

the Hippo

AUGUST 13 - 19, 2026

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P. 12

MOUNTAIN
GRASS UNIT P. 23

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ON THE COVER

8 Need some laughs? The Hampton Beach Comedy Festival runs next Tuesday, Aug. 18, through Sunday, Aug. 23, and is packed with comedians who will be familiar to fans of New Hampshire comedy shows. Michael Witthaus talks to Jimmy Dunn about this annual event and to comedian Jody Sloane, who will do hosting duties one evening. And he looks at more upcoming comedy shows. On the cover and above, comedian Jody Sloane in a photo image (photo by Chuck Shaw) given to us by her.



ALSO ON THE COVER John Fladd brings you a trio of fests: The Boot Scootin' Boogie 5K & Brewfest (page 17) this Saturday in Londonderry; the We Are One Festival this Saturday in Manchester (page 16) and the Franco Fest next weekend in Concord (page 17). Michael Witthaus gets the details on the new exhibit "Art & Poetry: Dwelling Places" at Kimball Jenkins in Concord — catch the artist reception this Thursday and the Poetry & Pie event next Saturday (page 12). Michael also talks to Mountain Grass Unit ahead of the bluegrass/newgrass band's Saturday show at The Range in Mason (page 23).

INSIDE THIS WEEK

NEWS & NOTES
4 NEWS IN BRIEF
5 QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX
6 SPORTS
7 THIS WEEK
THE ARTS
12 ART & POETRY: DWELLING PLACES

INSIDE/OUTSIDE
14 GARDENING GUY
Henry Homeyer offers advice on your outdoors.
14 CAR TALK
Automotive advice.
15 TREASURE HUNT
There's gold in your attic.
15 KIDDIE POOL
Family fun events this weekend.
15 HISTORY ALIVE

FOOD
16 WEEKLY SPECIALS We Are One Festival; Boot Scootin' Boogie 5K & Brewfest; Franco Fest; Weekly Dish; Try This at Home.

POP CULTURE
20 REVIEWS CDs, books and more. Amy Diaz appreciates the pro-physical-media stance of *The Last House*.

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

23 COMEDY THIS WEEK
Where to find laughs

24 MUSIC THIS WEEK
Live music at your favorite bars and restaurants.

26 CONCERTS
Big-ticket shows.

ODDS & ENDS
27 ROCK N' ROLL CROSSWORD
27 SUDOKU
28 JONESIN' CROSSWORD
28 KEN KEN, WORD ROUNDUP
29 SIGNS OF LIFE
29 7 LITTLE WORDS
30 NEWS OF THE WEIRD

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NEWS & NOTES

Primary ballot

Absentee ballots for the Sept. 8 state primary “have been mailed out to every city and town clerk’s office in New Hampshire,” according to an Aug. 10 press release from the New Hampshire Secretary of State’s office.

“New Hampshire’s State Constitution permits absentee voting for voters who are prevented from voting in person because of temporary absence or a physical disability. A full list of permissible reasons to vote by absentee ballot can be found ... at sos.nh.gov/elections/absentee-ballots,” the releases said.

FotoFest 2026

“FotoFest 2026 Analog, Digital and Beyond,” the third annual FotoFest held by the NH Center for Photography, will take place Saturday, Aug. 15, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Kimball Jenkins, 266 N. Main St. in Concord, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to an email from organizers. Admission is free, the email said. “Come hang out with your fellow NH photographers, talk shop and browse the market for film and digital cameras, lenses, darkroom equipment, studio lighting, expired film, assorted gear and photographic art! Don’t miss NHCP’s

fund raiser table ‘Make me an Offer’ (that we can’t refuse),” the email said. See nhspa.wildapricot.org.

NH’s Historic Places

The oldest building in Raymond and a homestead in Milford are among the five new places added to the N.H. State Register of Historic Places by the State Historical Resources Council, according to an Aug. 4 press release from the New Hampshire Department of Natural & Cultural Resources Division of Historical Resources.

“Believed to be the oldest building in Raymond, the Georgian-style Bean Tavern was built circa 1752 ...” according to the press release, which added that the Tavern was on the N.H. Preservation Alliance’s 2022 “Seven to Save” list.

“Built by Revolutionary War veteran Joshua Burnham circa 1777 and the home of the Hutchinson family from 1824 to 1949, the Hutchinson Homestead is historically significant not only for its Federal-style architecture and its association with the early settlement of Milford but also as the home of the Hutchinson Family Singers, one of the foremost voices for the abolition of slavery across the nation,” the release said.

Other sites are the Woodbury Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church in Antrim, which was dedicated in 1904; the Center Harbor Town Beach, Park and Canoe House, whose “association with the recreational history of the town dates to the mid-1800s,” and the Charles and Mary Chapalis House, built circa 1928 in West Lebanon, the release said. See nhdhr.dncr.nh.gov.

Blue Envelope program

The New Hampshire Department of Safety’s Division of Motor Vehicles is rolling out the Blue Envelope Program, which seeks to help drivers diagnosed with autism or “a trauma- or stressor-related disorder, with a tool to improve communication during traffic stops,” according to a July press release. The Blue Envelope contains “written guidance for law enforcement about a driver, including important medical information and emergency contacts,” the release said. “Information on how to obtain a Blue Envelope, including eligibility criteria, is available” at dmv.nh.gov/drivers-licensenon-driver-ids/blue-envelope-program and participation in the program is voluntary, the release said. 🐶

The First Annual Winnepesaukee Cornhole Classic is slated for Saturday, Aug. 29, at noon at the Akwa Marina Yacht Club in **Laconia** held by Croctched Mountain Foundation to raise money for Logan’s Giving Fund for Autism, according to a press release. Register a team at secure.qgiv.com/event/cmfcornhole.

Have dinner with Abraham Lincoln on Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 5 p.m. at John Hay Estate at The Fells, 456 Route 103A in **Newbury**, according to a press release. The program “Abraham Lincoln: The Making of A President — A Special Dinner Event with Steve Wood” will feature Wood as Lincoln and a “Traditional Pilgrim Buffet dinner prepared by Hart’s Turkey Farm,” the release said. See thefells.org to buy tickets.

Bird Dog Cider, 150 Bayside Road in **Greenland**, will hold Dahlia Field Opening Day on Sunday, Aug. 16, from noon to 5 p.m. with pick your own, a Greenland Trolley Tour, “historical talk on taverns and a reenactment celebrating America’s 250th birthday,” according to birddogcider.com, which said the Greenland Historical Society organized the events. Local musician David Corson will perform from 3 to 5 p.m.

The Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto Road in **Derry**, will host a screening of the documentary *Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital World* on Thursday, Aug. 13, from 6 to 8 p.m. (pizza will be served at 6 p.m. with the screening slated to start at 6:30 p.m.), according to a press release. See urteachers.org.

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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Jalapeños alert

According to an Aug. 8 press release, “Hannaford Supermarkets is recalling a limited number of deli and produce items after being alerted by Taylor Farms, the maker of some of Hannaford’s deli products, that their jalapeño supplier has initiated a recall due to the potential for salmonella contamination.” There are six products, including Beans Rice and Cheese Burrito, Classic Beef Burrito, Chicken Verde Burrito, Chipotle Chicken Tortilla Wrap, Diced Jalapeños, and Pico De Gallo Salsa. According to an Aug. 9 press release from Taylor Farms, “A grower in Sinaloa, Mexico, that supplies to Coast Citrus Distributors was identified as the potential source in this outbreak.” See hannford.com (“product recalls”) for details.

QOL score: -1

Comment: According to the Taylor Farms press release, “Salmonella [is] an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with Salmonella often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting, and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with Salmonella can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections, endocarditis, and arthritis.” Visit taylorfarms.com/recall.

More hungry children

According to an Aug. 10 press release from the New Hampshire Food Bank, food insecurity for New Hampshire’s children continues to rise. The Food Bank quoted a new report from Feeding America, described as the largest domestic hunger-relief organization in the United States. “Child food insecurity increased by 6% year-over-year, climbing from 36,160 children in the 2025 report to 38,430 this year,” the press release stated, adding, “the overall food insecurity rate has also grown, with the latest data showing 11.2% of all New Hampshire residents lack consistent access to adequate food, up from 10.7% in the previous report.”

QOL score: -1

Comment: According to the New Hampshire Food Bank, Coös County has the highest percentage of food-insecure children: 22.1 percent. Rockingham County has the lowest rate, at 11.6 percent, but that is still more than one in 10. Visit map.feedingamerica.org/county/2024/child/new-hampshire. See nhfoodbank.org for links to food resources and for donation information.

QOL score last week: 58

Net change: -2

QOL this week: 56

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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS

New days in Red Sox Nation



The Big Story – Red Sox Actually Do Have a Plan: After two years of public doubts and much caterwauling by Red Sox Nation (and myself) there really does seem to be a future plan.

Craig Breslow's actions on trades show a type of player he wants. Complementary, offensive spark plugs and good fielding guys to fill in around the offensive core of **Willson Contreras**, **Wilyer Abreu** and, if he comes back this century, **Roman Anthony**.

Second, with him giving up at least two good young MLB pitchers in recent weeks and three more touted minor leaguers, it appears he believes he/they can identify and develop young pitchers.

Aside from a blip in the '80s with Clemens, Hurst and company, that's something that hasn't happened in the Red Sox organization since that kid from Baltimore named Babe showed up in town.

And finally the brass trading away prospects are a signal Breslow and company aren't hoarding them and are willing to move them to go for it. That's good news.

Now, how good are they at judging the talent they brought here and let go to get them?

Only time will tell on that.

Sports 101: Who holds the Red Sox franchise record for most strikeouts by a left-handed pitcher?

News Item – Red Sox Update: They start the week having won 27 of their last 33, in a streak started when their second baseman and shortstops got hurt and were replaced by **Anthony Seigler** and **Andruw Monasterio**, who, oh by the way, they got in the **Caleb Durbin** trade.

Meaning the SS, second baseman and third baseman that sparked the streak no one saw coming, all came in the same trade with Milwaukee this spring.

Bet that's never happened in baseball history before.

News Item – Red Sox Notes:

- **Ceddanne Rafaela's** 28 doubles are most in the AL.

- The 14 wins by **Sonny Gray** already is a career high.

- **Brayan Bello's** got his groove back. After being demoted to AAA on June 4 following a horrid first two months, in his first six appearances back in Boston he's 2-0 and the ERA is 0.76 over 22.2 innings.

- In Friday's **Nolan Ryan**-like effort while beating Oakland 13-1, an astonishing 14 of the 18 outs **Payton Tolle** got came via strikeouts.

- **Marcelo Mayer** being dumped to SF mercifully brings down the curtain on the disastrous **Chaim Bloom** tenure as GM.

And I feel pretty certain he'll be the worst guy named Marcelo to ever play for the Red Sox.

- How does a guy who has hit under .200 all year still be second or third on the team in RBI? Despite all the radio yacking to trade him, **Jarren Duran** somehow has done that with 60.

Good no trade there.

The Numbers:

- 7 – consecutive losses for the invincible Dodgers since (according to the pundits) winning the World Series already by agreeing to trade for Detroit's **Tarik Skubal**.

- 8 – consecutive strikeouts to close out his start vs. Pittsburgh by ex-Red Sox hurler **Kyle Harrison**. Though since he got yanked after just five innings and 69 pitches the wussification of baseball continues unabated.

... **Of the Week Awards**

Thumbs Up – Adam Vinatieri: On his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. The resume shows he started the NE dynasty with the greatest kick in NFL history and later the game winner in the famed Snow Bowl, along with two SB-winning kicks, scoring more points than anyone in history and chasing down sprinter **Herschel Walker** from behind to save a TD, which was the greatest tackle ever by a kicker. After the game **Bill Parcells** called him a football player, not just a kicker.

Sports 101 Answer: Jon Lester has the most strikeouts by a Red Sox lefty with 1,386.

A Little History – Lester in Chicago and Boston: Consistency was his forte, illustrated with the astonishing statistical facts that his 63.6 winning percentage and 3.64 ERA in nine years while pitching for Boston was matched identically to the 63.6% and 3.64 ERA during his six years with the Cubs. And his season average of 168 innings and 154 strikeouts in Boston and his 167 and 156 are within the margin of error of being identical in Chicago too!

The only other career statistical consistency to match that that I know was **Stan Musial** dividing his 3,630 hits evenly by having 1,815 at home and 1,815 **Kyle Harrison** on the road.

Final Thought – Minnesota Lynx coach Cheryl Reeve: "We can't let this happen." That's what the Lynx coach, already embroiled in controversy for comments made regarding trans athletes, said about the WNBA possibly hiring men to head coach in the league.

I get the sentiment. But that seems *exactly* the opposite of feminists correctly bellowing through years about women being discriminated against by gender and not by qualification while head to head with men for a job.

But now since women stand to lose their advantage in this situation, gender suddenly matters more than qualifications do. Got it, Cheryl.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippypress.com. 🐾

THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS AUGUST 13 AND BEYOND

Sunday, Aug. 16

Director Kathryn Bigelow's *Point Break* (R, 1991), starring Keanu Reeves and Patrick Swayze, celebrates its 35th anniversary with a screening today at 7 p.m. at Apple Cinemas in Merrimack and Hooksett, Cinemark Rockingham Park in Salem and Regal Fox Run in Newington, according to fathom-entertainment.com, where you can purchase tickets. The movie will



also screen Wednesday, Aug. 19, at 7 p.m. at the same theaters.

St. in Manchester, today at 7:30 p.m., according to snhuarena.com, where you can purchase tickets. Get a look at Tour highlights at wwe.com.

Saturday, Aug. 15

Karen Coulters will talk about her new book *Finding Home on Lilac Lane* at a special Bookstore Romance Day event today at 2 p.m. at Balin Books (375 Amherst St., Nashua, balinbooks.com).

Saturday, Aug. 15

Continuum Arts Collective will present *Revel in the Meadow 2026* at Dover Elks Field, 282 Durham Road in Dover, today from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., according to continuumarts.org, where you can purchase tickets. The day will include two music stages, art activities for kids, more than 20 artisans and headlining acts "A Band of Brothers: An Allman Brothers Tribute, Seacoast Last Waltz Band, Ramble on Rose Band, Terrafunk, and Lightheaded Collec-

tive," the website said.

Sunday, Aug. 16

The Concord Model Railroad Show, sponsored by the Concord Model Railroad Club, will take place today from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Everett Arena in Concord, according to a flyer from the club. Admission costs \$2 for adults, free for kids under 15 with an adult, the flyer said. The day will feature more than 20 dealers, a food stand, raffles and more, the flyer said.

Sunday, Aug. 16

Sunfox Farm in Concord continues its annual *Sunflower Bloom Festival* until day. The festival, which began last week, is open from 10 a.m.

to 6 p.m. daily and

features live music, food trucks and other vendors, according to sunfox-farm.org/sunflowerfestival, where you can find details on pricing, parking and more. Read John Fladd's story about the event in the Aug. 6 issue of the Hippo; find it on page 16 in the issue, which is available in the digital library at hippopress.com. 🐘



Save the Date! Friday, Sept. 25

Get excited about fall with *Guitar Monsters* featuring Johnny A & Jon Butcher with special guest Dave Amato on Friday, Sept. 25, at 8 p.m. at the Tupelo Music Hall, 10 A St. in Derry, according to tupelomusic hall.com, where you can purchase tickets to the show as well as separate tickets to the pre-show VIP meet and greet.

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smoking hot COMEDY

A TALK WITH COMEDIANS JODY SLOANE AND JIMMY DUNN PLUS A LOOK AT UPCOMING SHOWS

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Last summer, the official story was that Jimmy Dunn skipped his own comedy festival due to a dream-come-true gig headlining at Casino Ballroom. That much was true. What didn't make press reports was the bigger reason he was missing. Two days after that big show, Dunn checked into Massachusetts General Hospital to have his spine rebuilt.

"I was essentially laid up waiting to do the Casino, and then they wanted to do the surgery like two days before, and I said I can't do that because I have to be able to stand on stage," Dunn recalled by phone from his home in Hampton Beach recently.

He made it, walking out under the lights the way



Jimmy Dunn. Courtesy photo.

he'd visualized since he was a kid who'd sit on the venue's back stairs to listen to Buddy Hackett and George Carlin. Then after what Dunn calls as a career highlight, surgeons were putting \$30,000 worth of titanium into his back.

"That was just the parts," he said with a wry laugh. "It's a bad joke, but I was a stand-up comedian who couldn't stand up, so that's not good." A year later, Jimmy Dunn is back, and by his own account, firing on all cylinders in a way that he hasn't in two decades.

"I feel great, man. I haven't felt this good in 20 years. I'm open ocean swimming and walking every day," he said. The Hampton Beach Comedy Festival, the institution he built from scratch 19 years ago, returns with Dunn fully mobile again after a stretch where the injury quietly reshaped what he could do on stage.

"It was really tough to be on stage for about a year because of this back injury, and it limited my movement and just what I could do creatively," he said. "But now I can fly around on stage again, and I love it." The Casino Ballroom night itself, he admits, ran largely on adrenaline and painkillers.

"I would have done that show with one leg," he said. "I've been waiting 30 years to do that show, and to be a headliner at the Casino Ballroom was just a dream come true." Local radio helped fill the room, and while Dunn won't swear it was a total

sellout, "it was packed."

This year's festival — the 17th edition, missing two along the way to Covid and an earlier back surgery — comes with a lineup change Dunn is clearly proud of. In past years, he says, the show ran long because organizers kept squeezing in new comics eager for stage time, which meant rushing seasoned headliners off before they got going.

This year, the roster is smaller and the sets are longer for the veteran Boston comics who don't just tell good jokes. "Any good comic can get a laugh, but the ones that can just hammer laugh after laugh, that's what Boston has always been known for; that's what Boston comics do best."

Dunn is also handing off hosting duties so he can do a 20-minute set each night, which allows him to actually hang out with his friends instead of running the show.

"I just don't like breaking up my thoughts," he said of hosting. "I'm going to go in there and have fun with my friends ... just tell some jokes and hang with the gang like I used to."

Among this year's hammers: Will Noonan, whom Dunn remembers showing up to the festival's earliest years at the old Ashworth venue "in a suit ... looking like a young Elvis Costello," and who's since become, in Dunn's words, a true Boston headliner.

There's also Andrew Della Volpe, Karen Mor-

gan — fresh off a viral run on social media and a national touring schedule — Ken Rogerson, Mike Donovan, Brian Glowacki and Paul D'Angelo.

A notable thread running through this year's bill: two father-son comedy pairs. Tony V, Dunn's best friend and longtime collaborator — the man who helped him pick material for his Letterman audition — shares the stage with his son Gus, who started doing stand-up at Emerson College before moving to Los Angeles.

"They look alike and they sound alike, but they're talking about completely different things," Dunn said. "It's really fun." The second pairing features Ethan Printz, son of veteran comic Robbie Printz, a friend of Dunn's for three decades.

"Robbie called and asked, 'Hey, can you get my son on the festival?'" With a friend like that, that's all I need," Dunn said. New comics get one shot to prove themselves in front of an audience that, in Dunn's words, isn't a young comedy-club crowd — it's real Hampton Beach tourists who "will let you know real quickly if you're not funny."

Festival lore runs deep for Dunn: cash Pachinko games at Playland with Tony V, Danny Miller, Gus, Dave Rattigan and Steve Bjork; a homemade ice cream sundae bar on his back deck; a banner plane he hired to fly over the beach reading "Hampton Beach Comedy Festival Tonight."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 ►

Holding the field (and the crowd)

Comedy veteran writes her own advice book

As a standup comic, Jody Sloane is adept at reading a room — it's a means to survival. Recently she wrote a book that places that and other life skills in the context of mental well-being. It's called *Hold the Field — A Practice for Staying Present Without Disappearing*.

The book grew out of her own lifelong habit of feeling responsible for defusing tense situations, even if her help was never requested, a form of social diplomacy that quickly becomes conscription. It's a reflex, she believes, that most people recognize in themselves if they're honest.

"Everybody who does it thinks they're coming from a helpful place, and often they are," she said in a recent Zoom meeting. The trap, as she describes it, is that they end up fully responsible for the problem, absorbing a job that was never theirs to begin with, often at the cost of their own presence. It's its own kind of vanishing act.

To deal with it, Sloane created the APART™ framework: Awareness, Permission, Attunement, Restraint, and Trust. In a classic self-help format, she describes the toxic behavior and ways to address it. Real life examples, many that are deeply personal, illustrate corrective work.

It all begins with a bad tattoo.

Sloane stresses that she isn't writing as a professional or offering a therapy substitute. Rather, she's someone who's "read all the books," but

didn't find one that spoke to her. She's there for people who "need a way to notice tension without absorbing it," and avoid vanishing into a fog of good intentions.

She spent years in therapy herself to deal with PTSD, every modality from IFS to cognitive behavioral and EMDR. All valuable, she said, but not definitive.

"What it did was tell me why I am the way I am, and not necessarily how to be in the world with these things I was dealing with," she said. "I didn't really find a book like that."

So Sloane wrote it herself, believing she wasn't alone in knowing that compulsively trying to lower everyone's emotional temperature was fruitless. "The most important takeaway is, you do it at the expense of yourself," she said. "You're not helping yourself ... and that's the opposite of what you were hoping for."

What, then, is this ... Field?

It's not the room, but rather what happens inside it, specifically its collective energy and tension. In comedy, it gives Sloane cues for things like dealing with a heckler, owning a joke when it triggers one audience member but makes everyone else laugh — or introducing a slate of comics.

That's something she'll do when she returns to the Hampton Beach Comedy Festival to host

its final night on Aug. 23. It's a job she describes, only half-joking, as one she doesn't even like.

"I hate hosting, too," she said, echoing fellow comic Jimmy Dunn, who said the same thing in an interview to preview the festival he launched in 2010.

Her job as host is to gauge the temperature of the room and follow its flow, comedian by comedian. If a high-energy act is coming up, she'll ramp up the crowd's energy up to meet them. If it shifts down — for example, with a Stephen Wright type following Bobcat Goldthwait — her task then is to ride it, so the next comic lands on their own terms.

A few days prior to HBCF, Sloane will be at Beans & Greens Farm in Gilford, this time not as the person running the whole show but as part of Frank Santorelli & Friends. There she'll perform an extended set, longer than the 20 minutes she'll lead with at McGuirk's Ocean View before yielding to six more comics, including closer Dunn.

Sloane's 29-year-old daughter is woven into the act these days, a way to examine the friction between Gen X and Gen Z sensibilities. It's a reluctant choice.

"I normally hadn't brought her in," she said. "I was worried she'd be sensitive about what I'd say about her, but what I say is fun and sweet.



Jody Sloane. Courtesy photo by Chuck Shaw.

And it's true."

Now that *Hold The Field* is out — it's on sale at Sloane's shows, by the way — she's exhaling, happily.

"The experience of doing it, and fulfilling it, has been huge," she said. "There are a lot of people who are willing to support me in this endeavor, and that's been the most heartening thing, I think — that people are like, 'go, go, go!' It's been awesome." 🍷

◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Marketing, even now, stays defiantly old-school — hand-to-hand flyers on the sand, because half the audience is tourists who won't see a Facebook ad. "The only way to market to the beach is to be on the beach," he said.

Dunn is also branching out this fall in a new direction: teaching. Starting Sept. 23, he'll lead a four-week stand-up comedy course in the Catin Room of Concord's BNH Stage. He'll walk students through finding their comedic voice, writing jokes that land and performing them with confidence, capped by a mainstage graduation set Oct. 15.

It's the first time Dunn has put together anything like it, and he says the idea had been around for a while waiting for a good moment.

"People have been asking me forever to teach a class," he said. "It seemed like the right time and the perfect venue."

Off stage, Dunn is also finishing a book about his comedy career, aiming for a Thanksgiving release alongside a show at Portsmouth's Music Hall Lounge, and still looks back fondly on his two seasons on *Frasier*, including one surreal week trading lines with Kelsey Grammer and Bebe Neuwirth.

The combination of surgery and weather nearly ended the festival for him. Last year, lying in a hospital bed listening to pouring rain and wondering whether to cancel a night of the festival, Dunn wondered if he should carry on. Then his back healed, and his head cleared like a summer thunder buster.

"Of course I want to keep it going," he said.

NIGHT AFTER NIGHT

The Hampton Beach Comedy Festival runs six nights at McGuirk's Ocean View, in their outdoor Post 8 bar and restaurant. Festival creator Jimmy Dunn will do a 20-minute set to close each show, with Dave Rattigan also telling jokes nightly.

A big change from previous years is fewer comics with more stage time. Dunn wants The Hammers — his name for the veteran comics who've anchored the festival since it began 19 years ago — to have room to stretch out. In past years, packed lineups precluded that.

"Mike Donovan would get up there and just start murdering the crowd, and I'm like, I don't want to give him the light, I want him to keep going," Dunn said. "So some of the bigger names, or the more experienced comics, or my friends that I just find funnier, we're going to let them go a little bit longer."

All shows are scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m. (doors 5:30 p.m.) weather permitting, with rain-outs announced 2 p.m. day of show. Shows are 21+ and include adult content. "No, your kids can't come even if they've heard it all," reads the festival website, hampton-beach-comedy-festival.weebly.com, where you can purchase tickets. "Send your child to Playland with a handful of quarters like a good parent."

Tickets remain \$20 per show, something Dunn is quite proud of. "Most of these comics you can't see on their own for \$20," he said. "I've been working hard with my management [to] lower those ticket prices. People are feeling it, and I want them to be able to come out and have a good time."

Tuesday, Aug. 18

Paul D'Angelo



Once an assistant district attorney and criminal-defense trial lawyer, D'Angelo is a comedy veteran with nearly four decades of standup under his belt. He's the author of six books and appeared in the Showtime standup concert film *The Godfathers of Comedy*. He's performed at venues ranging from New York's Friars Club to the Waldorf Astoria ballroom, as well as Harrah's and Caesars Palace.



Paul Nardizzi

A winner of both the HBO U.S. Comedy Arts Festival and the Boston Comedy Festival, Nardizzi has appeared on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, Comedy Central, NESN and Fox Sports' Best Damn Sports Show Period. He offers observational humor about his family life, sports, and more, and is touring New England through 2026 with a parenting-focused show, including a September date at Cary Hall in Lexington, Mass.



Mike Hanley

He's opened for Jay Mohr, Tom Arnold, David Koechner and Jessica Kirsan. One of his best bits is about being the father of an infant girl and accidentally brushing his teeth with Desitin and calling for emergency medical assistance. He became the funniest thing the help line encountered that evening. He's been on the *Today* show and *Good Morning America*, and his 2014 daddy/daughter dance YouTube clip topped 24 million views.

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Mark Riley

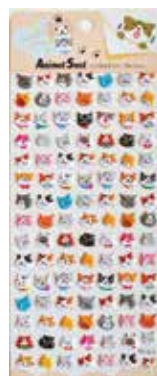


He was once a professional ice hockey referee (with a very short stint in the NHL) who also ran a Gymboree. He headlines in Boston as well as playing in Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Atlantic City, and he's a former first runner-up at the Boston Comedy Festival. Also a school teacher, he co-authored a movie script, *Penalty Box*, drawn from his hockey-refing days, and is finishing his first book, *Not Every Kid Should Get a Trophy*.



Mike Donovan

A mainstay in the Boston comedy world who's also written several books, including one on U.S. history that began as a manuscript twice as long as the Bible. "He's not a normal guy," comic Steven Wright once said of Donovan. "His head is not a casual head. He's got like 18 Harvards up there." His writing has appeared in the Boston Globe, the Boston Herald and Sports Illustrated as he continues to headline New England rooms in 2026.



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Mitch Stinson

Ex-Navy jet pilot with more than 200 carrier landings during his career, he's now a comedian. Stinson's material frequently touches on the transition from military to civilian life. He appears at comedy clubs all over New England. He's the winner of Rhode Island's Funniest Stand-Up and a Boston/Rhode Island Comedy Festival performer. Still a fixture on the New England club circuit in 2026, including dates at Nick's Comedy Stop.



Ethan Printz

16-year-old comic turning his teen years into laughs, frequently performing with his father, a multi-decade standup veteran. He frequently tours with his comedian father Robbie in their joint *A Night with the Printzes* shows, while building a following on Instagram, TikTok and YouTube for his insights into coping with his voice and body changing, while entertaining crowds in rooms he won't be able to drink in until five years from now.



Robbie Printz

When he shares the stage with his son Ethan, it will be a rare gig on land for the seasoned comic, as he's spending most of August and September telling jokes on cruise ships. He's been a headliner aboard Princess Cruises since 2004, and in 2016 he earned the line's Entertainer of the Year. He still splits his year between cruise ship gigs and land dates with son Ethan.

Thursday, Aug. 20



Ken Rogerson

A veteran of *Rescue Me* and *When Standup Stood Out*, the superb documentary about Boston's comedy heyday in the 1980s. "I legitimately find him one of the funniest people on the planet," Dunn said of Rogerson. "I would put his Zookeeper bit up there in the top five or 10 comedy bits of all time." Other TV credits include "Pat the Cop" on *It's All Relative*, plus Conan O'Brien, Letterman and Comics Come Home.



Paul Gilligan

This perennial Boston headliner likes to riff on family life and his pale Irish heritage. "On summer vacations," goes one joke, "I hide under the deck in a ski mask with 68 sunblock, wrapped in a towel." Gilligan is a solid draw throughout New England clubs. He's also a licensed electrician who emcees the Boston Construction Awards, as well as a regular on NESN's *Charlie Moore Outdoors* and *Dirty Water TV*.



Harrison Stebbins

Observational comic who created his persona following a family tragedy when his teen brother was disabled in a car accident. He's shared the stage with Lewis Black, Mitch Hedberg and Bill Burr, and is a winner of the Sam Adams Best of Boston Comedy Festival. Other credits for the New England funny man include Comedy Central and Comcast Comedy Spotlight.

Friday, Aug. 21



Brian Glowacki

He's headlined Boston's Wilbur and the Cape Cod Melody Tent. Glowacki has a secret weapon: a face that telegraphs mischief. When he pauses with a sly smirk during a joke setup, it's like watching a Mento dropped into a bottle of Coke; audience laughter builds, then explodes. A few years ago, he was the first independent local comic to headline Boston's Wilbur Theatre.

Upcoming comedy shows

Averill House Vineyard 21 Averill Road, Brookline, mikedupcomedy.com

Saturday, Aug. 15 – Carolyn Plummer

Beans & Greens Farm (Notch Biergarten) 245 Intervale Road, Gilford, strideevents.com

Thursday, Aug. 13 – Lenny Clarke
Saturday, Aug. 15 – Frank Santorelli & Friends w/ Jody Sloane

BNH Stage 16 S. Main St., Concord, ccanh.com

Friday, Aug. 28 – NightOUT with Bunny Butchers Broadway
Saturday, Aug. 29 – Dulcé Sloan
Wednesday, Sept. 23 – Jimmy Dunn Comedy 101

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

Saturday, Aug. 22 – GenX Takeover Comedy Tour
Thursday, Sept. 3 – Jerry Seinfeld
Friday, Sept. 11 – Maria Bamford
Saturday, Sept. 26 – Jessica Kirson

Chunky's 707 Huse Road, Manchester, chunkys.com

Friday, Sept. 11 – Tom Cotter

Colonial Theatre 609 Main St., Laconia, etix.com

Saturday, Aug. 15 – Juston McKinney

Earth Eagle Tavern 350 Route 108, Somersworth, eventbrite.com
Saturday, Aug. 22 – Anders J Nielsen, Katy Coughlin, Zach Valencia
Friday, Sept. 11 – Emily Ruskowski

The Flying Monkey 39 Main St., Plymouth, etix.com
Friday, Aug. 14 – Peter Antoniou
Saturday, Sept. 19 – Bob Marley

Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, ticketmaster.com

Sunday, Sept. 27 – Terry Fator
Friday, Oct. 16 – Kathleen Madigan

Headliners Comedy Club 700 Elm St., Manchester, ovationtix.com

Saturday, Sept. 19 – Tim McKeever
Saturday, Sept. 26 – Rob Steen
Saturday, Oct. 3 – Jody Sloane
Saturday, Oct. 10 – Steve Bjork
Saturday, Oct. 17 – James Dorsey

McCue's Comedy Club 580 Portsmouth Traffic Circle, Portsmouth, eventbrite.com

Saturday, Aug. 15 – Rodney Norman

Moka Pot 8 Hanover St., Manchester, eventbrite.com

Friday, Aug. 21 – Robby Slowik
Saturday, Sept. 19 – Sarah Tollemache, hosted by Ethan Cannon and featuring Dan Doherty
Saturday, Sept. 26 – Josh Day & Friends

The Music Hall Lounge 131 Congress St., Portsmouth, themusichall.org

Sunday, Aug. 30 – Dulcé Sloan
Saturday, Oct. 3 – Heather Shaw

Nashua Center for the Arts 201 Main St., Nashua, nashuacenter-forthearts.com

Thursday, Sept. 24 – Natalie Cuomo
Monday, Oct. 5 – Nurse Blake

Newmarket Millspace 55 Main St., Newmarket, portsmouthnhtickets.com

Friday, Aug. 21 – Lamprey River Comedy Competition

Palace Theatre 80 Hanover St., Manchester, palacetheatre.org
Thursday, Oct. 1 – Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood
Friday, Oct. 9 – Juston McKinney

Players' Ring 15 Marcy St., Portsmouth, portsmouthnhtickets.com
Friday, Aug. 14 – Stranger Than Fiction Improv

Queen City Center 215 Canal St., Manchester, wickedjoyful.com
Saturday, Sept. 19 – Jay Chanoine, Matt Barry, Brienna Woodward (comic-con event)

Rex Theatre 23 Amherst St., Manchester, palacetheatre.org
Friday, Sept. 18 – David Nihill
Saturday, Oct. 3 – Frank Santos, Jr.

Rockingham Ballroom 22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket, portsmouthnhtickets.com
Saturday, Sept. 5 – Jim Colliton

Sunstone Brewing Co. 298 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, eventbrite.com
Saturday, Aug. 22 – Amy Tee, Matt Barry, Alex Giampapa

Tupelo Music Hall 10 A St., Derry, tickets.tupelohall.com
Friday, Aug. 14 – Orlando Baxter, Kristy Kielbasinski and Ethan Printz
Saturday, Sept. 12 – Pete Correale

Zorvino Vineyards 226 Main St., Sandown, eventbrite.com
Thursday, Aug. 13 – Steve Bjork & Friends, Tim McKeever and Pat Napoli

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Andrew Della Volpe

A Boston Comedy Festival finalist and a regular all over New England for the past six years, Volpe has appeared at Boston's Comedy Attic as well as Manchester's Shaskeen and Rex Theatre. From 2021 to 2023, he co-hosted a podcast, The Soft Boys, with HBCF favorite Will Noonan. Recently named a Boston Globe "Comedian on the Rise." Now newly married, with 2026 dates at the Spire Center and Music Hall Lounge.



Kristy Kielbasinski

Boston-based stand-up comedian and author, drawing inspiration from her life as a stay-at-home mom and housewife. Her children's book, *I Don't Know*, combines her comedic sensibilities with a love of reading. Won the 2025 Mohegan Sun Comix Contest (Feature Division) and has opened for Bobcat Goldthwait, Matt Rife and Natasha Leggero. Continues touring New England clubs through 2026.



Jeff Koen

He regularly supports Justin McKinney at his shows, and performs throughout New England. Koen's self-deprecating humor lands well with audiences, and some may remember him from his role as Uncle Rick in the 2011 cult film *Heavy Times*. Won \$10,000 on America's Funniest Home Videos in 2015 and co-starred with Justin McKinney in the short film "Suck It Up." Still a frequent support act for McKinney's shows.

Saturday, Aug. 22



P.J. Thibodeau

Comedian, basketball coach, sports official and New England comedy circuit veteran known for blue-collar charm, easy stage presence, and observational storytelling frequently drawn from family life, aging and athletics. He's now among the Northeast's upper-tier headliners, having grown from the college circuit into opening for major national acts and headlining clubs throughout the region in 2026.



Karen Morgan

Former trial attorney who got her start as a finalist on Nickelodeon's Search for the Funniest Mom in America. "Fortunately she's a dear friend who's right up the street; otherwise I wouldn't be able to get her at something like this," Dunn said. In 2024, her third album, *Shiny Happy People Laughing*, arrived. Her two Dry Bar Comedy specials, *Go Dawgs!* and *Rub Some Dirt On It*, have millions of online views, with her third due soon.



Dan Miller

According to his bio, Boston native Miller was "born a comedian but made it official in 1992." He's shared stages with local and national headliners including Lenny Clarke, Dane Cook and Dave Attel. Dunn calls catching up with Miller one of his favorite things about the HBCF. He remains a regular headliner at Nick's Comedy Stop and Giggles Comedy Club at Prince Pizzeria.

Sunday, Aug. 23



Tony V.

A Boston comedy legend and Dunn's best friend. "Tony V. and I will probably be walking through the gates of Hell together at some point," Dunn said. Voted "The Funniest Man in Massachusetts" by Showtime back in 1986, he's a national headliner who's been on late night television and shared stages with everyone from Steven Wright to Adam Sandler.



Jody Sloane

Doing a sit-down shtick as a cheeky "conducttor" named Penny Wise on more than 4,000 Boston Duck Tours was the perfect tee-up to becoming a stand-up comic for Sloane, who now tours regularly from New York to Maine. Sloane also authored *Hold The Field*, a self-help book. "It was something I needed that no one else wrote," she said. She's been invited back to host and perform at HBCF multiple times.

Will Noonan

Noonan self-released his *Live in Boston* special on YouTube rather than waiting on a streaming deal, part of a wave of Boston comics producing their own specials. He made an impression on the festival organizer at his initial HBCF appearance, and now he's a regular. "The first time Will came up, he was wearing a suit," Dunn recalled. "I was like, 'Oh, I like this kid's style already.'"

Carolyn Plummer

She appeared at Denis Leary's annual Comics Come Home benefit in 2022, along with the far-flung Burbank Comedy Festival on the West Coast. A New Hampshire native — she grew in Wolfboro, a minister's daughter — Plummer got into comedy after responding to an ad. Now 25 years into her comedy career, Plummer's also a Woody Herman Jazz Award-winning trumpet player.



Gus V.

Comedian, writer, playwright and a graduate of Emerson College in Boston, he's now based in Los Angeles. Gus has worked on Jimmy Kimmel Live, Cobra Kai, and When Stand Up Stood Up. In addition to his writing credits, he runs a monthly show in L.A. called Bughouse with Ben Zieper at the Yard Theater. His appearance with dad Tony V. is one of two father-son HBCF combos. 🍷

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ARTS

Painting poems

Words inspire art at Kimball Jenkins

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

An upcoming exhibition at the Kimball Jenkins Estate will pair works of art with poetry but flip the traditional ekphrastic approach. Since time immemorial, poets have written about paintings, but “Dwelling Places” instead has painters responding to poems.

The effort, which opened Aug. 7, unites Kimball Jenkins-affiliated artists with a Concord-based poetry group.

The idea traces back to last year, when Kimball Jenkins Executive Director Martha Lemire attended the Percheron Poets’ annual *Poetry & Pie* event for the first time. “I was so inspired by the poets and their original writing,” she recalled. “I said, wouldn’t it be cool if next summer we did an exhibition around poetry, and have artists respond to your words?”

Art in Bloom, floral arrangements coupled with artwork, is a January tradition at Kimball Jenkins, and Lemire wondered if poets could inspire a mirror image of that. “We did it backwards,” she said. “I thought it would be an interesting concept to see what they could

Art & Poetry: Dwelling Places

Where: Kimball Jenkins Estate, 266 N. Main St., Concord

When: Through Saturday, Sept. 5, various days and hours. Public opening reception Aug. 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Kimball Jenkins Mansion.

More: kimballjenkins.com

come up with.”

The Percheron Poets enthusiastically endorsed the idea.

The mechanics of the pairing varied. Some poets already had artist collaborators and had been working alongside them for months, while others didn’t. Lemire put roughly five or six unmatched poems out to the wider community of artists who exhibit at or teach for Kimball Jenkins, who then chose the ones that spoke to them.

The show’s evocative title came from the poets themselves. “This is your show,” Lemire told them. “We were hoping to have the poems shine in this whole collaborative exhibition that we’re doing together. So I gave them the opportunity to come up with their title, and they did.”

In a Zoom call, Percheron Poets member Brenda Wilbert explained the title’s meaning.

“It reflects a positive feeling associated with writing from the seat of one’s own heart and mind — the inner life where the soul dwells,” she said. “Dwelling places are bright enough to encompass the poems and artwork. It’s a fun way of thinking of them dwelling for a while in the old, elegant mansion.”

Wilbert is also an artist, one of the exhibition’s many hyphenates. She works in wearable and digital art, built around her Heart Full of Color unisex clothing collection. One of her pieces was recently featured in a Montreal Clothing Co. marketing campaign. She recently had a solo show of her artwork at Kimball Jenkins.



Courtesy photo.

“I was so blessed and honored,” she said of the five-week exhibition of her paintings alongside a room of mannequins dressed in her clothing line, including one posed at a piano. Wilbert is also a playwright and once ran her own theater company, following in the footsteps of her late husband, also a playwright.

For “Dwelling Places,” Wilbert contributed two poems. She created the artwork for one herself. For the other, “How They Grew,” about her father’s tomatoes, she recruited Susan Huppe, a retired art teacher. “Susan doesn’t really show her work, and now I encouraged her to do it,” she said. Huppe’s painting is being used to promote the exhibition.

The Percheron Poets origin story traces back to a workshop Adele Sanborn ran in Boscawen at the now-shuttered Twiggs Gallery. “Right outside Twiggs, there were Percheron horses,” Wilbert said. “We were looking at the horses when we’re in this meeting, and this is how it all started.” The group has met monthly ever since.

Wilbert spent her earlier career in mental health services. She’s written often about grief but came to poetry late in life.

“I decided I wanted to do it,” she said, pointing out an overlap between that kind of writing and visual art. “Writing poetry or expressing art is often very healing.”

What is Wilbert most looking forward to at the event? “People being present with both the poems and artwork,” she said simply. “Like to really go through them, the mansion, and just sit with us. Really look at the poem, read the poem, look at the artwork, and just be present there.”

She’s also eager for another year of the gathering that inspired “Dwelling Places.” However, she’s quick to clarify one thing: for *Poetry & Pie* on Aug. 23, Wilbert will only read — she does *not* bake. “I’m not a cook, forget it,” she said. “I go to the Co-Op; I get a lot of great pies over there.” 🥧

Art

Opening

• **Aug. 9 through Sept. 9 Show** at Glimpse Gallery, 4 Park St. in Concord, featuring the works of Byron Carr, Julie Daniels, Debra Wayne, Jerry Edwards, Timothy Sievers and Pamela Tarbell, will have an opening reception on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 5 to 7 p.m., according to theglimpsegallery.com.

• **“Sarah Peters: Sketchbook,”** an exhibit of terracotta relief sculptures by 2025 Saint-Gaudens Fellow Peters, will be on display in the Picture Gallery at Saint-Gaudens National Historical Park, 139 Saint Gaudens Road in Cornish, Saturday, Aug. 15, through Oct. 26, with an artist talk and reception on Aug. 15, from 4 to 6 p.m. (included with park admission), according to a press release. See saint-gaudens.org.

Events

• **Calder Kamin and Meagan Kilian: Factory Artist In Residence Exhibition**, a show featuring “two artists visiting from Texas. During their time in Manchester, each immersed themselves in the local creative community. Meeting fellow

artists, visiting galleries and organizations throughout New Hampshire, and exploring the region’s landscapes and culture,” will be on display at The Factory on Willow, 252 Willow St. in Manchester, on Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., according to a post on The Factory on Willow’s Facebook page, where you can find a link to RSVP.

Exhibits

• **“Metamorphosis”** is on display at Art 3 Gallery, 44 W. Brook St. in Manchester, art3gallery.com. “The word itself implies change, a shift in structure, or identity. 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.

• **“Danny Lyon: The Bikeriders”** 16 works by photographer Danny Lyon of the Chicago Outlaws Motorcycle Club are on display through Aug. 16 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash

St. in Manchester, according to currier.org. The Currier is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **“Together, Apart, Away: Snapshots from the Peter J. Cohen Collection”** is on display through Aug. 16 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St. in Manchester, according to currier.org. “In a world saturated with digital images, these 450+ physical snapshots serve as a poignant reminder of our shared experiences. Spanning nearly a century, this collection captures the ordinary moments that define us,” according to an email from the Currier. The Currier is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **“Off The Wall — The Art of Fashion,”** featuring works that “represent the union of art and fashion,” will be on display at Mosaic Art Collective, 410 Chestnut St. in Manchester, through Friday, Aug. 28, according to mosaicartcollective.com.

• **“Painted Poetry”** is on display at the Two Villages Art Society, 846 Main St. in Hopkinton’s Contoocook Village, according to a press release. The exhibit features paintings by five area artists and poems inspired by

the works, the release said. “‘Painted Poetry’ is a collaboration between visual artists Carol Belliveau, Elizabeth Leone Holmes, Heidi Lorenz, Sara Rae and Chris Scott and the invited poets. It is a bright, immersive exhibit where the visual arts and written word intertwine,” the release said. The featured poets will attend a poetry reading at the gallery on Saturday, Aug. 15, at 4 p.m., the release said. The exhibit is on display through Saturday, Aug. 29, and the gallery is open from noon to 4 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays, the release said. See twovillagesart.org.

• **“Hi, Neighbor!”** described as “a salon style, group exhibition that aims to exhibit recently created artworks, build community, and have some fun!,” will be on display at See Saw Art, 408 Chestnut St. in Manchester, through Sunday, Aug. 30, according to seesaw.art. “‘Hi Neighbor!’ aims to exhibit small artworks of all mediums. All artworks, from traditional fine art paintings, prints, and photographs will be considered, as well as ready made textile, clothing, ceramics, and crafts. There is no overall theme — looking to exhibit artworks each artist

is excited to see in a traditional gallery setting,” the website said. See seesaw.art/visit for gallery hours.

• **“Abundance”** an exhibit with “works by Betsy Weisberg and Amy Green VanDeventer” will be on view at 3S Artspace, 319 Vaughan St. in Portsmouth, through Sunday, Aug. 30. See 3arts.org for details. The gallery is open Thursdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m.

• **“Across America”** is on display at The Art Center, 1 Washington St. in Dover, through Monday, Aug. 31, according to a press release. The gallery is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., according to theartcenterdover.com.

• **“Abundance”** an exhibit with “works by Betsy Weisberg and Amy Green VanDeventer” that “is inspired by the landscapes and seasonal rhythms of the North Shore. Hand-built stoneware vessels are paired with sculpted botanical forms that reflect local harvests, native plants, and the coastal environment” will be on view at 3S Artspace, 319 Vaughan St. in Portsmouth, through Sunday,

Aug. 30. See 3arts.org for details. The gallery is open Thursdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m.

• **“A Sense of Wonder,”** a solo exhibition of fine art photography by Tom Levasseur, is on display through Aug. 31 at The Art Center, 1 Washington St., Suite 1177, in Dover, according to a press release. The gallery is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See theartcenteronlinegallery.com.

• **“On The Water,”** a Body of Work show by painter Dave Turbide, will run at Seacoast Artist Association, 130 Water St. in Exeter, in August. The gallery is open Wednesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the release said. See seacoastartist.org.

• **“Time in a Bottle,”** a Body of Work show by Janice Leahy, will run at Seacoast Artist Association, 130 Water St. in Exeter, in August. The gallery is open Wednesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the release said. See seacoastartist.org.

• **“The Calendar Collection,”** a solo exhibition of black-and-white photog-

raphy by Carol Van Loon, is on display at The Art Center, 1 Washington St., Suite 1177, in Dover, through the end of August, according to a press release. The gallery is open Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- **“An Ocean of Quilts”** featuring art by members of the Cocheco Quilters Guild is on display through Aug. 31 at Gallery 6 at the Children’s Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St. in Dover, childrens-museum.org. The gallery is open during museum hours.
- **“Montages: Peter Cordova & Kyoko Idetsu”** runs through Saturday, Sept. 19, at Outer Space Arts, 35 Pleasant St. in Concord, which is open Saturdays from noon to 3 p.m. or by appointment, according to outerspacearts.xyz.

Museums

Exhibits

- **“Witness to War: Treasures from the American Revolution”** is an exhibition telling “the story of New Hampshire’s contributions to the Revolutionary War on the battlefield and at home,” according to a press release. The exhibit is on display at the New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park St. in Concord, which is open Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., the release said. See nhhistory.org for admission prices.
- **“Reflections of the Revolution: The Derryfield Perspective”** is the new exhibit at the Millyard Museum, 200 Bedford St. in Manchester, according to an email from the museum. “This exhibit will feature stories, portraits and artifacts from several influential characters in America’s Revolution,” the email said. See manchesterhistoric.org.
- **“A Legacy of Landscapes: Selections from the Linda and P. Andrews McLane Collection, Part 2”** is on display at the New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park St. in Concord, through Dec. 31, according to nhhistory.org. The exhibit “presents a sampling of their private collection, showcasing the work of several artists, including Thomas Cole, Benjamin Champney, Ann Sophia Towne Darrah, Samuel Lancaster Gerry, Thomas Hill, David Johnson, John Frederick Kensett, John Ross Key, Louisa Morse, and Frank H. Shapleigh,” the website said. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Events

- **101 Objects Book Launch** will take place at the Millyard Museum in Manchester on Thursday, Aug. 13, 5:30 to 7 p.m., according to manchesterhistoric.org. “The Manchester Historic Association is pleased to announce the publication of a new book: *101 Objects: Celebrating 130 Years of Collecting, Preserving, and Sharing Manchester’s History*. As we celebrate the organization’s 130th anniversary this year, as well as the 25th anniversary of the Millyard Museum, we have put together this book that highlights 101 objects — a small sample of our incredible collection,” the website said.
- **Millyard Walking Tour** hosted by the Manchester Historic Association will take place Saturday, Aug. 15, at 11 a.m. “The walking tour will examine the impact of the Millyard and its decline and rebirth following the bankruptcy of Amoskeag. The tour will also look at the Merrimack River and the Amoskeag Falls and focus on the history of individual mill buildings,” according to manchesterhistoric.org/event/millyard-tour, where you can register for the event (the cost is \$20).

Theater

- **Andy’s Summer Playhouse**, 582 Isaac Frye Highway in Wilton, features productions and workshops for kid and teen performers, according to andysummerplayhouse.org, where you can find the schedule of productions to which audiences can purchase tickets. Upcoming shows include *The Forest Knows* (Friday, Aug. 14, at 7 p.m.; Thursday, Aug. 13, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 15, at 3:30 p.m.).
- **The Palace Youth Theatre Summer Camp**, featuring performers in grades 2 through 12, will present productions throughout the summer at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester, according to palacetheatre.org, where you can purchase tickets. Performances include *Madagascar Jr.* (Aug. 14, 7 p.m., and Aug. 15, 11 a.m.) and *Shrek The Musical Kids* (Aug. 21, 7 p.m.).
- **The Palace Theatre’s 2026 Bank of New Hampshire Children’s Summer Series** runs July 7 through Aug. 27, with a new show each week and showtimes Tuesday through Thursdays at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

and Fridays at 10 a.m., all at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester, according to palacetheatre.org, where you can purchase tickets. This season’s shows include *Shrek Jr.* (Aug. 11-14); *Disney’s The Little Mermaid Jr.* (Aug. 18-21), and *magician BJ Hickman* (Aug. 25-27).

- **The 39 Steps** presented by the Winnepesaukee Playhouse Professional Company at the Winnepesaukee Playhouse, 33 Footlight Circle in Meredith, on Friday, Aug. 14, through Sunday, Aug. 23, with shows at 7:30 p.m. all nights but Sunday and Monday and 2 p.m. shows on Aug. 15-16, Aug. 20 and Aug. 23, according to winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org, where you can purchase tickets.

Classical

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

- The **NH Irish Festival** takes place at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester, on Saturday, Aug. 22, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. and is slated to feature Screaming Orphans, The Spain Brothers, The Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio and Rory Makem, according to palacetheatre.org, where you can purchase tickets.
- **Evenings at the Avaloch** at Avaloch Farm Music Institute, 16 Hardy Lane in Boscawen, avalochfarmmusic.org, on Friday, Aug. 28, at 5 p.m. See the website for ticket information.
- **Scott Kirby, Gabriel Donohue and Friends** singers, musicians and story tellers, at Avaloch Farm Music Institute, 16 Hardy Lane in Boscawen, avalochfarmmusic.org, on Saturday, Aug. 29, at 5 p.m. See the website for ticket information.
- **Ashley Bathgate on cello** at Avaloch Farm Music Institute, 16 Hardy Lane in Boscawen, avalochfarmmusic.org, on Sunday, Aug. 30, at 11 a.m., with Brunch and Bubbles at 9:30 a.m. See the website for ticket information.
- **Evenings at the Avaloch** at Avaloch Farm Music Institute, 16 Hardy Lane in Boscawen, avalochfarmmusic.org, on Friday, Sept. 5, at 5 p.m. See the website for ticket information.
- **SNHUGFEST** The Southern New Hampshire Ukulele Group will hold their 10th annual SNHUGFEST on Saturday, Sept. 19, starting at 11 a.m. at the Rotary Arts Pavilion in Dover. See theuke.org/snhugfest-x.



HITCHCOCKIAN

The 39 Steps will be presented by the Winnepesaukee Playhouse Professional Company at the Winnepesaukee Playhouse, 33 Footlight Circle in Meredith, from Friday, Aug. 14, through Sunday, Aug. 23, with shows at 7:30 p.m. all nights but Sunday and Monday and 2 p.m. shows on Aug. 15-16, Aug. 20 and Aug. 23, according to winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org, where you can purchase tickets. “A hard-nosed spy thriller or a screwball romantic comedy? Why choose when you can have both with this delightfully inventive spoof of Hitchcockian proportions?!” the website said. *Featured photo: director Neil Pankhurst (right) who returns to Playhouse to helm this production rehearsing with Teghan Marie Kelly (left) and Will Nash Broyles (center)*



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148464

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Enjoying the fruits of your labor in the vegetable garden

Pull them, freeze them, dry them, eat them Pull them, freeze them, dry them, eat them

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

THE GARDENING GUY

My vegetable garden is cranking out free food like crazy. Some things need to be harvested right away, some can wait and get bigger, and some will soon be so plentiful that I will be giving them away and freezing lots for use this winter.

Let's start with garlic. Garlic produced tall, curly stems called scapes a few weeks ago. They can be used for making pesto (in lieu of garlic, but my basil wasn't ready). My garlic bulbs will soon be ready to harvest, and by then I will have lots of basil and then I will make pesto.

How do you know when it's time to pull garlic? Pay attention to those long green blades, the leaves of your garlic. Generally a garlic plant will have about seven leaves. When three leaves have started to dry up and turn brown, it's time to harvest them. But don't wait until all the leaves have browned, or the skin over the bulb will be dry and fall apart, letting the bulbs fall apart, and store poorly.

You don't get to eat your garlic the day you pull it. It takes time — a week or more — for the outer skin of the bulb to dry up enough that you can pull the cloves apart and separate them. I mean, you can cut one apart in case of emergency, but it's best to let them dry out a bit.

I generally hang my complete garlic plants in bunches (bulbs up, stems down) from the ceiling in my cool basement. I've read that some of the goodness of the garlic is in the stem and leaves, and that it will migrate to the bulb during the curing period, so best not to cut off the stems right away. After it cures for a week I'll cut off the stems. Garlic will store well in a cool dry place for months.

People who don't know me gasp when I tell them I grow about 40 tomato plants each year, including over a dozen Sungold cherry tomatoes. They ask, "What do you do with all of them?" Of course I eat them every day, often three times a day. But I put up most for winter: I freeze big tomatoes whole, and dry the cherry tomatoes in a food dehydrator.

The easiest way to freeze tomatoes is simply to put whole, clean tomatoes in freezer-grade zipper bags in the freezer. I put the bags on cookie sheets until the tomatoes have turned into "red rocks," then can stack the bags. In winter, I'll use them in soups or stews instead of buying canned tomatoes. Canning is way too much work for me.

The cherry tomatoes I slice in half and dry for several hours. It can take up to 12 hours, depending on the dryer, then store in the pantry in quart jars or zipper bags. I start the process at high heat — say 150 degrees — for 20 minutes, then drop the temp to 125 or 130 so that I don't damage the vitamins in the tomatoes. You can take them out when brittle, or earlier when they are leather-like. They store well in a cupboard, in the fridge, or in a freezer. I'll add a handful to a soup or stew and they will really provide a pop of summer when I bite into one. Apples and pears store well for trail snacks after dehydrating.

I have two dryers: a Nesco American Harvester and an Excalibur. I prefer the Excalibur because it is more energy-efficient and faster. But it costs more, and the Nesco does a fine job, too. There are plenty of others I haven't tried.

People make jokes about gardeners sticking big zucchinis in parked cars because they don't know what to do with them. The answer? Visit your garden every day, part the leaves to see what is growing there, and pick those squash before they get huge. Sauté them with a little garlic, onion or tomato and they are delicious.



Excalibur dehydrator with Sungold tomatoes. Photo by Henry Homeyer.



A blanching pot is useful if you plan on freezing. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

My dear dog Rowan sometimes gets some lightly steamed squash added to his dinner — he loves a bigger dinner, and it's low-calorie.

Summer squash can also be stored frozen. Cut them into cubes and blanch them for 60 seconds. NOT MORE. That means you drop them into a big kettle of rapidly boiling water, then pull them out and put in cold water in the sink. Blanching pots are sold with an inner pot with holes in the bottom so you can remove the veggies quickly after draining the hot water back into the pot. The hot immersion kills an enzyme that makes food age and not store well in the freezer.

What other veggies need blanching? Brussels sprouts, broccoli, beans, kale. I don't



Cure garlic in a shady, breezy location under cover. Hanging it in bundles of 10 is good, and takes less space. Photo by Henry Homeyer.

blanch tomatoes, peppers, apples, pears or leeks. Never blanch any vegetable too long: you don't want to cook them; they will be soggy later. And for best results it is good to eat frozen foods in Year 1, not Year 4 or 5. If you eat your beans soon after picking, they don't have to be blanched before freezing.

My Grampy was an amazing organic gardener back in the 1940s through the 1960s. His wife died in 1954 and he never remarried, but he had lots of lady friends that he visited each week in summer, delivering his tomatoes, carrots, cucumbers and more. He even shared his tomatoes with the checkout women who worked at the local A&P grocery store! "They are so nice to me all year, and probably they don't have time to garden," he explained to me. So, honoring Grampy's tradition, I like to share my garden veggies, too.

Henry can be reached by email at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or at P.O. Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746. 🍷

CAR TALK

Reverse is the first gear to wave the white flag



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:

I have a 2005 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup truck with a 6-speed manual transmission. I love jamming gears, and the transmission works like a dream ... most of the time.

During the summer heat, when I run the AC, it gets hard to shift, especially into Reverse. I have actually been caught/stuck in a parking lot where I could not shift into Reverse gear, and had to recruit a few folks to push me backward until I could make

the turn and drive away!

Any ideas about what is happening to my tranny? Grateful for any advice. — Paul

Shifts like a dream? If you have recurring dreams about getting stuck in parking lots, Paul.

I think your clutch master cylinder is failing. That's the pump that sends hydraulic fluid, under pressure, to the clutch to make it disengage. If the clutch won't disengage, it's hard to shift.

Reverse is the hardest gear for the truck to shift into, because an extra gear is needed to reverse direction. So, if the master cylinder is failing, that's the gear in which you'd first

notice it. If you want to test my theory, wait six months and see if you can't shift into first gear either.

And here's why it fails first in hot weather: The master cylinder uses a piston to push hydraulic fluid to the clutch. That piston has a rubber or rubber-like seal around it. Sort of like a toilet plunger — but much more expensive and slightly less disgusting.

If that seal starts to wear out, fluid can sneak by it, reducing the pressure sent to the clutch slave cylinder. And when the engine compartment gets really hot, that seal gets softer, which lets even more fluid sneak around it. At some

point, it can no longer send enough pressurized fluid to disengage the clutch.

Add to that the tendency of fluids, including clutch fluid, to get thinner when they heat up. And you've eventually got a situation where you can't shift.

There are other things it could be, Paul: bad synchros, low or filthy transmission fluid, or a clutch itself that's failing. But my first guess would be that you're a candidate for a new master cylinder/slave cylinder combo. So start dreaming about putting \$600 on your credit card.

Visit Cartalk.com. 🍷

The Civil War and the Roman Empire

Battles and more reenacted at History Alive 2026 in Hillsborough

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

“We give people a chance to experience history, first hand,” said Traci Blain, one of the organizers of Hillsborough’s History Alive event happening Saturday, Aug. 15, and Sunday Aug. 16. “It’s like walking through a time-line.” This includes history from the Roman Empire to World War II, she said. “We [stage] different battle scenarios as well as open field cooking — how that worked during the French and Indian Wars. There are demonstrations of apple cider making, and gold panning. We have two authors coming. Marek Bennett is a comic book author who writes books about the Civil War. And we have another Civil War author coming, who writes ... novels about the Civil War.”

History Alive is a yearly two-day event put

on by the Hillsborough Historical Society. Re-enactors present different periods in American and European history, and guests can walk through and experience some of what life was like in those time periods.

“It’s a sort of total immersion in times that have passed us,” Blain said. “You can see the full sort of setup of a settler, what a settler might look like, who are the folks that sold to the guys on the field. The Vikings will show you how they make chain mail, and they will show you how they engaged in the battle. The company in the back, Black Spear, will show you how to shoot an arrow and what that looks like, with a bow and arrow, from medieval times. In the Civil War, they’ll show you a full battle out on the field, and we have a cannon that goes off, which is very loud across the valley. That’s pretty amazing. And this year we actually have both sides of World War II, and they’ll be doing a battle as well.”

Historical re-enactors have a reputation for meticulous attention to detail, Blain said. “It’s folks from all over the world and they’re very dedicated to each of their ‘realms,’ if you will, and they’re very accurate. They all live for the weekends when they are part of that year

they’re portraying. My son and I are actually part of a Civil War unit as one of the organizers. We got involved helping to organize History Alive about three years ago when it was sort of losing steam because it had lost some volunteers. We got involved to help out, organize, and got hooked. My son fell in love with the event when we started helping with it. And it’s been great ever since. We’re part of the Third Maine [Civil War infantry unit]. They don’t generally join us this weekend, but we will be in full dress. My son is 16. He started as a drummer boy and has moved up to the infantry.”

History Alive will take place in two locations, Blain said, in Kemp Park and on Jones Road. “Our Kemp Park event will also be open on Saturday. And that is about Hillsborough history, by the river. And that’s only on Saturday. But Saturday and Sunday is the event. The \$10 charge to get in — for adults only; kids are free — lasts all weekend. So you only have to pay once. And you can see all the events.”

Blain said History Alive’s immersive quality makes it different from many other historical festivals.



Courtesy photo.

“It’s really fun to learn all about the different eras and that you can sort of walk through time and see things change, from tent structure to equipment, to fighting with swords to fighting with guns. You can see that progression as you walk through the event itself, which is one of the few places you can do that. The big demonstrations are mostly conflict scenarios — they are what folks like to watch. It’s a crowd-pleaser. But it’s also the smaller demonstrations about cider press and how to cook a whole chicken over a fire. It’s also really interesting to learn because there are all sorts of skills that have gone by that these folks have picked up and learned to do.” 🍎

History Alive 2026

Where: In Hillsborough, on Jones Road and in Kemp Park
When: Saturday, Aug. 15, and Sunday, Aug. 16.
More: Admission is \$10 for adults, free for children. See historyalivenh.org for a schedule.

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for whenever

Farm party

• Charmingfare Farm, 774 High St. in Candia, will hold a **Kids Farm Party** on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to visitthefarm.com, where you can purchase tickets. The day will feature the Monster Obstacle Bounce House, face painting, snow cones, cotton candy, carnival games, pony rides, the tractor train and the petting zoo, the website said. Musician Matt Heaton will perform at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., the website said.

Flying high

• Manchester Boston Regional Airport will hold **Aviation Day** on Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to a press release. The event will feature a touch-a-truck display in Parking Lot A along with a student-built aircraft from the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire and the STEM-MoBILE, “a traveling lab with demonstrations and hands-on activities from UNH Manchester,” the release said. Inside the airport at Baggage Claim 3-5, there will be information about airport and aviation jobs, interactive games, cookies from Alltown Fresh, cake from

the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (with a cake cutting at 12:30 p.m.), popcorn and slushies, MHT swag and opportunities to win prizes, the release said. See flymanchester.com.

• The **Aviation Museum of New Hampshire** (27 Navigator Road in Londonderry) is celebrating the end of summer vacation (sorry, kids) by being open daily Wednesday, Aug. 19, through Sunday, Aug. 30, according to aviationmuseumofnh.org. The museum will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (1 to 4 p.m. on Sundays), the website said. The museum will hold story times on Tuesday, Aug. 25, and Thursday, Aug. 27, at 10 a.m. for families as part of regular admission. “Participants will enjoy reading several aviation-themed stories as well as additional activities,” the website said. The museum will run its Elite Flight Simulator on Saturdays, Aug. 21 and Aug. 28, from 1 to 4 p.m., for ages 13 and up, according to the website, where you can find admission information.

Beach week

• The **Annual Hampton Beach Children’s Festival** will run Monday, Aug. 17, through Friday, Aug. 21, with a lineup of performances and events each day starting at 10 a.m. at the Hampton Beach Seashell Stage leading up to a giant costume parade on Aug. 21, according to hamptonbeach.org/events/childrens-events. On Monday, Aug. 17, events include Magician BJ Hickman at 10 a.m.; a Puppy Party with NHSPCA from 12:30 to 2 p.m.; Magician Fran Flynn at 2 p.m. and a screening of *Wicked For Good* at 7:40 p.m., according to

the website. On Tuesday, Aug. 18, events include “magician, juggler, funny guy” Richard Clark at 10 a.m.; Lindsay and her puppet pals at 11 a.m., and touch-a-truck with vehicles from Hampton Police and Fire departments, the website said. On Wednesday, Aug. 19, events include “Shimmer & Shine: The Magic of Being You! Party Palace Show” at 10 a.m.; “Explore the Ocean World Oceanarium” at 11 a.m., and Drumatix at 1:30 p.m., according to the website, where you can download a full schedule.

Save the date

• **CelebratEd** welcomes Manchester students

back to school with an event on Thursday, Aug. 20, from 4 to 7 p.m. in Victory Park in Manchester offering backpacks and school supplies, haircuts and clothing support, a family resource fair and school registration assistance, according to manchesterproud.org/celebrated.

• Tickets are on sale now for **Cat Kid Comic Club The Musical**, based on the *Dog Man* spin-off series by Dav Pilkey, which will be on stage at the Chubb Theatre at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St. in Concord, on Tuesday, Sept. 29, at 6 p.m. See ccanh.com. 🍎

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Donna,
I purchased this at a local thrift store for \$5. It was on a Saturday morning when they were bringing out new merchandise. I would appreciate any information you may have.
Thank you,
Carrie



Dear Carrie,
Looks like you purchased a mid-century to 1970s-ish watercolor. The beauty of shopping thrift stores is you never know what you might find.
It’s tough to figure out values on watercolors when you can’t distinguish the artist’s signature. Sometimes you have to judge by context and

detailed.
The subject of your watercolor is a pleasant relaxing one. Purchasing it for \$5 was good if it fits your decor. I would say the value could be in the range of \$40.
I hope this helps, Carrie. It was a tiny treasure for you.
Donna

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



News from the local food scene

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

• **New tacos in Concord:** Boston-based Mexican chain Anna's Taqueria (annas.com) has opened its first location in New Hampshire, at 50 Fort Eddy Road in Concord. According to a July 30 press release, its food and atmosphere are "inspired by San Francisco's Mission District ... bringing the homestyle flavor of Mexican street food to the people while celebrating community." Anna's is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

• **A new coffee option in Manchester:** Lahālas Coffee (57 Bay St., Manchester, lahalascoffee.com) is described on its website as "a New England-based mobile coffee cart serving lattes that love you back. Every syrup is homemade with real ingredients."

• **Stuffing ravioli:** Tuscan Market (Tuscan Village, 9 Via Toscana, Salem, 912-5467, tuscanbrands.com) will hold a ravioli-making workshop Saturday, Aug. 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. Enjoy an evening of crafting your own fresh egg pasta dough, guided by an instructor through proper techniques for shaping your dough into a variety of pasta styles. Guests will also enjoy a tasting of Tuscan-brand ravioli, paired with a live sauce demonstration. Tickets are \$65 through the tuscanbrands website.

• **Tequila, food, and tequila:** Stashbox (866 Elm St., Manchester, 606-8109, stashboxnh.com) will host a G4 tequila pairing dinner on Tuesday, Aug. 18, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. This will be a one-of-a-kind five-course dinner with premium G4 Tequilas and exclusive food creations. G4 Ambassador Anthony Faletta will be on hand for an evening of knowledge, noshing and of course tequila. Tickets are \$125 through the Stashbox website.

• **Beer, books, and bingo:** Sunstone Brewing Co. (298 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, 216-1808, sunstonebrewing.com) will host an evening of Bookish Bingo on Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Prizes will include special edition books, bookish merch, gift baskets, and more. Tickets are \$25 through the Sunstone website.

• **Better blending:** Wine on Main (9 N. Main St., Concord, 897-5828, wineonmainnh.com) will host a blending seminar with acclaimed Argentinian wine producer Catena Zapata Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 6 to 8 p.m. Through tasting five wines, guests will learn how different altitudes, soils and microclimates affect a wine's characteristics. Then they will be able to create their own Malbec blend and compare it to Catena Alta Malbec. Tickets are \$70 through the Wine on Main website. Space is limited.

18 ▶

FOOD

Celebrating the French-speaking world

The new Franco Fest has big plans

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

One of the first hurdles the Franco-American Centre and organizers of next week's inaugural Franco Fest will be addressing is the public's idea of what it means to speak French.

"A lot of us think about France when we think of French," said John Tousignant, the executive director of the Franco American Centre, "and of course people think about Quebec and more broadly Canada, but there are more than 90 countries of the world that are part of the international organization of La Francophonie — the French-speaking world. Many of these countries that either have French as an official language or a commonly spoken one have immigrants that are coming and becoming new residents of the state of New Hampshire." Some of these areas are West and North Afri-

Franco Fest 2026

When: Saturday, Aug. 22, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Kimball Jenkins Estate, 266 N. Main St., Concord.

More: Thanks to a grant from the City of Concord, this event will be free to the public. For more information, visit the Franco Fest 2026 website at facnh.com/franco-fest; the Franco American Centre at facnh.com, and this year's food vendor at peaksfoodtruck.com.



Josée Vachon.

ca, Haiti, and Vietnam, he said. "French is spoken on five continents of the world. This gives us an opportunity to really focus on that cultural dynamic and the mosaic that French provides to our community."

This is the idea behind Franco Fest 2026, a first of its kind celebration of the French-speaking world, which will be held Saturday, Aug. 22, in Concord. The event's website describes the event as "a vibrant, family-friendly festival bringing together music, food, art, culture, and the rich traditions of French-speaking communities around the world."

The coordinator for Franco Fest is Jessica Livingston, who also coordinates Concord's



Senie Hunt.

annual Multicultural Festival. She said the long-term vision for Franco Fest includes a strong focus on the food of the French-speaking world.

"French is spoken all across the world, in many different cultures and countries," Livingston said. "So we ultimately want to highlight the different foods from around the world that have French speaking as part of their country."

A combination of circumstances has forced food to take a back seat to other aspects of francophone culture this year, Livingston said.

"Because this is our first year and also August being the busiest month ever for food

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18 ▶

Music, food and community

We Are One Festival brings together African, Caribbean and Latino communities

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

Sarah Georges is one of many Manchester residents who has been eagerly looking forward to Saturday's We Are One festival. She is the coordinator of this year's festival and said that it shows a side of Manchester many New Hampshire residents don't see most of the year.

"The We Are One is the oldest festival here in

We Are One Festival

This is a free, family-friendly outdoor event celebrating Manchester's multicultural, African, Caribbean and Latino communities with live music, dance, art, food vendors and cultural performances.

Where: Veterans Park in downtown Manchester

When: Saturday, Aug. 15, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

More: Food vendors will include Don Quijote Restaurant (362 Union St., Manchester, 622-2246, donquijoteunion.com) and Soel Sistas Soul Food (30 Temple St., Suite 202, Nashua, 943-1469, soelsistas.com)

Manchester," Georges said. "It is literally a time when the African, Caribbean and Latino — all of Manchester's communities get to come together and enjoy a different culture, just enjoy different people who are on the stage showing their talents, whether it is someone who is born and raised right here in Manchester and have immigrant

parents, or they are from far away themselves. And then, we have food and different organizations that come out every year to share their services, let the people know what they have here to help out, whether it is for housing, whether it's for after-school programs, whether it's for the parents themselves."

One of the biggest draws for the We Are One festival is the food, Georges said.

"That's my favorite part; I'm not going to lie," she said, "I always show up for the food."

"I am Haitian and African, but I was born and raised right here in Manchester," Georges said. She said Manchester has a wealth of small family



A previous year's event. Courtesy photo.

restaurants that fly under the radar sometimes.

"What I love about Manchester," Georges said, "is the fact that there are so many different types of food here. And when you see a white person come into an African restaurant and order something like fufu [a West African dish made from cassava], or

collard greens, or they're ordering pondu [a stew from the Congo], or if they're ordering empanadas and rice con pollo, it is so great for them, it's so great to watch them eat, because it's like watching a child for the first time trying food. ... It's like that experience that comes to them like an old friend."

The event also promises art, music, dancing and live performances, according to the event's Facebook page. According to Sarah Georges, some of the performers at We Are One will include Colombian dance troupe Barranquilla Flavor, dance group Mill Advised, singer Xyomi, and performer Kay Richie. 🍷

Making a beer run

First a race, then concerts and brewfest

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

Londonderry's Old Home Days will be capped off by a 5K road race for beer enthusiasts, called the Rockland Trust Bank Boot Scootin' Boogie 5K and Brewfest. The event is organized by Millennium Running. Barry Lewandowski is Millennium's director of marketing.

"It starts with a 5K race," he said, "that runs through one of Londonderry's local neighborhoods, then comes back to the sports complex, where we have a bonfire, a concert and a brew fest."

The event has been designed around relaxing, he said. Because of the length of the race, or rather its shortness, it is not a qualifier for other, more competitive races later in the season.

"This is just for fun. It's a 5K. Some people are competitive and want to run really fast, but some just want to get out there with their families and stay active. You can run or walk," Lewandowski said.

And unlike other, more serious races, which usually take place early in the day, Lewandowski said, this will be an evening event.

"It kicks off at 6:30 p.m. with the actual 5K," he said. "The brewfest starts at 6:45, the bonfire we have at about 8, and the whole thing finishes off around 9:30 p.m."

And again, unlike morning races, Lewandowski said, there will be beer.

"The brewfest is continuing to grow," he said, "but right now we have more than 20 breweries and spirit brands that will be there. Some will actually have representatives from the brewery or from the brand and then others will just send products that the Londonderry Lions Club will be will be pouring. There will be opportunities for people to take a taste test, if you are part of the 5K or the brewfest, you'll receive a little tasting glass that allows you to go around and and sample some of the different brands that are there."

One of the breweries on hand will be the Rockingham Brewing Co. Ali Leleszi is its owner.

"For us," she said, "because [this event is] right in our backyard, we get a lot of exposure. They have a ton of people who run that race, and maybe not all of them have heard of our brewery. So for us, just getting our beer out there to potential new customers is great for us, especially since we're right next door in Derry."

Leleszi said Rockingham Brewing will bring mostly summer beers to the brewfest.

"We're sending County IPA, which is a New England-style IPA [India pale ale]; it's



Courtesy photo.

a super-fresh batch. We're sending Zeppelin, which is a raspberry lemonade sour ale. It's super refreshing, with 4% [alcohol by volume], so it's like perfect after a race. And then we're sending two German lagers — Pig Knuckle Kölsch, which is like a light, easy-drinking, crisp kölsch, [and] Cool Hand Lager. That's a Vienna lager, which is a bit more malty and toasty, but still light in body. We're getting into that style for the fall."

The event will also feature food trucks and food vendors, according to Millennium's website, which recommends bringing cash. Vendors and food trucks include Hollis-based T-Roy's BBQ, the Stark Brewing Company from Manchester, specialty coffee-vender Just The Sip, and a mobile ramen truck called GoGo 88.

Samantha Rae, who describes her music as "Roots-driven, groove-forward, emotionally honest, pop-aware Americana music with classic country, rock with early R&B & soul influences," will perform, according to her website, samantharae.com.

According to Millennium Running's Lewandowski, this is the 15th year for the race.

"Probably about 1,500 people are going to be there," he said. "Some people will be running, some just come for the concert and the brewfest, and others are there to cheer on the runners and want to be part of that. It's a great community event."

The Rockland Trust Bank Boot Scootin' Boogie 5K and Brewfest

When: Saturday, Aug. 15, at 6:30 p.m. (Londonderry's Old Home Days run from Tuesday, Aug. 11, through Saturday, Aug. 15).

Where: Londonderry

More: Register online at millenniumrunning.com, where you can also find tickets for just the concert and brewfest, without the 5K.

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DRINKS WITH JOHN FLADD

The Salamander

2 frozen strawberries
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1 1/2 ounces pineapple juice
3/4 ounce fresh squeezed lime juice
dash cardamom bitters
1.5 ounces spicy ginger beer
— not ginger ALE, which is a perfectly fine beverage, but we're looking for something a little more authoritative than that for this particular drink.

Muddle the frozen strawberries in the bottom of a cocktail shaker. One of the interesting aspects of using frozen fruit in cocktails is how the strawberries just break apart and grind down to Strawberry Goop. Fresh berries would be a little more stubborn and insist on maintaining their integrity. The frozen ones understand what's going on and just get with the program.

Add two ounces of spicy tequila, and dry-shake the mixture. This means to shake it without ice. Many ingredients, including most fruit, have flavor compounds that are not water-soluble. In this case, what that means is that some of the most strawberry-y flavors will stay chemically bonded to the strawberry solids and won't infuse into a water-based solution. Most of those same esters are alcohol-soluble, however, so by dry-shaking our Goop with tequila, and no melting ice, we can do the cocktail version of talking them out of their dorm room and joining the party.

Once you've dry-shaken the strawberry-tequila-jalapeño slurry, you can go ahead and add five or six ice cubes, the two types of juice and the bitters. Reshake the mixture for 10 to 20 seconds, or until you hear the ice start to break up. Ask your



The Salamander. Photo by John Fladd.

device to play the theme from *Hawaii 5-0*; this will give you the right rhythm.

Strain the strawberry-tequila-pineapple-and-friends mixture over fresh ice in a rocks glass, and top with ginger beer. Stir gently to combine.

I don't know if anyone has told you recently, but you are super cool. The general public really has no idea the extent of your sense of style and general vibe. You know who does appreciate it though? This drink. The spicy tequila and lime juice are mellowed out by the pineapple juice, which, in turn, is made even zingier by the cardamom and ginger. Little red pieces of strawberry will float around in the glass, looking like a complimentary lava lamp.

"You're so coooooool," each will say, as it swirls by.

They aren't wrong. This is an excellent drink for making new friends. 🍷

◀ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

trucks, we've had a little bit of a challenge," she said. "So, just like the Multicultural Festival, having vendors from different countries around the world [will be an important focus]. We haven't been able to do quite that this year, but we found a food vendor — a food truck [Peaks]— which has cuisine from all around the world. They do food, like street food from all around the world, which is a really good start."

There will be three featured musical acts at Franco Fest — West African singer Senie Hunt, Zydeco Band Catfish Howl, and Quebecois singer Josée Vachon. (For more on Senie Hunt, see Michael Witthaus's story on page 22 of the Aug. 6 issue of the Hippo, available in the digital library at hippopress.com.)

John Tousignant said that many of the festival's activities will be directed at families. "We have a lot of activities for children planned," he said. "Children will be able to decorate and bring home some takeaways. Among other things, we will be having people teaching some traditional crafts such as playing the spoons, which is a traditional part of French Canadian culture. We'll also have a gigueur, which is one of these dancing dolls that people can learn how to use in conjunction with the traditional music. A jig is a type of a dance, and the dolls are called gigueur because they



Gigueur. Courtesy photo.

can do a little dance."

"We'll also have tables with people from different parts of the French world," Tousignant said, "such as special guests from Quebec, from the Société des Filles du Roi, which honors a chapter in French-Canadian history. It means 'The Daughters of the King.' When New France was founded in North America in the

1600s, it was populated entirely by men, so they needed women to start families. The king gathered girls and women who didn't have a lot going for them in France, and put them on a boat to send over to start North American French heritage. We're going to have members of the Société in period costume talking with people and interacting." 🍷

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 16

• **"A good cigar is a smoke"** —**Rudyard Kipling:** The Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001) will host its Annual Cigar Dinner on Wednesday, Aug. 19, and Thursday, Aug. 20, from 6 to 9 p.m. Enjoy a summer evening filled with exceptional cigars, expertly paired wines and spirits, live music and a thoughtfully curated three-course dinner, according to bedfordvillageinn.com/experiences. Tickets are \$198 through the Inn's website.

• **Also at the BVI:** Tickets are on sale now for the Able Ebenezer Beer Dinner at the Bedford Village Inn on Thursday, Sept. 10, at 6 p.m. Beers from the Merrimack-based brewery will be paired with a four-course meal. See bedfordvillageinn.com/experiences for tickets and to

see the menu.

• **Save the date:** Mahrajan, the annual celebration of Middle Eastern food at Our Lady of the Cedars Church, 140 Mitchell St. in Manchester, will return next weekend — Friday, Aug. 21 (5 to 10 p.m.); Saturday, Aug. 22 (noon to 10 p.m.) and Sunday, Aug. 23 (noon to 5 p.m.), according to bestfestnh.com, the celebration's website. "Join us for all your favorites including lamb kabobs, kibbee, falafel, stuffed grapeleaves, tabbouleh, shawarma and traditional Lebanese pastries," the website said. The event will also feature DJ Kibar playing Arabic music, kids' games, a full bar, Hokah rentals and more, the website said. 🍷

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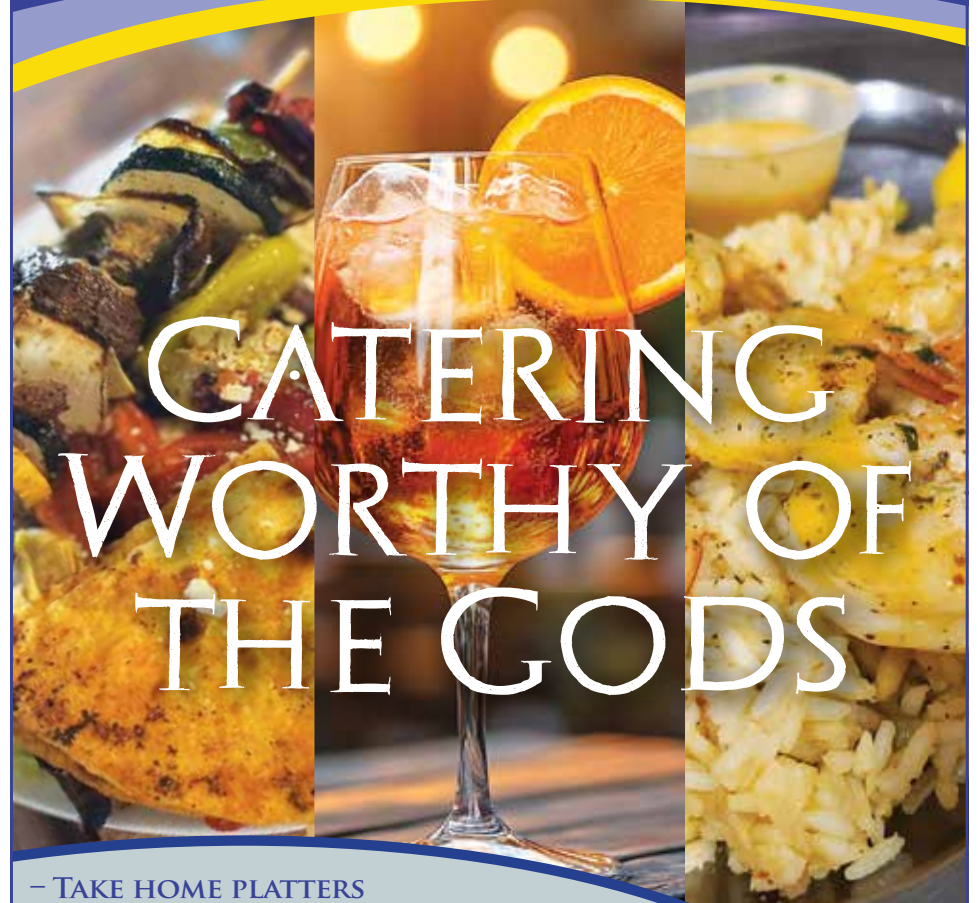
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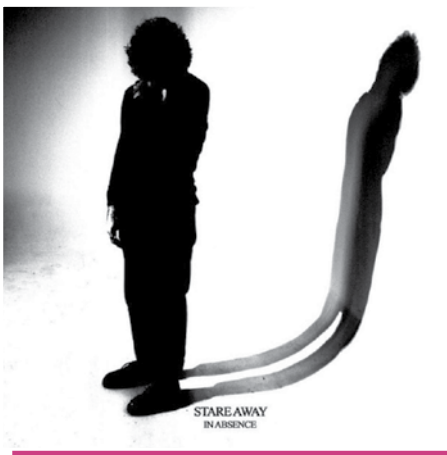
MUSIC, BOOKS, MOVIES AND MORE

Litvar, *Being Here* (self-released)



As anyone who's ever tried to achieve it knows, going internet-viral in a positive way through a song or a TikTok isn't nearly as easy as becoming infamous for doing or saying something so stupid that it goes viral simply for setting all humankind asringe simultaneously. Luck is a major factor in that nonsense; years ago I lost track of all the doomed-to-obsure songs I'd encountered that were so good they actually rewired my head, so nowadays I've just accepted the fact that some artists couldn't buy a break for all the wintergreen Skoal in Alabama. Add this Connecticut-based Americana-meets-emo band to that tragic list: Four years ago these guys released a single, "No One Tastes Like You," that combined the jangle

of Tom Petty's "American Girl" with Hoobastank's face-punchiness, and amazingly no one's heard about it. In this one, instead of throwing up their hands and going in a straightforward emo direction like most bands would have, they want to be Goo Goo Dolls-ish, which works half the time and not the rest. The songs are fine, but more layering and another couple of months futzing in the studio would have added more to the songs; this feels like a demo for label interest, which it may well be, and if that's the case, then bravo. **B-**—*Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

Stare Away, *In Absence* (á La Carte Records)

Oh, how this New York City dude (Ben Nelson) wants it to be the '80s again, not that anyone could blame him when there's so much corporate-designed, 3D-printed suckage in the pop sphere. Problem for Nelson is that the goth-rock world has, for better or worse, a massive array of sounds to choose from nowadays and therefore doesn't need a teardown-rebuild; it's not enough to try sounding exactly like The Cure, which this record accomplishes during its first four songs, with quite a bit of verisimilitude over the first two, droning churners that are fast and kind of neat but start wearing out their welcome when it becomes obvious not a lot is going to happen. Then along comes the fifth entry, "Midnight Martyr" (oh come on

already, goths, for once, try not to sound like you get all your ideas from early Aughts manga comics), in which Nelson remembers that he loves Depeche Mode too, oh, and Dead Or Alive's "You Spin Me Round," let's go disco! At least his heart is in the right place, OK? **B-** —*Eric W. Saeger* 🍷

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• And on we trudge to the new CD releases of Friday, Aug. 14, what am I even doing, I've only been to the beach once this summer, what about you? I'm kind of surprised I haven't been alerted to any upcoming new holiday albums yet, but there's still time, 134 days to be specific, until Christmas, will there even be one this year, or will we be randomly bombing the Zagros mountains totally winning the war in wherever-it-is again that week? It's too early to tell, but what I do know is that we have albums to discuss, starting with *Comes In Waves*, the 24th album from one of America's most well-known nepo babies, **Carly Simon**, daughter of Richard, co-founder of publishing giant Simon & Schuster, don't you love how giant piles of money can make someone into a famous singer even though their voice sounds like an ostrich yelling for saltines? No, I do have to hand it to her, though; even though Carly is at the stage of her career when most of her formaldehyde-pickled A-list peers are doing all-duet albums with people like Engelbert Humperdinck *and* Ed Sheeran *and* Pope Leo XIV *and* actual Santa Claus, this album is just another one in which she palms off a bunch of songs she actually wrote or bought or whatever she usually does, like the only guest feat is from Andreas Vollenweider, a Swiss guy who won a Grammy for playing the harp at yoga conferences or whatever his deal is. But all snark aside, I always liked some of her songs, "Haven't Got Time for the Pain" in particular, and she's still a very good songwriter, evidenced by the new single "Howl," sounding as 1970s-radio as ever aside from Carly's voice, which is about 80 percent gone, like she sounds like a female Willie Nelson, not that she doesn't have every excuse for that.

- Cool, let's keep it going with something else that doesn't actually suck for once, the new one from Pasadena, California, folktronica lady **Phoebe Bridgers**! The record is called *Lost Weekend*, and it showcases the multiple Grammy winner at the top of her game; she started out with Brooklyn-based avant-rock band Sloppy Jane before hatting out on her own, which led to feats on tracks from Taylor Swift, The Killers, Kid Cudi and others. So yeah, folktronica, indietronica and guitar-tronica tuneage usually rubs me the right way, and that goes for the sample track from this one, "Lost Boys," a joint that combines Fleetwood Mac and acoustic-mode Taylor Swift, powered by a chorus that's so lush and wide it almost makes me want to say nice normal things. She'll be at TD Garden in Boston on Oct. 6.

• Aaand so much for this week's streak of decent songs, but your mileage may vary with regard to *You Say I Romanticize*, the new LP from **Sweeping Promises**, a female post-punk duo originally from Boston and now based in Kansas. This new album features a song called "Cocoon," which will make you think of early Cars, Lydia Lunch, New Order and Gang Of Four all at the same time, or at least it did to me. It's grungy and slovenly and angular enough, which is nice, but there's a Pavement element that turned me off. They'll be at Deep Cuts (formerly Carroll's) in Medford, Mass., on Nov. 6.

• We'll put a bow on this week's mixed bag with Australian chanteuse **Grace Cummings**, whose influences include Irish folk music, Townes Van Zandt, Bob Dylan and Lucinda Williams in case you're curious (I'm sure none of this stuff sounds like any of those people, that's what always happens). *Bloodhorse* is the album, the push single is "I'm Not Crazy," just imagine Lana Del Rey trying krautrock on for size and you'll know whether you can stand it or not, I certainly can't. —*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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• **Michael Sinclair** will talk about his historical mysteries, including *The Murderer is Always with Us*, on Saturday, Aug. 15, at 1 p.m. at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com).

• **Richard Russo** presents his new novel, *Under the Falls*, on Monday, Aug. 17, at 7 p.m. at BNH Stage (16 S. Main St., Concord) as part of the Authors on Main series. Tickets \$40 including copy of the book, or \$15 for admission only, via ccanh.com.

• **Krista Diamond**, a local author, will talk about her novel *Close Relationships with Strangers* on Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 6:30 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com).

• **Ernest Thompson**, Academy Award-winning writer of *On Golden Pond*, presents his new literary thriller, *Out Clause*, followed by a Q&A, on Wednesday, Aug. 26, at 7 p.m. at BNH Stage (16 S. Main St., Concord) as part of the Authors on Main series. Tickets \$15 for admission only or \$30 for admission plus one book, at ccanh.com.

• **E.H. Jacobs** will sign copies of his novel *Into a Wider Sky* on Saturday,

Aug. 29, 1-3 p.m. at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com).

Virtual events

• **2026 Nature book club** hosted by NH Audubon is meeting quarterly via Zoom for facilitated discussions of books about nature. August book is *Forest Euphoria* by Patricia Ononiwu Kaishian; discussion is Aug. 13, 6-7:30 p.m. November book is *Rebugging the Planet* by Vicki Hird; discussion is Nov. 12, 6-7:30 p.m. Visit nhaudubon.org to register for a session and get a copy of discussion questions.

Book events

• **Bookish Bingo** with Bookish Bliss on Wednesday, Aug. 19, 5:30-8 p.m. at Sunstone Brewing in Londonderry. \$25 entry gets you all 10 games. Prizes include books, bookish merch, gift baskets and more. Find Bookish Bliss on social media.

• **Bookish Bingo with Bookish Bliss** on Friday, Aug. 21, 6-8 p.m. at Dave & Buster's in Manchester (at the Mall of NH). \$25 entry gets you all 10 games. Prizes include books, bookish merch, gift baskets and more. Find Bookish Bliss on social media.

• **2nd Annual Nostalgic Book Fair** with Bookery (bookerymht.com) and other indie bookstores at Spyglass Brewing Co. in Nashua on Saturday, Aug. 22, noon-4 p.m.

• **Bookish Bingo** with Bookish Bliss on Tuesday, Aug. 25, 5:30-8 p.m. at Cork N Keg Grill in Raymond. \$25

entry gets you all 10 games. Prizes include books, bookish merch, gift baskets and more. Find Bookish Bliss on social media.

Book clubs

• **To Share Brewing Co.** 720 Union St., Manchester. Monthly. Second and fourth Thursday of every month, 6 p.m. RSVP required. Visit tosharebrewing.com or call 836-6947. Aug. 13 or Aug. 27: *And Then There Were None*. Sept. 10 or Sept. 24: *Anxious People: A Novel*.

Poetry

• **Poetry Society of New Hampshire** holds monthly poetry readings at Gibson's Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562, gibsonsbookstore.com), with reading followed by an open mic. Newcomers are welcome and encouraged. Headliners on Wednesday, Aug. 19, 4:30-6 p.m., are the Slam Free or Die competition team.

• **Poetry & Pie** Sunday, Aug. 23, 1-3 p.m. in the Kimball Jenkins Carriage House (266 N. Main St., Concord, 225-3932), hosted by Percheron Poets, who bake and bring the pies. Following a feature reading there is an open mic for the first 10 readers to sign up. Free of charge; donations to Kimball Jenkins Estate are welcome.

• **Mckendy Fils-Aime and JeFF Stumpo** will read from their debut poetry collections on Saturday, Aug. 29, 5-7 p.m. at Bookery (844 Elm St., Manchester, bookerymht.com).

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148511

Horror or something!

The Last House joins a vaguely defined but fun genre

By Amy Diaz
adiaz@hippopress.com

I think I like this genre that seems to be “horror or sci-fi or something?” — *Backrooms*, *Disclosure Day* and last Friday’s Netflix release *The Last House* seem to fit in that nicely fluid category. I think the mishmash helps to make the movie interesting and watchable in a way that a more straightforward jump-scares-and-slasher affair wouldn’t be, at least for me, even when it’s imperfect.

The Last House begins with a regular family in a suburb in coastal Washington state doing regular life stuff: Parents Jason (Wagner Moura) and Anne (Greta Lee) talk about the problems a repair guy found with their home’s chimney cracks and foundation and worry about money, kids Ruth (Riley Chung) and Graham (Noah Alexander Sosnowski) call each other stupid. The family heads out to get a Christmas tree, even though it has started raining, but when they try to open the door, it won’t open. Nor will the back door. Nor will the windows, even when Jason tries to smash them open. After some frantic “what is happening” — but no calling the police because phones and internet are down — the family notices that their neighbors are also looking out their front windows, unable to get outside. With some signs-in-windows communication, the neighbors learn that this spreads streets away and Jason and Anne decide to put on a good face for the kids, sit tight and stay safe.

What happens next is — well, if you’re old enough to read this, you know what happens next because we all lived it six years ago as this movie gives strong Covid lockdown vibes. The family takes stock of the supplies they have. They dig out things to amuse themselves with (with no internet they end up relying on the two DVDs the family still has, 1982’s *Annie* and 1997’s *Air Force One*). They give up on the idea of “sticking to a school routine” pretty quickly (extremely relatable!). Anne starts a countertop garden.

From their windows, the family, especially Ruth, observes some strangeness out in the world. It suddenly rains a lot more, and the rain “looks different,” Ruth says. She also starts to draw pictures of the odd creature-like shapes she sees in the rain. Her parents, who are trying to keep their freak-out under wraps from the kids, just sort of shush these observations while dealing with things like

the knowledge that an older neighbor couple has run out of food and their own family dog has run out of medicine.

This built in shorthand that the movie gets to use for its vibe-building — putting you back in the emotions of the pandemic — could be considered either a cheat or an economical way to put you in the characters’ mindset, and I think both of those opinions are fair. It worked for me largely because of the Lee and Moura performances and the sometimes prickly way they related to each other. The way the movie balances existential panic and the unexpected joy of family time is nicely played.

The “horror or sci-fi or something” of it all feels less solid, and the deeper the movie goes into that, the less it holds together, both as a compelling thing to watch and as a story with sense-making internal logic. There is both that Netflix-y “remember this thing that happened 10 minutes ago” tendency of over-explaining and some handwaving about the mechanics of everything that is happening, especially as we get into the final act, which still has a bit of an “action goes here, details TK” feel.

Speaking of the “horror...” genre, *Obsession*, another one of this year’s “tiny budget, big box office” success stories, is now streaming on Peacock (it is also available for rent or purchase). *Obsession*’s big scary thing is the deep emotional immaturity of lead male character Bear (Michael Johnston). He is so incapable of expressing his thoughts, feelings and desires that when his crush/co-worker Nikki (Inde Navarette) comes out and asks him if he likes her, he just sputters something about them being good friends. Cursing himself, he makes a wish: that Nikki would love him more than anyone else in the world. Specifically, he makes a wish using a One Wish Willow, a crystal-store novelty purchase that is supposed to grant the one wish he makes before breaking the little willow branch. Bear seems aware of the monkey paw possibilities of this item, making his wish particularly poorly verbalized. But, moments later, Nikki appears, asking to go home with him to his house and flirting with him, but doing it erratically enough that even the desperate Bear wonders what is wrong. And even though part of him believes “dude, Nikki is crazy,” Bear mostly doesn’t care and is just happy to have her suddenly latch herself to him.

Despite some jump scares and odd Nikki smiles and skittery walking, the movie doesn’t feel Horror horror to me, more sort of meanly funny with a side of “you get what you deserve, dummy.” (There is

grossness and gore, which picks up as the movie goes along.) Bear is both a lump of bozo and a guy that has stolen the agency of the girl he claims to love. Nikki is broken? Or being psychically held hostage and tortured? You kind of wish the movie would let us see more of her righteous rage.

I didn’t exactly enjoy the movie but there are elements that make me relatively satisfied with having watched it. I’ve seen other critics call out the sound design, and the way the movie uses sound is maybe its biggest special effect, the thing that truly sells some of its weirdest moments. And I am rather impressed with how unlikeable *Obsession* lets Bear be — I am not exactly rooting for the thing that is tormenting him but I am never rooting for Bear.

Whilst on Peacock, I checked out another spring theatrical release, *You, Me & Tuscan* (also available for rent or purchase). I think seeing it on a streaming service I’m already paying for is possibly the correct way to see this middling romance confection that feels like less a thing you watch and more a thing you have on. Everybody is very pretty or charming or both in this movie about Anna (Halle Bailey, still reading a little bit like a Disney princess), a culinary school dropout who spends her time drifting between housesitting assignments in New York City, pretending to live the life of her rich clients. After getting fired from a job for wearing the client’s couture, she meets Italian charmer Matteo (Lorenzo de Moor), who tells her all about his Tuscan villa. Coincidentally, she has a plane ticket to Tuscany, for a trip she planned to make with her mother before her mother passed away. Anna decides to take that trip and, when she learns that she’s showed up with no hotel reservations during the middle of a popular festival week, she decides Matteo “practically invited” her to stay at his villa and breaks in. Through a series of misunderstandings, Matteo’s mother (Isabella Ferrari) and grandmother (Stefania Casini) believe Anna is Matteo’s new fiancée and Anna, eager not to get arrested, goes along with it. She winds up meeting the whole family, including Matteo’s cousin/adopted brother Michael (Regé-Jean Page), a tall handsome winemaker, as she describes him, who she is even more attracted to than almost-one-night-stand Matteo.

There is nothing surprising about the events here, beautiful people in beautiful clothes in beautiful Italian settings in a story with dialogue that



The Last House

all feels maybe one step up from Netflix rom-com. But it’s pretty to look at and basically inoffensive — though for a movie that talks a lot about food and Anna’s onetime love of cooking, it’s pretty below average on showing us glamour shots of Italian cuisine. I don’t know that Bailey and Page have chemistry, per se, but he is very handsome and, at least twice, he is wet and shirtless and maybe that is close enough to chemistry.

Also on Peacock, among the tonnage of *Saturday Night Live* content, is *Lorne* (also a spring release, also now available for rent or purchase), a documentary nominally about Lorne Michaels, creator of *Saturday Night Live*, a 50-year-old TV show helmed by a man creeping up on 82 years. Lorne the man seems like he is A Lot, both as a person to have to wrangle for interviews and a person to have as your boss, but *Lorne* is a fun hang, with SNL luminaries past and present talking about knowing and working for him. As much as we get biographical details about Michaels — born in Canada, left *SNL* after five years only to come back five seasons later, owns dogs? — the doc gives us the rhythm of the show, both throughout a week of putting it together and throughout the seasons and the flow of cast members. *SNL* is a bit of a factory that has to put out its product, ready or not, through strong cast and writer years and weaker ones, with great material and with sketches that make Michaels forlornly sigh. It has its winners and its losers and its rebuilding periods. I found the legacy aspect of the story this documentary tells — what the show has been and the uncertainty of what it will be once Michaels is gone — as thoughtful as the stories from John Mulaney and Maya Rudolph and the like are funny. 🍷

Film

• *The Odyssey* (R, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, Aug. 13, at 3:15 & 7 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 14, through Sunday, Aug. 16, at noon, 3:30 & 7 p.m.; Monday, Aug. 17, at 3:30 & 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 10 a.m., 3:30 & 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 19, at noon, 3:30 & 7 p.m.; Thursday, Aug. 20, at noon.
• *Spider-Man: Brand New Day* (PG-13, 2026) will screen at Red

River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, Aug. 13, at 3:45 & 7:15 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 14, through Sunday, Aug. 16, at 12:15, 3:45 & 7:15 p.m.; Monday, Aug. 17, at 3:45 & 7:15 p.m.; Tuesday, Aug. 18, at 10 a.m., 3:45 & 7:15 p.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 19, at 12:15, 3:45 & 7:15 p.m.; Thursday, Aug. 20, at 12:15, 3:45 & 7:15 p.m.

• **2026 Cat Video Fest** will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord Thursday, Aug. 13, at 3:30, 5:30 &

7:30 p.m. (plus 1:30 on Aug. 12).

• **Milford Drive In** screenings for Thursday, Aug. 13, are — Screen 1: *Spider-Man: Brand New Day* (PG-13, 2026) & *Obsession* (R, 2026) ; Screen 2: *The Sandlot* (PG, 1993) & *The Goonies* (PG, 1985). Closed Monday and Tuesday.

• *Steamboat Bill Jr.* (1928), a silent film starring Buster Keaton, will be presented with live musical entertainment by Jeff Rapsis at the Flying Monkey in Plymouth on Thurs-

day, Aug. 13, 7 p.m.

• *Reading Lolita in Tehran* (2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Friday, Aug. 14, through Sunday, Aug. 16, at 12:30, 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Monday, Aug. 17, through Thursday, Aug. 20, at 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m. (plus 10 a.m. on Aug. 18 and 12:30 on Aug. 19 & 20).

• *Field of Dreams* (PG, 1989) will screen at the Park Theatre in Jaffrey on Friday, Aug. 14, at 6:30 p.m.

• *The Goonies* (1985) will screen

at Chunky’s in Manchester, starting with a Family Treasure Hunt Movie Night on Thursday, Aug. 20, with a treasure hunt starting at 5:45 p.m. and the movie starting at 6:30 p.m., according to a theater email. The family event will also be held Saturday, Aug. 22, with the treasure hunt starting at 5:15 p.m. and the film at 6 p.m. A 21+ screening will take place Thursday, Aug. 20, with the treasure hunt starting at 7:30 p.m. and the screening starting

at 8:15 p.m. as well as a menu of specialty Goonies-themed cocktails, the email said. See chunkys.com for tickets.

• *Tony* (R, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, Aug. 20, at 4 & 7 p.m.

• *Teenage Sex* (R, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, Aug. 20, at 8 p.m.

• *Zootopia* (PG, 2016) will screen on Friday, Aug. 21, in Veterans Park in Manchester at 8:15 p.m.

THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Free green:** Enjoy traditional Celtic music in a bucolic setting as **On The Lash** performs a show courtesy of the Capitol Center for the Arts. The Michigan-based band has been praised by critics for blending “classical dexterity with the nuance and excitement of traditional music” while staying rooted in the Irish heritage sound. The quartet released *Fireside*, a debut EP, in April 2025. Thursday, Aug. 13, 6:30 p.m., Riverfront Park, 11 Canal St., Penacook, ontheleashband.com.

• **Phattened up:** Expanding his hip-hop catalog into full band, Cody Pope & The Keyholders perform a downtown show. The recently formed group includes DJ Myth on turntables, Axile Beighley and Ian Smith on bass and drums, along with Fredo Benevides playing guitar and keys, interpolating Pope’s songs. The night opens and closes with ceremonial “drum machine vibes.” Friday, Aug. 14, 8 p.m., Shaskeen Pub, 909 Elm St., Manchester, \$5 at the door, 21+, keyholdersband.com.

• **Sister act:** After playing music together in their childhood home, **Natalie & Brittany Haas** made names for themselves in the trad music world — Natalie as a go-to cellist and collaborator with Alasdair Fraser, and Brittany an acclaimed fiddle player working with Darol Anger, Steve Martin and with breakout bluegrass stalwarts Crooked Still. The two join forces as HAAS. Saturday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m., Word Barn Meadow, 66 Newfields Road, Exeter, \$63 and up, thewordbarnnh.com.

• **Parrot power:** Carrying on Jimmy Buffett’s brand of trop rock, **Changes In Latitudes** is a tribute act led by Steve Kareta, who found the role accidentally in 2000 at a wedding afterparty in Hawaii. Friends urged him to do it full-time, and 25 years later Kareta still bops on stage barefoot and smiling to sing “Margaritaville,” “Fins” and “Cheeseburger in Paradise” for Buffett fans. Saturday, Aug. 15, 8 p.m., Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, \$30, palacetheatre.org.

• **Join together:** Named after the host band, the **Folksoul Music Festival** is an all-day event with a New Orleans flavor, hosted by musicians Fred Simmons and Leslie Vogel on their own grounds. This year’s lineup includes gospel flavored Long Journey, Back O’ Town, a Cajun trio led by Pete and Linda Simoneaux, Low Lily, and Ivychum Trio — Pati and Ken Cloutier and Richard Doherty. Sunday, Aug. 16, 10:30 a.m., Mountain and Driscoll roads, Greenfield, \$20, folksoul.com. 🍷

NITE

Band on the rise

Mountain Grass Unit brings acoustic brilliance to The Range

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

On Aug. 26, Mountain Grass Unit will make its Grand Ole Opry debut. The next night, they’ll do a release show at Brooklyn Bowl Nashville for *Appalachian Smoke*, their first for Dualtone Records. At midnight it arrives everywhere else. Three enormous nights, back to back, in the city that the Alabama-born bluegrass band now calls home.

It’s crazy, considering that not long ago Mountain Grass Unit had to work around its members’ college schedules.

They were spread across the country and played together sporadically. Guitarist Luke Black headed to Boston to study at Berklee, while mandolinist Drury Anderson, who’d eventually join him there, was still finishing high school. Bassist Sam Wilson was at the University of Alabama studying accounting. Fiddler Josiah Nelson wasn’t even in the band yet.

What held it together, Black said in a recent group Zoom chat, wasn’t scheduling — it was history.

“We’ve known each other forever, and we’ve been playing together forever, so we’d get a couple of rehearsals in and just feel out the groove,” he said. Though challenging, “It always ended up working out, but it was a lot of pressure, especially keeping up with emails and stuff.”

Anderson said the uncertainty was real, even if it seems easy to gloss over now.

“We got management and representation around halfway through school,” he said. “It was so relieving to have things set up once we got out. It could not have been timed more perfectly.”

Becoming full-time coincided with relocating to Nashville from Alabama, and the move has been fruitful.

“It’s kind of a second hometown,” Anderson said. Having Music City as home base makes the Opry show truly special. The only thing topping it is the way they learned the show was happening.

Del McCoury, a hero of the band, announced it from the stage at DelFest. The moment came after the bluegrass legend and his son Ronnie sat in with them. Before they began, he’d told them, “When y’all end, don’t go anywhere.” Anderson called it “every bit of an electric moment as you could think.”

Another big fan is Billy Strings, who’s praised Black’s flat-picking talents on social media after they won an IBMA award for early-career excellence. “Kinda rude of him to be this good honestly; luckily for me, we’re on the same team,” Strings wrote on Saving Country Music’s Instagram account.

Strings and MGU have jammed together, and he and Black are texting buddies.

“I chat with him every once in a while,” he said. “Mostly it’s just jokes and stuff, and then I’ll get a random text from him that’s like, ‘Hey, man, you wanna come jam?’ I’m like, ‘Shoot, I’m in freaking Idaho, and Billy Strings is asking me to jam in Nashville. I gotta get home.’”

The new album is the band’s most ambitious, using a range of instruments for the first time. For the release show, they’ll reproduce everything done in the studio.

“We’ve reached out to a bunch of our buddies to come help us really play it live,” Wilson said. That includes an electric sitar and bongos on “Eagle’s Nest,” perhaps the most rocked up song they’ve done.

That track started as a stray riff Black had been sitting on for years.

“We’ve been trying to find what to do with it forever,” he said. “When we got to the studio, we just kept adding more and more cool elements to it. It’s an art project.” Elsewhere, the songwriting turns more inward.

“Wait for Me” was born during Wilson’s days shuttling between accounting exams and gigs.

“I’d play shows and festivals all weekend, then fly back and go to the library to study for my test the next morning,” he recalled. The song, he said, was a culmination of a lot of things, including the strain of keeping relationships intact while constantly leaving town.



Courtesy photo.

The album itself was tracked almost entirely live, no metronome. They did full takes, three or four per song, then vocals, with no clicking and dragging parts around afterward.

“It was way more organic,” Black said. “I loved it.” That looseness extended to working with producer Vance Powell and having a real label budget for the first time.

This was in sharp contrast to their 2022 debut, which was made entirely on their own dime. Back then, Wilson said, they didn’t even have a bank account. Gratefully, Dualtone mostly stayed out of the way while they worked.

“We just got in there, played our bluegrass licks, and called it a day,” Black remembered.

Through all of it, the band keeps coming back to the same idea: none of this is supposed to feel heavy.

“Our goal at most of our shows is to create an atmosphere of a good time where you don’t have to worry about everything going on in the world,” Wilson said. “Have a beer, party, and play some train songs. We’re goofy, you can be goofy. Come and hang.” 🍷

Mountain Grass Unit

When: Friday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m.

Where: The Range, 96 Old Turnpike Road, Mason

Tickets: \$42, etix.com

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Weekly comedy nights

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

Open mic comedy nights

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

• **This Must Be the Mic** co-hosted by Tucker Sampson Hop Knot in Manchester, Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

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

• **Candia Road Brewing** hosted by Pete Trubble Morse 840 Candia Road, Manchester, first and third Thursdays, 6 p.m.

Events

• **Peter Antoniou** Flying Monkey in Plymouth, Friday, Aug. 14, 7:30 p.m.

• **Orlando Baxter/Kristy Kilbasinski/Ethan Printz** Tupelo

in Derry, Friday, Aug. 14, 8 p.m.

• **Comedy Night** Averill House in Brookline, Saturday, Aug. 15, 6 p.m.

• **Juston McKinney** Colonial Theatre in Laconia, Saturday, Aug. 15, 7:30 p.m.

• **Robby Slowik** Moka Pot in Manchester, Friday, Aug. 21, 7 and 9:30 p.m.

• **Ing and Ben: Comedy Show** Wedding Celebration Strange Brew Tavern in Manchester, Friday, Aug. 21, 7 p.m.

• **Gen X Takeover** Chubb Theatre in Concord, Saturday, Aug. 22, 8 and 10 p.m.

• **Dulce Sloan** BNH Stag in Concord, Saturday, Aug. 29, 8 p.m.

• **Dulce Sloan** Music Hall Lounge in Portsmouth, Sunday, Aug. 30, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

• **Jerry Seinfeld** Chubb Theatre in Concord, Thursday, Sept. 3, 7 p.m.

• **September Comedy Night** Rockingham Ballroom in Newmarket, Saturday, Sept. 5, 7:30 p.m.

• **John Mulaney** BankNH Pavilion in Gilford, Thursday, Sept. 10, 7 p.m.

• **Maria Bamford** Chubb Theatre in Concord, Friday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m.

• **Tom Cotter** Chunky’s in Manchester, Friday, Sept. 11, 8 p.m.

• **Tom Cotter** Rochester Opera House, Saturday, Sept. 12, 7:30 p.m.

• **Pete Correale** Tupelo, Saturday, Sept. 12, 8 p.m.

• **David Nihil** Rex, Friday, Sept. 18, 7:30 p.m.

MUSIC THIS WEEK

Auburn

Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road, 622-6564

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 Shaker Village 288 Shaker Road, 783-9511

Concord

CC Tomatoes 209 Fisherville Road, 753-4450
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
T-Bones 404 S. Main St., 715-1999
Uno Pizzeria 15 Fort Eddy Road, 226-8667
White Park 1 White St., concordnh.gov

Contoocook

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

Derry

Amphora 55 Crystal Ave., 537-0111
Fody's Tavern 187 Rockingham Road, 404-6946
LaBelle Winery 14 Route 111, 672-9898

T-Bones 39 Crystal Ave., 434-3200

Epping

Holy Grail 64 Main St., 679-9559
Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy., 679-8225

Epsom

Hill Top Pizzeria 1724 Dover Road, 736-0027

Exeter

Sea Dog Brewing Co. 5 Water St., 793-5116
Swasey Parkway 316 Water St.

Goffstown

Village Trestle 25 Main St., 497-8230

Greenland

Bird Dog Farm & Cidery 150 Bayside Road, birddog-cider.com

Hampton

935 Surf Shack North Beach, 935 Ocean Blvd., 926-2500
Bernie's Beach Bar 73 Ocean Blvd., 926-5050

The Goat 20 L St., 601-6928

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

McGuirk's Ocean View Restaurant & Lounge 95 Ocean Blvd.

Sea Ketch 127 Ocean Blvd., 926-0324

Shane's Texas Pit 61 High St., 601-7091

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

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

Henniker

Pats Peak Sled Pub 24 Flanders Road, 888-728-7732

Hopkinton

Cedar & Main Tavern 16 Cedar St., 746-0000

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

Litchfield

Luk's Bar and Grill Mel's Funway Park, 452 Charles Bancroft Hwy., 261-3484

Londonderry

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

Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road, 432-3210

Sunstone Brewing Co. 298 Rockingham Road, 216-1808

Manchester

Bad BRGR 1015 Elm St., Manchester, 606-8806, badbrgr.com

Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545

Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Rd, 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 Challet Ct., 622-6159

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

Revo Casino & Social House 1279 S. Willow St., revocasino.com

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

Shaskeen Pub 909 Elm St., 625-0246

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

Stark Park Bandstand River Road

Strange Brew 88 Market St., 666-4292

Mason

The Range 96 Old Turnpike Road, 878-1324

Merrimack

Abbie Griffin Park 6 Baboosic Lake Road

Homestead 641 DW Highway, 429-2022

Tortilla Flat 595 DW Highway, 424-4479

Milford

Brickhouse 241 Union Sq., 672-2270

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

Stonecutters Pub 63 Union Square, 213-5979

Nashua

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

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

Lost Cowboy Brewing Co. 546 Amherst St., 600-6800

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

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

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

Common 7 Meetinghouse Hill Road

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

Pembroke

Cavern Sports Bar 351 Pembroke St., 485-7777

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

Penacook

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

Pittsfield

Over the Moon 1253 Upper City Road, 216-2162

Salem

Copper Door 41 S. Broadway, 458-2033

Dreo 254 N. Broadway, 824-6337

Field of Dreams Community Park 48 Geremonty Drive

T-Bones 311 South Broadway, 893-3444

Tuscan Village 9 Via Toscana, 212-9650

Seabrook

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

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

Warner

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

Windham

Windham Restaurant 59 Range Road, 870-9270

Thursday, Aug. 13

Bedford

Copper Door: Peter Pappas, 6 p.m.
Murphy's: Tyler Levs, 5:30 p.m.
T-Bones: Chris Cavanaugh, 6 p.m.

Bow

Town Gazebo: No Copay, 6:30 p.m.

Concord

CC Tomatoes: Lucas Gallo, 6 p.m.
Eagle Square: Club Soda, 7 p.m.
Sunflower Festival: 93 North, 3 p.m.
T-Bones: Chris Perkins, 6 p.m.

Derry

LaBelle: Draw The Line, 7:15 p.m.
T-Bones: Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.

Epping

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

Exeter

Swasey Parkway: Moon Boot Lover, 6 p.m.

Hampton

935 Surf Shack: Andrea Paquin, 5 p.m.
Bernie's: Felix Brown, 7 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Stephen Decuire, 1 p.m.; Sean Buckley, 8 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Clint Lapointe, 1 p.m.; Lewis Goodwin, 6 p.m.

Shane's: Chad Verbeck, 6 p.m.
Wally's: Chris Gendron & Unleaded, 9 p.m.

Henniker

Pats Peak: Miles to Memphis, 5 p.m.

Hudson

Luk's: Dillan Welch, 6 p.m.
T-Bones: Jack Plante, 6 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Mugsy Trio, 7 p.m.

Manchester

Derryfield: Birch Hill Duo, 6 p.m.
Firefly: Colin Hart, 5 p.m.
Fratello's: Cody Knapp, 5:30 p.m.
Goat: Manchester Idol Qualifier, 8 p.m.
KC's Rib Shack: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.
Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 8 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Park: Old Hat String Band, 6:30 p.m.

Mason

The Range: The Incidentals, 5 p.m.

Merrimack

Abbie Griffin Park: Sammy Haynes, 6 p.m.
Homestead: Jessica Olson, 5:30 p.m.
Tortilla Flat: Dave Clark, 6 p.m.

Milford

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

Nashua

Casey Magee's: open mic, 7:30 p.m.
Shorty's: Joe Winslow, 5:30 p.m.
Union Public House: Caylin Costello, 5:30 p.m.

Pembroke

PCL: Tristan Omand, 7 p.m.

Pittsfield

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

Salem

Copper Door: Amanda McCarthy, 6 p.m.
Sevmar Bistro: Chad Lamarsh, 6 p.m.
T-Bones: Bella Perrotta, 6 p.m.

Warner

The Local: Danny McCarthy, 5 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 14

Auburn

Auburn Pitts: deck party with Off Duty Angels, 6:30 p.m.

Bedford

Murphy's: Jack Plante, 6 p.m.

Brookline

Alamo: Jake Dow, 6 p.m.

Concord

Feathered Friend: The Regular Gents, 8 p.m.
Forum: Jody Robichaud, 8 p.m.
Penuches: The Senie Hunt Trio, 9 p.m.
Sunflower Festival: Andrea Paquin, 2:30 p.m.; NE Bluegrass Band Trio, 6:30 p.m.



ARMED AND READY

Are you looking for a new hardcore band? Check out **Spirit Armor**, one of the loudest metalcore/emo bands on the scene today. They drop by BAD BRGR (1015 Elm St., Manchester, 948-1404, badbrgr.com/event-schedule) on Saturday, Aug. 15, at 8 p.m. See website for tickets.

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.

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Field of Dreams: Jonny Friday, 5:45 p.m.; Lacey Cheryl 5, 6:40 p.m.

Seabrook

Red’s: Casey Roop, 6 p.m.; Jimmy’s Right, 8 p.m.

Windham

Windham Restaurant: Brian Walker, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 15

Auburn

Auburn Pitts: Annual Pittsapalooza featuring four bands including headliners Sons of Otto, 5 p.m.

Bedford

Murphy’s: Bella Perrotta, 6 p.m.

Bow

Chen Yang Li: Chris Torry, 7 p.m.

Brookline

Alamo: Mikey Hutchinson, 6 p.m.

Candia

Barnyard: Chasing Ghosts, 6 p.m.

Concord

Feathered Friend: Emo Night, 6 p.m.
Flanagan’s: Lucas Gallo, 6 p.m.
Lithermans: Miner & Ryan, 6 p.m.
Sunflower Fest: Paul Driscoll, 10 a.m.; Hank Osborne, 1 p.m.; Arthur Terem-bula, 4 p.m.; Ian Archibold, 5:45 p.m.
T-Bones: Don Bartenstein, 8 p.m.

Contoocook

Contoocook Cider Co.: Anthony St. Peter, 4 p.m.

Derry

Amphora: Emerson with Mason Comrie, 7 p.m.

Epping

Telly’s: Acoustic Radio Trio, 8 p.m.

Goffstown

Village Trestle: live music, 6:30 p.m.

Hampton

935 Surf Shack: Joe Winslow, 1 p.m.
Bernie’s: Garrett Smith, 1 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 1 p.m.; Codie Welch, 9 p.m.
McGuirk’s: Mason Brothers, 1 p.m.; Island Castaways, 7:30 p.m.; Sean Buckley, 8 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Jamie Hughes, 1 p.m.; Justin Bethune, 5 p.m.; Freddie Catalfo, 8 p.m.
Wally’s: Plush, Major Moment, Broadwing, 9 p.m.

Hudson

Luk’s Bar: Wood, Wind & Whiskey, 6 p.m.

Litchfield

Luk’s: Casey Roop, 6 p.m.

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Paul Gormley, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Red Daisy Revival, 1 p.m.; Casual Gravity, 8 p.m.

Manchester

Backyard Brewery: Lewis Goodwin, 6 p.m.
Derryfield: Mugshot Duo, 6 p.m.; Off The Record, 8 p.m.
Firefly: Amanda Dane, 5 p.m.
The Foundry: Paul Driscoll, 6 p.m.
Fratello’s: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: Codie Welch, 10 a.m.
Great North Aleworks: Nick Lilley, 4 p.m.
The Hill: Eddie Sands, 5:30 p.m.
KC’s: Matt Luneau, 6 p.m.
Revo: Timbear, 9 p.m.
Shaskeen: Tim Barry, Lenny Lashley, Matt Charette, 7 p.m.
Strange Brew: Outside Help, 8 p.m.

Mason

The Range: Mountain Grass Unit w/ Jatoba, 6 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Rebecca Turmel, 5:30 p.m.

Milford

Riley’s: Fatha Groove, 7 p.m.

Nashua

Casey Magee’s: Jenni Lynn Duo, 8 p.m.
Fody’s: Randy Robinson, 10 p.m.
Peddler’s Daughter: No More Blue Tomorrows, Code Switch, 9:30 p.m.
Union Public House: Jamie Hughes, 7:30 p.m.

New Boston

Farmers Market on Town Common: Bill & Dave, 10 a.m.
Molly’s: Malcolm Salls, 6:30 p.m.

Pembroke

PCL: Blind Date, 7 p.m.

Salem

Dreo: Peter Pappas, 7 p.m.

Seabrook

Red’s: T.M.F.I., 8 p.m.

Weare

Cold Springs: Heartbeat City, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 16

Bedford

Copper Door: Phil Jacques, 11 a.m.

Brookline

Alamo: Travis Rollo, 6 p.m.

Candia

Barnyard: Randy Hawkes, 3 p.m.

Canterbury

Canterbury Shaker Village: Party of the Sun, 4 p.m.

Concord

Feathered Friend: Bluegrass Jam, 1 p.m.; Matt Poirier, 6 p.m.
Lithermans: Corey Zwart, 1:30 p.m.
Merrimack Lodge at White Park: Joe Messino, 10 a.m.
Sunflower Festival: Jamie Hughes, 10 a.m.; Mikey G, 1 p.m.; Dan Fallon, 3 p.m.; Jack Ancora, 4 p.m.; Brendan Cleary, 5:45 p.m.
T-Bones: Jimbo Labelle, 5 p.m.

Contoocook

Contoocook Cider Co.: Dan Fallon, 3 p.m.

Epping

Holy Grail: Jackie Lee, 3 p.m.

Greenland

Bird Dog Farm: David Corson, 3 p.m.

Hampton

935 Surf Shack: Dave Zangri, 1 p.m.; Freddie Catalfo, 5 p.m.
Bernie’s: Ripe, 8 p.m.
The Goat: David Leshinski, 1 p.m.; Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
McGuirk’s: Todd Trusty, 1 p.m.; Charley Carrozo, 7 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Jodee Frawlee, 6 p.m.
Wally’s: line dancing, 7 p.m.

Hopkinton

Cedar & Main Tavern: Colin Hart, 3 p.m.

Lee

Flag Hill: Dan Morgan, 1 p.m.

Londonderry

Stumble Inn: Funny Feelingz, 1 p.m.
Sunstone: Caylin Costello, 3 p.m.

Manchester

Derryfield: Johnny Angel, 5 p.m.
Firefly: Chuck Alaimo, 11 a.m.

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SHAKING THE HOUSE

Yellowhouse Blues Band has been keeping the flame of big band blues alive in New England. This nine-piece band has become a juggernaut on the New Hampshire live music scene. They return to the Flying Monkey (39 Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com) on Saturday, Aug. 15, at 7:30 p.m. See website for tickets.

NITE MUSIC & EVENTS

The Goat: April Cushman, 10 a.m.
KC's: Paul Lussier, 4 p.m.
Stark Park Bandstand: Windham Swing Band, 2 p.m.
Strange Brew: Jam Tomorrow, 2 p.m.; One Big Soul Jam, 7 p.m.

Mason
The Range: Blues & Brews w/ Howard Randall & One Big Soul, 3 p.m.

Milford
Riley's Place: blues jam, 1 p.m.
Stonecutters Pub: Jenni Lynn, 4 p.m.

Nashua
Stella Blu: The Incidentals, 3 p.m.

New Boston
Molly's: Clint LaPointe, 1 p.m.

Pembroke
PCL: Mike Barger, 2 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Steve Aubert, 11 a.m.
Tuscan: Andrew McManus Band, noon

Seabrook
Ernie's: Brian Walker, 5 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 17
Bedford
Murphy's: Kat Ivy, 5:30 p.m.

Candia
Barnyard: Jack Ancora, 5 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: line dancing, 7 p.m.
The Goat: Ethan Cunningham, 8 p.m.
McGuirk's: Kieran McNally, 1 p.m.; Matt Jackson, 7 p.m.
Wally's: Disco Party w/ DJ Provo, 9 p.m.

Manchester
The Goat: 603 line dancing, 7 p.m.
Stark Park Bandstand: Manchester

Community Summer Band, 6 p.m.

Nashua
The Spot: open mic, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 18
Bedford
Murphy's: Chuck Clough, 5:30 p.m.

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

Derry
MacGregor Park: The Apathetics, 7 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: Reggae w/ DJ Stenny, 7 p.m.
The Goat: Jared Moore, 9 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Lewis Goodwin, 1 p.m.; Redemption Trio, 6 p.m.

Henniker
Angela Robinson Bandstand: Wak-

ing Finnegan, 6 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Colin Hart, 5:30 p.m.
KC's Rib Shack: Paul & Nate open mic, 7 p.m.
Strange Brew: David Rousseau, 8 p.m.

Mason
The Range: Nick Mariany & Friends w/ Charlie Chronopoulos, 6 p.m.

Nashua
Greeley Park Bandshell: New England Voices in Harmony, 7 p.m.
Spyglass: Jordan Holmes, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Jordan Quinn, 5:30 p.m.

Raymond
Raymond Town Common: The Last Duo, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 19
Bedford
Murphy's: Matt Jackson, 5:30 p.m.
BVI: Lewis Goodwin, 5:45 p.m.

Candia
Barnyard venue: Country line dancing, 6 p.m.

Canterbury
Farmers Market: The Sweetbloods, 4 p.m.

Concord
Forum: Sam Vlasich, 8 p.m.
Uno Pizzeria: Ryan Williamson, 6 p.m.

Derry
Amphora: Benjamin Harris, 7 p.m.
Sabatino's: Chad LaMarsh, 5 p.m.

Hampton
Bernies: LuffKid & 3rd Left, 7 p.m.
The Goat: MB Padfield, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Craig LaGrassa, 1 p.m.;

Jay Martarano, 1 p.m.; Redemption, 6 p.m.; Sean Buckley, 8 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Justin Jordan, 1 p.m.; Ralph Allen, 6 p.m.
Surf Shack: Dave Clark, 5 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello's: Tim Kierstead, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: 603 line dancing, 7 p.m.
Strange Brew: open mic w/ Jordan Quinn & Scott Armstrong, 8 p.m.

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

Milford
Emerson Park: The Party Crashers (R&B soul classic pop rock), 7 p.m.

Pembroke
PCL: Gary's Musical Gathering, 7 p.m.

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

Concerts
• **Spyro Gyra** Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry
• **KC & the Sunshine Band** Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton
• **Draw the Line** (Aerosmith tribute) Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m., LaBelle Derry
• **The Wallflowers** Friday, Aug. 14, 6 p.m., The Range in Mason
• **Koe Wetzel/Shane Smith & the**

Saints Friday, Aug. 14, 6:45 p.m., BankNH Pavilion in Gilford
• **Carly Pearce** Friday, Aug. 14, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton
• **Dueling Pianos** Friday, Aug. 14, 8 p.m., BNH Stage in Concord
• **Eli Lev** Saturday, Aug. 15, 1 p.m., Averill House in Brookline
• **Freakshow Inferno featuring bands Kryptosporidium, The Forge, The Suffering Within, Tomorrow Untold, Gwello, Wrath**

of Hades, Hand of the Tribe, Devlyn Sydus Saturday, Aug. 15, 3:30 p.m., Jewel in Manchester
• **Mountain Grass Unit** Saturday, Aug. 15, 4 p.m., The Range in Mason
• **Mumford & Sons/Medium Build** Saturday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m., BankNH Pavilion in Gilford
• **Bruce Mattson Band** Saturday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m., Andres Center in Brookline

• **Changes in Latitudes** (Jimmy Buffet tribute) Saturday, Aug. 15, 7:30 p.m., Palace in Manchester
• **Face 2 Face** (Billy Joel/Elton John tribute) Saturday, Aug. 15, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton
• **Slipbikit** (nu metal tribute) Saturday, Aug. 15, 8 p.m., BNH Stage in Concord
• **BOSTYX** (Bostin/Styx tribute) Saturday, Aug. 15, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry

• **Dueling Pianos** Saturday, Aug. 15, 8 p.m., Chunky's in Manchester
• **Katie Dobbins** Sunday, Aug. 16, 1:30 p.m., Averill House in Brookline
• **Home Free** Sunday, Aug. 16, 3 p.m., Chubb Theatre in Concord
• **The Bodeans** Sunday, Aug. 16, 7:30 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts
• **Billy Idol** Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m., BankNH Pavilion in Gilford

• **Primetime** (yacht rock tribute) Wednesday, Aug. 19, and Thursday, Aug. 20, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton
• **The Fray/Dashboard Confessional** Thursday, Aug. 20, 7 p.m., BankNH Pavilion in Gilford
• **Urgent** (Foreigner tribute) Thursday, Aug. 20, 8 p.m., LaBelle Derry
• **Mihali/Strange Machines** Friday, Aug. 21, 6 p.m., The Range in Mason



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143356

HIPPO | AUGUST 13 - 19, 2026 | PAGE 26

Take me to the place I love

Across

1. NYC spot Talking Heads rocked
 5. Malevolent Creation song for getting “wacked” by a mafioso
 9. Volbeat song for an Irish actress: ‘___ Montez’
 13. Des Rocs ‘21 album ‘A Good Person In ___ Bad Place’ (1,4)
 15. Seether ‘Holding Onto Strings Better Left To ___’
 16. Glen Campbell ‘(___ Only Known) It Was The Last Time’ (2,2)
17. Like “So out it’s in” sound
 18. ‘Strange Condition’ sing/songer Pete
 19. Kenny Wayne Shepard did this Baker’s ‘Knoxville Rag’ with her
 20. Disturbed “___ with your evil inside” (1,4,2,4)
 23. Attention-getter for friend in a big crowd
 24. Pere ___
 25. 808 State song about 2 tablets holder?
 27. Rolling Stones “And the drum-

1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13				14		15					16			
17						18					19			
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60			61		62					63				
64					65					66				
67					68						69			

- mer, ___ shattered” (3,2)
 30. You don’t want to see these at out-door fests
 32. Label website will do this with albums alphabetically
 33. 1967’s ‘The Velvet Underground & ___’
 35. PUSA song about a cat?
 38. Pearl Jam’s first song on debut
 39. Metallica ‘Whiplash’ album ‘Kill ___’ (2,3)
 41. Red Hot Chili Peppers “It’s raining down with ___ and hate”
 42. Group of people for mansion care
 44. ___ Have To Do Is Dream (3,1)
 45. Late Night Alumni song for Greek god of love
 46. ‘Lonely’ band ___ Royale
 48. ‘Love Saw It’ singer White
 50. ‘Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas’ Zellweger
 51. Frog Brigade bassist Claypool
 52. ‘92 Alice In Chains ‘Got Me Wrong’ EP
 53. Eddie Vedder “Got a mind full of questions and a teacher in my soul ___”

R&R answer
 from pg 27 of 8/6

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

- (3,2,2,4)
 60. Gin Blossoms ‘___ Hear It From You’ (3,1)
 62. Half of ‘Fear Of The Dark’ band, w/”Maiden”
 63. Starr of The Beatles
 64. It is her ‘Song’, to Silverchair
 65. Remote button for bad video
 66. ‘02 Shadows Fall album ‘The ___ Balance’ (3,2)
 67. Gabriele Susanne Kerner is the real name of this top-selling German pop star
 68. Word for “love” in many Latin song titles
 69. Like concert-goer in row Z that belongs in A

Down

1. Shania Twain “In my ___ am the driver” (3,1)
 2. You may have a cold one in the lot
 3. ‘93 Aerosmith album ‘___ Grip’ (3,1)
 4. Paul McCartney ‘Big ___ Bed’
 5. Tonic ‘___ Could Only See’ (2,3)
 6. Incoming new students at Berklee, slang
 7. David Bowie guitarist Slick
 8. Extremely energetic manager
 9. Fabrication told to folks to sneak to show
 10. Casting Crowns “The moral ___ is everybody’s got a purpose” (2,3,5)
 11. 70s ‘Half A Love’ soul band Chi-___
 12. “Say that you’ll stay forever and ___” Oasis (1,3)
 14. Radiohead ‘___ Flower’
 21. ‘The Weary Kind’ Oscar-winner Burnett (1,4)
 22. Sing/songer Hans

26. Very happy fan
 27. This may get dropped in interview regarding secret show
 28. ‘Prancer’ The Dillinger ___ (6,4)
 29. Lessard of Dave Matthews Band
 30. Reunion rockers watch this bathroom device when slimming down
 31. Cost to cross, as bridge charge for your van
 32. ‘La Bamba’ ___ Lobos
 34. Lee Ann Womack ‘___ Hate Myself In The Morning’ (1,3)
 36. ‘Staring At The Sun’ ___ The Radio (2,2)
 37. They’ll be the ‘Roundabout’
 40. “I don’t ever wanna feel ___ did that day” (4,1)
 43. ‘Bust A Move’ bassist in RHCP
 47. Tool ‘96 ‘Stinkfist’ album
 49. ‘85 Asia album after ‘Alpha’
 50. Our Lady Peace singer Maida
 51. Hermit musician
 52. Eminem hit sampling Dido
 54. Todd Rundgren will ‘Bang’ on this
 55. Sting “That ship has already sailed...___ speak” (2,2)
 56. The Cars sang of their ‘Best Friends’ one
 57. U2 ‘Luminous Times (Hold ___ Love)’ (2,2)
 58. Big heads on tour
 59. Like not so hard Moby song?
 61. Coldplay ‘Every Teardrop ___ Waterfall’ (2,1)

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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 XX.

King Classic Sudoku
 Puzzle A

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

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Difficulty: ★

King Classic Sudoku
 Puzzle B

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

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Difficulty: ★★★

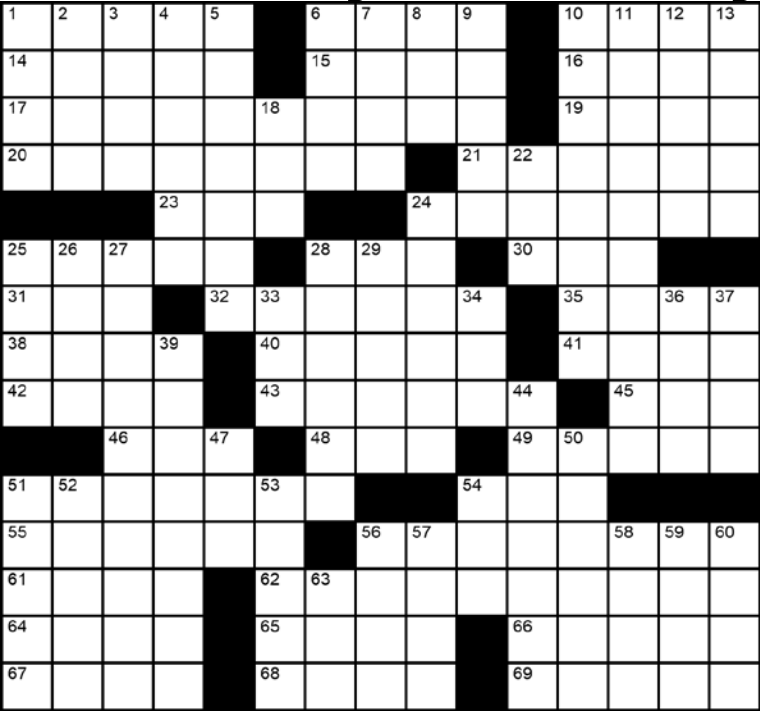
King Classic Sudoku
 Puzzle C

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

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Difficulty: ★★★★★

“When They Go Lo...”—you know what to do.



Across

- 1. “Quiet!”
- 6. Chilled
- 10. “Say again?”
- 14. Kitchen appliance manufacturer
- 15. Drift around
- 16. Bug
- 17. Head snake?
- 19. School attended by Ian Fleming
- 20. Greater or Lesser islands
- 21. Large numbers
- 23. Rep.’s rival
- 24. Milk sugar
- 25. Incinerator debris
- 28. “Don’t do drugs” ad, e.g.
- 30. Employee of Santa
- 31. Zhou En—
- 32. Objects
- 35. “Benevolent” lodge members
- 38. Keystone structure
- 40. Openly disobey
- 41. 2021 Timothée Chalamet movie
- 42. “Just Do It” company
- 43. Genetically doubled
- 45. Middling grade
- 46. Host Shapiro or Melber
- 48. Greek wedding shout
- 49. “Star Trek: TNG” first officer

Jonesin’ answer from pg 28 of 8/6



- 51. “Game of Thrones” character who’s told that he knows nothing
- 54. Director Craven
- 55. Commonplace
- 56. “The Phantom Menace” designation
- 61. Velodrome vehicle
- 62. Vacation spot full of bees?
- 64. Judith of “Designing Women”
- 65. Reduce a sentence?
- 66. “SNL” alum Murphy
- 67. “Say Hey” Hall of Famer
- 68. Part

Down

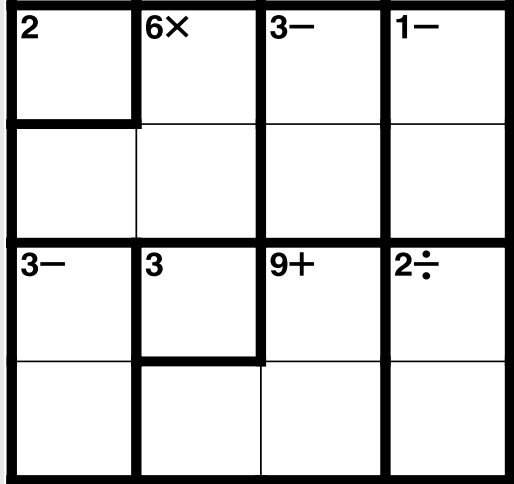
- 1. Pritzker Architecture Prize winner Hadid
- 2. Hacker’s exclamation of success (or so movies tell me)
- 3. It’s behind you
- 4. Behind closed doors
- 5. World’s ___ Thermometer (attraction in Baker, Calif.)
- 6. “Dies ___” (Latin hymn)
- 7. New England fishes
- 8. Genesis figure
- 9. Skin layer
- 10. Went to the mat
- 11. #1 songs that bring good fortune?
- 12. Lotion additives
- 13. All wound up
- 18. Shade tree
- 22. Royal flush card
- 24. ___ Beach (Orange County city)
- 25. “Beauty and the Beast” composer Menken
- 26. Madras wrap
- 27. Requirement to decode the jargon of a guy from the sticks?
- 28. Feather-filled item
- 29. Meddlesome sort
- 33. Compound used in air conditioning to replace the more potent “chloro-” version
- 34. Sault ___ Marie, Ontario
- 36. On bended ___
- 37. Prognosticator
- 39. Letters on a bar?
- 44. Bedroom furniture piece

- 47. TV chef Garten
- 50. Tristan’s operatic lover
- 51. “The Girl From Ipanema” composer
- 52. ‘60s-’70s Twins star Tony
- 53. Last questionnaire option, often
- 54. Console whose last games were released in 2020
- 56. Wicked
- 57. Comedian Holmes
- 58. Nihilistic art genre
- 59. Author Blyton
- 60. Monthly midpoint
- 63. Vow phrase

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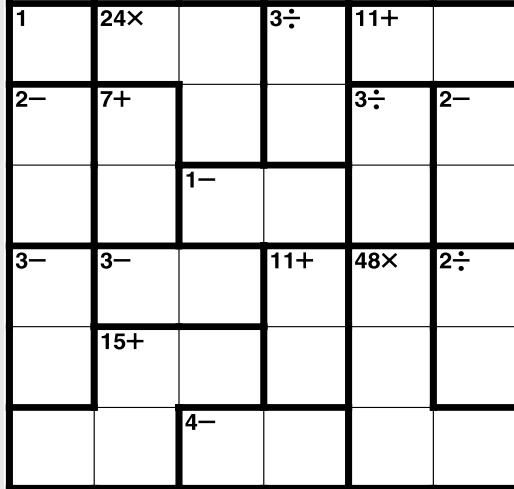


EASY



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CHALLENGING



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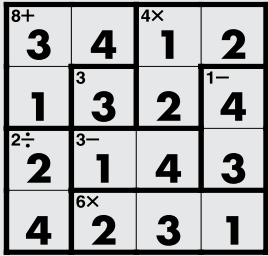
RULES

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

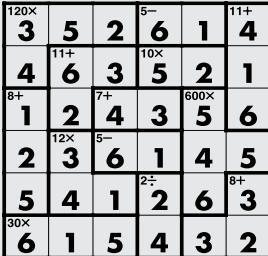
outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

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

PREVIOUS ANSWERS



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SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *That Sounds So Good*, by Carla Lalli Music, born Aug. 15, 1972.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *There are vibrant, bright, colorful foods ... and then there's split pea soup. Which has a vibrant, bright flavor.*

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *By all means, make whatever you want on any day you like! I don't bake during the week, which is why the desserts chapter falls in the weekend section of the book, but if you want a cobbler on a Tuesday, I'm not going to stop you. Try a cobbler on a Tuesday.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *In this humble pasta sauce, an extended sauna in olive oil and garlic transforms cauliflower from crisp and peppery to soft and sweet. A sauna might be just the thing.*

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *There are nearly as many phases to a loaf of bread as there are days of the week. There's your just-baked bread, day-old bread, slightly stale bread, pretty hard bread, best-for-bread-crumbs bread, and just-trim-that-part-off bread. All good, but suited for different things.*

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *One thing I've learned about beans is that some types fall apart when they're cooked no matter what you do. It's not your fault! Not at all.*

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *I understood the basic premise: braised meats in red sauce, with pasta. But which meats, What kind of sauce? Cook the sauce, then add the meats? I had questions. What is braciolo? No, seriously: What is braciolo??? Try Merriam-Webster.com.*

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *You could give me this bowl of snappy vegetables topped with slabs of feta for dinner*

every night of the week, and I'd be happy. Eat snappy vegetables, be happy.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *Hot and crispy fritters love cool tangy sauces. And they do great things together.*

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *Is it still a salad if it's hot? Yes.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *It hurts my feelings when people say they bought buttermilk for pancakes and don't know how to use up the leftovers. Don't take things too personally.*

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *A hardworking grain salad can be a veg, a side, and a starch all in one. But it doesn't have to be.*

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *Long-cooked broccoli might not retain its vibrant green color, but what it lacks in visual panache, it gains in sweetness, tenderness, and old-school goodness. So good. 🍷*

7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES

- 1 itty-bitty (9)
- 2 bit the bullet (10)
- 3 bitters, e.g. (6)
- 4 it holds the drill bit (5)
- 5 bit the dust (7)
- 6 bitcoin, e.g. (6)
- 7 bit back (10)

SOLUTIONS

HER	PTO	ONS	LIA	QUI
ES	CH	AK	CRO	CRY
ISC	AC	ED	MIN	TA
TED	ULE	UCK	CED	RE

Last Week's Answers: 1. SOLITARY 2. COVERED 3. SUMS 4. FLYING 5. SHOOT 6. TENNIS 7. SNACKS

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Sudoku Answers from pg 29 of 8/6

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty: ★ 7/20

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty: ★★ 7/21

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 7/23

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AUG 28

START MAKING SENSE

TALKING HEADS TRIBUTE

AUG 29

JOHN VIOLINIST LIVE!

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Gas Leak

Hundreds of moviegoers in Colombia fled the theater during a showing of “Spider-Man: Brand New Day,” thanks to a noxious smell, The New York Post reported on Aug. 3. Witnesses at the screening in Cartagena said they were overwhelmed by the stench of flatulence, forcing them into the hallways outside the showing. That’s right: Someone’s fart was so rotten that they cleared an entire theater full of people. The stinker hasn’t ‘fessed up — who can blame them? — and so strong was the smell that some speculated someone had set off a stink bomb. The anonymous air-befouler let it rip about halfway through the showing, and many moviegoers left without finishing the movie. *NY Post*, Aug. 3

Skeleton in the ... Deep Freezer

An Alaska family cleaning out a deceased loved one’s home called authorities when they discovered human remains on the property, Juneau Empire reported on July 30. Juneau police say the body — a man who would have been in his 70s now — was found in a deep freezer located in a locked outbuilding, and has been identified as a relative of the home’s deceased owner, though no missing person’s report was ever filed for him. Police estimate the body had been stashed for years, and are still investigating the circumstances surrounding the man’s death. *Juneau Empire*, July 30

Get Off My Lawn

Kyle James Steffen, 39, of Minnesota, faces charges after placing about 40 three-inch spikes in his lawn to deter neighborhood children from riding their bikes through his front yard on their way to a nearby park. KARE 11 reported on July 31 that a neighbor called police after witnessing Steffen yell at her children, and when police arrived, they discovered Steffen’s homemade spike strip. They charged him with a gross misdemeanor count of setting a spring gun/pitfall/deadfall or snare. Steffen could face up to 180 days in jail or a \$1,000 fine. His court date is set for Aug. 25. *KARE 11*, July 31

Clothing Optional

Customers in Hollywood, Florida, are free to abide by an unusual dress code at the Class Soiree Steakhouse: clothing optional, UPI reported on Aug. 4. On the first Monday of the month, the steakhouse offers a nude dining experience from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. Diners must be over 18 years old to participate, and are expected to follow additional guidelines, such as no touching without consent. Upon arrival, they are given a robe, a towel and a seat cover. Chef and owner Maurad Ali says his staff members — who remain clothed during the event — have been well-trained and are respectful of the hungry nudists. Tickets start at \$150 for women, \$250 for men and \$300 for couples. *UPI*, Aug. 4

Death Becomes Him

A 26-year-old Welsh man has been arrested for dressing in a black hooded outfit to mimic the appearance of the Grim Reaper, climbing the roof of a local hospital and staring into hospital rooms, The Independent reported on Aug. 5. Local resident Leon Gillespie has been charged with causing a nuisance or disturbance without reasonable excuse after a June incident at the Ysbyty Glan Clwyd hospital in North Wales. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$270 for his stunt. *The Independent*, Aug. 5

Precocious

It was all hands on deck when a kitten was discovered stuck behind a Honda owner’s front grille in Ames, Iowa. The car’s driver was in the drive-thru at a Scooter’s Coffee when she heard the kitten crying. Other drivers quickly gathered around, and the coffee shop manager called Ames Animal Shelter for help. “You could hear the cat crying out,” animal services officer Kathy Pike said. “We didn’t know how to get it out.” She then contacted a towing company for more assistance. Jordan McKnight and Cole Denning from Central Iowa Towing and Recovery came over and had to dismantle the front part of the car enough for Pike to reach through and remove the kitten, who was showing signs of distress on a hot, humid day that felt like 118 degrees. The kitten — whom Pike named “Fika,” a Swedish word for “coffee” —

was put up for adoption, and in an adorable plot twist, McKnight, who helped rescue her, ended up taking her home with him, much to the delight of his wife and daughter. *Washington Post*, Aug. 5

Outfoxed

After bottles of milk kept disappearing from outside his door, a man in Glasgow, Scotland, set up cameras to catch the culprit. On Aug. 2, Fox News reported that Gordon Campbell, 42, suspected a “vegan militant” was to blame for the stolen milk. “I didn’t really know exactly who would be doing it,” Campbell said. “I thought it was a person or an animal.” Campbell soon captured images of a fox scampering up the front steps, using its mouth to grab the bottle of milk, knocking it over and carrying it away. “All was forgiven when I saw its big ears and wee face,” Campbell said. As to whether he’ll be getting milk delivered in the future, Campbell’s not certain, but if he does, he says he plans to put a protective box on his front step for safekeeping of the bottles. *Fox News*, Aug. 2

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



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