



Teatotaller Cafe has added a new splash of color and inclusivity to downtown



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- Nothing says autumn quite like this town's annual fall foliage festival.
- Everyone loves bacon. And everyone *really* loves this new bacon shop.
- Think your garden took a lot of work? Meet Steve Geddes' giant pumpkin.
- You have a lot to look forward to in the coming months. Your head start.

Cover photo of Emmett Soldati by Geoff Forester



Batulo Mahamed connects through cuisine



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There's plenty on the menu

Let's begin with a confession: I like beer as much as the next New England IPA convert, but I've always scoffed at anything that claimed to have added fruit - don't get me started on pumpkin spice - and anything that called itself a

Then I met the Delicate Cycle sour ale brewed at Lithermans Limited in Concord, which is made with an abundance of raspberries and lemons. It was love at first sip.

This edition of Around Concord illustrates our collective ability to have all kinds of new beverage exploration without ever leaving the city thanks to the trio of microbreweries in town. Pick your location, pick your atmosphere, pick your beverage, rinse and repeat. What fun.

For those of us looking for eat and drink without the alcohol, behold the pink edifice on Main Street, which is home to the aptly named Teatotaller Cafe. Owner Emmett Soldati brought his model for a LGBTQ-friendly cafe, which has been hopping in Somersworth since 2016, over to the Capitol City.

It's equal parts cafe and arts space, with custom furniture and murals and special events on tap. "We just opened in Concord and I have been blindsided by the support, interest and curiosity," Soldati said.

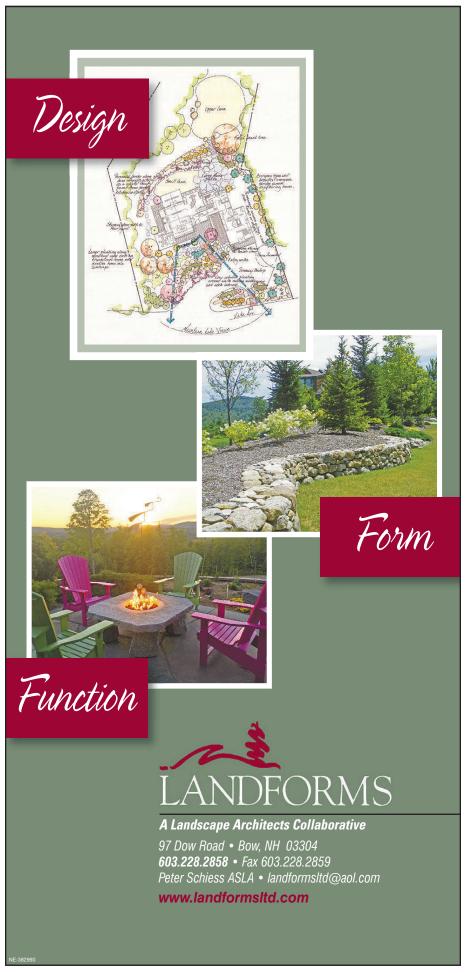
And for those who like a little more swine with their dine, check out Shaker Road Provisions, where owners George "Rocky" Burpee and his wife Laura make small-batch artisanal bacon. They're located on Fort Eddy Road next to Planet Fitness. That's right, you can buy bacon by the pound on your way home from the gym. Enjoy!

Jonathan Van Fleet

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THE TIP LIST

Fast faves

Reagan Bissonnette is the executive director of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA), a nonprofit organization that helps communities in New England manage their own recycling programs, including 85% of towns and cities in New Hampshire. (You'll notice her passion for recycling and waste reduction is a common theme among her local favorite spots.) Reagan lives in Concord with her husband and elementary-age son, and is the president of the Concord Public Library Foundation. Here's a look at some of her family's favorite Saturday morning activities.

Bona Fide

This package-free home goods store supports my family's waste reduction efforts. I

purchased my trusty Klean Kanteen insulated water bottle here (which I take everywhere, including the gym), as well as reusable bamboo utensils and reusable mesh produce bags. We buy bulk items like toothpaste tabs, shampoo bars and soap.



The Works and Teatotaller

For brunch, we are fans of The Works Café, which sources food from local farmers and sends their food scraps and packaging to an anerobic digester rather than a landfill. We're also enjoying Teatotaller, a self-described "queer hipster oasis" that's a new addition to Main Street. Plus, both cafes are happy to put our drinks in our reusable mugs!

Read all about Teatotaller Cafe on Page 26

Concord Library

We always enjoy a stop by the library to pick up books, as we prefer to borrow rather than own many books at home. The library also offers free educational events, discounted museum passes, and digital resources

seum passes, and digital resources like audiobooks and e-books. It also has a telescope my son loves to borrow.



Downtown Farmers Market

Not only is the farmers market a great way to buy fresh food and support local farmers, but it's also a good source of package-free food. We fill our

reusable produce bags with fruit, veggies, and baked goods and say hello to friends and neighbors.

White Mountain CrossFit

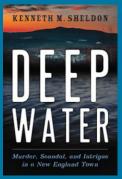
My husband and I have been members of White Mountain CrossFit for years and love the community there. During the week, I go to classes at 5 a.m. with other extra-early risers, but on Saturdays, we'll go as a family, and my son can play with other kids there.

FALL READING LIST

Off the shelf

As summer fades and fall arrives, it's perhaps time for a change of scenery in your reading selections. Turn the page with NH writers.





Deep Water

By Kenneth Sheldon

In the waning days of World War I, William K. Dean was brutally murdered, his body hog-tied and dumped in a rainwater cistern on his farm in the quiet town of Jaffrey. Suspicion quickly fell on Dean's wife, an invalid in the early stages of dementia. Her friends, outraged at the accusations, pointed instead to a former tenant of Dean's, whom many suspected of being a German spy. Others believed that Dean's best friend, a politically powerful banker and judge, was involved. Deep Water is based on extensive research into the Dean murder, including thousands of pages of FBI documents, grand jury testimonies, newspaper accounts, private correspondence, and the archives of the Jaffrey Historical Society. Kenneth Sheldon is a freelance author, editor and playwright. His work has appeared in publications ranging from Acoustic Guitar to Yankee Magazine, where he was formerly a columnist. His book Welcome to Frost Heaves, a collection of Yankee humor, was published in 2015. He lives in Peterborough.

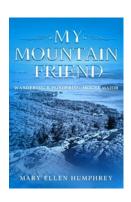
My Mountain Friend

By Mary Ellen Humphrey

My Mountain Friend: Wandering & Pondering Mount Major, is a memoir about hiking Mt. Major over 1,000 times. In this book, former New Hampshire state Sen. Humphrey shares her story of how this hiking trail changed her perspective and helped her make sense of life's challenges.

"The nature of things is change. Hiking Mount Major taught me this. Every hike is

unique and special. Ambient noises, smells and sights vary from season to season in the snow, wind and rain," she writes. "For over ten years I traversed Mount Major every chance I got. Hiking solo offered me a chance to find peace and the strength to face life's difficult problems. It's where I learned to be grateful for the truly wonderful things in my life, and where I went to sort out my thoughts, to celebrate, and sometimes to grieve."



All the Flowers of the Mountain

By Christina Holbrook

In a Paris art gallery, Dr. Michael Pearce comes upon a sculpture by the artist Katherine Morgan. His discovery of the



vivid bronze artwork sends Pearce reeling back into his past. Devastatingly lifelike, the sculpture evokes memories of a summer

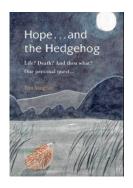
many years earlier when Michael and Katherine – "Kit" – met as teenagers by a lake in New Hampshire. He was a small-town boy who skied, played guitar, and was destined to run his father's hardware store; she was the restless, troubled daughter of a wealthy New York family. Set amidst the mountains, farmlands, and elegant summer homes of rural New England, All the Flowers of the Mountain is the story of a pivotal summer for Michael and Kit. Michael's ambitions are ignited by this young woman - he grows determined that their future will be together. But Kit dreams of becoming an artist and her struggle with a mysterious event from the past leads her to a deadly showdown by summer's end, and decisions that will break Michael's

A native of New York and the White Mountains of New Hampshire, Christina Holbrook now lives in Colorado with her husband. Holbrook's column Lark Ascending ran in the Summit Daily in Frisco, Colorado, from 2016 through 2020. More recently, her short fiction and essays have appeared in numerous literary journals and anthologies. All the Flowers of the Mountain is her first novel.

Hope ... and the Hedgehog

By Tom Vaughan

Described as "pocketbook philosophy for the present age," it is a digestible exploration of the meaning of life which aims to unpick the big questions most of us spend our lives avoiding: how did life begin, how does it end, and what happens to us after we die? Author Vaughan's life has come full circle from his first career as co-founder of the successful chain of Juliana's discotheques, which he started in the '60s and grew to be the world's largest entertainment group of its type at the time. With no scientific, philosophical or theological training and few school qualifications but



armed with heaps of life experience as an entrepreneur, he switches gears to take on the role of "everyman philosopher," creating a new book that makes people stop and think. He divides his time between homes in the UK and Wilmot, New Hampshire.

The Boy Who Loved Maps

By Kari Allen

Concord author Kari Allen has released her debut novel on finding the perfect place. One little girl in The Boy Who Loved Maps envi-



sions her perfect place to be a "toesin-the-sand-warm, X-marks-the-spotplace filled with treasures, where it smells like her birthday and she

can zip around like a dragonfly"! But does a place that is all of these things exist? One talented Mapmaker is determined to find out ... and it might not be as far away as we think.

The Mapmaker loves maps. He loves to collect them, to study them, and most of all, he loves to make them. But when a girl asks for a map of a perfect place, the Mapmaker is perplexed. Surely, her described perfect place can't exist ... can it? Well, after a fun-filled day of exploring the neighborhood, the Mapmaker will discover that the perfect place - home - has been right in front of him all along.

This enchanting picture book helps readers appreciate the charms of their own neighborhood - and

even shows them how to make a map of it! This heartwarming story is paired with illustrations from G. Brian Karas.

If We Could Get a Dog

By Susan Lynn Ford

This fun and exciting children's book is about how a family decided

together to adopt a little brown dog!

If We Could Get a Dog ... Henry Finds His Forever Home is about adopting a dog, and the preparation,



thought, and consideration that goes into that decision. Emily's story is entertaining but can also help initiate important discussions about getting a pet before taking that step.

Susan Lynn Ford of Center Harbor has been an animal lover all of her life. Ford started riding horses as a young girl and has owned horses, dogs, cats and birds. Ford has three rescue dogs and two rescue cats. She and her husband volunteered at the "farm" referred to in the story, which is where they found Henry, the subject of the story.

(Book descriptions submitted by *authors or publishers.)*



Antonio Natola with his wife, Catherine.

Courtesy

My Antonio and the Stitch that Binds

Essays in 'Time for Everything' by Joseph Steinfield bring readers on a personal tour of history and connection

Time for Everything picks up where Joseph Steinfield's first book, Claremont Boy, left off, with tributes to friends and heroes and essays on being Jewish, sports and humor, health and politics. These pieces were originally published in the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript.

The second half of the book, "Thinking About the Law," contains pieces about the rule of law, the Constitution and the Supreme Court. Most of the articles in this section were previously published in The Keene Sentinel and some first appeared in the Concord Monitor. These are eminently readable essays, written without legalese for a lay audience.



Antonio Natola, right, with Gaetano Cataldi, who was also an Italian immigrant.

Courtesy

Once again, Steinfield has applied his storytelling skills to his life's experiences, and to our legal system as well. Whatever the subject, he writes to inform, to educate and to provoke a smile along the way. As readers will discover, the book's subtitle, My Curious Life, is well chosen.

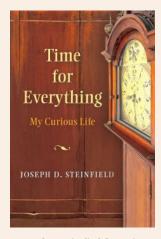
Steinfield was born and raised in Claremont, New Hampshire, where he graduated from Stevens High School in 1957. He is a graduate of Brown University and Harvard Law School. He was formerly a partner at Hill & Barlow in Boston and became a partner at the Boston firm of Prince Lobel Tye in 2003. He specializes in litigation and First Amendment law. He lives with his wife in Keene and Jaffrey.

He will speak about his book at Gibson's Bookstore on Sept. 20 at 6:30 p.m. Here is an essay from the collection:

Tailor made

In the fall of 1973, I needed a suit. We were on our way to Russia, and I heard you dressed up for the Bolshoi Ballet.

I had seen a sign near my office, "J&T Tailors, One Flight Up," and I decided to climb the stairs to the



Joseph Steinfield's "Time for Everything" will be available at Toadstool, Gibson's and as a direct order to Bauhan Publishing.

shop. There were the proprietors, Joe and Tony, and I saw that they had quite a selection of men's clothing. I told them I was going to Russia and needed a nice suit. With Tony's help, I picked one out, and Tony, with chalk in hand and pins between his teeth, he took the measurements.

I returned a week later to pick up the altered suit. While I tried it on, Tony told me that he was from a village in Italy called San Sossio Baronia. His English wasn't great, but his personal warmth more than made up for his lack of fluency. I looked at a certificate on the wall, written in Italian, and learned that his full name was Antonio Natola.

From that year to July 3, 2016, a span of forty-three years, Tony was "my tailor," the only one I will ever have. He also became

my friend. I bought suits, jackets, slacks and coats from him, and when my sons were old enough, I took them to the shop. Joe and Tony moved a few times, but somehow they were always close to where I worked.

Tony was more than my tailor; he became my friend. Sometimes I would drop in just to chat. If too long went by, I would get a call. "It's Tony, Tony the Tailor. How come I no see you?"

Over the years we shared quite a bit. We both had

two sons and a daughter, and we both became widowers in the 1980s. Our friendship got stronger.

Joe decided to retire, and a few years later Tony followed suit, so to speak, but not for long. He missed his customers, he told me, so he took a corner in a shop owned by a Dominican woman named Theresa and continued as before, though now mostly from catalogs. When my grandson graduated from high school a year ago, I took him to see Tony, who knew just what jacket and slacks were right for him to take to college. As we left, Tony told Jacob to pick out a tie, "my gift to you."

My lawyer son turned 50 in the spring of 2016, and I made a date to take him in to see Tony. When we got there, Tony gave me a hug, as always, and they then picked out a beautiful blue suit. Tony said he would call when the suit arrived.

When my grandson graduated from high school, I took him to see Tony, who knew just what jacket and slacks were right for him to take to college. As we left, Tony told Jacob to pick out a tie, "my gift to you."

Several days later, I got a message, not from Tony but Theresa, telling me that the suit was ready. When my son and I went to the shop the next week, she told us, "Tony's in the hospital, he's very sick." With tears in her eyes, she made sure the suit was just right.

I then spoke several times with Tony's daughter, Anna, who was not optimistic. A few weeks later she called, and I knew what I needed to do. I hung up, went to my car, and drove from downtown Boston to the Lahey Clinic in Burlington, Massachusetts. Anna was there and so was Lena, Tony's daughter-in-law.

Despite the oxygen tube and other hospital room paraphernalia, Tony gave me a big smile and extended his hand, which I held throughout the visit. We had a wonderful conversation, reflecting on our long friendship. Anna and Lena looked on, taking it all in. He told me he loved me, and I told him I loved him.

As I was getting ready to leave, knowing this would likely be our last time together, I asked a question. "Tony, what color was the suit you sold me before I went to Russia?"

His eyes twinkled. "Beige," he said.



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Firefall

Firefall, one of the Capitol Center for the Art's headliners for this year's festival, will perform Sept. 24. Art vendors and pop-up performances will also line Main Street in Concord.



Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce



Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce



Windwood Productions

Celebrate the arts

Annual Capital Arts Festival will be in many locations Sept. 24-25

Concord is a year-round arts destination, but for one weekend in the fall, the arts literally take over. You'll be able to peruse art vendors, talk to artisans, take in a show and wash it all down with food and drinks from a local downtown restaurant.

The Capital Arts Festival began six years ago in downtown Concord to celebrate the city's thriving scene. For an updated events lineup for the festival on Sept. 24 and 25, go to visitconcord-nh.com/capital-arts-fest.



"We like sharing our culture with other people and to see other people doing the same thing is really fun. Everyone at the Multicultural Festival is really friendly and there's just so much to do there, so we love going every year."



Geoff Forester

Batulo Mahamed is a farmer with the Fresh Start Farms collective. She maintains a garden and is often accompanied by several of her 12 children, including, Sangabo Shegow, at their Boscawen field of corn.

NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE

UNITING CULTURE, CUISINE

Long a staple at the annual Multicultural Festival, **Batulo Mahamed** has built a following with her meat pies, which she learned to bake as a child in Somalia.

By EILEEN O'GRADY

Batulo Mahamed's vendor booth at the Concord Multicultural Festival never fails to draw a crowd.

Her traditional Somali meat pies, which she sells every year - choose from beef, chicken or vegetable - are filled with potatoes, onions and carrots that she grows herself, encased in a dough she makes from scratch, and deep fried to a golden-brown crisp until they are steaming hot. Many of her customers find them so irresistible they come back for seconds.

"People that just want to try, they buy one," Mahamed said. "And then, later on, they come up and say 'oh it was so good, now I need more."

Mahamed, who lives in Boscawen, learned how to make meat pies from her mother while growing up in Somalia. For them, meat pies were considered a special-occasion food that they would fry up for celebrations.

When political instability and civil war in Somalia made it too dangerous to remain in the country, Mahamed was displaced to a refugee camp and was resettled to Concord with her husband and children in 2004. During her first few years in Concord, Mahamed would make Somali meat pies to serve to friends and visitors from social services organizations who came to her house to help with paperwork or transportation. Everyone who tried them would remark on how good they were, and it wasn't long before Mahamed was invited to be a food vendor at the Concord Multicultural Festival.

She started out doing her festival prep cooking in local church kitchens, and now uses NH Food Bank facilities in Manchester. Over the years, Mahamed has become the most popular food vendor at the Multicultural Festival, where she estimates that she sells about 500 meat pies in one day. She has also sold



Batulo Mahamed, right, with her children, Mahamad Shegow, far left, Hassan Shegow, and Sangabo Shegow, at a recent Multicultural Festival.





food at Concord's Market Days Festival and at the Barnstead Farmer's Market.

"Batulo has her own following," said Jessica Livingston, director of the Concord Multicultural Festival. "Every year when we're promoting it on Facebook, people will be like 'oh, I can't wait for the Somali meat pies.' It makes me really happy to see something like this come out of the festival."

Mahamed attributes her popularity to the novelty of the food.

"People like to try different stuff," she explained. "My cultural food is different. Some of them want to try each food. They like whatever is going to be the best smell, and besttasting one."

In her vendor booth, Mahamed is usually accompanied by several of her 12 children, who help with food prep and sales. Mahamed's daughter Sangabo Shegow, 15, a student at Merrimack Valley High School, says she

enjoys helping her mom at festivals, because she usually has an opportunity to sample some different foods herself.

"We like sharing our culture with other people and to see other people doing the same thing is really fun," Shegow said. "Everyone at the Multicultural Festival is really friendly and there's just so much to do there, so we love going every year."

During the rest of the year, Mahamed is a farmer with the Fresh Start Farms collective. She maintains her own garden plots in Boscawen at Sycamore Community Gardens, and grows vegetables, which she sells at the Barnstead Farmer's Market. She also works as a cleaner at Comfort

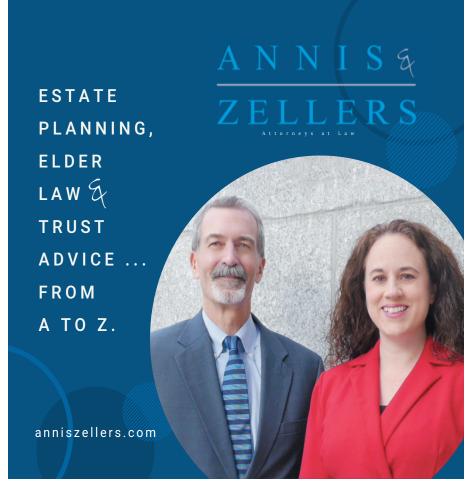
Mahamed has plans to launch her own business, selling her meat pies under the name "Batulo's Kitchen." Mahamed's vision includes a food truck equipped with kitchen appliances, where she can fry her pies on site and hand them, freshly cooked, to customers through the window. Although still in the early stages, Mahamed plans to start her business through New Hampshire's Community Navigator Program, which offers resources to immigrants, refugees and other underrepresented entrepreneurs who may face barriers in launching their own businesses.

"It's really nice to take something so great from the festival and just expand on it, make it bigger than the festival," Livingston said. "Now she's going to be able to share her culture and be accessible to everybody every day, and a really big part of the community."

At festivals, customers are always asking Mahamed where they can buy her food locally - and she is excited that she may soon have an answer for them.

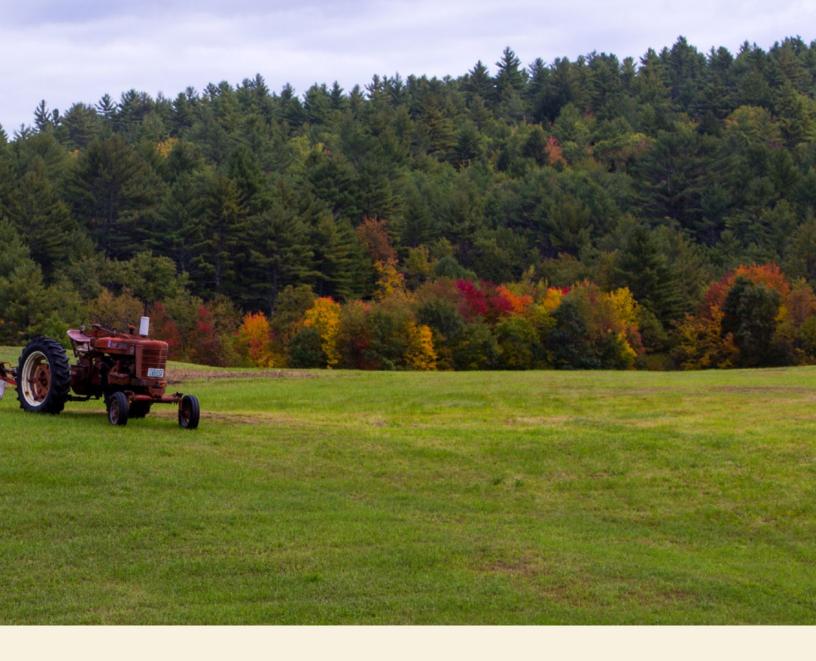
"I want the people to taste my food, to know better who I am and where I come from," Mahamed said. •







Welcome to autumn in New Hampshire, where the leaves star, visitors descend and the season of fairs and festivals is in full bloom. If you're looking for a place to start your exploration of this iconic season, we suggest visiting the Warner Fall Foliage Festival



By MAX SCHEINBLUM

One of the cornerstones of New England fall weather is its iconic foliage. The dense reds, yellows and oranges clouding the roadsides paint a picturesque image of autumnal serenity. People travel from far and wide to admire such scenes, embracing the vibrant leaves as the temperature dips before the holidays roll around.

Among the premier places these vegetation enthusiasts venture to is the Warner Fall Foliage Festival, right in bucolic Warner. The volunteer-led event began in 1947 as a way to gather people the season before winter, where the town would see countless tourists who came to ride its 1,200-foot ski tow.

"When you move into Warner the first or second call you get is not 'Welcome to Warner' but 'What can you do on Columbus Day weekend? What are you doing?' "

A tractor sits in an open hay field off of Schoodac Road in Warner against a backdrop of leaves turning a variety of colors. The Warner Fall Foliage festival runs on Oct. 8 and 9. For more information, visit wfff.org.

Geoff Forester.



Monitor file

Animals were on full display in 2019, whether is was oxen walking the streets or Rocket Wren with some flying tricks.

said Ray Martin, now president of the event. "And so I got involved."

What started as a way to get the Boston ski bus moving a couple months earlier has blossomed into a festival that regularly draws up to 10,000 people on each of its two weekend days. This year's event falls on Oct. 8 and 9 in the Warner Town Square.

"For that Saturday and Sunday it's just on a volunteer basis," he said.
"There's a large number of volunteers during the festival, like 150-200 working on it."

The volunteer need has ballooned since 1947 due to the ever-expanding event. There are fair rides, chicken and lobster barbeques, vendors, road races – a one miler for the kids on

Sunday after a 5k on Saturday – and two parades.

"A crafts fair wrapped around amusements and food," Martin calls it.

And, of course, you can't forget about the star of the event. Sunday's grand parade – not to be confused with Saturday's children's parade – is filled with around 11 or 12 leaf-themed floats competing for prizes.

"One of the emphases is the use of foliage. In other words, leaves in limbs and trees," he said. "And it's just about the typical peak of foliage right in Warner that weekend."

Putting on what is the biggest foliage event in the Concord area has a tremendous impact on community development in the region. Through donations alone, the festival raises anywhere from \$15,000 to \$25,000 in a given year. The best part for Martin? It all stays in the town of almost 3,000.

"It's like a mini United Way," Martin playfully remarked.

He also praised how the influx of business helps many local restaurants and craftspeople build up cash flow for idle winter months.

"It's great helping all the various community organizations from the food pantry, to youth sports to the school," he said. "A couple of years ago we got a pottery kiln for the school, so it's well worth the effort. Nothing leaves town."

Even when COVID-19 broke out in spring 2020, the city-wide connectedness could not be dampened.

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Monitor file

Past Warner Fall Foliage Festivals have included the Granite State Cloggers, left, and Snow the Living Statue.

"Two years ago we had what we call the virtual one," Martin recalled. "We still had a road race, just digitally timed, fundraisers, raffle tickets, sponsorships, donations. Things like that, which raised \$10,000 for the food pantry."

The success of a remote celebration had the team poised to make a strong comeback in fall 2021, but the Delta variant upended those plans. With mere months before it was set to kick off, a once optimistic group canceled the event altogether for the first time in its 75-year history.

But this year, the show will go on.

"Well, it's typically the same thing that doesn't change a lot, though we do have music now. We have the Main Street Bookends' outdoor amphitheater that we bring in a lot of musical acts starting Friday night and then all day Saturday and Sunday," Martin said. "We really had been gearing up the music part of it before COVID, so we're getting back in the swing of things. This [year] is kind of like a touchy-feely type thing, but after we'll get going again with the music."

The layout of downtown Warner makes it the perfect setting to expand the event in this direction. One side of Main Street will have music while the other holds a craft fair for local vendors. And don't worry if your stomach starts to grumble - the Warner Fall Foliage Festival will provide plenty of options.

"Back in the school grounds we have the rides, as well as lobster and chicken barbecue and other food vendors," he said.

Orchestrating this against a Monetlike backdrop hasn't always panned out with an erratic New Hampshire climate, though. But it is those experiences that remind Martin why he is a part of the festival in the first place.

"When it snowed was pretty interesting. Another time we had all the tents set up and on Friday night a big

storm came through and blew them all down. So we had to put them all back up," he said cheerily. "Everybody pitched in with that. We were digging ditches to get the water out of there, and it really brought everybody back together. All just to make sure we could have it."

For questions about volunteering, vending or other information, visit WFFF.org. ◆







COVER STORY



TASTE and

With its bright pink facade and its commitment to equity and inclusion,

Teatotaller Cafe

is standing strong in downtown Concord

Story, Page 28

"My favorite thing is the people, the staff, the customers, the drag queens. It's everyone that wakes up every day."

EMMETT SOLDATI, who expanded his business in Somersworth to a new site in Concord



Emmett Soldati, owner of Teatotaller Cafe in Concord.

By ALEX THILL

In downtown Concord, the beautiful red brick buildings and granitelined streets tell the history of a centuries-old New Hampshire city.

However, just two blocks from the 200-year-old State House stands a bright pink facade, that is meant to be visually different from the rest.

Behind the bold exterior of the Teatotaller Cafe is a collective of committed artists and activists working toward a common goal - inclusivity and acceptance.

The "R U Curious?" sign plastered on the glass front door in a pink hue, almost as bright as the building, hopes that those passing by will answer its enticing question, and step inside.

Upon walking through the entrance, one is faced with pops of colors that are begging to be noticed. These colorful accents don't stop at the structural components of the cafe, as customers can choose from a drink like the lavender lemonade or the avo stack toast as colorful as the architectural design.

This commitment to taste and style is shown not only in the food, but in the art design as well. Muralist Rachel Sotak created some of the whimsical artwork inside the cafe. She said that the thought of community was present in the pink, flowing design that amplifies the atmosphere of the cafe.

The mural is made up of a combination of elegant, pink brush strokes painted across a white background, a perfect place to take an Instagrammable picture upon visiting the eatery.

"One of the things we talked a lot about was wanting to make sure that it was something that was appealing to all audiences," said Sotak. "What's so amazing about art is that it has the ability to be interpreted so I think when we decided to do something that was abstract we wanted to have the same sort of intention with it."

Sotak asked herself an important question in the design process. "How do you create something that can be fluid and appealing to anyone and everyone and be welcoming to anyone and everyone?" Her answer was found in the philosophy that founder Emmett Soldati created in the Teatotaller Cafe. Rather than creating an art piece intended to make a person do a certain thing or feel a certain way, Sotak and Soldati focused on creating a



piece that could be understood in a variety of different ways. "I think having the very fluid shapes and his brand colors spoke to that message very well," Sotak said.

Pride month may be over, but Soldati has found a way to help keep the celebration of queer culture alive at the Teatotaller Cafe.

Entering their 11th year as a business in Somersworth, Teatotaller has already made a huge impact on the New Hampshire community, and since its opening in Concord this June, Soldati has been overwhelmed with support from its new community as well.

"We just opened in Concord and I have been blindsided by the support, interest and curiosity," he said.

Soldati considers the restaurant to be a place for everyone, something that the world could use a little more of right now. "We are a third place, not your home and not your work. We are a place that is clearly welcoming and inclusive and celebrating of difference and queerness, which is severely lacking."

The Teatotaller Cafe is not only a safe space for members of the LGBTQ+ community but is a dry establishment as well. "Fashion between being both a dry and a recovery space means we are also a space for youth to gather and commune and hang out," Soldati says.

The nature of the non-alcoholic restaurant is to inspire those that might not partake in drinking to socialize in the same way that one might do at a local bar. "Identities, queer identities, tend to be tied up into adult-only identities," Soldati said, "Which is not the nature of what it means to grow up and think about one's self and place in the world." He wanted the restaurant to be all-inclusive and incorporating a no-alcohol policy allows for all people of all ages to experience the vibrant, energetic culture of Teatotaller.

"My favorite thing is the people, the staff, the customers, the drag



Geoff Forester

queens," said Soldati. "It's everyone that wakes up every day."

Soldati's love for those involved in the eatery both internally and externally is one of the many reasons Teatotaller has been so successful. "He [Soldati] kind of took a chance on me actually, which I'm really grateful for," said Sotak. She had reached out to Soldati inquiring about a potential collaboration, knowing early on that the Concord restaurant would be a smashing success.

The connections that have been formed over avocado toast and Soldati's signature "breakfast sammy" is a true testament to the cafe's success, speaking volumes of the kind of location that was lacking in Concord. "The things that we've done have had the reverse effect and pulled people out of the woodwork in small sleepy towns," said Soldati. "Until you have spaces that activate people you really never know how they think or how they feel."

If the joyful exuberance of the cafe isn't enough incentive to visit the restaurant, one only needs to turn to the menu. "I'm proud of our menu. I've liked that our menu, although from scratch and from the brain of Emmett Soldati, has delighted people." Soldati continues to describe the bakery as "almost as queer as the programming."

Teatotaller has proven that New Hampshire is anything but a cultural food desert despite its quiet nature, as this "queer oasis" allows people to feel as if they've been transported to a whole new city or country.

The eatery's presence in Concord is quenching a thirst that people have had for something new and different, making an impact on anyone who chooses to visit. "Having Teatotaller has made me fall in love with New Hampshire all over again," Soldati said. "Teatotaller has revealed to me how much of a community of support I have here from anonymous strangers, neighbors, and others who think like me and feel like me."

Soldati said that the overwhelming support from the Concord community signals to him that there is a real need for such spaces in the town. "We are not just a cute, small and funky shop but we are actually fulfilling a need in communities," Soldati says. "We hope to grow and provide a workplace that is inclusive and a safe space and to really connect communities that are thirsting for an oasis while continuing to build consistent treats at our Somersworth and Concord shops." ◆







George "Rocky" Burpee and his manager, Madeline Savorie, make bacon burgers at the new Concord store. George and his wife, Laura Burpee, own and run Shaker Road Provisions, which makes small-batch bacon. After two years on the farmers market circuit, the couple has moved operations into a storefront on Fort Eddy Road, taking over the former home of Smokeshow Barbeque, which recently moved to the South End of Concord.

MAKIN' BACON

By DAVID BROOKS

You know people like what you're selling when your sign needs to have only one word.

"At farmers markets, our tent literally just says 'Bacon' on it. That's all it needs," said George "Rocky" Burpee of Loudon, who with wife Laura owns and runs Shaker Road Provisions, which makes smallbatch bacon. After two years on the farmers market circuit, they've moved into a storefront on Fort Eddy Road, taking over the former home of Smokeshow Barbeque,





The menu at Shaker Road Provisions proves just how versatile bacon can be. It can be a great enhancer to chicken salad or potato salad. But it can also be the star of the show, eaten by itself or mixed into its signature burgers, shown above.

which has moved to a bigger restaurant on South Main Street.

Both Rocky and Laura, an attorney, have culinary backgrounds but cooking bacon commercially started as an accident.

"When I do stuff I usually blow up and go way overboard. I was making bacon for myself as an experiment. Next thing you know I'm making 10 pounds, 20 pounds at a time. One week I could only buy by the case, not a single pork-belly slab, and ended up with 65 pounds," Rocky said.

He offered it for sale and it went so



JONON!

George "Rocky" Burpee holds up a slab.



Shaker Road Provisions is at 89 Fort Eddy Road, Suite 2, in Concord. Also, visit shakerroadprovisions.com for recipes.

fast he tried again the next week. That sold out quickly and he had a waiting list, so they started going at it more seriously, getting licensed and approaching it as a real business. They expanded from two to three to four farmers markets and Rocky quit his full-time job as a dump truck driver, but they soon hit their limit.

"There's only so much table space, only so many products you can bring to the farmers market," he said.

transition has been smooth.

If they really wanted to expand, they realized, they needed their own storefront. Smokeshow Barbecue had a walk-in cooler and hood system, so the

"We recently hired our first full-time employee," Rocky said. They're open five days a week, closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, and do some catering along with the storefront. They plan to keep going

"The pork comes from Canada – they have a little bit stricter regulations. We take raw pork, and make everything from scratch in-house."

GEORGE "ROCKY" BURPEE

to the Concord and Salem farmers markets, which have indoor space and run all year long.

At the storefront they've expanded into merchandise and some prepared foods but have no plans to go too far down the sandwich-and-sides route. Their bread and butter, so to speak, remains smoked bacon in all its delicious forms, including a onepound burger that's half beef, half bacon.

"The pork comes from Canada – they have a little bit stricter regulations. We take raw pork, and make everything from scratch in-house," Rocky said.

And the sign, which had been installed right before this interview? Well, you know what it says.

"Just in the last week we had several people come in, saying 'I saw the sign - it said bacon. I had to check it out!" "◆



Geoff Forester photos

Concord's trio of microbreweries includes Concord Craft, above, Feathered Friend, below left, and Lithermans Limited.

BEER IS NEAR

Concord now has three microbreweries, each with its own flavor

By ALEX THILL

Not so long ago, Concord was devoid of any New England-style double IPAs made right here in the city. Extra-hoppy lagers and fruity sour ales were exotic drinks made in far-away breweries that only arrived here by truck.

Sam Adams, brewed in Boston, was considered a local beer.

Those days, thankfully for many craft beer enthusiasts, are gone. The Capital City is now home to three different micro-breweries, each with its own atmosphere and flavors to offer.

Concord Craft Brewing, which opened in 2017 with three beers on tap, is right downtown in the heart of the action. This year it opened an expanded taproom and renovated kitchen and features 16 beers on tap.



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Like a refreshing oasis in the midst of an industrial park on Hall Street, the walls of Lithermans Limited Brewery are decorated with artwork from their music-inspired beer names, like Ground Control, LL Cool Haze, and Pils to Pay the Bills, to name a few. Speaking of music, the taproom is bathed in classic hip-hop sounds from the 80s and 90s, which offers a different sonic landscape in the city.

Feathered Friend on South Main Street is the newest addition to the Concord beer scene and sets itself apart by its unique partnership with Smokeshow Barbeque inside the same building.

Here's some more refreshing information about Concord's three brew houses and what makes each unique.

Birds of a feather

Tucker Jadczak, founder of Feathered Friend, has beer in his blood. After all, he said his great grandfather was one of the first men in Massachusetts to embrace beer sales after



Tucker Jadczak started Feathered Friend Brewing on South Main Street earlier this year.

the end of Prohibition.

Five years ago, Jadczak quit his corporate job and decided to devote his time and energy to a new business venture in order to keep beer in the family.

"My father and I spent the better part of a year and a half building the bar, doing all the walls, the floor space, and transforming it to what it is now," Jadczak said.

He has been offering varied liquid creations to wet the whistles of his fledgling customers.

"We really pride ourselves on doing unique things and making sure that the flavor profiles of each of our beers are very different," Jadczak said. "We've only made a handful of beers, like two or three beers, twice. The rest of them have all been new recipes that we're testing out to see what people like, so we're kind of still finding our flavor."

As a brewery that runs on a 7-barrel system, rather than a 15-barrel system, Feathered Friend has the ability to experiment and make a wider variety of beer than other breweries.

"In the span of time that we've been open, a brewery that's a 15-barrel system would probably be able to only do half as many types of beer as we have and it just gives us a little more flexibility to play around with flavors and see what people like and then





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make more of that beer," said Jadczak.

Feathered Friend, which opened this year, has already experienced a steady stream of customers checking out what's new.

"I think the atmosphere that we offer is a lot different than most places in and around Concord," said Jadczak. "We're trying to make it something new and exciting for everyone that loves beer, honestly. Our whole brewery is open concept so the tasting room has a lot of wood in it and the back space is all industrial so you can see all of the brewing area from the tasting room and it's kind of a nice little rustic-meets-industrial-space."

The brewery hosts events and live music on Saturdays to maintain the high energy and positive atmosphere that pumps through the veins of the taproom.

Feathered Friend is located in the same building as Smokeshow Barbecue, making it a great place to not only be able to enjoy beer, but food and friends.

"They make food, we make beer," said Jadczak. "People will usually grab food from them and bring it over to our side so we let people bring in food from the barbecue restaurant or any other restaurant in town and they can sit down and eat while they have beer."

The vibe at Lithermans

Lithermans Limited, a brewery that has been open in Concord since 2016, is all about the vibe.

Stephen Bradbury, owner and director of brewery operations at Lithermans Limited, aims to make each person's experience the best that it can be, from the beer, to the music, to the tasty morsels sold from the food trucks outside.

"We're always looking at improvements in the process, in the recipe development, and in our sourcing of ingredients," said Bradbury.

One thing he's done is require servers to become "Cicerone" certified, which is a program that helps employees gain important basic



Lisa Sopel Johnson of Lithermans Limited Brewery pours a beer.

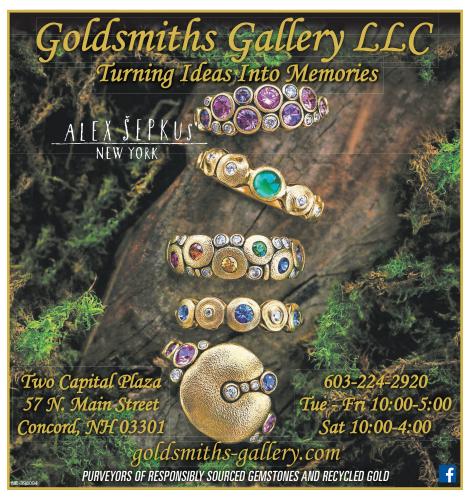
knowledge about different styles of beer as well as proper ways it can be served.

"When customers come in here they're going to get proper glassware, the beer is going to be served with the proper carbonation and temperature, and customers can gain some additional knowledge while they're here visiting the brewery," Bradbury said.

Lithermans Limited's reach into the community goes beyond its facility. The brewery partners with various programs throughout the year in order to support local foundations and raise money for causes across New Hampshire.

"We're always working with local charities or groups," Bradbury said. "For example, we just partnered with New Hampshire Artists for Autism and we're actually releasing a beer for them."

The organization ran an art contest









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This continuing care retirement community offers accommodations for assisted living, memory care, rehabilitation and skilled nursing should the need arise. All this in the company of friends.



Life in the company of friends.



and the winning artist was featured on the label for the Artists 4 Autism beer that was released in August.

Other collaborations included a beer called "I Will Survive," for the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and a beer named "We Can Be Heroes," in honor of Concord Police, which featured their therapy dog dressed as a superhero on the front of the can.

Their flagship beer, Misguided Angel, a hazy New England Style IPA, has become a staple and is now sold at most area grocery stores.

More than anything, Bradbury wants people to feel welcome when they visit Lithermans.

"We've always got the music playing that helps inspire us to make the beer so it's always a great vibe. It's a friendly, community atmosphere."

Building their craft

Before opening Concord Craft Brewing in 2017, husband and wife team, Beth Mayland and Dennis Molnar, bonded over their shared passion for craft beer.

"I've been a home brewer for I guess about 30 years and kind of brought that into our marriage and we brewed beer for our wedding 27 years ago," said Molnar. "And when we traveled before opening the brewery, we always either looked for a brewery we could go to and try something different or looked for a place that had a bunch of local beer at it, rather than just going to a run-of-the-mill chain restaurant or something."

After witnessing firsthand what a good brewery could do to help transform a city, Molnar and Mayland believed that a brewery in the middle of the city is exactly what Concord needed.

"We didn't open it to brew any specific kind of beer," said Molnar. "We opened it to bring great craft beer to downtown Concord."

Like most breweries, Concord Craft offers a variety of IPAs, sours and lagers, however, unlike other breweries, they make it a point to



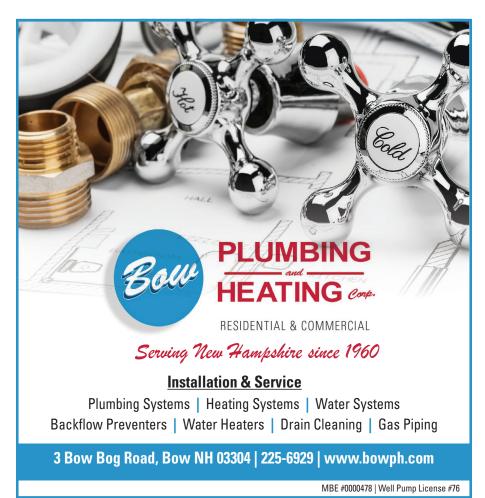
Dennis Molnar, co-owner of the Concord Craft Brewing.

keep those beers available all year round. Take the Craft's crowd favorite, "Four Rivers Red" ale.

"We've been making that since you know Day One practically and people are really excited that they can buy it year-round," Molnar said, "We kinda launched it as a St. Patrick's Day beer and there're some people that just don't like hoppy beers and don't like really heavier, dark beers ... we don't sell a ton of it, but work pretty hard to make sure it's available year round."

One of their most acclaimed offerings is the award-winning Safe Space IPA, which is now giving way to spinoffs like "Safer Space" with a lower alcohol content and "Double Safe Space" which comes in with a hefty 8.7% alcohol content.

"We decided when we opened it that if someone who liked beer came into the brewery and couldn't find at least one of our beers that they liked, we were doing something wrong," said Molnar. •







In a Boscawen backyard that evokes images of Jack and the Beanstalk, farmer Steve Geddes is again growing a beast of a gourd that could top 2,500 pounds

HE'S MAKING ONE

By RAY DUCKLER

And you think kids grow up fast?

Check out Steve Geddes' baby, in his vast garden behind his house in Boscawen. There, you'll see a big bump, shaped like a little Volkswagen Beetle, covered by white sheets and surrounded by giant green leaves that spread like the Poppy Field in the land of Oz.

A pumpkin sat under those sheets, needed to keep it cool against the humid nights. Geddes, a national record holder, pulled the sheets off like a car enthusiast unveiling a vintage Corvette.

The day was hot, but the pumpkin, somewhat round and bumpy, was cool

to the touch. It had gained 40 pounds overnight. In late July, it gained 60 in one night. Its vines can grow 12 inches in one night.

This pumpkin, Geddes said, weighed between 1,500 and 1,600 pounds during the summer. The official number will be documented at the Deerfield Fair later this month.

He's yet to top the 2,528-pound whopper he grew four years ago. In fact, no one in North America has produced a pumpkin that heavy.

No one.

"What I like about this is it's just a question of how big can they get?" said Geddes, who lives in Boscawen. "And can you improve it? It's like any other thing that is competitive. I'm curious, can I do better than I did last year? I've always competed against myself."

He began growing pumpkins more of a hobby for Geddes, an obsession for others - 15 years ago, when a friend, cognizant of Geddes' green thumb, finally convinced him to try it.

The friend gave Geddes a two-gallon pot with the pumpkin seed already buried in the soil. That's the traditional start of the process. Grow the pumpkin for two weeks inside, his friend told Geddes. Then, transplant the pot into the soil and watch it explode.

Geddes, who initially thought the idea was silly, quickly discovered that pumpkins, like children, get big, fast. He also discovered he was good at growing them.

He's 65 and slender, a competitive cyclist and runner who once routinely ran 10k races and marathons, but who had trouble in recent years finding the time to enjoy those lifelong activities, pushed aside by the attention needed to nurture these monstrosities.

Last year, with Covid changing the world, Geddes took a year off and discovered that he was happier and more relaxed than he had been in previous years.



Steve Geddes from Boscawen set a new record for growing the largest pumpkin in North America in 2018. His monstrous gourd weighed in at the Deerfield Fair at 2,528 pounds. The old United States record was 2,360 pounds. Geddes' record still stands.

Searching for balance in his life, he's growing just one this year so can enjoy exercising outdoors. He transplanted the two-gallon pot, with its soil and seed, on April 5.

The Atlantic Giant Plant serves as the foundation and lifeline for the pumpkin. Giant green leaves, too many to count, cover 1,200 square feet and will grow to 2,000 by the end of the summer.

The leaves grow side vines that all attach to one, thicker main vine and send nutrients to the pumpkin. That means all those huge green leaves are connected in a network and seen as one plant.

"He's good at it, but he puts in the time and effort, that's for sure," said Geddes' wife, Laurel Buccini, "I do the flowers and he does the vegetables."

His backyard is a garden of Eden, a

place blooming with flowers. Birds fly in and out, feasting on offerings from a birdhouse and a birdfeeder. Vegetables are growing everywhere: Tomatoes, asparagus, peppers, basil, cucumbers, butternut squash, zucchini, blueberries, apples.

The pumpkin, of course, dominates the landscape in the couple's backyard. It stands alone in size and weight, displaying a vegetable that needs to be lifted mechanically by straps and lowered onto a special scale to record its weight.

As Geddes put it, his pumpkins resemble something out of sci-fi movie, "or from a fable like Jack and the Beanstalk. Other (vegetables) just don't grow like that."

Meanwhile, Geddes and his vibrant vegetable are, like growers around the world, governed by the Giant Pumpkin Commonwealth. A representative

from the GPC sometimes attends an event - like in Deerfield - if the organization believes that a record might fall. Otherwise, two individuals are chosen and serve as witnesses.

The Giant Pumpkin Statistics and Grower Resource is easy to find online and lists the top 10 official pumpkin weights. Geddes is fifth, but he's No. 1 in North America.

The four growers above him are European, and Geddes recites their names and records like a baseball fan announcing the Red Sox's lineup.

Geddes is part of this elite group. He goes above and beyond what some growers do. He gets on his knees early each morning to spray the plant's giant green leaves and soil below, saying it's better for the roots than merely spraying from above.

He covers the pumpkin with those sheets, which growers don't always do, and there are even fewer who use five sheets like Geddes does. He uses a tarp like a fence, raising it each night so mice and deer don't snack and form a hole that could lead to rotThe Giant Pumpkin Statistics and Grower Resource is easy to find online and lists the top 10 official pumpkin weights. Geddes is fifth, but he's No. 1 in North America. The four growers above him are European, and Geddes recites their names and records like a baseball fan announcing the Red Sox's lineup.

ting and a waste of weeks or even months of work.

And, unlike some others who grow their pumpkins indoors to create the perfect environment - increased CO2 levels and a perfect climate - Geddes does it all outside, daring the elements to affect his baby as it sprouts fast like a weed.

Members of the state's Giant Pumpkin Growers Association host meetings every two weeks, at a different member's home each time. Geddes hosted the last one.

He set up picnic tables in his backyard, about 50 yards from the big

bump covered by white sheets. Members ate, drank and discussed the subtleties of proper and successful pumpkin growing, like mixtures of water and nutrients.

Geddes goes all out. He uses a heating cable to keep the pumpkin warm and a double-sided fan to cool and dry any rotting-causing rodent bites.

It's a five-month window from birth to full size. Before you know it, Geddes' pumpkin will be fully grown. The scale is waiting.

"It's really growing fast," Buccini said.





OCT. 16

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Whether we've faced it ourselves, or someone we love has, almost everyone has been affected by breast cancer in some way. But at the same time, we can all do something about it. By donating to a Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event you're helping the American Cancer Society make a difference in so many

Memorial Field, Concord, Sunday at 11 a.m. makingstrideswalk .org/NH



SEPT. 16 - 18

N.H. Highland Games and Festival

The NH Highland Games and Festival is one of the largest and most diverse Highland Games held in North America. The Highland Games are as symbolically Scottish as bagpipes, kilts and whisky.

Loon Mountain Resort, Lincoln; Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

nhscot.org

SEPT. 18

Gala Arts Party

The Concord City Auditorium officially kicks off the 2022-2023 season as we welcome patrons back to a full year of live entertainment.

Concord City Auditorium, Sunday at 6 p.m.

theaudi.org

SEPT. 18

Concord Multicultural **Festival**

The Concord Multicultural Festival is an annual event in September to celebrate the beauty of diversity in the Capital Region, featuring foods, performances, art, activities, and parade of flags, all presented by our local community members.

Keach Park, Concord; Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. concordnhmulti culturalfestival.org

The Players: the 95-year History of the Community Players of Concord

The Community Players provided ConcordTV full access to an extensive archive of stage photographs, vintage programs, theatre posters and documents dating back to their founding in 1927. Additional photos from Concord Public Library, the Friends of the Concord City Auditorium and private collectors are featured, along with insights and memories from 24 members of the Community Players.

Concord City Auditorium, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. walkerlecture.org

SEPT. 24

Harvest Bazaar

This year's outside event includes a flea market, country store, raffles, baking table, and so much more.

Christ the King Parish, Concord, Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

christthekingnh.org/harvest-bazaar



SEPT. 24

Wings and Wheels

A fun-filled day viewing antique vehicles, a variety of aircraft, construction and snow removal equipment, interactive exhibits, and activities.

Concord Municipal Airport, Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

concordnh.gov/344/Concord-Municipal-Airport

SEPT. 24-25

Falling Leaves Craft Fair

Tanger Outlets, Tilton, Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. joycescraftshows.com



SEPT. 25

Harvest Moon Festival

Celebrate the harvest and Native American foods. Family-friendly activities, craft demonstrations and booths, and more! Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, Warner, Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. indianmuseum.org

SEPT. 30

Queen City Improv

Hatbox Theatre, Friday at 7:30 p.m. hatboxnh.com

OCT. 1

Duo Baldo

Love classical music? If you miss Victor Borge, this one's for you.

Concord City Auditorium, Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

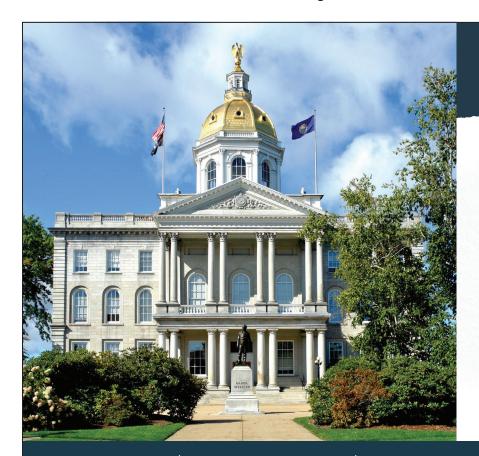
theaudi.org

OCT. 1

The Silhouettes: **Love Happens**

The Silhouettes — first runner-up on America's Got Talent season six in 2011 and Golden Buzzer winners on America's Got Talent The Champions in 2020 - is America's premiere shadow-dance company created and directed by Lynne Waggoner-Patton.

Capitol Center for the Arts, Saturday at 7 p.m. ccanh.com



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OCT. 2

Capital Jazz Orchestra's Jazz in Cinema

Capitol Center for the Arts, Sunday at 4 p.m. ccanh.com



ост. 2 **Discovering Magic**

Audiences can expect a truly unique experience and insight into how remarkable human perception and interpretation can be.

Hatbox Theatre, Sunday at 2 pm. **hatboxnh.com**

OCT. 2

Winds of Time

Dvorak's Serenade for Strings brings back the dance party theme, a la 1875after all, this season is all about celebrating 100 years of music as "the Symphonic sound of the Granite State!"

Concord City Auditorium, Sunday at 3 p.m. **theaudi.org**

OCT. 5

Jersey Tenors

The Walker Lecture Series presents the Jersey Tenors. This opera/rock mash-up sensation blends iconic opera classics with rock and roll hits from Queen, ABBA, Journey, Elton John, Billy Joel and others.

Concord City Auditorium, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. **theaudi.org**



OCT. 9

The Four Phantoms in Concert

An extravagant celebration of the iconic music of Broadway and more, The Four Phantoms In Concert brings together four Phantoms from the Tony Award-winning The Phantom of the Opera for an unforgettable night of entertainment. The Four Phantoms features an extraordinary quartet of performers, including Brent Barrett, John Cudia, Franc D'Ambrosio, and Ciarán Sheehan under the music supervision of two-time Grammy Award-winner David Caddick and music direction of Ryan Shirar.

Capitol Center for the Arts, Sunday at 8 p.m. **ccanh.com**

OCT. 13

MasterChef Jr. Live

Capitol Center for the Arts, Thursday at 7 p.m. ccanh.com

OCT. 14

'The Wind and the Willows'

The Community Players of Concord NH's Children's Theatre Project presents "The Wind In The Willows." Ratty, Mole and Badger are trying to save their fourth friend, Mr. Toad, from the trouble he gets himself into! With themes of the importance of friendship and acceptance of all, plus funny characters and songs, this show is a must-see for all ages.

Concord City Auditorium, Friday at 7 p.m. **theaudi.org**

OCT. 14

One Man Star Wars

Capitol Center for the Arts, Friday at 8 p.m. ccanh.com

OCT. 14

Shred is Dead

Bank of N.H. Stage, Friday at 8 p.m. **ccanh.com**

OCT. 15

Concord Arts Market

With over 60 local artists and artisans, you'll find everything from fine paintings and prints to pottery, photography, jewelry, soaps and salves.

Rollins Park, Concord, Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

concordartsmarket.net

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OCT. 19

Dances with Words

The Walker Lecture Series presents Dances with Words, which combines the talents of best-selling language author Richard Lederer and folk-singer humorist Bill Shipper.

Concord City Auditorium, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. theaudi.org

OCT. 20

Ghost Light

Bank of N.H. Stage, Thursdays at 8 p.m. ccanh.com

OCT. 20

Dropkick Murphys

Capitol Center for the Arts, Thursday at 7:15 p.m. ccanh.com

OCT. 21

Josh Turner

Capitol Center for the Arts, Friday at 8 p.m.

ccanh.com



OCT. 26

Walker Lecture **Series**

The Walker Lecture Series presents Turkey: Cradle of Civilization and Crossroads of Europe and Asia.

Concord City Auditorium, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. theaudi.org

OCT. 28

Being Petty

In early 2021, Bruce Hilton and Larry Ladrie embarked on a mission to create the ultimate Tom Petty tribute band, dedicated to sharing all the excitement and emotion of a live performance from the original band. The result is an assemblage of massively talented musicians/performers with a passion for the music, and the skills to pull it off. Audiences are awestruck by the flawless recreation of the look, sound and feel of the original band.

Bank of N.H. Stage, Friday at 8 p.m. ccanh.com







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OCT. 28

Halloween Howl

Get your costumes ready for downtown Concord's spookiest night out! Join Intown Concord for wicked fun on Main Street for community trick-or-treating, festive costumes, and plenty of ghoulish games and activities for the whole family to enjoy.

Downtown Concord, Friday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. intownconcord.org

NOV. 2

Walker Lecture Series

The Walker Lecture Series presents Frenemies: The Art World's Greatest Rivalries. Jane Oneail will examine the ways some of the world's greatest artists challenged and competed for commissions, sales, and status. Learn about rivalries between da Vinci and Michelangelo, Constable and Turner and Matisse and Picasso. And decide who history has treated most kindly.

Concord City Auditorium, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

theaudi.org

NOV. 4 - 5

Bob Marley

Bob loves being a comedian. He's wicked good at it! He lives in Maine which he says is the best state in the world - maybe even the universe.

Capitol Center for the Arts, Friday at 6 and 8:30 p.m. and Saturday at 6 and 8:30 p.m. ccanh.com

NOV. 5

The Met live: La Traviata

Soprano Nadine Sierra stars as the self-sacrificing courtesan Violetta — one of opera's ultimate heroines — in Michael Mayer's vibrant production of Verdi's beloved tragedy. Tenor Stephen Costello is her self-centered lover, Alfredo, alongside baritone Luca Salsi as his disapproving father, and Maestro Daniele Callegari on the podium.

Bank of N.H. Stage, Saturday at 12:55 p.m. ccanh.com

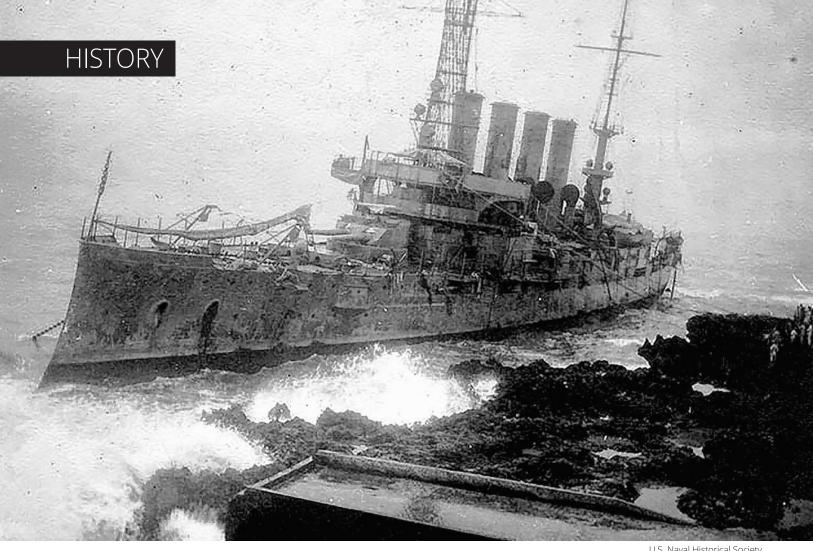
OCT. 29

Fandango

Enjoy four virtuosi who hail from Spain, the USA, former Yugoslavia, and the UK who play flute, guitar, violin, and cello: and combine to play a mixture of classic and Sephardic Spanish and Balkan folkinspired music.

Concord City Auditorium, Saturday at 7:30 p.m. theaudi.org





The U.S.S. Memphis was hit by a tidal wave at Santo Domingo in August of 1916.

U.S. Naval Historical Society

Amid disaster, hero emerges

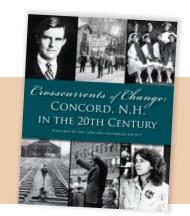
By BYRON O. CHAMPLIN

Not every act of heroism takes place in battle. Concord's only 20thcentury recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor offers a case in point.

On the afternoon of Aug. 29, 1916, Charles Willey was a 27-year-old warrant officer, a machinist aboard the armored cruiser U.S.S. Memphis, anchored in Santo Domingo harbor off what is now the Dominican Republic.

Willey was playing cards with shipmates when he noticed increasing violent swells rolling in from offshore, tossing the ship at its moorings. Rushing to his quarters, Willey pulled a jumper and dungarees over his uniform, and he went below to the fire room as the order came to raise steam in the Memphis' huge boilers and seek the safety of deep water.

Within minutes, 40-foot-high waves created by a distant hurricane



Learn More

'Crosscurrents of Change" Concord, N.H. in the 20th Century'

This 400-plus page hardcover edition introduces you to the people who helped shape a city, and it takes you through tragedy and triumph with some of the defining moments in Concord history. To purchase a copy or to learn more, visit concordhistoricalsociety.org/store.





Willey family photos

Charles Willey at age 20, left, and Willey and Graces Noyes on their wedding day years later.

washed over the Memphis.

The cruiser was anchored in 55 feet of water, but its keel struck the harbor's bottom as the Memphis plunged down the troughs between the waves. At 4:40 p.m., a wave 70 feet high thundered down upon the Memphis, completely engulfing it, snapping its anchor chains and driving it ashore.

The impact ruptured steam pipes and exploded the boilers, sending jets of scalding steam through the fire room where Willey was stationed. Tons of seawater flooded in through the open portholes. Sailors panicked and tried to flee to the upper decks. They were actually crowding into a steam-filled locker room, with the hatches to safety clamped shut.

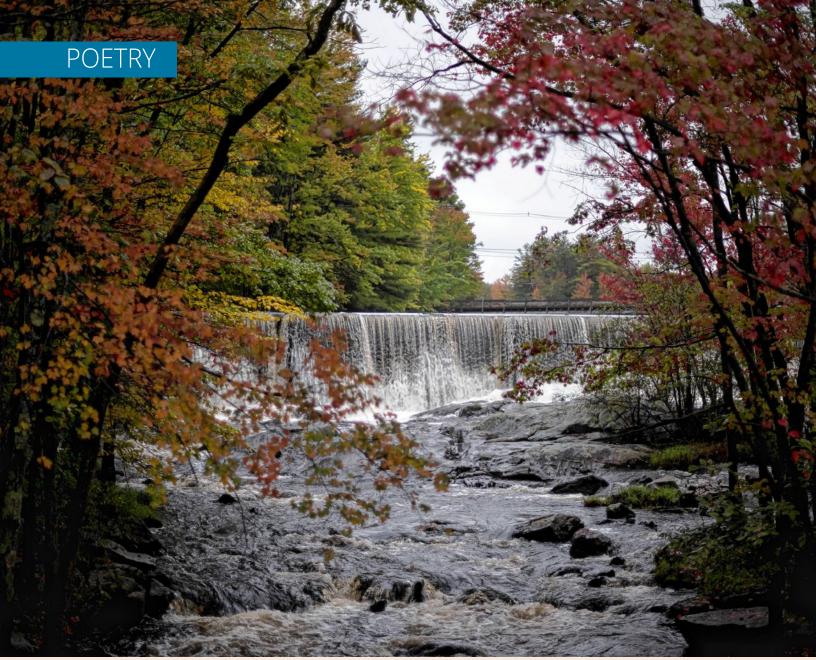
Willey immersed himself in water on the deck of the fire room. Wearing leather gloves, and with his soaked jumper wrapped around his face, he forced his way through the screaming men and opened the hatches to free them. According to his Medal of Honor citation, he then helped dazed and scalded sailors out of the compartment, carrying them into the engine room "where there was air instead of steam to breath," and passed out when other rescuers arrived. Out of a ship's crew of 887 officers and men, 43 died and 204 were injured in the incident. The Memphis never sailed again.

Willey spent 18 months in Washington Naval Hospital recovering from his burns, and reluctantly retired from

the Navy after World War I due to the damage to his lungs from the scalding steam. Willey moved to Penacook and worked at Hoyt Electrical Instrument Works Company for more than 45 years. His heroism was uncovered 16 years after the hurricane. He was presented with the Medal of Honor at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard on Aug. 18, 1932.

Willey died on Sept. 11, 1977, at age 88 and is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery in West Concord.

This excerpt from "Crosscurrents of Change" was written by Byron O. Champlin and is part of 'Chapter 10: Called to the Colors - Concord residents fight and sacrifice in wartime service'



Ben Conant

Foliage scenes at Noone Falls just off Route 202 in Peterborough.

The back roads

I drive lonely back roads, to simply enjoy the foliage more,

in my vintage automobile, with classical music I do tour.

Alone with nature. colorful leaves gently fall,

another season concluded, the trees so very tall.

Sadness sometimes consumes me, as I recall leaf peeping from the past,

family no longer with me, only the memories do last.

Spending the time alone, it is with nostalgia I now tour,

I drive lonely back roads, to simply enjoy the foliage more.

James W. Spain

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THE SCENE



Geoff Forester photos

Therenna Conteh, left, and her best friend, Amiyah Adair, 6, swim in the wading pool at Rolfe Park in Concord.

A summer splash



Concord Hospital Philanthropy Board member Barbara Jobin plants flowers at the Rooftop Healing Garden at Concord Hospital. Jobin helped get funds for a bench in honor of her son.



ELL school social worker Anna-Marie DiPasquale says thank you to her students at Concord High School. It was the final school year for DiPasquale, who has been a pivotal figure in Concord in recent years.



Pilot Rob Dumovic of Spread Aviation shows his son, Jett, left, and Oliver Harrelson his plane at International Aerobatics Day at Concord Airport.



Hunter Durso meditates before a round of "Jedi Dodgeball" at Concord Parks and Recreation's Stay and Play Camp at Keach Park.



Art Carson plays taps in front of the Franklin Pierce family burial marker at the Old North Cemetery. Carson traveled from Illinois to play taps for President Franklin Pierce in Concord and then traveled to Massachusetts to play for President John Adams and his son, President John Quincy Adams.



Canoes and kayaks line the riverfront area at Contoocook River Canoe Company ahead of another busy summer day.



Contribute

Welcome to 'A Thousand Words,' a quarterly feature that ends the magazine with an iconic photo. Share your image with us, and we may be able to use it in a coming issue. Only high-resolution photos are accepted, and despite the intent of the feature, we will need to accompany your image with a few words. So please send your photo and a brief description to editor@aroundconcord.com.





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