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AUG. 27 - SEPT. 2, 2026

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**MONSTER
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ON THE COVER

8 Options have improved for those who love bread and baked treats but don't want the gluten that usually comes as part of these foods. In this week's cover story, John Fladd talks to the bakers helping apple pie-lovers and bread addicts still enjoy their favorites, but gluten-free. Above photo: Gluten-free loaves at Dishon Bakery. Photo by John Fladd.

ALSO ON THE COVER, Chocolate baklava is just one of many treats you can find at this year's Greekfest at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in Manchester this weekend (see page 17). Shop plein air at this weekend's Greeley Park Art Show (page 13). Search for monsters in downtown Manchester on Saturday during the annual Monster Hunt (page 14).

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NEWS & NOTES

Movie theater closing

O’Neil Cinemas will be “closing our Londonderry location,” according to an Aug. 23 post on the theater’s Facebook page. The movie theater had reopened on Nov. 11, 2025, with a new bistro and upgraded screening rooms, according to a press release from the time. O’Neil Cinemas closed its Epping location on March 15, saying in a statement then: “Changing industry conditions, rising operating costs, and the significant investment required to modernize the theater made it impossible for us to continue operating the Epping location at the level of experience our guests deserve,” according to the March 12 issue of the Hippo.

In the Aug. 23 post about Londonderry, O’Neil Cinemas said: “While our chapter in Londonderry is ending, O’Neil Cinemas continues on. Our Littleton, Massachusetts theater will remain open and operating ... Any O’Neil Cinemas gift cards will continue to be honored at our Littleton location. Your existing loyalty account, points, and rewards will also remain valid and can be redeemed in Littleton. Everything you’ve earned stays with you.” On Aug. 25, on the Londonderry location’s web-

site, oneilcinemas.com/londonderry, Aug. 31 is the final day for which tickets are being sold.

Dogs for veterans

Balin Books, Somerset Plaza, 375 Amherst St. in Nashua, will host an author signing and fundraiser for Operation Delta Dog, an organization that rescues and trains shelter dogs to serve as companions to military veterans living with PTSD, traumatic brain injuries and military sexual trauma, on Saturday, Aug. 29, according to a press release. Trisha Blanchet, founder of Operation Delta Dog and local author of the new mystery *Murder Like Magic*, will discuss her book with Charlotte Troddyn, executive director of Operation Delta Dog, at 2 p.m., the release said. From 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., representatives of Operation Delta Dog will be at Balin and “a portion of all Balin Books sales throughout the day will be donated to Operation Delta Dog,” the release said. See balinbooks.com.

Veterans expo

Harbor Care, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and presenting sponsor Eversource, will

hold its 22nd Annual NH Veteran Stand Down resource and service expo for former service members and their families on Friday, Sept. 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with free lunch for veterans and free admission for veterans and military families, according to a press release. The event will take place at Eversource Energy Park, 780 N. Commercial St. in Manchester, and will feature more than 50 organizations, the release said. See harborcarenh.org.

Veterans picnic

Hudson VFW Post 5791 will host its 10th annual Veterans Appreciation Picnic, a free event for all New Hampshire veterans and their families, on Saturday, Sept. 19, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hudson VFG, 15 Bockes Road in Hudson, according to a press release. “The event is open to anyone who has served in any branch of the U.S. military. Veterans don’t have to be a member of the VFW, American Legion or any other veterans’ organization to attend,” the release said. “In addition to a catered lunch, there will be horseshoes, bocce and a corn hole tournament with prizes, plus games and activities for the kids.” Call 882-9722 with questions.

Catch Scott Kirby, Gabriel Donohue and Friends, singers, musicians and storytellers, at Avaloch Farm Music Institute, 16 Hardy Lane in **Boscawen**, avalochfarm-music.org, on Saturday, Aug. 29, at 5 p.m. See the website for ticket information, with dinner with the musicians options available.

Adi Rule and Rebecca Rule celebrate their new books on Saturday, Aug. 29, at 1 p.m. at MainStreet Book-Ends (16 E. Main St., **Warner**, mainstreetbookends.com). Adi Rule is launching her new middle-grade novel *Ghost Chickens*; Rebecca Rule’s latest book is the children’s picture book *Who Loves Blueberries?* There will be snacks and an activity for kids.

The Nashua Garden Club will host the program “Growing Shiitake Mushrooms” with Tracy Dunne of Breezy Woods Mushroom Farm in Warren on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 121 Manchester St. in **Nashua**, according to an email. Attendees are requested to arrive by 6:45 p.m., the email said. See nashuagardenclub.org.

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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

More fun than Connecticut, anyway

According to a recent study released by online economics website Wallethub.com, New Hampshire is the 43rd most fun state in the country. Reporting on its study, Wallethub wrote that it had “compared all 50 states across 26 key indicators of enjoyable experiences that won’t break the bank. These range from movie costs to accessibility of national parks to nightlife options per capita.” And while New Hampshire didn’t compare well with fun powerhouses like California or Florida (ranked No. 1 and No. 2 respectively), we ranked 41st in the category of Entertainment and Recreation, but 47th with respect to Nightlife.

QOL score: -1

Comment: *It could be worse; compared to West Virginia, New Hampshire looks like springtime in Paris. Visit wallethub.com/edu/most-fun-states/34665.*

Of course she’s blue; we just ruined her vacation

As reported by WMUR in an Aug. 19 online article, a Goffstown family made a “one-in-a-billion” discovery last week. While on a chartered fishing trip out of Rye, WMUR reported, “the [Major family] noticed a fishing pole and line in the water. When they went to pull it out of the water, they found a lobster tangled in it.” Even more exciting was the color of the lobster: blue. Blue lobsters do occur naturally but are very rare, the article continued — “about one in two million.” On top of that, she turned out to be a pregnant blue lobster, making her an even rarer find.

QOL score: +1

Comment: *WMUR reported that the anonymous blue lobster was marked and returned to the water to continue with her birthing journey.*

Maybe it’s the lack of ‘fun’?

A recent survey by the University of New Hampshire found that “25 percent of Granite Staters are considering moving away.” “The greatest likelihood of leaving is among younger and never married residents,” the Aug. 18 survey report read. “In contrast, [the study] found little differences in likelihood of leaving by other characteristics and life experiences such as educational attainment and household income.”

QOL score: -1

Comment: *Study authors pointed out that the number of New Hampshire residents considering moving is in line with the statistics from other New England states. “Recent polling by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center found that only 23 percent of New Hampshire residents responded they were ‘likely or somewhat likely’ to move out of the state in the next five years. In contrast, larger shares of respondents from nearby states reported they were likely to leave, including residents of Vermont (42 percent), Connecticut (40 percent), Rhode Island (35 percent), and Massachusetts (34 percent).” Visit carsey.unh.edu/publication/retaining-residents-important-new-hampshires-future-why-do-people-leave.*

QOL score last week: 59

Net change: -1

QOL this week: 58

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

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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS

Daffy Raffy back at Fenway



The Big Story – Devers Back in Town: Well, it couldn't have gone much better when the recalcitrant one returned to Fenway for the first time since he was shipped west last June.

It came amid a deserved hail of boos as **Raffy Devers** went 1-10 with a homer while the Sox were sweeping his SF Giants. With that now over, it seems a good time to review the results of that trade.

You may recall a pouting Devers was sent packing after petulantly refusing to play first base here. SF was 41-31 that day. They then went 69-93 in his first 162 games with them and 91-126 overall, while the one-game-under-.500 Red Sox rallied to go 52-37 the rest of the way in 2025 and 122-85 overall since they dumped him.

Not to mention that in flipping the key guy they got in the deal, **Kyle Harrison**, to Milwaukee, the Sox not only got their third baseman **Caleb Durbin**, but also spark plugs to the turnaround **Nick Sogard** and **Andruw Monasterio**. Plus the payroll flexibility gained from the \$250 million saved, they were able to take on the big contracts of now 16-game-winner **Sonny Gray** and homer/RBI leader **Willson Contreras**.

Which makes it a gigantic win for **John Henry** and company.

Sports 101: With seven more starts left after reaching his 16 career high in wins Friday, Gray actually can do a rarity for these days: win 20 games. Name the last five Red Sox pitchers to do that in a season.

News Item – Red Sox Update – Who's Hot:

They started the week 71-59, six behind TB in the AL East and 6.5 up in the wild card race. They need to go 19-13 in their final 32 games to reach 90 wins.

• **Mickey Gasper** – The Merrimack native came back up from AAA ablazing. He's gone six for 17 with two doubles, three homers and nine RBI since.

• **Erik Miller** – In his first eight appearances since coming from SF, he allowed no earned runs while striking out a whopping 14 in 8.1 innings

• **Brayan Bello:** That demotion to AAA worked wonders. In seven appearances since his July 12 return, he's 3-0 with a save while giving up just three runs in 27.1 innings for a 0.99 ERA.

News Item – Pats Update – Pats Down Eagles 24-21:

• **Kyle Williams** – Say what you will about the 2025 third-round pick, who some say is about to be cut. But after scoring on a 69-yard bomb Saturday, it's interesting that in the few catches he had in 2025 (10) and two on Saturday, four have resulted in TD's with three

coming from 72, 69 and 33 yards out, while the yards per catch average on those 12 is 23.6. For context: The NFL's YPC record is held by 1960s NY Giants receiver **Homer Jones** at 22.3.

• **The Second O and D Lines** – They were awful.

• **Christian Gonzalez** – Is the contract extension mess a real issue or being blown out of proportion by breathless media yacking?

The Numbers:

4 – times **Wilyer Abreu** struck out in Saturday's first four at-bats before knocking in the winning run in their 3-2 walkoff win over SF.

8 – not quite 1968's Year of the Pitcher, but the paltry number of .300 hitters in both leagues. For context, 30 did it in 1962.

22 – most runs ever scored while shutting out an opponent, as Milwaukee did in their 22-0 win over Seattle.

... Of the Week Award

Dumbest WNBA Related Comment – Shaq: Whose solution to making the league more exciting is to lower the baskets so everyone can dunk.

Sports 101 Answer: The last Boston 20-game winner was **Rick Porcello** when he won the 2016 Cy Young Award for his stellar 22-4 season. Before that, **Josh Beckett** (2007), **Curt Schilling** (2004), **Pedro Martinez** and **Derek Lowe** (2002).

Final Thought – Thumbs Down – John Rich: While killing Little League Baseball's 85-pitch-count rule, the Bar Stool Sports writer had comments after Alabama's **Kinley Rasmus** got yanked after six scoreless innings for reaching the PC limit. Washington State then scored twice in the seventh to win 2-0. Rich wrote, "Feel bad for this girl. Pitches a 6 inning shutout. Breaks **Mo'ne Davis'** strikeout record. Then loses in the 7th when they're forced to bring in another pitcher. Team couldn't get her a single run. Brutal." Well John, we all do. Sorta. But it's not like that's never happened before.

First, he's diminishing Washington's pitching, which also pitched a shutout, didn't they?

Second, since the beginning of time pitchers who've pitched great have gotten beaten by pitchers who pitched not quite as well but good enough to win.

Third, have you heard of **Harvey Haddix** in 1959? **Bill Bevens**, Game 4, 1947 World Series? **Jack Sanford**, Game 7, 1962 World Series? and the doozy of "he got no hit support" losses, **Warren Spahn** on July 2, 1963. Look them up. All pitched great in historic games and lost.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippocom. 🐼

THIS WEEK

BIG EVENTS AUGUST 27 AND BEYOND

Sunday, Aug. 30

Tuba Skinny (at left in a photo from their website) will play the Nashua Center for the Arts, 201 Main St. in Nashua, today at 7 p.m., according to nashuacenterforthearts.com, where you can purchase tickets. "While they've become known as world-class interpreters of traditional jazz, over the years they've branched out into jug band music, spirituals, country blues, string band music, ragtime, and New Orleans R&B. Their approach is a true reflection of Americana, encompassing the full genealogy of popular American music from an early 20th



century perspective," the Center for the Arts website said. See tubaskiny.com for more on the band. Find more upcoming shows in the Concert listings on page 26.

Saturday, Aug. 29

The Capital Mineral Club's Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show will take place today from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Aug. 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Everett Arena in Concord, according to capitalmineralclub.org.

Saturday, Aug. 29

Granite State PoutineFest will take place Saturday, Aug. 29, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 603 Brewery in Londonderry, according to poutinefest.com, where you can purchase tickets. Try a sample of poutine (which, fundamentally, is french fries + cheese curds + gravity) from a variety of area restaurants and vote for your favorite, the website said.

Saturday, Aug. 29

Poets Mckendy Fils-Aimé and JeFF Stumpo will be at Bookery, 844 Elm St. in Manchester, today from 5 to 7 p.m. to read from their

debut poetry collections, according to bookerymht.com, where you can RSVP. Fils-Aimé's new book is *sipèstisyon* (see mckendyfilmsaime.com) and Stumpo's new book is *these are the waterfalls in my head* (see jeffstumpo.com). Find more author readings and other book events in the Book listings on page 21.

Saturday, Aug. 29

Catch comedian Dulcé Sloan tonight at 8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.) at BNH Stage, 16 S. Main St. in Concord, according to ccanh.com, where you can watch clips of her appearance on *Conan* and other comedy shows and purchase tickets. Sloan was a correspondent on *The Daily Show with Trevor*

Noah and released the book *Hello, Friends! Stories of Dating, Destiny and Day Jobs* in 2024. Find more comedy from Sloan at dulcesloan.com. Find more comedy shows in the Comedy This Week listings on page 23. 🗨️



Save the Date!

Saturday, Sept. 5

The Run Your Buns Off 4.2 Miler comes with a treat: a post-race sticky bun after the race on Saturday, Sept. 5, at 8:30 a.m. at Newfound Lake in Bristol, according to runyourbunsoffnh.com, where you can register for the race (there is no same-day registration). This year's community beneficiary of the race is the NH Food Bank, the website said.

Thursday, Aug. 27

The New Hampshire Fisher Cats continue their stretch of games against the Hartford Yard Goats with a game tonight at 6:03 p.m., according to nhfishercats.com, where you can purchase tickets. Games continue through Sunday, Aug. 30, when game time is 1:05 p.m., the website said. On Saturday, Aug. 29, the team

will play as the Manchester Coconut Tenders, when the first 500 fans will receive the third of three special Manchester Chicken Tender bobbleheads, according to the website, where you can find ticket information. Other special events include postgame fireworks on Friday, Aug. 28, and Saturday, Aug. 29, the website said.



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Bread*

A LOOK AT THE BAKERIES TURNING OUT GLUTEN-FREE BREADS AND TREATS

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

Lisa Withrow had pretty much run out of patience with reading food labels.

“We have eight grandchildren,” Withrow said. “One of our granddaughters was diagnosed with celiac disease when she was 5. And at that point there was significant damage to her intestine. And they suggested the whole family go gluten-free because they did not want her to be around gluten. So learning that — I’m a health care provider and yes, we learned about that in med school but ... experience was very humbling. You go through the initial overwhelm of ‘They can’t have the food,’ ‘What can they have?’, reading the label, trying to figure it out.”

“In this country,” Withrow said, “it’s challenging. There were labeling laws, but it was a pretty humbling process as a health care provider to go through that anticipatory anxiety over buying things that are safe for someone with celiac disease.” She quickly became frustrated with how little of the specific information she was looking for was included in many labels. “Sometimes we’d have to go to three and four and five or more stores, just to get our weekly groceries.”

For Withrow and her husband Paul, the answer was to open their own business, Gluten-Free Express, in Bedford.

“It’s an independent store,” Withrow said. “Gluten-Free Express is a completely gluten-free, celiac-safe food market. It’s a mini-mart with some groceries, but it also has take-out [prepared food]. Everything in the store is going to say “gluten-free” on it or “certified gluten-free,” including what we use to cook the grill items. And, because there are a lot of people who like to know exactly ... we have a notebook that has the ingredients of everything in the store.”

Figuring out gluten

Gluten is a term given to a family of proteins found in some grains — especially wheat, barley and rye — that gives a stretchy quality to

bread doughs, which bakers love but which can cause havoc in some people who eat it.

According to Dr. Vincent Aguirre, executive director of digestive health with the Elliot Health System, gluten sensitivity is fairly common. The most well known gluten sensitivity is called celiac disease, which he described as “an autoimmune condition, where immune cells called lymphocytes are activated by gluten and attack the interior of the intestines.” This prevents celiac sufferers from being able to metabolize nutrients. In the United States, he said, an estimated one percent of the population suffers from some degree of celiac sensitivity. It can cause a myriad of symptoms, he said, “which is what can make it so difficult to diagnose.” Different people can be more or less sensitive to gluten, Dr. Aguirre said, and their symptoms can be just as individual.

For the Withrows, ensuring their business was completely gluten-free meant they had to consider factors that casual label-readers rarely have to think about.

“That includes anything we cook on the grill,” Lisa Withrow said, meaning the oil that foods are fried in, and even the breading and coating that prepared foods have. “We have takeout items,” she said. “We’re not a restaurant, but [customers] can come for takeout items, so chicken tenders and fries and that sort of food. We have a fryer and we have a grill and we have soup and we have an oven that we cook things in. ... And none of those can come in contact with ingredients that might have even trace amounts of gluten in them.”

Withrow said the terminology can be tricky.

“We’ve gone through the certification to be gluten-free,” she said, “and that was an education. There are different labels and levels of ‘gluten-free’ and one of them means there can be no more than five parts per million [of gluten]. One means no more than 10, and the rest are no more than 20. And so it’s just confusing that people don’t know that if they have to stay within certain parameters. And then many people think [gluten-free is] like a dietary fad. You’ll be at a restaurant and the attitude is,

‘OK, you want something gluten-free. Does it HAVE TO be gluten-free, or are you just doing it because you want to?’”

Meant to share

Matt Berry is the chef and owner of Lovejoy Restaurant in Milford. When he put together the menu for Lovejoy, he said, it turned out almost entirely gluten-free accidentally. Everything is either gluten-free already or can be made that way.

“It kind of non-intentionally became a big part of our menu,” Berry said. “At previous establishments, I’ve had a lot of staff members who were gluten-free, so I just kind of got used to preparing our staff meals and stuff toward their restrictions. And as I was writing a menu [for Lovejoy], where I could fit in a gluten-free substitute or having more dishes be naturally gluten-free, I did.”

“I’ve been using a one-to-one flour substitute that works really well for all of my baking stuff,” Berry said. “We came up with a really good gluten-free dredge for [frying] all of our chicken and stuff. Dredge, specifically for something like fried chicken, you can jump down like a deep, deep rabbit hole. People take their fried chicken very seriously. And growing up, this friend that I had in high school, I stayed at his house a lot, and his mom used to make this like fried chicken, but the breading she used was made from instant potato flakes. And I really, really loved it, it was so good! So a couple of years ago, when I was a line cook, I wanted to, like, kind of mess around with that. I started using a lot of potato starch for many things, but specifically for dredge and ... tempura batter and stuff, utilizing more starches and less flour with gluten, I found that I enjoyed that crispiness a little bit more, anyway. I felt that it stayed crispy for longer and it just achieved like my ideal fried chicken batter.”

Many of the dishes at Lovejoy are appetizers designed to be shared, Berry said, and they are also fried. As he pulled the menu together, it made sense to stick with gluten-free dredge,

similar to the one on his favorite fried chicken, tempura for example.

“The usual recipe for a classic tempura batter is something like tonic water or seltzer water, flour, and egg,” he said. “It’s usually pretty straightforward and simple, but we don’t use egg in ours. We use soda water, flour, and some spices and salt — obviously the gluten-free flour. It’s for our tempura oyster mushrooms, which are a heavy eater here.”

“But yeah,” Berry said, “I didn’t go into it intentionally, trying to hunt down gluten or to write a gluten-free menu. It just kind of like naturally became that.” He said a commitment to focusing on fresh and locally grown ingredients has also steered him away from gluten.

“We get our breads from a local bakery, Sunflower Bakery in Nashua, but for everything else? We’re not in a big grain-producing part of the country. What I get from local farms is produce and stuff, not necessarily grain.”

Baking without gluten

Bonne Richards, on the other hand, was very deliberate in her decision to open a gluten-free bakery.

“I own a gluten-free, vegan bakery and market in Nashua [Bonne the Baker Bakery and Market, 2 Cellu Drive, Nashua],” she said. “It’s doing fabulous. I’ve only been open three months, but everyone that comes in the door has the biggest smile on their face and is so happy and relieved that they can come in here and buy anything — and I mean anything in my store — and it has no gluten and is vegan, no dairy, no eggs, no animal products. They know they’re safe if they have celiac or an allergy, and I think southern New Hampshire is becoming the place to come now to find treats and food, if you have a specialized diet.”

Richards said that she has noticed a growing awareness in the general public that food allergies and sensitivities are a medical reality. It wasn’t too long ago, she said, that people who couldn’t eat gluten were viewed as “picky eaters.”

“I don’t think that even now every-



** Made delicious & gluten-free*

one thinks about that,” Richards said. “Gluten-free people can get sick; they’ll get really sick.” Additionally, she said, there is a growing number of people who are trying to cut down on gluten as part of a healthy lifestyle. “I know myself,” she said, “even though I don’t have celiac disease, if I eat gluten, I swell up and my hips start hurting and my knees start hurting — the joints start hurting. So I choose not to eat it for that reason. I am seeing more of that kind of thing. I think a lot of people are worried about what’s in their food more than ever.”

Taking such a non-traditional path in her baking has let Richards reinterpret some classics, she said.

“I make these savory turnovers, and people are all over that. A lot of people are like, ‘I haven’t had an apple pie in forever’ or ‘I haven’t had a breakfast pastry in so long!’ and they’re just so happy. I can’t keep those items in stock. They could go buy that savory pastry somewhere else that says it’s gluten-free. But if it’s in a regular bakery, they have to really seriously think about cross-contamination.” It’s almost impossible for a traditional bakery to not have flour in the air, she said.

Richards is looking forward to finding out the rhythms of the business cycle of a gluten-free bakery.

“I think it’s going to get really busy real soon,” she said, “because we’re coming into apple cider doughnut season, with the fall flavors that everybody loves, apples, pumpkins, that kind of stuff. And then it will be the holidays, and we’ll see a lot more people coming in.” What she’s really interested in, Richards said, is the period right after the holidays, when so many people commit to a healthier diet, even if only briefly.

“It’s the same thing every year, after Christmas into New Year’s, everyone goes on a diet. Nobody’s eating any treats and then all of a sudden Valentine’s Day comes around and everybody’s eating again and it starts all over again.” She wonders how that will translate into gluten-free and vegan baking, she said.

Richards said baking without wheat flour or



Bonne the Baker Bakery and Market. Courtesy photo.

other ingredients with gluten requires finding substitutes, which might be different for any given recipe. Gluten, she said, creates long strands of protein that form a mesh that traps gas bubbles, which help baked goods rise.

“There’s almost always some xanthan gum involved,” in gluten-free baking, she said. “A lot of times, for breads [which require extra-stretchy dough] people use psyllium husk, which is a binder — a fiber. Some recipes use different types of eggs, or flax seeds, applesauce or bananas. I like aquafaba, which is the liquid from a can of chickpeas.”

Another challenge of baking without gluten, Richards said, is browning.

“That’s one of the things that can make gluten-free bread so tricky,” she said. “Gluten-free flour does not like to brown up.”

According to baker/owner Evan Lang of Dishon Gluten-Free Bakery in Manchester, baking gluten-free bread requires a different mindset than making muffins or brownies.

“We work with an actual dough that proofs,” he said. “It’s not a batter.” To that end, he uses psyllium husk as a binding ingredient.

The gluten-free

Gluten Free Express (9 Triangle Lane, Manchester, 782-8386, glutenfreeexpress.com) is open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Lovejoy Restaurant (40 Nashua St., Milford, 554-8430, lovejoynh.com)

Bonne the Baker Bakery and Market (2 Cellu Drive, Nashua, 669-4200, bonniethebakery.com) is open Tuesday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Dishon Bakery (915 Elm St., Manchester, 600-1773, dishonbakery.com) is open Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

900 Degrees Neapolitan Pizzeria (50 Dow St., Manchester, 641-0900, 900degrees.com) is open from 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and until 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Bite me Kupcakez Cafe and Bakery (4 Mound Court, Merrimack, 674-4459, bitemekupcakez.com) is open Tuesday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, and 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Sunday.

The **First Gluten Never Ever Festival** will take place Saturday, Sept. 5, and Sunday, Sept. 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Huge Hampshire Dome (34 Emerson Road, Milford). Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the gate. Visit glutennevereverexpo.com.

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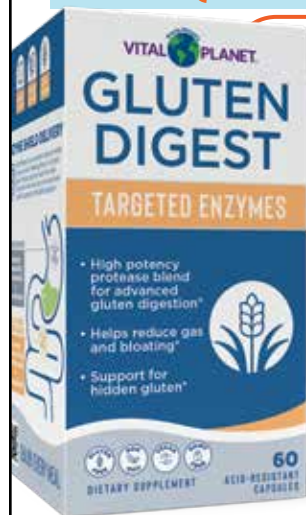
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Gluten-free loaves at Dishon Bakery. Photo by John Fladd.

“It’s the fiber that’s in Metamucil,” he said. “It absorbs water and allows us to create a dough that is workable. In terms of browning, we do add a little bit of sugar to our dough to help with that. [Browning] also has to do with the fermentation process and time. And lastly, it’s about oven temperature. We bake everything pretty hot — between 480 and 525 [degrees], which is pretty hot for bread. But that’s what allows us to get kind of the color that you see here on these breads that comes from baking hot and long.”

Pizza for all

But what if your entire business is built around gluten?

Tyler Carmilia is the kitchen manager at 900 Degrees Neapolitan Pizzeria in Manchester. The key to a good pizza is its crust. For 900 Degrees, the secret of serving a high-quality pizza crust that is safe for someone on a gluten-free diet, Carmilia said, has been to outsource it.

“We use a [pre-made] brand called Gilian’s,” he said, “which is available through a number of our vendors. It is a gluten-free crust, but given all the flour in the restaurant, we can’t guarantee that anything we make in-house is 100 percent gluten-free.”

“We use a 12-inch crust,” Carmilia continued. “It’s made with a potato starch, tapioca starch and a little bit of rice flour. We bake it in our oven. It comes on aluminum trays to help kind of prevent the cross-contamination.” Regular pizza made with a wheat crust is baked on the floor of the oven, which means that the non-gluten crust needs to be separated from the bricks.

Carmilia said that even though pizzas with non-wheat crusts are still in the minority of pizzas sold at 900 Degrees, customers order them almost every day.

“We probably sell anywhere from 20 to 40 a week,” he said. “We do add an upcharge [for non-wheat crusts] just because it costs more, because we do get it from a vendor.” It’s a fairly crisp crust, he said, “but we get people that’ll order it like well-done as well, just to ensure that it’s a little bit more familiar. With us not cooking it directly on the fire brick in the oven

and it being on that aluminum, it doesn’t get that char per se, but it will get a nice crispy crust. We’ve always had a lot of repeat customers coming back in, telling us it’s one of the best ones that they’ve had, especially with the quality of toppings that we use.”

Cupcake fun

When discussing gluten-free diets, a classic conundrum that comes to mind is a child’s birthday party, or cupcakes to celebrate something special at school. Bite Me Cupcakez in Merrimack specializes in that sort of sweet treat.

“Our baked goods are exclusively gluten-, dairy- and nut -free,” said baker Addison Tilley. “All of our baked goods are made with an all-purpose gluten-free flour, and we replace the milk with other milk alternatives in order to separate the dairy from it. We do also have a vegan section that uses egg replacements instead of egg.”

Because Bite Me doesn’t use any traditional wheat flour, Tilley said, there is little to no chance of cross-contamination.

“There’s absolutely no gluten in the air at all,” she said. “We don’t allow any gluten in our area. Even if employees come in with lunch, they can’t bring anything into the building that is not gluten-free.”

“Cupcakes are our specialization,” Tilley said. “We have a variety of baked goods every day, depending on the supply and demand. But aside from the cupcakes our specialties are whoopie pies, we have muffins, we have brownies that we have pretty often, we have doughnuts, any [sweet] baked goods that you can think of we will likely have.”

Tilley said some groups will place orders for gluten-free items to make sure nobody is accidentally exposed to gluten.

“Some schools will come in knowing that they have kids who are gluten-free. And then other times it’s a safety precaution because in a big population like that, you are likely to have allergies sometimes.”

The cupcakes children like best are pretty much the traditional ones you would assume, Tilley said. “Funfetti is a very popular one. And then our basic chocolate and vanilla is



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usually the go-to for parties, because that guarantees that every kid gets something that they like. We have some fun sprinkles. One of our favorite decorations is edible glitter, and that always works very well.” She said inclusion is an important principle for Bite Me Kupcakez. “Our doors are open to absolutely everyone. We care a lot about our customers, and especially on last-minute orders we do our best to include them. Everyone is welcome in. Everyone should be able to get some sort of treat, because no one should be left out on a big day.”

Gluten-free expo

Jody Donohue, president of Great New England Events, has taken the gluten-free concept to a new level. Her company will hold the first ever Gluten Never Ever festival Saturday, Sept. 5, and Sunday, Sept. 6, at the Hampshire Dome in Milford.

“I’ve actually been wanting to do this for years,” Donohue said. “I’m a celiac. My two daughters have to eat gluten-free. So this is something my family lives with and has lived with for years. So for this particular event I’m also a customer. I wanted to bring this together for the community of people who have to eat gluten-free. It’s an event where people walk through the door, and they don’t have to worry about labels or if it’s safe for them or if [food] is gluten-free or certified or friendly. I want them to walk in and just be able to eat.”

The Gluten Never Ever Festival will feature craftsmen and vendors dedicated exclusively to gluten-free products, according to the event’s website (glutennevereverexpo.com). There will be “nearly 100 vendors, live music, cocktails and beer, food trucks, workshops, and plenty of food samples.”

“New Hampshire has some incredible gluten-free businesses,” Donohue said, “and not just New Hampshire; New England. There are products throughout New England, but they’re scattered. So I thought let’s bring them all together under one roof.”

“There will be a recipe wall,” Donohue said. “We’re doing a 75-foot recipe wall, and we have a template online. You fill out the recipe of your favorite gluten-free recipe, and we’re going to tape it to the wall. And people can go with their phones and take photos of the recipes. We want everybody to be able to share.”

The inventor of a gluten-tax-calculation app will be on hand. “She will be doing a seminar explaining this new app that she created for people to use to be able to track [gluten-specific] tax deductions for them. So there will be not just food but resources. People will pay \$10 for the whole weekend, so if they can come back Sunday to eat off the other trucks they haven’t eaten off of or bring their coolers and stock up again on some of the products that they really like.”

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ARTS

Beautiful bombs

Songs from Broadway duds take center stage

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Every theater fan remembers a musical that closed early or got mauled by critics or simply never found its audience yet somehow left behind a handful of songs too good to disappear with it. That conundrum is the premise behind an upcoming cabaret-style show at Newmarket Millspace.

Bangers From Bad Musicals is the brainchild of actress Karissa Vincent, who cited *Wonderland*, a Lewis Carroll-inspired 2011 flop, as an example of the genre. She loved it as a kid, even if it didn't last more than a month.

"The book is absolute trash," Vincent allowed in a recent phone interview. "But the music is so good."

Defining a bad musical is subjective, so Vincent drew a few lines to select songs for the performance. Shows needed to be reasonably well-known, so no workshop productions, and jukebox musicals like *Escape*

Bangers From Bad Musicals

When: Saturday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Newmarket Millspace, 55 Main St., Newmarket

Tickets: \$15, portsmouthnhtickets.com

From Margaritaville and *Rock of Ages* were nixed. "Because," she said, "that comes down to whether you like the music."

Divisive shows like *Chess* and *Cats* were handled a bit differently, and selections from each appear in *Bangers*.

"Both are highly snubbed but also highly regarded," Vincent said. "You'll see songs from them at the cabaret because there's a reason for them to be there ... not necessarily because the show was bad."

Other certified bad-but-beloved musical selections included in *Bangers* come from *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*, *The Last Ship*, *Love Never Dies* and *Starlight Express*. The show will also feature a sneak preview from *Carrie*, a Millspace and Jonesing for Theater Company co-production coming in October.

The musical version of Stephen King's horror classic has been redeemed, and Vincent looks forward to the 2.0 version.

"The original, like the '80s *Carrie*, was very bad," she said. "The songs were great, the show was trash, it was an awful time. The new *Carrie* ... is not bad, it is a great show, a lot of fun."

Vincent has traveled to New York frequently for work or just to see theater, and has strong opinions on the genre's more con-

troversial entries. She thinks Andrew Lloyd Webber's 2023 flop *Bad Cinderella* was unfairly maligned. "If you go in thinking it's serious, like most Webber shows are, you'll hate it. But if you go in looking for a comedy, it's great."

Based in the town's Old Mill building, Newmarket Millspace regularly opens its cabaret nights to performers from across the Seacoast and beyond; *Bangers* is among those. Around 15 performers had submitted songs at the time of Vincent's interview, drawing from groups like Jonesing for Theater, RGC and Dive-In.

"It is typically Seacoast performers," Vincent said. "So people hailing from Portsmouth, Newmarket, Dover, Durham, like that kind of area for the most part, and some are from Maine as well." The lineup will mix solos, duets and group numbers so everyone gets a featured moment without running the show too long.

As for what actually counts as a banger, Vincent said it's a broader definition than pure energy. Lea Michele's "Nobody's Side" from

Chess and the title number from *Bad Cinderella* are high-octane examples, but the night will have numbers that are more restrained.

Though in her view, all of them are powerful.

Put simply, though, not all of these songs will be bombastic barn burners.

"One I'm singing is going to be a slower ballad," Vincent said. "It's from a bad musical, and it's going to

fit into that banger description — because it's a beautiful song. But it's not fast-paced."

Audiences can expect a full bar, snacks and an intermission, with pianist Tim Goss accompanying performers and Vincent serving as host throughout the night.

For Vincent, the big appeal is the chance to give overlooked gems a second life outside the shows that buried them.

"There are a lot of great songs that have been lost in mediocre productions," she said. "This is a good way to pull those out and to make people aware they're good, even though the place they came from wasn't that great." 🍷

“There are a lot of great songs that have been lost in mediocre productions”

KARISSA VINCENT

Art Events

• **ArtCity Nashua** will take place Saturday, Aug. 29, from noon to 8 p.m. and is a "one-day public art and culture festival transforming the Heritage Rail Trail and Tree Streets neighborhood into a vibrant destination for creativity, connection, and community," according to a press release. "[F]rom Nashua City Hall to Chestnut Street the Heritage Rail Trail, will come alive with 15 new permanent murals, more than 20 muralists, street artists, two live music stages, local musicians, neighborhood businesses, creative vendors, food trucks, free art classes, dance cyphers, a community salsa hour, interactive art experiences, and an indoor gallery exhibition at 809 Lounge curated by Fallon Andrews of Pillar Gallery," the release said. See instagram.com/artcityhq.

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.

• **"Off The Wall — The Art of Fash-**

ion," 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.

• **"Shaping Futures,"** the annual prison outreach program exhibition by the New Hampshire Furniture Masters at its gallery, 49 S. Main St. in Concord, will be on display through Friday Aug. 28, according to furnituremasters.org. The gallery is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **"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 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., 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," the website said. See

seesaw.art/visit for gallery hours.

• **"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., 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., Dover, through Monday, Aug. 31, according to a press release. "Featuring work in all mediums, Across America explores the nation's remarkable landscapes, vibrant cities, diverse communities, architecture, traditions, history, and culture," the release said. 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.

• **"An Ocean of Quilts"** featuring art by members of the Coheco Quilters Guild is on display through Aug. 31 at Gallery 6 at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover, childrens-museum.org. The gallery is open during museum hours.

• **"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, 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., 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., 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 photography by Carol Van Loon, is on display at The Art Center, 1 Washington St., Suite 1177, 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.

• **"Art & Poetry: Dwelling Places"** will be on display at Kimball Jenkins in the mansion, 266 N. Main St., Concord, through Saturday, Sept. 5, according to kimballjenkins.com.

• **Aug. 9 through Sept. 9 Show** at

Glimpse Gallery, 4 Park St., Concord, features the works of Byron Carr, Julie Daniels, Debra Wayne, Jerry Edwards, Timothy Sievers and Pamela Tarbell, according to theglimpse-gallery.com.

• **"Montages: Peter Cordova & Kyoko Idetsu"** runs through Saturday, Sept. 19, at Outer Space Arts, 35 Pleasant St., Concord, which is open Saturdays from noon to 3 p.m. or by appointment, according to outerspacearts.xyz.

• **"the drop falls,"** an exhibit in which "Brooklyn-based painter Elsie Kagan uses landscapes as a site for climate anxiety, technological meditation, and historical art traditions to converse," will be on view in the Gallery at 3S Artspace, 319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth, through Sunday, Sept. 27. SThe gallery is open Thursdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays, noon to 5 p.m.

• **"Between lines and breath,"** an exhibit in which "multidisciplinary artist Mina Kim transforms humble domestic materials ... into sculptural environments..." will be on view in the Gallery at 3S Artspace, 319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth, through Sunday, Sept. 27. See 3arts.org for details. The gallery is open Thursdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays, noon to 5 p.m.

• **"Surf & Turf: Coastal and Pastoral Landscapes from the 19th Century to Today"** runs through Sep-

tember at New Hampshire Antiques Co-Op, 323 Elm St., Milford, which is open Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., according to nhantiquecoop.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, Cornish, through Oct. 26, according to a press release. See saint-gaudens.org.

• **"A Legacy of Landscapes: Selections from the Linda and P. Andrews McLane Collection, Part 2"** featuring a new selection of 48 paintings of White Mountains landscape art from a private collection, will be on display at the New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park St., Concord, nhhistory.org, through Dec. 31.

• **"Radical Quiet: Contemporary Drawings of Nature by Victoria Elbroch, Nancy Friese, and Margot Glass"** will be on display at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, through Sunday, Jan. 10, according to currier.org. "Discover three acclaimed contemporary artists who draw inspiration from the natural world and their New England roots. With a profound respect for nature and drawing as their chosen mode of expression, Margot Glass, Victoria Elbroch, and Nancy Friese invite us to slow down, look closely, and reflect on

ARTS

Two days of art in Greeley Park
Music, contests and demonstrations under the tents

By Chelsea Spear
listings@hippopress.com

The annual Greeley Park Art Show will be held Saturday, Aug. 29, and Sunday, Aug. 30, by the Nashua Area Arts Association. This local-favorite arts fair features work across all media from artists in Hillsborough County and beyond, as well as arts demonstrations and activities for children. Over the past seven decades Greeley Park Art Show has been a showcase for arts and crafts across different media.

"The mission has always been to encourage the arts and the artists," Sonia Lee Gilmore, co-manager of the Nashua Arts gallery, said over Zoom in a recent interview. "[The show's founders] felt that the best way to do that ... was with a show. And I believe it started out with about 10 tents." The fair has grown to 55 tents and two days of activities for kids and adults.

This year promises photography, watercolors, photography, woodworking and pottery among the media represented. Several nationally recognized artists, including painters like

Greeley Park Art Show
When: Saturday, Aug. 29, and Sunday, Aug. 30, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Where: Greeley Park, 100 Concord St., Nashua
More: nashuaarts.org/greeleyparkartshow

the beauty that surrounds us," the website said. The Currier is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Theater
- The Palace Theatre's 2026 Bank of New Hampshire Children's Summer Series through Aug. 27, with showtimes Tuesday through Thursdays at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and Fridays at 10 a.m., at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, according to palacetheatre.org, where you can purchase tickets. This season's remaining show is magician BJ Hickman (Aug. 25-27).
 - Sister Act will kick off the St. Mary's Bank 2026-2027 Performing Arts Series at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, Sept. 11 through Oct. 4 with shows Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 and 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. as well as Thursday, Sept. 24, at 7:30 p.m., according to palacetheatre.org, where you can purchase tickets.
 - Flustercluck! The Real Henhousewives of New Jersey, described as a "an absurdist comedy following the antics and exploits of the hens of Villa Roosta, a humble yet successful diversified hobby farm on the outskirts of bucolic Shamong, New Jersey," will be presented by Actorsingers (actorsingers.org) at

- Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord, as its entry in the NCTA Festival, which runs Friday, Sept. 11, through Sunday, Sept. 13.
- Iphigenia in Aulis, a play by Euripides transadapted by Anne Washburn, will be presented by Theatre Kapow (tkapow.com) on Friday, Sept. 18, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 19, at 2 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 20, at 2 p.m. at BNH Stage in Concord, the website said.
 - The Addams Family will be presented by Manchester Community Theatre Players at the MCTP Theatre at North End Montessori School, 698 Beech St., Manchester, manchestercommunitytheatre.com, Friday, Sept. 18, through Sunday, Sept. 27 (shows at 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. on Sundays), according to the website, where tickets will be for sale.
 - The Great Winnepesaukee Steamboat Race & Musical Talent Contest is presented on the M/S Mount Washington by the Winni Players Community Theatre with dinner and a show on Wednesday, Sept. 23, through Friday, Sept. 25, and Wednesday, Sept. 30, through Friday, Oct. 2, at 5 p.m., according to winnipesaukeeplayhouse.org, where you can find a link to purchase tickets.
 - Holy Mother of Bingo — "The audience will love playing five actual

Marilene Sawaf, Monique Sakallerios and Eileen Belanger, will present their work at the fair.

Several artists will also offer live demonstrations. Caleb Gibbs, whose planetary-themed paintings have made waves at art fairs across New England, will be airbrushing a canvas at his tent. Those interested in woodworking should check out Ronald Marcoux's tent for a live demonstration of his work. For those who want to learn to draw, colored pencil artist Tina Gagnon will be offering live tutorials of her work.

One thing that sets the Greeley Park Art Show apart from other local arts programs is its work with young artists in Nashua and beyond. An arts competition will be held on Sunday (complementing the adult art competition on Saturday) in which artists from local schools will compete in their own age groups. Kids who are interested in art can paint rocks or make a pinwheel, and those looking for less specific activities can play games like Jenga and cornhole.

Nashua Arts will also be offering live performances for all age groups. Teresa Moler, a multitalented actress and visual artist from Nashua, has created one of the show's new traditions with her annual puppet shows, which she will present twice each day. The covers band Elektrik Soul, who have performed at venues in the Nashua area, will perform live sets on both days.

rounds of bingo while this outrageous murder mystery unfolds around them!" — featuring 8th- through 12th-grade performers from Riverband Youth Company will be presented at Amato Center, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, amatocenter.org, on Friday, Sept. 25, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 26, at 1 & 4 p.m., according to the website, where you will be able to purchase tickets.

- Classical
- Evenings at the Avaloch at Avaloch Farm Music Institute, 16 Hardy Lane, 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, Boscawen, avalochfarmmusic.org, on Saturday, Aug. 29, at 5 p.m. See the website for tickets.
 - Ashley Bathgate on cello at Avaloch Farm Music Institute, 16 Hardy Lane, Boscawen, avalochfarmmusic.org, on Sunday, Aug. 30, at 11 a.m., with Brunch and Bubbles at 9:30 a.m. See the website for tickets.
 - 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.

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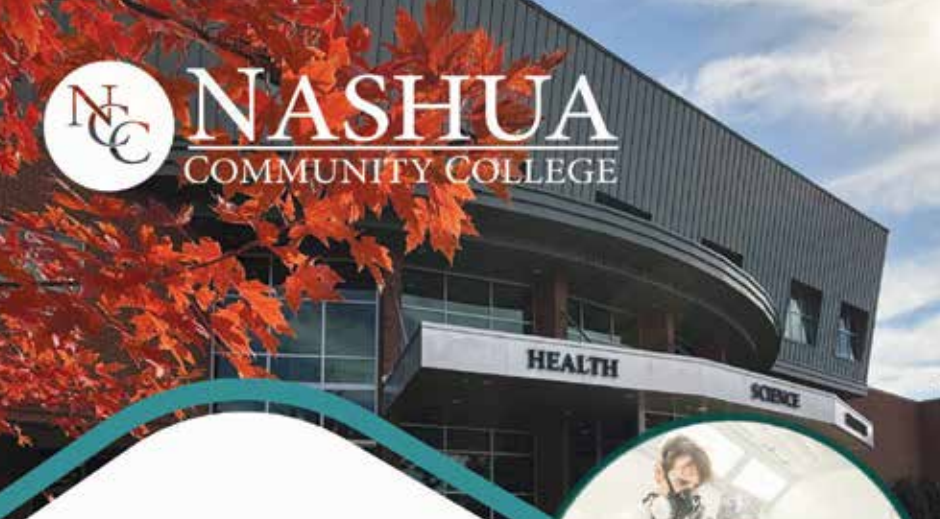
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ARTS

Monsters in Manchester

Find downtown treasures with Studio 550 Monster Hunt

By Chelsea Spear
listings@hippopress.com



Courtesy photo.

Now in its 14th year, the Monster Hunt, which will be held Saturday, Aug. 29, by the Studio 550 Art Center in Manchester, has brought art to kids of all ages and encouraged residents of the Queen City to take a closer look

at their hometown. The hunt features 100 monster medallions hidden in the downtown, to be traded in for clay monsters at Studio 550.

“Monsters will be concentrated in the heart of downtown on Elm Street between Bridge Street and Studio 550 at 550 Elm. All Monsters will be placed in public places. Typically, they like to hide in places that people see every day, but normally do not have a reason to keep looking. Monsters LOVE public art,” according to a post on the studio’s Facebook page about the event.

The Monster Hunt “is all about bringing art onto the street and then hiding it to make it a game so that people can find a little bit of joy and surprise in their every day,” Studio 550 owner and Monster Hunt founder Monica Leap said in a recent Zoom interview. “They’re always hiding in places [that] people see every day but they don’t have any reason to keep looking. It’s like a windowsill, maybe the top of a pipe, a mailbox, that kind of thing.”

Leap started the Monster Hunt in 2012 as a small celebration of street art.

“We didn’t even tell anybody we were doing it,” she recalled. “We just wanted to throw some art out there and see what would happen. So it was really out of the game and the spirit of just having some fun. And then since then people were like, ‘Oh, I didn’t know about it,’ and they started getting sad.” When she realized that “this is something bigger than we originally started with,” she and the staff of Studio 550 “turned it into something that was more like an open house for the studio so people can start to know more about what we do.”

The creative work of the Monster Hunt takes place over the summer.

“There’s a variety of different ways you can work with clay where you pinch out a form or you can smooth out a more solid form and build on top of that. But really it’s starting with a base form and then giving it character and embellishments.” Leap, the studio staff and members of the studio work in a highly collaborative process. “Sometimes if you’re at a block and you’re like, oh, I’ve made five of them. I can’t think of any

more, you just might start making bodies and then you leave it unfinished for somebody else to pick up and then they’ll finish it. So some of the monsters are actually a collaboration of a number of different makers.”

The monsters that populate the Monster Hunt, with their curved

bodies and big eyes, have strong appeal for children. To encourage all the monster hunters, Leap has set some rules for participants.

“Only take one so that we can have as much joy spread around as possible,” she begins. “The second [rule] is you have to be kind. If you see someone else that is looking sad or just is really close to finding one, we always encourage people to help each other out. The third one [is] be safe because sometimes it’s really exciting when you see [a monster medallion,] when you dash for it and go get it. But we want you to still look for cars.”

This year the Monster Hunt has added a comic contest, which was a popular aspect of the hunt in 2020 “to give more story to the creatures, because they all have a particular character.” The comic contest starts with “a workshop on the actual monster hunt day so that people can learn some ins and outs of how to make your basic story.” This activity brings a new infusion of creativity to the event. “The basic premise is that you have your monster or you can invent your own monster if you don’t find one, if you don’t see one. You can invent your own monster and then give it a story, give it a character, and then just let your imagination run with it. It’s just another way to take it from [the] three-dimensional world and bring it to the more storytelling world, which is another creative element.”

Leap and Studio 550 — which she describes as “a community art space for people who don’t even know that they’re artists yet” — have made the Monster Hunt such a fixture in Manchester that she’s been able to collaborate with local businesses and organizations.

“Queen City Cupcakes has been a big supporter,” Leap said. “They will make a monster-themed cupcake, which the first 100 folks that find a monster and check in at their place will get one.” The Bookmobile from the Manchester City Library will also be at City Hall Plaza. “Any kid, whether or not they have a monster, will be able to pick a book for free. So they’re all about encouraging lifelong readers.”

Studio 550 Monster Hunt

Where: Studio 550, 550 Elm St., Manchester, and downtown Manchester

When: Saturday, Aug. 29

Kids’ Mini Hunt: Kids 5 years old and younger can meet at 10:30 a.m. at the green space in front of the Center of NH at 650 Elm St. to search for one of 25 monsters in the Kids’ Mini Hunt. All participating kids get a sticker, according to 550arts.com.

Monster Hunt: Meet at 10:50 a.m. at City Hall Plaza to start hunt at 11 a.m. Search for monster medallions and trade them in at Studio 550 Art Center, 550 Elm St., for a clay monster between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., the website said.

More: The studio will also feature a pottery sale, tie dye, crafts, sidewalk chalk and more, the website said. Visit 550arts.com.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Celebrating the bees

The Canterbury Shaker Village opens its Bee House

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

One of our newest looks at the daily life of the Canterbury Shakers will open officially Saturday, Aug. 29, in the form of a fully restored Bee House. The Canterbury Shaker Village will open a new exhibition and give an afternoon of “talks, tours and demonstrations centered around bees and agriculture,” according to an Aug. 17 press release. “There will also be food trucks, a beer garden and a farmers market,” the release said.

The actual Shakers would probably be puzzled at all the attention to the Bee House, said the Shaker Village’s Garrett Bethmann. To them it was essentially a storeroom.

“This structure was originally built in 1836, here at the Shaker Village,” he said, “and it’s actually lived in a handful of different places throughout the decades and generations of Shakers living here. According to our historical records and the journals that we’re able to view through of the elders and the eldresses and the people that lived here, this shack was originally used for storage of apples, and then, sometime after that, they also did lumber. And in about 1865-ish is when the Bee House became kind of the headquarters for the beekeepers and the bee enthusiasts that lived here at the village. That’s where its namesake came from.” It was where,

among other tools and equipment, the Shakers stored their bee-keeping supplies, Bethmann said. It was not a building that bees lived in.

Restoring the Bee House, Bethmann said, gives the museum a framework to discuss New England agriculture in the 1800s and to explore the relationship the Shakers had with the land — not just with bees.

“We also recognize the importance of bees and pollinators, and that’s why we’re so excited about the University of New Hampshire Extension being out here for the event, because we’re going to have some tours and talks of our gardens, and part of that is going to be some talking and some explanation of the specific pollinator plants that are out here right now,” Bethmann said. “[W]e’re also having McCormack’s Bee Farm come out and they will have a demonstration hive. So there will be an ability to kind of interact or at least view up close bees in their semi-natural habitat.”

“We’re excited about the fact that there’s going to be an exhibition on agriculture and how agriculture played a part here at the village,” Bethmann said. “Throughout the [opening day on Saturday], we’ll have talks and demonstrate some traditions that especially link to agriculture. In our vegetable garden, Sanborn Mills Farm will be out there with ox teams, preparing the garden space, getting it ready for fall and winter-time. There’s going to be a dedication of the Bee House and an agricultural talk by our director of education and interpretation, Kyle Sandler. ... We’re just trying to provide some programming for everyone to enjoy the space, enjoy the vegetable garden, or enjoy the bee house, and just appreciate all the agriculture and what it took to keep this place running with food here a couple hundred years ago.” 🐝

Bee House Grand Reopening

When: Saturday, Aug. 29, from noon to 4 p.m.
Where: Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker Road in Canterbury
More info: shakers.org, where you can find the lineup of timed programs and participating vendors, including food trucks. The reopening is free to attend.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE TREASURE HUNT

Hello, Donna!
In September of 1988, I attended a convention that was hosted by The Titanic Historical Society at the Copley Plaza Hotel. The conference included a reunion of a dozen or so of the remaining survivors at the time, all of whom gave fascinating personal accounts of their time aboard — and subsequent escape from — the sinking ship. I bought a program booklet for the conference, which I then had signed by most, but unfortunately not all, of the survivors in attendance. Can you tell me how I can find out what this might be worth? I also have program booklets from the original Broadway productions of Hair and Godspell, as well as a program booklet from the original Woodstock Festival in 1969. Any information would be appreciated.
Best wishes,
Mike



Dear Mike,
I’m going to refer to the Titanic one. But I’m sure the other ones would follow in the same situation.
There are very good reputable auction places that deal with ephemera (paper). I think this is where I would start for an appraisal of what the market would get for these! Keep in mind, Mike, what you have could be very collectible but only to the right market. I also think in an auction they could get fought over. There is a really well known ephemera auction house right here in New Hampshire, RR Auction in Amherst.
I wish you luck. 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. 🐝



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INSIDE/OUTSIDE CAR TALK

Kia owner vs. cruise control



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:
The cruise control on my 2010 Kia Soul Sport no longer activates when I press the on and off button. The car has 193,000 miles on.

I'd appreciate a diagnosis and a suggestion for how to fix it. — Gene

After only 193,000 miles? I assume you've already tried pounding the bejeebers out of the dashboard with your fists and yelling at it, Gene. That's how I always start my repair jobs.

The cruise control relies on a chain of inputs to operate safely these days. And if any one of them fails, the cruise control won't engage. So, I can't give you a precise diagnosis, but I can tell you some things I'd check.

I'd check the switch itself. After 16 years, the contacts inside that switch may be worn out and not making contact anymore.

I'd appreciate a diagnosis and a suggestion for

I'd check the brake, ECU, and instrument cluster fuses. The cruise control requires input from each of those items to operate safely.

And I'd check to see if your car had its brake light switch replaced under a recall Kia initiated years ago. If you tap the brakes, the cruise control disengages. And if the car thinks the brakes are being tapped because the brake light switch is faulty, that'll produce the same result.

Finally, I'd check for other warning lights on the dashboard. If your airbag light is on, you could have a broken clock spring. That's the device through which the steering wheel wiring runs, while allowing the steering wheel to turn.

Definitely check that brake light switch recall, Gene. If yours was never replaced under the recall, Kia should do that for free. And that might solve your cruise control problem, Gene. And also explain why so many drivers have been making rude gestures at you while passing you.

Visit Cartalk.com. 🍌

KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for whenever

Music and fun

• Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St. in Concord, will hold a **Family Music Festival** on Saturday, Aug. 29, from noon to 4 p.m. with an instrument petting zoo, demo classes, jams, activities, live entertainment, food trucks, face painting and more, according to a press release. The day is geared to people of all ages and musical experience, the release said. The instrument petting zoo will run from noon to 3 p.m. to allow guests to try out instruments with the help of school faculty, the release said. The Krimson Krewe will perform on the Fletcher Murphy Park Stage at the back of the school at 3 p.m., and food trucks slated to attend include Sunfox Farm and Savvy Sweets and Treats, the press release said. See ccmusicschool.org.

And save the date for other music school open houses: The **Nashua Community Music School**, 2 Lock St. in Nashua, will hold an open house with instrument petting zoo on Friday, Sept. 18, from 3 to 6 p.m. See nashuacms.org. The **Manchester Community Music School**, 2291 Elm St. in Manchester, will hold an instrument petting zoo on Monday, Sept. 21, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., according to mcmusicschool.org.

Summer magic

• The Palace Theatre's 2026 Bank of New Hampshire Children's Summer Series at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, wraps up its season with **magician BJ Hick-**

man, whose final shows are Thursday, Aug. 27, at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., according to palacetheatre.org, where you can purchase tickets.

• The Girl Scouts will host a **Fairy Garden Party** for girls in pre-kindergarten and up on Saturday, Aug. 29, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Epsom Public Library, 1606 Dover Road in Epsom, according to a press release. The event will feature activities (making fairy wands, flower crowns and a fairy friend) as well as information about Girl Scouts, the release said. "RSVP to 888-474-9686 or customer-care@girlscoutsgwm.org — or just drop in. See more at bit.ly/44JFefl," the release said. See girlscoutsgwm.org for more on other Girl Scouts happenings.

For the littles

• The Upper Room in Derry is offering a new initiative, **Little Explorers**, with the SEE Science Center, 200 Bedford St. in Manchester, starting Friday, Sept. 4, and running the first Friday of each month from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for ages 0 to 6 years, according to a press release. This free program will offer hands-on science exhibits and interactive demonstrations, according to the release. Space is limited and registration is required; see forms.office.com/r/UbjuWJF8K3. For more on The Upper Room, see urteachers.org.

Save the date

• The annual **AerospaceFest** at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center in Concord will take place Saturday, Sept. 19, from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and feature STEM and aerospace organizations from across New England, the debut of the new planetarium show "Encounters in the Milky Way" and more, according to starhop.com. 🍌



News from the local food scene

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

• **Pours for Paws:** According to an Aug. 13 press release, LaBelle Winery has announced that in partnership with Tito's Vodka: Through Nov. 1, for every "Pours for Paws" cocktail purchased at LaBelle's Derry or Amherst locations, \$1 will be donated to the Animal Rescue League of New Hampshire. Visit labellewinery.com/category/news.

• **Early tickets:** Tickets have just become available for New Hampshire Liquor Commission's 13th Annual Distillers' Showcase on Nov. 5. With more than 100 vendors participating in the expo, this is New Hampshire's largest distilled beverage event of the year. Early Bird tickets will be available online for \$65 each through Sept. 30, after which the price will be \$75. Visit distillersshowcase.com.

• **New coffee shop:** According to an announcement on its Instagram page, New Hampshire coffee maker The Grind will open a new shop at 968 Elm St. in Manchester on Sept. 7, in the former The Birch on Elm space.

• **Teacher Thursday:** Thursday, Aug. 27, is Teacher Thursday at To Share Brewing (720 Union St., Manchester, 836-6947, tosharebrewing.com). To Share will open a half hour earlier than usual, at 3:30 p.m., so that teachers can stop in on their way home from school and drink at a discount. Also, bring your favorite vinyl record to share with To Share.

• **Summer Sendoff:** Tuscan Market (Tuscan Village, 9 Via Toscana, Salem, 912-5467, tuscanbrands.com) will teach a Summer Send-off drink-making class Saturday, Aug. 29, from 6 to 8 p.m. Celebrate the end of summer by learning to make three refreshing cocktails, guided by a master bartender. Tickets are \$55 each, through the TuscanBrands website.

• **A very fabulous brunch:** There will be a Corks and Queens drag brunch at Unwined Wine Bar and Cafe (1 Nashua St., Milford, 213-6703, unwinednh.com) Sunday, Aug. 30 at 11 a.m. Tickets are \$28.52 through the Unwined website.

• **A very relaxed brunch:** Soel Sistas Soul Food (30 Temple St., Suite 202, Nashua, 943-1469, soelsistas.com) will hold its monthly MooMoos and Mimosas brunch Sunday, Aug. 30, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$33.85 through eventbrite.com. 🍷

FOOD

Chocolate baklava

Assumption Greekfest offers the favorites plus some variations

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

The Assumption Greek Orthodox Church in Manchester will hold its annual Greekfest this weekend.

"It is our annual Greek festival," said event coordinator Costas Georgopoulos. "It's a two-day event that we hold over the weekend to promote our parish community, our culture, our Greek hospitality and some Greek music."

"But," he added, "our food is our main driver."

Not surprisingly, Georgopoulos said, there will be a lot of lamb on hand.

"We have our traditional barbecue lamb," he said, "and what we do is they're small chunks of lamb and we put them on a skewer and then we cook them on a rotisserie over charcoal. It's marinated lamb with Greek spices." The pit crew uses charcoal briquettes, he said.

"We don't venture out to types of charcoal. We don't want to mess with our recipe; we want to make sure it comes out consistently, every time."

"We have our traditional chicken with marinated Greek spices as well," Georgopoulos said, "The chicken is marinated because it's a half a chicken, it's not a chicken breast, it's a half of a chicken. Our Greek meatballs are homemade with our Greek spices as well. Another really popular item is called pastitsio, which is a Greek lasagna, made with bechamel sauce with ground beef."

For a lot of Greek food fans, the highlights of any festival are the pastries. Georgopoulos said his particular favorite is galaktoboureko.



Greekfest at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. Courtesy photo.

"It's like a custard pastry," he said. It's crispy phyllo dough with a little bit of custard inside. But this year we're actually having *chocolate* baklava! I don't know if you've ever had chocolate baklava, but it is to die for. It's really good! It doesn't look like your traditional baklava, it's actually made with chocolate phyllo dough. It's new for us this year, so we want to see how everyone likes it. We want to keep our traditions and our customs and our traditional food, but we try to venture out a little bit as well with new items."

For many Greek people, festivals are one of the only times they can have loukoumades, which are fried dough balls with syrup.

"Some families do make them at home," Georgopoulos said. "But — I don't know if you've ever cooked with deep frying oil inside the house — it's time-consuming, it's a lot of manual work. It's a little messy while you're doing it inside the house, and the smell lingers for a while. So this is pretty much a festival

tradition."

Everyone looks forward to it, he said. "We make the dough right on site and we have a deep fryer that is under our big tent so everyone can see how they are made. And then we put the honey syrup up top. They have a choice, you know, just plain honey syrup or a little bit of walnuts as well, some powdered sugar and some cinnamon."

For Georgopoulos, another highlight this year will be live music.

"We have a live band on Sunday," he said. "We're celebrating our 90th year anniversary for our parish. So we want to celebrate that milestone as well. They will play traditional Greek music and they'll be there Sunday afternoon, so anyone who wants to experience some live Greek music, it'll be Sunday. There won't be any professional dancing, but we have folks who definitely can dance." 🍷

Greekfest

Where: Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 111 Island Pond Road, Manchester, 623-2045, assumptionnh.org

When: Saturday, Aug. 29, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 30, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. **More:** Admission is free. Visit assumptionnh.org/calendar-and-events-full/greekfest.

Pizza plus Asian fusion in dinosaur park

Mesozoic Tiki Bar brings tropical-ish vibe

By John Fladd
jfladd@hippopress.com

"So this is my inner monologue about this bar," Josh Migliore said. "Imagine what the hotel lobby bar might be like in Jurassic Park. But then there's dinosaur trouble and the park is shut down; the island is shut down. The only thing left intact is this bar, and all the nature is creeping in. It's kind of like that."

That's where the name "Mesozoic" comes from.

"The Mesozoic was like the entire era of the dinosaurs," Migliore said, "so Jurassic, Triassic, Cretaceous — all of that is the Mesozoic."

Mesozoic Tiki Bar & Lounge

97 Main St., Nashua, 204-5236, meso-zoictiki.com, will be open Tuesday through Saturday, with expanded hours later in the fall.

So it just basically spans the era of the dinosaurs. And we like that word because if you know the word, you know what, you get a hint of what to expect. And if you don't know the word, it's just a cool-sounding word, Mesozoic, it's just a fun word.

Migliore and his partner Aaron Shelton were working to get their new bar, Mesozoic Tiki Bar and Lounge on Main Street in Nashua, ready for its opening.

"We call it a tiki bar," Shelton said, gesturing at the decor of tropical plants and fossils, "but we're not deep-diving into the typical like kitsch of Polynesian stuff. Dinosaurs allow us to play on a jungle theme and a tropical aesthetic. And so it allows us to be a tiki bar, in the sense of like the drinks and the fusion of the food. But it's not what I would call your stereotypical tiki bar."

Which isn't to say that there won't be tall



Mesozoic Tiki Bar. Courtesy photo.

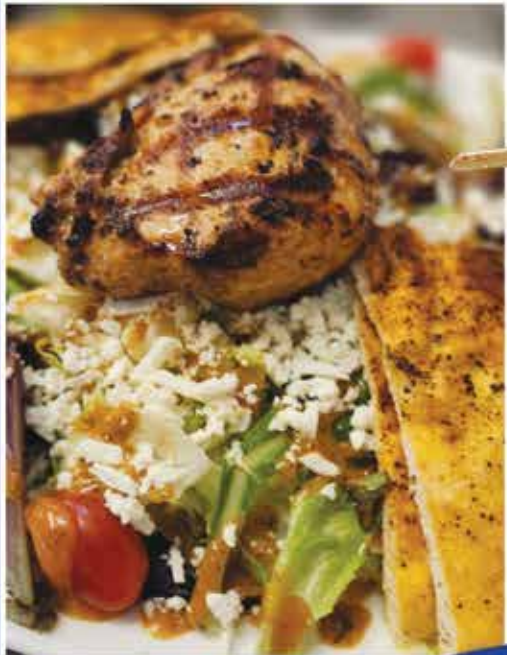
tropical drinks in over-the-top glassware, Shelton said.

"One of our signature drinks is called The Five Deaths, which is inspired by a clas-

CONTINUED ON PG 18 ▶



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◀ FROM PG 17

sic Zombie. There’s a lot of rum in it, and in my opinion we balanced it really nicely. It’s strong, but it’s flavorful. We went through a little trial and error of balancing, but that was the one when we were testing drinks, that was the one that was like, ‘Oh, this is the one!’”

The menu at Mesozoic has been centered around the idea of shared small plates, Migliore said. “Obviously, we’ll have pizza,” he said. “There was a great pizza oven in here when we took over, and my background is in pizza, so we kind of wanted to bring that concept in here a little bit. But also the rest of the menu is very Asian fusion, with a lot of shareables. Obviously, this type of bar brings in a lot of groups of people. We wanted to create a menu that gave people the opportunity to try everything rather than being kind of like beholden to one item. So we’ve got baos [Asian steamed buns], we’ve got skewers, we’ve got egg rolls and spring rolls. We’ve got loaded fries and wings. We’ve got a bunch of stuff that people can choose from, almost like an a la carte type setup where if they want to order one thing and just order, you know, five of one thing, they can do that, but this gives them the opportunity to kind of try everything and switch it up every time they come back.”

“I think, dish-wise,” Shelton elaborated, “I think our bao buns are really going to be a staple here. We have two different ones to start with right now. After we’ve been open for a while we’ll be able to expand the menu, there’ll



Mesozoic Tiki Bar. Courtesy photo.

be more options. Right now both versions are steamed. One option is filled with char siu [Chinese barbecued pork]; it’s absolutely incredible. It’s dusted with our house-made cool ranch seasoning, and we’ve got a nice barbecue sauce. And then we have an orange chicken one. We wanted to make the menu accessible for everyone; everyone will be able to recognize some of the [items on the menu].”

“Our long-term goal,” Migliore said, “is to be part of making Main Street a food and entertainment destination.” 🍷

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Peach Ranch Water



Peach Ranch Water. Photo by John Fladd.

Ingredients

- 1 small peach
- 3 ounces jalapeño-infused tequila – I like Tanteo
- 1 lime
- Ice
- Plain seltzer or club soda

Equipment

- Long-handled bar spoon
- Needle-nosed pliers
- A tall glass – You might not actually own a Foghorn Leghorn commemorative glass, but if you do, this is the time to break it out.
- A strainer
- Straw – the kind you drink through, not the type you line a manger with.
- A sense of righteous anger

Examine your peach. Along the top you will find a crease. Open your needle-nosed pliers and position the prongs on either side of it. Thank the peach for its sacrifice, then stab your pliers into the flesh and seize the pit. Grasp it firmly, and pull it through the top of the peach.

This will make you feel very clever. Well done, you.

This is where your sense of righteous anger comes in: Crush the peach in your fist, until

the peach glop runs through your fingers and into your cocktail shaker or mixing glass. Feel free to make a fierce face while you do this. Add the tequila, and stir with your long-handled bar spoon. Warning: You will get peach guts all over everything. That’s the price you pay when emotions run high.

Go wash the evidence of your peachy crime of passion from your hands, leaving time for the alcohol to strip away the not-water-soluble compounds from the fruit.

Slice the lime in half, and squeeze it into the peach-tequila mixture. You can use your fist for this again, or a more conventional juice-squeezer; it’s a judgment call. Stir everything again.

Fill your tall glass with ice, and strain the peach mixture into it. Top with club soda and stir with your straw.

This is a perfect thirst-quencher. It is barely sweet; it depends on the peach you just violated. It is bubbly and perfect for a post-yardwork hammock nap. Remember that the end of the napping season is almost here, and if you want to make the nationals this year, you’re going to have to put in some training. 🍑



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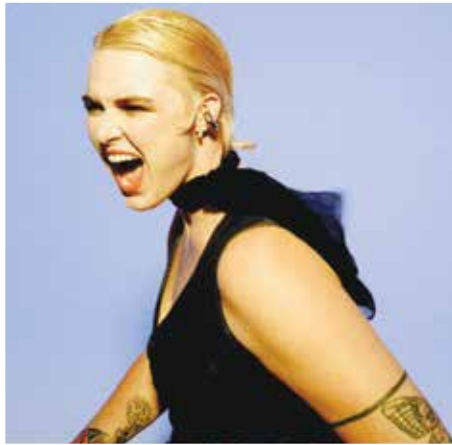
MUSIC, BOOKS, MOVIES AND MORE

Stryper, *Throne Of Thorns* (Frontiers Music s.r.l.)



Oh, sure, I remember these guys from their hair-metal heyday in the '80s. I never believed a word of their claiming to be a "Christian metal" band, given that when I was in the business myself I almost got trolled into co-creating such an act myself: A demented, incorrigible heathen in the Manchvegas hard rock scene wanted to get some backing for us to do a record, and we both agreed that the fastest way to get things going would be to get a rich Christian fundamentalist to throw us a bucket of money to "rock out for the Lord" and we could be as derivative as we wanted, which Stryper was at their peak. I remember listening to them once and noting that they sounded like low-rent Iron Maiden wannabes, which brings us to now, and voila, the title track opens the record up with a thinly disguised ripoff of Mayyy-den's "Where Eagles Dare," Michael Sweet's amateurish vocals leading the charge. "Here In Your Heart" follows, re-establishing their masterful way with uninspiring mid-tempo Accept-ish schlock rock. Absolutely nothing new here; these guys still couldn't write an interesting riff if Satan himself were threatening to boil them alive. C —Eric W. Saeger

Brennan Wedl, *Brennan Wedl* (ANTI- Records)



Sure, this self-described "Nashville wench rocker" is fine for what she is, in case you can't bear another minute without a new Sheryl Crow album. Because that's who this Minnesota native sounds like, although she does try to emphasize the sassy side of country-tinged jangle-rock (lots of nasty mugging with her tongue out and such), a habit she developed while co-piloting the queercore outfit Dazey & The Scouts in the mid-2010s. Her eventual failure will be that she sounds way too much like Crow, which is too bad, given that her songwriting is actually quite good, as demonstrated in "Let's Be Models," and she does have a rockout side, which we hear in "Pretty Little Fantasy," its blocky guitar line recalling scratchy old Mountain records from the 1960s. Actually, "Two Dollar Pistol" is decent, too, for a strummy rocker that sounds like, you know, Sheryl Crow; in the end what's missing is more dobro and pedal steel, which is tendered in a few Bonnaroo-worthy spots from journeyman Colin Croom, but not enough to distract from the 30,000-pound elephant in the room. B —Eric W. Saeger

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

- The new CD releases of Friday, Aug. 28, are here, the summer is over, can I get a do-over on the whole thing before we're back to freezing water pipes and polar bears going through the trash again? OK, now think back, remember when **Alabama Shakes** first appeared on the scene and the mainstream press wouldn't shut up about them for five seconds? I mean, there was good reason for it, given that singer-guitarist Brittany Howard is a world-class frontperson and the band's music is like an alternative-universe Dave Matthews in which songs are mildly interesting, but I still don't get what the fuss was/is; the press made it sound like the band was a slovenly, deeply rootsy DIY act a la Cigar Box Serenaders, which they are not. At any rate, their new LP *I Must Be Dreaming* includes the '70s-soul-tinted single "I Feel Hope Coming," a cross between Roberta Flack and Sadé. On Sept. 5 they'll be playing at Koussevitzky Music Shed in Lenox, Mass.
- Interesting character, this **Ty Segall** guy, no relation to Steven Segal, given that his last name is spelled differently. He's a garage/stoner-rocker from Laguna Beach, California, and is on record complaining that MTV's stupid-brained mid-Aughts reality TV series *Laguna Beach: The Real Orange County* drove out all the interesting hippies and surfers and whatnot who made the place awesome, because suddenly it was too expensive to live there. Learning that reminded me of a newspaper article I wrote in my Portsmouth Herald weekly column in 2003 about the sudden inexplicable appearance of horrible greed-monsters in the Port City buying up apartment buildings where one used to be able to rent a 400-square-foot place for \$450 a month and then partitioning them into hilariously cramped little "condos" and selling them to tedious yuppie families from Boston, which drove every last cool person in the city north to Ogunquit, Maine, such a terrible timeline. So recently Segall had a burst of creativity, which is usually a bad thing, but in this case it isn't, as his trip is no-wave-adjacent and quite loud; he's releasing two things this Friday, an EP titled *Love Fuzzzz* and an album called *Chrome*. The reason for this mini-flood of music product is that he's very happy with his new band, as he should be; the guitar sound on the latter release's doomy "Running To Nowhere" is so filthy and groovy it would make Queens Of The Stone Age run for the hills. I approve of its message.
- If you're cool, or you unironically read music magazines like Nylon, a vice that lowers your coolness level significantly, I'm sure you've heard of **LA Priest**, real name Sam Eastgate, of the British dance-glam-prog band Late Of The Pier, which broke up in 2010. Oh what am I even doing, none of this will be on the test, most Americans haven't taken a British band seriously since Oasis, let me just go listen to the title track from Eastgate's new album, *Into The Sky*. Well isn't this special, zoomy 16-bit-video-game music fit for *Gran Turismo* or whatnot, something Daft Punk might have thrown together in three minutes to soundtrack the unveiling of the iPhone Pro Max 18 at whatever insufferable Apple conference, where they'll also mention that the upgrade price will be going up again even though Apple got two billion dollars as a "tariff rebate" that should have gone to their customers. Big whoop.
- And finally we have Aughts-indie darlings **Interpol** with their newest LP, *This Mirror Weighs A Ton*. If you're a fan of theirs, you've probably already heard the first single, "See Out Loud," a dark, tuneless, '80s-jangling trifle; the album opens with "Iron City," a tune that sounds like Coldplay after listening to too much Depeche Mode. —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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Under the Falls, by Richard Russo (Alfred A. Knopf, 234 pages)

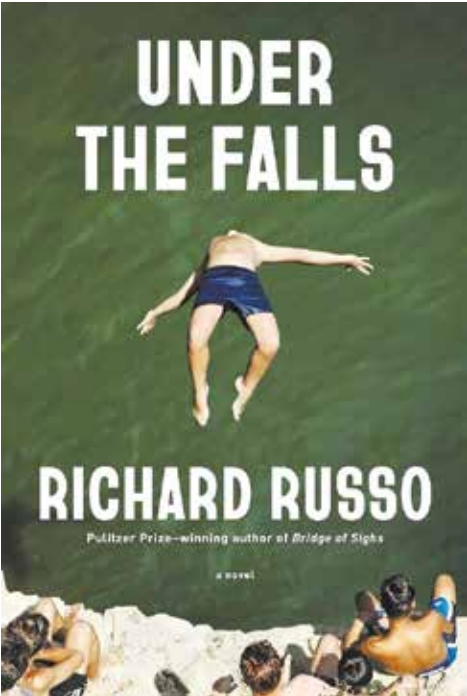
Richard Russo labors in the shadow of another Maine novelist who shall go unnamed. He’s the only one of the two who has won a Pulitzer Prize, which Russo was awarded in 2002 for *Empire Falls*, a story about people caught in the grip of an economically struggling town in Maine.

Russo’s latest, *Under the Falls*, has a similar theme, but with a different origin story. He began writing with the intention of its being a TV series, but the project fell apart during the 2023 Writers Guild of America strike, and so he recast it as a novel — lucky for us. The book, as they say, is a page turner, a sophisticated one that explores the limits and obligations of childhood friendships, and the hold that a home town can have on a person even after they leave it.

The main character, Tyler Sinclair, left his home town, Stone Mountain, when he turned 18, taking nothing with him but clothes, a guitar and a little money he’d swiped from his dad. He left behind a dysfunctional home — his father had been physically abusive to Tyler’s mother and verbally abusive to the both of them — and also a circle of close friends. When Tyler left, he didn’t say goodbye to anyone, and he didn’t respond when those friends tried to reach him later.

Eighteen years later Tyler is a celebrity, the lead singer of a band named after his home town. Some of his most famous songs are about things that had happened at Stone Mountain, including one called “The Long Fall” that is evocative of a tragedy that befell one of Tyler’s childhood friends. That friend, nicknamed Doc, became paraplegic after an accident that Tyler was involved with. Doc still lives in Stone Mountain, as does Tyler’s long-ago best friend, Curt, and as *Under the Falls* opens, Tyler is reluctantly headed to Stone Mountain with his band, having been booked to play a fundraising concert for Doc, without his consent or knowledge.

As unhappy as he is about going back to Stone Mountain, Tyler sees it as a one-and-done. He’ll have an uncomfortable, on-camera reunion with Doc — the band’s manager had contacted a local TV station seeking publicity for the band’s first show after the pandemic — and then play a



concert at his old high school and return to his comfortable post-Stone Mountain life. Tyler’s parents have passed, so there’s no family drama to navigate, just the awkwardness of seeing former friends who had not escaped the town and did not enjoy his success.

The conversation with Doc goes better than Tyler expected — his old friend has made the most of his post-accident circumstances and is able to drive, using a tricked-out hearse modified for his use. But after the camera and lights are turned off, the conversation takes a serious turn, with the topic of blame for Doc’s accident coming up. Doc assures Tyler that he doesn’t blame him, but says not everyone in the town feels that way. And the bad feelings aren’t just about the accident, but about Tyler’s success. “It’s not just that you made all that money. It’s that you made it writing songs about us. About our lives,” Doc tells Tyler.

The sense of dread that Tyler had about returning to Stone Mountain turns out to be prescient. There’s a huge turnout for the event, and at first it’s like every other concert — an exuberant, appreciative crowd. But then there is a shocking

announcement and the tone drastically changes, setting into motion a series of events that will upend Tyler’s life and those of his friends.

The trajectory is dark, and as it unfolds we vault from one perspective to another, including those of Curt, Tyler’s closest childhood friend who is now Stone Mountain’s chief of police, and Deb, a young officer whose good heart and honest questions about what happened that day threatens to unravel lives. The story moves fast and packs an emotional punch.

Tyler and the people of Stone Mountain aren’t necessarily likeable; Russo didn’t develop his characters deeply enough for us to feel comfortable picking sides. We get information about the characters’ back stories on a “need to know” basis. His decision to give one lesser character a MAGA hat and a presence at the Jan. 6 Capitol riot is curious, as these details aren’t relevant to what transpires at Stone Mountain and could alienate some readers. In fact, I’m not sure that dating the story in any way was a good choice — the Covid-19 pandemic keeps coming up in this and other recent novels, in a soon-to-be wearisome way.

Russo’s latest resonates not because of its modern touchpoints and questions but because of old ones: How do dynamics change between childhood friends over time? What do we owe our friends and family members if we achieve financial success and they don’t? Is it ethical to walk away from a bad situation, leaving others in it, without explanation? And *Under the Falls* is an exploration of how small missteps over the course of a lifetime can lead to enormous regret. As one of Tyler’s friends muses, the circle of friends were all “good people” decades earlier, and yet what happens the day of the benefit concert, and its aftermath, suggests that at least some of them aren’t now.

“No way to uneat the apple,” Russo writes, positing a double meaning for the titular falls. Stone Mountain was never Eden, not for Tyler or for his friends, but like every small town and large city, it was a breeding ground for the best and worst of human impulses. Their struggles are our own, writ large. And the 2023 writers’ strike notwithstanding, they’d still make for a great TV series. **B+** —Jennifer Graham

Book

Author events

- **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).
- **Adi Rule** and **Rebecca Rule** celebrate their new books on Saturday, Aug. 29, at 1 p.m. at MainStreet BookEnds (16 E. Main St., Warner, mainstreetbookends.com). Adi Rule is launching her new middle-grade novel *Ghost Chickens*; Rebecca Rule’s latest book is the children’s picture book *Who Loves Blueberries?* There will be snacks and an activity for kids.
- **Trisha Blanchet**, founder of Operation Delta Dog, will talk about her new book *Murder Like Magic* on Saturday, Aug. 29, at 2 p.m. at Balin Books (375 Amherst St., Nashua, balinbooks.com). An Opera-

- tion Delta Dog fundraiser will be held the same day at Balin Books from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Catherine Newman** will talk about her newest novel, *Wreck*, on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400). Ticket package is \$30 and includes a signed paperback; purchase tickets at themusichall.org.
- **Adi Rule** presents her new middle-grade novel *Ghost Chickens* on Sunday, Sept. 6, at 12:30 p.m. at Gibson’s Bookstore (45 S. Main St., Concord, gibsonsbookstore.com).
- **Ariel Lawhon** will talk about her new novel, *The Pirate Queen*, on Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall Historic Theater (28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400), in conversation with NHPR

- Morning Edition* producer Jackie Harris. Ticket package is \$57.75 and includes a hardcover copy of the book; purchase tickets at themusichall.org.
- **Jarvis Coffin** will talk about his new book, *Calmly on the Waters, Seasonal Essays from Monadnock*, on Saturday, Sept. 12, at 11 a.m. at the Toadstool Bookshop (12 Depot Square, Peterborough, toadbooks.com).
- **Mona Awad** will talk about her new novel, *We Love You, Bunny*, on Saturday, Sept. 12, at 7 p.m. at the Music Hall Lounge (131 Congress St., Portsmouth, 436-2400). Ticket package is \$35 and includes a signed paperback; purchase tickets at themusichall.org.
- **David Keohan** will talk about his new book, *The Wind Beneath the Stone: My Quest to Unearth a Piece of Ireland’s*

- Folklore*, on Sunday, Sept. 13, at 1 p.m. at the Toadstool Bookshop (12 Depot Square, Peterborough, toadbooks.com).
- **Will Hackman** will talk about his book *Radically Reframing Climate Change* on Thursday, Sept. 17, at 6 p.m. at the Toadstool Bookshop (12 Depot Square, Peterborough, toadbooks.com).

Poetry

- **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).
- **NAV Arts** open mic for poetry, writing, music and performance on the second Wednesday of each month from 5 to 7 p.m. at Bookery, 844 Elm St., bookerymht.com.



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Reacher vibes

Capturing the fun of a big man and his fists

By Amy Diaz
adiaz@hippopress.com

By the time you read this the TV show *Reacher*, streaming on Amazon Prime Video and starring Alan Ritchson, will have released the fifth episode (out of eight total) of its fourth season.

If you haven't been watching, you are so lucky because you have three and a half seasons of this excellent-fun show, based on the Lee Child books, to fill your TV watching time. Reacher (Ritchson) is a former military investigative whatever who travels the country being a massive slab of a man. Reacher doesn't suffer fools and isn't looking for trouble, but when he comes across injustice he is compelled to Get Involved and Make Wrongdoers Suffer. And sometimes he romances a lady. It's a perfect show. In an early episode this season, he holds a fluffy white baby kitten. Also in an early episode, it takes a group of like five dudes plus two animal tranquilizers to bring Reacher down. Perfect!

The show dropped three episodes in early August and has been releasing the rest weekly, which means that you get a delicious punch-kick treat and then have to wait a whole week until the next one. Which sent me in search of some movies that can offer some of the same sense of ridiculous fun.

So far, *Deep Water* (a May theatrical release now streaming on MGM+ and available for rent or purchase) comes the closest to both the tone and the action I'm seeking. Ben (Aaron Eckhart) is the pilot on a passenger flight from Los Angeles



Reacher, from season one of *Reacher*. He is possibly even larger now.

to Shanghai. After we watch the world's biggest jerk (Angus Sampson) carelessly stuff a sparking power charger into his luggage, we meet a variety of passengers and learn just enough about them to help us make guesses about who will die, in what order and how horribly. Eventually jerk's suitcase explodes and the plane is forced down on open water. The landing executed by Ben and Captain Ben Kingsley (Wikipedia says his character's name is Rich; I love this Oscar winner's continued willingness to show up for whatever) would have been great but for the coral reef that shreds the plane into chunks, leaving the passengers with a variety of "how do I not die" problems to solve. And then the sharks show up.

I feel like the best review I can give of this movie is "somebody shoots a shark in the mouth with a flare gun!" If that sounds like the right kind of dumb for you, then this is your movie. It is definitely the right kind of dumb for me and it is a nice end-of-summer light-lift action watch.

Cold Storage (a February theatrical release also streaming on MGM+ and available for rent or purchase) is also goofy fun action, though

even gorier than *Deep Water* and its many scenes of sharks eating people. Here, Naomi (Georgina Campbell) and Teacake (Joe Keery) are the overnight guards at a U-storage that has been built in and over a supersecret decommissioned military lab. Unbeknownst to them, decades earlier, government scientist types Robert (Liam Neeson) and Trini (Lesley Manville, which is rad) stored a hybrid, fast-spreading, mind-controlling fungus brought from space in one of the rooms deep underground. Robert warned — though no one listened — that changing weather patterns could allow the containment of that room to eventually fail. When it does, Naomi and Teacake find themselves fighting assorted fungus-zombie creatures while they wait for the Army, which turns out just to be Robert, to come and save them. Campbell and Keery have great bored-coworkers chemistry, which turns into great normies-fighting-alien-whatevers chemistry, and Neeson, Manville and Vanessa freakin' Redgrave add just the right amount of, like, I wouldn't go as far as "gravitas" exactly but straightfaced adult goofiness?

I also reached back to 2024 to watch the Netflix release *Atlas*, hoping for some goofball action. Alas, this movie starring Jennifer Lopez as an AI-hating scientist who must make peace with a robot-mech-suit buddy (voice of Gregory James Cohan) to fight the robot terrorist Simu Liu is not as goofy as that description suggests, despite having a "game for it" Sterling K. Brown in a supporting role as a military dude. Lopez, whose character's name is Atlas, can be goofy

fun, as this year's Netflix release *Office Romance* reminded us all. She gets some moments to shine here, to be sassy to or with her robot buddy, named Smith, but not enough. This movie needed to take itself less seriously and unleash Lopez to be both sillier and badassier. *Atlas* is an OK thing to have on while scrolling back-to-school sales or napping.

Back at MGM+, I've found that a nice come-down after an episode of *Reacher* is an episode of *The Westies*, an eight-episode show in its first season about warring criminal interests in 1970s New York City. J.K. Simmons seems to be having fun as the beleaguered boss of the Westies criminal gang, trying to keep in line his own guys and deal with assorted law enforcement and the Gambino family, including up-and-comer John Gotti (Hamish Allan-Headley). Also, the Troubles of Northern Ireland are spilling over into New York City in the form of characters played by Sarah Bolger (who I probably know best from her Mary Tudor days in *The Tudors*) and Allen Leech (one-time chauffeur Tom Branson from *Downton Abbey*). Titus Welliver also appears as a dirty cop tasked by the FBI with keeping an eye on Simmons' character and his gang.

This is a grittier show, with violence that is grimmer and more downbeat the giddy "yippee!" of *Reacher*. But I enjoy the little window on an era and I miss watching Welliver in *Bosch* (all seven seasons of that, plus the three seasons of *Bosch Legacy*, are on Prime Video). *The Westies* is a compelling enough show to stick with — no *Reacher*, but then what is. 🍷

Film

• *Tony* (R, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thursday, Aug. 27, at 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 28, through Sunday, Aug. 30, at 12:30, 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Monday, Aug. 31, at 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Tuesday, Sept. 1, at 10 a.m., 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 12:30, 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Thursday, Sept. 3, at 3, 5:30 & 8 p.m.

• *Teenage Sex and Death at Camp Miasma* (R, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Thurs-

day, Aug. 27, at 2:45, 5:15 & 7:45 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 28, and Saturday, Aug. 29, at 12:15, 2:45, 5:15 & 7:45 p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 30, at 2:45, 5:15 & 7:45 p.m.; Monday, Aug. 31, at 2:45, 5:15 & 7:45 p.m.; Tuesday, Sept. 1, at 10 a.m., 2:45, 5:15 & 7:45 p.m.; Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 12:15, 2:45 p.m.; Thursday, Sept. 3, at 2:45 & 5:15 p.m.

• *Tony* (R, 2026) will screen at Peterborough Community Theatre on Friday, Aug. 28, at 3 p.m.; Saturday, Aug. 29, & Sunday, Aug. 30, at 3 & 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 3 & 7 p.m.;

Thursday, Sept. 3, at 7 p.m.

• *The Brink of War* (PG, 2026) will screen at the Peterborough Community Theatre on Thursday, Aug. 27, at 7 p.m.

• *Coyote Vs Acme* (PG, 2026) will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Friday, Aug. 28, through Sunday, Aug. 30, at 12:45, 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15 p.m.; Monday, Aug. 31, at 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15 p.m.; Tuesday, Sept. 1, at 10 a.m., 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15 p.m.; Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 12:45 p.m.; Thursday, Sept. 3, at 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15 p.m.

• *Movies in the Park* takes place in Riverfront Park in Tilton, hosted by the Hall Memorial Library (hallmemorialibrary.org), on Fridays throughout the summer, with the park opening at 6 p.m. and the movie starting at dusk. According to the website, the upcoming schedule is *Road to El Dorado* (Aug. 28) and *Hercules* (Sept. 25).

• *Dr. Strangelove Or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (1964) will screen at Park Theatre in Jaffrey on Friday, Aug. 28, at 6:30 p.m.

• *Doctor Doolittle* (1967) will screen at Park Theatre in Jaffrey on Sunday, Aug. 30, at 2 & 6 p.m.

• *A Complete Unknown* (R, 2024) will screen at the Flying Monkey in Plymouth on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at 6 p.m.

• *Hadestown: The Musical* (2026) will screen at Park Theatre in Jaffrey on Friday, Sept. 4, at 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 5, at 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 6, at 2 p.m.

• *The Pink Pill: Sex, Drugs and Who Has Control*, a documentary presented by Restore Women's Well-

ness & Arndt Aesthetics, will screen at Red River Theatres in Concord on Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 6:30 p.m. Register at redrivertheatres.org/film/pink-pill.

• *Inside Out 2* (PG, 2024) will screen in Derryfield Park in Manchester on Friday, Sept. 18, at 8:15 p.m., according to a post on the Manchester Parks & Recreation Facebook page. BYO chairs, blankets and snacks, the post said.

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THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Hip-harp:** The penultimate Levitt AMP Manchester Music Series event has **Küf Knotz & Christine Elise** melding hip-hop and classical harp music. The unique duo formed almost accidentally, after Elise saw Knotz perform in a Philadelphia club, met him in a grocery store a few months later and offered her services. They fully improvised their first performance together. Thursday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m., Veterans Memorial Park, 723 Elm St., Manchester, facebook.com/ManchMusicNH.

• **Song man:** Indiana-born and now New York-based **Benjamin Louis** performs in one of the region's most music-friendly venues. Louis's November 2025 single "Yesterday Is Good" is a soulful slow burner that fans of Leon Bridges will love, and he just released *Music*, an EP described as focused "on the passage of time, the weight of age, the pursuit of passion, and the depths of desire." Friday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., Pembroke City Limits, 134 Main St., Suncook, linktr.ee/benjaminlouis.

• **Double play:** The Juggalo and horrorcore scene has a two-day moment as **Leathal Weekend** returns for the ninth time. This year's lineup has Onyx, Bizarre of D12, Lil Eazy-E, and Fury on Day 1, followed on Day 2 by Esham, King Gordy, First Jason (a metal project led by Ari Lehman, the young Jason Voorhees in the original 1980 *Friday the 13th*) and Lyte. Friday, Aug. 28, and Saturday, Aug. 29, 7 p.m., Jewel Music Venue, 61 Canal St., Manchester, \$50 and up, eventbrite.com.

• **Lady laughs:** Known for full-on charisma and zero filter from her tenure as a *Daily Show* correspondent, **Dulcé Sloan** is a powerhouse standup comic, as well as the author of *Hello, Friends!* Her 2024 memoir turns dating disasters and day-job chaos into entertaining reading (and listening — Sloan also narrates the audiobook). The brash, unapologetic comedian also hosted CW's *Great American Joke-Off*. Saturday, Aug. 29, 8 p.m., BNH Stage, 16 S. Main St., Concord, \$45, ccanh.com.

• **Sunday best:** The Shaker Village Music on the Green series continues with **Caitlin Piper & Damian Bernardini**. Piper is a Seacoast singer-songwriter who offers "sweet Jackson Browne swagger and Lake Street Dive sentimentality" on songs about love, resilience and connection. Bernardini is a stunningly talented guitarist who complements Piper with delicate yet complex lead riffs. Sunday, Aug. 30, 4 p.m., Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker Road, Canterbury, shakers.org. 🍷

NITE

Hope follows action

Singer-songwriter John Gorka performs in Manchester

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Even if he's performed since the late 1970s, winning the prestigious Kerrville New Folk Award in 1984 and coming up in the Greenwich Village Fast Folk Scene during that decade, John Gorka still feels a touch of nervousness every time he walks on stage.

"The only time I don't ... is if I've done a bunch of shows in a row and I'm too tired to be nervous," Gorka said in a Zoom interview from his home in Minnesota. It means it still matters, he added. "Frank Sinatra said something about having nerves, he said that's just a sign that you care."

He's still working the muscle he began to hone when the late Jack Hardy told him in 1979 that success comes from a schedule. "I told him, 'I basically wait for inspiration to strike,' and he said, 'that's a copout — you'll come up with more songs quicker if you put the time in, even if you throw out three quarters of what you come up with.'"

On "Favorite Place," a song that leads off his most recent album *unentitled*, Gorka mused on a process that's "still mysterious and still calls me." It's about the joy he finds in the middle of writing, when he knows it's going to be a song and it's just a matter of getting all the details right. Throughout, Hardy's admonition echoes.

"Hope follows action ... you start out with

showing up and going to work," he said. "Hopefully, during the working on stuff, a spark of inspiration will come along that'll fuel you for the rest of the time. These days, despair is not an option, so I've got to do something ... then the hope will come."

Gorka deftly manifests that feeling on a stand-out track from *unentitled* called "Particle & Wave."

The song came in response to the 2018 March for Our Lives in Washington, D.C.

"Watching the coverage on CNN, a still small voice in my head said, 'never stop believing there's goodness in the world,'" Gorka recalled. "It was like, 'OK, that sounds like the language of a song.'"

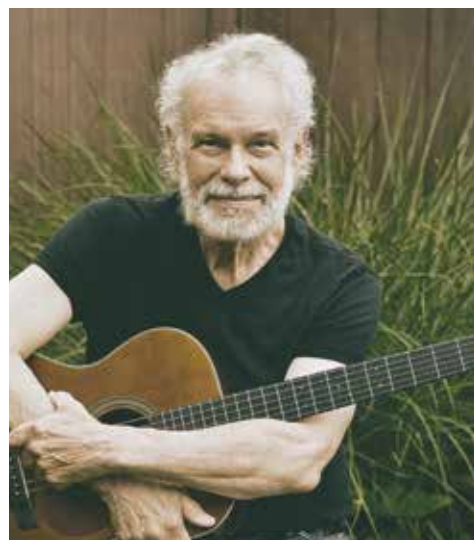
With lines like "Though justice seems to hesitate / It's not too late," he introduces it at concerts with a background story. More often, though, Gorka prefers to let audiences infer the meaning of his songs. Sometimes he's surprised, like the time a woman told him "I Saw a Stranger With Your Hair" reminded her of a son she'd lost.

"I'd thought of it mainly as a romantic song, but that's the way it hit her, and that's why it meant something to her," he said. "People will figure out what the song is about to them ... you don't want to put blinders on the listener by describing what it's about too much or where it came from."

The new record, his 10th for Red House Records, is Gorka's first release in seven years, with some songs that date even further back.

"There were some things from a while ago that I started to record but never finished, some were new and some were old," he said. "It was over a fairly long period of time."

He hosts virtual songwriting workshops mul-



John Gorka. Photo by Robert Hakalski.

tipple times a year with Eliza Gilkyson — the next is in October — and one piece of advice he shares is that modest ambitions are best. "So you're not trying to write a song for all mankind," he said. "Set some limits and then work within those limits — and there's an infinity even within those."

Hardy and the habit of writing as a bedrock guide him.

"Clear a physical space, as well as your mind, then monitor the thoughts and images coming through," he said. "For me, morning brain is the most productive. Before going to bed, that's also a good time — because the song will keep playing through the day."

As he sings on another great song from *unentitled*, "Stay until the night's gone / Stay till you can dream again." 🍷

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

• **Dulcé Sloan** BNH Stage in Concord, Saturday, Aug. 29, 8 p.m.

• **Dulcé 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.

• **Ken Rogerson** McCue's in Portsmouth, Saturday, Sept. 5, 8 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.

• **Jason Merrill/Dan Donahue/Jack Lynch** Tupelo in Derry, Saturday, Sept. 12, 8 p.m.

• **Johnny Ater** McCue's in Portsmouth, Saturday, Sept. 12, 8 p.m.

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

• **Sarah Tollemache/Dan Doherty** Moka Pot in Manchester, Saturday, Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m.

• **Bob Marley** Flying Monkey in Plymouth, Saturday, Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m.

• **Tim McKeever** Headliners in Manchester, Saturday, Sept. 19, 8 p.m.

• **Mark Scalia** Chunky's in Manchester, Saturday, Sept. 19, 8 p.m.

• **Joey Carroll** McCue's in Portsmouth, Saturday, Sept. 19, 8 p.m.

• **Natalie Cuomo** Nashua Center for the Arts, Thursday, Sept. 24, 7 p.m.

• **Kerri Louise** Chunky's in Manchester, Thursday, Sept. 24, 8 p.m.

• **Josh Day** Moka Pot in Manchester, Saturday, Sept. 26, 6:30 p.m.

• **Jessica Kirson** Chubb Theatre in Concord, Saturday, Sept. 26, 7 p.m.

• **Rob Steen** Headliners in Manchester, Saturday, Sept. 26, 8 p.m.

• **Kyle Crawford** Chunky's in Manchester, Saturday, Sept. 26, 8 p.m.

• **Terry Fator** Casino Ballroom in Hampton, Sunday, Sept. 27, 7 p.m.

• **Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood: Asking for Trouble** Palace in Manchester, Thursday, Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m.

• **Heather Shaw** Music Hall Lounge in Portsmouth, Saturday, Oct. 3, 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

• **Ed "The Machine" Regine & Friends** Fulchino Vineyard in Hollis, Saturday, Oct. 3, 6 p.m.

• **Frank Santos Jr.** Rex in Manchester, Saturday, Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m.

• **October Comedy Night** Rockingham Ballroom in Newmarket, Saturday, Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m.

• **Jody Sloane** Headliners in Manchester, Saturday, Oct. 3, 8 p.m.

• **Steve Bjork** Chunky's in Manchester, Saturday, Oct. 3, 8 p.m.

• **Chazz Palminteri's A Bronx Tale Live** Nashua Center for the Arts, Sunday, Oct. 4, 7 p.m.

• **Nurse Blake** Nashua Center for the Arts, Monday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m.

• **David Sedaris** Chubb Theatre in Concord, Wednesday, Oct. 7, 7:30 p.m.

• **Golden Girls: The Laughs Continue** Music Hall in Portsmouth, Thursday, Oct. 8, 7 p.m.

• **Jon Stetson** LaBelle Amherst, Thursday, Oct. 8, 8 p.m.

• **Juston McKinney** Palace Theatre in Manchester, Friday, Oct. 9, and Saturday, Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.

• **Tyrus Murdoch** Rochester Opera House, Saturday, Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.

MUSIC THIS WEEK

Auburn Auburn Pitts 167 Rockingham Road, 622-6564	Concord The Barley House 132 N. Main St., 228-6363 Feathered Friend 231 S. Main St., 715-2347 The Forum Pub 15 Village St., 565-3100 Hermanos Cocina Mexicana 11 Hills Ave., 224-5669 Lithermans 126B Hall St., 219-0784 Tandy's Pub & Grille 1 Eagle Square, 856-7614 T-Bones 404 S. Main St., 715-1999 Uno Pizzeria 15 Fort Eddy Road, 226-8667	Epping Holy Grail 64 Main St., 679-9559 Telly's Restaurant & Pizzeria 235 Calef Hwy., 679-8225	Hampton Falls Applecrest Farm 133 Exeter Road, 758-1686	Manchester Bad BRGR 1015 Elm St., Manchester, 606-8806, bad-brgrt.com Backyard Brewery 1211 S. Mammoth Road, 623-3545 Bungalow Bar & Grill 333 Valley St., 792-1111 Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Road, 623-2880 Firefly 21 Concord St., 935-9740 The Foundry 50 Commercial St., 836-1925 Fratello's 155 Dow St., 624-2022 The Goat 50 Old Granite St. Great North Aleworks 1050 Holt Ave., 858-5789 The Hill Bar & Grille McIntyre Ski Area, 50 Challet Ct., 622-6159	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	Brookline The Alamo Texas Barbecue & Tequila Bar 99 Route 13, 721-5000	Candia The Barnyard / Town Cabin Pub 285 Old Candia Road, 483-4888	Canterbury Canterbury Farmers Market 9 Center Road Canterbury Shaker Village 288 Shaker Road, 783-9511	Concord Contoocook Farmers Market 896 Main St., 746-3018 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	Epsom Hill Top Pizzeria 1724 Dover Road, 736-0027	Exeter Sea Dog Brewery Co. 5 Water St., 793-5116	Goffstown Village Trestle 25 Main St., 497-8230	Greenland Bird Dog Farm & Cidery 150 Bayside Road, bird-dogcider.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 Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave., 926-6954 Whym Craft Pub & Brewery 853 Lafayette Road, 601-2801	Bancroft Hwy., 261-3484	Londonberry Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern 176 Mammoth Road, 437-2022 Stumble Inn 20 Rockingham Road, 432-3210 Sunstone Brewing Co. 298 Rockingham Road, 216-1808	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 Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse 1050 Bicentennial Drive, 625-1730 Stark Brewing Co. 500 Commercial St., 625-4444 Stark Park Bandstand River Road Strange Brew 88 Market St., 666-4292 To Share Brewing 720 Union St., 836-6947	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	Pittsfield Over the Moon 1253 Upper City Road, 216-2162	Portsmouth The Gas Light 64 Market St., 430-9122 The Goat 142 Congress St., 590-4628 Jitto's 3131 Lafayette Road, 436-9755 Otto 110 Brewery Lane, 802-6886 Press Room 77 Daniel St., 431-5186 Thirsty Moose Taphouse 21 Congress St., 427-8645	Salem Copper Door 41 S. Broadway, 458-2033 Dreo 254 N. Broadway, 824-6337 T-Bones 311 South Broadway, 893-3444	Seabrook Backyard Burgers & Wings 5 Provident Way, 760-2581 Red's Kitchen + Tavern 530 Lafayette Road, 760-0030	Warner The Local 15 E. Main St., 456-3333
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Thursday, Aug. 27

Bedford
Copper Door: Ian Archibold, 6 p.m.
Murphy's: Casey Roop, 5:30 p.m.
T-Bones: Jack Plante, 6 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: Dalton Sayball, 6 p.m.

Candia
Barnyard: karaoke, 6 p.m.

Concord
T-Bones: Brendan Gill, 6 p.m.

Derry
Fody's: Singo w/ Perfect Mix, 7 p.m.
LaBelle: Stevie Nicks & Fleetwood Mac Tribute Show, 7:15 p.m.
T-Bones: Chris Taylor, 6 p.m.

Epping
Telly's: 603's, 7 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: Shaggy, 8 p.m.
The Goat: Ethan Cunningham, 8 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Zack Seemiller, 9 a.m.; Ross Brown & Colette Campbell, 1 p.m.; Meghan Barter, 6 p.m.; Sean Buckley, 8 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Lewis Goodwin, 8 p.m.

Music, live and in person

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

935 Surf Shack: MB Padfield, 5 p.m.
Wally's: Anthony Green, 8 p.m.

Hudson
Luk's: Chris Cyrus, 6 p.m.
Lynn's 102: karaoke w/George Bisson, 8 p.m.
T-Bones: Peter Pappas, 6 p.m.

Londonberry
Stumble Inn: Swipe Right Trio, 7 p.m.

Manchester
Bad BRGR: Karaoke with DJ Black Label, 7 p.m.
Derryfield: Joe Winslow Duo, 6 p.m.
Firefly: David Hoffman, 5 p.m.
Fratello's: Amanda McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: Manchester Idol Finals, 8 p.m.
KC's Rib Shack: Jonny Friday, 6 p.m.
Moka Pot: Trees from Different Angles, 7:30 p.m.
Shorty's: Danny McCarthy, 5:30 p.m.
Strange Brew: Faith Ann, 8 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Park: Kuf Knotz & Christine Elise, 6:30 p.m.

Mason
The Range: Cruise Night, 5 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Eddie Sands, 5:30 p.m.
Tortilla Flat: Jordan Holmes, 6 p.m.

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

Nashua
Casey Magee's: open mic, 7:30 p.m.
Fody's: DJ Rich karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
Shorty's: Johnny Angel, 5:30 p.m.
Union Public House: D-Comp, 5:30 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Discovered at Church, 8 p.m.

Pembroke
PCL: Crowing For Lunch, 7 p.m.

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

Portsmouth
Black Rock: Matt Jackson, 5 p.m.
Gas Light: Ralph Allen, 3:30 p.m.; Rob & Jody, 7 p.m.
The Goat: Isaiah Bennett, 9 p.m.
Press Room: The Strokes, 9 p.m.

Salem
Copper Door: Jordan Quinn, 6 p.m.
T-Bones: Sean Coleman, 6 p.m.

Warner
The Local: Jamie Hughes, 5 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 28
Bedford
Murphy's: Peter Pappas, 6 p.m.

Brookline
Alamo: Bella Perrotta, 6 p.m.

Candia
Barnyard: Downtown Dave and the Deep Pockets, 6 p.m.

Concord
Feathered Friend: Trade, 6 p.m.
Forum: Blue Buddha Band, 8 p.m.
Lithermans: open mic night, 6 p.m.

Contoocook
Contoocook Cider Co.: Jack Ancora, 4 p.m.

Derry
Fody's: Slightly Buzzed, 8 p.m.

Epping
Holy Grail: Kitchen Party, 6 p.m.
Telly's: Dancing Madly Backwards, 8 p.m.

Exeter
Sea Dog: Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.



Hampstead
Pickleball 603: Hatt Trikk, 6:30 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie's: Dr Slick, 8 p.m.
The Goat: Codie Welch, 9 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Zack Seemiller, 9 a.m.; Kari and Jack Wolf, 1 p.m.; Kieran McNally, 1 p.m.; Marjory Lee, Jeff Bateman, 6 p.m.; Sean Buckley, 8 p.m.
Wally's: Wedding Smashers, 9 p.m.

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

Litchfield
Luk's: Cross Border Bards, 6 p.m.

Londonberry
Coach Stop: Stephen Decuire, 6 p.m.
Stumble Inn: Conniption Fits, 8 p.m.
Sunstone: The Two's, 7 p.m.

Mason
The Range: 96 Old Turnpike Road, 878-1324

Merrimack
Homestead 641 DW Highway, 429-2022
Tortilla Flat 595 DW Highway, 424-4479

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

Nashua
Casey Magee's Irish Pub

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

Manchester
Bad BRGR: Deadlight Media presents Crooked Cash, 8 p.m.
Backyard Brewery: Mark Dionne, 6 p.m.
Derryfield: On Two Duo, 6 p.m.; Heartbeat City, 8:30 p.m.
Firefly: Jordan Quinn, 5 p.m.
The Foundry: Danny McCarthy, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Joe Winslow, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: Jukebox Radio, 9 p.m.
The Hill: Kat Ivy, 5:30 p.m.
KC's Rib Shack: David Blailin, 6 p.m.
Revo: DJ George Cox karaoke, 9 p.m.
Shaskeen: Monkey Fingers, 9 p.m.
Strange Brew: Ralph Allen, 8 p.m.
To Share: Ben Harris, 6:30 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Johnny Angel, 5:30 p.m.

Nashua
Casey Magee's: karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
Fody's: Slightly Buzzed, 10 p.m.

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Lost Cowboy: Maddi Ryan, 7:30 p.m.
Union Public House: Matt Jackson, 7:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Emanuel Casablanca w/ Lee & Dr. G, 7 p.m.

Pembroke

PCL: Benjamin Louis, 7 p.m.

Penacook

American Legion Post 31: JMitch Karaoke, 7 p.m.

Pittsfield

Over the Moon: Amanda McCarthy, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth

Black Rock: Brian Gray, 5 p.m.
Gas Light: Rich Wallace, 3 p.m.; Frenzie, 7 p.m.; Jordan Holmes, 9:30 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
Jitto's: Max Sullivan, 7 p.m.
Press Room: Jake Swamp & The Pine w/ The Kenny Brothers Band, 8 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Neon Lighthouse, 9:30 p.m.

Salem

Dreo: Amanda Dane, 7 p.m.

Seabrook

Red's: Redemption, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 29
Bedford
Murphy's: Brian Gray, 6 p.m.

Bow

Chen Yang Li: Ryan Williamson, 7 p.m.

Brookline

Alamo: Cody Knapp, 6 p.m.

Candia

Barnyard: Karen Grenier, 6 p.m.

Concord

T-Bones: Paul Lovely, 8 p.m.

Contoocook

Contoocook Cider Co.: Justin Cohn, 4 p.m.

Derry

Amphora: Shawn Goldthwaite, 7 p.m.
Fody's: Randy Videyko, 8 p.m.

Epping

Holy Grail: Peter Pappas, 6 p.m.
Telly's: Radio Daze, 8 p.m.

Hampton

935 Surf Shack: Phil Maurice, 1 p.m.
Bernie's: Turn It Up!, 8 p.m.
The Goat: Chris Toler, 1 p.m.; Jared Moore, 9 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
McGuirk's: Zack Seemiller, 9 a.m.; Mason Brothers, 1 p.m.; Key West, 7:30 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Justin Bethune, 1 p.m.; Jodee Frawlee, 5 p.m.; Freddie Catalfo, 8 p.m.
Wally's: J Roddy Walston, 9 p.m.

Hudson

Luk's Bar: Dave Clark Jr, 6 p.m.

Litchfield

Luk's: Shakedown Station, 6 p.m.

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Joe McDonald, 6 p.m.
Sunstone: Vale's End, 6 p.m.

Manchester

Bad BRGR: Marrow Deep Productions presents Everchanger, Whispers of Andromeda, Proxies, Paint the Town Dead, 8 p.m.
Backyard Brewery: Steve Allain, 6 p.m.
Derryfield: Old Gold, 6 p.m.; Chad Lamarsh, 8 p.m.
Firefly: Chris Lester, 5 p.m.
The Foundry: Joel Begin, 6 p.m.
Fratello's: Bella Perrotta, 5:30 p.m.
The Goat: Wedding Smashers, 9 p.m.
Great North Aleworks: Upright Dogs, 3 p.m.
The Hill: ALXIA, 5:30 p.m.
KC's: Johnny Angel, 6 p.m.
Revo: Chris Hayes, 9 p.m.
Shaskeen: Dank Sinatra, 9 p.m.
Strange Brew: The Faith Ann Band, 9 p.m.

Mason

The Range: Parmalee W/ Annie Brobst Band, 6 p.m.

Merrimack

Homestead: Doug Thompson, 5:30 p.m.

Milford

Riley's: Rusty and The Rhythms, 7 p.m.

Nashua

Casey Magee's: Steve & Mike Duo, 8 p.m.
Fody's: Dis n DAT, 10 p.m.
Peddler's Daughter: No More Blue Tomorrows, 9:30 p.m.
Spyglass: Run Up The Tab, 6 p.m.

Union Public House: Colin Hart, 7:30 p.m.

New Boston

Farmers Market on Town Common: Eve Pierce, 10 a.m.
Molly's: The Incidentals, 6:30 p.m.

Newmarket

Stone Church: Wildcats, 8 p.m.

Pembroke

PCL: Zack Morgan, 4 p.m.; Elijah and Paige, 7 p.m.

Pittsfield

Over The Moon: Route 28, 6 p.m.

Portsmouth

Gas Light: Matt Luneau, 11:30 a.m.; Stephen Decuire, 3 p.m.; Dana Brearley Trio, 7 p.m.; Dan Morgan, 9:30 p.m.
The Goat: Codie Welch, 9 p.m.
Otto Pizza: Mark Dionne, 4 p.m.
Press Room: Glowdeo w/ DJ Chad Banks & SG603, 10:30 p.m.
Thirsty Moose: Juke Box Radio, 9:30 p.m.

Salem

Dreo: John Chouinard, 7 p.m.
Sun Cruiser Social Club: Brian Walker, 1 p.m.

Seabrook

Red's: Max Sullivan, 8 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 30
Bedford
Copper Door: Steve Prisby, 11 a.m.
Murphy's: Joe Winslow, 4 p.m.

Brookline

Alamo: Jamie Hughes, 5 p.m.

Candia

Barnyard: Andrea Paquin, 3 p.m.

Canterbury

Canterbury Shaker Village: Caitlin Piper & Damian Bernardini, 4 p.m.

Concord

Lithermans: Chris Cyrus, 1:30 p.m.
T-Bones: Rebecca Turmel, 5 p.m.

Contoocook

Cedar & Main Tavern: Sammy B, 3 p.m.
Contoocook Cider Co.: Tom Boisse, 3 p.m.

Greenland

Bird Dog Farm: Katie Dobbins, 3 p.m.

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NEW HAMPSHIRE
OUTLET
FOOD & WINE

NITE MUSIC & EVENTS

Hampton
935 Surf Shack: Lewis Goodwin, 1 p.m.; Chad Verbeck, 5 p.m.
The Goat: Codie Welch, 1 p.m.; Chris Toler, 9 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
McGuirk’s: Kitchen Party, 1 p.m.; Charley Carrozo, 7 p.m.
Sea Ketch: Lewis Goodwin, 6 p.m.
Wally’s: line dancing, 7 p.m.

Lee
Flag Hill: Bella Perrotta, 1 p.m.

Londonderry
Stumble Inn: 603 Trio, 4 p.m.
Sunstone: Alivia Ferdinand & Eric Lamarche, 1 p.m.

Manchester
Bad BRGR: First Pick, Dig a Revel, Piss in Public, Vauli, 8 p.m.
Derryfield: Matt Jackson, 5 p.m.
Firefly: Chuck Alaimo, 11 a.m.
KC’s: Chuck Clough, 4 p.m.
Stark Park Bandstand: Compaq Big Band, 2 p.m.
Strange Brew: Jam Tomorrow, 2 p.m.; One Big Soul Jam, 7 p.m.

Mason
The Range: Ramble, 1 p.m.; Erin Harpe Blues, 4 p.m.

Milford
Riley’s Place: blues jam, 1 p.m.
Nashua
Stella Blu: Peter Pappas, 3 p.m.

New Boston
Molly’s: Cody Knapp, 1 p.m.

Pittsfield
Over The Moon: Tug Wildwood, 3 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Matt Jackson, 11:30 a.m.; Mitch Alden, 3 p.m.; Bob Pratte Band, 7 p.m.
Press Room: Big Yellow Taxi: The Music of Joni Mitchell, 7 p.m.

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

Monday, Aug. 31
Bedford
Murphy’s: Tyler Levs, 5:30 p.m.

Hampton
Bernie’s: line dancing, 7 p.m.
The Goat: Ethan Cunningham, 8 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.
McGuirk’s: Kieran McNally, 1 p.m.
Wally’s: DJ Provo, 9 p.m.

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

Laconia
Fratello’s: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.
M/S Mt Washington Cruise: Charlie Chronopoulos Duo, 6:30 p.m.
T-Bones: Tim Kierstead, 6 p.m.

Manchester
Bad BRGR: acoustic open mic hosted by Jonny Friday, 7 p.m.
Bungalow: Southpaw & Arcline “The Standard” Tour, 6 p.m.
The Goat: 603 line dancing, 7 p.m.

Nashua
Fody’s: karaoke night, 9:30 p.m.
The Spot: open mic, 7 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Jodee Frawlee, 4 p.m.; Tim Theriault, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 1
Bedford
Murphy’s: Stephen Decuire, 5:30 p.m.

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

Hampton
Bernie’s: Reggae DJ Stenny, 7 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.

Henniker
Angela Robinson Bandstand: Nick’s Other Band, 6 p.m.
NE College: Tyler Levs, 7 p.m.

Manchester
Fratello’s: Chris Lester, 5:30 p.m.
KC’s Rib Shack: Paul & Nate open mic, 7 p.m.

Mason
The Range: Nick Mariany & Friends w/ Brother Seamus, 6 p.m.

Nashua
The Spot: Karaoke with Jamie V, 7 p.m.

Merrimack
Homestead: Jodee Frawlee, 5:30 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Paul Warnick, 2 p.m.; Brian Gray, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 2
Bedford
Murphy’s: Matt Jackson, 5:30 p.m.

Candia
Baryard: country line dancing, 6 p.m.

Canterbury
Farmers Market: Paul Warnick, 4 p.m.

Concord
Tandy’s: karaoke, 8 p.m.
Uno Pizzeria: Chris Lester, 6 p.m.

Derry
Fody’s: karaoke, 7 p.m.

Hampton
935 Surf Shack: Ralph Allen, 5 p.m.
L Street: karaoke, 9 p.m.

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

Merrimack
Homestead: Tim Kierstead, 5:30 p.m.

Milford
Riley’s: karaoke, 7 p.m.

Newmarket
Stone Church: Community Jam, 7 p.m.; karaoke, 8 p.m.

Portsmouth
Gas Light: Justin Jordan, 2 p.m.; Max Sullivan, 6 p.m.

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

Concerts
• **Cormac McCarthy Band** Thursday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m., 3S Artspace in Portsmouth
• **Theory of a Deadman/Seven-dust** Thursday, Aug. 27, and Friday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton
• **Hot Sardines** Thursday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m., BNH Stage in Concord
• **Katie Dobbins & Friends** Thursday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m., Hermit Woods in Meredith
• **Emily Jeanne Brown & Kate Victor/Laura Fox/Kate Possi** Thursday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m., Button Factory in Portsmouth
• **Will Evans** Thursday, Aug. 27, 7 p.m., Word Barn in Exeter
• **Bria Skonberg** Thursday, Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy’s in Portsmouth
• **Night of Nicks** (Stevie Nicks tribute) Thursday, Aug. 27, 8 p.m., LaBelle Derry
• **Cloud Nothings/Knifeplay** Thursday, Aug. 27, 8 p.m., 3S Artspace in Portsmouth
• **Zach Top** Friday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m.,

BankNH Pavilion in Gilford
• **Jamie McLean Band** Friday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., Word Barn in Exeter
• **Langhorne Slim/Dwayne Haggins** Friday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., Prescott Park in Portsmouth
• **Julia Garrett/Caitlin Wilder/Jack Shea** Friday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., Button Factory in Portsmouth
• **Mike Zito** Friday, Aug. 28, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy’s in Portsmouth
• **Ghosts of Jupiter/Caylin Costello Band** Friday, Aug. 28, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey in Plymouth
• **Hey Nineteen** (Steely Dan tribute) Friday, Aug. 28, 8 p.m., Rochester Opera House
• **Start Making Sense** (Talking Heads tribute) Friday, Aug. 28, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry
• **Craig Jaster** Saturday, Aug. 29, 6 p.m., Hermit Woods in Meredith
• **Parmalee** Saturday, Aug. 29, 6 p.m., The Range in Mason
• **Muddy Ruckus** Saturday, Aug. 29, 7 p.m., Listening Room in Wilton
• **The Devil Makes Three/Wolff Sisters** Saturday, Aug. 29, 7 p.m.,

Prescott Park in Portsmouth
• **One Night of Queen with Gary Mullen and the Works** Saturday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m., Castle in the Clouds in Moultonborough
• **John Gorka** Saturday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m., Rex in Manchester
• **The Weight Band** (The Band tribute) Thursday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey in Plymouth
• **The Brit Pack** (Beatles tribute) Thursday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m., Park Theatre in Jaffrey
• **Space Cowboys** (Steve Miller tribute) Thursday, Aug. 29, 7:30 p.m., Rockingham Ballroom in Newmarket
• **Chris Janson** Saturday, Aug. 29, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton
• **Back in Black** (AC/DC tribute) Saturday, Aug. 29, 8 p.m., Lakeport Opera House in Laconia
• **John Violinist** Saturday, Aug. 29, 8 p.m., Tupelo in Derry
• **Adam Ezra Group** Sunday, Aug. 30, noon, The Range in Mason
• **Darien Castro** Sunday, Aug. 30, 1:30 p.m., Averill House in Brookline
• **Tuba Skinny** Sunday, Aug. 30, 7

p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts
• **Benny Green** Sunday, Aug. 30, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy’s in Portsmouth
• **One Night of Queen** (Queen tribute) Sunday, Aug. 30, 8 p.m., Casino Ballroom in Hampton
• **YellowHouse Blues Band** Monday, Aug. 31, 7 p.m., Jimmy’s in Portsmouth0
• **Jackie Greene** Wednesday, Sept. 2, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy’s in Portsmouth
• **Katrina Marie Band** Thursday, Sept. 3, 7 p.m., Hermit Woods in Meredith
• **Karl Denson’s Tiny Universe** Thursday, Sept. 3, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy’s in Portsmouth
• **Satisfaction** (Rolling Stones tribute) Thursday, Sept. 3, 8 p.m., LaBelle Derry
• **Diamond Blues** (Jerry Garcia Band tribute) Thursday, Sept. 3, 8 p.m., Stone Church in Newmarket
• **Parker McCollum/Vincent Mason/Owen Riegling** Friday, Sept. 4, 6:30 p.m., BankNH Pavilion in Gilford
• **Weald & Woe/this is not ok/Buri-**

al Arrangements Friday, Sept. 4, 7 p.m., Button Factory in Portsmouth
• **Ward Hayden & the Outliers** Friday, Sept. 4, 7 p.m., Word Barn in Exeter
• **Skerryvore** Friday, Sept. 4, 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey in Plymouth
• **Gary Hoey** Friday, Sept. 4, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy’s in Portsmouth
• **ZZ Top/George Thorogood** Saturday, Sept. 5, 7 p.m., BankNH Pavilion in Gilford
• **The Horsenecks** Saturday, Sept. 5, 7 p.m., Blasty Bough in Epsom
• **Tom Rush** Saturday, Sept. 5, 7 p.m., Prescott Park in Portsmouth
• **G. Himsel/Jetties/Star Family Singers** Saturday, Sept. 5, 7 p.m., Button Factory in Portsmouth
• **The Reverend Horton Heat/The Messer Chups** Saturday, Sept. 5, 7:30 p.m., Park Theatre in Jaffrey
• **Anat Cohen Quartet** Saturday, Sept. 5, 7:30 p.m., Jimmy’s in Portsmouth
• **Preservation Hall Jazz Band** Saturday, Sept. 5, 8 p.m., Music Hall in Portsmouth

• **Adeem the Artist** Saturday, Sept. 5, 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge in Portsmouth
• **The Low Stakes** Sunday, Sept. 6, 1:30 p.m., Averill House in Brookline
• **Tedeschi Trucks Band** Sunday, Sept. 6, 7 p.m., BankNH Pavilion in Gilford
• **Margo Price/Jeremy Ivey** Sunday, Sept. 6, 7 p.m., Prescott Park in Portsmouth
• **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** Sunday, Sept. 6, 7:30 p.m., Music Hall in Portsmouth
• **The Aldous Collins Band** Sunday, Sept. 6, 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge in Portsmouth
• **The Reverend Horton Heat/Messer Chups** Monday, Sept. 7, 7 p.m., Rochester Opera House
• **Mica’s Groove Train** Monday, Sept. 7, 7 p.m., Jimmy’s in Portsmouth
• **The Fixx/Colin Blundstone/Peter Asher** Tuesday, Sept. 8, 7:30 p.m., Tupelo in Derry
• **Cantrip** Thursday, Sept. 10, 7 p.m., Hermit Woods in Meredith

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Can't stand it, I know you planned it

- Across**
1. Hair metal band member's earring target

5. Marcy Playground "I ___ sex and candy"

10. Proclaimers "If there's ___, why does He let people die slowly" (1,3)

14. Pinnacle of career

15. Half Finnish rockers, w/"Rocks"

16. '30 Seconds To Mars' drummer Shannon

17. 'Bat Out Of Hell II: Back Into Hell' singer Loaf

18. Red Hot Chili Peppers don't like the bottom and want to 'Get ___' (2,3)
19. The band Live's camera part song, perhaps

20. TV Girl song for an impossible head pigmentation (4,4)

22. Some gospel songs do this to The Lord

24. Hand down, as a musical legacy

25. Promise Ring's distress signal on 'Very Emergency'

26. Part of 'Poncho & Lefty' guy, with "Van Zandt"

29. '85 Replacements 'Bastards Of Young' album for a man's name

30. Bruce/Baker/Moore trio

33. Elaborate song for a solo voice

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

34. Make amends or do this for a band relationship wrongdoing (1,4)

36. Catering may use this deli bread

37. 'Rock Around The Clock'-er and band (4,5,6)

41. Meisa Kuroki song you laugh out loud to, perhaps

42. Billy Joel captains 'The Downeaster' one

43. Choir s open-vowel sounds

44. Bruce Springsteen "Wouldn't have it ___ other way"

45. Rise Against '___ Ways 'Til Sunday'

46. Beastie Boys 'Brass ___'

48. Mudwayne song that needs a shovel?

49. The Darkness 'Everybody Have ___ Time' (1,4)

51. Port city in Minnesota...or a Mason Jennings song

54. '24 Childish Gambino single named after a small city outside Atlanta

58. Mark Knopfler says 'What ___!' with a high-five, slangily (2,2)

59. Amount of Bonnie Tyler's 'Eclipse'

61. Post-show ride for a star

62. 'Out Of The Cellar' glam metal band

63. Smashing Pumpkins "The bitterness ___ who's left alone, ooh the years burn"

R&R answer
 from pg 35 of 8/20

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

- (2,3)

64. Star representing rock for the ages is this

65. '03 John Mayer hit 'Bigger ___ My Body'

66. Who Beastie Boys's '98 album says 'Hello' to

67. Amount of 'Sleep Till Brooklyn'

Down

1. Gyro meat that lay 'Down On Broadway', to Genesis

2. Spouse music crooner Jackie

3. Sweetheart...or Blessthefall singer Bokan

4. Like hard drive for song library

5. Lynyrd Skynyrd 'Skynyrd's First- The Complete Muscle ___ Album'

6. New star craze or this

7. Battle of the bands written effort form

8. Lav used between songs in UK

9. 'Funkytown' disco/funksters (5,3)

10. Rock star's pseudonym

11. 'Schizophonic' Spice Girl Halliwell

12. Soul singer Redding

13. Doctor's order, pre-tour

21. Half of Buck Owens TV show, w/"Haw"

Jonesin' answer
 from pg 36 of 8/20

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

23. Dire Straits lover for 'Juliet'

26. Hand drums in the bhakti devotional traditions of Sikhism

27. Barry Goudreau of Boston's spinoff ___ The Hunter

28. CCR's leader of 'The Poor Boys'

29. '90 Slaughter album 'Stick It ___' (2,2)

30. Beastie Boys '14th St. ___' may pause the flow and only keep the drums going

31. Paradise ___ Dashboard Light (2,3)

32. Like some court cases between members

34. Drummer Van Halen

35. Stevie Ray Vaughan state (abbr)

38. Adele 'Rumour ___' (3,2)

39. Tom Walker didn't want a dark house: 'Leave ___' (1,5,2)

40. Bruce Hornsby's 'Rain' is for this bluegrass instrument

46. Nikki Sixx band ___ Crüe

47. Grits/Toby Mac will mumble 'Ahh' and this

48. GnR '___ Bones' (4,1)

49. Some singers

50. 1989's 'I'm A Believer' rockers that are not small?

51. Tabloid fodder you dig up on enemy band

52. Folk singer/poet/activist Phillips

53. Former Runaway and 'Dancing On The Edge' singer Ford

55. Cult song for Velvet Underground model/singer

56. Beastie Boys "Brand new doo-doo, guaranteed like Yoo-hoo, ___ like Dr. John"

57. Like superior guitarist

60. Porcupine Tree 'Fear ___ Blank Planet' (2,1)

© 2026 Todd Santos
 Todd's books are available on Amazon.

NITE SUDOKU

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

King Classic Sudoku

Puzzle A

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

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Difficulty: ★

King Classic Sudoku

Puzzle B

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

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Difficulty: ★★

King Classic Sudoku

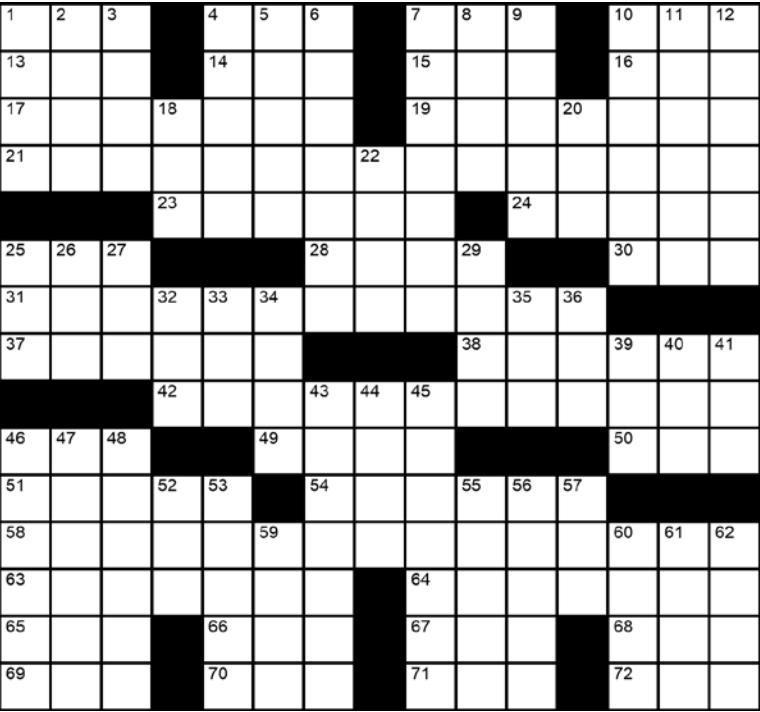
Puzzle C

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

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Difficulty: ★★★

And My Ax! — swapping one for the other.



Across

- 1. Add sound effects to
- 4. FIFA official
- 7. Even score
- 10. Business card abbr.
- 13. “Caught ya!”
- 14. Prefix for the birds?
- 15. Lovelace of early computing
- 16. ___ Provençale (cooking style)
- 17. More uneven, like fabric
- 19. Falls apart
- 21. Incredulous response when a terrible show is on after a good one?
- 23. Descriptor for versatile vacuums
- 24. Eagle’s nest
- 25. Back of a boat
- 28. Eight, in España
- 30. Prom kids, for short
- 31. Place to stay where your luggage is stretchy?
- 37. Bird in some clocks
- 38. Was crawling (with)
- 42. Go overboard with your fragrance?
- 46. 2008 bailout recipient
- 49. Singing quality
- 50. Cut the grass
- 51. Second part in an instruction manual
- 54. Switzerland’s largest city
- 58. With 63-Across, the last MCU movie ever -- if they chose to focus on just Wolverine and Magneto?
- 63. See 58-Across
- 64. Derogatory term for an idealized female character in fan fiction
- 65. Dark bread
- 66. ___-weekly (newspaper category)
- 67. Money made from a bank acct.
- 68. Pizza option

- 69. Karl Marx’s “___ Kapital”
- 70. Letters on a Canadian speedometer
- 71. Like many trans allies
- 72. Cashew, e.g.

Down

- 1. “That’s a no-no!”
- 2. “That’s a no-no!”
- 3. Tapioca pearls
- 4. Poker action
- 5. 1976 Wimbledon champ Chris
- 6. Dalmatian, traditionally
- 7. Hunting call
- 8. “American ___” (TV singing competition)
- 9. Class that’s a breeze
- 10. They were used in an obstacle course in 2010’s “Jackass 3D”
- 11. Medicinal concoction
- 12. Drinks that may display foam art
- 18. “As an aside ...”
- 20. Opposite direction from WSW
- 22. Missouri monument
- 25. One side in the Pro Bowl
- 26. Strain in the winter
- 27. Private eye, slangily
- 29. “Airplane!” automatic pilot
- 32. Classic Jaguar model driven by Austin Powers
- 33. Mover’s unit
- 34. August, in Paris
- 35. “Electric” fish
- 36. Actor DiCaprio, familiarly
- 39. ___ Grand Las Vegas
- 40. Ambient composer Brian
- 41. Morning drops
- 43. Twelve-timer’s attempt?
- 44. Adequate, informally
- 45. Like terra cotta tiles
- 46. Home to the Norse gods
- 47. 2017 skating film with Robbie as Harding
- 48. Crystal-lined rocks
- 52. Slang for Portland, OR (based on its airport code)
- 53. U.K. pop trio (Barry, Burns, and

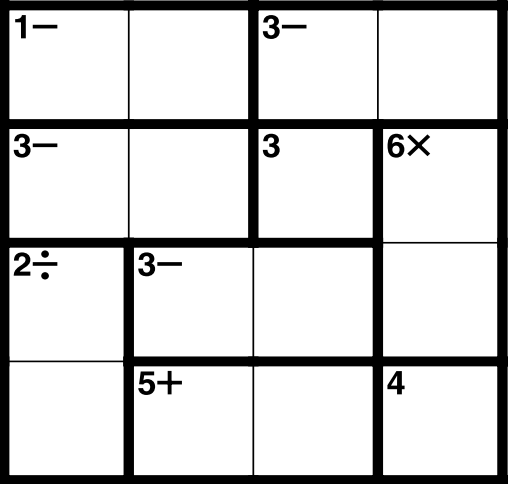
- McNally) with the 2000 hit song “Back Here”
- 55. Tabriz resident
- 56. Breath mints brand
- 57. Rd. with many lanes
- 59. App with restaurant reviews
- 60. “___ Jeopardy!” (sports trivia show that premiered last month)
- 61. Party on the beach
- 62. Post-Mardi Gras observance

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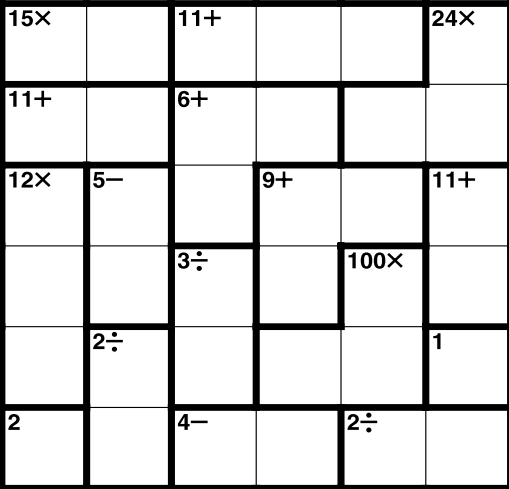
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CHALLENGING



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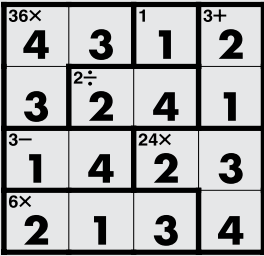
RULES

- 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

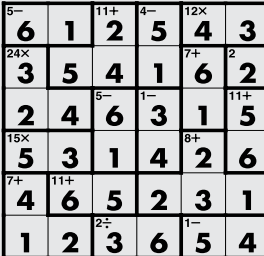
outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

- 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 *Eternally Electric*, by Debbie Gibson, born Aug. 31, 1970.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *I'd vowed to get a deal by my sixteenth birthday, and I missed that deadline by just three days, signing with Atlantic on September 3, 1986, while we collectively decided 'Only in My Dreams' should be the first single. Close enough.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *I was never a strategist. I was a visionary, so I'd work backward from a goal. 'Let the music lead the way,' I would always say. Vision and strategy actually work well together.*

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *The thing about the dance world was that I found it and it found me. Dance.*

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *But when evening came and everything was quiet, I'd be alone with my thoughts and it would be hard for me to stay still. You can think and move at the same time.*

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *Some people get it, some people don't. That was my attitude. I loved the album. Sure, it was a bit eclectic with its various styles, but who is just one thing? Nobody!*

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *Not that our desire to nurture new talent was without its share of drama. Keep your share of drama small.*

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *Meanwhile, my daily routine was really suiting me. I mean, who gets to roll out of bed and into their own state-of-the-art-recording studio? Find a routine that suits you.*

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *No matter how much acting I had done, in certain people's eyes I'd always be the pop star who'd come into the theater world. Oh, well.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *When a cynical review-*

er turned convert wrote, 'I came to pan her, but couldn't,' I thought, Mission accomplished!.... Now you need a new mission.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *As a music fan, I can always sniff out an imposter — and the last thing I wanted to be was that. So when they brought up the idea of me collaborating with Prince, I knew they'd really lost the plot. Stay true to yourself and collaborate wisely.*

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *They were fascinated by this young girl who wrote songs and could communicate: 'No, that's an E-flat seventh chord not a straight-up E-flat.' Work on your communication skills.*

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *My core audience will tell you I'm known for kicking off my shoes and deconstructing as the show goes on. Kick off your shoes. 🦶*

7 LITTLE WORDS

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

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 yummy (9)	_____
2 yummy (9)	_____
3 yummy (10)	_____
4 yummy (11)	_____
5 yummy (10)	_____
6 yummy (5)	_____
7 yummy (6)	_____

LIC	TO	APPE	US	TIZI
OTHS	MPTI	SCRU	DE	SAV
DE	OME	OUS	TA	ABLE
IO	STY	ORY	LECT	NG

Last Week's Answers: 1. POINTER 2. HUSKY 3. LABRADOR 4. GREYHOUND 5. BOXER 6. SPITZ 7. DALMATIAN

Sudoku Answers from pg 35 of 8/20

Puzzle A

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

Difficulty: ★ 8/3

Puzzle B

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

Difficulty: ★★ 8/4

Puzzle C

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

Difficulty: ★★★ 8/6

THE ULTIMATE NEW HAMPSHIRE NIGHT OUT...

is found at Tupelo Music Hall, New Hampshire's award-winning venue.

SEPTEMBER 8

THE FIXX, COLIN BLUNSTONE, & PETER ASHER
THREE SEPARATE SETS OF BRIT-ROCK

SEPTEMBER 10

AN EVENING WITH EMERSON, LAKE & PALMER
RARE FOOTAGE RETURNS ELP TO THE STAGE WITH CARL PALMER

SEPTEMBER 12

TUPELO NIGHT OF COMEDY
JASON MERRILL, DAN DONAHUE, AND JACK LYNCH

SEPTEMBER 17

MATTHEW & GUNNAR NELSON

SEPTEMBER 18

HAMMERFALL
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS EVERGREY & ELVENKING

SEPTEMBER 19

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There’s Gold in Them Thar Walls

Construction workers in Belgium struck gold while working on a new sewer line in an old building — literally \$10.4 million worth of gold, BBC reported on Aug. 14. Workers removed part of the cellar wall and discovered a wealth of gold coins and bars, which they initially mistook for euros. They called the police, who recorded the haul and moved the gold to a secure federal vault. The building was once a brewery but is now owned by a welfare organization. Belgian law dictates that the gold’s rightful owner has five years to claim it. However, investigators are still looking into the stash to determine whether it might be related to criminal activity. If not, and if no legitimate claim is made on it after five years, the gold will be split between the finders — the construction workers — and the property owner. *BBC, Aug. 14*

Art History

Milwaukee landlord Tim Dertz was cleaning out an apartment unit after evicting its tenant when he found a painting left behind. Dertz took it to an antique dealer who recognized it as a Picasso, possibly worth up to \$50,000, the Associated Press reported on Aug. 14. Dertz then contacted police, who determined the painting had been stolen from DeLind Fine Art Appraisals in 2018. When police contacted owner Bill DeLind, he recognized the work as a “Toreo” print, signed by Picasso himself. In a bittersweet twist, DeLind said that his former gallery partner, who passed in February, used to call police every year on the anniversary of the robbery, asking for an update on the case. “He would have been over the moon about this,” DeLind said. “It was special to him.” The 2018 robbery remains under investigation with the FBI, and Milwaukee police are holding on to the painting in the meantime. *AP, Aug. 14*

Snake Takes

- WSLs reported on Aug. 13 that an 8-foot python was the source of overnight chaos at Forest Middle School in Bedford County, Virginia. While inside the school, the escaped snake knocked over a heat lamp, starting a fire, which triggered the school’s sprinkler system and alerted the fire department at 12:31 a.m. Firefighters responded, found and secured the python, and proceeded to extinguish the fire. Eight classrooms were damaged, but Bedford County Public Schools stated, “This will not affect the first day of school as alternate locations within FMS for impacted areas will be assigned, if needed.” Crews are working to repair and clean the damaged areas while the east wing of the school is temporarily closed. *WSLS 10, Aug. 13*

Snake Takes

- A car ride took a surprising turn for a family running an errand in Lebanon, Tennessee, when a snake began slithering across their car’s hood while they were driving. “We were on our way to Mt. Juliet,” Analissa Hensley told News 2, “and we’re just having a conversation, and my husband’s like, ‘There’s a snake.’” Hensley began recording the snake’s path across the hood. She estimates it to have been about 5 feet long. “I’m sitting there like, ‘We have a huge snake on the hood of our car.’” The family attempted to pull the car over, but Hensley said that was when the snake rolled and went off the side. Experts say the snake appears to have been a nonvenomous gray rat snake. *WKRN, Aug. 13*

Let Sleeping Bears Lie

The Norwegian government fined an unnamed perpetrator over \$5,000 for sounding a foghorn that disturbed a polar bear, waking it and causing it to move. CNN reported on Aug. 14 that a boat was sailing through fjords in Svalbard, an archipelago that lies about halfway between Norway and the North Pole, when someone on board the vessel spotted a sleeping polar bear and used the ship’s foghorn to rouse it. Polar bears are protected by Norwegian and international laws, which say that it is prohibited to “unnecessarily disturb, lure or pursue polar bears.” Geoff York, vice president of research and policy at Polar Bears International, says

that polar bears have fewer food sources in the summer. “Disturbing bears during this time of year may be more significant for their survival or potential reproductive success if it’s a pregnant or nursing female by causing them to burn calories unnecessarily,” he said. The individual has agreed to pay the fine. *CNN, Aug. 14*

Finger Lickin’ Good

WLKY reported on Aug. 17 that a bear made its way into a home and helped itself to KFC leftovers. Kendra North, of Harlan County, Kentucky, said she had left her home’s front door open due to lack of air conditioning and forgot to shut it before going to bed. The bear, estimated to have been between 600 to 700 pounds, wandered in, ate the leftover food and shattered a glass table. While North slept through the encounter, her sister, who lives in a neighboring mobile home, was awoken by the bear. North said a few days later that a cub estimated to be around 300 pounds was on her porch as she made dinner. “I keep that front door shut good though at night now, and apparently 7 p.m. is bear time now too,” she said. *WLKY, Aug. 16*

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

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BACK FOR 2026!

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Friday - Sunday 12pm, 3pm & 5pm

Monday 12pm & 3pm



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