed berry jam, which we make fresh in house, and then it has an elderflower liqueur as well. And then fresh lemon juice that we squeeze in house as well.” There is also an “Extra Fancy” mimosa, she said, made with Stiggins’ Fancy Pineapple Rum. This is followed by a blood orange Aperol Spritz.

There is also a spring-themed cocktail flight, Pinard said, called The Secret Garden, with drinks making use of white wine, berries, tequila, coconut water, grapefruit liqueur and several other light, zesty ingredients. There is also a non-alcoholic juice-based flight with carrot ginger turmeric juice, pineapple, kale, guava, and more blood orange.



Espresso martini flight at The Miller's Tavern. Photo by John Fladd.

Three espresso martinis at The Miller's Tavern 1087 Elm St., Manchester, 854-8442, themillerstavern.com, \$20

You've got your choice of two different espresso martini flights at The Miller's Tavern, said bartender Kristyn Merritt — a Light Flight and a Dark Flight.

"The dark has no Baileys," she said, pointing to each martini in turn.

"Here is an Original," she said, "and there's a salted caramel, and a peanut butter. The original does not have a rim, but it gets the three coffee beans." By this she meant that two of the martini glasses had flavorings on their rims. "The salted caramel has caramel vodka, RumChata, and it has caramel and salt on the rim. And then the peanut butter gets chocolate and peanuts on the rim, and has Screwball [a peanut butter flavored whiskey], peanut butter, and the Baileys. The original dark is just Kahlua, vanilla vodka, and espresso."

"It goes without saying that there are some secret ingredients," she said. "They are delicious, but they are secret."

Merritt said the flight is popular after dinner.

"Customers wait till dessert," she said, "and everybody gets a round of espresso martinis. But some people start with it."

Four types of lemonade at The Spot Eatery 1461 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 664-4249, thespoteatery.com, \$12.99

"We have a lot of lemonades that we can actually do," said Jill Lucas, owner of The Spot, "but on our board we feature four of them to go in a flight. One of our baristas came up with most of these and right now we're calling our lemonade flight The Garden Social."

"The first one is a cucumber and honey lemonade. It's got fresh muddled cucumber with honey. The second one is a sunburnt mango lemonade, which is fresh muddled mango with Tajin [a chili-lime spice blend]. The third one is a botanical berry lemonade, which is fresh muddled strawberries and basil. And then the fourth one is a blueberry breeze lemonade, which has fresh muddled blueberries and mint."

"We just started this flight a couple of weeks ago," Lucas said, "but people have started ordering it. We make fresh-squeezed lemonade here, so this seems like a natural for us. We can do hot chocolate flights. We do coffee flights. We do chai flights. We can do, you know, lemonade flights. We do whatever somebody wants." 🍷

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ARTS

Words and wine

Book club gathering in Concord

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Even casual oenophiles know that chardonnay and a soft brie go together well. But what pairs with a Dan Brown novel starring *The Da Vinci Code* symbologist Robert Langdon that blends futuristic science and mystical lore? The answer can be learned at an upcoming book club night at Wine on Main in downtown Concord.

Wine on Main owner Emma Stetson is still working on the wine list for the event but has already chosen a couple to go with *The Secret of Secrets*, Brown's 2025 release. One is French, a Mont Gravet rosé.

"Much of the book takes place in Switzerland, which doesn't have a great deal of wine," she said in an email. "However, France's coastline is right over the border and they make great rosé there."

Another is a Lapis Luna Red Blend, from Northern California. It typically includes cabernet sauvignon, merlot, malbec and barbera. "The label depicts a girl sitting on top of the world and staring at the moon," Stetson said. "It is fitting for this thriller that tackles consciousness and human existence."

While they sip wine, attendees will discuss Brown's book, led by Jocelyn Winn, owner of The Writing Gallery, located further up North Main Street in Concord, across from



Wine on Main book club. Courtesy photo.

the Statehouse. Winn is the founder of editorial services company The Eleventh Letter, and she's also a Pushcart Prize-nominated writer. Winn and Stetson began collaborating on the events a couple of years ago. They happen more or less seasonally.

"She was an English major and now she's a wine connoisseur, so we just kind of get together and talk about different books," Winn

said by phone recently. "For a while we did a lot of what you could call beach reads."

Books previously covered include Liane Moriarty's *Nine Perfect Strangers* and *The Chateau*, a thriller written by Jaelyn Goldis set in the vineyards and markets of Provence, France. Another was *The Perfect Couple*, an Elin Hilderbrand novel that was made into a Netflix series in 2024.

Reading a book ahead of time isn't mandatory, and occasionally it's not even necessary. Winn noted that past gatherings have focused on television shows such as *The White Lotus* and *Downton Abbey*.

Each evening includes props and other touches inspired by whatever work is being discussed, Winn noted.

"The space gets a little bit decorated for the book," she said, "Then Emma has wine and cheese and crackers and usually some sweets. Oftentimes she will create a slideshow."

These visual aids often include maps of viticultural regions found in the literature, which Stetson will use to explain each wine. Winn will intersperse other activities as well.

"We'll do trivia; I'll ask questions and give away prizes or do raffles," she said. "Or they'll put their name in a hat and get some type of book-themed door prize."

The next book club night, in June, focuses on Laura Knoy's wartime novel *The Shop-*

keeper of Alsace and will include a Q&A with Knoy. "That'll be the first one that Emma and I have done together that the author will be present," Winn said, adding that attendees can also ask questions. "It's always amazing as a reader when you can talk to the writer directly."

Winn's unique gallery, which opened late in 2025, continues to grow, with workshops and art exhibitions. Irene Yushin's "Beyond Words" opens April 10. A lifelong visual artist, Yushin overcame severe dyslexia and is now a writer, working on a memoir. Her show will feature her works from "before and after finding words."

Winn is pleased with her gallery's success. "I have been super fortunate and lucky," she said. "It's exactly what I had envisioned, and honestly, I think that's the first time in my life I could say that about anything. How often does everything you envision actually happen, with anything — relationships, jobs, vacations? And it happened fast. It has been, in the best possible way, definitely a whirlwind." 🍷

Book Club Night: *The Secret of Secrets* by Dan Brown

When: Thursday, April 2, 6:30-8 p.m.

Where: Wine on Main, North Main Street, Concord

Tickets: \$34 at eventbrite.com

Art

Opening

• **"Emergence,"** a spring juried members' exhibition, will open Thursday, April 2, and run through Saturday, June 27, at the Center for the Arts Members Gallery, 428 Main St. in New London, with an opening reception slated for Saturday, April 4, from 3 to 5 p.m. "Emergence" highlights artwork inspired by themes of transformation, renewal, and the shifting energy that arrives as spring moves toward summer. The exhibition reflects both the natural transition from cold to warmth and the creative momentum that grows within a supportive arts community," according to a press release. The gallery is open Thursday through Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. See cfanh.org.

• **"Clear To Me,"** a show "focusing on negative space and the balance of light and dark," will run at Mosaic Art Collective, 66 Hanover St., Suite 201, in Manchester Monday, April 6, through Tuesday, April 28, with a reception on Saturday, April 11, from 5 to 7 p.m., according to mosaicart-collective.com.

• **April 9-May 9** show at The Glimpse Gallery, 4 Park St. in Concord, opens Thursday, April 9, with a reception Saturday, April 11, from 5 to 7 p.m., according to theglimpsgallery.com.

Exhibits

• **"Flourishing: Paintings by Wendy Edwards"** is on display at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St. in Manchester, currier.org, through April 5. The Currier is open Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be an Art Talk with Wendy Edwards on Sunday, Jan. 25, at 2 p.m.

• **"Shifting Light"** is on display at Art 3 Gallery, 44 W. Brook St. in Manchester, art3gallery.com. "With the end of daylight savings, reduced daylight hours, and the angle of the sun, there is a literal shifting of light and shadows and this changes how we perceive our familiar yet transformed environment. Figuratively, the shifting of light can act as a beacon and pinpoint changes in how we look at the greater world around us, new angles or narratives that direct personal, social, or political change," according to an email from the gallery, which is open Monday through Friday, 12:30 to 4 p.m.

• **"Party Fouls,"** an exhibit by featured artist Moe Gram, "explores the games and pains of growing up. Themes of play, frustration, empathy, and self-compassion interplay through fields of color and found objects." The exhibit is on display at the Lamont Gallery at Philips Exeter Academy in Exeter through Saturday,

April 11, according to a press release. The gallery is open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., according to exeter.edu/lamont-gallery.

• **"Spring Awakening: Flowers on Silk and Clay"** featuring paintings and ceramics by local artist James Cusmano will be on display at the Peterborough Town Library, 2 Concord St., peterboroughtownlibrary.org, through Thursday, April 23.

• **"Mixing It Up,"** featuring mixed media artists Anne Boedecker, Adele Sanborn, Becky Sawyer, Joy Malcolm, and Sandy Steen Bartholomew, will run through Saturday, April 25, at the Two Villages Art Society, 846 Main St. in Contoocook, according to twovillagesart.org.

• **"After the Storm: American Winter Landscapes,"** an exhibition of historic and contemporary painting, is on display at New Hampshire Antique Co-op, 323 Elm St. in Milford, through April 30. See nhantique-coop.com.

• **"Pairings"** The Art Gallery at Rivier University in Nashua is currently presenting "Pairings," a rotating exhibition featuring two artworks of varying media presented side by side, with a new pairing each week. The exhibition will run through May 1. "Drawing primarily from the University's

permanent collection, the exhibition welcomes visitors with two striking works displayed at the center of the gallery. ... A digital slideshow complements each weekly pairing, offering expanded context including artist biographies, insights into the creative process, and information on the techniques used to bring them to life," the release said. The gallery is open to the public Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall on the Rivier University campus, 435 S. Main St. in Nashua. See rivier.edu/artgallery.

• **"Party Animals,"** an exhibition of linocuts by Bethany Clarke, runs through Saturday, May 2, at McLane Center (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909), which is open Wednesdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., according to nhaudubon.org.

• **"All Kinds of Everything,"** featuring the works of Lucy Mink and Keiko Narahashi, is on display at Outer Space Gallery, 35 Pleasant St. in Concord, through Saturday, May 23. The gallery is open Saturdays from noon to 3 p.m. See outer-spacearts.xyz.

• **"Hope Is,"** an exhibition featuring art inspired by the Emily Dickinson poem "Hope Is The Thing With Feathers" and featuring works by contemporary artists Cynthia Arie-

ta, Samantha Brown, Faith Castillo, Vanessa Falgoust, Abby Fargo, Marti Fuerst, Cristina Henley and Kathryn Winograd, will be on display at Aplomb Gallery, 262 Central Ave. in Dover, theaplombproject.org, through early May.

• **"Frank Lloyd Wright in Manchester: The Histories of the Zimmersmans and Kalils"** is on display at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St. in Manchester, currier.org, through June. The Currier is open Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. See the website for information on visiting the two houses the exhibit discusses.

• **"Strangely Fantastic"** an exhibition featuring the art of Molly C. Meng, is on display in the lobby of the Players' Ring Theatre, 105 Marcy St. in Portsmouth, playersring.org, until the end of the Mainstage season in June. See mollycmeng.com for more on the artist.

• **"Spray: Jules Olitski in the 1960s"** will run through Aug. 9 at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester. The exhibit "invites you to rediscover a modern master who explored the possibilities of color with gumption, vision, and a passion for experimentation," according to currier.org.

• **"A Symphony of Light and Shadow: The Landscape Photography**

of Jeff Dachowski" has returned to LaBelle Winery in Derry, 14 Route 111, and will be a long-term installation, according to a LaBelle press release. "This breathtaking collection showcases Dachowski's masterful black and white landscapes. His work captures the ethereal beauty of misty valleys, rolling hills and the interplay between light and shadow," the release said. The photographs include images of landscapes from around the world, around New Hampshire and from LaBelle Winery in Amherst, the release said. See DachowskiPhotography.com for more about Jeff Dachowski and his work. The gallery is open Monday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; see labellewinery.com.

Museums

Opening

• **"Reflections of the Revolution: The Derryfield Perspective"** The Millyard Museum, 200 Bedford St. in Manchester, will open the new exhibition "Reflections of the Revolution: The Derryfield Perspective" on Wednesday, April 15, according to an email from the museum. "This exhibit will feature stories, portraits and artifacts from several influential characters in America's Revolution," the email said. See manchesterhistoric.org.

Exhibits

- **“If You Had to Choose: Patriots and Loyalists in Revolutionary New Hampshire,”** which “presents the stories of New Hampshire colonists in 1775 and 1776,” is on display through May 30 at the New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park St. in Concord, according to nhhistory.org. The Society is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **“Lafayette’s Visit to New Hampshire,”** about the Marquis de Lafayette’s 1825 visit to the state, is on display through May 30 at the New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park St. in Concord, according to nhhistory.org. The Society is open Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Events

- **“People of Hope: Faith-Filled Stores of Neighbors Helping Neighbors”** a nationwide storytelling museum hosted by Catholic Charities NH, will come to Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive in Manchester on Tuesday, April 21, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Wednesday, April 22, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in a retrofitted trailer offering an immersive experience, according to a press release. See bethethepeople.us/nh.

Theater

Shows

- **Click, Clack Moo,** based on the book by Doreen Cronin and Betsy Lewin, will be on stage at the Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy, 44 N. Main St. in Derry, on Thursday, April 2, at 10 a.m., according to stockbridgetheatre.showare.com, where you can purchase tickets.
- **The Hispanic Flamenco Ballet** will perform for students on Friday, April 3, at 10 and 11 a.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St. in Concord, according to theaudi.org. Call 305-420-6622 for tickets.
- **The Addams Family Musical** presented by Ovation Theatre Company and primarily featuring performers ages 13 to 19, will be on stage at on Friday, April 3, and Saturday, April 4, at 7 p.m. as well as April 4 at 2 p.m. at the Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway in Derry, according to ovationtc.com, where you can purchase tickets
- **Cinderella** will be presented by Southern New Hampshire Youth Ballet as their spring show on Saturday, April 4, at 1 and 4 p.m. See snhd.org for tickets; the show takes place at

the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester, whose website says the show is 75 minutes long with a 15 minute intermission.

- **Something Rotten!** the musical comedy, will be presented by The Anselmian Abbey Players on Fridays, April 10 and April 17, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, April 11 and April 18, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, April 12, at 2 p.m., and Thursday, April 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dana Center at Saint Anselm College in Manchester. See tickets. anselm.edu for tickets.

- **Short Play Fest** featuring six new short plays on Friday, April 10, and Saturday, April 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St. in Manchester. See palacetheatre.org.
- **Flying Gravity Circus** featuring children and teen performers, will hold its spring show “Tales: A Circus Adventure” on Friday, April 10, and Saturday, April 11, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 12, at 2 p.m. at the Peterborough Players Theatre, according to flyinggravitycircus.org, where you can check back for additional details.

- **Don Quixote** will be presented by Safe Haven Ballet this spring with performances at the Capitol Center for the Arts Chubb Theatre, 44 S. Main St. in Concord, on Saturday, April 11, at 4:30 p.m.; at the Music Hall Historic Theatre in Portsmouth on Sunday, April 12, at 4:30 p.m., and at the Nashua Center for the Arts, 201 Main St. in Nashua on Saturday, April 18, at 4:30 p.m. See safehavenballet.org.

- **Airport Encounters** “A hilarious romp and sometimes touching peek at an ‘Anytown Airport’ gate waiting area, as passengers interact before boarding their flights,” according to majestictheatre.net. Presented by The Majestic Theatre, 880 Page St. in Manchester, the production will run Friday, April 17, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 18, at 2 and 7 p.m., and Sunday, April 19, at 2 p.m.
- **Footloose** will run at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester, from Friday, April 17, through Sunday, May 10, with shows on Fridays at 7:30 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. and on Thursday, May 7, at 7:30 p.m. See palacetheatre.org for tickets.

- **Matilda Jr.** will be presented by Epping Community Theatre on Friday, April 17, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; and Saturday, April 18, and Sunday, April 19, at 2 p.m. at the Epping Playhouse, 38 Ladds Lane in Epping,

according to eppingtheatre.org, where you can purchase tickets

Classical

Includes classical, folk, jazz, heritage, pops, American songbook and other musical events.

Events

- **Bach’s Lunch,** a series of lectures and performances, runs the first and second Thursdays of the month, October through May, from 12:10 to 1 p.m. at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St. in Concord, according to ccmusicschool.org. On April 2, the program is “Why Bother? Historical Instruments and Performing Old Music in the Modern Age.” On April 9, the program is “Baroque Music for Flutes and Recorders: Exploring English, French, and German Masters of Chamber Music.”

- **CCMS Spring Folk Gathering** will take place Thursday, April 9, at 6 p.m. at Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St. in Concord, ccmusicschool.org.

- **“Be the Light”** a joint performance of Canterbury Singers and Northern Lights Women’s Vocal Ensemble, on Sunday, April 12, at 6 p.m. at Wesley United Methodist Church, 79 Clinton St. in Concord. Purchase tickets, for \$15, at ccmusicschool.org or by calling 228-1196.

- **“Antonio Vivaldi, Four Seasons and Ralph Vaughan Williams Symphony No. 5** with Special Guest Soloist, David Kim from The Philadelphia Orchestra” will be presented by the New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra on Saturday, April 18, and Sunday, April 19, at 2 p.m. at the Seifert Performing Arts Center in Salem, according to nhphil.org, where you can purchase tickets.

- **“Celebration!” Songweavers 35th Anniversary Concert,** will take place Saturday, April 18, at 5 p.m. at South Congregational Church, 27 Pleasant St. in Concord. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$15 for 65+ and under 17; see ccmusicschool.org.

- **“New Hampshire Passions”** presented by Symphony NH music director finalist Tianhui Ng on Saturday, April 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Keefe Auditorium, 117 Elm St. in Nashua, in a show that will feature a collaboration with Black Hole Symphony as well as a pre-show talk at 6:30 p.m., according to symphonynh.org, where you can purchase tickets.

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MAKER MONTH

Studio 550 Art Center, 550 Elm St. in Manchester, is offering several one-day workshops for April’s Maker Month, which “provides a chance to highlight and play with some of the other diverse and delightful crafts that are out there,” according to a Studio 550 press release. To register see 550arts.com and click on “1-Day Workshops.” Workshops include two on Saturday, April 4, Soft Pastel Florals and Macrame Raindrop Plant Holder; Watercolor “Birds & Feathers” on Saturday, April 11, and two on April 18, Collaborative Song Writer’s Workshop and Ceramic Flower Vase, the release said.



INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Take the guesswork out of coolant levels



By Ray Magliozzi

Even with that limited knowledge, I am able to at least check the oil, tire pressure, and coolant level.

Regarding the coolant level, however, Honda has placed the coolant reservoir so far down under the hood that it is impossible to see the level of coolant. I have tried to guess at the level, but that proved troublesome as my car overheated — luckily right by a gas station.

Any advice on how to check the coolant level in this car? — Ken

Well, the easiest way to check it would be for Honda to finally add a coolant level sensor to its cars, so you'd see an idiot light on the dashboard when your coolant level got low.

A lot of cars have coolant level sensors now. But I've found that most Japanese cars are not among them for some reason. So, you're stuck checking it manually, Ken. And the coolant reservoir is kinda buried on this car. It's on the driver's side, near the radiator, but under other

Dear Car Talk:

I drive a 2014 Honda Civic with only 17,300 miles. My knowledge of cars can be summed up by this: When I turn the key and it doesn't start, I know there is something wrong.

parts of the engine. It looks like a plastic milk jug that got run over by an electric tricycle.

What makes it even harder to see inside of is that the plastic reservoir is kind of milky white, and, as it ages, it gets dirtier, making it harder to see exactly how much of the blue coolant you've got in there, especially in the dark of the engine bay.

I'll give you a few suggestions. First, if you suspect it's low, just fill it. You won't do any harm to the car by overfilling the bottle. If the overflow bottle runs out of room when the car gets hot, any excess will just be expelled. So just park in front of your least favorite neighbor's house.

You can also try shining a high-intensity flashlight through the side of the reservoir, or even down inside it. That can illuminate the coolant, and makes it easier to see its level. Or shake the car a little bit, side to side, and slosh the coolant around a little bit. That can help you see exactly where the level is.

And if you don't have any luck with those two methods, you can fashion your own dipstick, Ken. You'll have to go hunting at your local hardware store for something flexible enough to get through the jogs in the coolant bottle's shape. But maybe you can find a long, thick pipe cleaner, or a long, thick twist tie that would work.

Then you could get in there once with your flashlight, make sure you can thread it all the way to the bottom, and mark the dipstick for mini-

mum and maximum fill points. And then start mass producing them and sell them on eBay to other Honda Civic owners. Visit Cartalk.com.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

This small vase has been in my family for years. My parents got it for a wedding present back in the 1940s. They were both antique collectors so we have a few different pieces from them. It always sat on our dining room server. In the spring my mom would get flowers for it. Now it is mine and I have all the memories that come with it.

Can you give me any information on it? I will pass this on to my son and hopefully give it a new home.

Thank you.

Heidi

Dear Heidi,

First I want to say thank you for all the photos and information.

Your lovely Arts and Crafts Era vase is a Rookwood pottery piece. It dates back to 1912. All this information is imprinted in the bottom of the vase.

Rookwood is an American company out of Ohio. It has an interesting story (worth research-



ing) and some extremely talented artist pieces. It was so popular for its Arts and Crafts matte finishes and patterns.

Rookwood values are based on condition, age, size, artist, and rarity of pieces. Your vase is 5" and a peapod pattern in good condition with no damage. It's in the range of \$150+.

Heidi, I just want to say I think your memories of it are so important in passing it on. Just a tiny piece of paper inside will go a long way. Making family pieces important is all in memories!

Thank you for sharing with us and putting a smile on my face.

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

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Showtime

• **The Hispanic Flamenco Ballet** will perform for students on Friday, April 3, at 10 and 11 a.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St. in Concord, according to theaudi.org. Call 305-420-6622 for tickets.

• Ovation Theatre Company will present **The Addams Family Musical**, primarily featuring performers ages 13 to 19, on Friday, April 3, and Saturday, April 4, at 7 p.m. as well as April 4 at 2 p.m. at the Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway in Derry, according to ovationtc.com, where you can purchase tickets.

• **Cinderella** will be presented by Southern New Hampshire Youth Ballet as their spring show on Saturday, April 4, at 1 and 4 p.m. See snhdt.org for tickets; the show takes place at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester, whose website says the show is 75 minutes long with a 15-minute intermission.

Easter fun

• Hunt for eggs at the **Lions Clubs of Pinardville and Goffstown's Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday, April 4, with 9 a.m. (for ages 1 to 4), 9:45 a.m. (ages 5 to 7) and 10:30 a.m. (ages 8 to 10) start times at Roy Park in Pinardville. Find the clubs on Facebook.

• Carriage Shack Farm, 5 Dan Hill Road in Londonderry, will hold an **Easter Bunny Party** at the Farm on Saturday, April 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to carriageshack-farmllc.org, where you can purchase tickets.

• Charmingfare Farm, 774 High St. in Candia, will wrap up its **Egg-citing Egg Hunt**, geared toward egg hunters ages 2 to 12, this Saturday, April 4, and Sunday, April 5, with entry times from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to visitthefarm.com.



Science!

• Retro-priced \$3 admission continues at the **SEE Science Center**, 200 Bedford St. in Manchester, through Saturday, April 4, to celebrate the Center's 40th birthday. The center opens at 10 a.m. (with a last admission at 3 p.m. on weekdays and 4 p.m. on weekends) and is closed Sunday, April 5, for Easter, according to see-sciencecenter.org.

• The monthly Super Stellar Friday at **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center** in Concord on Friday, April 3, is all about the nocturnal world of caterpillars and moths: "The Caterpillar Lab will present a photograph and video packed talk that explores the nighttime world of caterpillars, moths, and how to find them. ... This special lecture will include time to meet a few special caterpillar specimens up close, try out black-light flashlights, and chat with Caterpillar Lab educators about all things local caterpillar," according to starhop.com. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for the 7 p.m. presentation, and a sky viewing will take place at 9 p.m., weather permitting, according to the website, where you can purchase admission tickets for the program as well as add-on tickets for the 8 p.m. planetarium show. 🐛

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News from the local food scene

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

• **Easter bake sale:** The Assumption Greek Orthodox Church Ladies Philoptochos Society will hold an Easter bake sale on Saturday, April 4, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Assumption church hall (111 Island Pond Road, Manchester, 623-2045, assumptionnh.org). Spinach peta, cheese peta, Greek cookies, Greek pastry, and Easter bread will be available for sale. Quantities are limited. For information call the church office at 623-2045.

• **Easter eats:** LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst; 14 Route 111, Derry; 672-9898, labellewinery.com) will host special Easter Sunday dining at its Amherst and Derry locations Sunday, April 5, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Bistro and Americus Restaurant will both serve the same three-course Easter menu at a set price. Dining takes place in LaBelle's dining rooms and event spaces, accommodating all group sizes, from intimate gatherings to large celebrations. The cost for adults is \$80, and an a la carte children's menu will be available, with items ranging from \$8 to \$15. Advance reservations through the LaBelle website are highly recommended.

• **April's martini-cupcake pairing:** The theme of the Copper Door's (15 Leavy Drive, Bedford, 488-2677, or 41 S. Broadway, Salem, 458-2033, copperdoor.com) martini and cupcake pairing for April is Strawberry Shortcake. This month's featured martini is made from Smirnoff Whipped Cream Vodka, strawberry cream liqueur, white creme de cacao, strawberry syrup, cream and fresh strawberries with a shortcake rim for \$14.75. April's cupcake features a lemon cupcake, with a strawberry preserve filling, cream cheese frosting, fresh whipped cream, a fresh strawberry and a topping of strawberry crumble, for \$11.

• **Wild game dinner:** Join the 603 Brewery (42 Main St., Londonderry, 404-6123, 603brewery.com) to kick off New Hampshire's Craft Beer Week with a five-course pairing dinner featuring 603 Brewery beers and a collection of game dishes. Your ticket includes a Daydreaming/603 Brewery collaboration welcoming beer poured from the cask engine, a five-course dinner and a take-home NH Pint Days 2026 collectors' pint glass. Dishes are served as is, with no substitutions. The dinner will take place Wednesday, April 8, beginning at 6 p.m., at Cask & Vine (1 E. Broadway, Derry, 965-3454, cask.life/cask-and-vine). Tickets are \$99 per person, or \$79 without alcohol. To register, search "603 Brewery Wild Game Night."

• **National Deep Dish Day cooking class:** UNO Pizzeria & Grill (15 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, 226-8667) will host a Deep Dish Piza cooking class and lunch Saturday, 18 ▶

FOOD

A trio of mac

The Goat expands on the idea of traditional macaroni and cheese

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

Erica Fleury has given a lot of thought to macaroni and cheese. She is the owner of The Goat in Manchester, and she considers mac and cheese a very important food.

"I think it goes back to your childhood," she said. "Everybody probably associates [macaroni and cheese] with their childhood. For people of my generation, it was our comfort food when we were kids. So I think they make that association. As a kid in the '80s I definitely had Kraft Macaroni and Cheese, and my mom would make a homemade baked one once in a while; that was always good. And then as I got older I preferred Annie's white cheddar."

Today macaroni and cheese plays an important role at her restaurant. In addition to an entree portion — "It comes with a slice of fresh cornbread and it's delicious," Fleury said — The Goat offers a flight of different interpretations of mac and cheese. (For more on specialty flights at area restaurants, see our cover story on page 8.)

"It comes with three different types of macaroni and cheese," Fleury said. "We have our house-made cheese sauce and we have a version with barbecued brisket, a truffle bacon

version, and one with buffalo chicken with blue cheese."

To Fleury, an ideal macaroni and cheese depends on two factors, texture and cheesiness.

"I think it has to have a homemade cheese sauce with some sharp cheddar in there, so it has a little bit of a bite," she said. "And the pasta has to have some texture — it has to be al dente — preferably spirals. That's what we use. And then you can add specialty ingredients. [Macaroni and cheese] definitely lets you get creative. Everybody has their own version of it and their own toppings and their own way of making it. Again, I think it goes back to how you ate it from your childhood."

The three types of macaroni and cheese on The Goat's flight start with a common base of the same mac and cheese, Fleury said.

"Our flight has small samples of the different versions," she said. "When you're eating our flight, it's more about the toppings. So the base is the same ... but you still get a bunch of different flavor profiles because you have the barbecue sauce on the brisket. We cook the brisket in-house and it melts in your mouth, but not like falling apart. There are solid pieces in there, but it's definitely slow-cooked and delicious, but not to the point where it's like mush, you know?" This gives the dish a contrast in textures.

"Then, the Buffalo mac and cheese has Buffalo chicken," Fleury continued. "It's fried chicken coated in Buffalo sauce, but then there's the drizzle of blue cheese and also blue cheese crumbles, which gives it a complex flavor. You have a lot of different flavors going on with all the versions, but [the Buffalo chicken] definitely changes up the flavor of the whole dish for sure."

Finally there is a version of macaroni and



Courtesy photo.

cheese with bacon and truffles. "It's not super papery thin bacon," Fleury said, "and it's not the thicker bacon that we use on some of our other dishes. We make sure it's crispy and then dice it up and put it on top and it has some truffle oil mixed in there and it gives another really complex flavor with everything mixing together."

"I think people like the flight with all the creative toppings on there, the different flavors," Fleury said, "but mostly, I think they just really like macaroni and cheese." 🍷

Mac & Cheese flight

The Goat (50 Old Granite St., Manchester, 222-1677, goatbarnation.com/manchester) serves macaroni and cheese on its dinner menu throughout the year, but their Mac & Cheese flight is only available during cold months, usually from January through May. The Goat's warm-weather comfort-food flight is centered around queso cheese sauce.

FOOD

Goat cheese and Christmas trees

A look at Hickory Nut Farm and their goats

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

"When I see goats out in the field," said Donna-Lee Woods, "I just cry for those goats inside barns because they don't have Christmas trees. Right over there," she said, pointing to a pile of pine and fir trees that had clearly seen better days, "there's over 300 Christmas trees. They get dropped off from Newmarket and some of the other towns around here. People keep dropping them off all winter."

"But the point is," Woods continued, "the goats love them; it's their forage. That's what makes that healthy, alkaline [goat] milk. Every day, we give them three, four, five trees and

they will eat everything right down to the white core of the trees. They use [the cores] as scratching posts all summer, and then in the fall time, we have a big bonfire."

And in the meantime, there is cheese.

Wood and her husband, both former architects, manage a small herd of dairy goats at Hickory Nut Farm in Lee and use raw goat's milk to make cheese, yogurt and soap, which they sell at area farmers markets.

"We also make a fudge," Wood said, "which is a 1910 recipe. There's no high-fructose corn syrup, so it's not as smooth as most people expect. It's crystal-y. The raw milk yogurt is very good, and the raw milk itself. Our soap is made with edible oils, not industrialized oils,

so there are no chemicals. And you can use it as shampoo, and then you can lather it up and use it as a moisturizer. They use this sort of soap on babies with eczema because it's so pure."

But for the Woodses, it's mostly about the cheese.

"Our cheeses are raw," she said, explaining that heating goat milk during the pasteurization process breaks down some important nutrients and flavor compounds. "We don't pasteurize. But our cheeses age for a minimum of two months at a certain temperature and a certain humidity, 54 degrees temperature and 84 percent humidity." Maintaining those conditions can be particularly tricky in the winter,



Goat at Hickory Nut Farm. Photo by John Fladd.

Woods said one of the things she likes most about selling cheese at markets is being able to talk one on one to customers, who often think they don't like the flavor of goat cheese. They don't understand the role pH plays in flavor, she said.

"I tell people, 'You take a cube of the cheese, just a little cube, and eat half of it. You may not like the flavor, but swallow it, wait a few seconds, then eat the next half. You're probably going to like it.' Because what's happened is the cheese has changed the pH of their palate. Our palates tend to be very acidic because of the types of food we eat." The high pH of goat cheese neutralizes some of that acidity, Wood said. "That's the true flavor of the cheese the second time around."

"When people tell me they don't like goat cheese," Wood said, "I say, 'Do you drink red wine?'" A lot of times they don't because it tastes bitter to them. I tell them, "You probably have a tannin sensitivity because there's a lot of tannin in red wine, just as there is in goat milk, because of what the goats eat."

Like Christmas trees. 🍷

Cheese!

Hickory Nut Farm products are available at the farm (22 York Lane, Lee) and at the Saturday Concord Winter Farmers Market (7 Eagle Square, Concord, downtownconcordwinterfarmersmarket.com). During farmers market season, Hickory Nut Farm products will be available at several area and Boston markets.

she said.

Hickory Nut Farm produces three main varieties of goat cheese: Lacey White, a firm, cheddar-like cheese with a distinct nutty flavor; Terrene, a blue-veined, "goaty" cheese that is aged longer than other varieties, and Chebar, a hard, Parmesan-like salty cheese with a buttery flavor. Woods said the only goat cheese she refuses to make is a traditional soft chevre. "Everybody makes that," she said. "You can find it anywhere, so what is the point in making more of it?"

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FOOD

DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

An unnamed character archetype

This is a drink inspired by a short story I am writing. All the characters are unnamed characters that you see at the very end of the cast credits of a television show or a movie — Bartender, or Jukebox Girl, or Nosy Neighbor. (In case you ever wondered, they have pretty fascinating backstories.)

The hero — actually the heroine — of the piece is a woman with the not very promising name of Hot Girl #2. There is no Hot Girl #1. She turns out to be much more complex and formidable than whoever named her would have ever guessed.

Her cocktail should reflect some of that complexity.

There is sweetness from an Italian liqueur. There is a not-really-in-the-mood-for-your-non-sense kick from brandy. There is lemon juice because — well, reasons. And, much like Hot Girl #2 herself, a couple of surprises.

- Hot Girl #2**
- 2 ounces Pommeau – an apple brandy
 - 1 ounce Galliano – an Italian vanilla-scented liqueur in a seriously tall, skinny bottle
 - 1 ounce fresh squeezed lemon juice
 - ½ ounce grenadine
 - 3 drops rose water

Have your digital assistant play “That Girl” by Maxi Priest and Shaggy. This is a very quick cocktail to make, and this song will set a proper mood for this particular drink.

Wiggle your fingers and get to business.

Add the apple brandy, Galliano and lemon juice to several cubes of ice in a cocktail shaker. Shake thoroughly.

Strain over fresh ice in a rocks glass.

Carefully pour the grenadine over one of the ice cubes. Because it is denser than the rest of the drink, it will sink to the bottom and create a lay-



Hot Girl #2. Photo by John Fladd.

er of red, which will fade into orange, then to the yellow color of the base cocktail.

Using a medicine dropper, add three drops of rose water to the surface of the cocktail, where it will dissipate into the air as you drink, giving the impression that you just missed a beautiful woman disappearing into a crowd.

At its heart, this is a basic utility cocktail — a base spirit, something sweet, and some sort of citrus juice. It is not unlike a brandy sour. The lemon is the dominant flavor at first taste, but the others sneak into your awareness as you sip over the course of 20 minutes or so.

Like our protagonist, the cocktail has hidden depths. 🍷

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 16

April 4, at noon. Ticket includes pizza demonstration and pizza with a salad, a beverage and a dessert. Tickets are \$64.80 through unos.com/cookingclasses.

- **Maple madness:** Averill House Vineyard (21 Averill Road, Brookline, 244-3165, averillhousevineyard.com) will continue to offer its popular Wine Tasting, Maple Wine Cream and Tour, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, April 3 through 5. Each tour will include a tasting of two maple-infused wines, a cup of maple-infused WineCream ice cream, a full wine cellar, winery and 1830s
- **BBQ Easter:** KC's Rib Shack (837 Second St, Manchester, 627-7427, ribshack.net) will host its All-You-Can-Eat Easter Buffet, Sunday, April 5, from 12 to 5 p.m. Expect smoked ham, brisket, pulled pork, ribs and more with side dishes. The cost for adults is \$32, and \$15 for children 5 to 10. Reserve online through facebook.com/kcs-ribshack. 🍷

Tasting Room Tour, and an Averill the Elephant Embossed Souvenir wine glass, according to the event's eventbrite.com page where you can purchase tickets for weekends throughout April.

POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS, MOVIES AND MORE

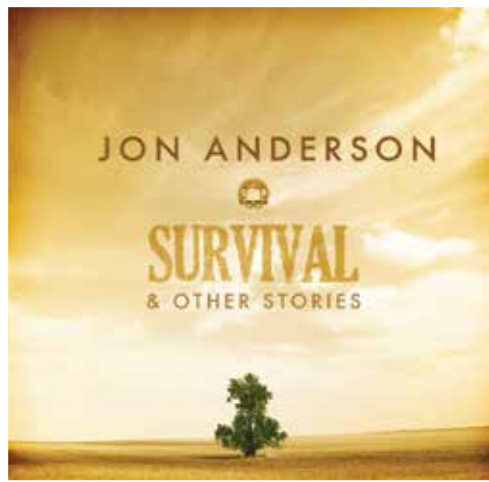
I See Orange, "Wine Boy" (self-released)



Eh, this is fine, if not exactly groundbreaking. This three-piece buzz-band is from the U.K., where they're slowly rolling out what's expected to be a major debut album. They've done showcases at New York City's New Colossus Festival and Austin's SxSW, catapulting their brand of "post-grunge" (in other words grunge) rock into the hype stratosphere, but for now we're relegated to just a few tunes, including this one, whose lyrics focus on Mexican-born singer/bassist Giselle Medina's fascination with the popular consumption of red wine in the U.K., where it's considered a casual social drink, as opposed to Mexico, where it's enjoyed in a more refined, serious manner.

As for the sound, it's choppy, paint-by-numbers Dave Grohl stuff; guitarist Cameron Hill adjusted all the knobs on his Marshall stack to bring maximum earache potential, while Medina's wispy, moonbatty soprano tries to make things interesting but only succeeds in conjuring a metal version of the average *Gilmore Girls* soundtrack tune. This band will go far, I'm sure, but it doesn't deserve it really. **C+** —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

Jon Anderson, *Survival And Other Stories* (Frontiers Music)



This one's for Yes completists only, a vinyl-and-CD re-release of the singer's 2011 LP, which was widely rejected by fans for its lack of progressive rock; Anderson's focus at the time of this release was on New Age feel-good vibes, given that he had just had a health scare. But it's not hopeless at all; the fact is that Yes did a lot of stuff like this back in their early days, stuff that the strummy, upbeat "New New World" resurrects, and yes, I'm talking about the mellower moments of *Close To The Edge*, not to put too fine of a point on it. But OK, "Understanding Truth" jumps the hippy-dippy shark for me, with its unplugged guitar and Anderson's helium-filled, totally-not-falsetto-it's-true vocals settling all the

good yogis down around the campfire. Speaking of yoga class, "Unbroken Spirit" reads like Christopher Franke's 1996 pseudo-soundtrack to *The Celestine Prophecy*, a record that had plenty of similarly nice, pleasant, loping stuff on it. In the end, as I implied, it's for superfans, reiki practitioners, etc. **B+** —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

- Our next album-dump Friday is April 3, two days after April Fool's Day, a national holiday whose origins are uncertain but likely stem from a mix of European traditions. One popular theory blames France's 1564 adoption of the Gregorian calendar, which moved New Year's Day from April 1 to Jan. 1 (which is kind of dumb if you ask me, since one is more likely to die of frostbite after passing out drunk from multiple New Year's toasts in January than in April), and people who were slow to adapt were mocked as "April fools," isn't that kind of transgressive? Well, whatever, nowadays in America pranking people is a national pastime of which I fully approve, especially when it involves someone dumping unwelcome news on me and then going "April fools, no, dummy, **Creed** *isn't* releasing an album with **Justin Bieber**, so you don't have to listen to and review any such thing, had you going though, didn't I?" In that vein, I hope I'm not getting trolled by telling you people that Grammy-winning American bassist **Thundercat** releases his fifth album, *Disappointed*, this week! This one includes feats from A\$AP Rocky, WILLOW, Channel Tres, Lil Yachty and Tame Impala, the latter of which appears on the tune "No More Lies," which I only listened to because focus single "I Wish I Didn't Waste Your Time" rubbed me the right way in a breezy yacht-techno sense. That hinted that the Tame Impala appearance would be even cooler than usual, given that I've liked Tame Impala's mellow-but-edgy approach since the first time I heard them. However, "No More Lies" is slightly louder and more soul-infused than "I Wish..." deep-fried in reverb, like what MGMT would have sounded like if they'd been around in 1974. If you're trying to parse all this information, I'm saying that it's good and you should go check it out.

- Seattle-based drone band **Sunn O)))** is at it again, with a new, self-titled album, because it's so cool to self-title one of your albums after you've already been around for 28 years! If you are totally unaware of these guys you're excused, because their stuff is largely unfolowable on purpose; they specialize in overly long metal-guitar ringouts that go on forever. They're basically a metal version of Yes's *Tales From Topographic Oceans*, an infamous exercise in self-indulgence, but some people have convinced themselves that they get something out of listening to Sunn O))), so I will not argue about it but will instead toddle off to YouTube to listen to the rollout track, "Glory Back," and report back about how self-indulgent it is. Yup, I'm back, a full 10 minutes later, to report that it's tedious, consisting of like five chords played very slowly, but with the guitar tuned so low that it feels like being digested by a tyrannosaurus rex. No, imagine if your little brother bought a vintage Marshall amp and was warming up to play something from Black Sabbath's *Master Of Reality*, but that's all he ever did, strum a few chords as if trying to summon Cthulhu, that's all this is.

- *Cripes* what's next. **Charley Crockett** is a cowboy-hat singer from Texas who sounds like a cross between Jim Croce and Buck Owens on the twangy, lazy single "Kentucky Too Long" from his new LP, *Age Of The Ram*. Why do country music artists always have to have at least one song on every album that name-checks a southern state in the title? No, seriously, text me, because I really want to know.

- We'll call it a week with U.K.-based R&B-popper **Arlo Parks**'s new one, *Ambiguous Desire*! "Impurities" is a very listenable trip-hoppish chillout featuring a full palette of '80s-pop sound; her high-pitched singing fits in pleasantly in the yadda yadda. She'll be in Boston at the Royale on Sept. 1. —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

NOTE: Local (NH) bands seeking album or EP reviews can message me on Twitter/Bluesky (@esaeger) or Facebook (eric.saeger.9).

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POP CULTURE BOOKS

The Official We Do Not Care Club Handbook, by Melani Sanders (Harvest, 203 pages)

If you are a woman of a certain age who spends any time on social media, you've likely encountered Melani Sanders, glasses on her head, glasses on her face, glasses on a lanyard around her neck, speaking deadpan to the camera about the things she doesn't care about.

Sometimes she's wearing a shower cap, too, or has a travel pillow around her neck. The more ridiculous the get-up, the better. It's comedy gold, born in a Whole Foods parking lot.

"Hello, and welcome to all new and existing members of the We Do Not Care Club," she says. "This is a club for all women going through perimenopause, menopause and beyond. We are putting the world on notice that we simply just do not care much anymore."

With dramatic effect, she opens a notebook and takes out a pen, which she uncaps with her mouth. "Let's go ahead and get started with today's announcements."

The announcements are the punchlines — the things Sanders doesn't care about anymore:

We Do Not Care if we are wearing leggings and a graphic tee. We are dressed for the day. We're ready for bed and possibly dressed for

tomorrow.

We Do Not Care if we excel at work. We will be meeting expectations.

We Do Not Care if you have no interest in true-crime stories. Celebrity gossip does not interest us; we need to know why Ann in Toledo offed her husband in 1983.

After the announcements, she invites her audience to send her things they don't care about anymore. Couldn't be simpler. Also couldn't be more viral.

Not even a year after her first "Do Not Care" video hit the internet, Sanders is out with a book, the idea of which will surely thrill her followers. Just the idea — not the book.

What makes Sanders so funny on Instagram — her deadpan delivery — is absent on the printed page, and even the same jokes aren't as funny when you're reading them yourself. Moreover, trying to make her short-form persona become long-form in a book, Sanders has produced a book that is part menopause



primer, part autobiography, part social media posts and part fourth-grade diary. These things do not go together. The wise crone has no use, truly, for any book whose resources include an Official We Do Not Care Club Membership Card, with dotted lines so you can cut it out.

The clippable Letter to Coworkers is probably a joke? Not so the templates for the letters she suggests we send elected representatives supporting menopause care and

research. Peak ridiculousness comes with lyrics to a song — two full pages of lyrics — that begin:

We're the We Do Not Care Club / She's Melani, the fierce leader / Where peri and menopause / Will not ever defeat us.

There were Barney the Purple Dinosaur songs that were more thoughtful and intelligent than this.

A married mom of three, Sanders had a modest social media following with whom she

shared household tips and snippets of family life before she went viral pretty much by accident. It is that story, summarized in a few opening pages, that holds narrative promise, promise snuffed out with the "handbook" format, with its club songs and club patches (like Scouting patches).

The only tolerable parts of this book are the occasional "Real Talk with Melani" pages, where she gives tidbits of her life with her husband and their three sons, before ripping us away for a list of things club members have forgotten ("vacuum cleaner attachments / books we were just reading / sanity") and all manner of trite self-love exercises. Brief bios of honorary members of the Club add no heft, nor do "Challenges of the Day" such as silencing your inner critic.

Sanders's appeal is more than comedy. But the deeper issues she speaks to are not plumbed here.

The Official We Do Not Care Club Handbook is evidence that there are many things worse than social media, and one of them is books born of social media. By all means, if you enjoy cutting dotted lines with safety scissors, there is fun to be had with this book. If not, just find Sanders on social media. She's a queen there, deservedly. Not in this book. **D** — Jennifer Graham

Books

Author events

• **Yann Martel** will talk about his new novel, *Son of Nobody*, on Saturday, April 4, at 7 p.m. at Music Hall Historic Theater (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusicall.org). Ticket packages cost \$46 and include a signed book.

• **Hester Kaplan** will talk about her memoir, *Twice Born: Finding My Father in the Margins of Biography*, on Wednesday, April 8, at 6:30 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com). Kaplan will be in conversation with fellow author David Elliot.

• **Duncan Watson**, manager of Keene's solid waste program, will talk about his book, *Everyone's Trash: One Man Against 1.6 Billion Pounds*, on Thursday, April 9, at 6 p.m. at the Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester, 634-6550, manchesterlibrary.org). Personalized copies of the book will be

available for purchase at the event.

• **Chanda Prescod-Weinstein** will talk about her latest book, *The Edge of Space-Time: Particles, Poetry, and the Cosmic Dream Boogie*, on Saturday, April 11, 1-2 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com).

• **William Edmund Fahey** will talk about his new book, *New Hampshire and Independence: Rediscovered Writings from the Sons of the American Revolution*, on Saturday, April 11, at 2 p.m. at Balin Books (375 Amherst St., Nashua, balinbooks.com).

• **Kathleen Bailey** will talk about her book *New Hampshire War Monuments: The Stories Behind the Stones*, on Tuesday, April 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Pembroke Town Library (313 Pembroke St., 485-7851, pembroke-library.org).

• **Jennifer Finney Boylan with Jodi Picoult** will talk about Boylan's book *Cleavage: Men, Women, and the Space Between Us*

on Tuesday, April 14, at 7 p.m. at The Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusicall.org). Ticket packages cost \$34 and include a signed book.

• **Duncan Watson**, manager of Keene's solid waste program, will talk about his book, *Everyone's Trash: One Man Against 1.6 Billion Pounds*, on Saturday, April 18, at 1 p.m. at the McLane Center (84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909). Register at nhandubon.org/event to attend.

• **Sara Hall**, professional distance runner, will talk about her book *For the Love of the Grind* on Tuesday, April 21, at 7 p.m. at The Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusicall.org). Ticket packages cost \$45 and include a signed book.

• **Kathleen Bailey** will talk about her book *A History Lover's Guide to New Hampshire* on Wednesday, April 22, at 6 p.m. at the Bixby Library (52 Main St., Franconstown, 547-2730).

• **Rebecca Mahoney** will talk about her new campus horror novel, *Thrall*, on Wednesday, April 22, at 6:30 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com).

History, stories, discussions & lectures

• **AI and Human Values** talk with philosophers Harvey Lederman, Henry Shevlin and Beba Cibralic on Thursday, April 2, at 5:30 p.m. at The Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusicall.org). The evening will culminate in a panel discussion by Nir Eisikovitz and James Hughes, co-hosts of the Prosthetic Gods podcast. Free but RSVP is required; tickets available at the website beginning March 5 at noon.

• **NH Forests — Past, Present and Future** talk with Dave Anderson of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests on Tuesday, April 7, 7-8:30 p.m. at Fox Forest's Baldwin

Environmental Center (309 Center Road, Hillsborough). The event is free to the public. RSVPs are strongly encouraged; visit forest-society.org or contact tripley@forestsociety.org with questions.

• **Indivisible: Daniel Webster and the birth of American nationalism** presented by Joel Richard Paul on Wednesday, April 8, at 6 p.m. at the NH Institute of Politics (50 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester). Paul is emeritus professor at UC Law San Francisco. See nhhumanities.org.

• **Life on the Seas, Life with the Bees** presentations on Wednesday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m. at Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord), part of the Walker Lecture Series. Free, no registration required. Former Merchant Marine helmsman Fred Richards presents a photo tour of his two voyages in the 1970s with the U.S. Navy. Jim and Katie Watt share the story behind the founding of the Concord Bee Co.

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Send Help (R)

Rachel McAdams is a kooky delight as an overlooked office worker who blossoms into her best, insane self when she is stranded on a tropical island in this fun, queasy-making thriller. (Eye stuff, puking, big oozy gashes — this movie has it all!)

Linda Little (McAdams) is passed over for promotion by her new nepo-hire boss, Bradley (Dylan O'Brien). Though smart and capable, Linda is also awkward and messy and covered in tuna fish sandwich flecks when Bradley is first reintroduced to her. He nevertheless brings her along for a business conference in Thailand — for work purposes because she can solve the problems his dumb college buddy (who got the job she wanted) can't but maybe also to have someone to bully. One of the dudes in the bro-pack accompanying Bradley has found Linda's *Survivor* audition video, which reinforces both how deeply uncool she is and also her wildlife knowledge bonafides. Chekhov's fire-making skills do not have long to foreshadow as the plane goes down (gruesomely!) and Linda is soon set adrift in a stormy sea. When she washes up on the island, she finds that an injured Bradley has also survived and sets about making shelter and a fire and finding food for them both. After he makes a few stabs at telling her how to island, Linda reminds him that, as she says in the trailer, they're not in the office anymore and the power balance is not as it was.

Bradley of course deserves every gross thing that happens to him. The movie nicely never lets him learn and grow; he is an unlike-



Send Help

able wienie throughout. But the movie doesn't just paint Linda as a poor wronged nerd who never learned to dress for success. She has weird, potentially violent, layers and her time on the island awakens not just confidence but a gleeful enjoyment of her power over a former tormentor.

And sure, this could all come off as nasty in a way that would be less enjoyable to watch. But McAdams is having so much fun here — reveling in the darkness of Linda as much as the earnestness. For me, the fun is what makes *Send Help* such a solid good time, with its winky needle drops and its dark comedy sensibilities. **B+** Available for rent or purchase. 🍷

Film

Venues

- Bank of NH Stage in Concord** 16 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, banknhstage.com
- Capitol Center for the Arts** 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
- Chunky's Cinema Pub** 707 Huse Road, Manchester, chunkys.com
- Cinemark Rockingham Park** 12 15 Mall Road, Salem
- Fathom Entertainment** fathomentertainment.com
- The Flying Monkey** 39 Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
- Milford Drive-In** 531 Elm St., Milford, milforddrivein.com
- The Music Hall** 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org
- O'Neil Cinemas Londonderry** 16 Orchard View Drive, Londonderry, 877-666-8437, londonderry.oneilcinemas.com
- Park Theatre** 19 Main St., Jaffrey, theparktheatre.org
- Red River Theatres** 11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, redrivertheatres.org
- Regal Fox Run Stadium** 15 45 Gosling Road, Newington, regmovies.com
- Rex Theatre** 23 Amherst St., Man-

- chester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
 - Smitty's Cinema** 630 W. Main St., Tilton, 286-3275, smittyscinema.com
 - The Strand** 20 Third St., Dover, 343-1899, thestranddover.com
 - Wilton Town Hall Theatre** 40 Main St., Wilton, wiltontownhalltheatre.com, 654-3456
- Film**
- **Project Hail Mary** (PG-13, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, April 2, at 3:45 & 7 p.m. (plus 12:30 on April 1); Friday, April 3, through Sunday, April 5, 12:15, 3:45 & 7 p.m.; Monday, April 6, through Thursday, April 9, at 3:45 & 7 p.m. (plus 12:15 p.m. on April 8)
 - **Pillion** (R, 2025) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, April 2, 4:15 & 7:15 p.m. (plus 1:30 p.m. on April 1).
 - **Ben-Hur** (1959) will screen via Fathom Entertainment on April 2. See fathomentertainment.com for times and theater locations.
 - **The Super Mario Galaxy Movie** (PG, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord, Thursday, April 2, at 12:45, 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Friday, April 3, through Sunday, April 5, at 12:30, 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Monday, April 6, and Tuesday, April 7, at 4:30 & 7:15 p.m.; Wednesday, April 8, at 12:30, 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Thursday, April 9, at 4:30 & 7:15 p.m.

- **The King of Kings** (1927) Cecil B. DeMille's silent film version of the life of Jesus will screen with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapis on Thursday, April 2, at 7 p.m. at the Flying Monkey in Plymouth.
- **The Drama** (R, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Friday, April 3, through Sunday, April 5, at 12:45, 4 & 7:15 p.m.; Monday, April 6, and Tuesday, April 7, at 4 & 6:45 p.m.; Wednesday, April 8, at 12:45, 4 & 7:15 p.m.; Thursday, April 9, at 4 & 6:45 p.m.
- **Night Train to Munich** (1940) will screen Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m. at Sweeney Hall Auditorium on the campus of NHTI in Concord. The cost is \$10, cash or check at the door. Park in Lot C.
- **The Ten Commandments** (1923) Cecil B. DeMille's silent film version of the story will screen with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapis on Sunday, April 5, at 2 p.m. at the Wilton Town Hall Theatre.
- **The Biggest Little Farm** (PG, 2019), a documentary about Apricot Lane Farms in southern California, will screen at Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St. in Concord, on Saturday, April 18, at 10 a.m., according to redrivertheatres.org, where you can purchase tickets and find more upcoming screenings.



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THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

- **Organized:** A listening room show with food and wine served features J3ST, a Concord-based organ trio led by Tom Robinson on the Hammond. Scott Solsky's seven-string guitar takes on half of the bass role, with drummer Jared Steer holding down his share of the rhythm. Thus, the vintage keyboard is out front, as the group delivers jazz, soul and funk grooves for a smooth, elegant show. Thursday, April 2, at 7 p.m., Hermit Woods Winery, 72 Main St., Meredith, \$18, eventbrite.com.

- **Loudness:** Bring headphones for the kids, or better yet leave them home as **Chiburi** leads a five-band show promising lots of volume. The most recent release from the Granite State post-metal band is the relentless *Exquisite Corpse, Part 1*, released in 2024. Rounding out the raucous lineup are Lobotomobile, Miracle Blood, Lacquerhead and Noise Sludge. Friday, April 3, at 8 p.m., Terminus Underground, 134 Haines St., Nashua, \$15, newhampshireunderground.org.

- **Rumblin':** Feel big drops, deep grooves and pulsing rhythm at a night of electronic dance music led by **Space Wizard**, a Colorado-based DJ and producer known for blending old and new sound for a new kind of dubstep. Special guests Slang Dogs, also from Denver, promise an "immersive audio visual experience," with Aionow, She-Wolf and Swamp Wizard also performing at this Hachi event. Friday, April 3, at 8 p.m., Jewel Music Venue, 61 Canal St., Manchester, \$34, posh.vip.

- **Stratophied:** Many's the musician that travels to Nashville for country music fame, but not **Jax Hollow**. The rough and tumble singer/guitarist left Boston for Music City with rock 'n' roll dreams and a gritty bit of blues to boot. Rolling Stone France compared her to "an early Sheryl Crow or Melissa Etheridge," who she opened for at the Ryman Auditorium with a "Hendrixian" solo set. Saturday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m., Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St., Manchester, \$40, palacetheatre.org.

- **Showtiming:** Theater kids and cosplay fans will enjoy **Broadway Rave**, a pair of shows brimming with show tunes and dancing, along with a healthy helping of dressing up. The event promises sing-alongs to songs from favorite musicals like *Wicked*, *Hamilton*, *Rent*, *Mamma Mia!* and more. Audience members are encouraged to don the attire of a favorite character for the entertaining all-ages event. Saturday, April 4, at 4 and 7:30 p.m., BNH Stage, 16 S. Main St., Concord, \$23, ccanh.com. 🍷

NITE

Good chemistry

Jon Butcher and Diane Blue join together at Tupelo

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Collaborations make the rock and blues world go 'round. Like Shades of Blue, led by psychedelic guitar hero Jon Butcher and singer Diane Blue, also a talented harmonica player. The band includes a rhythm section of AJ Vallee and John Ryder on drums and bass, along with guitarist Chuck Farrell.

Farrell, the force behind revival band Once An Outlaw, made the group happen.

"He put together a combo and said, 'I'd like to have you and Jon Butcher featured in front,'" Blue recalled recently. "The first time we performed together, it was undeniable chemistry on stage. We were like, 'We should make this a thing.' Now it's a thing."

There is inspiring give and take between the fiery Stratocaster playing of Butcher, a New England Music Hall of Fame inductee, and Blue's soulful singing. The two move between blues rockers like "Born Under A Bad Sign," Bill Withers' soulful "Use Me" and a blistering rendition of Hendrix's "Red House."

Another set highlight is a revved-up duet of the '60s nugget (later a Grand Funk hit) "Some Kind of Wonderful." Butcher will use the song to introduce Blue on harmonica and ask her how she learned to play it. "Nothin' to it, you just suck and blow," she'll reply with a laugh, adding, "that's what an old blues man told me, anyway."

The real story about that goes back to Blue's beginnings as a performer, singing in her living room with guitar player Paul White and later cutting her professional teeth in Newport, Rhode Island, venues like the Blues Café. She took up the mouth harp at White's behest.

Shades of Blue w/ special guest James Montgomery

When: Saturday, April 4, at 8 p.m.
Where: Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St., Derry
Tickets: \$45 at tupelohall.com



Courtesy photo.

"Honk on this and see what you can do," she recalled White telling her. "Because there are a lot of chicks who can sing, but you'll differentiate yourself from the crowd if you have something special that you can offer ... see if you can get good at it.' So I tried, and I just kept trying. I'm still trying."

Blue got a big boost when Ronnie Earl caught her in a coffee shop in the early 2010s and invited her to sit in at his shows. In 2014 she became the first female member of the Boston blues legend's band.

"What struck me was her ability to sing anything, from Sam Cooke to blues," Earl said in a 2025 Blues Blast story. "She has a natural voice, a beautiful voice."

She's still with them, but performing with Shades of Blue is different.

"My job is to sing and to make sure that he's OK on stage," she said of Earl. "John Butcher and I have a mutual respect; we egg each other on to really strut our stuff. This is a chance for

me to shine with a very strong backing band and all the encouragement to be the star of the show."

Some of Blue's solo cuts are in the set, like a rocking cover of Carol Fran's Louisiana jump blues nugget "Knock Knock," from her 2019 LP *Look For The Light*. The high points, however, happen when Butcher and Blue trade off. Bo Diddley's "Mona" and "Spider In My Web," a growling blues song written by Alvin Lee of Ten Years After, are good examples.

After doing just a few shows last year, Shades of Blue's calendar is filling. A Tupelo Music Hall show on April 4 will be a twofor, with high-kicking harp player and singer James Montgomery sharing a band.

"James and I have co-billed on some of these Chuck Farrell productions in the past," Blue said. "What usually happens is I do a set, and then he'll do one." 🍷

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Weekly comedy nights

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

Events

- **Karen Morgan** BNH Stage in Concord, ccanh.com, Thursday, April 2, 7:30 p.m.
- **Jonathan van Halem** Music Hall Lounge in Portsmouth, themusichall.org, Friday, April 3, 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m.
- **Tom Cotter** Rex in Manchester, palacetheatre.org, Friday,

- April 3, 7:30 p.m.
- **Amy Tee & Anthony Eugeio** The Barley House in Concord, thebarleyhouse.com, 7 p.m.
- **Comedy Night with Dave Andrews, Paul Landwehr & Doug Stith** with music from Jam Tomorrow, Rockingham Ballroom in Newmarket, rockinballroom.club, Saturday, April 4, 7 p.m.
- **Alex Giampapa** Headliners in Manchester, headlinersnh.com, Saturday, April 4, 8 p.m.
- **Carolyn Plummer** Chunky's in Manchester, chunkys.com, Saturday, April 4, 8:30 p.m.
- **Queen City Improv** Stark

- Brewing Co. in Manchester, starkbrewingcompany.com, Monday, April 6, 7 p.m.
- **Mae Martin** Chubb Theatre in Concord, ccanh.com, Thursday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.
- **Bob Marley** Palace Theatre in Manchester, palacetheatre.org, Friday, April 10, 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, April 11, 8 p.m.
- **Amy Tee** Headliners in Manchester, headlinersnh.com, Saturday, April 11, 8 p.m.
- **Frank Santorelli** Chunky's, in Manchester, chunkys.com, Saturday, April 11, 8 p.m.
- **Craig Ferguson** Chubb Theatre in Concord, ccanh.com,

Sunday, April 12, 7 p.m.

- **Garrison Keillor/Richard Dworsky** Music Hall in Portsmouth, themusichall.org, Thursday, April 16, 7 p.m.
- **Brian Glowacki/Jeff Koen** Tupelo in Derry, tupelomusichall.com, Friday, April 17, 8 p.m.
- **Hasan Hates Ronny** Casino Ballroom in Hampton, casinoballroom.com, Saturday, April 18, 7 p.m.
- **Brad Mastrangelo** Headliners in Manchester, headlinersnh.com, Saturday, April 18, 8 p.m.
- **Steve Bjork** McCues in Portsmouth, mccuescomedyclub.com, Saturday, April 18, 8 p.m.



Carolyn Plummer

- **Mike Hanley** Chunky's in Manchester, chunkys.com, Saturday, April 18, 8:30 p.m.
- **Michael Palascak** Music Hall Lounge in Portsmouth, themusichall.org, Sunday, April 19, 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.

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Auburn

Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road, 622-6564

Barnstead

JJ Goodwin's: 769 Suncook Valley Road, 269-0059

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

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

LaBelle Winery 14 Route 111, 672-9898

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

Blasty Bough Brewing Co. 3 Griffin Road, 738-4717

Hill Top Pizzeria 1724 Dover Road, 736-0027

Exeter

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

Shooters Pub 6 Columbus Ave., 772-3856

Farmington

Hawg's Pen 1114 Route 11, 755-3301

Gilford

Patrick's 18 Weirs Road, 293-0841

Goffstown

Village Trestle 25 Main St., 497-8230

Hampton

Bogie's 32 Depot Square, 601-2319

The Galley Hatch (Tino's Kitchen is upstairs), 325 Lafayette Road, 926-6152
The Goat 20 L St., 601-6928

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

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

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

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

405 405 Union St.
Fratello's 799 Union Ave., 528-2022

Londonderry

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

Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road, 432-3210

Manchester

Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545

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.

Great North Aleworks 1050 Holt Ave., 858-5789

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

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

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

Shaskeen Pub 909 Elm St., 625-0246

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

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

Strange Brew 88 Market St., 666-4292

Meredith

Twin Barns Brewing 194 DW Highway, 279-0876

Merrimack

Homestead 641 DW Highway, 429-2022

Tortilla Flat 595 DW Highway, 424-4479

Milford

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

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

Union Public House 194 Main St., 699-8112

New Boston

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

Pembroke

Cavern Sports Bar 351 Pembroke St., 485-7777

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

Penacook

American Legion Post 31 11 Charles St., 753-9372

Pittsfield

Over the Moon 1253 Upper City Road, 216-2162

Plaistow

Sweet Hill Farm 82

Newton Road, 974-7279

Portsmouth

The Gas Light 64 Market St., 430-9122

Mojo's West End Tavern 95 Brewery Lane, 436-6656

Press Room 77 Daniel St., 431-5186

Thirsty Moose Taphouse 21 Congress St., 427-8645

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

Warner

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

Thursday, April 2

Bedford

Copper Door: Andrea Paquin, 7 p.m.

Concord

Hermanos: Joey Placenti, 6:30 p.m.

Derry

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

LaBelle: Northern Cross, 7:15 p.m.

Epping

Telly's: Tim Theriault, 7 p.m.

Epsom

Blasty Bough: Iona Lane, 7 p.m.

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

Farmington

The Hawg's Pen: open mic, 7 p.m.

Hampton

L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.

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

Hudson

The Bar: Corey McLane, 6 p.m.

Luk's: Jimmy D, 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 & Grill: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.

Fratello's: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: D-Comp Trio, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Fratello's: Tyler Levs, 5:30 p.m.

Merrimack

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

Tortilla Flat: Lewis Goodwin, 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.

Shorty's: Ralph Allen, 5:30 p.m.

Union Public House: Matt Jackson, 5:30 p.m.

Pembroke

Pembroke City Limits: Castle Island, 7 p.m.

Pittsfield

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

Portsmouth

Black Rock: Freddie Catalfo, 5 p.m.

Salem

Copper Door: Jodee Frawlee, 7 p.m.

Seabrook

Backyard Burgers: live music, 6 p.m.

Warner

The Local: Anthony St. Peter, 5 p.m.

Friday, April 3

Alton Bay

Foster's Tavern: Willy Chase, 6 p.m.

Bedford

Murphy's: Andrea Paquin, 6 p.m.

Concord

Hermanos: Dan Haedicke, 6:30 p.m.

Derry

Fody's: Mike G, 8 p.m.

Dover

Revo: Samantha Rae Band, 8 p.m.

Epping

Holy Grail: Peter Pappas, 6 p.m.

Telly's: Kitchen Party, 8 p.m.

Hampton

Galley Hatch: Brian Walker, 5 p.m.

L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.

Wally's: Curmudjun, 9 p.m.

Hudson

Lynn's 102: karaoke w/George Bisson, 8 p.m.

Kingston

Saddle Up Saloon: Matty and The Penders, 8:30 p.m.

Laconia

405 Pub & Grill: Chris Torrey, 7 p.m.

Fratello's: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.

Lee

Flag Hill: Matt Jackson, 5 p.m.

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Paul Lussier, 6 p.m.

Stumble Inn: Heartbeat City, 8 p.m.

Manchester

Backyard Brewery: Tim Kierstead, 6 p.m.

Derryfield: The Slakas, 8:30 p.m.

The Foundry: Ryan Allen Meier, 6 p.m.

Fratello's: Kat Ivy, 5:30 p.m.

The Goat: Dr. Slick, 9 p.m.

Pizza Man: Jennifer Mitchell, 5:30 p.m.

Shaskeen: Drive Safe, Have Fun, Pre-game Rituals, Crash The Net, 8 p.m.

Stark Brewing: Paul Hodes & The Blue Buddha Band, 6:30 p.m.

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

Merrimack

Homestead: Casey Roop, 5:30 p.m.

Milford

Riley's: Stoned Wasp, 8 p.m.

Nashua

Casey Magee's: karaoke, 9:30 p.m.

Fody's: Dotted Lines, 10 p.m.

Lost Cowboy: Annie Brobst, 7:30 p.m.

Pembroke

Pembroke City Limits: Ramez Gurung, 7 p.m.

Penacook

American Legion Post 31: live music, 7 p.m.

Pittsfield

Over the Moon: Mooch Miller and the Handouts, 6 p.m.

Plaistow

Sweet Hill Farm: live music, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth

Gas Light: Jason Michelson, 9:30 p.m.

Press Room: The Stray Horses, 7 p.m.

Thirsty Moose: DJ Chad Banks, 9:30 p.m.

Salem

Dreo: Phil Jacques, 7 p.m.

Seabrook

Red's: Chad LaMarsh, 8 p.m.

Saturday, April 4

Alton Bay

Foster's Tavern: Dan Fallon, 6 p.m.

Bedford

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Meredith
Twin Barns: Mikey G, 5 p.m.

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

Milford
Riley's: SoulTown Band, 8 p.m.

Nashua
Peddler's Daughter: Category 5, 9:30 p.m.

Pembroke
Pembroke City Limits: Justin Federico, 7 p.m.

Pittsfield
Over the Moon: Gus & Jean, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth
Black Rock: Down By Ten, 6 p.m.
Gas Light: Andrea Paquin, 9:30 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Pick 6, 9:30 p.m.

Salem
Dreo: Chad LaMarsh, 7 p.m.

Seabrook
Red's: Ignite, 8 p.m.

Sunday, April 5
Bedford
Copper Door: Chuck Alaimo, 11 a.m.
Murphy's: Ed Chenoweth, 10 a.m.; Steve Aubert, 10 a.m.

Concord
Hermanos: Daniel Weiner, 6:30 p.m.

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

Hudson
Lynn's 102: On Two Acoustic Duo, 4 p.m.

Laconia
Fratello's: Denise Sanborn, 5:30 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: J-Lo Duo, 4 p.m.

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

Portsmouth
Black Rock: 603's, 5 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Phil Jacques, 11 a.m.

Monday, April 6
Dover
Cara Irish Pub: open mic, 8 p.m.

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

Hudson
The Bar: karaoke with Phil, 8 p.m.

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

Manchester
The Goat: 603 line dancing, 7 p.m.
Salona: music bingo with Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

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

Seabrook
Backyard Burgers: Good Vibes Music Bingo w/ Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, April 7
Concord
Barley House: Irish session, 6 p.m.
Hermanos: Krimson Krewe, 6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: open mic, 8 p.m.

Hampton
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.

Kingston
Saddle Up Saloon: line dancing, 7 p.m.

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

Manchester
Fratello's: Stephen Decuire, 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: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.

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

Portsmouth
Press Room: The Jazz Jam, 6 p.m.

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

Wednesday, April 8
Atkinson
Merrill's Tavern: Ricky Lauria, 8:30 p.m.

Barnstead
JJ Goodwin's: music bingo w/ Jennifer Mitchell, 6 p.m.

Concord
Hermanos: Cinnamon Jazz Trio, 6:30 p.m.
Tandy's: karaoke, 8 p.m.
Uno Pizzeria: Anthony St. Peter, 6 p.m.

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

Hampton
Bogie's: open mic w/ Ben Butterworth, 7:30 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
Wally's: The Last Ten Seconds of Life, 8 p.m.

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

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

Manchester
Fratello's: Chris Taylor, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: 603 line dancing, 7 p.m.
Stark Brewing: Cox karaoke, 8 p.m.
Strange Brew: open mic w/ Jordan Quinn & Scott Armstrong, 8 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Jamie Hughes, 5:30 p.m.

Milford
Riley's: karaoke, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
Press Room: Takaat w/ The Macrotones & Muddy Ruckus, 6 p.m.

Seabrook
Red's: Clint Lapointe, 7 p.m.

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NITE MUSIC & EVENTS

Concerts

- **Goldpine** Thursday, April 2, 7 p.m., Word Barn in Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Iona Lane** Thursday, April 2, 7 p.m., Blasty Bough in Epsom, blastybough.com
- **J3ST** Thursday, April 2, 7 p.m., Hermit Woods in Meredith, hermitwoods.com
- **NH Ukuladies** Thursday, April 2, 7:30 p.m., Concord City Auditorium, theaudi.org
- **Chris Thile** Thursday, April 2, 7:30 p.m., Chubb Theatre in Concord, ccanh.com
- **Urgent** (Foreigner tribute) Thursday, April 2, 7:30 p.m., Palace in Manchester, palacetheatre.org
- **Adam Ezra Group** Thursday, April 2, 7:30 p.m., Rex in Manchester, palacetheatre.org
- **Melissa Etheridge** Thursday, April 2, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton, casinoballroom.com
- **Northern Cross** (Crosby Stills Nash & Young tribute) Thursday, April 2, 8 p.m., LaBelle Derry, labellewinery.com
- **Stray Horses** (Neil Young tribute) Friday, April 3, 7 p.m., Press Room in Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **Talib Kweli** Friday, April 3, and Saturday, April 4, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Jimmy's in Portsmouth, jimmysoncongress.com
- **Dueling Pianos** Friday, April 3, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey in Plymouth, flyingmonkeynh.com
- **Slack Tide/Cosmic Blossom** Friday, April 3, 8 p.m., Stone Church in Newmarket, stonechurchrocks.com
- **Curmudjun** Friday, April 3, 9 p.m., Wally's in Hampton, wallysnh.com
- **Cormac McCarthy** Saturday, April 4, 4 p.m., Stone Church in Newmarket, stonechurchrocks.com
- **Aces & Eights** Saturday, April 4, 7 p.m., Andres Institute in Brookline, andresinstitute.org
- **Scott Kirby/Ashley Bathgate** Saturday, April 4, 7 p.m., Music Hall Lounge in Portsmouth, themusichall.org
- **Eliza Edens/Louisa Stancioff** Saturday, April 4, 7 p.m., Word Barn in Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Justin Federico** Saturday, April 4, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits, pembrokecitylimits.com
- **Jax Hollow** Saturday, April 4, 7:30 p.m., Rex in Manchester, palacethe-

atre.org

- **AF2K** (Rush tribute) Saturday, April 4, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's in Portsmouth, jimmysoncongress.com
- **The Fools** Saturday, April 4, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton, casinoballroom.com
- **Shades of Blue: Jon Butcher & Diane Blue/James Montgomery** Saturday, April 4, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry, tupelomusichall.com
- **Organically Good Trio** Saturday, April 4, 8 p.m., Wally's in Hampton, wallysnh.com
- **Liz Frame & the Kickers/Todd Hearon** Saturday, April 4, 8 p.m., Stone Church in Newmarket, stonechurchrocks.com
- **Klezmer Conservatory Band** Monday, April 6, 2 p.m., Concord City Auditorium, theaudi.org
- **Rockingham Groove** Monday, April 6, 7 p.m., Jimmy's in Portsmouth, jimmysoncongress.com
- **Alchemy/Louzy/Set the Bar Low/Mother Nimbus** Monday, April 6, 7:30 p.m., Press Room in Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **Lake Street Dive** Tuesday, April 7, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall in Portsmouth, themusichall.org
- **Jane Siberry** Wednesday, April 8, 7 p.m., Word Barn in Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Takaat/Muddy Ruckus** Wednesday, April 8, 7 p.m., Press Room in Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **The Prodigals** Wednesday, April 8, 7:30 p.m., Concord City Auditorium, theaudi.org
- **Club D'Elf** Wednesday, April 8, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's in Portsmouth, jimmysoncongress.com
- **The Last 10 Seconds of Life** Wednesday, April 8, 8 p.m., Wally's in Hampton, wallysnh.com
- **Lissa Schneckeburger, Nick Gareiss and Garrett Cameron** Thursday, April 9, 7 p.m., Word Barn in Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Skunk Jesus** Thursday, April 9, 7 p.m., Hermit Woods in Meredith, hermitwoods.com
- **Blues on the Corner** Thursday, April 9, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy's in Portsmouth, jimmysoncongress.com
- **Todd Hearon/Other Brother Darryl** Thursday, April 9, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall Lounge in Portsmouth, themusichall.org
- **Dueling Pianos** Thursday, April 9, 8 p.m., BNH Stage in Concord, ccanh.com

com

- **Clint Black** Thursday, April 9, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton, casinoballroom.com
- **RBR IV: Chambers-Deslauriers/The Blues Express** Thursday, April 9, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry, tupelomusichall.com
- **Fleetwood Macked** Thursday, April 9, 8 p.m., LaBelle Derry, labellewinery.com
- **The Orrs/Rick Rude & Two Thousands** Thursday, April 9, 8 p.m., Press Room in Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **The Sheila Divine** Thursday, April 9, 8 p.m., Stone Church in Newmarket, stonechurchrocks.com
- **Caroline Spence** Friday, April 10, 7 p.m., Word Barn in Exeter, thewordbarn.com
- **Lucy Kaplansky** Friday, April 10, 7 p.m., Music Hall Lounge in Portsmouth, themusichall.org
- **Finestkind/Cilla Bonnie** Friday, April 10, 7 p.m., Press Room in Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **Something Wonderful Tonight** (George Harrison/Eric Clapton tribute) Friday, April 10, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey in Plymouth, flyingmonkeynh.com
- **Artimus Pyle Band** (Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute) Friday, April 10, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry, tupelomusichall.com
- **Dirty Deeds** (AC/DC tribute) Friday, April 10, 8 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts, nashuacenterforthearts.com
- **Red Light** Friday, April 10, 8 p.m., Wally's in Hampton, wallysnh.com
- **Camarajuana** Friday, April 10, 8 p.m., Stone Church in Newmarket, stonechurchrocks.com
- **The Jerritones/New Norde/Creator DGM/Thrust Puncher** Saturday, April 11, 5 p.m., Button Factory in Portsmouth, buttonfactorystudios.com
- **Adam Weiner of Low Cut Connie** Saturday, April 11, 7 p.m., Press Room in Portsmouth, pressroomnh.com
- **Cryin' Caleb** Saturday, April 11, 7 p.m., Listening Room in Wilton, prayersofnature.com
- **Brubeck Brothers Quartet** Saturday, April 11, 7 p.m., BNH Stage in Concord, ccan.com
- **Cole Chaney & the Local Honeyes** Saturday, April 11, 7 p.m., Word Barn in Exeter, thewordbarn.com



JILL OF ALL TRADES

Before becoming a comedian, **Karen Morgan** worked as a trial attorney, a marketing executive, a graphic designer and a lifeguard, which has given her great inspiration for her stand-up shows. She stops by BNH Stage (16 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, banknhstage.com) on Thursday, April 2, at 7:30 p.m. See the website for tickets.

Play the old ones

Across

- 1. You Am I 'Adam's ___'
- 5. Warlock feel the devil: 'Touch Of ___'
- 9. Black Sabbath go '___ The Void'
- 13. Brain flash you write down
- 14. 9-person instrumental group
- 16. Hunt, as a fan looking for star's hotel
- 17. What a bell will do, to Metallica
- 18. Ashlee Simpson is informally '___ My Head'
- 19. 'Fame' Irene
- 20. '03 Eve 6 album 'It's ___ Your Head' (3,2)
- 22. Dashboard Confessional '00 debut 'The ___ Romance' (5,4)
- 24. Guster is 'Getting ___' with the band that wuster them
- 26. Grateful Dead spinoff band The ___ Ones
- 27. 'Revolution' girl Lambert
- 30. 'Copper Man' band that's opposite of alkaline?
- 34. Half of Cleveland band, w/'Pere''
- 35. '80 Steve Winwood album '___ A Diver' (3,2)
- 38. Ramones 'Too ___ To Die'
- 39. Sole Red Hot Chili Peppers cloth-

- ing, at times
- 41. Superdrag '96 album 'Regretfully ___'
- 43. Keith Richards' Fender model (abbr)
- 44. Bob Dylan covered '___ To Be You' (2,3)
- 46. Joe Jackson knows the difference: 'Right And ___'
- 48. Promise Ring's distress signal on 'Very Emergency'
- 49. Stevie Wonder 'My ___ Amour'
- 51. Guitarist Steve of Humble Pie
- 53. Arranged scales
- 56. 'Jump Around' House Of ___
- 57. Twisted Sister's Mark Mendoza nickname for Muppet Show drummer (3,6)
- 61. Rachel from Skid Row
- 64. Wings 'Mary ___ Little Lamb' (4,1)
- 65. Country girl Tucker
- 67. Despicable '96 Cannibal Corpse album?
- 68. Cat Stevens wants to let it out: 'Can't Keep ___' (2,2)
- 69. Band asks icon up to jam or do this (3,2)

- 70. A long way off, as seats
- 71. Lonely Rush just may '___ Some Love'
- 72. Pop rockers that are an acronym for "Los Angeles, New York"
- 73. German neoclassical/blues guitarist Roth

- 15. Female 'Break Every Chain' gospel singer Cobbs Leonard
- 21. 25-million-selling German popster
- 23. Splinter Christian rock group?
- 25. '81 Def Leppard misspelled album left us 'High ___' (1,3)
- 27. Type of business
- 28. Shaky Graves "You and ___ know that the house is haunted" (1,4)
- 29. Wonder Stuff 'The Size Of ___' (1,3)
- 31. Aerosmith "Everybody's got their ___ to pay" (4,2,4)
- 32. White house an eskimo star may start out playing
- 33. May puff this out for photo
- 36. Cowboy Junkies 'Miles From ___ Home'
- 37. Traffic 'Far ___ Home'
- 40. '05 Seether album '___ Effect' (5,3)
- 42. "I've got the power!" band
- 45. Got had by 'Runaround Sue'
- 47. AC/DC pulls a 'Smash 'N ___' job
- 50. Cleans up, as a recording
- 52. 'Heart Racing' NJ guy
- 54. You send your EPK this way
- 55. I Saw Mommy Kissing ___ Claus
- 57. Half of 'The Boys Are Back In Town' band name, w/'Lizzy''

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							72						73

R&R answer from pg 23 of 3/26

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

Jonesin' answer from pg 24 of 3/26

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

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Todd's books are available on Amazon.

NITE SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. See last week's puzzle answers on pg 29.

King Classic Sudoku

Puzzle A

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

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Difficulty: ★

King Classic Sudoku

Puzzle B

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

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Difficulty: ★★

King Classic Sudoku

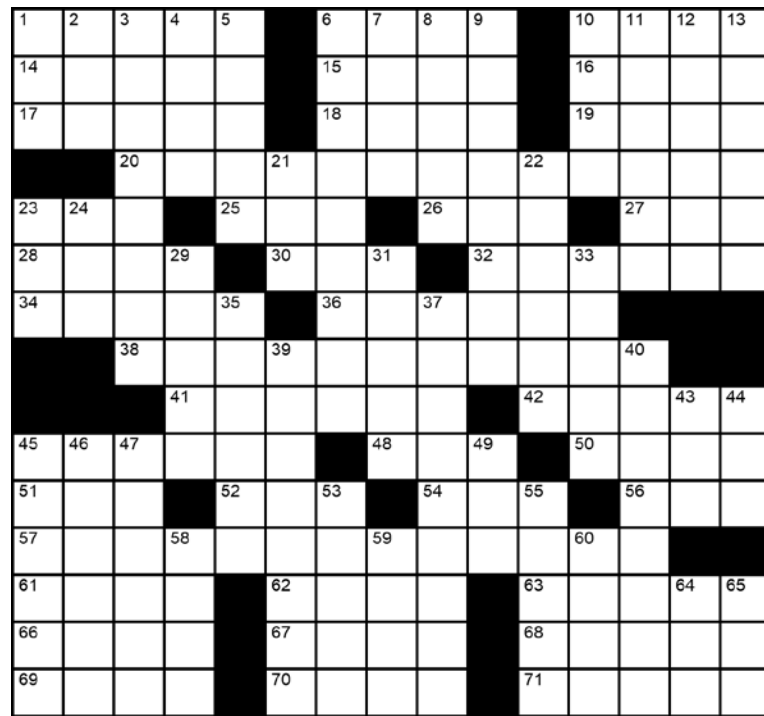
Puzzle C

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

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Difficulty: ★★★

"Too Many Plot Holes"—readable if you remove the holes.



Down

1. "I like the cut of your ___!"
2. Exist
3. Indian curry dish
4. Spot of sparkling wine
5. Agitated
6. U.S. network with telenovelas
7. Sped along
8. "Zut ___!"
9. Keep
10. Unknown author, briefly
11. Organizational method
12. Faith with the 2009 album "Do You Want the Truth or Something Beautiful?"
13. Presumptive winner
21. Muesli bit
22. Out of service?
23. Recede gradually
24. "The Doors" star Kilmer
29. Change form
31. "___ Brown Cooks Food" (YouTube series)
33. Only bone not attached to another bone
35. "Thank you," in Honolulu
37. Calcium carbonate deposit that builds up in hot water appliances
39. Recoups
40. Text on tombstones
43. Paid athlete
44. Kyoto currency
45. Developed a fondness for
46. Conan who hosted the 98th Academy Awards

Across

1. Morning brews
6. "The Secret Lives of Mormon Wives" locale
10. Some hieroglyphic animals
14. Like Hozier
15. Mardi Gras city nickname
16. Gloating sound
17. Japanese box meal
18. Word before lung or stomach
19. Peace Prize city
20. Hole-y Veronica Roth novel (about rocker Ronnie James hovering above a penguin species)?
23. Zsa Zsa and Magda's sister
25. "Cobra ___" ("The Karate Kid" sequel)
26. Yanks' rivals
27. Old U.K. record label
28. Lip salve
30. Inits. on an airport uniform
32. "No go, bro"
34. Flower
36. Response to a challenge
38. Hole-y E.L. Doctorow novel (about a cartoon bartender being told singer Rita earned a moon of Jupiter)?
41. Talented up-and-comer
42. High-pitched, like some small dogs
45. Mr. Peanut's headwear
48. Court divider
50. Like some consequences
51. ___-Wan Kenobi
52. Trippy letters
54. Precursor to rocksteady
56. Quantity of bricks
57. Hole-y Daphne du Maurier novel (about a cookie-flavored chocolate drink stirred with a woodwind)?
61. "Star Trek" captain
62. Taylor-Joy of "The Queen's Gambit"

63. Like many IPAs
66. Guam, e.g., for short
67. "Dungeon Crawler ___" (book series)
68. "___ Majesty's Secret Service"
69. "___ penny, two ..." ("Hot Cross Buns" line)
70. Surrealist painter Paul
71. "Champagne Supernova" group

WORD ★ Roundup™

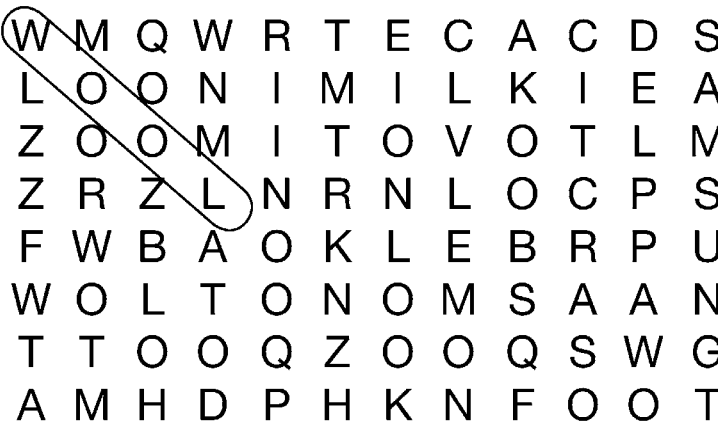
by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Nine words with OO in the middle
- Three smartphone makers
- Two fruits starting with L
- ___ Ocean
- 1985 Harrison Ford movie

Last Week's Answers: CORNEA RETINA PUPIL LENS IRIS / FLORIDA TEXAS MAINE IOWA / SPRUCE CEDAR PINE / REVENUE SERVICE / LIQUID SOLID

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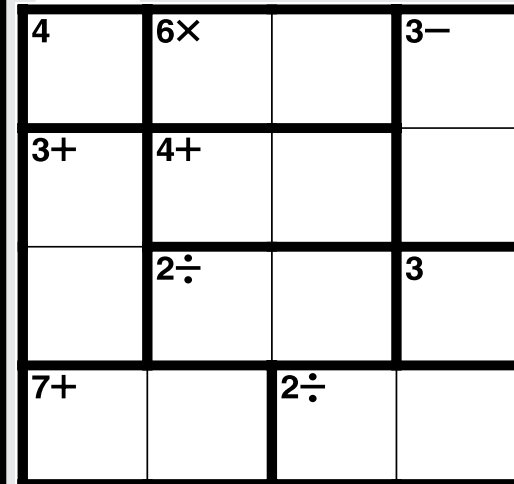
47. Capital of South Dakota
49. Ring decision
53. Actor Logue
55. Sneezing outburst
58. Gumbo staple
59. Jane of a Brontë novel
60. Chaplin of "Avatar: Fire and Ash"
64. "Anne of Green Gables" Canadian prov.
65. Millennium divs.

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THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

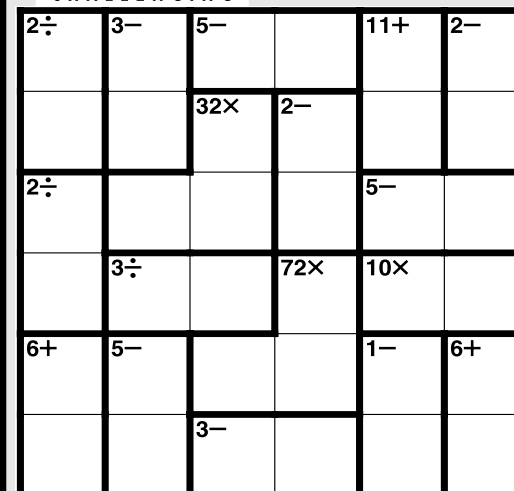


WORKSPACE:

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CHALLENGING



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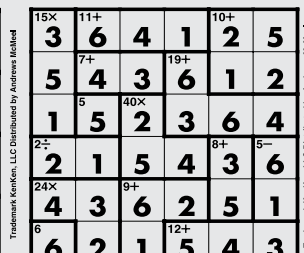
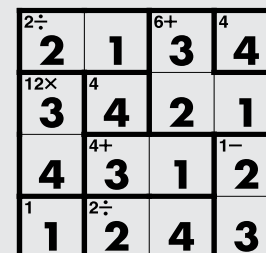
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1-6-26

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 *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life*, by Barbara Kingsolver, born April 8, 1955, with Steven L. Hopp and Camille Kingsolver.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *In my adult life I have dug asparagus beds into the property of every house I've owned, and some I rented ... always leaving behind a vegetable legacy.... A few seeds is all it takes.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *Leafy greens are ... coming on strong in local markets in April and May, and then waning quickly when the weather gets hot. Get 'em while you can.*

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *Instead of listing what we can't have, I said, we should outline what we knew we could get locally. It's probably more than you realize.*

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *Many bright people are really in the dark about vegetable life. There's always more to learn.*

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *But sticking it to the Man (whoever he is) may not be the most inspired principle around which to organize one's life. More of a side gig.*

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *Rhubarb isn't technically fruit ... but it's a fine April stand-in. The technicalities are not important.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *I haven't mastered the serene mindset on all household chores (What do you do for fun around here? I scrub pots and pans, okay??), but I might be getting there with cooking. Getting there is half the fun.*

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *In summer a young rooster's fancy turns to ... how can I say this delicately? The most ham-fisted attempts at courtship I've ever had to watch. (And yes, I'm including high school.) Everyone has to start somewhere, even a rooster.*

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *Plenty of summer*

visitors to our garden have stood in the middle of the [asparagus] bed and asked, 'What is this stuff, it's beautiful!' We tell them it's the asparagus patch, and they reply, 'No, this, these feathery little trees?' It's the asparagus patch.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *After some drastic remodeling, we'd moved into a house that still lacked some finishing touches, like doorknobs. And a back door. Finishing touches are up to you.*

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *With carrots you never know what you've got until you grab them by the green hair and tug them up. It is what it is.*

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *I have seen women looking at jewelry ads with a misty eye and one hand resting on the heart, and I only know what they're feeling because that's how I read the seed catalogs in January. I'm not crying; you're crying! 🥹*

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

- Clark Kent's alter ego (8)
- Bruce Banner's alter ego (4)
- Clint Barton's alter ego (7)
- Barbara Gordon's alter ego (7)
- Janet Van Dyne's alter ego (4)
- Matt Murdock's alter ego (9)
- Billy Batson's alter ego (6)

SOLUTIONS

RL	RM	WK	TGI	SU
HA	WA	PE	ZAM	EYE
LK	DAR	SP	AN	BA
EV	HU	SHA	ED	IL

Last Week's Answers: 1. TITANIC 2. TANGLED 3. MOONSTRUCK
4. RATATOUILLE 5. VERTIGO 6. CLUELESS 7. CASABLANCA

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Sudoku Answers from pg 23 of 3/26

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty: ★

3/9

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147713

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147738

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION

Florida

Florida Highway Patrol officers stopped a truck near Plant City, Florida, on March 22 as it drove along a state highway, CBS12-TV reported. The driver, whom officers dubbed Rocket Man, had missiles mounted in the bed of the truck, and multiple other drivers had called it in. However, the missiles turned out to be plastic replicas used for shows and events, and the driver was released with a gentle warning to transport his "artillery" in some other manner. *CBS, March 24*

Great Art!

In Mount Gambier, Australia, a large sculpture called Cast in Blue has garnered attention from locals since its installation last year, ABC News reported. Amelia Vanderhorst, 20, of Mount Gambier, Australia, added her own personal touches to the "blue blob" late last year, and on March 24, she pleaded guilty in court to a charge of making graffiti. According to Vanderhorst, she was high on MDMA and had consumed three liters of vodka before placing googly eyes on the sculpture. She said she wanted to make it look funny but admitted it was "one of the stupidest things I've ever done." She was ordered to pay \$2,000 in compensation and complete 60 hours of community service. "Your actions mocked the sculpture and the artist," said Magistrate Kylie Schulz. *ABC News, March 24*

The Continuing Crisis

The Texas Department of Transportation has cut off the small town of Bug Tussle (population 15), United Press International reported on March 23. More than 70 Bug Tussle road signs have been stolen over the years, and the DOT announced it won't supply the burg with any more. "People just like the name Bug Tussle, and they steal the signs," explained resident Deborah Stout. *UPI, March 23*

It's a Mystery

Residents of three towns in New Jersey — Edgewater, Fort Lee and Cliffside Park — are suffering from a mysterious blast of loud late-night music, Fox News reported on March 25. The towns lie across the Hudson River from Harlem, which seems to be the source of the noise, the Edgewater police department said. While many believe a nightclub is to blame, the Edgewater mayor thinks party boats on the river might be the culprits. Some residents say the music sounds like it's in their own backyards; they described it as a thumping or vibrating that lasts from 11:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. on the weekends. Until the source can be identified, however, Jerseyites are stuck movin' to the groovin'. *Fox News, March 25*

Saw That Coming

Well, it's official: CNBC reported on March 26 that AI has taken over the internet. A report released by cybersecurity firm Human Security detailed the incursion of bots in our lives: Automated traffic

grew eight times faster than human traffic in 2025. "The State of AI Traffic" also concluded that AI that performs autonomously grew almost 8,000% last year. But Stu Solomon, CEO of Human Security, reminded readers that not all AI systems are malicious. "This notion of machine bad, human good is just not realistic," he said. "You have to live in a world where machines are acting on our behalf, and we have to establish a level of trust that's persistent over time." *CNBC, March 26*

Unique Tradition

Hundreds of people swarm to Annapolis, Maryland, each year for the Annapolis Oyster Roast & Sock Burning festival, NPR reported. This year's event on March 21 said goodbye to one of the coldest winters on Chesapeake Bay. Kelly Swartout of the local maritime museum said the event started in 1977, when "a local sailor got so fed up with the cold weather that he decided he was going to take his socks off and burn them." Festival attendee Scot Labin said he brought a sock with a hole in it and the "Egyptian cotton socks that your mom got you," because no one wears dress socks anymore. It's "a good party," he said. *NPR, March 25*

News You Can Use

If you're looking for an eye-catching ornament for your front yard, perhaps consider Tyra, the 86-foot-tall, 145,000-pound T. rex that currently graces the town of Drumheller near Calgary, Canada. Popular Science reported on March 24 that the fiberglass and steel dino will be evicted from its home in 2029, so officials from the Chamber of Commerce and the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Paleontology aren't wasting any time. They've had Tyra structurally assessed and declared her "safe, stable and ready to welcome visitors." The original plan was for her to be dismantled when her time is up, but the chamber is looking into "long-term options for the dinosaur." *Popular Science, March 24*

Weird Science

Applications are now open for the first-ever Sperm Racing World Cup, LAD Bible reported on March 13. While a date has not been set for the competition, organizers expect specimens from men from 128 countries around the world to race around a tiny track, all in the hopes of winning the \$100,000 prize. Eric Zhu, Nick Small, Shane Fan and Garret Niconienko claim to have a higher motivation than getting attention. "Sperm racing isn't just a joke," they said. "Male fertility is declining. ... Nobody's really talking about it. And sperm motility — how fast your sperm moves — turns out to be a massive factor in fertility." Applicants must be 18 or older, free of STDs and be available to participate in qualifying rounds and tournaments. Good luck! *LAD Bible, March 13*

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



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