

Vermont Country Sampler

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N. Cassidy



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Learning the Flowers

by Bill Felker

stay together
learn the flowers
go light

—from Gary Snyder's
"For the Children"

Recent events have unnerved me and pulled me just a little out of my cave.

It seems quite clear that the global environment, and even my environment here in this place, will be challenged in any number of ways during the years ahead. (I realize this is nothing new. And where have I been?)

I attempt to begin: I return to Gary Snyder's admonition to stay together, to learn the flowers and to go light.

I have learned a lot of flowers in the past decades of my life. I start there. I see that floral taxonomy is not so much a matter of botany as it is a result of proximity, of being with, of noticing, of watching, of caring.

That kind of taxonomy evolves through a relation-

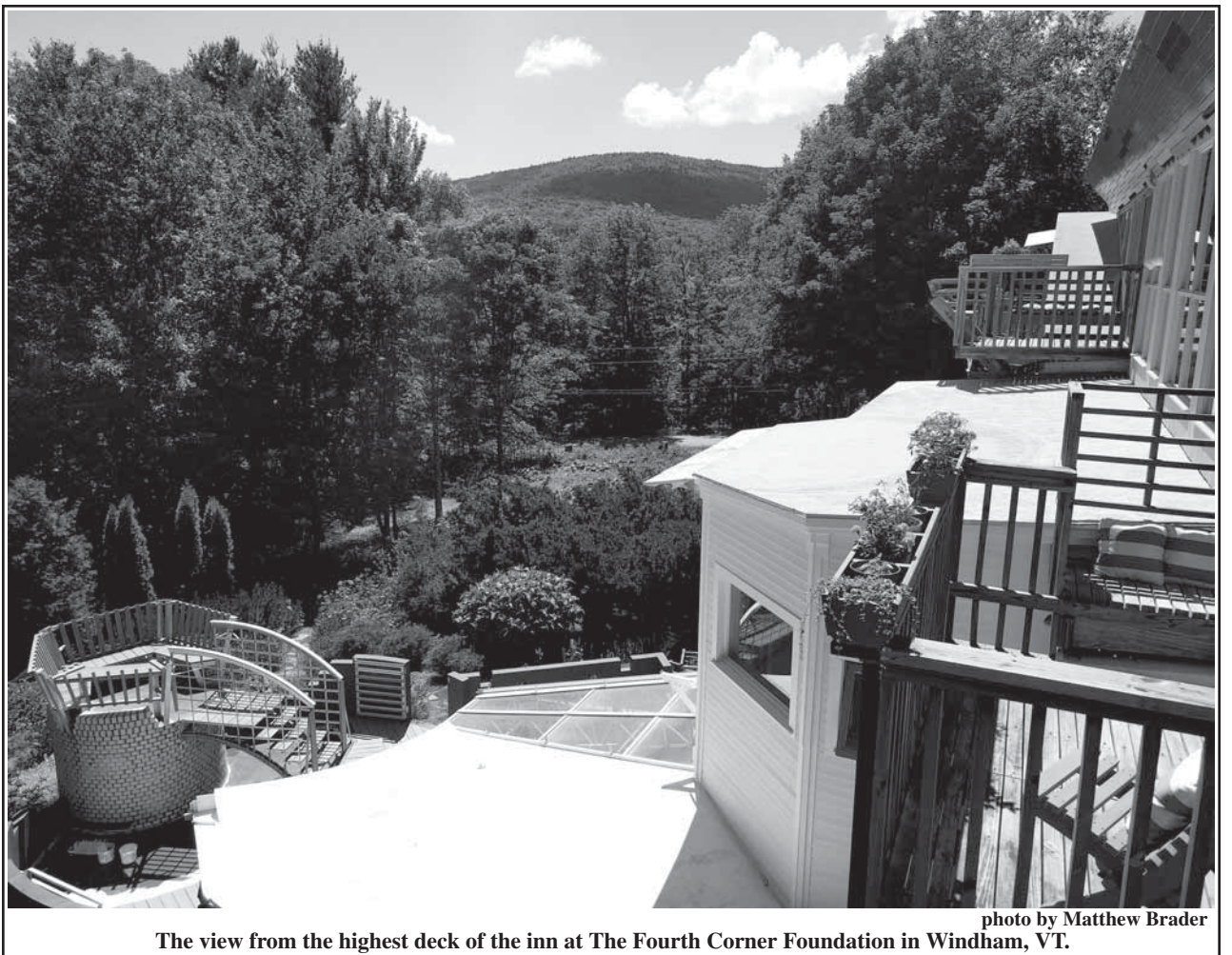
ship. It does not identify plants with Latin nomenclature but with unspoken names of delight and affection.

What has happened to me recently is that, against my latent Buddhist tendencies, I have become attached to everything from the shunned garlic mustard and honeysuckles to exotic Glen golden seal and wood betony.

And now I care what happens to them. I do not want to see them harmed. From that perspective, matters of saving an abstract planet Earth or the crusades and prophecies of ecologists or philosophers or academic naturalists or liberals do not matter.

From the doorway of home, I stake out my landscape, draw its borders and embrace its creatures, and I know exactly why I do it.

I learn the flowers of this place as though they were my children, and then I begin to glimpse what I might do.



The view from the highest deck of the inn at The Fourth Corner Foundation in Windham, VT.

photo by Matthew Brader

Windham, VT

Contemporary Art Exhibit: *Defining Ourselves Through Nature*

The Fourth Corner Foundation in Windham VT is hosting an opening at 5 p.m. on June 10th for a six-week contemporary art exhibition titled *Defining Ourselves Through Nature*. The show focuses on presenting abstract, surreal and expressionist works that consider the role of nature in the human psyche through several mediums. Sculpture, painting, photography and mixed media are represented.

The show includes works by several artists from Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Participating artists include Abby Minor, Stephanie Kossman, Barbara Hocker, Matthew Donaldson, Robert C. Marsala, and Nanette Shapiro. Visitors are welcome to come early to experience the manicured gardens and contemporary architecture.

The Fourth Corner Foundation is a non-profit founded by architect Robert Foote Shannon. It is dedicated to providing a physical institution where creative ideas concerning sustainable practices are paramount. The property serves as a gathering place for interested parties to discuss ideas, design projects, attend conferences and experience an inspiring combination of art, architecture and gardens.

Two of the buildings on the property serve as an inn, providing accommodations for both visitors to the foundation those interested in exploring local attractions. Facilities include 10 bedrooms, a lounge, spa, sauna, dipping pool,

library, ponds and an art gallery/conference space. Reservations can be made throughout the summer.

One of the foundations most exciting current projects is the Rescape project. This is a plan for transforming the typical American suburban landscape that involves converting a portion of the land that is now covered in grass into aesthetic, healthy landscapes of botanical and agricultural gardens, designed, maintained, and harvested by community-scaled organizations for the benefit of the homeowners and an ecological future.

The Rescape plan has the potential for several important contributions to contemporary society. Beyond the advantages of creating a more stimulating local environment, this project proposes a plan that could provide the land required to grow crops necessary to bolster farming against foreseeable food shortages.

There will be a roundtable Rescape Conference at The Fourth Corner Foundation on July 29-30 involving professionals from several related fields. The goal of this gathering will be to evaluate the logistics of the project by proposing predicted problems and their solutions.

For more information and registration details contact The Foundation. Space will be available at the inn during the conference until filled.

The Fourth Corner Foundation is located at 578 Hitchcock Hill in Windham, VT. (802) 875-2194. www.thefourthcornerfoundation.org.

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Great River Hydro Bellows Falls Visitor Center Opens

The Bellows Falls Fish Ladder Visitors Center in Bellows Falls, VT will open for the summer season on Friday, May 26. This nature education center is open each weekend Friday through Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through September 3rd. The Visitor Center is home to a series of hands-on environmental programs and exhibits for local families and passing tourists. Admission and programs at the Visitor Center are always free.

The Nature Museum, located in Grafton, VT, operates the Visitor Center on behalf of Great River Hydro, owner of the fish ladder as well as the hydroelectric facility in Bellows Falls. Visitors and residents are encouraged to learn more about the Connecticut River watershed, the salmon and other fish that use the fish ladder, and the river's many plants and animals.

The Nature Museum's Jay DeGregorio, a popular naturalist and environmental educator, is on hand to answer any questions and deliver free, environmental programs throughout the summer. He will present family programs each Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. The family programs are recommended for children ages four and up.

The health of the Connecticut River is vital to the health of our region. The Visitor Center seeks to inspire stewardship of the Connecticut River and all Vermont's local waterways.

2017 Programming at the Great River Hydro Bellows Falls Fish Ladder Center

June 9 & 10 • Amazing Adaptations

Learn more about the body parts and behaviors that help native New England wildlife survive. Young naturalists will investigate animal pelts, skins, and other artifacts to learn more about the unique wildlife that call New England home. Hands-on items, tales about astonishing animals and a craft will captivate all ages.

June 16 & 17 • Magnificent Migrations

When the cold winter winds of Vermont start to blow where does our native wildlife go? Many critters, whether they have fins, feathers or feet migrate to find warmer weather. During this program, learn about migrating Vermont wildlife and their journeys during our coldest season. Fun facts and a craft are included.

June 23 & 24 • Trees: Tall Storytellers of the Land

Did you know there are 110 different species of trees and shrubs in Vermont? Our trees and shrubs tell great stories about Vermont's natural history. Unlock the riddles our woods hold with facts about the forests that surround us and enjoy creating a craft.

June 30 & July 1 • Eagles, Hawks and Owls Predators of the Sky

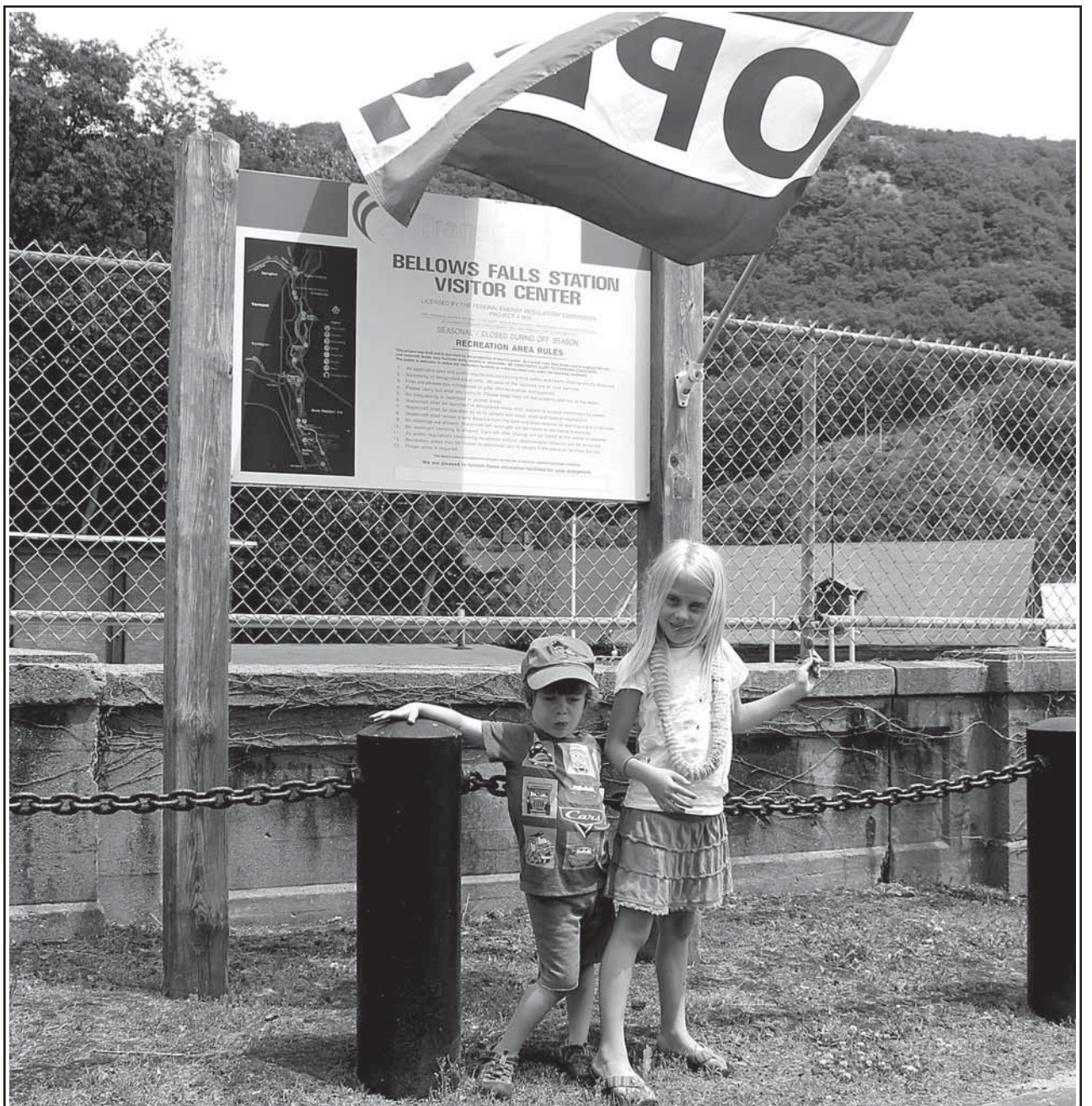
Bird of prey or predatory bird, also known as raptors, refers to several species of birds that hunt and feed on rodents and other small animals. Raptors rule the sky and include eagles, falcons, hawks and owls. Examine feathers, feet, bones and other artifacts that highlight special characteristics of these predators. Find out how they hunt and how they live. Hands-on items, bird facts and a craft will teach all ages about these wild hunters.

July 7 & 8 • The Abenaki and Nature

Thousands of years ago, Abenaki people relied on nature to survive, making clothing and building shelters from natural materials. Their food came from hunting, gathering, and fishing. Knowledge about the natural world was critical to survival. Come engage in Native American stories, play traditional games, make a craft and imagine daily life before roads, stores, and electricity.

July 14 & 15 • Who is Swimming in the Water?

Do fish lay eggs? Can a fish live both in the ocean and in a river? This program teaches about the Connecticut River and its tributaries, which are home to many species of fish. Along with learning more about the fish in local waters, attendees will make a craft.



Youngsters visit the Bellows Falls Fish Ladder Visitors Center in Bellows Falls, VT. photo courtesy of The Nature Museum

July 21 & 22 • The Recipes for Thunderstorms

Mother Nature has a great recipe for thunderstorms. Do you know the ingredients? Join us to learn more about what thunderstorms are, how they form, and safety tips for surviving storms outdoors. No need to wear a raincoat, but bring your curiosity to learn more and your creativity to make a craft.

July 28 & 29 • Righteous Reptiles

Turtles, snakes, and even lizards call Vermont home. Learn what makes a reptile a reptile and all about the species that live in New England. Reptile facts, hands-on items and a craft will keep your snake charmer engaged.

August 4 & 5 • Caterpillars, Moths, And Butterflies, Oh My

The woods and fields close by are home to a wide variety of moths and butterflies. Learn about winged species that live in the region and their life cycle. Hands-on items, stories about these remarkable creatures, along with a craft will captivate all ages.

August 11 & 12 • The Colors of Fall

Why do leaves turn a different color in fall? Why do trees lose their leaves? Countless shades of yellow, orange, red, and brown will color our woods this fall. Enjoy stories, hands-on items and a craft.


Great River Hydro Bellows Falls Fish Ladder is located at 17 Bridge Street in downtown Bellows Falls, next to the Post Office building. The Visitors Center is open for the summer from Friday through Sunday, May 26th through September 3rd from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information about the summer programs go to www.nature-museum.org or call (802) 843-2111.




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The Butter and Margarine Wars of the Past, and the Consumer

by Roger Allbee

Some of us remember our mothers talking about the yellow color squeeze packages that had to be added to the uncolored white margarine at home. Laws in many states prohibited the purchase of yellow margarine and in some cases these laws existed up until the late 1960's.

Why this happened is an interesting story. It is a story of the importance of dairy butter production in several states like Vermont in the middle to late 1800's, the opposition of a new unnatural manufactured product being offered called margarine. Dairy farmers and their organizations used their powerful interests in Congress and in the State legislatures to frustrate the sale of margarine.

It all began in France when Emperor Napoleon III created a prize for someone who could create an artificial source of less expensive butter like product for the populace and the military. A scientist named Hippolyte Mege Mouries did so in 1869, and by 1886 there were thirty-seven margarine producing plants operating in the United States with many of these in New York State.

The opposition from powerful dairy interests was immediate, even from Vermont where by the mid 1800's the state was known as the butter capital of the world winning prizes internationally for the best butter. By 1882 dairy state interests formed the National Association for the Adulteration of Butter to destroy the margarine market. From 1884-1885 state after state banned the sale of margarine at the behest of local dairy associations only to have these laws struck down by federal appeals courts. A case was taken to the U.S. Supreme Court which found that states could not prohibit margarine being sold in its original color(white). The Court also found that states could not mandate that the product be colored to discourage consumer acceptance, as some states like Vermont and four other states had in requiring margarine to be colored pink.

At the federal level, in 1886 the Federal Margarine act was passed which put a tax on margarine and required federal licensing fees. A Vermont Congressman, William Wallace Grout, amended this law in 1902, requiring a tax of ten cents per pound on colored margarine, and ¼ cents per pound on uncolored margarine. The provision in the law imposing a tax of ¼ cents per pound on uncolored margarine was a loophole that the margarine industry quickly responded to, hence the colored squeeze packets that many of our mothers and others used at the time to color the white colored margarine yellow. It should be noted that by 1902, thirty-two states and eighty percent of the U.S. population lived under margarine color bans.

Times have changed of course. In 1950 Congress repealed the margarine act, and its tax on margarine. During the depression and WWII margarine consumption increased as it was more available and a lower cost product. New methods of production using vegetable and other plant hydrogenated oils (instead of animal fats) that are superior to the oleomargarines of our parents and grandparents' days helped to win support from farmer groups and consumers.

Real butter is making a comeback today lifted by news, and consumers embracing of all things local. Per the U.S. Government, butter consumption hit a forty-four-year high in 2012 while margarine consumption is at a seventy-year low. The margarine and butter wars are now a part of our history.

Roger Allbee is a former Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets for the State of Vermont. He does a blog on Vermont agricultural history at www.whatceresmightsay.blogspot.com.




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Churning butter in the summer while the kitten samples the cream, 1897. photo by J.W. Dunn

Woodstock, VT

Join in the June Festivities at Billings Farm & Museum

Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a 145-year tradition of agricultural excellence and offers farm programs and historical exhibits that explore Vermont's rural heritage and values. The Farm & Museum has served as a gateway to Vermont's rural heritage for over 1.5 million visitors. Plan an outing to Billings this summer.

June 18th will include an "historic" base ball game played in the Billings' fields in the early afternoon. Join in or cheer on the teams!

Program and Book Signing With Gordon Hayward

Billings Farm & Museum will host nationally-recognized garden writer, designer, and lecturer Gordon Hayward, who will discuss and sign his latest book: *Greek Epic: the Latchis Family & the Theater Empire They Built* on Friday, June 23 at 5:30 p.m. Admission is free; reservations are recommended.

Greek Epic tells the compelling story of the extraordinary Latchis family and their journey from a mountain village in Greece to Brattleboro, Vermont, their successes and sorrows along the way, and the historic Latchis Theater that is their legacy and Brattleboro's cultural hub. The book is a testament to the hard work of four generations of the Latchis family and a dedicated group of community-minded people who stepped forward to save the Latchis Memorial Building to ensure its use for future generations.

Admission includes all activities and programs. Adults \$15; 62 & over \$14; children 5-15 \$8; 3-4 \$4; 2 & under free. Open daily May 1 through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends Nov. - Feb., and Christmas & Presidents' weeks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Farm & Museum is located one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Rt. 12. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org or through Facebook: [facebook.com/BillingsFarmMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/BillingsFarmMuseum).

Foodways Fridays

Visit the farmhouse kitchen and garden each Friday from May through October and learn how we cook traditional Vermont and New England recipes. We'll be using seasonal vegetables and herbs from our heirloom garden and cooking and baking in the woodstove. Each week will feature different take-home recipes, so plan your menu!

Dairy Month Celebration With Ice Cream Sundays

Billings Farm & Museum, gateway to Vermont's rural heritage, will celebrate National Dairy Month by hosting Ice Cream Sundays each Sunday in June: June 4, 11, 18, and 25. Visitors may lend a hand making and tasting hand-cranked ice cream at 12:15 p.m. and 2:15 p.m., while learning the history and science of the "great American dessert." Sunday,

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Beautiful Sunday

It was such a bright morning
That the cows, coming out of the cool dark barns
feeling a good deal better,
Stood for a while and blinked,
And the young heifers said to each other,
'Oh my!
I never saw such a pretty day!
Let's jump over fences!
Let's go running up and down lanes with our tails in the
air.'
And the old sisterly Jerseys
Thought to themselves, 'That patch of white clover
Over in the corner where the woodchucks are
Ought to be about ready for a good going over.'

Well, you never saw anything in your life like the way
the young ducks are acting.
They were tearing in and out of the water
Making enough noise to be heard all over the township;
Even the robins were scandalized
And sat around in the trees looking sideways and one-
eyed at them.
All the crawdads in that part of the creek
Picked up and moved, and the sober old snake
Slipped off his rock and went for a walk in the briars.

The ghosts of dead spiders
Had been busy all night, and every few feet along the road
There was a rope of gossamer.
The old white horse taking two old gray people to meeting
Held up his head and said to himself,

Westminster, VT

Celebrate the Reopening of the Pinnacle Cabin on June 17!

The Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association [WHPA] is inviting everyone who has been to its iconic cabin and those who have never even seen the cabin or its spectacular view over southern Vermont to a reopening of Pinnacle's rustic three-sided shelter, which was renovated in 2016.

The celebration will take place on Saturday June 17 at 2 p.m., rain or shine. Revel with friends, food, and live music at the renovated cabin and its amazing overlook. Meet master builders and stone masons Phil and Izaak

Pellerin; volunteer Oliver Brody, who designed, fabricated, and installed the new windows; and countless other volunteers and donors who made the improvements possible.

Parking is very limited, so carpooling is essential. Limited transportation is available for those who cannot walk to the site. Please check the Pinnacle website closer to the date for information and register so Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association can plan for food, transportation for those who need it, and give directions for carpool-

ing. E-mail wpha@sover.net or call (802) 463-9226.

To learn about the history of the cabin, its major restoration, and how to reserve it for an overnight, visit www.windmillhillpinnacle.org/pages/support/cabin/factsheet.html. This rustic shelter is on one of the most popular trails in the Pinnacle Association's 25-mile system that runs from Putney Mountain to Grafton. The cabin and its overlook at the end of Holden

Trail in Westminster are a favorite destination.

Participants should wear hiking shoes, bring water, and bring clothing for cooler weather.

Visit www.windmillhillpinnacle.org for information about this and other Pinnacle programs, trail maps, and directions. Pinnacle is also on Facebook at <https://m.facebook.com/windmillhillpinnacle/>.



Kids at play in the spring barnyard in Central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

'Look at those ropes!
Watch me bust them!
Whammy, there goes another one!
Doggone, I'll bet there isn't another horse in 42 counties
Can run along a road pulling a buggy and busting ropes
and cables.'

And all of a sudden he felt so good
That he threw up his hindquarters and gave a big two-
legged kick,
And the old gray woman said, 'Well, I swan to gracious,'

And the old gray man got all tangled up with the lines
And nearly fell out of the buggy reaching for the whip.
'Whoa, there,' he said. 'Whoa, there, Roosevelt!
Hold on now! What in the Sam Hill is into you?'

About 14 hundred May apple stems,
With their parasols up, marched down the hill
And all the spring beauties turned up their pale, peaked
noses
And said, 'Don't them May apples
Think they're somebody
With their bumbershoots up!'

Oh, it was a grand day, a specially grand day,
And all the flowers were so sweet
That the butterflies sneezed.
And the young goats and the lambs
Couldn't think of anything special enough
In the way of capers and didoes,
So they just stood still and looked wise.

—JAKE FALSTAFF



photo courtesy of Windmill Mill Pinnacle Assoc. Pinnacle Cabin firepit at The Pinnacle in Westminster, VT.



photo courtesy of Windmill Mill Pinnacle Assoc. The cabin at The Pinnacle in Westminster, VT.



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North Country Reflections

Gardening In an Era of Climate Change

by Judith Irven

As I look back on last summer, both here in Vermont and all down the eastern seaboard, I recall it as incredibly dry and also very hot—not an easy time for our gardens.

And a quick check of the NOAA website for Burlington reinforced my impressions. The overall rainfall in the summer of 2016 was 50% below the long term average. A total of 15 inches of rain fell between May and October, compared with the long-term average of 22 inches, and every month was drier than the long term norm.

Also, during those same six months, the average daily maximum temperatures were all several degrees higher than their long-term counterparts.

By contrast, just five years earlier, in 2011 we experienced excessively high rainfall. That year unprecedented flooding ruined spring planting—Vermont was even declared a federal disaster area. And everybody remembers, just three months later, the devastation caused by Tropical Storm Irene.

In an era of climate change, wide swings in the weather patterns are becoming the ‘new normal’—some years are unduly dry while others very wet. And at the same time we are also experiencing more extreme individual weather events—from high winds, to flooding and record snowfalls.

Climate change and the gardener

Last fall I had a wonderful opportunity to spend a couple of hours, along with my colleagues at American Meadows in Shelburne, Vermont, talking with gardening guru, David Salman, a recognized expert on gardening in an era of climate change.

David comes from New Mexico where he has been following changing weather patterns and their impact on plants. As he explained, the last five years the entire Southwest has been in the grips of an excessive drought. But, by contrast, the 1980s decade in New Mexico was one of wettest on record.

Since this pattern is also beginning to sound familiar to gardeners back east, I was particularly eager to see what advice David could pass along to help us prepare our gardens for the next drought that—despite this year’s chilly wet spring—will surely return in a year or two.

Here are his suggestions:

Smart gardening practices conserve water

Firstly, ensure the soil in your beds is flat, rather than mounded—especially at the edges. This helps the water penetrate the soil, rather than running onto the surrounding hardscape or lawn.

And, if possible, orient your beds with the long sides facing approximately east and west, as long south-facing beds tend to get parched in the mid-day sun.

Now look for places where water naturally collects, such as below the roof or near a solid driveway. Instead of letting this water run off into the storm sewer, create a ‘rain-garden’. This is essentially a gently sloped sunken bed that holds, and then gradually absorbs the excess water and irrigates the surrounding plants. A quick search on the internet will give you plenty of ideas for plants that thrive in this environment.

And lastly, try watering your established plants less frequently—once a week or even once a fortnight should be plenty for most mature plants. But when you do water, always give each plant a thorough soaking (the equivalent



Blue Oat Grass (*Helictotrichon sempervirens*) and Sedum ‘Matrona’ are two delightful drought-tolerant perennials that grow in Judith’s Goshen garden. photo by Dick Conrad

of a ½ inch of rainfall). This will encourage your plants to develop deeper roots and thus need less water in the long run.

Soil enrichment creates drought-tolerant plants

For hundreds of years gardeners everywhere have known the value of enriching their soil with compost. This magic ingredient creates a water-retentive soil with valuable micronutrients.

Mycorrhizae—which are specialized fungi that live in an intimate symbiotic relationship with the roots of most plants—are the second critical component of healthy soil. The secrets of mycorrhizal fungi and their unique contribution to the plant health is a fascinating topic that is still being actively researched.

Some types of mycorrhizal fungi surround the roots while other actually penetrate the cells of the host plant. But either way, the plant supplies the fungi with all their food—in the form of carbohydrates—and in return the fungi help the host plant absorb both water and nutrients from the soil while also protecting it from various pathogens.

Thus, in addition to our annual ritual of adding compost to our gardens, it behooves us to boost the mycorrhizal content in the soil. One approach is to brew a ‘tea’ from the fallen leaves of the forest, and add it to the soil. Alternatively you can purchase packaged mycorrhizal additives. Either way these unique fungi enhance the ability of our plants to survive prolonged dry spells.

Checking your microclimates

Even in a dry summer, there may be areas of your property that are wetter than the rest, so use these to your advantage.

For instance, since water runs downhill, low lying areas remain wet longer after it rains, making them suitable for many drought-tolerant plants that can endure periods intermittent dryness. The pin oak and swamp white oak are both considered drought-tolerant.

However, in very dry places, such as on a south or west facing slope, which will get baked in the afternoon sun, choose plants (like the bur oak) which are classified as xeric.

it feasible to experiment with interesting perennials that may be rated as less hardy.

However, despite the trend towards for higher average winter temperatures, once in a while frigid Arctic air escapes from the polar regions, resulting in short bursts of intensely cold air. While these short cold spells will not lower the ground temperatures significantly, they may damage less-hardy woody plants above the ground. So be more conservative when experimenting with less hardy woody plants.

And lastly, when the drought extends into the winter, plants actually succumb to drought rather than cold. So be sure to thoroughly irrigate any vulnerable plants—such as those you moved the previous fall—both before they enter dormancy in the late fall and again if the temperature rises above 50° during the winter, when the roots can absorb it best.

And finally—some well-known hardy perennials that also tolerate dry times

As we anticipate the prospect of more dry summers in our future, I suggest we begin to populate our gardens now with drought-tolerant plants which will also thrive in the intervening wet years. (so—no I am not suggesting we all run out and buy cacti!) Here is David’s list of perennials for you to ponder:

Anise hyssop; *Allium* ‘Millenium’; Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*); Poppy Mallow (*Callirhoe involucrata*); Tickseed (*Coreopsis* ‘Zagreb’); Dianthus ‘Firewitch’; Seed grown varieties of Echinacea; Sea Holly; Gaillardia; Dead-nettles (*Lamium* and *Lamiastrum galeobdonblon* ‘Herman’s Pride’); Rough Blazing star (*Liatris aspera*); Heirloom honeysuckle (*Lonicera reticulata* Kintzley’s Ghost); Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*); All varieties of Catmint; Evening primrose (*Oenothera macrocarpa*); Ornamental oreganos; Ornamental grasses (except *Muhlenbergia* and *Molina*); Russian Sage; Black eyed Susans; Meadow Sage (*Salvia* ‘Blue Hill’, ‘May Night’ and ‘Caradonna’); Soapwort (*Saponaria ocymoides*); Both tall and groundcover types of Sedum; Goldenrod cultivars (*Solidago*); and Yarrow.

Judith Irven and her husband Dick Conrad live in Goshen, VT where together they nurture a large garden. You can subscribe to Judith’s blog about her Vermont gardening life at www.northcountryreflections.com.

Dick Conrad is a landscape and garden photographer; to see his photographs go to northcountryimpressions.com.

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A Vermont Almanack for Early Summer

by Bill Felker

Therefore am I still a lover of the meadows and the woods,
And mountains; and of all that we behold
From this green earth; (of all the mighty world)
Well pleased to recognize
In nature and the language of the sense,
The anchor of my purest thoughts, the nurse,
The guide, the guardian of my heart, and soul
Of all my moral being.

—William Wordsworth

The Sun's Progress

The Sun enters Cancer on June 20. Summer solstice occurs the same day at 11:24 p.m. Between June 19 and 23, the sun holds steady at its solstice declination of 23 degrees 26 minutes, and the day's length remains virtually unchanged.

Phases of the Strawberry and Raspberry Moon And the Sweet Corn Moon

June 1: The Strawberry and Raspberry Moon enters its second phase at 7:42 a.m.

June 8: Lunar apogee (when the moon is farthest from Earth)

June 9: The Strawberry and Raspberry Moon is full at 8:10 a.m.

June 17: The moon enters its final quarter at 6:33 a.m.

June 23: The Sweet Corn Moon is new at 9:31 p.m. at perigee (closest to Earth)

June 30: The moon enters its second quarter at 7:51 a.m.

The Planets

Moving retrograde into Aries, Venus keeps its dominant morning place in the eastern sky, reaching its greatest brilliance of the year on June 3. Mars moves retrograde into Gemini but becomes lost in the sunset by the middle of the month; it will not reappear until autumn. Jupiter, traveling deep into the western sky in the evening, disappears with Virgo after midnight. Moving forward into Ophiuchus, Saturn rises after sunset and moves across the sky throughout the night, disappearing before sunrise.

The Stars

Late in the evening, Arcturus is the brightest star overhead. Libra moves into the far west, Regulus, the star that accompanied early spring daffodils, leading the way. In the northern sky, the Big Dipper lies almost directly above the northern hemisphere, while in the east, Hercules chases the Corona Borealis, and the constellations of the Summer Triangle are rising.

Meteorology

Weather history indicates that cold waves will reach Vermont around June 2, 6, 10, 15, 23, 29. Major storms are most likely to occur on the days between June 5-8, June 13-16, and June 24-28. Full moon on June 9 and new moon on June 23 (combined with perigee) increase the chances for inclement weather and frost near those dates.

Genesis

My father is a cedar tree
He does not change his leaf.
He is the same strong, stubborn man
In merriment or grief.

My mother is an apple tree
That changes in the spring.
The fruit she bears is afterthought
to her gay blossoming.

My father gave me breadth of back
And iron in my wrist.
My mother used to walk with me
Exulting in the mist.

—JAKE FALSTAFF
1899-1935, Canaan, OH



photo courtesy of Rutland Historical Society, Dr. George Marshall Lantern Slide Collection
A horse and buggy ride for the Marshall girls near White Rocks, Wallingford, VT, circa 1914.

A Guide to Farming and Gardening

by Bill Felker

June 1: Clean up the early spring garden. Remove lettuce gone to seed. Replant for late summer.

June 2: Timely clipping, shearing and dipping can help keep your animals from blow-fly eggs pests as well as from ticks, lice and scab mites.

June 3: Throughout the month, fertilize asparagus and rhubarb as their seasons end.

June 4: In the lawn, chinch bugs hatch; water heavily to counteract their damage.

June 5: When the oakleaf hydrangea produces its first blooms, then fall webworms and mimosa webworm (the tent caterpillars) eggs hatch in your trees.

June 6: When mulberry season peaks, then goslings leave the nest and young coyotes come after your chickens.

June 7: To help control insects, plant or purchase flowers to increase the bird population.

June 8: Today's lunar apogee reduces the chance that tomorrow's full moon will bring frost or severe storms.

June 9: Heat can contribute to split hooves in your horses. Check their feet regularly throughout the summer.

June 10: Ramadan ends on the 25th. Prepare for an increase in halal sales of lamb and chevon.

June 11: Gather summer eggs frequently.

June 12: Give your horse a shower if it is sweating a lot in the heat.

June 13: A tetanus antitoxin can help guard your goats against infections from summer cuts on udders, feet and legs caused by plants as well as by sharp objects in grazing areas.

June 14: Consider installing water misters for your hogs.

June 15: Cucumber beetles appear in the cucumbers and melons.

June 16: As the moon darkens, hunt the bean leaf beetles that could be chewing holes in your bean leaves

June 17: Thistles go to seed.

June 18: The extra water that you put out for your flock and herd helps maintain wildlife on your land.

June 19: If your animals are reinfested with worms, consider worming every three lunar phases.

June 20: Take advantage of drier weather in June's fourth week to make the first cut of alfalfa.

June 21: Strawberry season ends as domestic red raspberries and wild black raspberries ripen.

June 22: Watch for mold in the feed storage area when humidity levels rise toward the end of the month.

June 23: The moon is new and it reaches perigee today. Expect storms and higher-than-average stress on crops and beasts.

June 24: Increase the availability of loose salt to your animals as the heat increases.

June 25: Rose chafers and two-spotted spider mites are active in your rose bushes. Cucumber beetles destroy cucumber and melon vines. Japanese beetles attack almost everything.

June 26: Middle summer typically begins near this date and lasts through the first week of August. In those 45 days, approximately an hour is lost from the day's length along the 40th Parallel, and the year turns toward autumn.

June 27: Even though night starts to lengthen, the amount of possible sunshine reaches its zenith, and the percentage of totally sunny days is the highest of the year.

June 28: The Corn Tassel Rains begin as June draws to a close. They normally last through the first week of July.

June 29: Sycamore bark starts to shed, marking the center of the year.

June 30: Black raspberries decline quickly in warmer years; the best mulberries have fallen.



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Stop by the Joy Green Visitor Center to learn more about our activities.

Merck is open to the public year round, seven days a week from dawn to dusk. There is no admission fee.

June Activities

June 3 & 4—Thoreau Cabin Raising Workshop: Shingling the Roof. 9 am – 4 pm. Commemorating the 200th anniversary of Henry David Thoreau's birth. Tuition: \$50.

June 21—Guided Solstice Hike. 7 pm. Join Education Director Christine Hubbard on a hike over hill and dale to celebrate the return of summer. Remember your flashlight or headlamp and sturdy footwear. Call to pre-

register. All hikes are held as the weather permits. Fee: \$3.

June 24—Fairy Houses in the Forest. 1-3 pm. There's magic in the woods at Merck Forest! Scour the woods for special materials to construct tiny magical dwellings for wee folk, and then gather in the classroom to assemble your creation. This is a workshop for children of all ages (must be accompanied by an adult). Please call to reserve your place in the class. Fee: \$20 per house.

June 29—Farm Chores for Children. 2-4 pm. Children (and their adult companion) may join the farm staff at Merck Forest & Farmland Center for daily chores on Thursday afternoons through August 17. Youngsters may feed the horses, pick berries, collect eggs and perform other tasks. These farm-centered afternoons are designed to introduce children to simple farm routines and products, and to meet our animals under expert supervision. These hands-on/hands-dirty activities are suitable for children ages 3 and up. Please pre-register early, participation is limited. Fee: \$2.50.

Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315, Rupert, VT. (802) 394-7836. www.merckforest.org.

Merck is at the top of the very large hill on Rt. 315. Don't rely on your GPS. Once you reach the top of the hill on Rt. 315, turn into Merck's driveway. If you start going downhill, you've missed it.



Overlooking the farm pond at Merck Forest and Farmland Center in Rupert, VT. photo by Merck Forest and Farmland Center

The New England Berry Book

Wild Strawberries

by Bob Krum

My first experience with wild strawberries came when my Dad, my brother, Jim, and I were on a trout-fishing trip. We had driven to a small stream, pitched our tent, and started a five-day vacation. After I had fished for two days from daylight to dark, I needed a break, so during midday I took a walk across a sand barren.

The area lacked trees and had few shrubs or grasses but it did have extensive patches of wild strawberries. While the strawberries were not much bigger than peas, they were plentiful and I managed to pick two or three cups.

The next morning, I proudly displayed the strawberries. Dad and Jim didn't say too much; they just poured them on their cold cereal, added a little sugar, poured on some milk, and started gobbling. The following morning we had strawberries sprinkled over our pancakes. Those strawberries made that fishing trip a lot more enjoyable. They added some variety to an otherwise monotonous menu of beans and hot dogs.

Wild strawberries still make welcome additions to a camper's menu. Strawberries are great for quick snacks while you're hiking, fishing, or strolling around camp. About the only preparation needed is to wash them because they do tend to pick up grit.

Although there are many places you can go to pick commercially raised strawberries, the wild ones seem so much tastier. Admittedly, wild strawberries are much smaller than tame varieties, but the wild berry packs a lot of flavor into that small package.

While strawberries are common throughout New England, they don't prosper in deep shade. Forest openings, rights-of-way, abandoned fields, timber cuts, and burns offer strawberries a perfect place to grow.

Strawberries are herbaceous (not woody) biennials that perpetuate the species by seeds and runners (stolons). The compound leaf is composed of three deeply serrated (toothed) leaflets. They blossom in May and ripen in late June through mid-July. Each berry is about twice as large as a pea.

One of my favorite recipes consists of a half cup of wild strawberries mixed into pancake batter. Fry the pancakes and embellish them with a few especially red-ripe berries. Serve with a syrup made by simmering strawberries, water, and brown sugar. Who says camp meals have to be boring?

Wild Strawberries

Someday I shall not go upon the hill
where they grow hot and sweet;
someday I shall not eat my fill
nor stoop beneath the beat
of June's warm sun upon my back!
Someday I shall not thread
my narrow way up the small path that's black
as the deep, sunless bed
the brook makes, in the hemlock gloom!
Someday I shall not stop to rest
beside the gentle plume
of birches I have loved the best!
No matter, when I shall not climb the hill,
forever, ever, I shall taste them still!

—FRANCES STOCKWELL LOVELL
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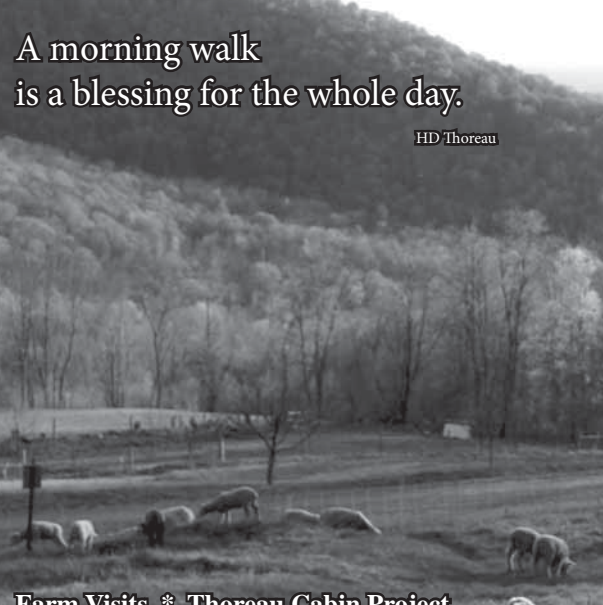
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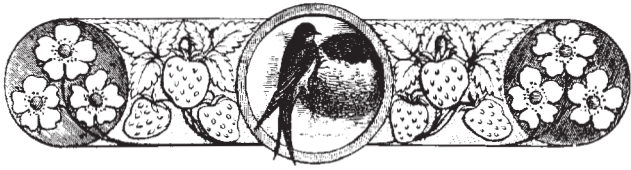


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Old-Time Strawberry Recipes

Individual Berry Cakes (Blackberry, Blueberry or Strawberry)

Take one pint of flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, a little salt; sift together, then rub in two even tablespoonfuls of butter. Add enough milk to make a soft dough. Pour on bread board and pat down. Take a large round cutter and cut out the cakes. Lay on buttered pan and bake in quick oven. When done pull apart, spread with butter and lay over fresh ripe berries rolled in sugar. Serve with cream if desired.

—Mrs. L. A. B.

Delicious Strawberry Dessert

Stew strawberries or any other berries and sweeten to taste and pour hot over thin slices of bakers' bread, buttered and with crust cutoff, making alternate layers of fruit and bread, leaving a thick layer of fruit for the last. Put a plate on top, and when cool set on ice. Serve with sweetened cream. Inexpensive.

—Luella H.

Baked Strawberry Batter Pudding

½ pint of cream
1½ cups of flour
2 eggs

1 tablespoon of butter
2 rounded teaspoonfuls of baking powder

Separate the eggs, beat the yolks, add the milk, then the butter, melted, then the flour and baking powder sifted together. Beat them five minutes and stir in carefully the well beaten whites of the eggs. Turn into a shallow greased baking pan, and cover the top with strawberries (other fruit can be used). Dust with four tablespoonfuls of granulated sugar, and bake in a quick oven thirty minutes. Serve warm with hard sauce or with plain milk or cream. (Note—have the pan sufficiently large to hold the batter, not over an inch thick.)

—Sara Tyson Rohrer



photo by Kimberly Grant

Flocks of kids picking bunches of ripe red strawberries at Cedar Circle Farm in East Thetford, VT.

To Preserve Strawberries Whole

Take the fruit when not over-ripe, pick over carefully, wash and put in glass jars, filling each one about three-fourths full. Make a syrup of a pound of granulated sugar and one cupful of water for every 1½ pounds of fruit and let it simmer fifteen minutes. Pour syrup into jars over berries, filling them to the top; then set the jars in a boiler of cold water with a generous amount of straw or excelsior in the bottom of the boiler to prevent the cans from falling against each other. Place on the stove and let the water boil until the fruit becomes scalding hot; add more syrup as the fruit settles. Now take out of the cans and seal tight. If these directions are followed the fruit will keep for years.

—Mrs. A. Peters

Conserve of Roses

Gather each morning the roses which blossomed the day before, and after picking out the insects, stems, and calices, throw the leaves into a jar with layers of powdered loaf or crushed sugar; do this while the roses last, crowd the jar full, and cover it very close. A very nice article is thus made to put into cakes, puddings, etc.

—Cora B.

These recipes were contributed to Woman's Favorite Cookbook by Annie R. Gregory, circa 1902.

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Two Welsh Heritage Music Events in the Vermont/New York Slate Valley Region During June

Fourth Annual Welsh Heritage Evening Prayer Service

Fourth Annual Welsh Heritage Evening Prayer Service, will take place at the Historic St. John's Episcopal Church in East Poultney, VT on Saturday, June 10, 2017 at 4 p.m. The service is in honor of the Vermont/New York region's rich Welsh heritage. The service is spoken in the English language. Scripture readings, spoken in the Welsh language, will be given by Nia Davies Demiray who is native of Aberystwyth, Wales, a member of Poultney Area St. David's Society.

Historic (1831) St. John's Episcopal Church is reopening in June as a summer chapel with Service of Evening Prayer. Three services are planned which will be led by local Episcopal clergy and the rich notes of the original 1860's William Nutting hand-pumped organ will accompany hymns. Light refreshments will be served after worship in the garden, weather permitting.

James Cassarino, Director of Welsh Heritage and professor of Music studies at Green Mountain College will provide organ music for this service. All are welcome.

These summer services are a rare opportunity offered to worshippers, historians, musicians and lovers of early Vermont. A group of residents have been planning for the yearly summer reopening of very special St. John's Church on Route 140 in East Poultney. Untouched and unchanged, St. John's is one of the two churches from the early 1800's surviving in this village. It is located across from the village green, which is dominated by the stately United Baptist Church.

St. John's is a fine example of classic New England Carpenter Gothic. It retains its gated pews, kerosene lamps, stenciled walls and a rare, hand pumped organ made by Vermonter, William Nutting, which dates from the 1860's. The cornerstone of St. John's was laid May 27, 1831.



The Federated Church of Castleton will be hosting a Traditional Welsh Hymn Sing and Tea Social, a Gymanfa Ganu and Te Bach, on June 25 in Castleton, VT.

The first services were held a year later, May 27, 1832. The first Episcopal Bishop of Vermont, the Rt. Rev. John Henry Hopkins, presided at the consecration of the building.

Gymanfa Ganu and Te Bach A Traditional Welsh Hymn Sing And Tea Social

A Gymanfa Ganu and Te Bach (traditional Welsh hymn sing and tea social) will be held on Sunday, June 25th at 3 p.m. at historic Federated Church of Castleton, in Castleton, VT. The event is sponsored by Poultney Area St. David's Society and hosted by Federated Church of Castleton. Te Bach

will follow the sing in the fellowship hall. All are welcome.

The St. David's Society will welcome Jay G. Williams, III as Gymanfa Conductor for this event. Jay has been involved in Welsh activities in Central New York for many years and a frequent conductor of cymafoedd across the country. A past President of the St. David's Society of Utica, Jay served as a member of its National Gymanfa Ganu steering committee. He is a past director of the National Welsh American Foundation and has written two books on Welsh-Americans, one of which includes history about the Welsh in the Vermont/New York Slate Valley region.

The Reverend Robert A. Noble, III, Senior Minister of Federated Church of Castleton, will be Gymanfa accompanist.

Meredith Rehbach will be Welsh language reader at the cymafoedd event. The great-granddaughter of a slate quarryman from Bethesda, North Wales, Meredith's late father, Gwilym R. Roberts, is the author of *New Lives in the Valley: Slate Quarries and Quarry Villages in North Wales, New York, and Vermont, 1850-1920*.

Hymn verses will be sung in both the Welsh and English languages. A limited number of gymanfa hymnals will be available. If you have your own gymanfa hymnal copy, please bring it with you. One may also pre-order a copy from www.nafow.org (The North American Festival of Wales).

The Fourth Annual Welsh Heritage Evening Prayer Service, St. John's Episcopal Church, on the Green on Rt. 140 in E. Poultney, June 10. For info call Rev. William A. Davidson (518) 499-1850 or Ida Mae Johnson (802) 287-9744.

The Traditional Welsh Hymn Sing and Tea Social, Federated Church of Castleton, 504 Main St., Castleton, June 25. For info contact Poultney Area St. David's Society, c/o 60 Norton Avenue, Poultney, VT 05764. pasds1988@gmail.com. Visit www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vtpasds. On Facebook.

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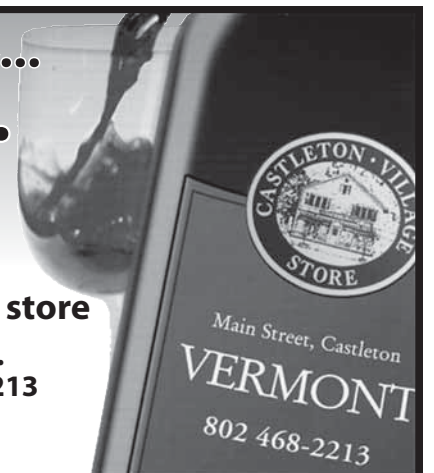
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Small Town Mystery

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

When I was a little girl playing outside at my grandmother's house in Fair Haven and the noon whistle blew, for a moment the whole world seemed to stand still.

Under the right circumstances, it still does, and one dazzling, sun-spangled noontime years ago I stopped whatever I was doing. I walked out our tall front door and sat down at the bottom of our seldom-used steps.

I know from old photographs that originally our house had a lattice-work wooden porch which at some point over the years was torn out and replaced with cement. That day, under my bare feet I felt the cement, crumbly and salt-ravaged because of the time when our house was a church parsonage and the steps were regularly used, and in the winter heavily salted.

Close to where I was sitting, in pools of deep, porch-columns-cast shade, there's a bed of lily of the valley, and where it's sunnier, some brief-flowering old fashioned roses. That spangly-bright noon, I felt impatient with myself for never finding the time to come and sit in such a gentle, dreamy spot.

Even back then, we'd lived in our house for many years, and I'd admired it all my life. When we first moved in, I used

"I felt impatient with myself for never finding the time to come and sit in such a gentle, dreamy spot."

to prowl from the attic, where heavy 19th century rough-sawn beams were joined to support the mass of the porch, to the dim, dirt-floored, stone-walled cellar. But the newness had worn off, and I'd stopped doing that. I hadn't sat out in front like this for a long time.

After awhile, I noticed that the only activity in any direction was across the street where a baseball-cap-wearing stranger with a metal detector was steadily working his way back and forth across the town green. Behind him, beyond a low hedge, I saw someone trimming grass in the town's earliest graveyard. Suddenly, I had a great urge to visit that place of pleasantly mysterious emanations.

I walked across the street, skirted the baseball-capped stranger, and pushed through the hedge. The gravestones I found were crumbling, blurred by acid rain, scabbed with lichen and in most cases, unreadable. Over the years, the elements had weathered a mammoth table stone blank.

Except for the snick and whir of the distant grass cutter, the graveyard was a place of sunlight and silence. I walked from stone to stone and came upon one as clear as if it had been cut the previous day: *Betsy Whitney, born 1789, died 1853.*

I realized that she must have walked Main Street, stood on this green, attended this close-by church, and possibly even visited my house when it was a newly-built showplace. But now she was gone as if she had never been, and on her grave, were those words of no comfort: *"Fugit Hora."*

I moved between the headstones to a dried-blood-colored, wire fence, slumped under the weight of a load of weedy vines, and I looked into a back yard with a sagging 1840s barn and a gently-settling nineteenth-century house. I thought how these buildings were still in this world when the builders, and the first owners—people who had spent their whole lives in them—were gone without a trace.

I recrossed wide, deserted Main Street, returned to my porch, and suddenly, as if my leaving had caused it, from somewhere behind the church, gigantic billows of smoke



Pam Rehlen resting on the steps of her home in Castleton, VT.

photo by Charles Sutton

began to pour into the sky. It looked as if a fairy tale giant, a colossus, was dumping out house-sized sacks of flour. I left the porch and rushed into my driveway.

I wondered if I should do anything or call anyone. The clouds of smoke piled higher. It wasn't possible to tell exactly where they were coming from. The Beacon Feeds Grain Mill at the east end of town was still in operation back then, but this wasn't from Beacon Feeds. This was billowing up from the northwest.

No alarm sounded. No one came out of a house. The grass cutter and the stranger on the green were gone. There was only the truly-colossal pillars of smoke; nothing else disturbed the serene, sun-filled afternoon. So I did nothing.

Much later, my husband drove home. By then, the sky had cleared. We stood together in our driveway looking across the road at the peaceful graveyard. "It seems O.K. to me," he said, and I could hear in his voice how improbable he found my story.

Sometimes I recall that day. What was the pillar of smoke? Where did it come from? I think of my old house, built in 1848, its now never-visited nooks and crannies. I think of the long line of families who lived here before me. I think of the earliest graves across the street, town's people with lives just as vivid as my own, now long-forgotten, sleeping in the sun.

Whether we recognize it, or acknowledge it, we live on the very surface of life. All around us is mystery.

Pamela Hayes Rehlen has written and lived most of her life in Castleton, VT. She is the author of stories, articles, essays and magazine features and of two books: *The Blue Cat and the River's Song* (\$17 plus shipping and handling) and *The Vanished Landmarks Game - Vermont Stories from West of Birdseye* (\$20 plus shipping and handling) available at the Castleton Village Store, P. O. Box 275 Castleton, VT 05735, and at a number of Vermont booksellers. To reach the store, call (802) 468-5027.

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Well may the aging poet yearn
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Back to his small songs sharp and straight,
Loving what he loved early, late.

—JAMES HAYFORD
Orleans, VT, 1950

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Vermont Country Calendar

See the end of the daily event calendar for ongoing activities; and museums, exhibits, and galleries.

SATURDAY, MAY 27

BARNET. Ben's Mill, an old water powered woodworking mill (temporarily being run with a gas engine) on the Stevens River, is open on weekends. Volunteers are on duty to show you the history of the mill. 11 am – 3 pm. Ben's Mill, 2236 West Barnet Rd. (802) 357-2010. www.bensmill.com. *Through October 8.*

BENNINGTON. 33rd Annual MayFest Arts and Crafts Festival. 10 am – 5 pm. Downtown Bennington, Main St. (802) 442-5758. www.betterbennington.com.

BETHEL. Fifth Semi-Annual Spring Art Show. Art from local artists. All art is for sale. Free admission. 11 am – 2 pm. Bethel Town Hall, 134 S. Main St. (802) 234-7258.

EAST CORINTH. First Annual Art & Antique Market and Tea. Benefit for the E. Corinth Congregational Church. Blake Memorial Library Book and Plant Sale and Church bake sale next door. 9 am – 4 pm. Box B Ranch, 640 Village Rd. (802) 439-5870.

FAIR HAVEN. Spring Fling 2017. Family activities, farmers markets, festivals, food/drink, crafters, flea market booths and yard sales. 9 am – 3 pm. On the Green. 802-265-8600. vtlakesregionchamber.org.

HARDWICK. Tea Garden. Teas are served in the flower garden, under a covered porch or, when the weather is inclement, in a little plant-filled conservatory. 12-4 pm. By reservation only. Perennial Pleasures Nursery, 63 Brockhouse Rd. (802) 472-5104. perennialpleasures.net. *Through Labor Day.*

HUBBARDTON. Astronomy Star Party & Workshop. The Green Mountain Astronomers will show you the stars and show you how to use, collimate (adjust), and clean your personal telescopes. Inside program included. Bring your telescope. Call to confirm. Admission by donation. 7:30 – 10 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/hubbardton.

KILLINGTON. Killington Stage Race 2017. Legendary northeast cycling event, a series of three races cover a variety of terrain and distances. Killington, Route 4 east. killingtonstagerace.com. *Through May 29.*

MARSHFIELD. Community Yard Sale. To benefit the Jacquith Public Library. 9 am – 2 pm. Outside the Old Schoolhouse Common (inside the gym if it rains), 122 School St. (802) 426-3581. www.jacquithpubliclibrary.org.

MONTPELIER. 6th Annual Birdfest! Bird walks and workshops, live raptors, kids activities, bird banding demo, bird house building, photo contest, and more. North Branch Nature Center, 713 Elm St. (802) 229-6206. www.northbranchnaturecenter.org.

MONTPELIER. Summer Library Book Sale. Mon-Thurs 10 am – 8 pm, Fri & Sat 10 am – 5:30 pm. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St. (802) 223-3338. www.kellogghubbard.org. *Through July 8.*

PLYMOUTH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. See the new temporary exhibit, tour the site, and experience the excitement of the Killington Stage Race as hundreds of cyclists speed through the village! Fiber Arts in Vermont will be on site to demonstrate how historic textiles and other fiber arts were made. Admission: adults \$9, children 6-14 years \$2, children under 6 years free, family pass (up to 8 people) \$25. Open daily 9:30 am – 5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicites.vermont.gov. *Open through October 22.*

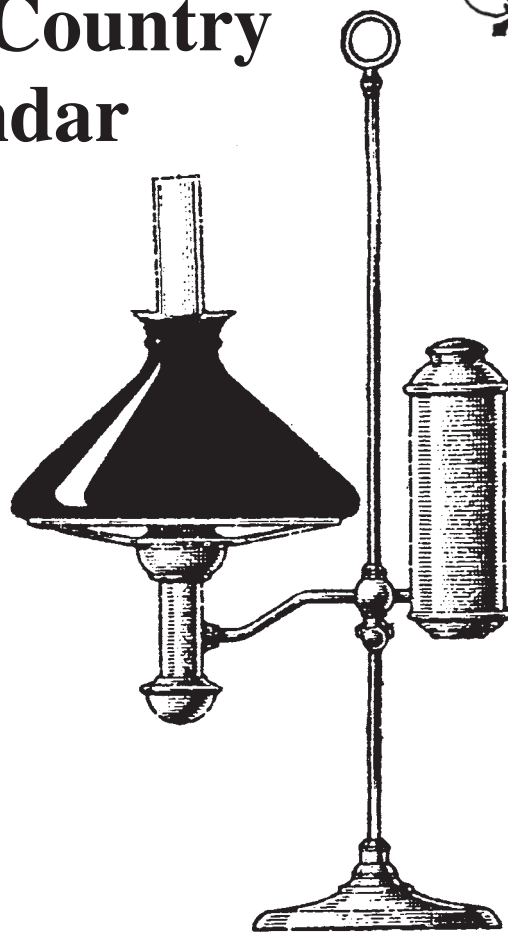
POULTNEY. Exhibit: "Our Natural World in Art". Rutland County Audubon's first wildlife art show. 1-4 pm. Stone Valley Arts, 145 Main St. (802) 287-8197. stonevalleyarts.org. *Also May 28, June 3-4 and 10-11.*

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays through October 28.*

STATEWIDE. Vermont Spring Open Studio Weekend. Vermont artists and craftspeople invite the public to visit their studios during Memorial Day Weekend. 8 am – 5 pm. Pick up a map at any studio or tourist information centers on Vermont's interstate highways. Or get one at www.vermontcrafts.com. *Also May 28.*

THETFORD HILL. Open Fields Medieval Festival. Music, dance, games of skill and chance, food, traditional crafts, hair braiding, storytelling, Benny the Dragon, Highland ponies, feats of juggling and acrobatics, and the No Strings Marionette Company. Costumes encouraged. Admission: \$7, children under 4 free. 11 am – 4 pm. The Thetford Green, 37 Academy Rd. (603) 667-6284. greenmandyr@gmail.com. vtmedfest.com.

WARDSBORO. Annual Spring Plant Sale. Fundraiser for Friends of the Wardsboro Library. 9 am – 1 pm. Two locations: Wardsboro Town Common at Route 100 and Main St. for colorful annuals & bake sale; 170 Main St. for perennials, annuals, shrubs, vegetables, Gilfeather turnip seedlings, & herbs. Free admission, parking, raffles, and garden advice by experts. Rain or shine. (802) 896-3416. www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org.



WINDSOR. History Happens At OCH! 18th-century reenactors Carl & Carolyn Nalikowski discuss early American life and demonstrate a variety of period activities including brewing, woodworking, cooking, and powder horn carving. 11 am – 5 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 North Main St. (802) 674-6628. historicites.vermont.gov. *Also May 28.*

WOODSTOCK. Cheese & Dairy Celebration. Two days devoted to cheese, cows, and family fun. Sample delicious dairy products from some of Vermont's finest artisan cheese makers! Learn how we care for our herd of Jersey cows, their calving, and milk production and find out why dairy cows have been the backbone of Vermont's economy for over one hundred years. Adults \$15, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. *Also May 28.*

SUNDAY, MAY 28

BRANDON. Memorial Day Parade. A small parade, a few speeches and a 100 year old tradition of first grade girls placing flowers at the base of the Civil War Monument. 10 am. At Central Park on the Green. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org. www.brandon.org.

BRATTLEBORO. 2017 Memorial Day Dawn Dance. Contra dancing with three bands and three callers from 8 pm Sunday evening to 7 am Monday morning, as well as English country dancing on Sunday afternoon from 2:30-5:30 pm. Bring water, food, a change of clothes, and a towel. Tickets: \$26.50. 8 pm – 7 am. Gibson-Aiken Center, 207 Main St. (802) 451-0822. info@dawndance.org. dawndance.org. *Also May 29.*

HUNTINGTON. Upcycle for the Birds. Repurpose stuff from your stash of nifty thingamabobs in a way that helps the birds. 1-3 pm. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. www.birdsofvermont.org.

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SAXTONS RIVER. Hands-on-Piano Series. Hugh Keelan with four-time Grammy winner Eugene Friesen performing piano and cello magic. 3 pm. Main Street Arts, 37 Main St. Tickets \$15. info@mainstreetarts.org. (802) 869-2960.

WINDSOR. History Happens At OCH! 18th-century reenactors Carl & Carolyn Nalikowski discuss early American life and demonstrate a variety of period activities including brewing, woodworking, cooking, and powder horn carving. 11 am – 5 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 North Main St. (802) 674-6628. historicites.vermont.gov.

WOODSTOCK. Cheese & Dairy Celebration. Two days devoted to cheese, cows, and family fun. Sample products from some of Vermont's finest artisan cheese makers. Learn about our herd of Jersey cows, their calving, and milk production and find out why dairy cows have been the backbone of Vermont's economy for over one hundred years. Admission: adults \$15, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.



Weeding the Onion Bed

The plow for the corn; for cabbage the hoe
But in some places as I ought to know
There's nothing so certain the weeds to destroy
As the fingers and thumbs of a trusty boy.

—UNKNOWN

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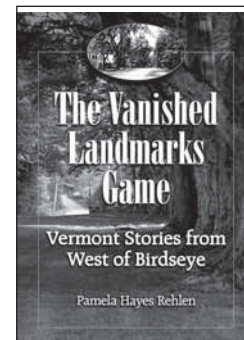
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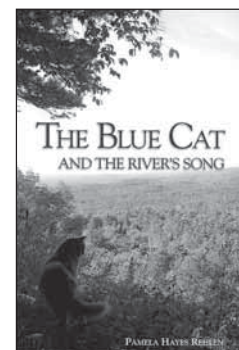
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Vermont Country Calendar

MONDAY, MAY 29

HUBBARDTON. Memorial Day Remembrance. At noon battlefield flags will be raised to full-mast and tribute paid at the battle monument to the soldiers of Hubbardton. 12-12:15 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282.

KILLINGTON. Killington Stage Race 2017. Legendary northeast cycling event. Killington, Route 4 east. killingtonstagerace.com. www.killington.com.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Wednesdays through October 25.*

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

ENOSBURG FALLS. 61st Annual Vermont Dairy Festival. Midway and amusement rides open, 6-10 pm. Lincoln Park. (802) 933-4134. vermontdairyfestival.com. *Through June 4.*

FRIDAY, JUNE 2

BRADFORD. Play: *One Night in the Valley.* A mystery of fame, fortune and revenge. Tickets: adults \$12, seniors \$10. 7:30 pm. Old Church Theater, 137 N. Main St. (802) 439-6199. oldchurchtheater.org. *Through June 11.*

BRATTLEBORO. Strolling of the Heifers Weekend Festival. Friday 5-8:30 pm: Gallery Walk and Street Festival. Saturday: 10 am Parade, 9 am - 4 pm Slow Living Expo. Sunday 9 am - 1 pm: Famous Farmer Breakfast, Tour de Heifer, Farm Tour. In Downtown Brattleboro, on Western Ave., and at Brattleboro Retreat. (802) 246-0982. www.strollingoftheheifers.com. *Through June 4.*

BRATTLEBORO. Dance Performance Preview: Virago-Man Dem. Choreographed by Cynthia Oliver, navigates the complexities of black masculinities through movement, spoken text and visual design. Tickets: \$15, students \$12. 7 pm. New England Youth Theatre, 100 Flat St. (802) 257-3361. www.vermontperformancelab.org. *Also June 3.*

BURLINGTON. Burlington Discover Jazz Festival presents Pink Martini. Tickets: \$25-\$60. 8 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (888) 974-3698. flynnntix.org.

ENOSBURG FALLS. 61st Annual Vermont Dairy Festival. Midway and amusement rides, 6-9 pm. Youth run 4-9 pm. Lincoln Park. (802) 933-4134. vermontdairyfestival.com. *Through June 4.*

RANDOLPH. Concert: Vishten. Contemporary Acadian traditional group of multi-instrumentalists and singers. Tickets: \$10-\$35, kids 5 and under free. 7:30 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-9878. www.chandler-arts.org. www.vishtenmusic.com.

READING. Hall Art Foundation First Friday Tours. View our exhibitions without a guide and at your own pace. With wood-fired pizza available from La Pizza Lupo, prepared in a vintage truck with an Italian-made wood-burning oven. 5-8 pm. Hall Art Foundation, 544 Rt. 106. (802) 952-1060. vermont@hallartfoundation.org. www.hallartfoundation.org. *First Friday of every month.*

TINMOUTH. Concert: The Sky Blue Boys. Wonderful old ballads, parlor songs, heart songs and sacred numbers. Suggested donation at the door: \$10-\$15. 7:30 pm. Old Firehouse, Rt. 40 and Mountain View Road. (802) 446-3457. joreynolds@vermontel.net. www.skyblueboys.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

BARRE. Caws 4 Paws Pet Expo. The biggest, and only pet expo Central Vermont has ever seen. 10 am - 3 pm. BOR Arena, Auditorium Hill. (802) 244-7321. beyondthedog97@gmail.com.

BRANDON. Concert: Deb Brisson and the Hay Burners. Soulful and bluesy to rocking alt-country. Tickets: \$20. Pre-concert dinner \$25. Reservations required for dinner and recommended for the show. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. www.brandon-music.net.

BRATTLEBORO. Strolling of the Heifers Parade and Slow Living Expo. Parade starts at 10 am on Main Street. Heifers, farm animals, bands, tractors, floats, clowns and surprises. Entertainment starts at 9 am. 11-acre Slow Living Expo after the parade on the Brattleboro Common and the Brattleboro Retreat Lawn: food, entertainment, animals, tractors, music and family fun, plus demonstrations, craft show and exhibits. 9 am - 4 pm. Downtown Brattleboro. (802) 246-0982. www.strollingoftheheifers.com.

BRATTLEBORO. Dance Performance Preview: Virago-Man Dem. Choreographed by Cynthia Oliver, navigates the complexities of black masculinities through movement, spoken text and visual design. Tickets: \$15, students \$12. 7 pm. New England Youth Theatre, 100 Flat St. (802) 257-3361. www.vermontperformancelab.org.

BURLINGTON. Burlington Discover Jazz Festival presents Robert Cray. Blues guitar player with roots in the vein of Albert Collins and innovations on par with Hendrix. Tickets: \$25-\$60. 8 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (888) 974-3698. flynnntix.org.

EAST BURKE. Bluegrass & BBQ. Delicious BBQ, lively bluegrass tunes from Granite Junction, and Vermont beer specials. BBQ starting at 5 pm and music from 5:30-8 pm. Burke Base Lodge, Burke Bike Park, 223 Sherburne Lodge Rd. (802) 626-7400. *First Saturday of each month.*

ENOSBURG FALLS. 61st Annual Vermont Dairy Festival. Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show. Parade at 10:30 am. Live entertainment. Midway and amusement rides. Fireworks at 9:30 pm. 9 am - 9:30 pm. Lincoln Park. (802) 933-4134. vermontdairyfestival.com. *Also June 4.*

FAIRLEE. Flea Market. Free admission. 7:30 am - 3 pm. Railroad Station on Rt. 5. (802) 333-4809. *Saturdays through October 7.*

MIDDLEBURY. Annual Rhubarb Festival. Pies, mostly rhubarb but also strawberry-rhubarb. Sweets and savories, beautiful bling, plants, and gently used books. Sandwich/salad, beverage and dessert for \$5. Live music and kids' face painting. No entry fee. Profits support a local charity. 10 am - 2 pm. Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Court. (802) 388-8080. www.cvuus.org.

PLYMOUTH. Take a Hike at the Notch! Celebrate National Trails Day by taking a guided walk on the interpretive trails at Plymouth Notch. Families can also enjoy Valley Quest's Coolidge Quest: A Treasure Hunt at the Boyhood Home of the 30th U.S. President. Meet at the Museum & Education Center for a brief orientation. Admission: adults \$9, children 6-14 years \$2, children under 6 years free, family pass (up to 8 people) \$25. 10-11:30 am. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenny@vermont.gov. historicites.vermont.gov. *Open through October 22.*

POULTNEY. Exhibit: Our Natural World in Art. Rutland County Audubon's first wildlife art show. 1-4 pm. Stone Valley Arts, 145 Main St. (802) 287-8197. www.stonevalleyarts.org. *Also June 4 and 10-11.*

POULTNEY. Annual Poultny Town Wide Yard Sales. Crafters, food makers, farmers, restaurant owners, non-profits, school groups, civic groups and anyone with yard sale items. Search the streets of Poultny for bargains both in the shops and on the sidewalks during our bi-annual tradition. 9 am - 4 pm. (802) 287-2010. maryhelm1@yahoo.com. www.poultneyvt.com.

PUTNEY. Concert: Miro Sprague Quintet. World-class jazz. Tickets \$24. 7:30 pm. Next Stage Arts, 15 Kimball Hill Rd. (802) 387-0102. nextstagearts@gmail.com. www.nextstagearts.org.

Rutland, VT

The Vermont Farmers Market is More Than Just One Market!

Spring had only just begun and here we are on the verge of summer already—and that means the outdoor farmers market season is in full swing! Every week,

new seasonal vegetables and fruits make their annual appearance like old friends returning for a visit. June brings ripe, red strawberries, rhubarb, asparagus, spin-

ach, baby lettuces and more. While the Vermont Farmers Market in Rutland, VT is a year-round market, and the half year we spend indoors is full of amazing produce, our outdoor market is even bigger and better! Come check us out, Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Depot Park, as part of your weekend outings and excursions. Enjoy a delicious snack and listen to some live music while you peruse the market.

There is also a convenient midweek market, Wednesdays 3-6 p.m., in Rutland's Depot Park, where you can find a little bit of everything, and just what you need!

The Vermont Farmers Market runs a small farmers market in Fair Haven, VT. This year, starting June 8th and running through October 25th, a select group of vendors will be setting up at the park in the center of town on

Thursdays from 3 to 6 p.m. right before the weekly live concerts. You can do a little shopping for local goodies and then enjoy the music, all in one place, as the sun sets!

Vermont Farmers Market is located for the summer at Depot Park in downtown Rutland, VT across from Walmart. Open Saturdays through October 28th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Wednesdays through October 25th from 3-6 p.m.

The Fair Haven Market at the park in downtown Fair Haven, VT is open Thursdays June 8th through October 25th from 3-6 p.m. Call (802) 948-2211. E-mail: fairhavenmarketmanager@vtfarmersmarket.org

For more information call (802) 342-4727. E-mail: summermarketmanager@vtfarmersmarket.org. Visit www.vtfarmersmarket.org.



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Rutland Downtown Farmers Market
Saturdays 9 am to 2 pm, May 13 through October 28
Wednesdays 3-6 pm, May 17 through October 25

Depot Park (next to Walmart)
Downtown Rutland, VT

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Vermont Country Calendar

RIPTON. Community Coffeehouse Concert and Open Mic. Low Lily performs. Admission \$15, \$10, \$3 for children. Refreshments available. 7:30 pm. Ripton Community House, Rt. 125. (802) 388-9782. rcch.org.

RUPERT. Thoreau Cabin Raising Workshop: Shingling the Roof. Commemorating the 200th anniversary of Henry David Thoreau's birth. Tuition: \$50. 9 am – 4 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. www.merckforest.org. Also June 4.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 28.

SO. BURLINGTON. Rhododendron Walk and Talk. Beth Gutwin, Curator of the Rhododendron Collection, will give a slide presentation and lead a walking tour of the Hort. Farm's acclaimed collection of Rhododendrons and native Azaleas. Come learn about the cultural requirements and landscape uses of these plants, and see a spectacular display of blooms. Tea and refreshments will be served after. Rain date is June 4. Fee: \$10. 2-4 pm. UVM Horticulture Farm, 65 Green Mountain Dr. (802) 864-3073. info@friendsofthehortfarm.org. friendsofthehortfarm.org.

SWANTON. Kids Fishing Derby. Fishing Derby, "Lets Go Fishing" activities. Lunch: hot dogs, chips, drinks, B&J ice cream. Door Prizes. Backyard Bass Contest. All participants will receive a litter bag containing bobbers, hooks, sinkers, a coloring book etc. 7:30 am – 1 pm. Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, 29 Tabor Rd. (802) 868-4781. www.fws.gov/northeast/missisquoi.

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

BRATTLEBORO. Tour de Heifer 15-30-60 mile Dirt Road Cycling Rides. Guided hike to the top of nearby Round Mountain. 8 am – 1 pm. Meet at Lilac Ridge Farm, 264 Ames Hill Rd. (802) 380-0226. www.strollingoftheheifers.com.

BRATTLEBORO. Strolling of the Heifers Farmers Breakfast. Delicious breakfast made with farm-fresh ingredients. 9 am – 1 pm at The Marina Restaurant. Tours of five local farms. (802) 246-0982. www.strollingoftheheifers.com.

BURLINGTON. Burlington Discover Jazz Festival Concert. Pianist Sullivan Fortner plays with an ear bent toward tradition while finding space to develop within jazz's well-wrought forms. \$30. 8 pm. FlynnSpace, Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org.

CHESTER. Book & Author Event: Join New York Times bestselling author Jon Katz for a discussion of *Talking to Animals*. Free. 4 pm. Phoenix Books Misty Valley, 58 The Common. (802) 875-3400. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

CHITTENDEN. 36th Annual Teenie's Fishing Derby for Seniors and Handicapped. Including paraplegics. Free food and drink at 11:30 am. Fishing begins at 1 pm. Bring your own chair, bait and tackle. Prize drawings all afternoon. Organized and hosted by Teenie & Bob Bearor. Rain or shine. At Teenie's Tiny Poultry Farm, Teeny Tiny Rd. (802) 773-2637. teenie.bearor@gmail.com.

DUMMERSTON. Orchard Stroll. A Strolling of the Heifers Farm Tour, with orchardist Zeke Goodband. Discuss orchard ecology and grafting, scout for pests and how we manage them. The Farm Market will be open. Free. 9:30-10:30 am or 1-2 pm. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. www.scottfarmvermont.com.

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum Opening & Show. One of the largest collections of some of the biggest puppets in the world housed in a 100-foot-long converted dairy barn built in 1863. Our Domestic Insurrection Circus & Pageant at 3 pm, Dingdongs at 2pm. Free admission, donations welcome. Bread and Puppet Farm, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. www.breadandpuppet.org.

ENOSBURG FALLS. 61st Annual Vermont Dairy Festival. Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show. Pancake breakfast 7:30 am – 12 noon. Church service 10 am. Horse pull 10:30 am. Car show 12 pm. Midway and amusement rides 12 pm. Contests and live entertainment. 7:30 am – 4 pm. Lincoln Park. (802) 933-4134. vermontdairyfestival.com.

PLYMOUTH. Grace Coolidge Musicales #1. The first of four recitals in honor of one of America's most popular first ladies. Katie Lyon-Pingree (harp) and Abigail Charbeneau (piano) present a program of solos and duets featuring a range of music from secular, sacred, and Celtic traditions. Donation is suggested. Sponsored by the Alma Gibbs Donchian Foundation. 4-5:30 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicssites.vermont.gov. Open through October 22.

RUPERT. Thoreau Cabin Raising Workshop: Shingling the Roof. Commemorating the 200th anniversary of Henry David Thoreau's birth. Tuition: \$50. 9 am – 4 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. www.merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Jazz Concert: Pink Martini featuring China Forbes. Tickets: \$45, \$60. 7 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. www.paramountvt.org.

WOODSTOCK. Celebrate Dairy Month with Ice Cream Sunday at Billings Farm & Museum. Lend a hand making and tasting hand-cranked ice cream at 12:15 pm and 2:15 pm. Learn the history and science of the great American dessert. "Historic" baseball game played in the Billings' fields in the early afternoon. Admission: adults \$15, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free; includes all programs and activities, plus the operating dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and the 1890 Farm House. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. Also June 11, 18, 25.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

PITTSFORD. Spaghetti Dinner. Fundraiser to benefit Maclure Library. Tim Blow and family will serve up delicious spaghetti with their home-made marinara sauce and meatballs. Take-out available. 50/50 raffle. Tickets: \$8. 4-9 pm. Pittsford Bar and Grill, 829 Arch St. (802) 483-9373.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 25.

RUTLAND. June Friends of the Rutland Free Library Book Sale. Thousands of organized, new and gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for all ages. June's highlight: summer sports books and great Father's Day gift ideas. Most items \$.25-\$3. 3-7 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. www.rutlandfree.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 8

DORSET. Play: *The Tarnation of Russell Colvin*. One-man virtuosic tour-de-force. Oliver Wadsworth portrays a motley medley of characters, as they grapple with the slippery truth of the real life murder of Russell Colvin. Tickets: \$20. 7:30 pm. Dorset Theatre Festival, 104 Cheney Rd. (802) 867-2223. dorsettheatrefestival.org. Through June 10.

FAIR HAVEN. Fair Haven Farmers' Market. Farm fresh veggies and fruits, meat, handcrafted baked goods including gluten-free, maple syrup, jams, and more. 3-6 p.m. Downtown at Fair Haven Park. (802) 948-2211. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Thursdays, June 8 through October 26.

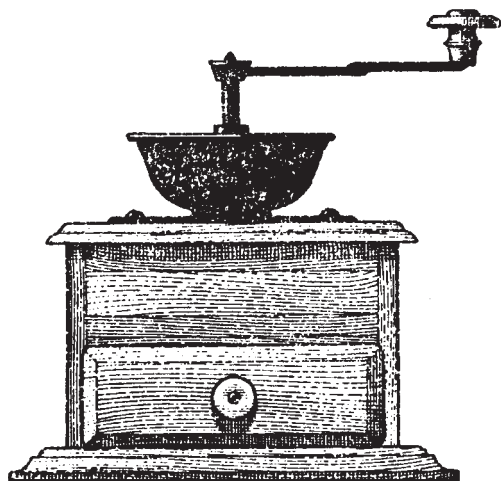
LUDLOW. Summer Music Series Concert: The Starline Rhythm Boys. Pack the lawn chairs or picnic blankets and bring the family to enjoy live music and an outdoor barbecue. Free. 6-9 pm. Jackson Gore Inn courtyard, Jackson Gore Inn at Okemo, 111 Jackson Gore Rd. (802) 228-1600. Every Friday night throughout the summer.

SO. POMFRET. Open Mic Night. Relaxed, supportive and fun atmosphere. All levels and abilities welcome. Come to play or just to watch. Free. Adults and 16+. Alternating Thursdays, 7-9 pm. ArtisTree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. www.artistreevt.org. Also June 22.

WATERBURY CENTER. Vermont Atlas of Life Workshop. Learn about the Atlas, how anyone can contribute to it, and how the data can be accessed and used, from Kent McFarland, biologist at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies. Downloading these apps on your phone or tablet and bringing your device is encouraged. Free; Please register. 7-8:30 pm. Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Rd. www.stowelandtrust.org. www.greenmountainclub.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9

BELLOWS FALLS. 18th Annual Roots on the River Festival. Open Mic at noon; 4 pm, Ian Foster; 5:10 pm, Woodsmith & Hersch; 6:20 pm, Betty Soo; 7:30 pm, Dan Weber; 8:40 pm, Birds of Chicago; 9:30 pm, Bill Kirchen. Smoke-free, pet friendly. Lots of open field camping on site. Three-day weekend pass: \$105. Single-day passes: Friday \$45, Saturday \$50, Sunday \$30. Children's tickets and Saturday family ticket packages at the gate: Kids 9-15 \$10 per day, under 9 free with an adult. Under the Big Tent at the Rodeway Inn. (802) 460-3333. www.rootsontheriver.com. Through June 11.



If I Could Dig Like a Rabbit

If I could dig holes in the ground like a rabbit,
D' you know what I'd do?
Well, I'd dig a deep hole —
Right under that tree —

Then I'd go down — and down,
And find out where the tree starts,
And I'd find out how it eats and drinks,
And what makes it grow . . .
Yes, I would!



Perhaps I could dig a hole right up into that tree,
And — see — it — grow!
But perhaps I couldn't.
Anyway I could dig 'way down,
And see all the flower seeds,
And all the grass seeds,
And under that big rock there might be some rock seeds.
And I 'd see everything start growing.

Do all the seeds make noises
When they start to grow?
What do you suppose about that?
I suppose they sing,
'Cause they're so glad to come up here and
See the sunshine.

Well, anyway I 'd find out all about it, 'way down there,
And then I 'd want to come up home,
And I'd have so much to tell to you!

If I could dig holes like a rabbit,
That's just what I would do.

—ROSE STRONG HUBBELL
1895

Rutland, VT

Summer Festival Block Party

Join us to kick off Summer Vacation with a proper block party! NeighborWorks of Western Vermont is hosting a Summer Festival on Saturday, June 10 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 114 Park Ave, in Rutland, VT. The block will be closed to vehicles along Park St. between Harrison Ave and Pine St.

We'll have games, grilled food, activities, bike workshops and races, live music, local organizations tabling about their summer opportunities and resources, and more. The event is free and open to the public.

Our Summer Festival is for residents of all ages. Local organizations will have tables at this event about their summer services (health, job/internship opportunities, summer support for parents with children, free lunches, etc.) all while having fun outdoors!

If you would like to participate or volunteer or have questions please contact Shannon Kennelly at NeighborWorks of Western Vermont at (802) 797-8606. E-mail: skennelly@nwwvt.org. Visit www.nwwvt.org.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Friday, June 9, continued)

BRADFORD. Play: *One Night in the Valley*. A mystery of fame, fortune and revenge, written by Tony Sportiello. Tickets: adults \$12, seniors \$10. 7:30 pm. Old Church Theater, 137 N. Main St. (802) 439-6199. oldchurchtheater.org. *Through June 11.*

DERBY LINE. Concert: Banjo Dan's Bluegrass Revue. Bob Amos & Catamount Crossing, and The Sky Blue Boys – Banjo Dan and Willy Lindner. Tickets: \$20, U.S. or Canadian. 7:30 pm. Haskell Opera House, 93 Caswell Ave. (802) 873-3022. haskellopera.com. www.catamountix.org.

DORSET. Play: *The Tarnation of Russell Colvin*. One-man virtuosic tour-de-force. Oliver Wadsworth portrays a motley medley of characters, as they grapple with the slippery truth of the real life murder of Russell Colvin. Tickets: \$20. 7:30 pm. Dorset Theatre Festival, 104 Cheney Rd. (802) 867-2223. dorsettheatrefestival.org. *Through June 10.*

KILLINGTON. Vermont Bike and Brew. A weekend of organized mountain biking for all skill levels, Vermont's first ever downhill critical mass ride, on-site camping, vendor garden, bike swap, craft beer festival, whip-off competition, pond cross skinny bridge challenge, kids race and live music from The CopOuts. 9 am – 7 pm. Killington Bike Park, Killington Resort. (802) 422-6201. www.killington.com. *Through June 11.*

LUDLOW. Summer Music Series Concert: The Starline Rhythm Boys. Pack the lawn chairs or picnic blankets and bring the family to enjoy live music and an outdoor barbecue. Free. 6–9 pm. Jackson Gore Inn courtyard, Jackson Gore Inn at Okemo, 111 Jackson Gore Rd. (802) 228-1600. *Every Friday night throughout the summer.*

TINMOUTH. Spring Concert Series: 2x2. This group brings rich harmony, both a cappella and accompanied from a variety of folk traditions to the stage. Suggested donation: \$10. 7:30 pm, doors open at 7 pm. The Old Firehouse Stage, Rt. 140 and Mountain View Rd. (802) 446-2928. www.facebook.com/tinmoutholdfirehouseconcerts.

WOODSTOCK. Foodways Fridays. Visit the farmhouse kitchen and garden and learn how we cook traditional Vermont and New England recipes. We'll be using seasonal vegetables and herbs from our heirloom garden and cooking and baking in the woodstove. Each week features a different take-home recipe. Admission: adults \$15, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. *Fridays through October.*

SATURDAY, JUNE 10

BELLOWS FALLS. 18th Annual Roots on the River Festival. 12 noon, Roger Marin; 1:10 pm, The Suitcase Junket; 2:20 pm Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem; 3:30, The Meadow Brothers; 4:40 pm, The Mammals; 6 pm, Dayna Kurtz; 7:15 pm, The Boxcar Lilies; 8:30 pm, Hayes Carll. Youth Tent, with games, crafts, and healthy snacks. Smoke-free, pet friendly. Three-Day Weekend Pass: \$105. Single-day passes: Friday \$45, Saturday \$50, Sunday \$30. Children's tickets and Saturday family ticket packages at the gate: Kids 9–15 \$10 per day, under 9 free with an adult. Under the Big Tent at the Rodeway Inn, Rt. 5 just north of town. (802) 460-3333. www.rootsontheriver.com. *Through June 11.*

BRADFORD. Play: *One Night in the Valley*. A mystery of fame, fortune and revenge, written by Tony Sportiello. Tickets: adults \$12, seniors \$10. 7:30 pm. Old Church Theater, 137 N. Main St. (802) 439-6199. oldchurchtheater.org. *Through June 11.*

BRANDON. Concert. Gypsy Reel. A Celtic band that rocks. Tickets: \$20. Pre-concert dinner available for \$25. Reservations required for dinner and recommended for the show. BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. info@brandon-music.net. www.brandon-music.net.

BRATTLEBORO. Vermont Jazz Series Concert: Eugene Uman's Convergence Project. A Vermont pianist with roots in bebop whose compositions reveal intentional elasticity and are flavored with Latin rhythms, funk, rock and soul. Tickets \$20–\$40, Students \$15 w/ valid ID. 8 pm. Vermont Jazz Center, 72 Cotton Mill Hill. For tickets call (802) 254-9088. www.vtjazz.org.

DERBY LINE. Concert: Jazz at the Haskell—An evening with saxophonist Joel Miller, singer Sienna Dahlen, and guitarist François Jalbert. 7:30 pm. Haskell Opera House, 93 Caswell Ave. For tickets call (802) 873-3022. opera@haskellopera.com. haskellopera.com.

DORSET. Play: *The Tarnation of Russell Colvin*. One-man virtuosic tour-de-force. Oliver Wadsworth portrays a motley medley of characters, as they grapple with the slippery truth of the real life murder of Russell Colvin. Tickets: \$20. 7:30 pm. Dorset Theatre Festival, 104 Cheney Rd. (802) 867-2223. dorsettheatrefestival.org.

EAST BURKE. Kingdom Games presents: The Moose, an unsanctioned, timed bike race. 107 miles, up Rt. 114 North through Island Pond to Norton and Canaan, ending back in East Burke. All profits go to charity. Registration Fee: \$65. 8 am meeting, 8:30 am start. Mike's Tiki Bar, 44 Belden Hill Rd. (802) 626-7400.

EAST POULTNEY. Fourth Annual Welsh service will honor this region's rich Welsh heritage. Historic St. John's Episcopal Church will reopen as a summer chapel with a service of evening prayer led by local Episcopal clergy. James Cassarino will play the original 1860's William Nutting hand-pumped organ accompanying hymns. The service is in English with readings in Welsh. Light refreshments served in the garden. Donations for restoration fund. 4 pm. All are welcome. St. John's Episcopal Church, Rt. 140. (518) 499-1850. (802) 287-9744.

FAIRLEE. Southern Vermont Bass Summer Series Fishing Tournament. On Lake Morey. Fish: largemouth bass, smallmouth bass. Check-in location: Lake Morey F&W Access Area. 6 am – 3 pm. William H. Chilkott, (802) 558-4550 day, (802) 558-4550 evening. vtfishandwildlife.com.

FAIRLEE. Flea Market. Free admission. 7:30 am – 3 pm. Railroad Station on Rt. 5. (802) 333-4809. *Saturdays through October 7.*

HUBBARDTON. Vermont Days. Free admission. 9:30 am – 5 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/hubbardton. *Also June 11.*

KILLINGTON. Vermont Bike and Brew. a weekend of organized mountain biking for all skill levels, Vermont's first ever downhill critical mass ride, on-site camping, vendor garden, bike swap, craft beer festival, whip-off competition, pond cross skinny bridge challenge, kids race and live music from The CopOuts. 9 am – 7 pm. Killington Bike Park, Killington Resort, 4763 Killington Rd. (802) 422-6201. www.killington.com. *Also June 11.*

LEBANON, NH. A Cappella Concert: Harmony Night Community Chorus, with guest small groups including Fast Track and Aged to Perfection. Refreshments following the concert. Free. 7 pm. First Congregational Church, South Park St. (603) 448-2936. la14e@outlook.com.

LYME, NH. Bargain Barn. Used clothing, household items, linens, jewelry and toys. 9 am – 3 pm. Congregational Church. (603) 795-2850. *Saturdays thru Sept 2.*

NORWICH. Contradance. Live music by Claude Méthé, Pascal Gemme, and Dana Whittle, with calling by Dave Eisenstadter. No partner or experience necessary. Regular dance starts at 8 pm. Bring clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. Pot-luck snacks break, bring something to share! Admission \$9, students \$6, seniors by donation; under 16 free! Quebecois music jam with Claude Méthé, Pascal Gemme, and Dana Whittle from 5-7 pm, admission \$15. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. www.uvdm.org.

Historic Property For Sale



Built circa 1820, this beautiful Victorian home was converted in 1982 into a six room B&B, and became the Hugging Bear Inn. Located on Chester's Village Green, the Inn is near shops, galleries, and restaurants. The house is a Queen Anne Victorian with wraparound porch, slate roof, and original interior oak trim.

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The Carriage House is a two-story barn, 830 sq. ft.
The Guest House is a three-bedroom, two-bath cottage at the back of the lot.

Direct inquiries to the Hugging Bear, (802) 875-2412.
For more info and pictures, look on Zillow.com. Type in the address: 244 Main St, Chester, VT 05143.
Asking price \$490,000. Appraised price \$550,000.
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Vermont Country Calendar

SUNDAY, JUNE 11



POULTNEY. Fourth Annual Welsh Heritage Evening. Prayer Service, spoken in the English language. Scripture readings, spoken in the Welsh language. James Cassarino will provide organ music for this service. All are welcome. 4 pm. Historic St. John's Episcopal Church. (518) 499-1850 or (802) 287-9744.

RUTLAND. Summer Festival Block Party. Games, grilled food, activities, bike workshops and races, live music, and more. No admission charge. Food is free! 11 am - 2 pm. Park St, between Harrison Ave and Pine St. (802) 797-8606.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am - 2 pm, in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 28.

RUTLAND. Twin State Roller Derby. Fast-paced, full contact action. Tickets: Adult \$10 online, \$12 at the door; Children ages 5-12 and veterans \$5; 5 and under free. Doors open at 5:30, action begins at 6 pm. 5:30-8:45 pm. Spartan Arena, 100 Diamond Run Mall Place. (267) 632-4144. twinstatederby.com. Also August 12.

SHELburne. Peony Tea. Enjoy the thousands of peony blooms that festoon the grounds in late spring. Admission: \$50, includes house tours, lawn games, sweet and savory nibbles, and a complimentary beverage. 4-6 pm at the Brick House. (802) 985-3346 ext. 3145. www.shelburnemuseum.org. www.eventbrite.com/e/peony-tea-tickets-34110985877.

SPRINGFIELD. Workshop: Photographic Composition with Stephen Whitaker. Time in the classroom and in the field, shooting around sunset and sunrise to get great quality of light. All levels welcome, with whatever camera you have. Fee: \$145. Register early. Saturday 1-8 pm, Sunday 5:30 am - noon. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org. Through June 11.

STATEWIDE. Annual Vermont Days. Free admission to all state-owned historic sites and day use at all Vermont State Parks. (802) 343-5318. www.vtstateparks.com. historicsites.vermont.gov. Also June 11.

WASHINGTON. Forest Ecology Walk with Vermont Land Trust, led by Jon Bouton, a retired Windsor County Forester, and Marcus Bradley, a Forester working for Redstart Natural Resource Management. Free. 10 am - 12 noon. Old Pepper Place Nature Reserve, 2100 Pepper Rd. (802) 359-5000. vinsweb.org.

WINDHAM. Gallery Show Opening: "Defining Ourselves Through Nature." Refreshments. Public welcome, free admission. 5 pm. Fourth Corner Foundation, 578 Hitchcock Hill. (802) 875-2194. www.thefourthcornerfoundation.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. 18th Annual Roots on the River Festival. Rockingham Meeting House Acoustic Show. 11 am, Mary Gauthier; 1:15 pm, Big Gospel Hour with The Meadow Brothers, The Boxcar Lilies, and Dayna Kurtz. Limited seating; purchase your tickets early. 3 pm at Donovan's: Saints & Liars, Muddy Ruckus. Day pass: \$30, kids 9-15 \$10, under 9 free with an adult. (802) 460-3333. info@vermontfestivalsllc.com. www.rootsontheriver.com.

BENNINGTON. Program: Why the Red, White, and Blue? Celebrate our nation's most enduring symbol with flag history presentations and flag-making activities for children and adults. \$5 adult admission, 6-14 \$1, under 6 free. 2-4 pm. Bennington Battle Monument, 15 Monument Circle. (802) 447-0550. marylou.chicote@vermont.gov. www.historicsites.vermont.gov.

BRADFORD. Play: *One Night in the Valley*. A mystery of fame, fortune and revenge, written by Tony Sportiello. Tickets: adults \$12, seniors \$10. 4 pm. Old Church Theater, 137 N. Main St. (802) 439-6199. oldchurchtheater.org.

HARTFORD. Annual Strawberry Supper. Menu includes: ham, baked beans, sweet breads, coleslaw, potato and macaroni salads, strawberry shortcake, sundae or plain. Served family style. Handicapped accessible. Adults \$12, children under 12 \$5. Reservations recommended. Servings at 5 pm & 6 pm at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, Route 14. (802) 295-2510.

HUBBARDTON. Program: Reasons for Revolution. Historian and site interpreter Paul Andriscin presents an illustrated talk on the reasons for the American Revolution. Following is a short film by the Warner's Regiment of reenactors. Admission: adults \$3, children under 15 free. 2-3:30 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/hubbardton.

HUBBARDTON. Vermont Days. Free admission to Vermont State Historic Sites and Vermont State Parks. 9:30 am - 5 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/hubbardton.

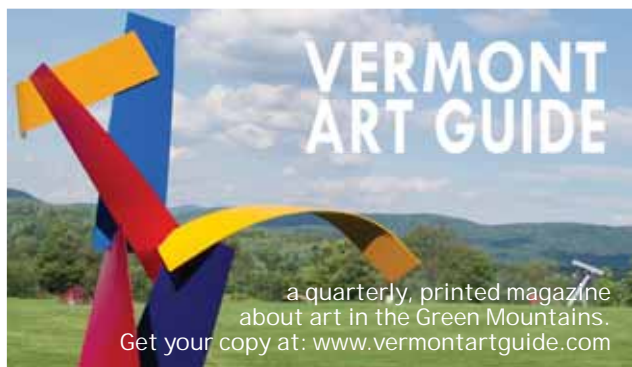
KILLINGTON. Vermont Bike and Brew. a weekend of organized mountain biking for all skill levels, Vermont's first ever downhill critical mass ride, on-site camping, vendor garden, bike swap, craft beer festival, whip-off competition, pond cross skinny bridge challenge, kids race and live music from The CopOuts. 9 am - 7 pm. Killington Bike Park, Killington Resort, 4763 Killington Rd. (802) 422-6201. www.killington.com.

MANCHESTER. Community Day. Discover all Hildene has to offer: home and gardens, Welcome Center and The Museum Store, Pullman car Sunbeam, Rowland Agricultural Center at Hildene Farm, and about twelve miles of scenic woodland and meadow trails. Bring walking shoes. Bring a picnic. Free; Check in at the Welcome Center to receive a sticker. 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Hildene, off Rt. 7A, just south of the village. (802) 362-1788. hildene.org.

NORWICH. Upper Valley International Folk Dancing, including line, circle and couples dances. All welcome. No partner necessary. Bring clean soft-soled shoes for the dance floor. Price: \$4-\$8. 3-6 pm. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 436-2151. barthoj@vermontel.net.

PLYMOUTH. Quilting in a Vermont Hill Town: Love, Community, Faith and Friendship. Patricia Rennau talks about the quilting traditions of Plymouth, Vermont in the late 19th century, and about the quilts in the new seasonal exhibit and her project to reproduce one of them. 2-3 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov. Open through October 22.

STATEWIDE. Annual Vermont Days. Free admission to all state-owned historic sites and day use at all Vermont State Parks. (802) 343-5318. vtstateparks.com. historicsites.vermont.gov.



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Depot Park, Rutland, VT
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Every Saturday, 9 am - 2 pm
— Through October 28 —

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— Through October 25 —

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— Thursdays, 3-6 pm, June 8 through October 26 —

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Sunday, June 11, continued)

STRAFFORD. Justin Morrill Homestead Open House. House tours, free ice cream, and hands-on activities and games for children. 12 noon – 4 pm. Justin Morrill Homestead, 214 Justin Morrill Highway. (802) 765-4484. Historicsites.vermont.gov.

WOODSTOCK. Celebrate Dairy Month with Ice Cream Sunday at Billings Farm & Museum. Lend a hand making and tasting hand-cranked ice cream at 12:15 pm and 2:15 pm. Learn the history and science of the great American dessert. "Historic" baseball game played in the Billings' fields in the early afternoon. Admission: adults \$15, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free; includes all programs and activities, plus the operating dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and the 1890 Farm House. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. billingsfarm.org. Also June 18, 25.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

BENNINGTON. Program: Why the Red White and Blue? Celebrate our nation's most enduring symbol with flag history presentations and flag-making activities for children and adults. \$5 adult admission, 6-14 \$1, under 6 free. 2-4 pm. Bennington Battle Monument, 15 Monument Circle. (802) 447-0550. marylou.chicote@vermont.gov. www.historicsites.vermont.gov.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Farm fresh veggies and fruits, artisan cheeses, handcrafted breads, maple syrup, Vermont crafts, prepared foods, and more. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 25.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

BELLOWS FALLS. Festival of Mandolin Chamber Music IX. Led by August Watters. Workshops on technique, repertoire, and theory. Participants will rehearse in preparation for Sunday's concert. Tuition: \$150 if you register by June 7, \$187 from June 8. Thursday 5 pm – Sunday 5 pm. Retreat House and Currier Hall, Stone Church Center, 12 Church St. (802) 460-0110. sca@sover.net. www.stonechurcharts.org. Through June 18.

FAIR HAVEN. Fair Haven Farmers' Market. Farm fresh veggies and fruits, meat, handcrafted baked goods including gluten-free, maple syrup, jams, and more. 3-6 p.m. Downtown at Fair Haven Park. (802) 948-2211. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Thursdays, June 8 through October 26.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

BRANDON. Concert. Hiroya Tsukamoto. A guitarist and composer originally from Kyoto, Japan who came to the US and has performed internationally including several appearances with his group at Blue Note in New York and released six albums as a leader. Tickets: \$20. Pre-concert dinner available for \$25. Reservations required for dinner and recommended for the show. BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. brandon-music.net.

LUDLOW. Summer Music Series Concert: Jenni Johnson and the Jazz Junketeers. Pack the lawn chairs or picnic blankets and bring the family to enjoy live music and an outdoor barbecue. Free. 6-9 pm. Jackson Gore Inn courtyard, Jackson Gore Inn at Okemo, 111 Jackson Gore Rd. (802) 228-1600. Every Friday night throughout the summer.

WOODSTOCK. Foodways Fridays. Visit the farmhouse kitchen and garden and learn how we cook traditional Vermont and New England recipes. We'll be using seasonal vegetables and herbs from our heirloom garden and cooking and baking in the woodstove. Each week features a different take-home recipe. Admission: adults \$15, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. Fridays through October.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

ADDISON. Program: French Settlement Afternoon. Joseph-André Senécal offers an afternoon of exploration of the French domestic settlement from the 1730s to 1759. Bring lunch. Discussions, period documents, models, and walking the grounds. Admission \$5, children 14 and under free. 1-5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/chimney_point.

BRANDON. Concert. Northern Third Piano Quartet. Performing a classical program of Beethoven, Brahms, and Martinu. Tickets: \$20. Pre-concert dinner available for \$25. Reservations required for dinner and recommended for the show. BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. www.brandon-music.net.

COLCHESTER. 35th Annual LCI Father's Day Fishing Derby. Weigh-In Stations open Saturday & Sunday 9 am – 6 pm, Monday 9 am – 4 pm. Derby closes Tuesday noon; 7 pm awards ceremony. Lake Champlain International, 531 Main St. (802) 879-3466. Through June 20.

EAST MONTPELIER. Vermont Breakfast On the Farm. Pancake breakfast, self-guided tours of the dairy farm and a

peek into the life and business of farming in Vermont. Free, but tickets must be reserved in advance. Breakfast seatings on the hour, 8:30-11:30 am. Fairmont Farm, 95 Lyle Young Rd. (802) 828-2430. vermontbreakfastonthefarm.com/get-tickets.

HARTFORD. Strawberry Supper. Menu: ham, baked beans, sweet breads, coleslaw, potato and macaroni salads; strawberry shortcake, sundae or plain. Served family style. Handicapped accessible. Adults \$12, children under 12 \$5. Servings: 5 pm & 6 pm at the Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, Route 14. Reservations recommended: (802) 295-2510.

MANCHESTER CENTER. Annual Ham and Strawberry Supper. Baked pit hams with delicious special sauce and homemade baked beans, potato salad, macaroni salad, broccoli salad, homemade rolls, and beverages. Freshly-picked strawberries on homemade biscuits with real whipped cream. Served family-style. Handicap accessible. Adults \$12, children 8 and under \$6. One seating at 6 pm at the First Baptist Church, corner of Rts. 7A & 11/30 across from Northshire Bookstore. For reservations and take-out call (802) 362-3473.

MIDDLEBURY. The Great Town Hall Theater Benefit Auction. Tickets: \$25. 6 pm. Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. (802) 382-9222. www.townhalltheater.org.

NORTH CLARENDON. Strawberry Festival. Menu: ham, coleslaw, potato salad, deviled eggs, baked beans, beverages, strawberry shortcake or strawberries & ice cream. Adults \$10, Children (6-10) \$5, 5 & under free. Dessert only: \$5. 4-7 pm. The Brick Church (Clarendon Congregational Church), 298 Middle Rd. (802) 773-3873. www.brickchurchvt.com.

QUECHEE. 38th Annual Quechee Hot Air Balloon and Craft Festival. Over 20 hot air balloons with flights scheduled for 6 am and 6 pm (always weather and wind permitting). Continuous music and entertainment, over 60 craft artisans and commercial vendors, food, a beer and wine garden. Children's activities, bounce house and more. Gates open at 5:30 am on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets good for the whole weekend: adults \$15, children \$5 and under 5 free. Quechee Village Green, Main St. (802) 295-7900. quecheeballoonfestival.com. Also June 18.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Summer fruits and vegetables, Vermont cheeses, meat, poultry, baked goods. Live music. EBT and debit cards. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 28.

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photo courtesy of VT Division for Historic Preservation
Visitors enjoy a horse and wagon ride around the President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site in Plymouth, VT.

Plymouth, VT

Coolidge Historic Site Presents Historic Textiles

Come to the Coolidge State Historic Site in Plymouth, VT to see the new temporary exhibit, *Homespun Treasures: The Textiles of Plymouth Notch*. This special exhibit features the practical, often highly artistic textiles and fiber items created by the Coolidge family and their neighbors in the 19th and 20th centuries. These quilted, woven, knitted, and hand-stitched fabrics offer singular insight into the community that nurtured the early years of the 30th U.S. President. Mother Coolidge's wedding dress, stunning quilts, and a collection of nationally award-winning folk art dolls are among the highlights. The exhibit was designed by Charles Gibson Design of Hanover, NH.

To celebrate the exhibit opening, several members of Fiber Arts in Vermont, a non-profit membership organization based in Chester, will be on site to demonstrate how various historic textiles and other fiber arts were made. Visitors can experience the excitement of the Killington Stage Race as hundreds of cyclists speed through the historic village on opening day, May 27th.

A National Historic Landmark, Plymouth Notch is considered one of the best-preserved presidential sites in the country. Twelve

buildings are open for tour. The site has two museum shops, walking trails, a restaurant serving breakfast & lunch, sheltered picnic area, and cheese factory that is still producing the traditional granular curd "Plymouth Cheese."

A visit usually begins at the Coolidge Museum & Education Center with its permanent exhibition, "More Than Two Words: The Life and Legacy of Calvin Coolidge."

The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation has planned a busy season of special events at the Coolidge Site, including the July 4th President Coolidge Birthday Celebration, which was selected as a "Top 10 Summer Event" by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce; Plymouth Old Home Day (August 5); Grace Coolidge Musicales (June 4, July 16, August 27, October 8); Plymouth Folk & Blues Festival (September 2 & 3); and Plymouth Notch Antique Apple Fest (October 7) as well as ongoing programs.

The President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site is open May 27 - October 22, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily. For further information, call (802) 672-3773, or visit historicsites.vermont.gov. On Facebook.

Vermont Country Calendar

STRAFFORD. Workshop: Traditional Family Farmstead Skills with Andersen Thorp. Hands-on exploration into some of the crafts, skills and activities of yesteryear, including churning butter, making soap, and the basics of basket-making. 10 am – 3 pm. Justin Morrill Homestead, 214 Justin Morrill Highway. (802) 765-4484. historicsites.vermont.gov.

WESTMINSTER WEST. Celebrate the Reopening of the Pinnacle Cabin. Friends, food, and live music at the renovated cabin and it's amazing overlook. Wear hiking shoes, bring water, and clothing for cooler weather. 2 pm, rain or shine. Parking very limited, carpooling essential. Limited transportation available. Please register so Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association can give directions for carpooling and so we will know how much food to provide. 2 pm. (802) 463-9226. whpa@sover.net. www.windmillhillpinnacle.org.

WINDSOR. Exhibit Opening: Windsor in 3D. Organized by the "Flow of History" project, this special display features the work of Windsor High School students, who won the state competition in 2015 and 2016 for their models of the town's historic resources. Open weekends and Monday holidays, 11 am – 5 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 N. Main St. (802) 672-3773. William.jenney@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov.

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

BELLOWS FALLS. Mandolin Chamber Music Concert: August Watters will perform with the New England Mandolin Ensemble. Adults \$17, seniors & students \$13, premium \$35. 3 pm. The Chapel, Stone Church Center, 12 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org.

FERRISBURGH. Black Lives Matter Forum. Historian Jim Ralph will place the Black Lives Matter movement in the context of 20th-century civil rights; economist Stephanie Seguin will report on her most recent research on racial disparities in policing; and Vermont State Police Captain Ingrid Jonas will tell us about State Police efforts. \$2 program only or free with Museum admission. 3 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby.org.

HUBBARDTON. Battlefield Third Sunday—Military Road Hike. Explore a Hubbardton section of the 1776-77 military road that ran from Mount Independence through Hubbardton and on to Rutland. Wear boots, one section is wet. Adults \$3, children under 15 free. 2-5 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/hubbardton.

QUECHEE. 38th Annual Quechee Hot Air Balloon and Craft Festival. Gates open at 5:30 am on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets: adults \$15, children \$5 and under 5 free. Quechee Village Green, Main St. (802) 295-7900. info@hartfordvtchamber.com. www.quecheeballoonfestival.com.

WOODSTOCK. Celebrate Dairy Month with Ice Cream Sunday at Billings Farm & Museum. Lend a hand making and tasting hand-cranked ice cream at 12:15 pm and 2:15 pm. Learn the history and science of the great American dessert. "Historic" baseball game played in the Billings' fields in the early afternoon. Admission: adults \$15, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free; includes all programs and activities, plus the operating dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and the 1890 Farm House. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. billingsfarm.org. Also June 25.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

READING. Lecture & Field Trip: All About Orchids. Tour of our Outdoor Sculpture exhibition, featuring Marc Quinn's 20-foot tall sculpture of a *Phragmipedium* sedenii orchid, followed by a talk with Kim DeLong from the Department of Biological Sciences at Dartmouth College. Optional caravan to Eshqua Bog in Hartland, VT, of hundreds of wild and blooming Showy Lady's-slippers. Optional trip to view the Brout Orchid Collection at Dartmouth College. Rain or shine. Participants responsible for own transportation. Admission free. 12 noon – 4 pm. Hall Art Foundation, 544 VT Rt. 106. (802) 952-1060. vermont@hallartfoundation.org. hallartfoundation.org.

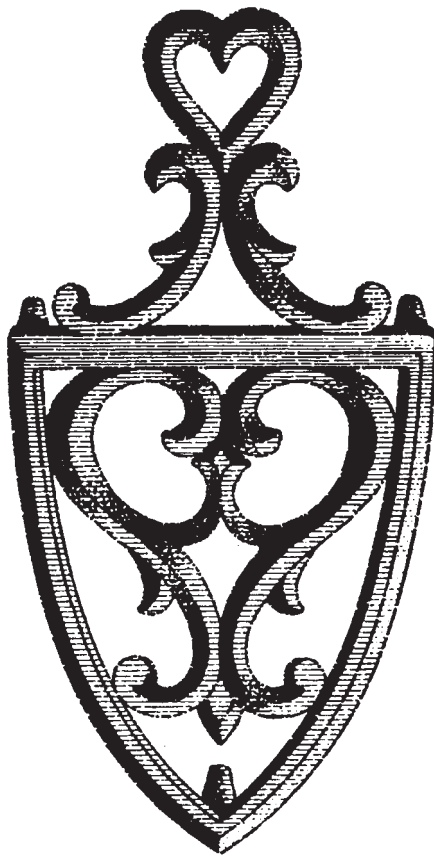
RUPERT. Solstice Hike. Join Education Director Christine Hubbard on a hike over hill and dale to celebrate the return of summer. Remember your headlamp. Refreshments in the Visitor Center follow. \$5. Pre-registration requested. 7-9 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. www.merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 25.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

BRIDPORT. Vermont Breakfast On the Farm. Pancake breakfast, self-guided tours of the dairy farm and a peek into the life and business of farming in Vermont. Free, but tickets must be reserved in advance. Breakfast seatings on the hour, 8:30-11:30 am. Blue Spruce Farm, 1796 Rt. 22A. (802) 758-2179. www.bluesprucefarmvt.com. www.vermontbreakfastonthefarm.com.

FAIR HAVEN. Fair Haven Farmers' Market. 3-6 p.m. Downtown at Fair Haven Park. (802) 948-2211. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Thursdays, June 8 through October 26.



SHOREHAM. Annual Strawberry Festival. Strawberry sundaes, shortcake, pies with or without ice cream will be available. Some folks make this supper instead of dessert! 5-7 pm at the Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. shorehamucc@gmail.com.

TOWNSHEND. Friesian Horse Performance. Tour and Exhibition at the largest Friesian horse breeder in the U.S. Admission: \$25. Reservations required. 2 pm. Friesians of Majesty, 185 Maggie Ladd Rd. (802) 365-7526. www.friesiansofmajesty.com. Through October 18.

TUNBRIDGE. Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Tickets \$30-\$130. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. (802) 238-4106. www.jennybrookbluegrass.com. Through June 25.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

ESSEX JUNCTION. 41st Annual Vermont Quilt Festival. New England's oldest and largest quilt festival. Admission. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 872-0034. info@vqf.org. vqf.org. Through June 25.

TUNBRIDGE. Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, Gibson Brothers, Dale Ann Bradley, Special Consensus, David Parmley & Cardinal Tradition, David Davis & Warrior Rivery Boys, Rickey Wasson Band, Karl Shiflett & Big Country Show, Sideline, Mile Twelve, Marteka 'n William True Grass Revival, Zink & Company, BigApple' achia, Katahdin Valley Boys, Dreamcatcher. Your hosts: Seth Sawyer Band Tickets \$30-\$130. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. (802) 238-4106. www.jennybrookbluegrass.com. Through June 25.

WATERBURY. 44th Annual Strawberry Supper. Delicious buffet dinner at historic downtown church followed by strawberry shortcake made with local strawberries. Full meal includes drink & dessert, or you can get just dessert. Take-out too! \$12 adults, 12 and under \$8, families \$30, dessert only \$4. Handicap accessible. First come, first served. 5-7 pm. Waterbury Congregational Church, 8 N. Main St. (802) 244-6606.

WOODSTOCK. Program and Book Signing. Garden writer, designer, and lecturer Gordon Hayward will discuss and sign his latest book: *Greek Epic: the Latchis Family & the Theater Empire They Built*. Admission free; reservations recommended. All proceeds from the sale of *Greek Epic* will support of the work of Latchis Arts. 5:30 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

ADDISON. Addison County Amateur Radio Field Days. The Addison County phone systems, internet, or commercial power sources. How far can they reach? The public is welcome to watch and ask questions. Admission \$5, children 14 and under free. 1-5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/chimney_point. Also June 25.

BRIDGEWATER CORNERS. Seventh Annual Long Trail Century Benefit Ride. Cycling in the morning and a family-friendly festival and party in the afternoon. BBQ, live music, farmers market vendors, kids activities, silent auction and more. 7 am – 7 pm. Long Trail Brewing Company, 5520 Rt. 4. (802) 786-4991. www.longtrailcenturyride.com.

CASTLETON. Tenth Annual Town Wide Yard Sale. Over 50 vendors. Handmade crafts, garden goodies, beauty products, jewelry, framed prints, toys, bargains, treasures, and one-of-a-kind items. "Drive-around Maps" available at the Castleton Community Center. 9 am – 2 pm, rain or shine. Outdoors, and indoors at the Castleton Community Center, 2108 Main St. (802) 468-3093.



Strawberry Jam

Today, at lunch, the puffy rolls,
The salad, new peas and lamb,
Weren't such a treat to me as one
Small jar of strawberry jam!

With jam, I am a child again.
One long-ago June day,
When Mother took me to a farm
That lay "up West Hill way."

There Mrs. Crandall, dressed in blue,
Brought out a tiny chair,
And from the attic came a doll
With tightly braided hair.

Then we unhooked the pantry door
And found a little jar,
For "maybe I was hungry, dear,"
As children always are.

She cut an end from crusty bread
And spread it from a pat
Of golden butter newly churned,
And then, right after that,

She told how thick the berries grew
Under the Summer sky,
To store up sweetness just for jam
For children such as I!

—JOSEPHINE BLEECKER
1928

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Champlain Valley
Unitarian Universalist Society

RHUBARB FESTIVAL

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10 am-2 pm

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Kids Carnival
Dad's Day
Plants

Pies
Awesome Aprons
Sweets & Savories
Bling

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, June 24, continued)

DUMMERSTON CENTER. Annual Old-Fashioned Strawberry Supper. Ham and baked beans, potato salad, tuna-macaroni salad, coleslaw, homemade sweetbreads, beverages, and "all you can eat" old-fashioned whole strawberry shortcakes with real whipped cream and locally grown berries! Adults \$10, children 6 and under \$5. Sponsored by the Dummerston Congregational Church. Held at Evening Star Grange Hall, 1008 East West Rd. 5-7 pm. (802) 257-0544.

ESSEX JUNCTION. 41st Annual Vermont Quilt Festival. New England's oldest and largest quilt festival. To register for classes call (802) 316-8935 or e-mail registrar@vqf.org. Admission. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 872-0034. info@vqf.org. vqf.org. Also June 25.

GRAFTON. Program: Kindred Spirits—Magnificent Migrations. Learn about migrating Vermont wildlife and their journeys during our coldest season. Fun facts and a coooool craft are included! Drop-ins welcome, RSVPs appreciated. Suggested donation, \$5. 11 am – 12 noon. The Nature Museum at Grafton, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. www.nature-museum.org.

HUBBARDTON. Program: Deep Sky Night. Explore the mysteries of the sun before it sets and the universe with the Green Mountain Astronomers. They share their telescopes and knowledge with you. Bring flashlights and a blanket. Weather variable—call to confirm. Admission by donation. 7:30–11 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/hubbardton. (802) 273-2282.

NORTH POMFRET. Annual Strawberry Supper. Baked ham and baked beans, potato salad, tossed salad, deviled eggs, rolls, coffee, punch, strawberry shortcake & whipped cream. Ladies Circle Bazaar and quilt raffle. Supper benefits the North Pomfret Congregational Church. Seatings at 5, 6:15 & 7:30 pm. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 10. At the Pomfret Town Hall. Call for reservations! (802) 457-1014.

NORWICH. 35th Annual Summer Revels: Revels North Presents a Seaside Celebration of the Summer Solstice. Live music with sing-alongs, storytelling, visual arts performers, food, and fun! Food stalls with local fare, or bring your own picnic. Suggested donation: \$5 for individuals, \$10 for families. 5:30 pm to dusk. On the Norwich Green. info@revelsnorth.com. revelsnorth.org.

RUPERT. Fairy Houses in the Forest. There's *magic* in the woods at Merck Forest! Scour the woods for special materials to construct tiny magical dwellings for wee folk, and then gather in the classroom to assemble your creation. For children of all ages (must be accompanied by an adult). Please call to reserve your place in the class. Fee: \$20. 1-3 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 VT Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. www.merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Live music. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays thru October 28.

SPRINGFIELD. Second Annual Strawberry Festival. Strawberry shortcake. 50+ vendors with food, crafts and wares. Face painting, petting zoo, picnic area, pick-you-own and already-picked strawberries. Live music. Farm store. Free admission. 10 am – 3 pm. Wellwood Orchards, 529 Wellwood Orchard Rd. (802) 263-5200.

STOWE. Vermont Renaissance Faire. Tickets \$15. 10 am – 6 pm. Mayo Events Fields, 80 Weeks Hill Rd. (802) 778-9178. www.VTRennFaire.com. Also June 25.

TUNBRIDGE. Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder. Gibson Brothers, Dale Ann Bradley, Special Consensus, David Parmley & Cardinal Tradition. Your hosts: Seth Sawyer Band Tickets \$30-\$130. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. (802) 238-4106. www.jennybrookbluegrass.com. Through June 25.

VERGENNES. Abenaki Heritage Weekend. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Dr. (802) 475-2022. www.lcmm.org. Also June 25.

WESTMINSTER WEST. Over the Hill Hike. Four-mile hike on the Jamie Latham Trail. Old beaver pond, stone walls, beautiful hardwood stands, view from the newly renovated Pinnacle Cabin. Bring water, lunch, snack, insect repellent, sunscreen. Sponsored by Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association. 9:30 am – 1 pm. Meet at Westminster West Church to split cars and carpools between the start and finish. (802) 387-6650. whpa@sover.net. windmillhillpinnacle.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

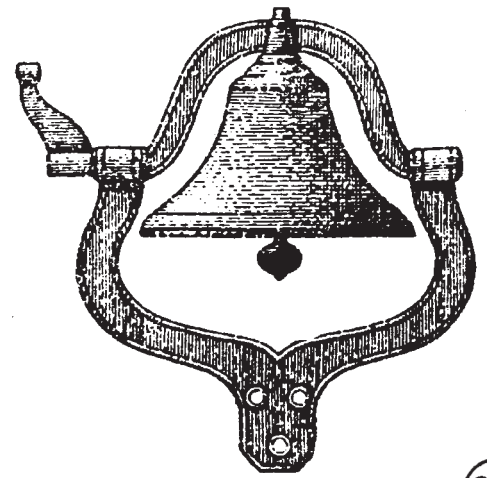
ADDISON. Addison County Amateur Radio Field Days. The Addison County phone systems, internet, or commercial power sources. How far can they reach? The public is welcome to watch and ask questions. Admission \$5, children 14 and under free. 9:30 am – 2 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/chimney_point.

CASTLETON. A Gymanfa Ganu (a traditional non-denominational Welsh hymn sing) followed by a Te Bach (tea social). Sponsored by Poultney Area St. David's Society. Hymn verses will be sung in both Welsh and English. Meredith Rehbach will provide pronunciation assistance for the verses sung in the Welsh. A limited number of gymanfa hymnals will be available. If you have your own cymanfa hymnal copy, please bring it with you. You may also pre-order a copy from the website of www.nafow.org. Freewill offering. All are welcome. 3 pm. Federated Church Castleton, 504 Main St. pasds1988@gmail.com. rootsweb.ancestry.com/~vtpasds.

ESSEX JUNCTION. 41st Annual Vermont Quilt Festival. New England's oldest and largest quilt festival. Admission. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 872-0034. vqf.org.

LYME, NH. Summer Buffet Music Series on Post Pond. The Occasional Jug Band will be performing. Buffet dinner at 6 pm. Adults \$25, kids 5-12 \$10, 4 and under free. Reservations required. Loch Lyme Lodge, 70 Orford Rd. (Rt. 10 just north of town). (603) 795-2141. www.lochlymelodge.com.

MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS. 41st Annual Strawberry Festival. Museum exhibits, live music, local crafts and artists. Quarts of local strawberries for sale. Strawberry shortcake with homemade biscuits, ice cream, and Thomas's Dairy whipped cream, coffee, ice tea, and lemonade. To benefit the Middletown Springs Historical Society. Rain or shine. 2-4 pm on the Green, Rt. 140. (802) 235-2376.



Hope and Hazard: A Comedy of Eros Exhibition Curated by Eric Fischl and Hosted by Hall Art Foundation in Reading, VT

The Hall Art Foundation is pleased to announce a group exhibition, *Hope and Hazard: A Comedy of Eros*, curated by American artist Eric Fischl held in its galleries in Reading, VT from May 6 – November 26, 2017.

Approximately sixty-five artists are represented which includes over eighty paintings, photographs, works on paper and sculptures selected by Fischl from the Hall and Hall Art Foundation collections. In this fresh and provocative show, Fischl illustrates the absurd extremes associated with romantic and sexual love. Desire, passion,

vulnerability, disappointment, pleasure and torment are expressed as a Greek or Shakespearian comedy—epic and tragic, hopeful and hazardous.

In "Little Shaver" (2005), Nicole Eisenman paints a straight-on portrait of a male whose face is being shaved with a straight razor. The female barber kisses the man's shaving cream-covered cheek while slicing his neck with the blade. Atop the man's head squats another small female figure, urinating onto the tip of his ear. Amid this scene that is at once tender, violent and absurd, the

man maintains a deadpan, forward gaze.

The extremes associated with eros can also be perceived in the sculpted form. While Yves Klein's deep blue sculpture of a female torso represents an idealization of the human body, A.R. Penck's phallic and roughly hewnwood sculpture, "Untitled" (1983), is imbued with a certain violence and existential isolation.

The melodrama often associated with love and romance can be seen in Walter Robinson's "Suburban Affair" (1979), where a man embraces a woman reclined on

a sofa. In a moment of pulp fiction passion, the strap of the woman's dress falls from her shoulder, her red dress rises above her knees, and her cocktail glass is tipped over in her hand. Painted from a film still featuring Elizabeth Taylor and Rock Hudson, Judith Eislser's "Liz & Rock" (2014) also depicts a moment of romantic tension between two glamorous movie stars, sexual icons of their time.

In "C. Smit" (1972), John Kacere's curvy and fleshy painting of a woman's buttocks illustrates an unself-conscious and uncomplicated eroticism. On the other hand, the serpentine entanglement of the figures in Peter Eide's "Untitled (Blanket of Stars)" (2015) alludes to the multifaceted complications that can also be present in sexual and romantic partnerships.

While the bright spring-time yellow, pink, and orange colors in Joan Semmel's "Untitled" (1971) signal pleasure, passion and rebirth, the male and female forms also appear to be engaged in an act of violence. The woman's body is being penetrated and torn apart at the same time, signaling that love and sex can result in as much pain as pleasure.

Hope and Hazard: A Comedy of Eros includes works by Siegfried Anzinger, Alexander Archipenko, Robert Arneson, Dan Attoe, Georg Baselitz, Lillian Bassman, Ellen Berkenblit, Katherine Bernhardt, Norbert Bisky,

Josef Breitenbach, Andre Butzer, William Copley, John De Andrea, Carroll Dunham, Marcel Dzama, Peter Eide, Nicole Eisenman, Judith Eislser, Tracey Emin, Lee Friedlander, Dan Gluibizzi, Bendix Harms, Georg Herold, Jocelyn Hobbie, Thomas Houseago, Ridley Howard, Chantal Joffe, John Kacere, Craig Kauffman, Yves Klein, Jeff Koons, David Levintal, Judith Linhares, Tala Madani, Robert Mapplethorpe, Tony Matelli, Jonathan Meese, Bjarne Melgaard, Gladys Nilsson, Jim Nutt, Julian Opie, C.O. Paeffgen, A. R. Penck, Enoc Perez, Alessandro Pessoli, Erwin Pfrang, Francis Picabia, Nathaniel Mary Quinn, Mel Ramos, Man Ray, Bettina Rheims, Jason Rhoades, Walter Robinson, Aura Rosenberg, David Salle, Peter Saul, Ryan Schneider, Lara Schmitzer, Pieter Schoolwerth, Joan Semmel, David Smith, Luc Tuymans, Tom Wesselmann, Hannah Wilke, Erwin Wurm and Lisa Yuskavage.

Born in New York City in 1948, Eric Fischl is one of the most influential American figurative painters and sculptors working today. After growing up in the suburbs of Long Island, he earned his B.F.A. from the California Institute for the Arts in 1972.

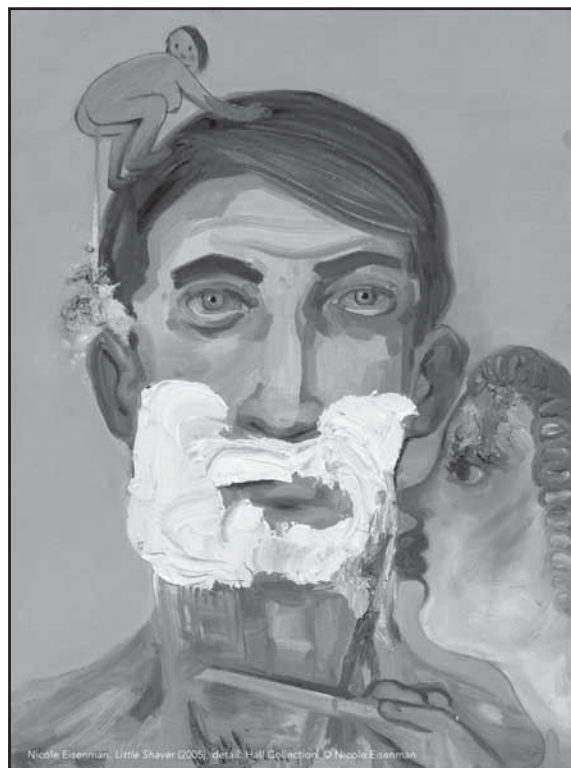
Fischl is most well known for provocative, large-scale paintings of middle-class suburban America that are imbued with psychological and often uncomfortable

sexual undertones. His paintings, sculptures, drawings and prints have been the subject of numerous solo and major group exhibitions. His work is represented in many prestigious private and corporate collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; the St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis, amongst many others.

In 2011, Fischl organized *America: Now and Here*, a multi-disciplinary exhibition of the U.S.'s celebrated visual artists, musicians, poets, playwrights, and filmmakers designed to spark a national conversation about American identity through the arts.

Fischl is a Fellow at both the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the American Academy of Arts and Science. He lives and works in Sag Harbor, NY with his wife, the painter April Gornik.

Hall Art Foundation is located at 544 VT Rt. 106 in Reading, VT. (802) 952-1056, info@hallartfoundation.org. www.hallartfoundation.org. Open May through November on weekends and Wednesdays by appointment at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Admission is free. First Fridays from 5-8 p.m., visitors are welcome to view our exhibitions without a guide.



CURATED BY
ERIC FISCHL

HOPE AND HAZARD
A COMEDY OF EROS

HALL
ART FOUNDATION
READING VERMONT

6 MAY - 26 NOVEMBER 2017

Weekends and Wednesdays by appointment

544 VT Route 106, Reading, VT 05062

www.hallartfoundation.org

Vermont Country Calendar



TUNBRIDGE. Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Tickets \$30-\$130. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. (802) 238-4106. www.jennybrookbluegrass.com.

VERGENNES. Abenaki Heritage Weekend. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Dr. (802) 475-2022. www.lcmm.org.

WOODSTOCK. Celebrate Dairy Month with Ice Cream Sunday at Billings Farm & Museum. Lend a hand making and tasting hand-cranked ice cream at 12:15 pm and 2:15 pm. Learn the history and science of the great American dessert. Adults \$15, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.

MONDAY, JUNE 26

HANOVER, NH. Dance Class with Ann Carlson: "The Human/Animal in You". *Doggie Hamlet* choreography and other prompts create freedom of motion and life in the body. All levels. Ages 14 and up. Fee: \$10. 5:30-7 pm. Straus Dance Studio, Berry Sports Complex, 6 South Park St. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

HANOVER, NH. Sheep products at Hanover Farmer's Market. Spotlight on sheep products at the weekly market presented by Muscle in Your Arm Farm, Etna, NH; Savage Hart Farm, Hartford VT; and Flora Fauna Farm, West Topsham, VT. Free. 3-6 pm. Dartmouth Green, Main and Wheelock Sts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

HANOVER, NH. Film: *Rams*. Aging bachelor farmers, their beloved sheep and breathtaking Icelandic vistas clash in this funny and moving tale. Director: Grímur Hákonarson, Iceland, subtitled, 2015. Tickets: \$5. 6:30 pm. Loew Auditorium, Black Family Visual Arts Center, 22 Lebanon St. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

LYME, NH. Summer Buffet Music Series on Post Pond. GuinguePe Trio will be performing with Ed Eastridge. BBQ 5:30-7:30 pm. Adults \$20, kids 5-12 \$8, 4 and under free. Reservations required. Loch Lyme Lodge, 70 Orford Rd. (Rt. 10 just north of town). (603) 795-2141. www.lochlymelodge.com.

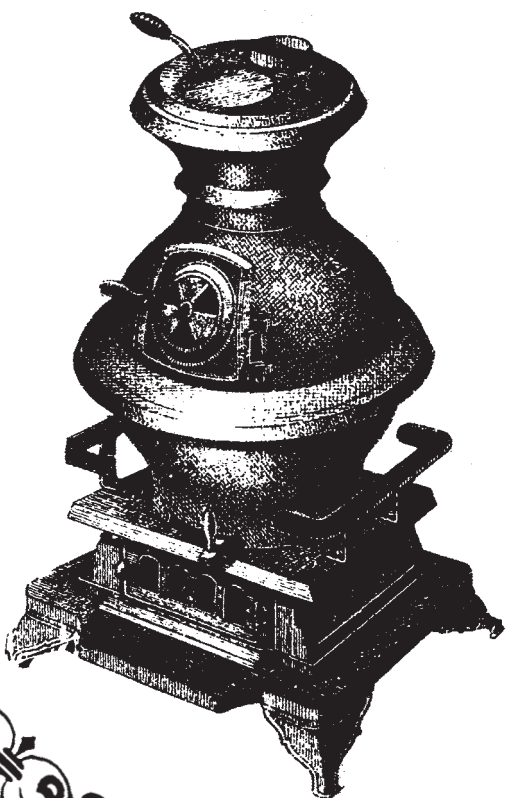
RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm in Depot Park downtown across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Wednesdays through October 25.*

THURSDAY, JUNE 29

HANOVER, NH. Performance: *Doggie Hamlet*, by Ann Carlson. Five humans, two dozen sheep, and several finely trained sheepdogs collaborate on choreography composed of everyday movement and the herd's swoops and flourishes against the green backdrop. No food or dogs (with the exception of service animals). Free. 4:30 pm & 7 pm. Dartmouth Green, Main and Wheelock Streets. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

HANOVER, NH. Sheep Station: Upper Valley farms and organizations demo wool work, from "sheep to shawl." Hands-on activities for all ages. Co-sponsored by Vital Communities and Dartmouth Sustainability. Free. 5-7 pm. Dartmouth Green, Main and Wheelock Streets. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

MIDDLEBURY. 25th Annual Fireworks and Pops Concert featuring the Vermont Philharmonic. Bring chairs, blankets, and flashlights. Tickets: Adult \$25; youth \$10; children under 12 free. Grounds open at 5:30 for picnics; Concert begins at 7:30 pm. Middlebury College, in the field behind the Mahaney Center for the Arts, 72 Porter Field Rd. (rain site: Kenyon Arena). (802) 388-2117. henrysheldonmuseum.org.



FRIDAY, JUNE 30

PUTNEY. Concert: The Lonely Heartstring Band and The Stockwell Brothers Band. Tickets: \$18 Advance, \$22 At the Door. 7:30 pm. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill. (802) 387-0102. nextstagearts.org.

STRAFFORD. Annual Gallery in the Garden: Silent Auction of Morrill Minis & Art Show. Works by many fine artists from Strafford, the Upper Valley and beyond. House tours focusing on Justin Morrill's art collection will be offered from 4 to 5 pm. 4-7:30 pm. Justin Morrill Homestead, 214 Justin Morrill Highway. (802) 765-4484. Historicsites.vermont.gov.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2017

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Newly updated and expanded permanent exhibit on the Native American, French Colonial, and early American history of the Chimney Point area incorporates archaeological findings from the Lake Champlain Bridge project. Learn how to use the atlatl (ancient spear thrower). Children's French Colonial dress-up basket. Admission \$5, children 14 and under free. Wednesday through Sun and Monday holidays, 9:30 am - 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov. *May 27 to October 15.*

BELLOWS FALLS. Fish Ladder Visitor Center. Hands-on environmental programs for children and adults. Learn more about the Connecticut River watershed, the salmon and other fish that use the fish ladder, and the river's many plants and animals. Admission and programming is free. Hours: Friday-Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm. Family environmental programs every Friday and Saturday, 11 am - 12 noon. 17 Bridge St. (802) 843-2111. Memorial Day through Labor Day.

BENNINGTON. The Bennington Battle Monument. \$5 adult admission, 6-14 \$1, under 6 free. The Monument and gift shop are open seven days a week from 9 am - 5 pm. Bennington Battle Monument, 15 Monument Circle, (802) 447-0550. www.historicsites.vermont.gov. *Open April 22nd through October 31st.*

BURLINGTON. 34th Annual Burlington Discover Jazz Festival. Artist interviews, films, workshops and performances by the lake, on Church Street and in the parks. Admission ranges by event; over 100 events are free. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. *Through June 11.*

FAIRFIELD. President Chester Arthur State Historic Site. In 1881, Vermonter Chester Alan Arthur was sworn in as the nation's 21st President. The son of an impoverished Baptist minister, Arthur was born in a small temporary parsonage. He became a lawyer who advocated for civil rights and as President, a champion of civil service reform. Donations appreciated. Chester Arthur Historic Site, 4588 Chester Arthur Rd. (802) 933-8362. historicsites.vermont.gov. *July 1 through October 15.*

HARTLAND. Upper Valley Seed Savers meet on the second Thursday of the month. Our mission is to further knowledge about seed saving and to work on projects that will help develop a body of locally-adapted open-pollinated vegetable seeds. For information, or for meeting time and place please contact Sylvia Davatz at sdav@valley.net or call (802) 436-3262.

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Period artifacts, battle diorama, and a large fiber optic map. Children's colonial dress-up basket, Interpretive Trail. Bring your flag to be raised over the Hubbardton Battlefield and receive a certificate. Admission: adults \$3, children under 15 free. Open 9:30 am - 5 pm. Thurs - Sun and Monday holidays. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov. *May 27 to October 15.*

ORWELL. Mount Independence State Historic Site. Celebrating the 240th anniversary of the start of American construction of the Revolutionary War's Mount Independence and the military road to Hubbardton and Rutland, the 50th anniversary of the trail system, and the 25th anniversary of the Mount Independence Coalition/Idren's Discovery Corner. Trails. Admission: adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open daily 9:30 - 5:30. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. www.historicsites.vermont.gov. *May 27 - October 15.*

PLAINFIELD, NH. The Attic Shop. New and used items include antiques, books, gift items, collectables, jewelry, furniture, glassware, artwork, and gently used clothes. Free coffee. Free admission. 10 am - 3 pm. Blow-Me-Down Grange, 1107 Rt. 12A. (603) 448-0773. *Every Saturday.*

PLYMOUTH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Plymouth Notch, Vermont is the birthplace and boyhood home of Calvin Coolidge, the 30th President of the United States. The Village is virtually unchanged since the early 20th century. The homes of Calvin Coolidge's family and neighbors, the community church, cheese factory, one room schoolhouse, and general store have been carefully preserved, and many of the buildings have their original furnishings. Admission: adults \$9, children 6-14 years \$2, children under 6 years free, family pass (up to 8 people) \$25. Open daily 9:30 am - 5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov. *May 27 through October 22.*

The Mirror of My Realm

In the corner back beyond,
Where the brook enters the spruces,
I have a little pond;
Its banks are smoothly lawned
And it has several uses.

The cattle come to drink,
A frog lives in the brink,
It is my swimming pool;
I take there what I think
Is the only sport that's cool.

On the cool grass I sit
At dusk and look at it,
Composing clouds and the elm
That rises opposite—
The mirror of my realm.

It takes far things and tall
And lays them at my feet
While sleepy thrushes call.
I haven't to leave my seat
To have my world complete.

—JAMES HAYFORD
Orleans, VT, 1953

Birds of Vermont Museum



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Huntington VT 05462
www.birdsofvermont.org
802 434-2167
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By appointment, Nov-April

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities, continued)

POULTNEY. Weekly Game Night. Games for young children as well as adults. Bring your own or play ours. Experienced game players help new players get started. 7-10 pm. Poultnery Public Library, 205 Main St. (518) 282-9089 or (802) 287 5556. poultnerypubliclibrary.com. *Ongoing every Thursday.*

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Wildlife exhibits, workshops, and special events. Wildlife rehabilitation. Admission: adults: \$14.50, seniors (62 plus) \$13.50, youth (4-17): \$12.50, children 3 and under free. Open April 9-October 31: 10 am - 5 pm. November 1-April 8: 10 am - 4 pm. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 6565 Woodstock Rd. (802) 359-5000. www.vinsweb.org.

RUPERT. Merck Forest and Farmland. Camping, cabins, trails, farm, workshops and seasonal events. Visitor's Center and store with certified organic maple syrup, our own 100% wool blankets, and more. Open year round, dawn to dusk. 3270 Rt. 315, west of Manchester. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 10 am - 4 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook. *Every Saturday and Sunday.*

SPRINGFIELD. Eureka Schoolhouse State Historic Site. The oldest one-room schoolhouse in Vermont. Donation appreciated. Open weekends 10 am - 5 pm. Eureka Schoolhouse State Historic Site, 470 Charlestown Rd. (802) 828-3051. historicites.vermont.gov. *May 27 through October 15.*

STRAFFORD. Senator Justin Morrill Homestead. Adults \$6, children 14 and under free. Open Wed-Sun 11 am - 5 pm. Justin Morrill Homestead, 214 Justin Morrill Highway. (802) 765-4484. Historicites.vermont.gov.

VERGENNES. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Shipwreck tours, exhibits, collections, special events. Fleet of full-size replica vessels which visitors may board. Museum store. Admission: adult \$12, seniors \$11, youth 6-17 \$8, children 5 and under free. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Dr. (802) 475-2022. www.lcmm.org. *May 27 through October 15.*

WEST RUTLAND. Vermont Herbal General Store. Owned and operated by a registered pharmacist. Tai' Chi Gung classes, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5 pm at the store. Free intro classes. Meditations at the store Wednesdays at 5 pm. Usul & Karuna Reiki Healings & Classes. Handmade Herbal Medicines, Oils, Essences, Crystals, Gemstones & Books. Teas, Lotions, and Capsules. All are welcome. Open Tuesday & Wednesday 1-6, Thursday 11 am - 4:30 pm, Saturday 1-6 pm, Sunday 1-4 pm, closed Friday and Monday. Vermont Herbal General Store, 578 Main St. (802) 438-2766. info@vermontherbal.com. On Facebook and Twitter. www.vermontherbal.com.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Newberry Market. A year-round, public indoor market with vendors offering local products, cheeses, clothing, gifts, pottery, and specialty foods. Free admission. Open every Thursday year round 11 am - 6 pm. Newberry Market, 19 South Main St. For information contact: Betsy Briggs Wheeler at (802) 299-0212. newberrymarketwrj@gmail.com. newberrymarketwrj.com.

WINDSOR. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery. Come and explore our gardens. Open through April by appointment, starting May 4 open daily 10 am - 5 pm. 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.garymilek.com. www.ciderhillgardens.com.

WOODSTOCK. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park. 20 miles of trails and carriage roads are open year-round. Gardens and mansion. Vermont's only national park. Guided tours \$4/\$8, under 15 free. Walk the grounds free. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park, 54 Elm St. (802) 457-3368 x 22. nps.gov/mabi.

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

BARRE. Vermont History Center and Leahy Library. Adults: \$5; families: \$12; students, children, seniors: \$3; members and children under 6: free. Monday through Friday, 9 am - 4 pm. Vermont Historical Society, 60 Washington St. (802) 479-8500. www.vermonthistory.org.

BENNINGTON. The Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont. Exhibit: "Advertising Dolls". Dolls and dollhouses, puppets, trucks and trains, toys, and educational displays. Museum shop. Admission is \$2 for children three and older, \$4 for adults and \$10 for families. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 pm. 212 Union St. at the corner of Valentine St. (802) 681-3767. www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Center for the Arts. Small Works Show, May 13 - December 23. Permanent collections, theater productions, workshops. Admission: adults \$9, seniors & students \$8, families \$20, under 12 are free. Open Wed-Mon, 10 am - 5 pm. Bennington Center for the Arts, 44 Gypsy Lane. (802) 442-7158. shirley@thebennington.org. www.thebennington.org.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Museum. Exhibit—"Gatherum of Quiddities: Paintings by Pat Adams", a selection of twenty-nine works surveying her entire career, through June 18. Founding documents, fine art, Bennington Pottery, the 1924 Wasp Touring Car, Vermont furniture, and the Bennington Flag—one of America's oldest flags. Lectures, workshops, concerts, films, and the George Aiken Wildflower Trail. Admission: adults \$10, seniors and students over 18 \$9. Admission is never charged for younger students, museum members, or to visit the museum shop. Open 10 am - 5 pm every day except Wednesdays. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. www.benningtonmuseum.org.

BRANDON. Compass Music and Arts Center. Arts businesses and studios, workshops & classes, exhibits, concerts, and community events. A gift shop features art and music related books, collectibles, and the music of the classical recording company, Divine Art Records. Onsite café. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Drive, Park Village, 1.5 miles north of downtown. (802) 247-4295. cmacvt.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center. Open daily 11-5, closed Tues. Admission \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, \$4 students, free for youth 18 and under. 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

BURLINGTON. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center. Exhibit: Butterflies. Be immersed in a pavilion of live butterflies. Admission: \$9.50 adults, \$7 ages 3-17, \$8 seniors and students, under 3 free. Monday-Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center at Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, One College St. (877) 324-6385. www.echovermont.org.

BURLINGTON. Fleming Museum of Art. Adults \$5, family \$10, students and seniors \$3, children 6 and under free. Tue, Thu, Fri 10 am - 4 pm, Wed 10 am - 7 pm, Sat-Sun noon - 4 pm. Fleming Museum of Art, 61 Colchester Ave. (802) 656-0750. www.flemingmuseum.org.

Dozens of Kids Fishing Events Are Underway Across Vermont

Children's fishing events are scheduled for June throughout Vermont, creating a variety of opportunities for kids and families to enjoy the sport of fishing as well as the state's natural resources.

"Between several educational programs run by Vermont Fish & Wildlife, and an assortment of kids fishing derbies and clinics hosted by local organizations across the state, there are tons of fishing fun to be had in the coming weeks," said Ali Thomas, education manager with Ver-

mont Fish & Wildlife.

One of the more popular programs is "Let's Go Fishing" which utilizes trained volunteer instructors to help young people and their families with fishing. Basic fishing skills are taught including, how to use different types of tackle, good aquatic habitat, fishing ethics and fishing regulations.

Free "Let's Go Fishing" clinics can be found throughout the state any time of the year. Visit the "Fishing Events and Programs" page

at vtfishandwildlife.com.

Vermont Fish & Wildlife has a "Children's Fishing Program" which provides for fun and successful fishing experiences at locally-organized events. Organizers include fire departments, fish and game clubs, Rotary and Lions clubs, town recreation committees, 4-H clubs, and scouts groups, and others. The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department provides eight-to-ten-inch stocked trout for the program.

A complete list of the "Children's Fishing Program" events is also available

at the "Fishing Events and Programs" page at vtfishandwildlife.com.

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife and the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation are teaming up to enhance fishing experiences at Vermont State Parks through "Reel Fun" which provides free fishing rods and tackle to state park visitors to use on a loaner basis at 18 different VT State Parks.

To purchase a fishing license or for more information visit www.vtfishandwildlife.com.



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Vermont Country Calendar



(Museums, Exhibits and Galleries, continued)

CHESTER. 103 Artisans Marketplace. Hand crafted gifts, decorative accessories, small batch Chocolates and Vermont Maple products. Greenleaf Café now open. Owned by artists Elise & Payne Junker, exclusive showroom of Junker Studio metalwork. Open every day 10 am – 5 pm, closed Tuesday. Located at 7 Pineview Dr. and Rt. 103, south of town—look for the life-size moose! (802) 875-7400. www.103artisansmarketplace.com.

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum, One of the largest collections of some of the biggest puppets in the world housed in a 100-foot-long converted dairy barn built in 1863. Events, exhibits and performances. Free admission, donations welcome. Open 10 am – 6 pm daily summertime. By appointment off-season. Bread and Puppet Farm, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. breadandpuppet.org. *Open June 4 through November 1.*

GRAFTON. The Vermont Museum of Mining and Minerals. Features displays and specimens from all over the Green Mountain State and around the world. Open Saturdays, Sundays and major holidays, 10 am – 12 pm & 1-4 pm, or by appointment. 55 Pleasant St. (802) 875-3562. *Memorial Day through mid-October.*

GRAFTON. The Nature Museum at Grafton. Programs for all ages. Hands-on exhibits, dioramas, mounted specimen, wildlife garden. Hiking trails in the Village Park behind the Museum. Admission by donation. Open Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays 10 am – 4 pm. The Nature Museum at Grafton, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. www.nature-museum.org. *Memorial Day through Columbus Day weekend.*

HUNTINGTON. Birds of Vermont Museum. Over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Museum, special events and bird walks, exhibits, children's programs, gift shop, video, restrooms and trails with maps. Adult \$7, senior \$6, child 3-17 \$3.50. Daily 10 am – 4 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. birdsofvermont.org. *Through October 31.*

MANCHESTER. Southern Vermont Art Center. Galleries, exhibits, classes, performances, gift shop, café, botany trail. Free admission to some exhibits. Open Tues-Sat 10 am – 5 pm. Yester House Galleries, Southern Vermont Arts Center, West Rd. (802) 362-1405. svac.org.

MANCHESTER. Visit Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home. Admission: \$20 adults; \$5 children 6-14; under 6 free. Open daily 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Hildene, off Rt. 7A, just south of the village. (802) 362-1788. www.hildene.org.

MARLBORO. Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. Admission: adults \$5, seniors \$3, children 5-12 \$2, kids 4 and under are free. Open 10 am – 4 pm weekdays, 10 am – 5 pm weekends. Rt. 9, Hogback Mountain. (802) 464-0048. vermontmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Middlebury College Museum of Art. Free. Tuesday through Friday 10 am–5 pm, Saturday and Sunday 12–5 pm, closed Mondays. 72 Porter Field Rd. (802) 649-3168. museum.middlebury.edu.

MIDDLEBURY. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont. Adults \$5, youth 6-18 \$3, senior \$4.50, family \$ 12, under 6 free. Open Tues-Sat 10 am – 5 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, One Park St. (803) 388-2117. henrysheldonmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Vermont Folklife Center. Gallery, archives & research center, programs, and Heritage Shop. Free admission. Open Tues-Sat 10 am – 5 pm. Vermont Folklife Center, 88 Main St. (802) 388-4964. www.vermontfolklifecenter.org.

MONTPELIER. Exhibit: History of the Morgan Horse. Tues through Sat. Vermont History Museum, Pavilion, 109 State St. vermonthistory.org. *Through August.*

NORWICH. Montshire Museum of Science. Open 10 am – 5 pm daily. Admission \$14 adults, \$11 children 2-17, under 2 free. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. One Montshire Rd. (802) 649-2200. www.montshire.org.

PLYMOUTH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. New exhibit: "Homespun". Features the practical, often highly artistic textiles and fiber items created by the Coolidge family and their neighbors during the 19th and 20th centuries. Permanent exhibit: "More Than Two Words—The Life and Legacy of Calvin Coolidge". Admission: adults \$9, children 6-14 years \$2, children under 6 years free, family pass (up to 8 people) \$25. Open daily 9:30 am – 5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov/coolidge. *May 27 through October 22.*

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Wildlife exhibits, workshops, and special events. Wildlife rehabilitation. Admission: adults: \$14.50, seniors (62 plus) \$13.50, youth (4-17): \$12.50, children 3 and under free. Open 10 am – 5 pm. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 6565 Woodstock Rd. (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. www.vinsweb.org. *Through October 31.*

READING. Exhibits: *Hope and Hazard: A Comedy of Eros* curated by Eric Fischl of over sixty-five artists from the Hall and Hall Art Foundation collections. *Ready, Fire! Aim.* curated by DJ Helleman, exhibited in Reading, and also at BCA Center in Burlington. And a Solo exhibition by British artist David Shrigley in the newly opened visitor center. Outdoor sculptures by Richard Deacon, Olafur Eliasson, and Marc Quinn. Admission is free. Open weekends and Wednesdays by appointment at 11 am, 1 pm and 3 pm, and unguided tours first Fridays from 5-8 pm. Box lunches for purchase 24 hours before your visit. Hall Art Foundation, 544 VT Rt. 106. (802) 952-1060. vermont@hallartfoundation.org. www.hallartfoundation.org. *May 6 through November 26.*

RUTLAND. Chaffee Downtown Art Center. Open Tuesday-Friday 12-6 pm, and Saturday 10 am – 5 pm. Chaffee Downtown Gallery, 75 Merchants Row. (802) 775-0062. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

SAXTONS RIVER. River Artisans Cooperative. Year round, weekdays from 12-5 pm and weekends from 10 am – 3 pm. The River Artisans Cooperative, 26B Main St. (802) 869-2099. www.riverartisans.com.

SAXTONS RIVER. Main Street Arts. Exhibits, concerts, lectures, workshops, and classes for adults, teens and children. Main Street Arts, 35 Main St. (802) 869-2960. mainstreetarts.org. *Through June 16.*

SHELBURNE. Shelburne Museum. Renowned for its collection of American folk art and quilts. Home to holdings of decorative arts, design, decoys, and carriages. Over 20 gardens. Historic houses and community buildings. Admission: adult \$24, ages 5-17 \$5, under 5 free. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. shelburnemuseum.org.

SHOREHAM. Shoreham Bell Museum. See 5-6,000 bells collected from all over the world. Open most afternoons by appointment or chance year round. Free admission, donations accepted. Shoreham Bell Museum, 127 Smith St. off Rt. 74 west. For information call Judy Blake at (802) 897-2780. vtcat@shorehambellmuseum.com. www.shorehambellmuseum.com.

SPRINGFIELD. Gallery at the VAULT. A Vermont State Craft Center. Tuesday – Saturday 11 am – 5 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org.

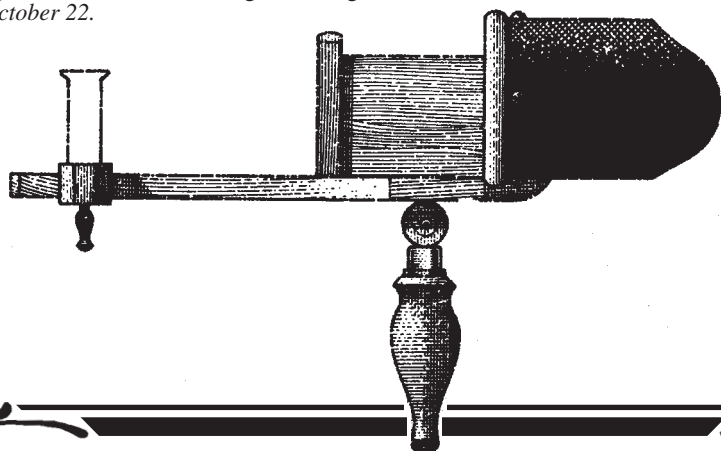
ST. JOHNSBURY. Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium. Admission: adults \$8, seniors and children under 17 \$6, under 5 free. Open every day 9 am – 5 pm. Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. www.fairbanksmuseum.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain and Dog Chapel. Free. Gallery open seven days a week. Dog Chapel open seven days a week from dawn to dusk. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. off Spaulding Rd. (800) 449-2580. www.dogmt.com.

WEST RUTLAND. Carving Studio and Sculpture Center Gallery. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 am-1 pm, or by appointment. 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. carvingstudio.org.

WINDSOR. Old Constitution House. On July 8, 1777, the first Constitution of the "Free and Independent State of Vermont" was adopted at the Windsor Tavern owned by Elijah West. West's tavern, the location of many of the deliberations charting the future of Vermont, is now preserved as a historic site and called "The Old Constitution House." Admission: adults \$3, children 14 and under free. Open weekends and Monday holidays 11 am – 5 pm. The Old Constitution House is located on Main Street at the northern end of the village on Rt. 5, between exits 8 and 9 on I-91. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 N. Main St. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov. *May 27 through October 15.*

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. Visit the Jersey herd, draft horses, oxen, and sheep and tour the restored and furnished 1890 Farm House. Admission: adults \$15, age 62 & up \$14, children ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. Open April 1 through October 31, 10 am – 5 pm. 10 am – 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.



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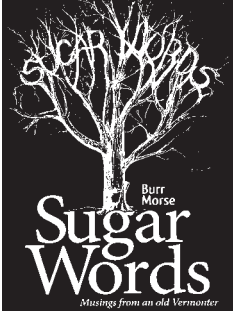
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Doggie Hamlet

— June 29, 2017 —

The Hopkins Center in Hanover, NH will be hosting the world premiere of *Doggie Hamlet*. This site-specific work honors New England agricultural traditions and unconventional performers.

In the expansive artistic vision of internationally known choreographer Ann Carlson, dancers have been fly fishermen, nuns, corporate executives, janitors and more. Now—in a work that gets its world premiere at Dartmouth College on June 29—that category also includes sheep, moving under the control of finely trained sheepdogs.

Two free, public performances of Carlson's *Doggie Hamlet* will be presented by the Hopkins Center for the Arts on Thursday, June 29, 4:30 and 7 p.m., on the Dartmouth Green.

In addition, activities for all ages connected to sheep and sheepherding—from a book discussion to a hands-on "sheep to shawl" exhibit—take place during the performance week and day of the show, most of them free. The website hop.dartmouth.edu will provide performance details in case of inclement weather.

Humans, sheep and dogs collaborate

A meditative, largely wordless spectacle, *Doggie Hamlet* weaves together dance, theater and the eloquent art of sheepherding by trained sheepdogs. Five humans, two dozen sheep and several dogs collaborate on choreography composed of everyday movement and the herd's swoops and flourishes against the green backdrop. Known for award-winning, one-of-kind works in unconventional settings, Carlson here is freely inspired by David Wroblewski's best-selling 2008 novel *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*, Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and Kipling's *The Jungle Book*.

The approximately two dozen sheep are owned by Strafford, VT, sheep farmer and nationally ranked sheepdog trainer Stephen Wetmore, who has been competing in border collie trials for about 40 years and was at one time Vermont's only competitive sheepdog handler. Sheepdog trainer Diane Cox of Andover, NY, will deliver commands to her border collies, who use movement and an intense gaze (called "eye") to prompt the sheep to huddle, move as a united group or scatter.

Ann Carlson's creation

"Ann Carlson is an extraordinary artist who has an amazingly acute sense of the poetic," said Hop Programming Director Margaret Lawrence. "Her ability to envision the



photo by Daniel Mont-Eton

Ann Carlson, creator of *Doggie Hamlet* and her Border Collie, Wren.



A Border Collie herds sheep in a performance of *Doggie Hamlet*.

photo by Kelly Fletcher

mystical way people, animals and space can combine into something larger than the sum of their parts, is her particular gift," said Mary Lou Aleskie, the Hop's Howard Gilman '44 Director.

Presenting the premiere of *Doggie Hamlet*, said Lawrence, "is a chance to celebrate dance, the Upper Valley's agricultural legacy of a form of livestock dating back hundreds of years, a deep commitment to sustainability, and, best of all, the quintessentially New England concept of a true 'common': a shared place on Dartmouth's campus where everyone is truly welcome."

Months before its premiere, the work already generated national media attention, including a feature in the April 7 New York Times by dance critic Gia Kourlas. Kourlas praised Carlson as "a multidisciplinary artist whose work poignantly explores social issues through the lens of performance," and described *Doggie Hamlet* as a work that "lives in both the symbolic world and the real world...asking questions: What does it mean to follow? What is instinct, and how does that differ from a reaction? What is our relationship to animals and to land?"

Developed by Vermont Performance Lab

Doggie Hamlet was developed in part in a residency at Vermont Performance Lab, which presented a preview of the work in 2016. After the Hop premiere of the completed work, performances are being planned for Jackson Hole, WY; Philadelphia, PA; and Los Angeles, CA. The work was selected for funding by New England Foundation for the Art's National Dance Project (2015) and Creative Capital's Map Fund (2014).

It is the second work by Carlson celebrating workers in the Hop's community. In 1997, she developed and premiered a project with Dartmouth's custodial staff, "embedding" with the staff several times during the year, then creating a performance together with service staff members, who took center stage at the Hop.

Hopkins Center is located at Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH. For tickets and information call (603) 646-2422. Visit hop.dartmouth.edu.

About Sheepdog Handling

Doggie Hamlet is built on the movements of a flock of sheep as controlled by specially trained sheepdogs executing commands by a sheep dog trainer. The tradition in the US of using dogs to control sheep behavior is traced to the British Isles, where it has a long history: the Romans brought pastoral dogs to Britain as they did sheep. Johannes Caius, a doctor writing in the 1500s, mentions the "shepherd's dogge" in his book, *De Canibus Britannicus (Treatise on English Dogges)*.

In Scotland, when a sheep economy took hold, the sheepdog was absolutely necessary. James Hogg (1772-1835), a shepherd and poet from the Ettrick Valley in the Scottish Borders wrote, "Without [the sheep dog] the mountainous land of England and Scotland would not be worth sixpence. It would require more hands to manage a flock of sheep and drive them to market than the profits of the whole were capable of maintaining."

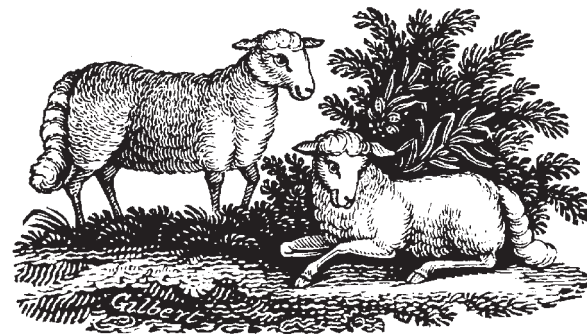
Dogs' herding behavior is essentially modified predatory behavior. Through selective breeding, humans have been able to minimize the dog's natural inclination

to treat cattle and sheep as prey while simultaneously maintaining the dog's hunting skills, thereby creating an effective herding dog.

In the UK tradition that was brought to the US, the most common sheep dog breed is the border collie—so named because it could be found in the border counties between Scotland and England. Border collies are prized for their unique ability to learn skills in managing flocks of sheep, including gathering, driving, penning, singling and shedding (separating out particular sheep).

The first-known sheep dog "trial"—an event in which dog-trainer teams compete in skills in managing sheep—took place in Bala, Wales in 1873, where it has continued annually ever since. Trials have since spread to every major sheep producing country of the world.

The first recorded sheep dog trial in the U.S. took place in Philadelphia in 1880. Today, there are some 20 major trials throughout the northeast US and Canada in June, July and August 2017 alone, according to the North East Border Collie Association. For more information visit www.nebca.net.



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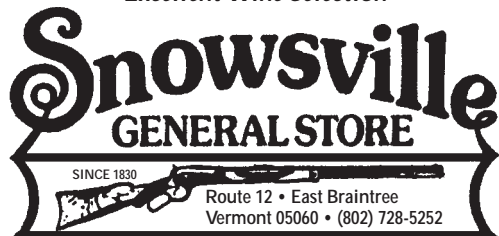
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Banjo Dan's Bluegrass Revue Returns to the Haskell

New England's top bluegrass show returns to the Haskell Opera House on Friday, June 9 at 7:30 p.m. Since 2013, a top draw at this fabled theatre straddling the US/Canada border at Derby Line, VT and Stanstead, Quebec, the show has moved to an early summer slot for the first time. Bluegrass fans on both sides of the line are invited to kick off a summer of great music with New England bluegrass at its best.

The Revue once again combines the talents of two of the best in the business. Bob Amos & Catamount Crossing has emerged as the top bluegrass band in the Northeast. Led by award-winning songwriter Bob Amos, this band has it all. The vocal mix, featuring Bob and Sarah Amos, runs the gamut from hard-edged to bluesy, dynamic to soulful. The instrumental work on banjo, fiddle and mandolin is brilliant. The band's last two CDs have gained several "best of" rewards and their stage show never fails to excite audiences wherever they play.

The Sky Blue Boys – Banjo Dan and Willy Lindner—carry on in the tradition of the legendary Banjo Dan and the Midnite Plowboys, who first brought bluegrass to the Haskell in 2000 and enjoyed a huge following around the Northeast for four decades. Augmented this year by the stellar Carrie Cook on bass, they offer up a fascinating mix of traditional and original songs, capturing the spirit of the pioneers who put this stirring American music on the map in the middle part of the last century.

"This is a dream team," says producer and musician Dan Lindner. "I don't believe fans of this music will find a better show in the Northeast this summer, and I know for sure they won't find a better place in which to hear it. The Haskell Opera House has all the charm and ambience an audience or performer could ask for and has been my favorite venue for years. We're looking forward to seeing all our Canadian and Northeast Kingdom fans and delivering another dynamite show this year."

Tickets are just \$20, U.S. or Canadian, available in advance at www.haskellopera.com, (802) 873-3022 x 205 and at [Catamount Arts, www.catamountix.org](http://CatamountArts.org), (802) 748-2600. They may also be purchased in advance at [Country Thyme Vermont, 60 Rt. 111 in Derby, VT](http://CountryThymeVermont.com), (802) 766-2852 and barring a sellout (always a possibility with this popular show) should be available at the door.

Haskell Free Library and Opera House is located at 93 Caswell Ave, Derby Line, VT 05830. (802) 873-3022. Visit www.haskellopera.com.

For more information on Dan and Willy Lindner and The Sky Blue Boys, their recordings and performance schedule, go to www.skyblueboys.com.



The Sky Blue Boys—Dan and Willy Lindner photo courtesy of Sky Blue Boys

Norwich, VT

Revels North Presents a Seaside Summer Solstice Celebration

Revels North is proud to present our 35th Summer Revels with a Seaside Celebration of the Summer Solstice! The Summer Revels takes place June 24, 2017 from 5:30 p.m. to dusk on the Norwich Green, Norwich, VT

This annual family-friendly event features live music with sing-alongs, storytelling, visual arts performers, food, and fun!

This year, we join the SS Revels North as it sets sail from the Norwich Green. Each time she pulls into harbor, her passengers disembark, not knowing what they will encounter. Perhaps a beach party; perhaps some mysterious mermaids and selkies; or maybe pirates, or a seaside village. Adventure abounds! As the SS Revels North returns home, the sun

will begin to set on the longest day.

Food stalls with local fare will be available for purchase, or families may bring their own picnic. Admission to this event is by suggested donation; \$5 for individuals, \$10 for families.

The Summer Revels Chorus is open for ages 6 and up—no audition required, and all are welcome.

Carol Langstaff brought the Revels from Cambridge to Hanover, NH, and in 1974 Revels North was founded. It is a non-profit arts organization providing year-round, multi-generational programming celebrating the power of traditional song, dance, storytelling and ritual.

For more information visit RevelsNorth.org or email info@revelsnorth.com.



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Bob Amos & Catamount Crossing, are (left to right) Steve Wright, Sara Amos, Bob Dick, Bob Amos, Freeman Corey and Gary Darling.

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Cliff Tops Closed to Protect Nesting Peregrines

Hiking Vermont's hillsides is a great way to enjoy a spring day, but the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department and Audubon Vermont recommend you check to see if the area you're planning to hike or climb is open. Several cliff areas are currently closed to protect nesting peregrine falcons.

"Peregrine nesting is well underway this spring," said John Buck, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department biologist. "The falcons are very sensitive to human presence so we ask climbers and hikers to please avoid the nests with a respectful distance. The closures help people to choose an alternative route in advance."

Cliffs and Overlooks to avoid

Barnet Roadcut in Barnet – Rt. 5 pullout closed
 Bolton Notch in Bolton – upper west cliff closed
 Bone Mt. in Bolton – areas of cliff closed to climbing
 Deer Leap in Bristol – closed
 Eagle Ledge in Vershire – cliff closed
 Fairlee Palisades in Fairlee – cliff top closed
 Hazens Notch in Lowell – cliff closed to climbing
 Marshfield Mt. in Marshfield – areas closed to climbing
 Mt. Horrid in Goshen – Great Cliff overlook closed
 Nichols Ledge in Woodbury – cliff top closed
 Rattlesnake Point in Salisbury – cliff top closed
 Snake Mt. in Addison – overlook south of pond closed

"The areas closed include the portions of the cliffs where the birds are nesting and the trails leading to the cliff tops or overlooks," said Buck. "In many cases the lower portions of the trails are still open and we encourage people to get out with good binoculars or a scope to enjoy watching the birds from a distance. We will update the closure list as more nesting data are reported."

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department partners with Audubon Vermont to monitor the sites throughout the nesting season. These sites will remain closed until August 1 or until the department determines the risk to nesting falcons



Peregrine falcon lands by it's nest.

photo courtesy of Doug Gimler

has passed. Additional sites may be added to the closed list if nesting falcons choose new sites.

Last year saw a record nesting season for Vermont's peregrine falcons, with more than 79 young birds successfully growing up and leaving the nest. "The peregrine's recovery is a great success story," said Margaret Fowle, Audubon Vermont Conservation Biologist. "The population continues to do well thanks to the efforts of our many volunteers and partners."

"We appreciate the public's support in respecting the cliff closures," said Buck. "The peregrine falcon was removed from the state endangered species list in 2005 due in part to people respecting the falcon's nesting period. Continued respect for the falcon will help ensure that peregrines remain part of Vermont's landscape."

What you can do to help Vermont peregrines:

- Respect cliff closures, and retreat from any cliff where you see peregrines
- Report any disturbance of nesting peregrines to your local game warden
- Report any sightings by calling Vermont Fish & Wildlife at 802-828-1000 or emailing fwinformation@vermont.gov.

Visit the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department website at www.vtfishandwildlife.com or by calling (802) 828-1000.



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Wayne's World...

by Burr Morse

My wife was diggin' around the house recently and found a video that my cousin Rebecca produced a few years ago about a tree—a 160 year-old-tree. It was a sugar maple, born sometime pre-Civil War that died of old age in 1994. And oh, yes, there was a person involved, Rebecca's and my great, great, great grandfather James Morse. But this story is much more about this tree than a person.

That majestic maple spent its life on the farm Grandpa James chiseled out of the side of Long Meadow Hill in Calais, VT. After producing sap for multiple human generations, it spent its long retirement serving as habitat for wildlife. When its limbs became too course and gnarly and no more buds appeared the Spring of 1994, it was apparent "the time had come".

The video shows one summer day in that same year when Rebecca and her father Wayne, feeling a powerful ancestral responsibility, donned their woods gear and trekked out to where the old tree stood. First, standing at its massive base, they scanned the surroundings of a forest full of its descendants, determining a path, I suppose, of least destruction. Out of respect, they started the task with an ancient crosscut saw but, alas, stamina ran out part way through and a trusty chainsaw stood at the ready.

The video goes on to show Wayne carefully notching one side and then laboriously (there's nothing easy about felling a 160-year-old maple) completing the back cut on the other side. All was done with a timber-size amount of reverence, complete with a background of "kickin'" banjo music...a perfect eulogy for one of God's faithful servants.

The video ends with the sawcut that slowly widens, the behemoth leans and creaks and then, crash, falls to the earth. It closes with the Morses splitting off chunks that will serve a second life keeping people warm. I recently visited Wayne to see a saved cross section of the old tree. On it, the story is told once again by growth rings that do not lie. It was tapped the first time at 50 years old, had both good and bad growing years, and grew to a ripe old age.

Visiting Wayne that day also brought a chance to "catch up". As we stood talking, I trained my eyes westward toward Grandpa James' old place. The hillside lay greening with Spring's buds emerging in a forest of new growth maples. I could hear the whispering of a gentle breeze caressing their tops. The poet Tagore wrote beautifully: "Trees are the earth's endless effort to speak to the listening heaven". Poking through this reverie, my thoughts gently spoke: "Hear, hear, heaven's listening."

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photo courtesy of Morse Farm Sugar Works
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North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

Summer Stories of Gardens and Wee Woodsfolk!

Imagine stories where independent-minded children get along and communicate with adults, farm and wild animals, and even fairies, trolls, elves and goblins! The Elsa Beskow Gift Collection is a perfect place to explore this world. Read *Pelle's New Suit*; *Princess Sylvie*; *The Flower Festival*; *Children of the Forest*; and *Woody, Hazel and Little Pip*. These five books are presented in a lovely little boxed set, perfect for children young and old, by famous Swedish artist and storyteller Elsa Beskow (1874-1953), who authored more than 40 books, many becoming classics and reprinted in other languages. Her drawings are unbelievably charming, magnetic, and just pleasant to be around. (\$40, Floris Books, Edinburgh, www.florisbooks.co.uk).

In *Pelle's New Suit* we meet a boy with a pet lamb whose wool coat grows longer and longer while Pelle's grows shorter and shorter as he grows taller. His is a poor family so if he wants a new suit he's on his own. Learn about the barter system here as he does odd jobs in exchange for getting his suit made. He weeds gardens, tends cows, does errands, baby-sits, feeds pigs, and hauls wood. When others convert the sheep's wool into cloth, Pelle's dyes his suit a bright blue.

Elsa's stories are often humorous as seen in *Princess Sylvie* where the princess and her father, the King, venture outside the palace gardens into a forest. The pet dog Oskar runs off chasing a rabbit with the girl fast behind him. The king loses sight of them and can't find either one. The long-haired hare hides behind a big, brown furry bear to escape the dog. The bear gets the dog in his paws, happy to have a playmate. Better yet he gets the princess to ride on his back. The King and Sylvie finally get home without the bear, but will the princess venture into the forest again? It was lots of fun.

You will be surprised at the variety of beautiful flowers who collect in midsummer for *The Flowers' Festival*. Many display their own rituals with the Queen one on her throne welcoming the guests. Her court includes Ladies Pansy, Peony, Lilac and Honeysuckle with Lords Bleeding Hearts and Crown Imperial. Music is provided by bees and bumblebees and crickets. But what happens when "a gang of raggedy, higgledy, piggledy weeds, all poor, all noisy, all cheerful," (aren't their flowers pretty, too) crash the party? "We're sick of being pulled up as soon as we are grown,

shouted the Dandelions." A lonely frog sings a lullaby, a song all about water that calms everyone, both flowers and weeds.

The *Children of the Forest* wear red-and-white spotted caps so if strangers come they curl up, still as stone, and look like spotted mushrooms. Mostly these woodsfolk are safe and we see them playing with squirrels who live upstairs in the tree that is the children's home. They also play with frogs, rabbits and bats; collect seeds, nuts, berries and mushrooms; pick cotton grass which will be made into rugs and sweaters. Like other regular children they must attend school but which is taught by a large wise owl. Be amused seeing the schoolroom in a tree with its branches lined with chaffinches, tits, jays, one woodpecker, five rabbits, four squirrels, two frogs, two hedgehogs, and three forest children.

In the autumn story of *Woody, Hazel and Little Pip*, two acorn boys who have been sent out to collect acorns for the winter are blown away sitting atop a large oak leaf. It is tiny Hazel, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hazelnut, who sneaks aboard a squirrel to help find the missing boys. You will enjoy the adventure with the trio making a raft with a giant oak leaf for a sail and encountering gnomes, hedgehogs and the prickly Chestnut boys on their way back home. While it was Hazel who went off in search of the wayward boys, it was Mr. Squirrel who found the three and gave them all a ride home. You'll love reading about all the adventures they had in between.

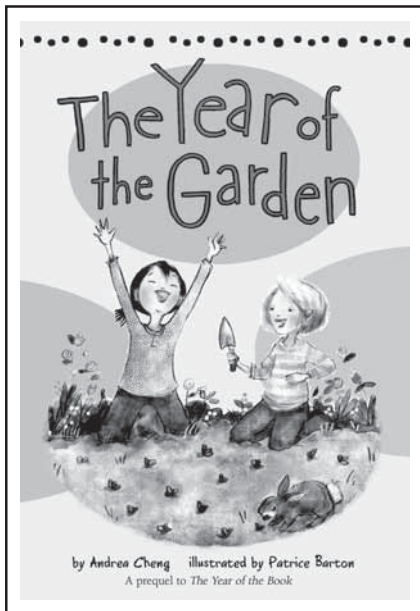
Part way into growing up life is still full of joy and wonder. Defenses not needed as yet. In this thoughtful book *The Year of the Garden* by Andrea

Cheng and illustrated by Patrice Barton (\$15.99. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. www.hmhco.com), a young Chinese-American girl and her parents move into a new neighborhood. She joins her mother working as a housekeeper for the Shepherds, an elderly couple with health problems. Mrs. Shepherd gives the young girl, Anna Wang, her copy of the book, *The Secret Garden* with some packets of seeds she had carefully saved herself including lettuce, string beans, pickling cucumbers, marigolds, and one for chocolate cherry tomatoes.

Anna's new home has a scruffy backyard, but the 10 year-old girl is undaunted in starting a garden there. She makes friends with another girl her age, Laura, who has moved into the neighborhood. As so often happens the new friendship fades away when Laura decides not to help in the garden because she catches poison ivy, and also she has new friends on the soccer team. Anna doesn't want to play that game.

The story evolves around sensitive situations including ethnic stereotyping, but later the two girls renew their friendship when they rescue a baby rabbit. The garden grows, too, and the girls make sure some lettuce is left for their rabbit.

Sadly the author passed away last year, but she leaves behind four other sensitive self-discovery books in the Anna Wang series.



Rutland, VT

Philip Baruth Talk on Leahy Bio at Phoenix Books Rutland

Phoenix Books Rutland will welcome Philip Baruth for a talk on *Senator Leahy: A Life in Scenes* on Thursday, June 8th at 6:30 p.m. This book tells the story of the blockbuster life of America's most senior senator.

Having vaulted to a position in the United States Senate at the tender age of thirty-four, Patrick Leahy now claims the longest tenure of any member of that institution still serving—and he was third in line for the presidency when the Democrats held control.

Few recent American lawmakers have watched history unfold at such close range; fewer still have influenced it so powerfully. Philip Baruth brings a thriller-like intensity to the most spectacular of those scenes: the 9/11 attack on the US capital, the contentious drafting of the Patriot Act, the ensuing anthrax attacks, and the dramatic 2014 opening of diplomatic ties with Cuba.

Throughout, the biography focuses in on Leahy's meticulous image making, his cultivation of a "Top Cop" persona both in the media and at the ballot box. It is an approach that culminates in simultaneous roles for the lawmaker as chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and as the tough-talking "distinguished gentleman" in Christopher Nolan's acclaimed *Dark Knight* trilogy

of Batman films. Leahy's success, Baruth argues, lies in his ability to be and to play the top cop not only in post-Watergate Vermont, but in a post-9/11 America, viciously divided between the red states and the blue.

"The book highlights three unique and unusual aspects of Leahy's career: his status as the first (and still technically the only) Democratic senator elected from Vermont, his role as an anthrax target after the September 11 attacks, and his multiple appearances in Batman movies, recordings, and comic books.

Baruth's biography brings Leahy's long string of accomplishments to life in clear detail," writes *Publishers Weekly*.

Philip Baruth is a professor of English at the University of Vermont and served as the majority leader of the Vermont Senate from 2012-2016. An award-winning commentator for Vermont Public Radio for a dozen years, he is the author of two acclaimed novels.

This event is free and open to all. Copies of *Senator Leahy: A Life in Scenes* will be available for attendees to purchase and have signed.

Phoenix Books Rutland is located at 2 Center St. in downtown Rutland, VT. For more information, please call (802) 855-8078 or visit www.phoenixbooks.biz.

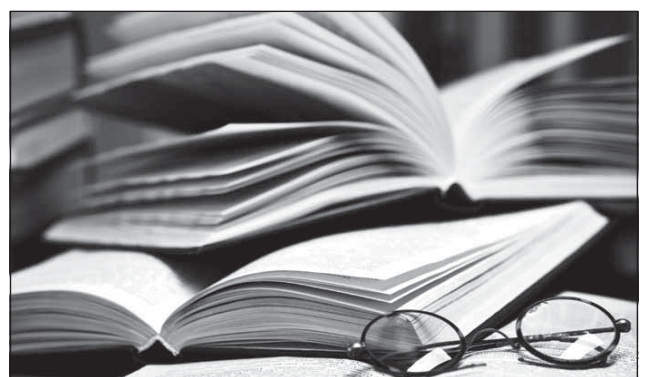


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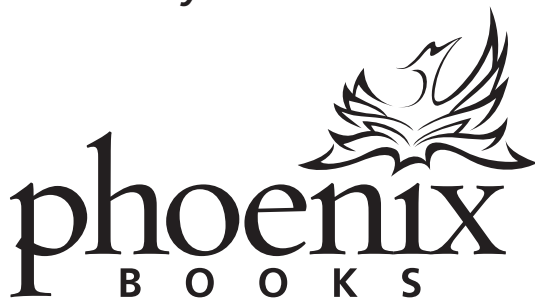
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Grandma Moses

American Modern

Foreword by Robert Wolterstorff, Contribution by Thomas Denenberg, Jamie Franklin, Diana Korzenik and Alexander Nemerov

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Hearing the name 'Grandma Moses' one instantly thinks of works of art displaying small picturesque scenes of animals and people in all seasons, in New England and especially in Vermont.

Many of the works of Anna Mary Robertson "Grandma" Moses are on display at the Bennington and Shelburne Museums, an easy one-day outing for most Vermonters. Now we have this special tribute to her and her art in a coffee table-sized book of 120 pages with color reproductions of 50 of her most famous paintings and also photographs of her as a young woman and during her 'grandma' ages. She lived until she was 101, having had 10 children, 11 grandchildren and 17 great-grand children.

Among the paintings reproduced here are many favorites: *Quilting Bee*, *Catchin' The Turkey*, *Haying*, *Taking in The Laundry*, *A View of Hoosick Falls*, *Sugaring Off*, *First Snow*, *A Tramp on Christmas Day*, *Checkered House*, *Thanksgiving*, and *At The Well*.

A place in popular culture

Several scholars discuss her work with essays on her popularity, her place in American popular culture, the myth surrounding a self-made artist, and how she managed the life of a wife, mother and artist. One of the essayists contrasts Moses's projection of rural, small town life with that of the short stories of Shirley Jackson who saw such places also as settings for meanness and parochialness. The two lived 10 miles from each other, Moses in Eagle Bridge, NY and Jackson in North Bennington, VT.

Child artist visits and is encouraged

An interesting insight into how Grandma Moses worked comes from Diana Korzenik who visited her with her parents in 1948 when Diane was but seven and a half years old. And she writes:

"Bright-eyed Mrs. Moses (then 88) welcomed us to her home, showing us her paintings, and told us about her art secrets resting secretly in her painted wooden trunk. Lifting its cover, she recalled a mountain of little paper men, women, children, horses, dogs, and turkeys. From among these forms—found, invented, or cut from stiff greeting cards—she selected shapes that she then traced,

reversed, and used to inform her paintings.

When Diane's father told Grandma Moses that Diane wanted to go on to be an artist, Mrs. Moses offered the girl one of her paintings if she would paint one in exchange. She gave the girl a small painting of a white house in a snowy yard adorned with sparkles (now on exhibit at the Bennington Museum) and the girl promised to send her one in exchange.

Anecdotes of her life and time

The book offers many anecdotes about Grandma Moses's life. Initially she painted little pictures for Christmas gifts and the like. We learn her attitude toward her art underwent a significant change when her husband, Thomas, then close to death, suddenly seemed to see her art for the first time and to be awed by it. One night, drawn

Book Review by Charles Sutton

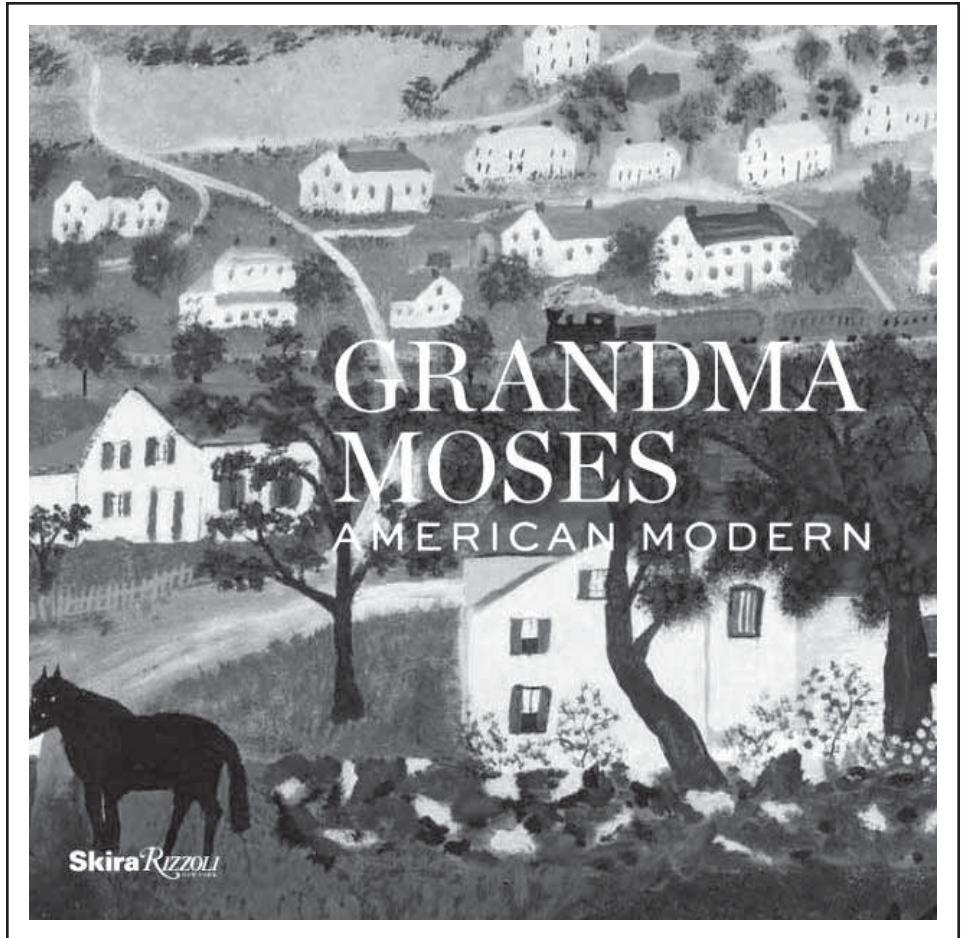
to works his wife had been painting all along, he asked, "Who did that painting? That is really good." Thereafter he kept looking, he kept seeing. "He just couldn't keep away," Mrs. Moses reported. "When I started a painting he was right there watching, and liked it so much."

The artist who would become famous as 'Grandma Moses' began painting at a very early age thanks to her father Russell Robertson, who owned a flax mill and painted landscapes as a hobby. He would give her and her siblings sheets of white newsprint paper for them to practice on. All the children drew. One brother drew steam engines; another, animals; a sister Sarah "had a great hand with a pencil"; a sister Celestia was "a beautiful painter, but never did much of it," a disappointed Anna Maary, one of 10 children, recalls.

The book pictures her Tip-up Table upon which she composed many of her paintings. She usually started with a Masonite board which she would go over with linseed oil and then three coats of white paint. She explained what she did next: "Now the board is ready for the scene, whatever the mind may produce, a landscape, an old bridge, a dream, or summer or winter scene, childhood memories, but always something pleasing and cheerful. I like bright colors and activity."

Her place in the world of art

The book's writers discuss at some length the art world of her era including how critics



were baffled by Grandma Moses's success and attempted to label her work as 'naive' or 'primitive.' Folk art was deemed less artistic. Critics viewed her as a 'woman artist' outside the real world of artists who were traditionally men. Although she qualified as a modern artist, the critics were troubled seeing her in exhibits with the likes of Picasso, Kandinsky, Klee, Rousseau and Pollock.

There are many reasons her paintings are so revered. First of all they make the viewer feel good. They came out at a time when other modern painters' works were on the heavy-side, war-weary, and often hard to interpret. One of the essays notes that her paintings of rural life on farms or in quaint villages were of a dream come true—a place to go live, to escape the cramped urban environment.

Grandma Moses was discovered by the founders of Shelburne Museum in Vermont who honored her work on her 100th birthday, the summer the museum was opened.

Also discussed was Grandma Moses's role of personal advisor seen throughout the golden age of advertising, quickly achieving a larger-than-life presence in the marketplace. In 1947 Hallmark Cards began issuing Grandma Moses Christmas cards. This

led to her works being displayed on fabrics, ceramic tiles, and china for the table. The writer states, "Grandma Moses the artist also became Grandma Moses the brand."

New exhibition

Grandma Moses: American Modern

This book has been published in conjunction with an exhibition of 65 of her works at Bennington Museum from July 1 through November 5 titled *Grandma Moses: American Modern*. Her paintings and ephemera will be shown alongside fellow "folk artists" as well as her modernist contemporaries such as Joseph Cornell, Helen Frankenthaler, Joseph Pickett and Andy Warhol.

The Grandma Moses paintings usually on display from the permanent collection at Bennington Museum have been sent to Shelburne Museum and are now on view in this shared exhibition.

Contributors to this book were Thomas Denenberg, director of The Shelburne Museum; Robert Wolterstorff, director and Jamie Franklin, curator at the Bennington Museum; Diana Korzenik, professor emerita at the Massachusetts College of Art; and Alexander Nemerov, professor of Art History at Stanford University.

Book Review by Charles Sutton

Cuba! Recipes and Stories from the Cuban Kitchen

by Dan Goldberg, Andrea Kuhn, and Jody Eddy

Ten Speed Press, \$30, www.tenspeed.com

Now that the 60-year embargo and travel ban to Cuba is gone, this small country 90 miles from the U.S. is attracting tourists, entrepreneurs, and the curious. There may be no handy tourist guides, but better yet is Cuba!—*Recipes and Stories from the Cuban Kitchen* by Dan Goldberg, Andrea Kuhn and Jody Eddy (\$30. Ten Speed Press. www.tenspeed.com).

For five years a trio of photographer, food writer and artist made trips to Cuba, visiting off-the-beaten-track locations. Their goal: to sample Cuban food—as many dishes as possible—and share their unique recipes and to look at the country, and how its people are doing in a Communist state with its taboos and restrictions. The trio were continually impressed by the energy, spirit and hope of the people they met who so willingly shared their kitchens and meals.

They always were treated as guests, often asked to participate in cooking the meal if they liked. These home meals were far better than eating in a state-sanctioned restaurant. The authors write:

"We visited a kitchen in Havana that was shared by several families—the matriarch cooking for the entire clan, the patriarch waiting until everyone else had been served before taking food for himself. We cooked in kitchens of grandmothers who invited us in after no more than a hello and a smile. We cooked at a farmhouse where the bounty of ingredients was staggering, their freshness and flavor sublime. We even cooked in the back of a train car in huge iron pots with a woman who fed everyone passing through her town."

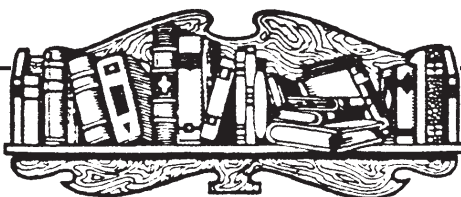
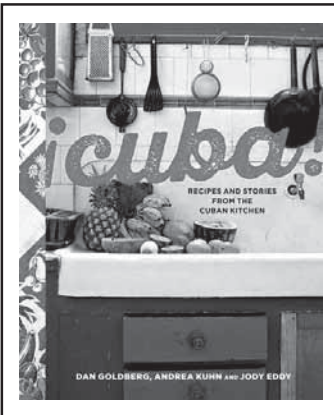
Many Cubans have home gardens, part-time enterprises serving wide-spread black markets. Authorities now usually look the other way. Meet an elderly woman, Juana Cordero, known for her black market flan. She bakes a dozen flans a day, hardened in gallon-sized recycled aluminum tins. She serves her flan onto vintage plates and drizzles each slice with a ribbon of chestnut-hued caramel. She doesn't share

her recipe, but the book has ones for Pumpkin Flan and Cuban Coffee Flan.

Cubans love to catch and cook fish in many tempting ways. See how to prepare Fried Red Snapper with Salsa Verda; Sweet and Sour Lobsters; Codfish Fritters; Tostones (twice-fried plantain) Stuffed with Lobster and Conch; and Squik Ink Empanadas with Charred Red Pepper Sauce. Cuban waters abound with marlin, jack, snippet and the spiny lobster.

This book should win prizes for its wonderful color photographs of the Cuban people at work or leisure as well as tempting dishes the likes of Fried Plantains, Crispy Pork with Mango Salsa, Fresh Corn Tamales with Polano Sauce, Sopa de Pollo with Plantain Dumplings, Spicy Black Bean Soup with Lime Cream, Savoy Goat Stew, Fried Cornmeal, Guava Hand Pies, Guava & Coconut Pastilles, and lots of Rum and Coffee Drinks.

Be sure not to miss all the photos of vintage cars! Cubans have made an art of maintaining their very, very old cars, the only ones available to them for many years!



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Horseplay at Camp Toltec in the summer of 1945. Camper Charles is leaning on the bus, third from the left.



LETTER HOME FROM CAMP

by Charles Sutton

Sometimes a childhood experience which is supposed to be fun, isn't quite that, but in retrospect could have been an introduction to the real world—a coming of age for sure; a lesson in perseverance.

Such was a three-day hike that stretched into five days in the White Mountains of New Hampshire in August of 1945. Our troupe of six young teenagers and two counselors from Toltecs Camp got lost, ran out of food, and missed our ride back to the camp. But we did climb three mountains and found our way despite many trails being overgrown and neglected due to World War II. The following is a letter, word for word, written home by this then 14 year-old boy about the exhausting, buggy adventure.

Toltecs Camp
Center Harbor, NH
August 3, 1945

Dear Mom and Family,

I'm back. I have just arrived and find six letters from home which I will read a hundred times. I will relate the days one by one and I hope you save my letters especially this one. Hung around all afternoon to talk about the trip. Made 72 sandwiches for trip and got food ready. Had a knapsack (each of us had one) two blankets each, one good ground cloth for two people, one flash light, one extra pair of socks. I wore sneakers & heavy sweater & shirt. I will tell you about the food we had with each meal. You might as well know right now that I had a terrible time. (I cursed and prayed and everything the whole trip. All right now. Went to bed early.)

(Monday—First Day). Up at 6 a.m., had very good breakfast. Still had sore throat. Leave at about 8 a.m. and on road for two hours. Get lost, but finally get to Mt. Chocorua (3,475 ft.). Very hard climb—stop at mountain steam for drink, best water tasted. Knapsack digging into shoulders, very painful. Finally reach summit, very buggy due to people leaving garbage. Have lunch of four sandwiches (two peanut butter & two cream cheese and marmalade), two oranges, water, one candy bar (chocolate). Rested a while and huge troop of little campers from some camp arrive. Then took Bee-line trail to Old Pisgah camp to spend the night. First went down steep avalanche and on terrible trail. Walked and walked—bugs terrible—hundreds of downed trees. Started to climb upwards. Everyone swearing—getting dark. Finally about 8:30 p.m. fall down in small crude hut for night. Have supper. Very tired, really near state of exhaustion. Supper of cocoa (cold, very bitter), hard boiled egg. Went to sleep.

(Tuesday—Second Day). Up at about 8 a.m. Have breakfast—two oranges, cocoa (bitter but hot), bread, shredded wheat with water, hard boiled egg. Start out for top of Mt. Pisgah. Reach top—hard climb, view beautiful, bugs very bad. Start on trail for camp for night. Have lunch on path—four sandwiches same kind—two soggy, two stale, one candy bar, two oranges. Bugs. Water very low. Trail terrible. Come to brook. All have a swim in about one foot of water, drink to hearts content, bugs terrible. Get lost. Lose trail. Straddle stream. Getting dark. Stop for night beside brook. My spirits very poor. Have supper—fried potatoes and fried onions, bread and soup (bouillon cubes). Soup delicious. Sleep on open ground (cold in night). Sleep poorly.

(Wednesday—Third day). Up at 6 a.m. have breakfast. One orange, bitter cocoa (use last of sugar), bread, shredded wheat. Find trail to find Mt. Passaconaway (4,000 ft.) Bugs terrible. Very steep climb. Get exhausted. Water low. Get to top finally have a rest and half a bar of candy. Start down better trail & come to bottom. Diaz (a counselor) has head ache. Found spring and had good drink. Started on another trail, very poor overground paths. Get lost. Climb over very rocky ledges, etc. Very tired. Have lunch in woods. Terribly buggy. Keep going—last day. Finally in late afternoon get on mountain ledge trail and start climbing White Face Mountain. Terrible path. Get lost. Find spring—finally reach summit. Start down.

Arrived at Chinook Kennels were Admiral Byrd kept Huskies. Guy to pick us up left five minutes earlier. Very discouraging. Seems he waited four hours for us. Spent night on roadside. No supper.

(Thursday—Fourth day). Trip supposed be over last night. Slept poorly. Walk to place one mile away by stream. 22 hours without food, very discouraging. Wonder if we'll ever get back. Valentine (one of the counselors) begged food from farmer up the road. Had two cans of cold beans, delicious, loaf of bread, one quart of goat's milk, half a box crackers. Stomach much better. Wait all day for Fred Weldman to arrive. He doesn't. Valentine goes up road looking for food for supper. Comes back in station wagon with five lbs. of string beans, cookies, candy, and potatoes. He asked at a house if he could buy something and they gave him all this. Woman very generous, takes no money (we have small amount with us). She comes back later with two quarts of milk, a dozen eggs, loaf of bread, and a can of beans for our breakfast. Still takes no money and plans to take us part way home. String beans didn't get cooked, eat them raw and rest of food. Go to Chinook Kennels. Find Fred called and they told him that we are taking a bus back to the lodge. One big mix up! Go back and make beds for night. Plan to hitchhike in morning.

(Friday—Fifth day). Had been cloudy all day, looks like rain. Mosquitos terrible. All awake at 12 midnight, thundering and lightning. In the morning woman will drive us part way due to fact she is going that way. We then hitchhiked 50 miles back to the camp where the camp owner seemed displeased with our missing our ride back.

Love,
Charles

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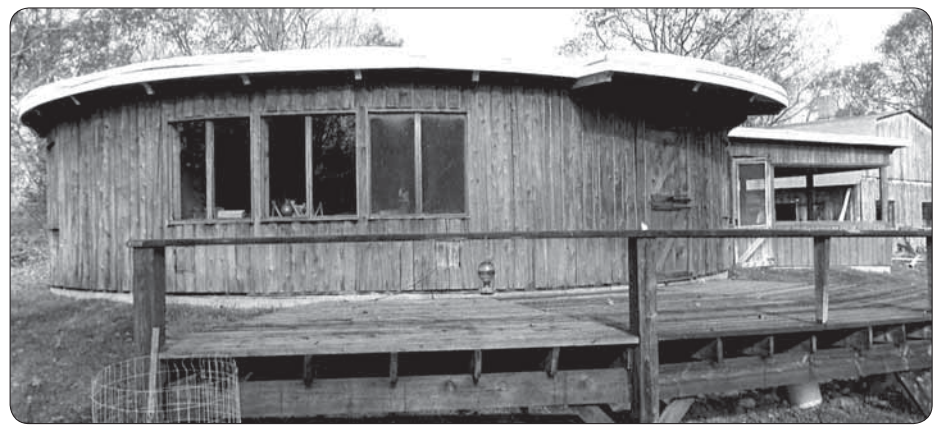
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