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JUNE 4 - 10, 2026

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## ON THE COVER

8 Barbecue isn't the only food (or drink!) that can be smoky and delicious. John Fladd takes a look at what happens when smoke is introduced to meat but also cheese, beer, cocktails and even crackers. Above is a smoked cocktail from CodeX in Nashua. Photo by John Fladd.

**ALSO ON THE COVER**, Michael Witthaus looks at the NH Maker Fest on Saturday, June 6, in Dover (page 12). John stays on the smoky theme with a look at the NH Bacon & Beer Festival slated for Manchester on Saturday (page 16). And celebrate bees, butterflies and the other creatures that keep the ecosystem going at the Pollinator Fest and Native Plant Sale at the NH Audubon's McLane Center in Concord (page 15).

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# NEWS & NOTES

## Tick reminder

The most common tick bite-spread infections in New Hampshire are “Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, Powassan virus, and hard-tick relapsing fever (*Borrelia miyamotoi*),” according to a May 27 press release from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

The release also reminds residents that mosquitoes in New Hampshire “can spread illnesses such as Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), West Nile Virus, and Jamestown Canyon Virus.”

“Ticks are typically most active from April to November, with tick encounters peaking in May and June. ... Warmer weather also brings mosquitoes, and the risk of diseases spread by mosquitoes begins in the spring and continues throughout the summer and into the fall. DHHS partners with municipalities across the state to trap and test mosquitoes from June through October, using test results to inform communities of local risk for diseases carried by mosquitoes,” the release said. At [dhhs.nh.gov](http://dhhs.nh.gov), you can see the press release and find a link to the

Department’s tickborne diseases page, which offers tips on protecting yourself and an explanation on the blacklegged tick (deer tick) life cycle.

According to a May 29 press release from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, while at a press conference in New Hampshire, Department Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. “announced a series of major initiatives to strengthen the nation’s response to Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses.” See [hhs.gov/press-room](http://hhs.gov/press-room).

## NH’s own Seth Meyers

Comedian and host of *NBC’s Late Night with Seth Meyers*, Manchester High School West alum Seth Meyers will perform at the SNHU Arena in Manchester on Friday, Aug. 7, at 8 p.m. The performance will benefit CASA of New Hampshire and the Granite State Children’s Alliance, according to a SNHU Arena press release. See [snhuarena.com](http://snhuarena.com) for tickets.

## Conference update

The New Hampshire Writers’ Project has changed the date and

venue for its upcoming 603 Writers’ Conference, according to a press release. The conference will take place Saturday, Nov. 14, at Grappone Conference Center, 70 Constitution Ave. in Concord, the release said. The event will still feature keynote speaker author Chris Bohjalian and “expert-led workshops, a moderated AI panel discussion, the signature Pitch Party & Social, catered meals, and networking opportunities,” according to a press release. See [nhwritersproject.org](http://nhwritersproject.org) to register.

## NH’s outdoors

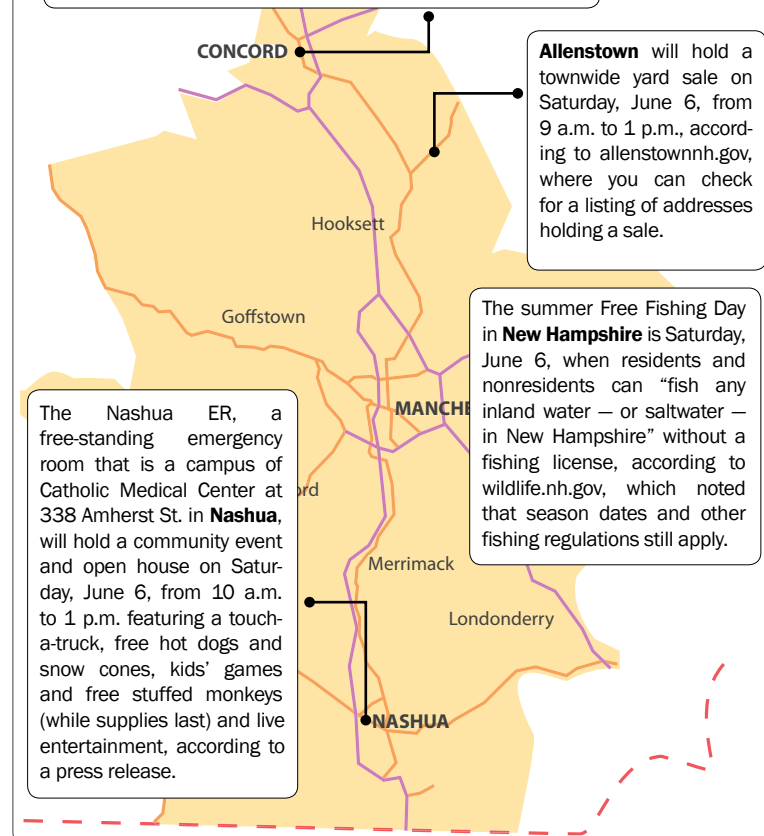
The Granite Outdoor Alliance will hold its “Outdoor Industry Day 2026: The Barn Raiser” on Wednesday, June 10, from 5 to 8:30 p.m. at the Barn on the Pemi in Plymouth, according to a press release. “Outdoor Industry Day is GOA’s annual gathering celebrating New Hampshire’s outdoor economy and the businesses, nonprofits, public partners, and leaders helping shape the sector statewide,” the release said. See [graniteoutdooralliance.org/nh-outdoor-industry-day](http://graniteoutdooralliance.org/nh-outdoor-industry-day) for tickets.

Concord Parks & Rec and Merrimack River Watershed Council will hold a Park Clean Up Day on Saturday, June 6, from 9 to 11 a.m. at Healy Park and Exit 13, on Basin Street, according to the City Manager’s May 29 newsletter. Volunteers must be 18+ and sign a waiver; wear long pants and boots and bring work gloves and bug spray, the newsletter said.

Allenstown will hold a townwide yard sale on Saturday, June 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., according to [allenstownnh.gov](http://allenstownnh.gov), where you can check for a listing of addresses holding a sale.

The summer Free Fishing Day in New Hampshire is Saturday, June 6, when residents and nonresidents can “fish any inland water — or saltwater — in New Hampshire” without a fishing license, according to [wildlife.nh.gov](http://wildlife.nh.gov), which noted that season dates and other fishing regulations still apply.

The Nashua ER, a free-standing emergency room that is a campus of Catholic Medical Center at 338 Amherst St. in Nashua, will hold a community event and open house on Saturday, June 6, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. featuring a touch-a-truck, free hot dogs and snow cones, kids’ games and free stuffed monkeys (while supplies last) and live entertainment, according to a press release.



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## QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

### It only seems soggy

As reported by WMUR in a May 21 online article, “The latest update from the U.S. Drought Monitor shows a sharply divided water situation across New Hampshire,” the story read. Despite a very green spring, “about 75% of New Hampshire remains in drought conditions, largely due to dry weather that began last summer and a prolonged lack of groundwater recharge.” Water from this spring’s rain has been absorbed by growing vegetation, so, although there is a lot of healthy vegetation, very little water has seeped deep into the groundwater.

**QOL score: -1**

**Comment:** *Many residents are not well positioned to deal with droughts that may occur later this year, WMUR reported. “54% of the wells in the state’s groundwater monitoring network remain below normal levels for this time of year, according to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.”*

### Ice cream-cation

In a May 21 press release the State Division of Travel and Tourism announced that it “expects visitation and spending for New Hampshire’s 2026 summer travel season to remain consistent with last summer’s, with an estimated 4.8 million visitors generating approximately \$2.6 billion in visitor spending statewide.” The press release said that a key part of the State’s tourism strategy this year will be the New Hampshire Ice Cream Trail, a list of 69 ice cream stands across the state. “New Hampshire farms are known not only for producing healthy, delicious food but also for turning agriculture into memorable experiences through agritourism activities like the Ice Cream Trail,” said Josh Marshall, Assistant Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food. There is an interactive website that lets you look at the stops on this year’s Ice Cream Trail and filter the results alphabetically, by region, by town, and by amenities available. Visit [visitnh.gov/things-to-do/food-drink/ice-cream-trail](http://visitnh.gov/things-to-do/food-drink/ice-cream-trail).

**QOL score: +1**

**Comment:** *Enthusiasts who fill out an Ice Cream Passport with visits to at least two official stops in each region of the state and 55 stops in total can mail their passports in to the Department of Tourism at the end of the season for bragging rights and a commemorative T-shirt.*

### Potty drama

In a May 28 online article Nashua InkLink reported a new development in Nashua’s City Hall Plaza ongoing portable toilet predicament. “Clean Restroom Rentals — the company contracted to maintain the porta-potty on City Hall Plaza — notified the city last week that they are no longer able to maintain it due to its current state and ‘constant abuse,’ according to Administrative Service Director Tim Cummings,” the article read. “Cummings told the Committee on Infrastructure Wednesday night that some ‘behaviors and activities’ are making it problematic for them to keep up with the management of it, which includes the pumping and disposal of waste.” The story said that according to Nashua Police, issues around the porta-potty over the past two months have included “people congregating in the area of the porta-potty, alleged drug use, and people sleeping in the unit at night.” There have also been issues of trash and needle caps being disposed of in the unit, the article said.

**QOL score: -1**

**Comment:** *Nashua InkLink quoted Alderman Patricia Klee, who has looked into how other cities deal with this sort of issue. “San Francisco has porta-potties throughout their entire city that self-wash and so on. Nobody will stay in them for any length of time because they will be locked in there and ‘chemicaled’, Klee said.”*

**QOL score last week: 48**

**Net change: -1**

**QOL this week: 47**

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

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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS

## The week that wasn't



**The Big Story – Wait Until Next Week:** With the Red Sox scuffling along 10+ games out of first in the AL East and local teams long gone from the spring playoffs, there is no local big story. We'll have to wait

until next week when the World Cup and its incredible price-gouging/fan rip-offs begin.

**Sports 101: Michael Jordan** won the NBA Finals MVP a record six times. Who is second with four Finals MVPs and who are the three others who've been Finals MVP three times?

**News Item – Red Sox Update**

**Who's Hot: Connelly Early** is 5-2 with a 2.97 ERA after last week's seven shutout innings vs. Atlanta. **Jarren Duran** – The guy nitwits on talk radio say should be traded is back to leading off, where in the last 10 games in May he went 15-44 (.341) with 8 runs scored, 5 homers and 11 RBI, raising the average from the .150's to .219.

**The GM:** The answer is 19 and four wins and losses immediately after alleged pitching guru **Craig Breslow** gift-wrapped **Quinn Priester** (13-3) last year and **Kyle Harrison** (6-1) this year to Milwaukee in consecutive deals for two minor-leaguers we'll probably never see and a third baseman now hitting .185.

On the plus side, the Giants are 60-78 since **Raffy Devers** arrived to play first base in SF.

**In Case You Missed It – Mickey Gasper:**

The Merrimack product is getting regular at-bats for Boston after hitting .333 with three doubles and three RBI in 17 games.

**News Item – Yankee Firsts:** Given their history it's hard to do anything for a first time in Yankee history. But they did it in last week's 15-1 24-hit assault of KC, where for the first time every Yankee in the starting line-up got at least two hits in a game. Then on Sunday they had another first ever by batting around three times in a 13-run second inning of a 13-8 win over Oakland. Then ironically didn't get another after that.

**News Item – NBA Finals Update**

After the upstart Spurs knocked off defending champion OKC, it started in San Antonio yesterday (Wednesday). It's been 27 years since the Knicks were last in the Finals and 53 since they last won it all in 1973. NYK's opponent in 1999 ironically was SA when **Tim Duncan** won the first of his four titles.

**Victor Wembanyama's** shoe size is 20.5. That's the largest since Shaq, and before him big **Bob Lanier**, of whom people said his toes entered a room at 12:00 and the rest of him got there at 12:05.

Spurs star **Stephon Castle's** father **Stacey** was a teammate of the greatest Spur of them all, **Duncan** at Wake Forest.

Love that **Jalen Brunson** led NY to the Finals after Dallas let him walk for less money to sign **Kyrie Irving**. After KI got hurt again, they're back to a well-deserved place in the lottery.

Why do so many yack about SGA's "flopping" to get foul calls and no one says anything about **Steph Curry** flopping on almost every shot he takes?

**The Numbers:**

**2** – number of teams currently in the three-spots-available AL Wild Card race that were over .500 on June 1.

**4** – games the alarmingly disappointing Red Sox are somehow only out of a wild card playoff spot.

**14.3** – strikeouts per nine innings by flame-throwing 22-year-old Milwaukee phenom **Jacob Misiorowski** in 2026 after striking out 49 over just 31 innings while giving up one run and 11 hits in his five May starts.

**... Of the Week Awards**

**Alumni News – Dustin May:** The disaster in Boston stayed that way in St. Louis, where he took a no-hitter into the eighth vs. Milwaukee before losing it and the game 2-1. It left him 3-6 with a 4.97 ERA.

**Chris Sale:** The big lefty can still pitch when not injured. He has a second best in baseball eight wins after beating the Sox last week.

**Astonishing Basketball Fact of the Week – MVP Voting:** Saw on my friend **Tommy Ameen's** Facebook feed that an American hasn't won the NBA Most Valuable Player Award since **James Harden** in 2018. Wow!

**Sports 101 Answer:** Most NBA Finals MVP's are six for **Jordan**, four for **LeBron James**, three for **Magic Johnson, Shaq** and **Tim Duncan**.

**Final Thought – Stephen A Blowhard Under Fire:** Must say I love it when a guy who kills people on TV regularly can't take it when people fire back. That's the case for Steven A these days where **Jaylen Brown** yacked back at him on Twitter to retire, then challenged him to a debate at Harvard or MIT. Then "his friend" **Kevin Hart** put Stephen A on his Mt. Rushmore of Sports Racism during his recent roast.

Steve, if you're gonna yack at people you can't have the whiney, thin-skinned response you've been giving. Take things aimed at you in the same way you expect them to be taken on things said by you about them.

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

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# THIS WEEK

## BIG EVENTS JUNE 4 AND BEYOND

### Friday, June 5

Theatre Kapow will present *Morning Sun*, a play by Simon Stephens, at the BNH Stage in Concord today through Sunday, June 7, and at the NH Theatre Project in Portsmouth the next weekend, according to a press release. "In Greenwich Village a generation or so ago, the city is alive. Joni Mitchell sings, friends and lovers come and go, and the regulars change at the neighborhood tavern. As 50 years pass, one woman's life is revealed in all its complexity, mystery and possibility in this play about mothers and daughters, beginnings and endings. As it picks apart evolving ideas of identity, family, memory, and more, *Morning Sun* reminds us



that the interruptions in our lives are the ghosts we carry with us," the release said. ASL Interpretation will be available at the Sunday, June 7, 2 p.m. performance, the release said. Shows take place at 7:30 p.m. on June 5, June 6 and June 12; at 2 p.m. on June 7 and June 14, and at 4 p.m. on June 13, the release said. See [tkapow.com](http://tkapow.com) for tickets. (Courtesy photo.)

### Saturday, June 6

The Rotary Club of Goffstown will hold its **13th Annual Car Show** today from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Parsons Drive in Goffstown, according to an email from the club. "Entering a show car costs \$20, spectators enter

for free. Proceeds from the event are given as grants to area charities," the email said. See [goffstownrotary.org](http://goffstownrotary.org).

### Saturday, June 6

The **Concord Arts Market** will return to Rollins Park in Concord for

another season of Arts in the Park dates starting today from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to [concordartsmarket.org](http://concordartsmarket.org).

### Saturday, June 6

The closing ceremony for the **2026 Nashua International Sculpture Symposium** will take place today at 1 p.m. starting at the Picker Artists building, 3 Pine St. in Nashua, with visits to the sculptures' installation sites. See [NashuaSculptureSymposium.org](http://NashuaSculptureSymposium.org).

### Sunday, June 7

The **Northern New England Book Fair** will take place today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Everett Arena in Concord along with a show from New Hampshire Antiques Dealers Association in the same location, according to [apassion4books.com](http://apassion4books.com). Admission costs \$5 and the event will feature more than 90 dealers, the website said.

### Sunday, June 7

The Dover Community Trail Advi-

sory Committee will hold its second annual **ChalkFest** today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. when "[p]articipants of all ages can create chalk art along the trail between the Fisher Street Trailhead and Central Avenue. Each artist gets a five-foot-by-five-foot square, with chalk provided or feel free to bring your favorite colors," according to a post on the trail Facebook page, which also includes a link to register and a note that a \$5 donation is suggested.

### Sunday, June 7

"**US@250: Brewing Conflicts**" with Historic Pursuits a living history group from New York, will present a "dramatic performance in a 'colonial coffeehouse,' with music, costume, trivia and refreshments" about the Ameri-

can Revolution today at 2 p.m. at the Slusser Center next door to the Hopkinton Town Library, 61 Houston Drive in Contoocook, according to [hopkintontownlibrary.org](http://hopkintontownlibrary.org), where you can RSVP to the event (space is limited). Intended for adults and kids 12+, the website said. 🗨️



### Save the Date!

### Thursday, July 23

Tickets are on sale now for the annual Shakespeare on the Green presentation at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, according to a press release. This year's show, presented by Theatre Kapow, will be William Shakespeare's *As You Like It*. The show will run Thursday, July 23, through Saturday, July 25, and Thursday, July 30, through Saturday, Aug. 1, with performances at 7:30 p.m. See [tickets.anselm.edu](http://tickets.anselm.edu). (Photo is from a previous year's production.)

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# Smoke Show

## HOW ADDING SMOKE CAN TRANSFORM YOUR FAVORITE FLAVORS

By John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

When most people think of smoky food, their minds go immediately to barbecue.

David Mielke is the co-owner of Smokehaus Barbecue in Amherst. He said one of the reasons we are so drawn to smokiness is that it has been with us for so long.

“Smoking meat goes way, way back...,” he said. “Originally it was used to cure meats so people could hold them for long periods of time. As time went on, I think people have figured out that you can use smoke to impart flavor.”

### A smoking tradition

For Mielke, choosing what type of wood to burn is as important as choosing the right cut of meat.

“In the barbecue world,” he said, “when we use smoke we’re very particular about the type of wood that we use. There’s all sorts of different types and each gives you a different flavor. I’m very particular about really wanting wood that only comes from New Hampshire. So I only use red oak. There are a lot of other barbecue places that use hickory and pecan wood and stuff like that, but it just doesn’t grow here. That’s a southern Texas thing. We don’t do that here. Honestly, I think that red oak really gives a really nice sweet flavor to the flavor profile that I’m looking for for my meat. My oak is green. It’s not seasoned. It’s not dried. It’s green. It comes from a friend’s property. He does wood for a living and

he splits it from the tree and it comes right here. What happens is when it’s green like that it still has all of its moisture content. So you get a lot longer burn time with it, a lot longer smoke time. So when I smoke, I smoke for 14 hours. My brisket and my pork goes for 14 hours.”

Mielke said the “low and slow” method of cooking meats means he can focus on cuts that are more flavorful. The most flavorful cuts, though, come from muscle groups that get a lot of exercise during an animal’s life and can be extremely tough unless they are cooked a long time to break down connective tissue into something silky and delicious.

“The chest of the cow and the chest of the pig,” he said, “are very hard-working muscles. So you need to have a longer smoke time to be able to break those muscles down.”

“Our main items going [through the smoker],” Mielke said, “are half chickens, brisket, pulled pork, which is the butt.” (In spite of their names, the pork “butts” and “picnics” come from the shoulder and upper arm of a hog.) “I use the butt and the picnic, so it’s all one,” he said. “It’s a bone-in butt that I use, because I think it adds the best flavor. It takes longer to cook it but it adds flavor and I think it helps render the meat down better. I also do St. Louis-style ribs. I used to do baby backs, but I do St. Louis-style now. They’re pork, just a different section of the rib. So the baby back is like the top section of the rib cage, closer to the spine, and the St. Louis is a little further down the rib, you know, more toward the belly, and they are a little bit bigger,” Miel-

ke said.

Mielke said traditional southern side dishes have a natural affinity for smoke.

“I like collard greens a lot,” he said. “We cook it for six hours to where it basically melts in your mouth. It has vinegar in it, which is one of those things that people seem to really like with barbecue.” Creamed corn is another natural with smoky barbecue, he said. “I make a creamed corn from scratch. That’s a very Texas thing, by the way. Nobody up here does it. I think that goes really well with smoked meats because it’s very balanced.”

### Smoked, in a glass

And then there’s smoked beer.

Mike Neel is the owner of Candia Road Brewing Co. in Manchester. At any given time, his brewpub has at least one smoked beer on tap.

“Right now, we’ve got two,” he said. “We’ve got Grodziskie, which is a lighter, Polish-style wheat lager, and we have Brennenator, which is a darker Helles-style lager.”

While Neel and his staff make most of their beer on site, he said, they subcontract out the smoke.

“All of the smoked malt that we use was smoked at Blue Ox Malt House in Lisbon Falls, Maine. They have a small program, which has been growing. They’ve been working with distilleries to do smoked peat malt and other smoked malts to do smoked whiskeys. Grodziski is an oak-smoked wheat, where the Brennenator has a mix of alderwood and maple smoke,” Neel said.

Neel said that while a taste for smokiness can vary widely, he generally looks at smoke as an accent flavor. About a fifth of the malt he uses to brew his smoked beers is actually smoked. “Quantities really do matter,” he said. “How much you put into the beer will determine your overall effect. So Grodziskie is 20 percent of smoked malt that went into that beer.”

Because it is a light lager, he explained, it has a crispness that lets the smoke stand out.

“Brennenator is also 20 percent,” he said. “However, that is a higher ABV [Alcohol By Volume] beer. It does have some other character malts, like crystal malts to make it a little bit sweeter. It’s a sweeter style, and the sweetness covers up the amount of smoke that comes to the front when you taste it. It’s funny, the percentage of smoke malt is exactly the same between both beers. So how much it comes through, I think, has a lot to do with the character grains that are

going in as well. [Some other brewers] use more smoked malt, but 20 percent is already a little terrifying for us; we throw that to a consumer and hope that it’s not too much. But there are breweries out there like Schlenkerla, who has been making smoked rauchbier in Germany for hundreds and hundreds of years. Some of theirs are 100 percent smoked malt. A lot of people will tell you it is wildly too smoky. Others will tell you that it’s perfect.”

Neel said that while he, personally, would drink a smoked beer with anything, it goes especially well with seafood.

### Smoked, on the rocks

While many spirits traditionally have smoky flavor profiles — peaty scotches and some traditional tequilas, for example — for the past few years adventurous bartenders have been deliberately adding smoke to cocktails. James Brownell is a bartender at Nashua speakeasy CodeX — though at work he goes by the name Rusty. According to him, there are some drinks that are enhanced by adding smoke.

“It just adds one characteristic to the cocktails that we make,” he said, “primarily, old-fashioned, sometimes Negronis, Boulevardiers or Manhattans. We use applewood here; it’s mostly universal. But you don’t always just have to smoke wood. You can smoke herbs and spices as well — like thyme, sage, cinnamon for various other flavors, for the oils to connect to the glass.”

Rusty said the bartenders at CodeX have two main ways of adding smoke to their cocktails.

“We either smoke the glass itself by turning it upside-down over burning wood chips,” he said. “The oils from the wood cling to the glass. So as you pour the liquid into the glass, it combines over time as the drink warms.”

“Or,” Rusty continued, “we use a top smoker, which draws the smoke into the glass from the top of the glass instead of having it vertically flipped over.” He indicated a top-smoker, a wooden disk with a pipe-like bowl in its center.

“We light some wood chips here,” he said, pointing to the bowl, “and the smoke gets sucked down into the glass.” If the drink has been properly chilled, he explained, the air left at the top of the glass will be cold and less dense than the air in the bar, and that creates negative air pressure that will draw the smoke down. “It adds a little less smoke,” he said, “but it adds a little bit more of a show. It provides the smoke on top of the cocktail so that the guest gets that full whiff



Smokehaus Barbecue. Courtesy photo.



Top smoker on a cocktail at CodeX. Courtesy photo.



Cocktail at CodeX. Courtesy photo.

of smoke and the flavor from the wood itself. Instead of infusing the bottom smoke, the top smoke only does the top of the cocktail — not throughout the glass.”

Rusty said there are many different ways to smoke cocktails. “Another method a lot of bars use,” he said, “is they smoke the ice cubes as well, which works really well with a top-smoker, so that the smoke infuses into the cube. So what I like to do is smoke the cube and the glass. And then once the cocktail is chilled, pour it into there so that you get the smoke with the cube and the glass. And then you still get the show as well. So when you’re pouring the cocktail into here, you can see all the smoke come out of the glass.”

### Smoked cheese

I don’t know how cheese-focused you are, but you’ve probably noticed that at any event where a cheese platter has been put out, the smoked Gouda always disappears first. (Followed by the pepper jack, but the smoked Gouda gets snagged first. Often by me.)

Fox Country Smoke House in Canterbury has a reputation for outstanding smoked cheeses. Owner Bill Annis said Fox Country produces 13

different smoked cheeses.

“The extra-sharp cheddar is our No. 1 seller,” he said. “And then my personal favorite is the horseradish cheddar. But we also do a pepper jack, we do a ghost pepper, and another popular one is Gouda. Then we do the specialties — Swiss, mozzarella, and provolone. We even do string cheese.”

Annis said he smokes about 600 pounds of cheese each week, but that can vary depending on the type of cheese and the time of year.

“Your mozzarella and your other soft cheeses are the hardest ones to do in the summer months. When you get a hot, humid day and night, that’s a challenge. During the winter months or cold weather, we try to do all the smoking at night, and the cheese is in [the smoker] for about 18 hours — a nice slow smoking. That runs at least once a week, and then when we get into the holidays, three times a week,” he said.

The smokehouse has been in business since 1969, Annis said. “We still use the original smokehouse, in that one room. We use hickory to smoke everything. It’s in sawdust form. It’s basically a chainsaw. It’s a very, very fine grind. The machine that we use now works on a line like a pellet stove. It has an auger, it drops the sawdust onto a hot plate and that creates the smoke for us.”

Annis said that because the cheese is a handmade product, some of it will be exposed to more smoke than other cheese in the same batch. “Any cheese that’s over that pipe gets much darker than the stuff on the other side of the room, which is much lighter. I prefer a milder smoking, but I do have customers who want the darkest possible.”

### All about the wood

Smoke enthusiasts — competitive barbecuers, for instance — have strong opinions about which woods should be used to smoke particular foods. Jay Beland is a pitmaster at Lemay & Sons in Goffstown, a custom slaughter house and specialty butcher shop. According to him, successful smoking comes down to paying attention to details.

“If you’re smoking cheese,” he advised, “you have to watch the temperature [in your smoker] to make sure it doesn’t go over 100 degrees — otherwise it will start to melt. And then you need to use a milder wood, like apple, hickory or cherry. Stay away from the mesquites — mesquites will be too strong for cheese. It’ll give it a burnt flavor. You want a subtle smoke flavor and

### The smoke panel

- **Smokehaus Barbecue** 278 Route 101, Amherst, 249-5734, smokehausbbq.com
- **Candia Road Brewing Co.** 840 Candia Road, Manchester, 935-8123, candiaroad-brewingco.com
- **CodeX** 29 Main St., Nashua, facebook.com/CodeXBARNH
- **Fox Country Smoke House** 164 Briar Bush Road, Canterbury, 783-4405, foxnh.com
- **Lemay & Sons** 116 Daniel Plummer Road, Goffstown, 622-0022, lemayandsons-beef-bbq.com

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Here is the FladdSmokeShow Home Smoker (patent pending). It is essentially a big metal box to hold in smoke. A hot plate with wood chips smolders below, filling the top chamber with smoke. Two cooling racks hold slabs of cheese, suspended on bricks to give additional distance from the heat, to minimize melting. Your home grill is also a big metal box. You could place a hot plate at the bottom of your grill, and use the grate you already have to hold whatever food you might want to smoke. Be advised that your home grill is a much smaller metal box and will probably heat up very quickly — that's what it's designed to do. You will have to experiment with time, temperature and flipping to find out what works best for you. This will involve several experimental batches of smoked food, which I'm sure will be an enormous sacrifice to eat as you dial in your smoking details. Photo by John Fladd.

are available online or in any hardware or department store.

The key, we've found, is to flip the racks every 10 to 15 minutes, ideally when the weather is cool, in order to keep the cheese from melting through the holes in the cooling racks and forming cheese stalactites. Every smoking rig — especially a homemade one like this — will be different, and probably require different smok-

ing times. There's also the matter of your taste in smokiness. For us, 45 minutes to an hour is about right. We've smoked several different types of cheese at this point, but the winners seem to be muenster and pepper jack. We just buy the big bricks of cheese at the supermarket and cut them into slabs. 🍷

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# ARTS

## Hands on

NH Maker Fest celebrates creativity

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippypress.com

A 3D printer hums a colorful plate into existence; handmade hula hoops and a DJ spin in tandem while hands get messy on a nearby pottery wheel. Those are just a few things planned for NH Maker Fest, the New Hampshire Children's Museum's annual gathering of builders, tinkerers and creators in downtown Dover.

Launched as the Dover Mini Maker Faire in 2012, the event is packed with engaging activities and is constantly evolving.

"It's such a hard pitch to make," Neve Cole, the museum's communications director, said recently when asked to describe the upcoming fest. "Every year it's such a different group of people."

This time around, more than 35 makers from across the region, representing a dizzying range of disciplines, are on hand. There's ceramics and coding, escape room design and entomology, bubble choreography, along with 501st New England Garrison cosplayers roaming about in handmade Star Wars regalia.

Among the fresh additions this year is Mud City Clay, with pottery wheel demonstrations and hand-building sessions.

"We haven't had clay in a while," Cole said.

### NH Maker Fest

**When:** Saturday, June 6, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Where:** Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover

**Tickets:** \$5, [childrens-museum.org](http://childrens-museum.org)

"That's going to be super fun." 3D printing company Flamingo Magic is also new to the fest, selling reusable plates that visitors can watch being printed on the spot.

A hula hoop dance party will also be interesting. "Three like-minded individuals got together," Cole said — sponsor Unravel NH, as part of its Petals + People gardening activity, DJ Avery Sol playing house music, and spinning creations from SMart Circles that are so much cooler than the mass-manufactured Wham-O toys of yesteryear.

A scientist will bring his collection of elements to the festival and walk visitors through the properties of actual physical samples, some radioactive, some mundane, all fascinating. Young authors will be on hand as well, who've written books or created arts and crafts to sell and teach.

Another intriguing new entry is a husband-and-wife team in the middle of developing an escape room, allowing festival-goers a fun peek behind the curtain of a creative project mid-construction.

"They're bringing some of their props and the puzzles that they've created that will eventually be part of their escape room," Cole said.

Longtime attendees may remember the foam party, but this year the museum is pivoting to a bubble dance party instead. It's still interactive, still delightfully chaotic, but with a slightly different texture. "It won't be quite as foamy," Cole said, with the conviction of someone who's possibly thought through the foam-versus-bubbles paradigm.

Cole has been with the Children's Museum for



NH Maker Fest. Courtesy photo.

close to a decade, and part of each Maker Fest is in her tenure. When Covid happened, the events were done online, and the pandemic experience provided clarity for moving forward. The museum now runs structured morning and afternoon play sessions, separated by a midday break.

Before the shift, Cole recalled, popular exhibits were sometimes five families deep on busy days, with no room to explore. Now, everyone has space.

"We wanted to make sure people had their best experience ... plus it's good for staff morale to have a break in the middle of the day, reset the museum, and start fresh again."

The museum is growing, with a major addition due this fall. A 40-foot Luckey Climber, the same kind of dramatic net structure as the one located in the lobby of Boston's Children's Museum,

will open in October. The project cost \$750,000, all raised by the museum, and includes LED-lit platforms integrated into the safety netting.

Cole offered a caveat for prospective visitors: Maker Fest is a different kind of day at the museum. Some exhibits will be open, but the galleries won't be running at full capacity. The event has more of a block party energy than a typical museum visit — louder, more crowded, organized around doing rather than observing.

There are also extras like multiple food trucks for an event that happens both inside and outside. "So if you're looking for a regular day of playing in a museum, this might not be the best one," Cole said. "But it's also really fun, and you'll get a lot of unique experiences." 🍄

### Art

#### Opening

• **"The Human Canvas,"** an exhibition of "works of all mediums that explore the intimate and historic art-form of tattooing" will run Monday, June 8, through Monday, Aug. 3, at Mosaic Art Collective, 66 Hanover St. Suite 201 in Manchester, with an opening reception on Saturday, June 13, from 5 to 7 p.m., according to [mosaicartcollective.com](http://mosaicartcollective.com).

#### Events

• **The 2026 Nashua International Sculpture Symposium** will hold a closing ceremony and visit to the sculptures' installation sites on Saturday, June 6, at 1 p.m. See [NashuaSculptureSymposium.org](http://NashuaSculptureSymposium.org).

• **Leather and Lace Exhibition Party** at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St. in Manchester, on Friday, June 12, from 7 to 9 p.m. in conjunction with the current exhibit "Danny Lyon: The Bikeriders." "Join us for a night of photography and rock and roll. Cash bar with specialty drinks," according to an email from the Currier. See [currier.org](http://currier.org) for tickets.

### Exhibits

• **"Metamorphosis"** is on display at Art 3 Gallery, 44 W. Brook St. in Manchester, [art3gallery.com](http://art3gallery.com). "Featuring works by new and established artists, the exhibit examines the many forms of change — personal, social, environmental, and spiritual — through painting, sculpture, and mixed media," according to an email from the gallery, which is open Monday through Friday, 12:30 to 4 p.m. or by appointment.

• **"Frank Lloyd Wright in Manchester: The Histories of the Zimmermans and Kalils"** is on display at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St. in Manchester, [currier.org](http://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.

• **2026 Sylvia Brofos Student Exhibition** will be on display through June 11 at the Kimball Jenkins mansion, 266 N. Main St. in Concord, according to a KJ email. The gallery is open Monday, June 8, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, June 9, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.;

Thursday, June 4, and June 11, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, June 6, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. See [kimballjenkins.com](http://kimballjenkins.com).

• **"Emergence,"** a spring juried members' exhibition, will run through Saturday, June 27, at the Center for the Arts Members Gallery, 428 Main St. in New London. "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](http://cfanh.org).

• **"Creme de la Creme"** a members exhibition featuring 150 works from more than 100 artists in a collaboration between New Hampshire Art Association and The Art Center, will run through the end of June at The Art Center, 1 Washington St. in Dover, with an artist reception on Saturday, June 6, from 6 to 9 p.m., according to a press release. "See [theartcenterdover.com](http://theartcenterdover.com).

### Museums

#### Events

• The Nashua Historical Society will host two performances of **Declaring Independence: Then and Now** on Thursday, June 4, at 5 and 7 p.m. at the Florence H. Speare Memorial Museum, 5 Abbot St. in Nashua, according to a press release. "Presented by actors in period dress, the performance combines historical storytelling with an annotated reading of the Declaration itself, inviting audiences to consider both the courage of 1776 and the enduring relevance of the nation's founding ideals today," the release said. The event is free but registration is required; see the society's Facebook page for links to register for one of the performance times.

• **Morning Sun**, a play by Simon Stephens, will be presented by Theatre Kapow at the BNH Stage in Concord on Friday, June 5, through Sunday, June 7, and at the NH Theatre Project in Portsmouth on Friday, June 12, through Sunday, June 14, according to a press release. ASL Interpretation will be available at the Sunday, June 7, 2 p.m. performance at the BNH Stage in Concord, the release said. Show take place at at 7:30 p.m. on June 5, June 6 and June 12; 2 p.m. on June 7 and June 14 and at 4 p.m. on June 13, the release said. See [tkapow.com](http://tkapow.com) for tickets.

• **Love ...Or Best Offer** "a lighthearted yet heartfelt look at online dating in the 'over 50' generation, blending humor with relatable heartbreak," will be presented by Bedford Off Broadway at the Bedford Town Hall, corner of 70 Bedford Center Road and Meetinghouse Road, June 5-14.

mainstage performances at the Palace, according to [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org), where you can purchase tickets. The show will run Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. plus Thursday, June 18, at 7:30 p.m.

• **Spurred Bells** "a presentation from the Granite State Ringers will take place Saturday, June 6, at 7 p.m. At First Parish Church in Dover and Sunday, June 7, at 3 p.m. at the Derry Opera House, according to a press release. See [granitestateringers.org](http://granitestateringers.org) for tickets. The show will also be performed on

• **Jazz Showcase** at Ted Herbert Music School and the Majestic Theatre Studios, 880 Page St. in Manchester, will take place Sunday, June 7, at 2 p.m. and "will feature performances by the 2026 Ted Herbert Community Big Band as well as performances by Ted Herbert students and instructors," according to a press release. See [majestictheatre.net](http://majestictheatre.net) for tickets (which will also be for sale at the door).

### Classical

Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays, according to a press release. Tickets are available at the door for \$15 (\$12 for students and seniors) and at [events.com](http://events.com).

• **Spirited Bells** "a presentation from the Granite State Ringers will take place Saturday, June 6, at 7 p.m. At First Parish Church in Dover and Sunday, June 7, at 3 p.m. at the Derry Opera House, according to a press release. See [granitestateringers.org](http://granitestateringers.org) for tickets. The show will also be performed on

• **Jazz Showcase** at Ted Herbert Music School and the Majestic Theatre Studios, 880 Page St. in Manchester, will take place Sunday, June 7, at 2 p.m. and "will feature performances by the 2026 Ted Herbert Community Big Band as well as performances by Ted Herbert students and instructors," according to a press release. See [majestictheatre.net](http://majestictheatre.net) for tickets (which will also be for sale at the door).



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## Music and learning

The “Be Like Blippi” Tour comes to the Capitol Center for the Arts Chubb Theatre, 44 S. Main St. in Concord, on Friday, June 5, at 6 p.m., according to ccanh.com, where you can

purchase tickets. “Join Blippi and Meekah live on stage for a one-of-a-kind interactive adventure that inspires kids to move like, play like, and explore just like Blippi! the website said. See Blippi’s videos on YouTube.

## Book fun

- Bookery, 844 Elm St. in Manchester, will celebrate the book launch for the children’s book *The Ostrich Needs a Lift*, by local author Celia Botto, on Friday, June 5, from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m., according to bookerymht.com.

- The Griffin Free Public Library, 22 Hook-

sett Road in Auburn, will hold a **Happy 100th Birthday to Pooh** celebration of Winnie the Pooh on Saturday, June 6, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., according to griffinfree.org.

- Get some new-to-you books for everyone in the family at the **Friends of the Goffstown Public Library Book Sale** on Saturday, June 6, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the lawn of the Goffstown Public Library, 2 High St. in Goffstown, according to goffstownlibrary.com. A \$10-per-bag sale (bring your own reusable shopping bag) will take place from 1 to 2 p.m., according to the Friends’ Facebook page.

## Old Home Day

- **Goffstown’s Old Home Day** will take place Saturday, June 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with local vendors, food, live music and entertainment and kids’ activities and games, according to goffstownmainstreet.org/old-home-day. The festivities also include an outdoor movie at 7 p.m. and LED fireworks in the Town Common on Friday, June 5, the website said. 🍌

## CAR TALK

# VW’s oil leak can also cause leaking air — and money



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:

*My 2011 turbocharged Volkswagen CC 2.0L has a rear bearing seal that is leaking oil. But I’m being told by my mechanic that it’s also leaking air! He says this causes computer problems, which illuminates the “Check Engine” light. Can you explain this to me? I’ve never heard of an engine leaking air.*

— Donald

Yeah, we usually associate leaking air with

tires. But engines can have air leaks, too. They’re more commonly referred to as vacuum leaks.

When the pistons in your engine travel down, they suck in air, which is necessary for combustion. That creates a vacuum. And over the years, carmakers have cleverly employed that vacuum to run other stuff. Things like power brakes, emissions equipment, and parts of your turbocharger are vacuum-operated. So, if there’s a big enough leak in the engine (where oil can leak out), it’s possible that enough air can leak in to wipe out some of your vacuum pressure.

That can cause problems with your turbocharger directly. It can also affect your crankcase ventilation system. That system operates by vacuum and pulls combustion vapors out of the crankcase, and reintroduces them into the cylinders where they can be fully burned. And either of those vacuum-related problems (and some others) could cause your “Check Engine” light to come on. So, what do you do about it? You start by fixing the rear engine seal. It’s likely that that’ll fix both your oil leak and your vacuum leak.

It’s a big job, as your mechanic may have told

you (while rubbing his hands together, and mentally checking off his next six boat payments). The rear bearing is between the back of the engine and the transmission, so it requires removing and separating the transmission from the engine.

And then separating \$1,800 from your bank account (maybe more). The tragedy is that the part costs about \$80. And the rest is labor.

But it has to be done if you intend to keep the car, Donald. So, suck it up. Like your newly repaired engine vacuum will do.

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

## PRIDE MONTH

Find Pride celebrations in several area towns and cities in June. Here are a few of the events on the calendar.

- The **First Friday Concord** on Friday, June 5, from 4 to 8 p.m., has the theme **Concord Pride**, according to [firstfridayconcord.com/june](http://firstfridayconcord.com/june), where you can find a map and full schedule. The evening will include LGBTQ+ organizations on the Statehouse lawn from 4 to 5 p.m.; live music performances by Ashborne (City Hall Plaza, 4 to 8 p.m.), Kyle Erickson (Bicentennial Square, 4 to 5:45 p.m.) and Trade (Bicentennial Square, 6:15 to 8 p.m.), and food trucks Nothing Bundt Cakes, Nice Ice Baby, DeadProof Pizza and Stacy’s Grill, the website said.

- The **6th annual Windham Pride** will be held Saturday, June 6, from noon to 4 p.m. and

feature live entertainment, food trucks, kids’ activities and more, according to a post on the Windham Citizens for Diversity, Equity + Inclusion Facebook page.

- The **Concord Pride 5K Run/Walk 2026** will take place Sunday, June 7, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Statehouse with the start/finish line on Capitol Street, according to posts on the Equality Health Center Facebook page, where you can find links to sign up.

- The **Milford Pride Fest 2026** will take place Sunday, June 7, from noon to 4 p.m. at the stage at Keyes Park in Milford featuring music, drag performers, food trucks, vendors and more, according to the event’s Facebook page

- **Portsmouth Pride 2026** will take place Saturday, June 20, kicking off with a parade at 12:30

p.m. followed by the festival, which runs from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth, according to [nhoutright.org/portsmouth-pride](http://nhoutright.org/portsmouth-pride), where you can find more details on this and other Pride month events in Portsmouth.

- **Nashua Pride Festival** will run Saturday, June 20, from 2 to 7 p.m. at Holman Stadium in Nashua, according to [downtownnashua.org](http://downtownnashua.org). The day will include live performances, food trucks, local vendors, community organizations and activities for all ages, according to the website. The festivities begin with a parade that starts at 1:30 p.m. at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument (at the intersection of Concord, Amherst and Nashville streets) and ends at Holman Stadium, according to [nashuanh.gov](http://nashuanh.gov).

- The **Manchester Pride Festival & Parade**

will take place Saturday, June 27, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Manchester, according to [manchestertrue.org](http://manchestertrue.org). The parade will kick off the day, followed by live performances, food, local vendors and community organizations and more, according to a post on the Manchester True Collaborative Facebook page. See the Manchester True Collaborate website for details on other Pride events happening throughout June including the Pride Youth Hop on June 23 and the official Pride afterparty on June 27.

Know of an upcoming pride event not mentioned here? Let us know at [adiatz@hippypress.com](mailto:adiatz@hippypress.com).

— Compiled by Amy Diaz 🍌

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# The bees' needs

## NH Audubon expands plant sale with Pollinator Festival

By John Fladd  
jfladd@hippypress.com

For most non-specialists, knowledge of pollinators begins and ends with honeybees. Honeybees are certainly important, said Diane DeLuca of New Hampshire Audubon.

"They do a lot of the pollinating of our agricultural crops and fruit trees and things like that. But the native pollinators include hundreds of species of native bees in New Hampshire. We're still learning about the native bees in New Hampshire. ... We have over 100 species of butterflies in New Hampshire and we're still learning about those as well. So in terms of pollinators we're talking about native bees, butterflies, flies, beetles and ants. The hummingbird is really the only bird that would probably be considered a pollinator in New Hampshire."

For many years one of the missions of NH Audubon has been to educate the public about the importance of native species. Pollinators — species of animals that carry pollen from one plant to another, fertilizing them to produce the next generation of plants — are some of the most important of those native species, DeLuca said.

"For years we've been having a native plant sale," she said, "where we've invited native plant nurseries to come and share their plants at New Hampshire Audubon. And in the last couple of years we've joined that with a spring craft fair. And



Pollinator flowers. Photo by John Fladd.

so up until now there's been the native plant sale outside, and the craft fair has been inside the building. But this year we're expanding and having what we're calling a Pollinator Fest. It will include native plant vendors and our spring crafters and a number of pollinator conservation organizations. New Hampshire Audubon will also give garden tours and have informational tables about pollinators and gardeners. The

whole thing is going to take place outside in the fields near [NH Audubon's] McClane Center. This will be our first Pollinator Festival, and we're pretty excited."

"There will be activities for families," DeLuca said, "for children. There's going to be a story hour with crafting for children, and the nature lab's going to be open, and there will be an hour or two of an educational staff person sharing out the animals that we have. There will also be food trucks and live music as well."

Different species of plant blossom throughout the year, DeLuca said, so it's possible to see many different species of pollinators at different times of the year, but June is a particularly good time to pay attention to them.

"Our spring ephemerals — our early bloomers — many of the trees are blooming or even past bloom at this point, so it's an important time of year for blooming. It's also an important time of year for many of the pollinators. For instance, the bees are out and about right now because the queen bees are actually gathering food so they can lay eggs and raise young, and they're going to be doing that underground for the most part. Some of them nest in like pithy stems or woody areas and stuff, but a lot of them are just nesting underground. So it is a really important time for many of the native pollinators." This will provide an excellent opportunity for visitors to learn about some of the hundreds of area pollinators first-hand, she said. 🍯

### NH Audubon Pollinator Festival

**What:** There will be native plants for sale, as well as a wide variety of handmade crafts by local artisans. Experts will be on hand to discuss pollination and native pollinator species.

**When:** Saturday, June 6, with a rain date of Sunday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Where:** NH Audubon McClane Center, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909

**Admission:** free

**More:** [nhaudubon.org/event/pollinator-fest-2026](http://nhaudubon.org/event/pollinator-fest-2026)

### INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,  
We have a partial set of encyclopedias, with just one missing. Is there any interest in these? Would love to see them reused at a good home. All are in good clean shape with no smell.

Thanks,  
George

Dear George,  
Not sure what the secondary market will bring these days for an incomplete set. I would think being from the late 1950s into the '60s these Golden Book encyclopedias would have some interesting information. I think as far as value goes the missing one would



be important for a sale. The value of a complete set would run in the \$75 range. But to give them away you just have to find the right place. If it were me, I might try a used book store, a donation store or possibly an afterschool program. It could be tough, though, to find the right one. I hope this helps you, George, and wish you luck. Thanks for sharing with us.

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

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## News from the local food scene

By John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

• **Manchester farmers market opens for the season:** Manchester Farmers' and Makers' Market has opened for the season. Wednesdays, 4 to 7 p.m. at Arms Park — the one by the river, with the painted steps. Has your local farmers market opened for the season yet? Let us know at [jfladd@hippopress.com](mailto:jfladd@hippopress.com).

• **Popcorn and pinot:** Red River Theatres (11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, [redriver-theatres.org](http://redriver-theatres.org)) and Wine on Main (9 N. Main St., Concord, 897-5828, [wineonmainnh.com](http://wineonmainnh.com)) will host a Sip and Snack party Thursday, June 4, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Theatres. Snack on classic movie concession treats paired with fun, sippable wines and a voucher to a movie of your choice. Each \$40 ticket includes four classic movie snacks, four complimentary wines and a glass of bubbly. Visit the Wine on Main website.

• **A daze of wine and roses:** Lose yourself in an evening of painting, flowers and wine. There will be a Paint & Sip workshop on floral watercolor paintings on Thursday, June 4, at LaBelle Winery Derry (14 Route 111, Derry, 672-9898, [labellewinery.com/labelle-winery-derry](http://labellewinery.com/labelle-winery-derry)) from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Paige Lindsey of Paige Lindsey Design will teach you how to paint expressive summer florals while exploring foundational watercolor painting techniques in a relaxed, creative setting. All class materials are provided, and no experience is necessary. Tickets start at \$64 through the LaBelle website.

• **Rhubarb!** The Town of Bennington will hold its Annual Rhubarb Festival on Saturday, June 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sawyer Memorial Park, 148 Route 202. Enjoy a celebration of all things rhubarb. There will be a craft fair, vendors, food trucks, children's activities, a petting zoo, a story walk, music, plants, baked goods, jams, beverages and more. Visit [townofbennington.com/rhubarb-festival](http://townofbennington.com/rhubarb-festival).

• **Brunch at the winery:** Flag Hill Winery (297 N. River Road, Lee, 659-2949, [flaghill.com](http://flaghill.com)) will hold its first Brunch and Bubbles event of the summer Sunday, June 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sparkling Cayuga White is included with your brunch; have fun with a make-your-own-mimosa bar. Tickets are \$42.30 through the Flag Hill website.

• **Classy but relaxed:** Local Street Eats (112 W. Pearl St., Nashua, 402-4435, [local-street-eats.com](http://local-street-eats.com)) will host Bubbles and Bumps, an evening of Champagne and caviar with Island Creek Caviar and Moët & Chandon, Wednesday, June 10, at 6 p.m. Guests will explore four distinct varieties, from buttery California white sturgeon to bright Danish trout roe, while sipping perfectly paired Champagne and building their own bites with elevated accompa-

18 ▶

## FOOD

# Local bacon, beer and help

### High Hopes Foundation makes NH its focus at Bacon & Beer Festival

By John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

The High Hopes Foundation is a nonprofit organization committed to providing life-enhancing assistance that promotes independence, inclusion and fun for New Hampshire's chronically ill children. According to High Hopes' Lisa Rourke, for the past decade the answer to getting buy-in from the community has come down to two factors: beer and bacon.

On Saturday, June 6, High Hopes will host its 10th annual NH Bacon & Beer Festival in Manchester's Arms Park.

"This is really New Hampshire's premier all-inclusive event," Rourke said. "It includes all-inclusive tastings of craft brews, cider, seltzer, all-inclusive tastings of the bacon creations we have going on, and live music." For Rourke, the key term here is "all-inclusive."

"I've done my due diligence," she said. "I've visited other beer fests to see what's been going on. I've always had a great time, but then I'd get hungry and I've had to go pay for food. Not here. The general admission ticket prices are \$70, but you don't take out your wallet once you get in. The food is included, the drinks are included, it's all included."

"The High Hopes Foundation exists to serve

### 10th Annual NH Bacon & Beer Festival

**When:** Saturday, June 6, from 1:30 to 5 p.m., with last pours at 4:30 p.m.

**Where:** Arms Park, 10 Arms St., Manchester

**Tickets:** General admission tickets cost \$70 in advance or \$80 at the gate if they are still available. A three-hour session includes continuous 3.5-ounce brew tastings from 60 brewers. **More:** [nhbaconbeer.com](http://nhbaconbeer.com)



Lucky Pig BBQ. Courtesy photo.

the state of New Hampshire only," Rourke said, and that is represented in the food and drink at the festival. "There will be more than 20 local restaurants, and food truck vendors participating. There are about 60 local brewers and makers of cider and seltzers. They all come together to support the Foundation and our mission. We award a people's choice prize for the best bacon sample. It's fun to see those guys get real creative. Over the years, we've come a long way from a bacon jam and now we're up to dishes like inside-out pork belly and bacon-wrapped dumplings. It's been really fun to see those guys having fun and getting really competitive with it over the years."

Rourke said that because one of the organizers' main priorities is to focus on the attendees' good time, the restaurants coming up with these bacon dishes never present them to a panel of judges. "It's all the people's choice," she said. "We have about 1,500 attendees [who] come to the event," and feeding them something great is critical.

"I think food just brings people together," she said, "and certainly, especially in the Manchester area, there's some culinary greatness coming out of there. And we're excited about



Stash Box. Courtesy photo.

a lot of the restaurants we have this year, like Campo Enoteca, Stashbox, and Industry East; those guys are just so good at their craft. And they're really good at ramping up the crowd. They're just fun people to be around. For all of us, I think it's more about getting together over great dishes than anything else, and just coming together for the good of the community and having a great time."

Rourke said the Bacon & Beer Festival has become the unofficial launching point of the food festival season.

"The other thing I like about this festival," she said, "is we promote it as a kickoff to summer. So you can go sample from 60 different breweries and figure out what they have that's new and fresh and that you want to bring to the lake with you all summer. We hope that attendees have a great time, that they feel good about their ticket proceeds going to a nonprofit that supports our state. And we hope that attendees get to experience different vendors within our state and what they have to offer and hopefully remember them and visit them after the festival."

And that they eat a lot of bacon. 🍖

## FOOD

# Herbs for food and health

### Greenery is on the menu for the 17th annual Herb and Garden Day

By John Fladd  
jfladd@hippopress.com

As you might suspect, the New Hampshire Herbal Network is made up of herb enthusiasts.

"We are a social group that gets together to talk about herbs, gardening, herbal medicine, environment and society," said Ann-Marie Jackson, the group's president. The NHHN will hold its annual Herb and Garden Day Saturday, June 6, at the Forest Society Conservation Center in Concord.

"This will be our 17th annual Herb and Garden Day," Jackson said. "It's an educational fair, so there are workshops for all levels, plant ID walks, kids' activities, and there's also a

market, and it's an artisans market. It's like a fair. There are activities that can be crafty, so [people] can make and take, or they can be super-fun and just interesting. [Activities] might be about gardening or they might be about health or a particular issue. For instance, one of the workshops this year is going to be on menopause, and another workshop is going to be on botanical beauty — how to use herbal products for your skin care and your hair care and things like that."

The Herbal Network looks at herbs from perspectives of food and of health. In fact, Jackson said, there isn't a huge distinction between the two.

"If you look at [herbs like] thyme, basil,



Herb and Garden Day will focus on culinary and medicinal herbs. Courtesy photo.

oregano or garlic," she said, "these are all actually medicinal herbs. In workshop sessions for a plant ID walk on Saturday, an herbalist will take you around the property and point out any medicinal herbs that they would see, or plants of interest that they would see, or even fruiting trees and mushrooms. Myself, I am leading the mushroom ID walk."

Jackson said that this year's Herb and Garden Day will be a little more tightly focused than in some previous years, with a more select group of vendors. This is due, she said, to the event's new venue.

"This is our first time at the Society for the Preservation of New Hampshire Forests' Conservation Center in Concord," she said. "And we could not take as many vendors as we have in the past. For the last four years we were at the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum in Warner and we were outside and we had about 35 vendors. This year we have some indoor and outdoor space, but we only have 20 vendors at this one."

According to a schedule of events posted on the Herbal Network's website, in addition to plant ID walks there will be workshops on

### Herb and Garden Day

The New Hampshire Herbal Network's annual Herb and Garden Day will take place Saturday, June 6, at the Forest Society Conservation Center at 54 Portsmouth St. in Concord. Tickets are \$35 in advance, or \$55 on the day of the event. Visit [nhherbalnetwork.org/herbdays](http://nhherbalnetwork.org/herbdays).



2026 Herb and Garden Day will feature workshops by herb experts as well as vendors. Courtesy photo.

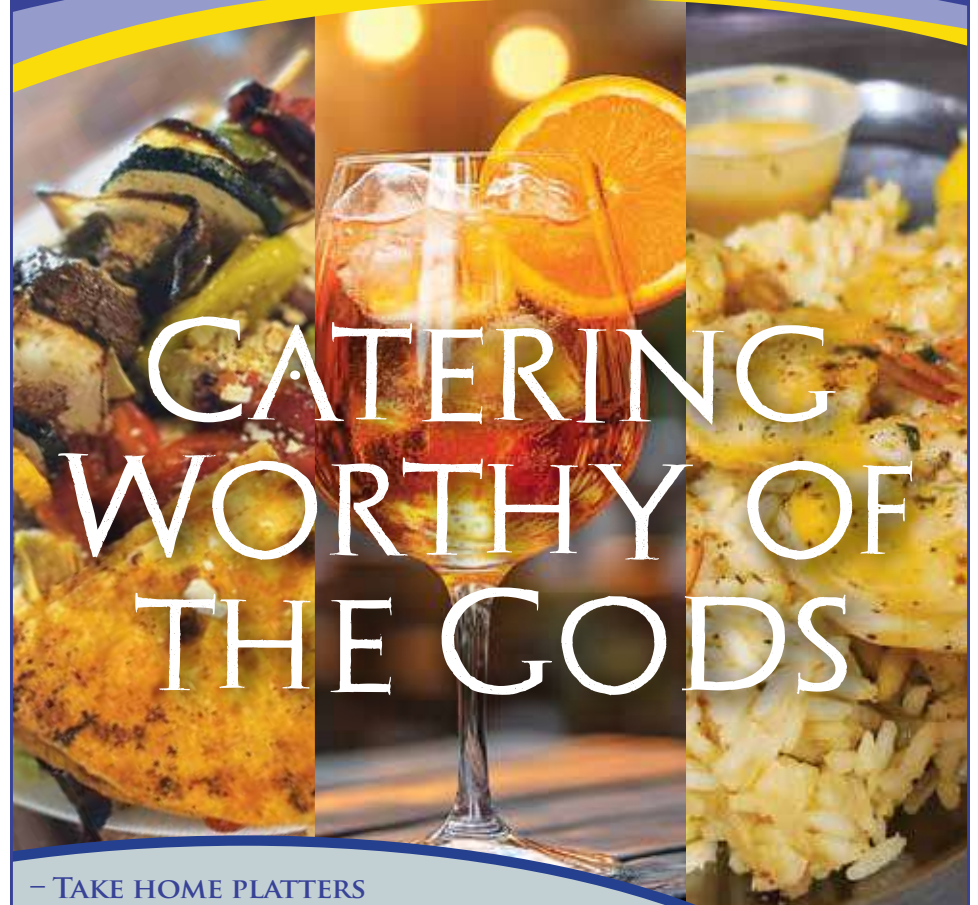
aromatic kitchen herbs, oils and mushrooms, herbs used for pain relief, herbs used to fight cancer, plant-based dyes, herbs' role in gut health, self-sufficiency through food preservation, and more — highlighting the versatility of herbs in different aspects of people's lives.

Jackson said Herb and Garden Day is a good way to introduce the public to the New Hampshire Herbal Network.

"We do not ask membership dues from any of our members," she said. "In fact if you want to become a member all you need to do is either subscribe to our newsletter or buy a ticket for Herb and Garden Day and you will become a member. We have other public meetings through the year, but this is our big fundraiser. The money is to go toward paying our teachers and getting guest speakers and things like that." She encourages people to visit NHHN's website for more information about this year's Herb and Garden Day. 🍷



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FOOD



## DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

### Steamed pudding with rhubarb sauce

This isn't the type of pudding you're thinking of. It's an old-fashioned, British-style steamed pudding adapted from a 1930 recipe booklet put out by a baking powder company that I found at a yard sale this spring. It's like a dense cake, but steamed in a pot on the top of your stove, instead of baked in the oven. This sort of pudding goes back to pre-Roman times and makes a lot of sense if you think about how difficult it must have been to keep an oven at a consistent temperature. Using steam to cook would keep the temperature at a steady heat, so once you'd worked out the timing it would be an extremely reliable recipe.

#### pudding

- 2 cups (240 g) all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup (about 5½ Tablespoons or 75 g) butter
- ½ cup (99 g) sugar
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup (227 g) whole milk
- 1 cup (170 g) dried, sweetened cranberries

#### Rhubarb Sauce

- About 3 cups (333 g) frozen, chopped rhubarb
- An equal amount, by weight (333 g), sugar
- Zest of 1 lemon
- Juice of ½ lemon

Whisk the dry ingredients together — the flour, baking powder and salt — in a bowl, and set aside.

Cream the butter and sugar together with your electric mixer, then beat in the egg. Add the milk and the dry ingredients a little at a time, alternating between the two. Stir in the cranberries by hand.

Fill a "mold" with a cover with the batter. Back in the day, every kitchen would have a couple of pudding molds. If you have a small Bundt pan, that will work well. Crumple up some waxed paper or parchment paper, then cover the pan, and tie it on with twine. (Yes, I



Steamed pudding with rhubarb sauce. Photo by John Fladd.

know that sounds like Too Much Trouble, but it really isn't.) Alternatively, I used a 1-quart glass bowl with a plastic lid, and it worked well.

You probably have a steamer in one of the drawers in your kitchen, but you've never been sure what it is. It's really easy to use. Look up "How to steam a pudding" online and you'll find any number of short videos that will demonstrate it for you. If everything seems too complicated, place a couple of bricks in the bottom of your largest pot, then pour an inch or so of water into the bottom. Place your mold on top of the bricks, and that will work just as well.

(My only steaming hack is to wet a tea towel and drape it between the top of the pot and its lid, and use it to make a tight seal, so the steam is trapped in the pot.)

Steam the pudding over low heat for two hours.

Meanwhile, cook the chopped rhubarb and sugar together over medium heat in a small saucepan, stirring occasionally, until it comes to a boil. Remove it from the heat and stir in the lemon zest and juice. This makes a sweet but tart sauce that goes spectacularly well with your steamed pudding — and, if you are so inclined, a scoop of vanilla ice cream. 🍷

### Weekly Dish

Continued from page 16

niments. Tickets are \$95 per person through the Local Street Eats website.

• **Cupcakes and martinis!** The theme of June's cupcake-and-martini pairing at the Copper Door (15 Leavy Drive, Bedford, 488-2677, or 41 S. Broadway, Salem, 458-2033, [copperdoor.com](http://copperdoor.com)) is mango and coconut. The Mango and Coconut

Martini includes coconut tequila, coconut rum, mango juice and pineapple juice with a toasted coconut rim for \$14.75. The Mango and Coconut Cupcake is a coconut cupcake with a mango puree filling, coconut frosting, a white chocolate cup, coconut cream drizzle, dried mango and dried coconut flakes for \$12. 🍷

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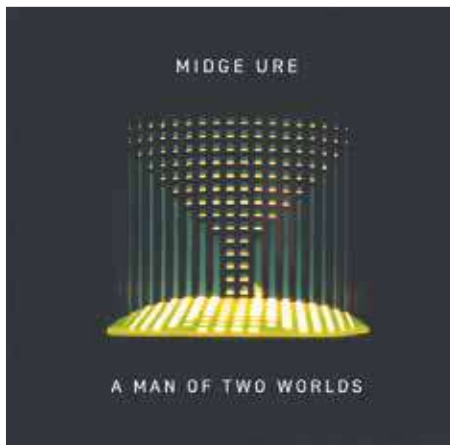
## Aaron Bilodeau, *Lid Licker* (self-released/Bandcamp)



So here is a fellow from Milford, N.H., whose trip is experimental art-rock, unless he's pulling my leg, but I'm now pretty much convinced he isn't. The latter bit I have to mention because this was nothing like I'd expected in the area of loudness (let's admit it, New Hampshireites, most of our local bands don't know how to be *really* noisy) or seriousness, but this guy does seem to be on a mission, bless him. He apparently has a lot of projects, but this is him unfiltered, and by the way, he's currently looking for Milford-area musicians to do some live shows with this collection of tunes, so look him up on Bandcamp if you're interested. Anyway, the music is fun in its way, very hard to pinpoint at first, but in the end it evokes a three-way cross between Blue

Oyster Cult, Screamin' Jay Hawkins and Captain Beefheart. To wit, there's a lot of blues-rock going on here (turbo-powered by a Deep Purple-style Hammond organ and the usual guitars and such), some (a bit too polite) spazzing and a healthy dose of alternative weirdness. I personally think he's on to something that might really work with the right collaborators, so please give him a shout. **B** —Eric W. Saeger 🍷

## Midge Ure, *A Man Of Two Worlds* (Chrysalis Records)



Let me scramble the usual lead-in: What can one say about this 72-year-old Scotsman that someone who was born in the last 40 years should even know? OK, he was in legendary New Wave band Ultravox, but he was also in Thin Lizzy, let's start there; he hasn't released an album since 2014, and "Midge" is his real name, Jim, pronounced backward. So he's a firebrand and a loose cannon, as you now know, but he's also an elite-level songwriter (he co-wrote the charity single "Do They Know It's Christmas" for the Band Aid project in 1984) who hasn't lost his edge or writing ability at all; in fact he's upped it by embracing his maturation. Half of this all-new double-LP set showcases his songwriting for vocalists, with

single "Just Words" reaching for the show-stopping epicness usually reserved for new-jack divas like Taylor Swift, whereas the other half delves into commercial instrumental tuneage that sometimes gets a little mawkish ("The Space In-Between"). Put it this way, don't pretend to understand what old people grew up listening to without knowing thing one about this guy. **A** — Eric W. Saeger 🍷

## PLAYLIST

*A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases*

• June 5 is when we'll see the next bunch of new music CDs hit our Soundclouds, but first this message about the Manchvegas music scene! Some of you know that during the Precambrian era, when we were all just amoebas with only slightly less artistic taste than we have now, I was in a punk-metal band that made some records. This was before we amoebas crawled ashore and became humans, at which point I decided I liked money, so I gave up making records and became a software guy, then got totally sick of having any money at all and wrote some books. Anyway, when I was a simple amoeba, making records and playing at local clubs like the **Granite Rock Club** in Nashua, we played several shows with a local Manchvegas fellow who called himself **Jonny** (sometimes spelled "Johne" or "Jonhee") **Earthquake**. Now, let me tell you little twerking brats about the Manchester, New Hampshire, rock 'n' roll scene back when Abraham Lincoln was president, it was a dangerous place, like half the bands were associated with the immortal and hilariously insane punk rocker **GG Allin**, who used to go on stage and — well, never you mind what he used to do on stage. Fine, I'm getting to it, so, we played around nine million shows with Jonny Earthquake when he was also making albums, and all I knew about him was that he loved **Nick Cave** the way you kids love **Justin Bieber** and **Raffi** today. Back then, Jonny dressed like a pirate everywhere he went, with a Captain Hook hat and coat and the whole works, so if anyone had asked me two weeks ago, "Is Jonny still around," I would have assumed he'd either become a software engineer, bought an Arby's or decided to become an actual pirate and moved to Aruba or whatnot. Funny thing, I was in the Manchester Market Basket (pronounced "MAH-kit bass-kit") the other day and spotted a literal pirate buying some stuff just as I was leaving. There he was! It's official, Johnee is alive, folks, I had no idea, and he still dresses like — you know, Jack Sparrow, around Manchvegas! We made some small talk about Nick Cave and the corporate greed Apocalypse and I told him who I was, the music-journo dude at this fine family newspaper, and he was like, "Oh. You." Apparently Jonnee hates my taste or something, or maybe the fact that I've never mentioned his band, but I am making amends now! Ahem, OK, kids, put away your **Roblox** soundtrack albums and go buy a Jonee Earthquake album at **Newbury Comics** if they have any, that'd be great, support your local pirates bands! And that deftly and sublimely segues us over to the new album from **Death Cab for Cutie**, a band that's about as punk as a **Lawrence Welk** polka marathon! This album, *I Built You A Tower*, features the single "Riptides," which I was prepared to hate, which is good, because it's like a 1970s Bob Welch B-side that doubles as a sleeping aid.

• The title track to **Lizzo**'s new LP *Bitch* interpolates the bratty 1997 Meredith Brooks pop hit that everyone thought was Alanis. There are swears and rapping, because of course there are.

• *Liminal*, the new album from avant garde London, U.K., composer **Poppy Ackroyd**, features a piano-driven instrumental titled "The Unknown" that reads like next-generation soundtracking, very nice stuff.

• Lastly, **Modest Mouse** releases their eighth full-length, *An Eraser And A Maze*, on Friday. Leadoff single "Look How Far" is pretty berserk, like if Strokes were possessed by Captain Beefheart, I don't mind it at all. — 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

**Yesteryear**, by Caro Claire Burke (Alfred A. Knopf, 391 pages)

One of the stranger things to emerge from the internet is the tradwife influencer, a woman who uses the most modern of technology to promote a lifestyle that is decades or even centuries old. Natalie Heller Mills is that woman, though the fictional creation of Caro Claire Burke's soon-to-be-blockbuster novel *Yesteryear*. Think Ballerina Farm or Nara Smith or any other influencer with millions of followers who makes her own butter in which to fry eggs that she has collected from her yard in a flowing dress. Then give her an affable, aimless husband who is part of a political dynasty, a \$5 million infusion in cash and a staff. It's a novel made for our time, which is why Amazon has already acquired the film rights.

Burke brings a cynical eye to the enterprise, not so different from the "Angry Women" in the Instagram comments that Natalie is always complaining about. A blurb on the book cover calls it a "bold and biting satire," but it's darker than that, and *Yesteryear* tests how long a reader is willing to stick with a narrator who is deeply unlikeable.

When we meet Natalie, on "the last day of the life I imagined for myself," she is living her best life, or at least the best life she presents to the world, on a 500-acre farm in Idaho, where she lives with her husband, Caleb, and five improbably named children: Clementine, Stetson, Samuel, Jessa and Junebug. Other than giving birth, she does very little mothering. Or farming. Two nannies who share small quarters in a barn do the child care and homeschooling, while Natalie mostly putters about being filmed while she does things like make sourdough boules with herbs positioned in the shape of a Nativity scene.

Natalie's followers on social media love her and hate her. She mostly hates them. "It was a symbiotic relationship. I was a shark, and they were five million tiny fish, nipping at the nutrients along my belly," she observes. "Little idiots.

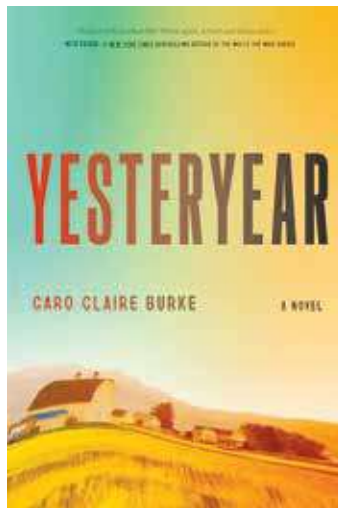
They were desperate to eat me. They had no idea I was the one who was keeping them alive."

She built a profitable business, follower by follower, by showing them carefully curated images of her idyllic life and then selling them things in her online store. She has no moral qualms about putting her kids out into the world on social media, "Their best selves preserved inside the four walls of my phone like little bugs preserved in amber."

But there are signs that things aren't quite what they seem to be. She's estranged from her sister, who also has five kids, and is mildly obsessed with the career path of her college roommate, Reena, even while having contempt for the life Reena has chosen. Clementine, turning 13, suddenly doesn't want to be photographed. Her producer and videographer of two years has suddenly given notice, leaving a cryptic note that says, "I don't think you're a bad person. I think you're just confused." There are allegations of assault and adultery.

As bad as all that is, nothing is as bad as Natalie waking up one morning, freezing cold, in her house that isn't her house anymore but is a rough cabin with no modern amenities, showing the date as 1855. In this house, she has a husband, also named Caleb, and four children, who look somewhat like hers but aren't. But they all seem to think she is their mother.

When Caleb and Natalie had moved into the ranch they called Yesteryear, they'd spent untold money gutting it of modern renovations and making it look old but in a luxurious way: It had modern kitchen appliances but all hidden from view, a clawfoot tub "dripping in natural light" and a \$30,000 chicken coop with doors that open and shut automatically. This was pio-



near living, the kind that her great-great-grandparents lived. Terrified, she tries to flee, but finds this new version of her husband has turned abusive.

From there, we go back and forth into Natalie's old life, and Natalie's new life, slowly learning how the magical, fictional Yesteryear world came to be, and trying to figure out, with Natalie, how and why she came to be in this new, horrible place. Is it a reality show that she's been deposited in without her consent? Is she going mad or

being drugged? Which world is real?

It is a long time getting to the answers; Burke has shrewdly plotted this corn maze, although she overplays her hand with symbolism that is rich with contempt for religious zeal. Natalie was raised by a religious woman, and she makes a show of piety herself in ways that at times seem overly calculated. In one memorable line, she muses, shockingly, that Mary Magdalene was a woman who understood her assignment. It's a line that will thrill the secular elites, but perhaps not land so well in the deep South. Then again, as we learn from the opening pages, Natalie is not meant to win our hearts, but to mess with our heads.

This is not a book that will warm your heart in any way, but it will keep you engrossed as it spins you every which way like a clothes dryer (which you will appreciate all the more for having spent some time in Natalie's 1855 world). I closed the book wanting to shake it off like a bad dream. Will I watch the movie, which Anne Hathaway has already signed on to? Absolutely, because once she is in your head, Natalie will not easily leave. She's not the Hannibal Lecter of tradwives, but she's definitely no Ballerina Farm either — or rather let's hope Ballerina Farm is no Natalie Heller Mills. A —Jennifer Graham

### Books

#### Author events

- **Eric Jay Dolin** will talk about his latest book of maritime history, *The Wreck of The Mentor*, on Thursday, June 4, at 6:30 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com).
- **Susan Nolan** will talk about her book *Take the Blue Line to Wonderland*, which traces her journey from a shy girl in mid-century Connecticut to a pioneering flight attendant, on Thursday, June 4, at 7 p.m. at the Aviation Museum of NH (27 Navigator Road, Londonderry, aviation-museumofnh.org). Admission is \$10 (free for Aviation Museum members).
- **Jared Grace**, a local author, will sign copies of his mystery-horror-supernatural novel *Beyond the Autumn Leaves* on Saturday, June 6, noon-3 p.m. at Barnes & Noble in Manchester (1741 S. Willow St., bn.com).
- **Mary Dyer** will sign copies of her book *Dyer Straits: All Those Years Ago in Dorchester, MA* on Sunday, June 7, 1-3 p.m. at Bookery Manchester (844 Elm St.,

bookerymht.com).

- **David O. Dodge** will talk about his new historical novel, *Hannah: One Woman's Quest for Vengeance and Enlightenment*, based on the life of Hannah Duston, on Thursday, June 11, at 6:30 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com), and on Friday, June 12, at 3 p.m. at Balin Books (375 Amherst St., Nashua, balinbooks.com).
- **Seacoast LitFest** runs June 11-14 in Portsmouth and will include an evening with **Jenna Bush Hager** with special guest Shannon Garvey, a conversation with Dr. Temple Grandin, and presentations by Jill Lepore and Barbara McQuade. Purchase tickets at themusicchall.org.
- **Rick Davidson and Bill Thompson** present volumes 1 and 2 of *Buried New Hampshire*, about the state's most interesting burial sites, on Friday, June 12, at 6:30 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com).
- **Jonathan A. Wright** will discuss his new book, *Half a World Away: Nine Months*

*Around the World in 1962-1963 Through the Eyes of a Young Boy* on Saturday, June 13, at 11 a.m. at Toadstool Bookshop in Peterborough (12 Depot Square, toadstoolbooks.com).

- **Dennis Pierce** will discuss his newest book, *Cross Checking*, a mystery thriller, on Saturday, June 13, at 2 p.m. at Balin Books (375 Amherst Road, Nashua, balinbooks.com).
- **Isaac Fitzgerald** presents his new book *American Rambler: Walking the Trail of Johnny Appleseed* on Tuesday, June 16, at 6:30 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com).

#### Book events

- **Bookish Bingo** hosted by Bookish Bliss at Cork N Keg Grill in Raymond (inside Strikers East, 4 Essex Drive) on Tuesday, June 9, 5:30-8 p.m. bingo games start at 6 p.m. \$25 entry includes all 10 games played. Prizes include special-edition books, bookish merch, and gift baskets. Find Bookish Bliss on social media to buy tickets.

#### History, stories, discussions & lectures

- **New Hampshire Geology** presented by the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (starhop.com) on Wednesday, July 8, at 6 p.m. in the Manchester City Library auditorium (405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550). Registration is required; register at the library's website, manchesterlibrary.org, under Events.
- **The Dane Farm** presented by Ginny McKinnon on Thursday, July 9, at 7 p.m. at New Boston Community Church. Free. Visit newbostonhistoricalsociety.com for details.

#### Poetry

- **Poetry Reading Group** once a month from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at MainStreet BookEnds (16 E. Main St., Warner, mainstreetbookends.com). Saturday, June 6, discussing *New and Selected Poems* by Marie Howe.

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POP CULTURE FILM REVIEWS BY AMY DIAZ

## Like an 8-hour movie

A look at some TV with movie ties

By Amy Diaz  
adiaz@hippopress.com

With *The Mandalorian and Grogu* putting TV in movie theaters, let's look at some movie-flavored TV.

*The Other Bennet Sister* is currently in the final third of its 10-episode run on streaming service BritBox. Whether you're a fan of the Jennifer Ehle-Colin Firth 1995 *Pride and Prejudice* BBC miniseries or the Keira Knightley-Matthew Macfadyen 2005 *Pride & Prejudice* movie, this sequel-sidequel miniseries based on the book by Jane Austen is worth a \$10.99 one-month BritBox subscription. (The 1995 miniseries is available on Britbox and Peacock; 2005 is available for rent or purchase.) In Jane Austen's book, Mary was the spinster-in-training sister of the five Bennet girls. Here, the action for Mary (Ella Bruccoleri) really begins after the death of her father. Mary heads to London to serve as governess for her uncle, Mr. Gardner (Richard Coyle), and aunt, Mrs. Gardner (Indira Varma), and she's introduced to a new circle of family friends.

One of those friends, Thomas Hayward (Dónal Finn), seems as nerdily smitten with Mary as she is with him but he unfortunately has a preexisting "understanding" with the kind Ann Baxter (Varada Sethu). While Mary breaks out of her shell, she still sometimes finds herself trapped in her "the awkward one" persona, especially when she runs into Caroline Bingley (Tanya Reynolds), one-time Lizzy-competitor for Mr. Darcy's affections. Caroline pours on the mean girl when she realizes that Mr. Ryder (Laurie Davidson), the new fella she has her eye on, has his eye on Mary.

This TV show very much catches the tone of both book-Austen and the beloved BBC series. Bruccoleri, who I probably only knew from her role in *Call the Midwife*, does a good job of selling both Mary's initial awkwardness as the quiet one in a family of bigger personalities, and the character's hero's journey through the marriage market.

Want more of Mary's cutie Dónal Finn? Catch him on *Young Sherlock*, released in March on Amazon Prime Video. Though not necessarily of the Robert Downey Jr. *Sherlock Holmes* movie universe, it does share those movies' director, Guy Ritchie, who co-created the show and directed two episodes, according to Wikipedia. Ritchie gives us characters who, in tone at least, could age into the people we meet in *Sherlock Holmes* and *Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows* (both available for rent or purchase), particularly when it comes to Finn's James Moriarty, just a hot-headed student at Oxford here. He seems to permanently wear a bemused smile and encourages young Sherlock (Hero Fiennes Tiffin) in assorted hijinks. Sherlock is sent to Oxford to serve as a porter as a way of keeping him out of trouble — a plan by

his older brother Mycroft (Max Irons, son of the Jeremy Irons) to keep his younger brother from messing up his budding government career. Sherlock and Moriarty quickly find themselves tangled up in assorted crimes that all seem to lead to larger conspiracies, and the show has buoyant fun with the various capers and ye olde spycraft. And yes, the Sherlock actor is one of those Fienneses (a nephew of Joseph Fiennes who shows up to play the Holmes boys' father).

Another TV show running sort of in parallel to its creators' movie universe, also on Amazon Prime Video, is the eight-episode late May release *Spider-Noir*, starring Nicolas Cage, who also voiced the Spider-Man Noir character in 2018's *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse* (available on Netflix), though the show's Wikipedia page says that this character is a different version than the one in the movies. Here, Ben Reilly (Cage) is the rumpled 1930s gumshoe who was once the masked crimefighter The Spider. Though he still has web-slinging and spidey-sense abilities, Ben gave up the fight five years earlier when his fiancée was killed. That doesn't stop his friend, reporter Robbie (Lamore Morris), from trying to convince Ben to get back in the game as the city sinks under the crime and corruption caused by Silvermane (Brendan Gleeson), a mob boss with his fingers in all the pies. All dames and crooked cops and scampy street urchins, this series (which I am a few episodes into) is a fun watch that won me over with its classic detective mystery vibes and its smart deployment of Cage's whole goofy deal. And you can watch the show in black and white or color — while the color has its charms, I particularly enjoyed the shadows and rich contrasts of the black and white version.

A direct movie-tie-in series is Disney+'s eight-episode *Wonder Man*, a "Marvel Spotlight" series released in January, which features the character Trevor Slattery (Ben Kingsley), who first appeared in 2013's *Iron Man 3* and later in 2021's *Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings*. (Both are on Disney+.) Introduced as the terrorist "The Mandarin" in *Iron Man 3*, Trevor is actually, as Tony Stark discovered, a middling actor who agreed to play the part of the villain in exchange for a good-time mansion and an endless supply of drugs. Here, he meets our hero Simon Williams (Yahya Abdul-Mateen II) as both men are at an audition. Williams, who has just had his small guest part cut from a TV show after he had too many ideas about his role, is desperate for work, especially for a role in the upcoming reboot of *Wonder Man*, Simon's favorite superhero movie as a kid. Simon works to convince his agent, the film's casting director and the film's director that he can be Wonder Man — while also trying to hide that he kind of is Wonder Man. Because of a tragic (hilarious) incident that led to the disappearance of Josh Gad (gamely playing himself), studios won't let



*The Other Bennet Sister.*

actual superpower-having people work in Hollywood. The unmasking of Simon's powers — kind of non-specific, energy-related abilities — is his greatest fear, as it would mean the end of his Hollywood ambitions.

His ambitions make Simon a regular-guy super, not an Avenger wannabe. And his relationship with Slattery — who has his own secrets as well as long-standing actor-y issues, such as his rivalry with Joe Pantoliano (also gamely playing himself) — give this show an enjoyable *The Studio* sensibility.

Also in the Hulu-verse, you'll find the just-finished first season of *The Testaments*, a sequel to the Hulu series *The Handmaid's Tale* but a show that, perhaps because of its star Chase Infiniti, feels like it shares some vibes with Oscar winner 2025's *One Battle After Another* as well. Like Infiniti's Willa in *One Battle*, her Agnes in *The Testaments* is a teenage girl doing teenage girl things (going to dances, trying to assert some independence from her home life) during weird civil unrest. *The Testaments* picks up in the alt-America country Gilead, a Christian theocracy that segregates and oppresses women, where Agnes is expected to soon marry and "be fruitful." A student at a finishing school for the daughters of the elite men of Gilead that is run by Aunt Lydia (Ann Dowd), Agnes is assigned to show the ropes to recent convert Daisy (Lucy Halliday). Or maybe Daisy is meant to spy on Agnes, as her fellow girls at the school warn her. What we in the audience know is that Daisy is a spy — an anti-Gilead plant picked by former handmaid June Osborne (Elisabeth Moss) herself to infiltrate the school.

As the series goes on, we see Agnes develop a kind of steely strength and absolute loyalty to her friends that feels very spiritually connected with the government-fighting rebel-in-the-making that is Willa in *One Battle*. Infiniti also does a good job of selling the teen-girl-ness of Agnes, who, as Daisy explains in a later episode, has regular teen girl feelings and desires despite the oppressive society she's growing up in. The relationships between the school's girls — the ones headed for marriage, the ones who fear they might be left behind — is compelling and keeps you watching even when the Gilead of it all feels too much. (And if you need some "viva la revolución," *One Battle After Another* is available on HBO Max.) See page 26 for film listings.

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# THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Summer songs:** A season of weekend music kicks off with **Katie Dobbins**, an inspirational singer-songwriter who also organizes the Hermit Woods Winery regional showcases. The summer series at a family farm's outdoor beer garden welcomes solo acts like Amanda McCarthy (June 11), Dan Fallon (June 18), and Dakota Smart (June 26) Thursday through Sunday all month. Thursday, June 4, at 5:30 p.m., Beans & Greens Farm, 245 Intervale Road, Gilford, beansandgreensfarm.com.

• **Metallic KO:** For those who like their sounds on the heavier side, **Martial Law** tops a five-band underground metal bill. The Nashua-based groove metal band, fronted by bullhorn belter Brandon Benson, released the aggressively-minded EP *A Means to Control* a few years back. Rounding out the relentless night of rock are Art of Aggression, Overtime Fightcore, Fallen Monarch and Vauli. Friday, June 5, at 7 p.m., Jewel Music Venue, 61 Canal St., Manchester, \$15, ticketleap.com.

• **Musical kings:** One of the area's better-known Elvis impersonators stretches out for the **Legends Tribute**, an evening of country-leaning music from Johnny Cash, George Jones, Waylon Jennings, Roy Orbison and Neil Diamond along with the King of Rock 'n' Roll. Robert Black is a Rhode Island-based singer who also possesses Presley's distinctive Comeback Show sideburns. Saturday, June 6, at 6 p.m., Fulchino Vineyard, 187 Pine Hill Road, Hollis, \$29, fulchinovineyard.com.

• **Get psyched:** Sounds from the galactic zone take the spotlight at **Souls of Psychedelic Rock**. Four local bands perform, including The Whole Loaf, Vales End, The Cherry Fog and Lee & Dr. G. The latter is guitarist Lee Durham teaming up with Louisiana-born Brandon Gauthier, who fell in love with a 100-watt Fender amp as a teenager and has kept it turned up since. Saturday, June 6, 7 p.m., Terminus Underground, 134 Haines St., Nashua, \$15, newhampshireunderground.org.

## NITE Stripped down

Jon Pousette-Dart plays intimate Rex show

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

As he walked into Quadrafonic Sound Studio to begin his band's first album in 1972, Jon Pousette-Dart heard the strains of another session. Curious, he looked in to find Dobie Gray finishing up his classic single "Drift Away," with a stunning group of players behind him.

Awestruck, Pousette-Dart made a mental promise in that moment to someday record with them himself.

Four decades and change later, it happened. His solo album *Talk* gathered together guitarist Reggie Young, who plucked the delicate chords on Gray's song, Kenny Malone on percussion, bass player Glen Worf, and Clayton Ivey on keyboards. "All these original Muscle Shoals guys," Pousette-Dart recalled by phone recently. "It's got a really nice feel."

With a roots-fueled remake of his band's late-'70s radio hit "Amnesia" and "Invisible," a lively rocker co-written with John Oates, *Talk* is also his best solo album. "The Story of My Life," a Nathan Meckel/Blue Miller ballad that deserves to be a wedding dance standard, is another of the disc's gems.

Alas, it's the 21st century, where great records are born and disappear on the regular. As much as he enjoyed making *Talk*, Pousette-Dart wishes more people had heard the album when it came out 11 years ago. But industry economics got in the way, along with a streaming algorithm that punish-

es long players.

"I put a lot of work into it, and it was just typical with the way things are ... it just sailed by," he lamented. "Because the whole delivery system of records has really changed, you know?" He's not surprised; after all, he named his 2002 album *Sample This* as a dare to the music business when it began to implode.

"There was an awful lot of stuff going on [at the time] that was kind of turning my stomach, so I made light of it," he said.

So he's adapted, releasing new music song by song. His most recent single is 2024's "Cry No More," with its virtual flip side, the NRBQ nugget "Only You." His next one, "Gone," is due soon. "It's about the universal loss that so many people are going through right now in the world," Pousette-Dart said.

"Gone" will have a music video, something he's done since a film made with "Who I Am" went viral. That song, written with Dawn Young (Pousette-Dart's wife) and singer/songwriter Jaime Kyle, addressed Young's mother's journey through Alzheimer's. "That's been in film festivals all over the world," he said. "Because it just hits home to so many people."

One thing he hasn't grown weary of or cynical about is performing live. In its heyday, his eponymous band was a touring force, and since its dissolution in the 1980s Pousette-Dart has continued to play the songs that inhabited Boston radio and points beyond, like "Harder," "What Can I Say" and "There's Been a Mistake."

At an upcoming show in Manchester he'll be joined by longtime accompanist Jim Chapdelaine, who has an interesting backstory of his own. A true multi-hyphenate, Chapdelaine is an Emmy-winning



Courtesy photo.

composer and a producer. He's worked with Paula Cole and Delbert McClinton, and mastered projects for Clarence Clemons with Bruce Springsteen.

They met at the Harvard Coop record store in Cambridge when both were starting out; Chapdelaine worked there, and Pousette-Dart had a deal with the store's record buyer to trade in his used albums for new ones (side note: absolutely no one called them "vinyls" back then).

"He started a band called Mr. Right and got signed to Epic, so we were bouncing around at the same time," Pousette-Dart recalled. "We reconnected many years later when he was playing with a friend of mine at a function. I really liked him, so I asked if he wanted to come out with the band ... that's how it started."

Twenty-five years on, they have an easy rapport as they glide through Pousette-Dart's catalog in a format that delights them both.

"You're taking the songs back to where they begin ... it always starts with an intimate, voice guitar setting, and that's when you really know you have a song or you don't," Pousette-Dart said. "You can't produce something into being a good song ... it's got to have it from the heart and soul." 🎶

### Jon Pousette-Dart Duo

**When:** Friday, June 5, 7:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst St., Manchester  
**Tickets:** \$40, palacetheatre.org

### COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

#### Weekly comedy nights

• **Wednesdays** Ruby Room at the Shaskeen, 9 p.m.

#### Open mic comedy nights

• **Jokes on Cue** w/ by Joe Nahme at Wow Billiards, 2 N. Main St. in Concord, Mondays, 8 p.m.

• **Moka Mic** hosted by Alex Lachance at Moka Pot, 8 Hanover St. in Manchester, Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m.

• **BAD BRGR** hosted by Mik Skowronek 1015 Elm St. in Manchester, Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

• **This Must Be the Mic** co-host-

ed by Tucker Sampson Hop Knot, 1000 Elm St., Manchester, Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

• **Laugh Attic** hosted by Danny Pee Strange Brew, 88 Market St., Manchester, Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.

• **Candia Road Brewing** hosted by Pete Trubble Morse 840

Candia Rd., Manchester, first and third Thursdays, 6 p.m.

#### Events

• **Jimmy Dunn** LaBelle Amherst, Thursday, June 4, 8 p.m.

• **Mona Forgione, Nick Sands and more** Moka Pot, Manchester, Friday, June 5, 8 p.m.

• **Steve Bjork** Headliners in

Manchester, Saturday, June 6, 8 p.m.

• **Steve Scarfo** Chunky's in Manchester, Saturday, June 6, 8:30 p.m.

• **Cory Gee** Chunky's in Manchester, Saturday, June 11, 8:30 p.m.

• **Joe Caparulo** BNH Stage in Concord, Friday, June 12, 7:30 p.m.

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# MUSIC THIS WEEK

## 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

**T-Bones** 169 S. River Road, 623-7699

## Bow

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

## Brookline

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

## Candia

**The Barnyard / Town Cabin Pub** 285 Old Candia Road, 483-4888

## Canterbury

**Canterbury Farmers**

**Market** 9 Center Road

## Concord

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

**Feathered Friend** 231 S. Main St., 715-2347

**The Forum Pub** 15 Village St., 565-3100

**Hermanos Cocina Mexicana** 11 Hills Ave., 224-5669

**Lithermans** 126B Hall St., 219-0784

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

**T-Bones** 404 S. Main St., 715-1999

**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

**Hare of the Dawg** 3 E. Broadway, 552-3883

**LaBelle Winery** 14 Route 111, 672-9898

**T-Bones** 39 Crystal Ave., 434-3200

## Dover

**Auspicious Brew** 1 Washington St., 953-7240

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

**Otto** 431 Central Ave., 697-4150

## Epping

**Holy Grail** 64 Main St., 679-9559

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

## Epsom

**Hill Top Pizzeria** 1724 Dover Road, 736-0027

## Exeter

**Otto** 33 Water St., 810-6886

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

## Goffstown

**Village Trestle** 25 Main St., 497-8230

## Hampton

**935 Surf Shack** North Beach, 935 Ocean Blvd., 926-2500

**Bernie's Beach Bar** 73 Ocean Blvd., 926-5050

**Bogie's** 32 Depot Square, 601-2319

**The Goat** 20 L St., 601-6928

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

**Sea Ketch** 127 Ocean Blvd., 926-0324

**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

**T-Bones** 77 Lowell Road, 882-6677

## Kingston

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

## 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

**Candia Road Brewing** 840 Candia Road, 935-8123

**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

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

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

**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

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

## Mason

**The Range** 96 Old Turnpike Road, 878-1324

## Merrimack

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

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

**Tortilla Flat** 595 DW Highway, 424-4479

## Milford

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

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

## Nashua

**Bistro 603** 345 Amherst St., 722-6362

**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

**Sky Meadow Country Club** 6 Mountain Laurels Drive, 888-9000

**The Spot** 217 Main St., thespotnashua.com

**Spyglass Brewing** 306 Innovative Way, 546-2965

**Stella Blu** 70 E. Pearl St., 578-5557

**Union Public House** 194 Main St., 699-8112

## New Boston

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

## Newmarket

**Stone Church** 5 Granite St., 659-7700

## 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

**Cup of Joe** 31 Market St., 294-9404

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

**The Goat** 142 Congress St., 590-4628

**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

**T-Bones** 311 South Broadway, 893-3444

**Tuscan Village** 9 Via Toscana, 212-9650

## Seabrook

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

**Chop Shop Pub** 920 Lafayette Road, 760-7706

**Ernie's Seaside** 209 Ocean Blvd., 760-7500

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

## Tilton

**Greenside** Lochmere Country Club, 360 Laconia Road, 528-7888

## Warner

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

## Thursday, June 4

### Bedford

**Copper Door**: Dave Clark, 6 p.m.

**Murphy's**: Clint Lapointe, 5:30 p.m.

**T-Bones**: Bella Perrotta, 5 p.m.

### Candia

**Barnyard**: cruise night karaoke, 6 p.m.

### Canterbury

**Canterbury Farmers Market**: Kyle Masterson & Amanda Jennison, 4 p.m.

### Concord

**T-Bones**: Jordan Quinn, 6 p.m.

### Derry

**LaBelle**: Mystic Highway, 7:15 p.m.

**T-Bones**: Stephen Decuire, 6 p.m.

### Epping

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

### Exeter

**Otto**: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.

### Hampton

**Bernie's**: The FAR, 8 p.m.

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

### Hudson

**Lynn's 102**: karaoke w/George Bis-

son, 8 p.m.

**T-Bones**: Jessica Olson, 6 p.m.

### Kingston

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

### Londonderry

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

### Manchester

**Bad BRGR**: Latin Night hosted by DJ Pvlse, 7 p.m.

**Derryfield**: Doug Mitchell Duo, 6 p.m.

**Firefly**: Dalton Sayball, 5 p.m.

**Fratello's**: Bob Pratte, 5:30 p.m.

**KC's Rib Shack**: Jonny Friday, 6 p.m.

**Stark Brewing**: The Goondocks, 7 p.m.

**Strange Brew**: Becca Myari, 8 p.m.

### Mason

**The Range**: Alligator Wine (Grateful Dead tribute), 7 p.m.

### Merrimack

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

**Tomahawk**: Chad LaMarsh, 6 p.m.

**Tortilla Flat**: Matt Jackson, 6 p.m.

### Milford

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

## Music, live and in person

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

## Nashua

**Casey Magee's**: open mic, 7:30 p.m.

**Fody's**: DJ Rich karaoke, 9:30 p.m.

**Shorty's**: Dave Zangri, 5:30 p.m.

**Union Public House**: Caylin Costello, 5:30 p.m.

## Newmarket

**Stone Church**: Lost River Fleet & Saguaaro, 8 p.m.

## Pembroke

**Pembroke City Limits**: B Snair and Randy Hunnyman, 7 p.m.

## Pittsfield

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

## Portsmouth

**Black Rock**: Jordan Holmes, 5 p.m.

**Gas Light**: Wolf & Honey, 7 p.m.

## Salem

**Copper Door**: Ian Archibold, 6 p.m.

**T-Bones**: Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.

## Warner

**The Local**: Ryan Williamson, 5 p.m.

## Friday, June 5

### Bedford

**Murphy's**: Chris Torrey, 6 p.m.

### Brookline

**Alamo**: Ethan Cunningham, 6 p.m.

### Candia

**Barnyard**: Dana Brearley, 6 p.m.

## Concord

**Feathered Friend**: Llava Llama, 6 p.m.

**The Forum**: Five Days Apart, 8 p.m.

## Derry

**Fody's**: Randy Robinson, 8 p.m.

## Dover

**Revo**: Time Bandits, 8 p.m.

## Epping

**Holy Grail**: Jackie Lee, 6 p.m.

**Telly's**: Wolf & Honey, 8 p.m.

## Hampstead

**Jamison's**: Chad LaMarsh, 6 p.m.

## Hampton

**Bernie's**: The FAR, 8 p.m.

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

**Sea Ketch**: Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.

**Wally's**: Wind Walkers, 8 p.m.

## Hudson

**Lynn's 102**: karaoke w/George Bis-

son, 8 p.m.

## GOOD HAT JIMMY

Jimmy Dunn has gone from being paid in fried clams to starring in

## NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

### Portsmouth

**Gas Light:** Dancing Madly Backwards, 7 p.m.; Dan Morgan, 9:30 p.m.  
**The Goat:** Chris Toler, 9 p.m.  
**Press Room:** JVK: 40 Lashes & The Rock Dwellers, 7 p.m.; DJ Jam!n, 10:30 p.m.  
**Thirsty Moose:** DJ Chad Banks, 9:30 p.m.

### Salem

**Dreo:** Peter Pappas, 7 p.m.

### Seabrook

**Ernie's:** Brian Walker, 6 p.m.  
**Red's:** The Jay Gratton Duo, 8 p.m.

### Saturday, June 6

#### Bedford

**Murphy's:** Justin Bethune, 6 p.m.

#### Bow

**Chen Yang Li:** Jimmy Howe, 7 p.m.

#### Brookline

**Alamo:** Matt Bergeron, 6 p.m.

#### Candia

**Barnyard:** Jarrett & The Driftwood Caravan, 6 p.m.

#### Concord

**Feathered Friend:** Danny Bedrosian's Secret Army, 6 p.m.

**The Forum:** acoustic circle with, 2 p.m.; Electric Gator, 8 p.m.

#### Contoocook

**Contoocook Cider Co.:** Alex Cohen, 1 p.m.

#### Derry

**Fody's:** The Twos, 8 p.m.

#### Dover

**Auspicious Brew:** Tysk Tysk Task, Palana vs. The Man, 8 p.m.

**Otto Pizza:** Ferni, 4 p.m.

**Revo:** Blue Matter Band, 8 p.m.

#### Epping

**Holy Grail:** Mike Willis Duo, 6 p.m.  
**Telly's:** Radio Daze, 8 p.m.

#### Hampton

**Bernie's:** Thrash Party, 8 p.m.

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

**Sea Ketch:** Lewis Goodwin, 1 p.m.; Justin Jordan, 6 p.m.

**Wally's:** 7 Day Weekend, 9 p.m.

#### Londonderry

**Coach Stop:** Jamie Hughes, 6 p.m.  
**Stumble Inn:** Dancing Madly Backwards, 8 p.m.

#### Manchester

**Backyard Brewery:** Rob James, 6 p.m.  
**Bad BRGR:** Battle March, Grem, Commonwealth, 8 p.m.

**Bookery:** Reanna Tremblay, noon

**Derryfield:** J-Lo, 6 p.m.; Heartbeat City, 8:30 p.m.

**Firefly:** Chris Cavanaugh, 5 p.m.

**The Foundry:** Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.  
**Fratello's:** John Chouinard, 5:30 p.m.

**The Goat:** Thrash Party, 9 p.m.

**Great North Aleworks:** Kevin Horan, 4 p.m.

**The Hill:** Eddie Sands, 5:30 p.m.

**KC's:** Doug Thompson, 6 p.m.

**Revo:** Caylin Costello, 9 p.m.

**Shaskeen:** R.A. The Rugged Man, 8 p.m.

**Stark Brewing:** Lichen, 7 p.m.

**Strange Brew:** BJ Magoon & Driving Sideways, 9 p.m.

#### Mason

**The Range:** Cheryl Arena Band, 7 p.m.

#### Merrimack

**Homestead:** Pete Massa, 5:30 p.m.

#### Milford

**Riley's:** Mostly '90s, 8 p.m.

#### Nashua

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

**Fody's:** Brian Wall, 10 p.m.

**Peddler's Daughter:** GoodFoot, 9:30 p.m.

**Union Public House:** Dan Morgan, 7:30 p.m.

#### New Boston

**Molly's:** Jake Alden, 6:30 p.m.

#### Newmarket

**Stone Church:** Seacoast Last Waltz, 5 p.m.; King Jonny's Pride Bash, 9 p.m.

#### Pembroke

**PCL:** Walker Smith and Holly Furlone, 2 p.m.; Boom Lava, 7 p.m.

#### Plaistow

**Sweet Hill Farm:** Stephen Decuire, 6 p.m.

#### Portsmouth

**Black Rock:** Peter Pappas, 4 p.m.

**Gas Light:** Justin Jordan, 11:30 p.m.; Matt Luneau, 3 p.m.; Sum X 4, 7 p.m.; Rich Wallace, 9:30 p.m.

**Press Room:** Emo Night w/ White Belts, 9 p.m.

**Thirsty Moose:** Holy Heist, 9:30 p.m.

#### Salem

**Dreo:** Ken Budka, 7 p.m.

#### Seabrook

**Red's:** FC2 Duo, 8 p.m.

### Sunday, June 7

#### Bedford

**Copper Door:** Steve Prisby, 11 a.m.  
**Murphy's:** Doug Thompson, 4 p.m.

#### Brookline

**Alamo:** Corey McLane, 5 p.m.

#### Candia

**Barnyard:** Randy Hawkes, 3 p.m.

#### Concord

**Feathered Friend:** bluegrass jam, 4 p.m.

#### Contoocook

**Contoocook Cider Co.:** Chris Lester, 1 p.m.

#### Dover

**Auspicious Brew:** JD Short, Eli Shane, Macia w/ Nicco Centofani, 4 p.m.

#### Hampton

**Bernie's:** Wiz Khalifa, 8 p.m.

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

**Sea Ketch:** Ray Zerkle, 1 p.m.  
**Wally's:** line dancing, 6 p.m.

#### Lee

**Flag Hill:** Jonny Friday, 1 p.m.

#### Londonderry

**Stumble Inn:** Rob & Jody, 4 p.m.

#### Manchester

**Derryfield:** Jonny Angel, 5 p.m.

**Firefly:** Chuck Alaimo, 11 a.m.

**KC's:** Jordan Holmes, 4 p.m.

**Strange Brew:** One Big Soul Jam, 7 p.m.

**To Share:** open mic w/James & Molly, 4 p.m.

#### Mason

**The Range:** Cheryl Arena Band, 3 p.m.

#### Milford

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

**Stonecutters Pub:** Paul Driscoll, 4 p.m.

#### Nashua

**Stella Blu:** Colin Hart, 3 p.m.

#### New Boston

**Molly's:** Rich Wallace, 1 p.m.

#### Newmarket

**Stone Church:** open mic, 6:30 p.m.

#### Pembroke

**PCL:** Alan Roux, 2 p.m.

#### Plaistow

**Sweet Hill Farm:** Alan Foucault, 2 p.m.

#### Portsmouth

**Black Rock:** Tim Theriault, 5 p.m.

**Gas Light:** Freddie Catalfo, 2 p.m.; 603's Trio, 6 p.m.

**The Goat:** Garrett Smith, 9 p.m.

#### Rochester

**Governor's Inn:** Metal Fest, 6 p.m.

#### Salem

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

**Tuscan Village:** Andrew McManus Band, noon

### Monday, June 8

#### Bedford

**Murphy's:** Brian Gray, 5:30 p.m.

#### Candia

**Barnyard:** Paul Lussier, 5 p.m.

#### Dover

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

#### Gilford

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

#### Hampton

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

#### Hudson

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



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**NITE MUSIC & EVENTS**

**Laconia**

**Fratello's:** Richard Cumming, 5:30 p.m.  
**T-Bones:** Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.

**Manchester**

**Bad BRGR:** Acoustic Open Mic with Johnny Friday, 7 p.m.  
**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.  
**The Spot:** open mic, 7 p.m.

**Portsmouth**

**Gas Light:** Lewis Goodwin, 7:30 p.m.  
**The Goat:** Musical Bingo Nation, 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, June 9**

**Bedford**

**Murphy's:** Peter Pappas, 5:30 p.m.

**Concord**

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

**Hampton**

**L Street:** karaoke, 9 p.m.  
**Whym:** Bourbon & Beats, 3 p.m.

**Kingston**

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

**Manchester**

**Fratello's:** Stephen Decuire, 5:30

p.m.

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

**Strange Brew:** Jordan Quinn, 8 p.m.

**Mason**

**The Range:** Ethan Cunningham, 6 p.m.

**Merrimack**

**Homestead:** Lewis Goodwin, 5:30 p.m.

**Nashua**

**The Spot:** Karaoke with Jamie V, 7 p.m.  
**Spyglass:** Jordan Holmes, 5 p.m.

**Portsmouth**

**Gas Light:** Mitch Alden, 7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 10**

**Atkinson**

**Merrill's Tavern:** Regular Gents, 8 p.m.

**Bedford**

**Murphy's:** Bella Perrotta, 5:30 p.m.

**Candia**

**Barnyard:** country line dancing, 6 p.m.

**Concord**

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

**Hampton**

**Bogie's:** open mic w/ Ben Butter-

worth, 7 p.m.

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

**Kingston**

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

**Manchester**

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

**Merrimack**

**Homestead:** Stephen Decuire, 5:30 p.m.

**Milford**

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

**Newmarket**

**Stone Church:** karaoke, 8 p.m.

**Pembroke**

**PCL:** Cinnamon Jazz trio, 7 p.m.

**Plaistow**

**Sweet Hill Farm:** Mark & Mick, 6 p.m.

**Portsmouth**

**Gas Light:** Jonny Friday, 7:30 p.m.  
**Press Room:** Sorry Safari w/ Two Thousands, 8 p.m.

**Seabrook**

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

**Red's:** Jodee Frawlee, 7 p.m.

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**Concerts**

• **One Night in Memphis** (Sun Records tribute) Thursday, June 4, 7:30 p.m., Palace in Manchester  
 • **The Australian Bee Gees Show** Thursday, June 4, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry  
 • **Mystic Highway** (Creedence Clearwater Revival tribute) Thursday, June 4, 8 p.m., LaBelle Derry  
 • **John Pousette-Dart Duo** Friday, June 5, 7:30 p.m., Rex in Manchester  
 • **Dylan Scott** Friday, June 5, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton  
 • **Bad Animals** (Heart tribute) Friday, June 5, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry  
 • **Compaq Big Band** Saturday, June 6, 7 p.m., Andres Institute in Brookline  
 • **The Legends Tribute with Robert Black** Saturday, June 6, 7 p.m., Fulchino Vineyard in Hollis  
 • **Joyce Manor** Saturday, June 6, 7

p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts

• **The Scott Spradling Band** Saturday, June 6, 7 p.m., Sea Shell Stage in Hampton

• **Barry Goudreau's Engine Room** Saturday, June 6, 7:30 p.m., Lakeport Opera House in Laconia

• **Counterfeit Cash** (Johnny Cash tribute) Saturday, June 6, 7:30 p.m., Rex in Manchester

• **49 Winchester/Marfa** Saturday, June 6, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton

• **Live at the Fillmore** (Allman Brothers tribute) Saturday, June 6, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry

• **Duquette** Sunday, June 7, 1:30 p.m., Averill House in Brookline

• **Ted Herbert Big Band** Sunday, June 7, 2 p.m., Majestic Theatre in Manchester

• **Jon Abrams Present: The Great American Songbook in Concert**

Sunday, June 7, 2 p.m., Rex in Manchester

• **Al DiMeola** Wednesday, June 10, 7 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts

• **Dark Star Orchestra** (Grateful Dead tribute) Thursday, June 11, 7 p.m., BankNH Pavilion in Gilford

• **Judy Collins** Thursday, June 11, 7:30 p.m., Chubb Theatre at the Cap Center in Concord

• **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** Thursday, June 11, 7:30 p.m., Rex in Manchester

• **Cooper Alan** Thursday, June 11, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton

• **Family Tradition** (Hank Williams tribute) Thursday, June 11, 8 p.m., LaBelle Amherst

• **The Wood Brothers** Friday, June 12, 7 p.m., at the Cap Center in Concord

• **Zach Nugent's Dead Set** Friday, June 12, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey in Plymouth

**Film**

• **The Mandalorian & Grogu** (PG-13, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, June 4, at 4 & 7 p.m.; Friday, June 5, through Sunday, June 7, at 1, 4 & 7 p.m.; Monday, June 8, through Thursday, June 11, at 4 & 7 p.m. (plus 1 p.m. on June 10).  
 • **The Devil Wears Prada 2** (PG-13, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, June 4, at 4:15 & 7:15 p.m.; Friday, June 5, through Sunday, June 7, at 1:15,

4:15 & 7:15 p.m.; Monday, June 8, through Thursday, June 11, at 4:15 & 7:15 p.m. (plus 1:15 p.m. on June 10).

• **Backrooms** (R, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres on Thursday, June 4, 5 & 7:30 p.m.; Friday, June 5, through Sunday, June 7, at 12:30, 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Monday, June 8, through Thursday, June 11, at 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m. (plus 12:30 p.m. on June 10).

• **Beau Gest** (1926) a silent film screened with live musical accom-

paniment by Jeff Rapsis, on Sunday, June 7, at 2 p.m. at Wilton Town Hall Theatre.

• **Disclosure Day** (PG-13, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, June 11, at 4 & 7:15 p.m.

• **The Kid** (1921) a silent film starring Charlie Chaplin with live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, will screen on Thursday, June 11, at 7 p.m. at Flying Monkey in Plymouth.

# Exile on Puzzle St.

**Across**

- 1. What some jazz does
- 5. Howard Jones is down: ‘\_\_ Me Up’
- 9. Band online message board
- 14. Panic! At The Disco got killed in Hollywood: ‘Dying \_\_’ (2,2)
- 15. Beck hit w/’Na-na’ chorus (hyph)
- 16. Rise Against’s mom came to the show so there was an ‘Audience \_\_’ (2,3)
- 17. The band’s this gets hauled
- 18. Festival attendee
- 19. Trevor of Yes
- 20. K’s Choice “I’m \_\_, maybe that’s a

- lie” (3,2,6)
- 23. Ace gave up: ‘\_\_ Over Now’
- 24. ‘95 Red Hot Chili Peppers album ‘\_\_ Minute’ (3,3)
- 25. Country’s ‘Wings Upon Your Horns’ Loretta
- 27. ‘04 Concrete Blonde album for a desert in Cali
- 31. Nerf Herder exclaims ‘\_\_ Oh My’ (2,2)
- 34. Brazilian musical genre
- 38. La Roux vanishes ‘\_\_ By Magic’ (2,2)
- 39. You wear one for outdoor show

- 40. Springsteen’s UK debut was the Hammersmith one
- 41. Other half of Larry Williams ‘Hootchy’
- 42. ‘04 Casualties album ‘On The \_\_ Line’
- 43. “Tongue & lips” for Rolling Stones is one
- 44. ‘\_\_ Survivor’ is on ‘Exile On Main St.’
- 45. AZ indie band for an Iron Age kingdom
- 46. Stealers Wheel’s Joe
- 47. Half of Beatles song, w/’Ob-La-Di’
- 49. Like watery mixed drink at show bar
- 51. Kind of ‘Weeks’ on ‘68 album, to Van Morrison
- 56. Actress Thurman that Fall Out Boy likes
- 58. Dandy Warhols ‘Welcome To The \_\_’ (6,5)
- 62. Queens Of The Stone Age ‘I \_\_ The Ocean’ (3,2)
- 64. “\_\_ one, two, three, four” (3,1)
- 65. Eric Church “Some \_\_ you learn the hard way” (2,2)

- 66. This goes with Little Richard’s ‘Fruitti’
- 67. Marilyn Manson ‘I Want To Kill You Like They \_\_ The Movies’ (2,2)
- 68. ‘Second Chance’ Finn
- 69. ‘No Tomorrow’ band that loves Citizen Kane’s Welles, perhaps
- 70. Blown away
- 71. Big name in electronics

- stress Jones
- 34. Like one and only member
- 35. Iggy Pop wanted to bark like this on ‘69 hit (1,3)
- 36. Units equaling one million watts
- 37. 50s legend Pat
- 42. Guitar playing pizazz
- 44. French ‘I’ll Kill Her’ singer/actress
- 48. Michael Jackson is doing overtime: ‘Working \_\_ Night’ (3,3)
- 50. Bright Eyes ‘\_\_ The White Coat’ (3,2)
- 52. Members of Tool?
- 53. SoCal ‘MCMLXXXV’ pop punkers
- 54. Mike Shinoda of Linkin Park’s heritage
- 55. Part of Pete Townshend hit, w/’Love Open The Door’ (3,2)
- 56. Madina Lake ‘From Them, Through \_\_, \_\_ You’ (2,2)
- 57. Melissa Auf Der \_\_
- 59. Italian singer for zilch
- 60. Don Henley ‘You Don’t \_\_ Me At All’
- 61. Journey is on Sopranos with this Falco
- 63. ‘Taking Care Of Business’ band (abbr)

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

**R&R answer from pg 27 of 5/28**

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

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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**

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

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Difficulty: ★

**King Classic Sudoku Puzzle B**

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

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Difficulty: ★★

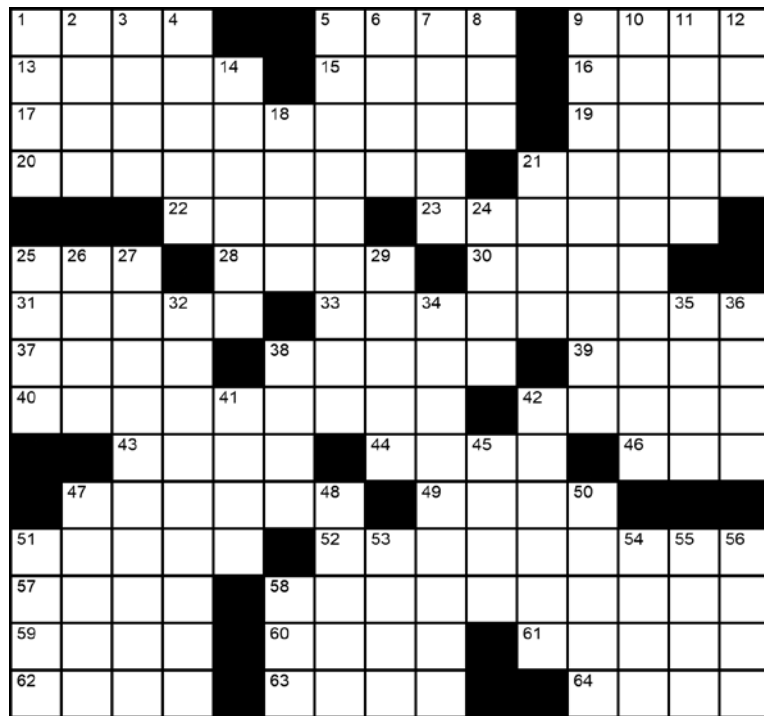
**King Classic Sudoku Puzzle C**

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

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Difficulty: ★★★

# "Antimatter"—existing in both states.



**Across**

- 1. Abbr. in grammar
- 5. Ninth letter of the Greek alphabet
- 9. Attempt
- 13. Allergic reaction
- 15. In that case
- 16. Opinion on a situation
- 17. Backyard building had a snack?
- 19. Spunkmeyer of cookies
- 20. Show of support from a Twitch community
- 21. Declares as fact
- 22. Slam
- 23. Gomez of "Only Murders in the Building"
- 25. RR depot
- 28. Bons \_\_\_ (witticisms)
- 30. D.C. newspaper, informally
- 31. Minoan island
- 33. Problem-solving sequence
- 37. Mobile intro
- 38. Burglar, say
- 39. Garden trail
- 40. Distinction for Rami Malek or Michael B. Jordan
- 42. Quarrel
- 43. Comedian Bargatze

**Jonesin' answer from pg 28 of 5/28**



- 59. They may be fine or graphic
- 60. Complete set of awards
- 61. Cathedral sections
- 62. 1990s puzzle game on an island
- 63. Not so much
- 64. Shout before throwing something

**Down**

- 1. Alan Alda TV show
- 2. Needing relief
- 3. "SNL UK" cast member Jack who played Princess Diana
- 4. Worked with computers, maybe
- 5. "Great, but we need more"
- 6. "Fancy meeting you here!"
- 7. High school students
- 8. Far-away connection?
- 9. Lincoln's hat type
- 10. "Ms. McRae, please record the minutes"?
- 11. "Yojimbo" director Kurosawa
- 12. Harry Truman's wife
- 14. Punctual
- 18. Approximation words
- 21. Spray banned from orchards
- 24. "Return of the Jedi" creature
- 25. Scrape remnant
- 26. "That is correct"
- 27. Groups of nine Brooklyn athletes?
- 29. Single-masted vessel
- 32. Final figure on a ledger
- 34. Slasher fan's must-sees
- 35. URL opener
- 36. Ampere-per-volt units, once
- 38. Added to an email chain
- 41. Suit to \_\_\_

- 44. Certain lap dog, briefly
- 46. Short musical releases
- 47. Ohio city near Michigan
- 49. Complete, at the Cannes Film Festival
- 51. Property line marker
- 52. School outing
- 57. Three-layer snack
- 58. Wanderers supporting actor Mikkelsen?

- 42. Pass along
- 45. Pottery furnace
- 47. "Fresh Air" host Gross
- 48. Old enough
- 50. "To whom \_\_\_ concern"
- 51. Suds
- 53. Wedding vow exchanges
- 54. '90s dance party

- 55. \_\_\_ fixe
- 56. "Over here!"
- 58. Brooks who's releasing a "Spaceballs" sequel

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# KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

**EASY**

1-		2÷	
8×	2-	7+	2
			12×
	3+		

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WORKSPACE:

**CHALLENGING**

5-	11+	1-		3÷	2÷
		10×			
3-	60×		17+		2-
	1-				
1-		6×	8×	10×	30×

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1-16-26

**RULES**

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- 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.
- Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

**PREVIOUS ANSWERS**

3-	1	6×	7+
4	1	2	3
2÷	1	2	3
10+	3	4	1
2	2	3	4

5-	6	2-	2÷	75×	3
1	6	4	2	5	3
2	4	6	1	3	5
24×	4	2	3	5	1
6	3	5	4	2	1
13+	5	1	2	3	6
2	2	3	4	1	2
3	5	1	6	4	2

## WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

**Find and Circle...**

Nine words with AI in the middle ☑□□□□□□□□

Four eight-letter words □□□□

Three card suits □□□

Alan in "Argo" □

Square root of 81 □

Last Week's Answers: FIDDLER HERMIT STONE BLUE KING SNOW / BERLIN LONDON DUBLIN OSLO ROME LIMA / PLUTO CERES / HANKS / NOUN

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

**SIGNS OF LIFE**

All quotes are from *Stargazing: Memoirs of a Young Lighthouse Keeper*, by Peter Hill, born June 5, 1953.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** *Finley and I helped hold the sheep in place while two sets of shears gave the equivalent of a number-two razor cut. We soon had them looking like Madison Avenue advertising executives. Baaaaaaaa.*

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** *There was always time for a chat or an anecdote, and several times we stopped for tea and biscuits. We could probably have got through these chores with greater speed and efficiency. But there was no rush — there never is on a lighthouse. No rush.*

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** *There were plenty of newspapers and magazines to read on Hyskeir. The only problem was that they were months out of date. Some stories are timeless.*

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** *At one point between wanting to be an astronaut and wanting to go to art school I had planned to be a marine biologist. With hindsight it was really the colours of the tropical fish and the coral reef that excited me. Come for the colors, stay for whatever makes you want to stay.*

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** *He was a man of few words. Even less that you would care to repeat. Don't gossip.*

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** *I don't know if you've ever been at the business end of a sheep? The first thing to do is to ascertain exactly which end the business end is. Get your bearings.*

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** *But from that night onwards I knew that if I ever wanted to cheer Ralph up and get the sparkle back in his eyes, science fiction was the way to do it. To be precise, Dr. Who. Be precise.*

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** *Whenever possible I tried to get Ralph on to the subject of Dr. Who.... At those times he was positive, clear, and lucid. On any other subject he would prevaricate, dissemble, change his mind and get lost in self-doubt. You*

know what you know.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** *Somehow at the age of twenty dropping life to hitch-hike to India didn't seem as appealing an idea as it had three years earlier. It could be time for new ideas.*

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** *Japanese tourists buckled under the weight of their camera gear, as ice cream vendors vied with hot dog stalls to see who could draw the biggest queue and create the most havoc. Don't overdo it.*

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** *Ronnie told me about his hobbies which in addition to interacting with the television set included practising his golf swing when he was on the lighthouse and playing it for real when he went ashore. Share your hobbies!*

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** *I had brought with me a thin volume called Cooking in a Bedsit which my mother had given me at the start of my student days. I soon realised that merely multiplying everything by four was not going to satisfy my fellow keepers. Math is just the beginning.*

**7 LITTLE WORDS**

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

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 having a mind like a sieve (9)	_____
2 pretty kettle of fish (11)	_____
3 like a flash in the pan (8)	_____
4 cabinet members, e.g. (11)	_____
5 having a bun in the oven (8)	_____
6 steamer, on a seafood menu (4)	_____
7 attended a mixer (10)	_____

CI	FUL	FLEE	TI	FOR
ENT	ANS	GET	ED	TING
AM	NANT	PREG	PRE	POLI
AM	DIC	ALIZ	CL	SOCI

Last Week's Answers: 1. BRANCH 2. BURNED 3. CHICKEN 4. CHECK 5. FLAME 6. GROSSED 7. SPATTERED

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**Sudoku Answers from pg 27 of 5/28**

**Puzzle A**

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

Difficulty: ★ 5/11

**Puzzle B**

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

Difficulty: ★★ 5/12

**Puzzle C**

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 5/14



**2026 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES CALENDAR**

- SAT JUN 13 **PASSAFIRE W. BEACH FLY**
- FRI JUN 19 **RANDY HOUSER**  
**G LOVE**
- FRI JUN 26 **DONAVON FRANKENREITER**  
**MOON TAXI -**  
**ROLLING TOGETHER REVUE**
- SAT JUN 27 **THE BREAKERS -**  
**A TRIBUTE TO TOM PETTY**
- SAT JUL 11 **LEFTOVER SALMON**  
**W. TOUBAB KREWE**
- SAT JUL 18 **HEARTS & BONES -**  
**A TRIBUTE TO PAUL SIMON**
- FRI JUL 24 **GRANITE LION PRESENTS -**  
**ALGORHYTHM**
- SAT JUL 25 **RANGE FULL OF BLUES**  
**FEAT: JEFF PITCHELL & THE TEXAS FLOOD,**  
**THE KNICKERBOCKERS ALL STARS,**  
**SUGAR RAY AND THE BLUETONES**
- FRI AUG 7 **ALMOST QUEEN -**  
**A TRIBUTE TO QUEEN**  
**& ELTON VS BILLY -**  
**ELTON JOHN/BILLY JOEL TRIBUTE**
- SAT AUG 8 **MAX CREEK**
- FRI AUG 14 **THE WALLFLOWERS**
- SAT AUG 15 **MOUNTAIN GRASS UNIT**
- SAT AUG 29 **PARMALEE**
- FRI SEP 18 **THE MACHINE PERFORMS**  
**PINK FLOYD**

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**SUNSET SERIES GATES OPEN 5PM**

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<b>JUN 13</b>		<b>MAGICAL MYSTERY DOORS</b> BEATLES, ZEPPELIN, & DOORS TRIBUTE
<b>JUN 19</b>		<b>FLOYDIAN TRIP</b> NEW ENGLAND'S #1 PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE
<b>JUN 26</b>		<b>DUELING PIANOS</b> OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
<b>JUN 27</b>		<b>LENNY CLARKE</b>

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**Got a Little Something in Your Eye**

Doctors at the Kursk Regional Hospital in Russia recently treated a 50-year-old man with an unusual MRI result: a nearly 5-inch-long piece of wood extending from the man's eye socket to his skull, *Oddity News* reported on May 26. Back in 2024, the patient, Yuri, was doing yard work. He wasn't wearing protective eye gear, so when he felt a sharp pain in his left eye, he assumed a small piece of wood had struck him while he was chopping maple branches. When the pain went away shortly after, he forgot about it, dealing with only the occasional flashes of pain in the years following. When he did seek medical help, ophthalmologists couldn't figure out what was wrong, and their treatments were ineffective. Earlier this spring, his pain increased and his vision was starting to fade, so he headed for the hospital. "A CT scan performed at the regional hospital showed that the foreign body was a branch that penetrated the eye socket, destroying the sinuses and damaging the base of the skull in dangerous proximity to vital brain structures," doctors said. Miraculously, doctors were able to remove the wood through the nasal passages — no brain surgery needed. Yuri's vision came back, and he is expected to make a full recovery. *Oddity Central, May 26*

**Awesome!**

When Noreen Van Holstein and Lalita van Lamsweerde launched the WasteBar food truck in 2022 in The Netherlands, they weren't sure how their idea for people to collect cigarette butts in exchange for Dutch pancakes would go over. "I wasn't sure whether people would be apprehensive of picking up things from the ground," Van Holstein said. "But immediately from the start, it was just positivity." According to *The Guardian*, the food truck "sells" poffertjes, or small Dutch pancakes, for 20 cigarettes. Patrons can also purchase other items, such as drinks, fruits and candies for varying amounts of butts and plastic. The WasteBar appears at various events throughout the year, including children's events, festivals and business gatherings. Given the abundance of butts as litter and the difficulty of cleaning them up, the entrepreneurs are under no delusions that their food truck alone will solve the litter problem. Rather, they see the exchange of litter for food as a way to raise awareness. "We want to get people in action mode, and [hope] that by picking up litter, they would not litter any more, because we believe that once seen, it cannot be unseen," Van Holstein said. *The Guardian, May 36*

**Stuck in the Mud**

A Wisconsin driver found out the hard way that "road closed" signs are there for a reason. According to UPI — and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's May 22 social media post — a Milwaukee County driver not only encountered a "road closed" sign, but got out of their pickup truck, removed the sign and drove straight into freshly poured concrete. WDOT shared a photo of the truck's submerged tires and noted that the driver "cemented their inability to adhere to signs." Police

and road crews had to employ heavy machinery to haul the truck out. *UPI, May 27*

**Cracking Under the Pressure**

Benjamin Fragale, 23, of Palm Harbor, Florida was arrested for felony criminal mischief on May 24, after vandalizing a local marquee sign known for its puns, *The Smoking Gun* reported. According to the police report, Fragale used bricks and branches to "smash the sign, damaging the letters, message board and interior lights." The sign belongs to a local chiropractic office and memorable phrases include: "We never crack under pressure," "It's easier to throw out your back than your mother in law," "We won't stop until everyone is cracked up," and "Our Easter adjustments are eggsellent." The message that made Fragale crack? "Licensed Crack Dealer." The arrest report indicates that Fragale thought the statement was illegal, but court records do not corroborate the claim. Fragale remains detained while he awaits a court hearing. *The Smoking Gun, May 26*

**Crime Report**

On May 15, Daniel Christian Pettit, 49, of Minnesota, was charged with second-degree assault and intentional discharge of a firearm after shooting at a firefighting airplane, *Fox 9* reported. The pilot reported hearing popping sounds as it went on its final run to bring water from a lake to battle a nearby wildfire. The plane landed safely with no pilot injuries, and investigators determined that the damage in the rudder was caused by a bullet. After pinpointing the location where the shots were fired, law enforcement suspected Pettit, who had made complaints in 2024 about aircraft near his home. Pettit claims he was crow hunting, not aiming for the plane. "If I accidentally hit him crow hunting, too bad," he said. "[The pilot] endangered my life. I decided to go outside and crow hunt. Did I aim and try and shoot the plane? Nope, no, I didn't." The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources instituted a no-fly zone over Pettit's property. The restriction applies only to aircraft battling fires. *Fox9, May 23*

**Nature Gone Wild**

A car buyer in Kansas has to wait a little longer to collect their new pickup truck from the Olathe Ford Lincoln dealership. According to UPI, a dealership employee found a robin's nest on one of the F-250's tires. Active robins' nests are federally protected and cannot be moved. "This may be the only F-250 in America currently protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act," the dealership said on social media. After a few days, the four eggs in the nest hatched. "We want to give a huge THANK YOU to our incredibly kind and understanding customers, who have been so patient and thoughtful while we wait for these little ones to grow up and leave the nest safely," the dealership said. *UPI, May 20*

Sources according to *uexpress.com*. From the editors at *Andrews McMeel Syndication*. See [uexpress.com/contact](http://uexpress.com/contact)

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