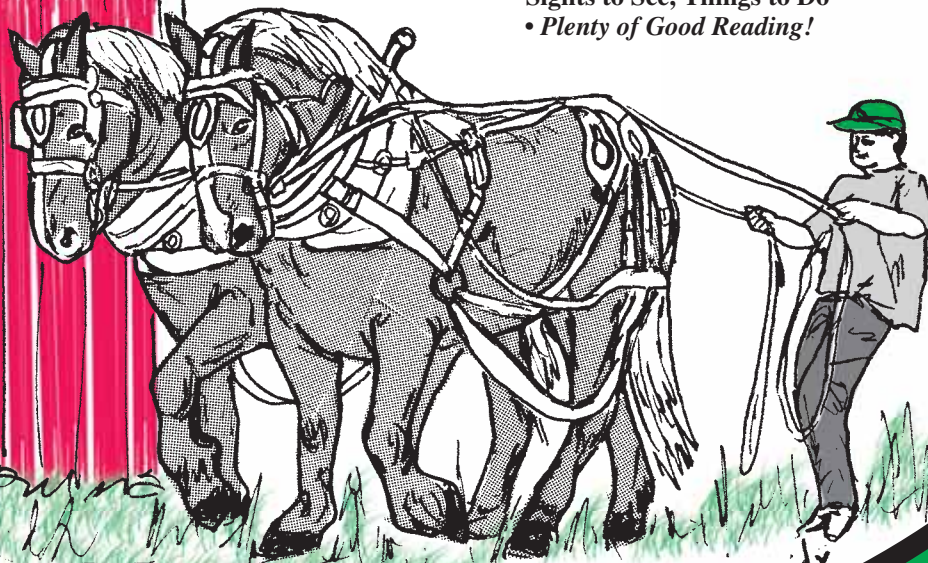


Vermont Country Sampler

June 2018

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- Inns, B&B's, Dining, Real Estate
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June Journal

Dogs and Frogs

by Bill Felker

The other morning, I was sitting by the garden pond, when the dogs across the street began to bark. Whatever it was that roused them must have been pretty exciting, because they kept up their yapping for several minutes.

That was long enough to incite the bullfrog in the water beside me to bark too, to join their chorus. And so, for maybe twenty or thirty seconds, I sat on my wooden bench and listened to the hounds and the frog sing together.

Now one might suppose that the frog was just hard of hearing or confused, and that the reason he started croaking was that he mistook the yowling of dogs for the gribit of other bullfrogs.

But let us, for a moment, assume that the frog knew what he was doing. Perhaps, he too was provoked by what was happening across the

street, and wanted to pass along the alarm.

Perhaps he was lonely; no other frogs had answered his calls all spring long, and maybe he was willing to settle for talking to dogs.

People find that dogs are often better company than other people. Maybe my bullfrog thought the same thing. Perhaps frogs and dogs have a secret bond based on subtle commonalities in language that transcend their bodily differences. Maybe frogs and dogs understand one another much better than people understand frogs or dogs or even each other.

For better or worse, I will never know the truth. That's not so bad. Like the rash of Jesus sightings described in grocery checkout tabloids, the question of frog and dog talk is something I can ruminate about and do it with a certain bizarre pleasure that proof would certainly spoil.



Low Lily will be performing in the Big Tent on Saturday, June 9 at Roots on the River in Bellows Falls, VT. The string and vocal trio explores the roots and branches of American folk music with traditional influences and modern inspiration.

Bellows Falls, VT

19th Annual Roots on the River

Roots on the River Festival in Bellows Falls, VT, produced by Vermont Festivals LLC, is celebrating its 19th year this June 8-10.

This year Roots on the River is pleased to have veteran festival artists, Mary Gauthier, The Slambovian Circus of Dreams, and The Black Lillies as returning headliners. Each artist attracts their own dedicated following and record turnouts are expecting on all three days.

Performance take place in The Big Tent on Friday, June 8 starting at 4 p.m. continuing on Saturday, June 9 from high noon till closing.

Mary Gauthier will be performing at 11 a.m. on Sunday, June 10 at the Rockingham Meeting House. The Festival winds up at 1:15 p.m. at the Meeting House with The Gospel Hour with Alice Howe, Vance Gilbert, & The End of America.

Of special note, Mary

Gauthier's "Rifles & Rosary Beads" was nominated as record of the year by the Americana Music Association! That is a huge honor and recognition of Mary's groundbreaking collaboration with wounded veterans to create an entire album of their songs.

Among regional artists this year are Miss Guided Angels, Bayou X, Low Lily, along with Vermont's own Starline Rhythm Boys.

Coming up from a little further out are Julie Rhodes, Hayley Reardon, Alice Howe, and The End of America. Seasoned artists, Roger Marin, Nora Jane Struthers, Freebo and Vance Gilbert, from Louisiana to Ontario and beyond, round out the weekend.

As always, parking is plentiful and free, kids and pets are welcome and we are a

smoke free festival. Kids 9 and under are always free with an adult; youth 10-16 are \$10 at the gate for any show. Saturday features a Youth Tent from 12-6 pm, so parents can enjoy the music while the kids are entertained and well supervised.

Day, Weekend and Deluxe tickets are available, from \$35 to \$145 in advance at www.rootsontheriver.com

Local food and beverage vendors will be onsite to serve you, so leave those coolers in the parking lot.

This year's non-profit beneficiary of the festival is the Bellows Falls Fire Department, who will also be on hand as volunteers throughout the weekend.

For tickets, full weekend schedules, and more information visit www.vermontfestivalsllc.com.



The Community Asylum Seekers Project

The Community Asylum Seekers Project (CASP) supports those fleeing hardship elsewhere and seeking asylum in the United States. We provide basic needs and a supportive community to a growing number of guests.



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Vermont Country Sampler

June 2018, Vol. XXXIV

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A young visitor pets a Jersey dairy cow at Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock, VT.

photo by Billings Farm & Museum

Woodstock, VT

Summertime at Billings Farm & Museum

Vermont's rural heritage, is open for its 37th season. Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a 147-year tradition of agricultural excellence and offers farm programs and historical exhibits that explore Vermont's rural heritage and values.

This is a great place to visit with your family. There are horse-drawn wagon rides, and farm programs, in addition to the operating dairy farm, the 1890 restored farmhouse and farm life exhibits! Visit the Museum Shop with items for all ages including Vermont cheeses and preserves.

For a quick snack while you're visiting, stop by the Dairy Bar, located on the ground floor of the 1890 Farm House. You will find Vermont-made Wilcox ice cream, milk, healthy snacks, seasonal hot and cold drinks, and a Farm Picnic featuring Billings Farm Cheddar, crackers, and fruit. Here are some special summer events for you.

Dairy Days • Saturday June 2nd, 9th & 23rd

Billings Farm & Museum, gateway to Vermont's rural heritage, will celebrate National Dairy Month by hosting Dairy Days Saturdays in June: June 2, 9, and 23. A different dairy animal will be featured each week: June 2—goats, June 9—sheep, and June 23—Jersey cows. Learn more about the milk producers and products made from their milk through farm programs, children's stories and crafts. Help make and sample cheese and other dairy products of the featured animal.

8th Annual Cheese & Dairy Celebration Saturday & Sunday, June 16th & 17th

Celebrate Vermont's rich dairy heritage on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. by meeting New England cheesemakers, sampling their delicious artisan cheeses and dairy products, and taking part in engaging dairy education programs. We also will be featuring our award-winning Billings Farm Cheddar Cheese, made exclusively with

100% raw milk from the Billings Farm's herd of purebred, registered Jerseys.

The Cheese & Dairy Celebration will showcase many of New England's artisan cheesemakers, who will offer samples, discuss their products, and have cheese on hand for purchase. Take part in Judging Jerseys with the farm manager to improve your bovine knowledge and participate in a dairy scavenger hunt, "name the calf" contest, and Cow Make-Over (learn what it takes to groom a cow in preparation for being judged in a show). Families will enjoy hand-cranking ice cream and making dairy headbands and moo masks.

Sunday, June 17th will include an "historic" base ball game played in the Billings' fields in the early afternoon. Join in or cheer on the teams!

Farm House & Manor House Tours Saturday, June 23rd

Explore the unique aspects of these two homes: the state-of-the-art amenities that set apart the Billings farmhouse in its era, and the superb local craftsmanship in the Billings Mansion. 1-3 p.m. Joint tour with the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. Combination ticket required. Admission: \$20 for adults, \$16 for seniors (62 and over) provides admission to both homes and the Billings Farm & Museum. Reservations recommended. To reserve call (802) 457-3368 x 222.

Junior Farmer Camp Monday through Friday, June 25th-29th

Have you ever wondered what it takes to be a farmer? Kids will discover for themselves by stepping into a farmer's shoes for a week. In addition to daily chores and activities, each day we will explore a different farming topic like dairy, gardening, tractors, and draft animals.

Programs are designated for ages 8-12. Camp runs daily from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enrollment is limited! To register call (802) 457-2355 or reservations@billingsfarm.org.

35th Anniversary Celebration Sunday, June 24th

Billings Farm & Museum invites the public to its 35th Anniversary Celebration. Admission is free for the entire day. Included among the day's activities are a parade of farm animals, live music, guest speakers, many special hands-on opportunities, a rousing game of old fashioned 1860s base ball, and Magic Shows with renowned performer, Robert Olson recreating the early-19th-century magic of Richard Potter.

Billings Farm & Museum is one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Rt. 12. Open through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; weekends November through February; and Christmas & February vacation weeks. Admission: adults \$16; 62 & over \$14; children 5-15 \$8; 3-4 \$4; 2 & under are free. Admission includes all programs and activities.

A combination ticket for both Billings Farm & Museum and Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park mansion tour is available from Memorial Day Weekend through October 31. Ticket price is \$21 for adults ages 16-61, \$16 for seniors age 62 and over, valid for two days.

For more information call (802) 457-2355 or visit www.billingsfarm.org.



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Grafton, VT

The Nature Museum Hosts Summer Programs

The Nature Museum at Grafton invites nature lovers of all ages to visit the Museum this summer.

Visitors can crawl through an underground bear den; dig for fossils; find out about bats, bees, and catamounts; and learn about animal adaptations by dressing up as their favorite creature.

Outdoors, wander in our wildlife garden and catch a glimpse of passing butterflies and our resident honeybees out collecting nectar.

Take a hike through the maple, oak, beech, and birch forest in the Village Park behind the Museum. The three Village Park trails offer easy to moderate hiking. There are picnic tables in the Museum's backyard as well as several picnic areas and gazebos along the Village Park trails.

Here are of of our engaging summer programs and activities to please the whole family.

Friday, June 8. Slow Birding with Bird Diva Bridget Butler. Presented by The Nature Museum 7 p.m. Held at the NewsBank Conference Center, 352 Main St, Chester, VT. Learn a new birding approach, designed to help us slow down and develop a deeper connection to birds. The Bird Diva will share how to read bird body language, how to listen beyond just birdsong, and how to discover our own sit-spot for mindful birding. Join us for this special presentation and Q&A. Light refreshments from the Grafton Village Bakery will be served. Pre-registration \$7, \$10 at the door.

Saturday, June 9. Slow Birding Walk with Bird Diva Bridget Butler. 7:30 a.m. Presented by and held at The Nature Museum, Grafton, VT. Walk slow, look carefully, and listen quietly! The Bird Diva will take us on a "slow birding" adventure through the forests and fields of a private property in Grafton. Learn how to look with and without binoculars, map what you're hearing and seeing, and take field notes which will improve identification and awareness skills. \$20 per person.

Thursday, June 14. Moths: Our Nighttime Jewels. Workshop with JoAnne Russo and The Nature Museum.



photo by The Nature Museum

A visitor hones her woods skills at The Nature Museum in Grafton, VT.

7:30 p.m. Held at the Grafton Trails and Outdoor Center, 783 Townshend Rd, Grafton, VT. Let's look for moths! Vermont Entomological Society member JoAnne Russo presents an informative talk accompanied by rich macro photographs of beautiful Vermont moths. The talk will be followed by a flashlight field session, exploring the area with flashlights and looking for caterpillars and moths. Suggested donation of \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door.

July 9 to July 13, Session 1; July 23 to July 27, Session 2. Brave Bears Weeklong Summer Camps. For adventurers ages 6 to 9. Hosted by and held at The Nature Museum. Both sessions run from 9:30 am - 3 pm. Unplug from electronics and reconnect with nature! Games, crafts, confidence-building, wilderness skills—we do it all at Brave Bears. Wonder

is our goal! Youth will cultivate a deeper relationship with the natural world with The Nature Museum. Cost: \$200, 10% sibling discount for second child. Please pre-register.

For more information, to buy tickets or register for programs, call (802) 843-2111 or visit www.nature-museum.org. The Nature Museum is located at 186 Townshend Rd, Grafton, VT. The Museum is open Thursdays and Fridays year-round and Saturdays from June through September, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is by donation.

Old-Fashioned Strawberry Supper in Dummerston Center

The Dummerston Congregational Church is holding its 49th Annual Old-Fashioned Strawberry Supper on Saturday, June 30 in the Evening Star Grange Hall in Dummerston Center from 5-7 p.m.

Enjoy made-on-the-premises baked ham, baked beans, potato salad, tuna-macaroni salad and coleslaw, a variety of sweet breads, and various beverages. Dessert features "all you can eat" old-fashioned whole strawberry shortcakes with real whipped cream and locally-grown strawberries. These cakes

are brought to the table and served to our guests by our smiling, helpful waitresses & waiters. No reservations are needed. Adults \$12, children 6-12 \$6, under 6 free.

There is ample parking and the hall is handicapped accessible.

The Evening Star Grange Hall is at 1008 East-West Rd. across the common from the church in Dummerston Center, VT.

For information call (802) 257-0544 or visit www.dummerstonchurch.org. On Facebook.



photo by The Nature Museum

The Nature Museum in Grafton, VT.

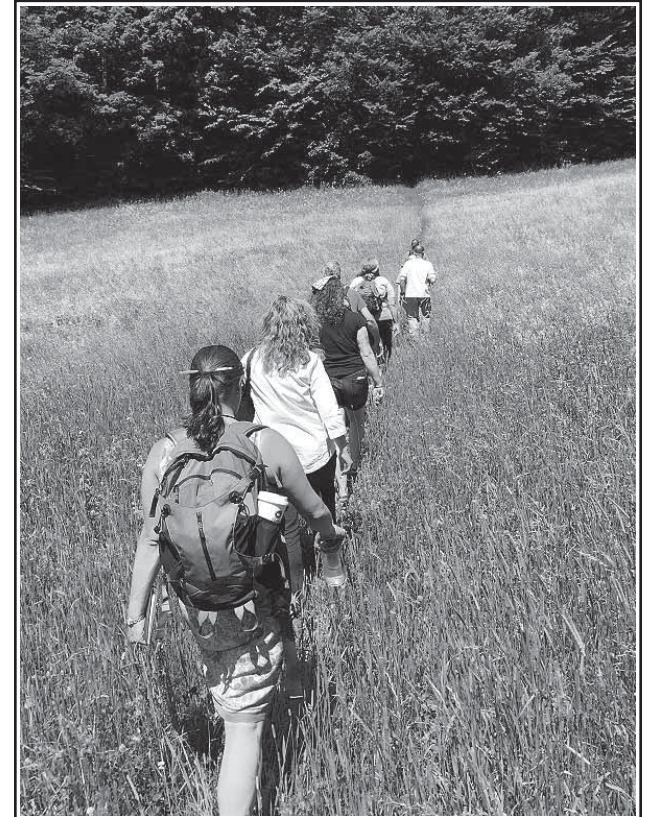


photo by The Nature Museum

Visitors taking a hike through the summer fields in the Village Park behind The Nature Museum in Grafton, VT. There are three Village Park trails to enjoy.

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North Country Reflections

Peonies June Beauty Queens

by Judith Irven

Peonies are one of the most beautiful and venerated garden plants. With their massive blooms in shades of red, pink and white and yellow they are the queens of the June garden.

And best of all, given fertile soil, good air circulation and adequate sunlight, peonies are not only easy to grow but they are also extremely long-lived.

Every June thousands of visitors make a point of visiting the beautiful peony collection at Hildene (in Manchester, Vermont). And, as a testament to their incredible longevity, we note that these are the very same peonies that were first planted over a hundred years ago at Hildene!

Although early fall is the best time to plant peonies, June is when we can visit gardens and see which ones we really like and then plan ahead for later planting.

Across the centuries: a passion for peonies

The people of China first cultivated peonies as a flavoring for food over two thousand years ago. Then, during the elegant Tang dynasty (618-907) they began experimenting with crossing different species to obtain beautiful blooms. This was the genesis of what has become a worldwide passion for glamorous peony flowers.

Next the people of Japan also started growing peonies for their flowers. And finally, in the eighteenth century, the art of peony cultivation migrated to both England and France.

Peonies are worldwide citizens

In the wild there are actually over thirty different species of peonies—all members of the genus *Paeonia* and thus genetically related—that are native to the cold and temperate regions in Asia, Europe and western North America. The majority are herbaceous perennials (meaning they will die back to the ground each winter but re-sprout every spring), but a few have woody stems (enabling them to remain above ground throughout the year).

This vast genetic pool gave plant hybridizers a wealth of interesting material from which they have developed all the beautiful cultivated varieties—or cultivars—now available.

Today a vast array of cultivars for gardeners everywhere

Most peonies are herbaceous, with the plants dying back to the ground each winter. Single peonies, such as 'Krinkled White' have one or two whorls of broad over-lapping petals surrounding a central mass of yellow stamens. These are the sophisticates of the peony world.

Semi double peonies, like Coral Charm and Coral Sunset, have three or four whorls of petals but the central mass of stamens is still easily visible.

Double peonies, such as the immensely popular 'Sarah Bernhardt', have sumptuous spherical flowers that are completely filled with numerous overlapping petals. Some blooms have more than a hundred petals!

Japanese or Anemone form peonies—like 'Bowl of Beauty'—have one or more rows of large outer petals surrounding a mass of miniature petals (or petaloids).

A hundred years ago the American Peony Society began awarding the society's Gold Medal to exceptional peony cultivars, a practice that continues annually to this day.

Magnificent Itoh peonies—a gardener's dream come true

Tree peonies, with their spectacular flowers and beautiful colors are coveted by gardeners everywhere. But typically the above-ground stems (where most of the buds that make next year's flowers are produced) will not survive our Vermont winters.

So Vermonters will be especially interested in to hear about Itoh hybrid peonies—a cross between herbaceous peonies and tree peonies, that combine the best features of each.

Itoh peonies have enormous flowers up to eight inches across, with undulating petals encircling a froth of yellow stamens. The original Itoh cultivars were yellow, but today they come in a wide range of beautiful colors including coral, red, pink and white, as well as their signature buttery yellow.

Just as the herbaceous peonies are winding down, the Itoh hybrid peonies burst into bloom, thus extending the peony season by three more wonderful weeks.



photo by Dick Conrad

'Garden Treasure', an Itoh hybrid peony growing in Judith's Vermont garden, has gorgeous yellow flowers with reddish centers. Itoh hybrids originated over 70 years ago in Japan when Dr. Toichi Itoh first experimented with hybridizing tree peonies and herbaceous peonies.

The first flowers develop from terminal buds at the ends of the stems, and then just as these finish, the side buds begin to bloom. In this way a single established Itoh peony plant can produce three dozen or more flowers.

Itoh peonies also have finely divided leaves which grow in an elegant mounded shape so, even after they have finished flowering, the plants themselves continue to shine at the front of the border.

The amazing story of the Itoh hybrid peonies

Itoh peonies began as a plant hybridizer's dream—how to cross tree peonies with herbaceous peonies and produce a new kind of plant that offers the best features of both parents.

This had been tried without success over many years and in several countries. One difficulty was because the bloom times for the two types of peony are several weeks apart, making cross-fertilization difficult.

Also, although tree and herbaceous peonies are both members of the huge genus *Paeonia*, genetically they are actually not that closely related, contributing to the problem of creating a cross that would produce viable progeny.

Dr. Toichi Itoh—a Japanese botanist quietly working in the aftermath of the destruction of World War II—was totally consumed with this monumental hybridization challenge.

Finally in 1948 his dream came true. After thousands of attempts of meticulously dusting tree peony pollen onto herbaceous peony pistils (the tube that guides pollen onto the ovaries) a few seeds actually germinated.

Then tragically in 1956, before his successful crosses had matured enough to produce their first flowers, Dr. Itoh passed away. So it fell to his family to nurture those very special plants, finally bringing them to flower in 1964.

Eventually an American botanist, Louis Smirnow, received permission from Dr. Itoh's widow to bring a few plants with huge buttery yellow flowers to the USA, naming them 'Itoh hybrids'.

After this peony breeders everywhere were motivated to replicate Dr Itoh's detailed techniques and today Itoh hybrids come in an array of luscious colors. Finally in 1996 the American Peony Society gave its coveted Gold Medal Award to Itoh hybrid 'Garden Treasure' and in 2006 to 'Bartzella'.

A personal story

In the summer of 2000, when Itoh hybrids were barely known to the gardening public, I was visiting the renowned peony grower, Bill Countryman in Northfield, Vermont. Over the years he had developed a fabulous collection of peonies, including every American Peony Society's Gold Medal winner to date. And now he was adding Itoh hybrids to his collection.

As he showed me his plants he also recounted the incred-

ible story of how they came to be. I was completely smitten and decided to purchase a single root of the cultivar 'Garden Treasure'—for an astronomical price of \$125.00!! My husband Dick was absolutely flabbergasted that I would even consider spending that much money for a SINGLE root!!

I chose a sunny spot in my garden, enriched the soil with plenty of compost and carefully planted my new extravagance. And now, every year towards the end of June, just as the flowers of the herbaceous peonies are fading, both Dick and I eagerly await the moment when our Garden Treasure starts to bloom. It is by far the most beautiful plant in our entire garden, and it has more than lived up to all the promises Bill made to me all those years ago.

Today the price for Itoh hybrid roots has dropped significantly. So, as a long term investment, you too might want to consider planting one or two in your garden.

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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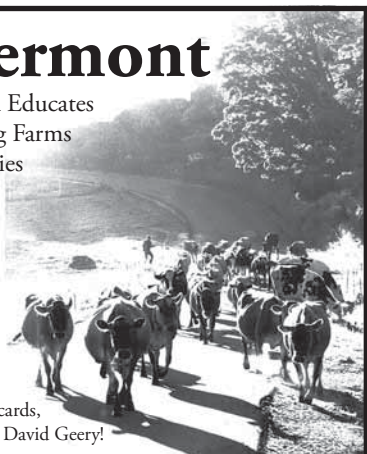
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Poor Will's Guide To Farming and Gardening

by Bill Felker

June 1 – June is the month during which insect infestations typically reach the economic threshold.

June 2 – A cool front usually reaches Vermont near this date; it may bring a light freeze at higher elevations this year, but lunar apogee should weaken the strength of that weather system elsewhere.

June 3 – Mulberry season begins for both the red and white varieties, and it typically lasts until the end of Early Summer – good for birds and good for pies!

June 4 – The canopy has closed above the woodland wildflowers when winter wheat is a soft pale green and the clovers and vetches are all blooming in the fields.

June 5 – The darkening Moon is right for all kinds of animal care (especially worming and spraying for external parasites), for planting root crops, shrubs and trees, and for weeding and mulching, as well as insect hunting.

June 6 – The low-pressure system that accompanies the June 6 front initiates a four-day period during which there is an increased chance for tornadoes and flash floods.

June 7 – Canadian thistles and crown vetch open in the fields and pastures.

June 8 – Throughout the coming week, check the cucumbers for cucumber beetles. Check the lawn for chinch bugs. Look for powdery mildew on the phlox. Spray for potato leafhoppers in the alfalfa, mites in the roses.

June 9 – When yucca plants flower and young grackles leave their nests, plant the vegetable garden for August and September harvests.

June 10 – The first major heat wave often develops around this time. Exceptionally high temperatures may inhibit your bees' ability to make honey.

June 11 – Harvest beans and squash, strawberries, pie cherries and early black raspberries.

June 12 – New Moon time is favorable for pruning shrubs and trees that flowered earlier in the year.

June 13 – Plan to put in the last of the hot-weather vegetables (like tomatoes, squash, eggplant and peppers) under the new Moon.



A June hillside farm in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

photo by Jeff Gold

June 14 – Combined with the new Moon, today's lunar perigee increases the possibility for chilly weather and mid-June precipitation.

June 15 – Adding to the effects of new Moon and perigee, a cool front is expected to approach Vermont between June 13 and 16, and it is likely to be a stormy weather system.

June 16 – Consider keeping bees for honey, a supplement associated with fertility in sheep and goats.

June 17 – Wild water plants, transposed to your garden pond, can provide plant sales as well as beauty.

June 18 – Summer browsing can provide your herd of goats with most of its nutrients. Plan ahead, however, to supplement late fall and winter grazing when forage declines.

June 19 – Thistles go to seed as corn borers eat the corn and early soybeans bloom.

June 20 – The Moon enters its weak second quarter today, favorable for vacations and outings of all kinds (because it minimizes lunar stress). Sales may increase at farm markets.

June 21 – The upcoming Dog Days can make your goats chew excessively on wood, or even lick dirt. Both of those activities could signal hot weather salt deprivation.

June 22 – Strawberry season peaks in the North while

domestic red raspberries and wild black raspberries ripen.

June 23 – The June 23 high-pressure system is typically cool, and it is often followed by some of the sunniest and driest days of all the year.

June 24 – Bright orange butterfly weed blooms and acorns (a favorite food of deer) become fully formed.

June 25 – In the upcoming six to seven weeks of Middle Summer, approximately an hour is lost from the day's length, and the year turns toward autumn.

June 26 – After summer solstice, the percentage of totally sunny days is the highest of the year throughout the nation.

June 27 – Apogee weakens the power of today's full Moon, slightly decreasing chances for storms.

June 28 – The final weather system of June is often followed by the Corn Tassel Rains, a two-week period of intermittent precipitation that accompanies the Dog Days of Middle Summer.

June 29 – Expect some of your chickens to molt and stop laying in the summer; adjust sales plans accordingly.

June 30 – The final two days of June are sometimes the coldest of the season, bringing a chilly end to Early Summer and a deceptive beginning to Middle Summer.

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Pointing to the dome on high,
Telling thus whence came its color,
Thanking with its breath, the sky.

Four-o'clocks, with heart unfolding,
When the loving sun had gone,
Streak and stain of running crimson,
Like the light of early dawn.

Regal lilies, many-petaled,
Like the curling drifts of snow,
With their crown of golden anthers
Poised on malachite below.

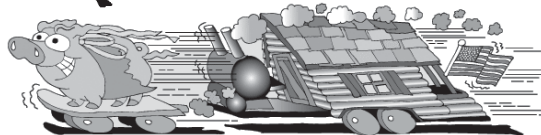
Marigold, with coat of velvet,
Streaked with gold and yellow lace,
With its love for summer sunlight
Written on its honest face.

Dainty pinks, with feathered petals,
Tinted, curled, and deeply frayed,
With its calyx heart, half broken,
On its leaves uplifted laid.

Can't you see them in the garden,
Now, where grandma takes her nap,
And cherry blooms shake softly over
Silver hair and snowy cap?

—ETHEL LYNN
circa 1878

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A Vermont Almanack for Early Summer

by Bill Felker

Among the crooked lanes, on every hedge,
The glow-worm lights his gems; and, through the dark,
A moving radiance twinkles.

—James Thomson

The Sun's Progress

The Sun entered the Early Summer sign of Gemini on May 21. Summer solstice occurs on June 21 at 5:07 a.m., the Sun entering the Middle Summer sign of Cancer at the same time.

Phases of the Daddy Longlegs Moon and the Turtle Hatching Moon

While daddy longlegs seek food and mates in spring, many varieties of turtles lay their eggs near rivers and lakes. You can know when the turtles are hatching and the daddy longlegs are nurturing their eggs when hemlock and parsnips bloom by the side of the road, when poison ivy flowers, when chiggers bite and wild black raspberries ripen.

June 2: The Daddy Longlegs Moon reaches apogee at 11:34 a.m.

June 6: The Moon enters its final quarter at 1:31 p.m.

June 13: The Turtle Hatching Moon is new at 2:43 p.m.

June 14: The Moon reaches perigee at 6:55 p.m.

June 20: The Moon enters its second quarter at 5:51 a.m.

June 27: The Moon is full at 11:53 p.m.

The Planets

Mars, remaining in Capricorn, moves along the southern horizon between midnight and dawn. Venus in Cancer is the giant western evening star. Continuing to accompany Libra, Jupiter shines in the southern sky at dusk. Saturn in Sagittarius is visible in the early morning sky until the end of the month.

The Stars

Midnight in June: Facing south, you can see Scorpio straight ahead along the tree line. A little to the right (west) of that constellation, find the parallelogram, Libra. In the southeast (a little to your left), Sagittarius follows close behind Scorpio. Overhead, Hercules spreads his arms wide, and the Summer Triangle of Aquila, Cygnus and Lyra approaches him from the east. In the northwest, the Big Dipper leads all the other stars around Polaris.

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.

New Moon on June 13, lunar perigee on June 14, and full Moon on June 27 could contribute to unseasonable cold and to unstable meteorological conditions.

Paths

For the morning, a climbing path—in the evening, a strolling way. Paths among the pines for moods, and a birch-lined trail for lovers and youth and Spring.

Paths are not idle ways—they go places. And in friendly fashion, they ask you to come along. If you cannot spare time from today's rush of little things, another day will do. Paths wait. I have known a path to wait for years, a path that deserved better things. For did it not lead straight up to a wild strawberry patch in June!

And once a cowpath stumbled headlong into a magnificent bed of maidenhair just at the edge of a hemlock grove. Paths do not promise rashly—they know unerringly where the arbutus is blossoming under pine needles in April, and how easiest to

find the red raspberry clearing in July.

A winding footpath across a meadow leads inevitably to a cold spring beside an old barway.

A short way up the mountain road there is a gap in the tumble-down stone wall—a dim, narrow way, up, up over rocks still mossy from spring freshet waters, into birch thickets and over rotted logs, out into quick patches of sunlight, back into moist fern-bordered semi-darkness, and always up. Until it frets itself through one last brier tangle and bids you look—up the river valley to the blue hills, along bleak ledges to dusky spruce woods below, and out toward the sunshine and clouds. Do that at least once in a lifetime.

—Esther B. Stebbins
Athens, VT, circa 1938



A growing fawn at the edge of a field in central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

The June Landscape

When the canopy has closed above the woodland wildflowers, when winter wheat is a soft pale green, and the clovers and vetches are all coming in, then it's the best time of year for golden parsnip blossoms throughout the countryside. Catalpas and privets and hawthorns and pink spirea bloom now, and the number of fireflies grows in proportion to the flowers on the day lilies. The first nodding thistle, first daisy fleabane and the first great mullein open. The first raspberry reddens, and the first orange trumpet creeper blossoms. Bindweeds and sweet peas color the fences with pastels.

This is the high time for the wetlands' poison hemlock and angelica. In the shade, fire pink, and honewort are flowering. At the edge of the forest, wild plants include blue-eyed grass, silver yarrow, yellow sedum, bright moneywort, daisies, yellow sweet clover, wild roses, wild iris, dock, and smooth brome grass. Oaks and black walnut trees and Osage orange have set their fruit. There are bud clusters on the milkweeds, buds on the delicate touch-me-nots, buds on the giant blue hostas, buds on the yucca, the purple coneflowers, the mallow, the balloon flower and the gayfeather. Wild strawberries are red.

Young blackbirds and grackles join their parents to harvest the ripening cherries and mulberries. Painted turtles are out laying eggs. The mornings are getting quieter. Cardinals and

blue jays have settled down. Young grackles beg for food from their parents. Baby robins have been out for a week or two. Canadian geese are molting. Firefly time starts now in average years, lasts through the first days of August.

Oaks, osage orange, and black walnut trees have set their fruit. There are bud clusters on the milkweeds, buds on the delicate touch-me-nots, buds on the giant blue hosta, buds on the yucca and purple coneflowers, the mallow, balloon flower, and gay feather. Catchweed and chickweed die back, exhausted and matted. It's the finale of watercress, pale and turned underside up. May apple foliage is yellowing. Jack-in-the-pulpits are wilting. Brown seeds drop from the small-flowered crowfoot. All the last fragrant mock orange petals scatter in the wind.

Cucumber beetles reach the economic threshold on the farm and in the garden. Chinch bugs begin to hatch in the lawn. Whiteflies attack azaleas. Weevils assault the yellow poplars. Leafminers work arborvitae, birch, locusts, boxwood, elms, holly, juniper. Rose slugs attack ornamentals. Powdery mildew becomes a problem in the phlox.

—Bill Felker



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photo by Middletown Springs Historical Society
People line up for strawberry treats at the Annual Middletown Springs Strawberry Festival on the Green in Middletown Springs, VT. This year the festival will be held on Sunday, June 24th.

Vermont Strawberry Festivals & Suppers

Saturday, June 16th—Colchester, VT. Sam Mazza's 22nd Annual Strawberry Festival. Fresh-picked strawberry shortcake with whipped cream. Strawberry milkshakes, strawberry fudge, strawberry jam & chocolate-dipped strawberries. Pony rides, kids games, petting zoo, face painting & Vermont specialty food samples. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sam Mazza's, 277 Lavigne Rd. (802) 655-3440. www.sammazzafarms.com.

Saturday, June 16th—North Clarendon, VT. Annual Strawberry Festival. Menu: ham, coleslaw, potato salad, deviled eggs, baked beans, beverages, strawberry shortcake or strawberries & ice cream. Adults \$10, children (5-12) \$5, 4 & under free. Dessert only, \$5. 4-7 p.m. The Brick Church (Clarendon Congregational Church), 298 Middle Rd. (802) 773-3873. www.brickchurchvt.com.

Saturday, June 23rd—Manchester Center, VT. 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. Take-out available. Adults \$12, children 8 and under \$5. One seating at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, corner of Rts. 7A & 11/30 across from Northshire Bookstore. Call Martha Thompson for reservations at (802) 362-3473.

Saturday, June 23rd—North Pomfret, VT. 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 tickets. Supper benefits the North Pomfret Congregational Church. Seatings at 5, 6:15 & 7:30 at the Pomfret Town Hall. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 10. Call for reservations! (802) 457-3259.

Saturday, June 23rd—Springfield, VT. Third 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 for sale. Live music. Farm store. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Wellwood Orchards, 529 Wellwood Orchard Rd. (802) 263-5200.

Sunday, June 24th—Middletown Springs, VT. 43rd Annual Strawberry Festival. To benefit the Middletown Springs Historical Society. Museum exhibits and live music by Paul Morgan and friends. Small flea market, local crafts and artists. Raffle. Quarts of strawberries for sale. Strawberry shortcake with homemade biscuits, ice cream, and whipped cream, coffee, ice tea, and lemonade. 2-4 p.m. on the Green, Rt. 140. Rain or shine. (802) 235-2376.

Thursday, June 28th—Shoreham, VT. Annual Strawberry Festival. Feast on strawberry shortcake, strawberry sundaes, strawberry pie, ice cream with strawberries, just plain strawberries, or the works! Prices vary depending on the items purchased. A limited number of whole strawberry pies will also be for sale. Make strawberries your dessert or your entire meal that night and enjoy the fun and good food! 5-7 p.m. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-2687.

Friday, June 29th—Waterbury, VT. 45th 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 desserts." Take-out too! \$12 adults, 12 and under \$8, families \$30, dessert only \$4. Handicap accessible. First come, first served. 5-7 p.m. Waterbury Congregational Church, 8 N. Main St. (802) 244-6606.

Saturday, June 30th—Dummerston Center, VT. 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 \$12, children \$6, under 5 free. Sponsored by the Dummerston Congregational Church. Held at Evening Star Grange Hall, 1008 East West Rd. 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. (802) 257-0544 or (802) 257-1128.



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Visit the farm, venture into the forest or stay overnight in a rustic cabin or lean-to. With over thirty miles of trails for hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and horseback riding, Merck Forest and Farmland Center has a multitude of recreational opportunities.

Dress for the weather: sturdy shoes/boots, layered clothing, raingear, flashlight/headlamp, snacks and water.

Summer Event Schedule

Full Strawberry Moon Walk. June 23, time TBD. Our hikes are typically of moderate difficulty; participants must have appropriate footgear, headlamps, water and snacks. \$5/person.

Children's Workshops

Here are some activities designed to engage your youngsters in specific topic-oriented activities; each (family group) must be accompanied by an adult companion.

Pond Exploration for Kids. June 16. *Morning session 10 a.m. to 12 noon or afternoon session 1-3 p.m.* It's so much fun poking about in Page Pond. Your youngsters will have a great time learning about pond residents and pond ecology. They will need clothing and footgear that can get wet and muddy (and perhaps a change of clothes to go home in!). Fee: \$5 per child.

Farm Chores for Children. *Thursday afternoons from June 28 'til August 16. 2-4 p.m.* Back by popular demand! Children (and their adult companion) may join the farm staff at Merck Forest & Farmland Center for afternoon chores. Youngsters may feed the horses, pick berries, collect eggs and perform other tasks.

Summer Camp for Young Children. *Session 1: July 9-13, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Session 2: August 6-10, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.* For rising first, second, and third graders; limited to 10 children per session. Adventure is just a wagon ride away as campers explore the farm and forest, focusing each day on a different unique habitat. For more information and to register, email Education Director Christine Hubbard at christine@merckforest.org, or call (802) 394-7836.

Merck Forest and Farmland Center is a non-profit educational organization. It is composed of 3,162 acres and includes a 3,100 acre managed forest, a certified-organic sugaring operation and a 62-acre farm. We offer on-site demonstrations, apprenticeships, workshops, school programs, and recreational and volunteer opportunities. The property is open free to the public daily, from dawn to dusk, year-round.

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A day hike through the woods along an old farm road at Merck Forest and Farmland Center in Rupert, VT.

photos by Merck Forest and Farmland Center

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Vermont's Summer Free Fishing Day, Bass Season Opener, And Grand Isle Family Fishing Festival, All On June 9th!

Vermont's annual, state-wide Summer Free Fishing Day is Saturday, June 9 this year, and it will be highlighted by a free family fishing festival in Grand Isle as well as opening day of the state's regular bass fishing season.

"Vermont's Free Fishing Day gives resident and non-resident anglers the opportunity to go fishing without a license for the day in Vermont lakes and streams," said Fish & Wildlife Commissioner Louis Porter. "Fishing is an activity that can be shared with friends and family."

Free Fishing Day in Vermont will be celebrated at the "Grand Isle Family Fishing Festival," held at the Ed Weed Fish Culture Station at 14 Bell Hill Road in Grand Isle, VT. The festival will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Designed for young anglers and families, this event offers basic fishing instruction and the chance for kids to catch big trout in a hatchery pond. No prior fishing experience is needed, and Vermont Fish & Wildlife will be supplying fishing rods, reels and bait.

The fishing festival will also highlight the newly updated Ed Weed Fish Cul-

ture Station Visitor Center. Come see the new educational exhibits and learn how to identify Lake Champlain fish species in the exhibit aquariums.

Vermont's regular bass season also opens on June 9, marking the start of some of the hottest bass fishing action in the northeast. The season opens each year on the second Saturday in June and extends through the last day of November.

Fish & Wildlife has also teamed up with Vermont State Parks to offer the 'Reel Fun Fishing' program to be scheduled by park interpreters on Free Fishing Day and during the summer at some state parks. The program provides loaner tackle kits and fishing clinics free of charge to anyone interested in fishing at a Vermont State Park.

Fishing licenses are required for anyone 15 or older except on Free Fishing Day. Information on Reel Fun Fishing can be found at www.vtstateparks.com/fishing.html.

To learn more about fishing in Vermont or to purchase a fishing license, visit www.vtfishandwildlife.com.



Vermont's summer Free Fishing Day and the Grand Isle Family Fishing Festival will be on Saturday, June 9 this year. It's also the opening day of Vermont's bass fishing season. VTF&W photo by Sandy Macy

Windsor, VT

Grand Opening Event for Windsor Grasslands WMA—VT Fish & Wildlife Celebrates Newest Wildlife Management Area

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department will celebrate the grand opening of the new Windsor Grasslands Wildlife Management Area on Thursday, June 7, from 3-5 p.m.

The land was previously owned by Vermont's Buildings and General Services and was recently transferred to the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. The 826-acre property contains habitat for a variety of species, from hayfields that are a favored nesting site for grassland birds, to young forests and apple trees that attract deer and bear.

"We're pleased that these lands will be permanently conserved for wildlife habitat and public access," said Louis Porter, commissioner of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. "The local community has been highly engaged in these lands in recent years, helping to release apple trees to improve wildlife habitat, hunting turkeys, or bird-watching for grassland birds. We look forward to continuing that tra-

dition as we manage this property for a variety of wildlife species and those who care about them."

The celebration will take place on the wildlife management area at 1192 Marton Rd., Windsor, VT. Brief remarks from department staff and partners, including Agency of Natural Resources Secretary Julie Moore, will be followed by a brief birding walk around the property led by department wildlife biologist John Buck. An informal gathering at the Windsor Station Restaurant will follow the event.

Members of the public interested in supporting habitat conservation and public access to land in Vermont can purchase a Vermont Habitat Stamp at www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

For more information visit the Vermont Fish and Wildlife website at www.vtfishandwildlife.com.



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Addison, VT

Wildlife Photographer to Give Presentation at Dead Creek

Vermont wildlife photographer Brian Machanic will present "The Art in Birding" at the Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area headquarters at 966 VT Rt. 17 in Addison, VT on Tuesday, June 5, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The presentation will be followed by a one-hour photography bird walk at the Dead Creek.

Machanic is a native Vermonter who has had a passion for wildlife since childhood and been an avid naturalist and photographer his whole life. He recently published a book, entitled *This Book Is for The Birds*. "I invite people to come


spend an enjoyable evening exploring many of the birds of Vermont's renowned Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area," said Machanic.

Following Machanic's presentation, Tom Rogers of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department will lead a one-hour field walk and help participants identify and photograph some of the amazing birds that call Dead Creek home.

Registration required. Contact Amy Alfieri at amy.alfieri@vermont.gov or call (802) 759-2398. www.vtfishandwildlife.com.



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Restoration Memories of Castleton's Pink House

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

After my husband and I bought the derelict 1815 Ward House on the corner of Castleton's Mill and Main—forty years ago now—Dick Gray was our carpenter. He lived at the end of South Street where the road turns east and uphill toward Pond Hill Stables. He's gone to his grave so I can't ask him, but he'd spent most of his life in Castleton, and he must have remembered the Ward House back in the 1930s when it was being hard-used as a furniture store.

Dick did a lot of work for us in the house and greatly helped to bring back its original beauty. When he started, sills were rotten, windows broken, shutters hanging or gone, the interior stripped, six fireplaces torn out, the early box staircase ripped away and replaced with one that was a utilitarian straight-shot to the second floor.

My husband showed him classic architectural detailing from photographs in Herbert Wheaton Congdon's book, *Old Houses of Vermont*. Whatever Dick thought of our restoration plan—probably that it was going to be unnecessarily time-consuming and expensive—he settled down to his copying assignment; and now, for example, our eastside sitting room fireplace—much loved later by the Jennisons—has an exact replica of the Weston Farrar-Mansur House bedroom mantel.

Those were heady days. We were often in strategy-huddles, a little group of us meeting together in empty, dirty, beat-up rooms.

Middletown Springs mason Bud Krause—my teacher mother's one-time grade school pupil—had agreed to rebuild the chimneys and six fireplaces. He joined Dick, my sister, Bryan Kelly—who'd cleared the building of old newspapers and trash in a year-long undertaking—and Castleton old-timer passers-by who wanted to come in to see what we were up to and add their two cents.

The house's original staircase had been box style, which was the standard Colonial-era pattern. It would have been impossible to get any cumbersome merchandise up a staircase like this so it was pulled out in the 1930s. Dick found faint scribing on plank walls indicating the slant of the original, and there were old fascia boards which gave him a pattern to follow in replicating the staircase that had once been there.

As Dick finished his restorative carpentry, it came time to repaint the building. It would have been white, but then one day my husband and I visited Manchester, and south of town on the east side of Route 30, we drove past a very old house—which may have been the one-time home of Vermont regionalist-author Dorothy Canfield Fisher. It was painted pink, shaded by giant maples and fronted by a deep bed of hostas.

As soon as I saw it, I wanted that same pink, but I didn't realize how hard it was going to be to exactly duplicate the color for an initial Ward House paint job, and, over the years, many subsequent paint jobs. I also failed to realize that the Manchester prototype was surrounded with masses of light-softening vegetation.

Poultney, VT

Pop Poem: A Found Poetry Workshop

Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill in Poultney, VT is hosting Pop Poem: A Found Poetry Workshop on Saturday, June 30 from 2-4 p.m.

Bianca Amira Zanella, a local performance poet, will share the joys of finding poetry in existing texts and/or images and refashioning them as new poems. This "Pop Poem" workshop resembles Pop Art, hence the name, including the conflict between the literal and abstract, freedom of artistic expression, repetition of discovery and multiple meanings.

Writer Annie Dillard has said that turning a text into a poem doubles that poem's

context, "The original meaning remains intact, but now it swings between two poles." A found poem is the literary equivalent of a collage, and so, during our two hours together, we'll have several stations of "texts," including magazines, books, games, etc., where we will hunt for the poems to find us.

There is a suggested donation of \$5, with a scholarship available to anyone who asks the host day of event. No registration is necessary.

This is an all-ages event; little ones will have fun, too. Best for language lovers and the curious.

Stone Valley Arts is a non-

profit community arts organization. It is located in an old stone church, built in 1822, across from Poultney High School in Poultney, VT. We host creative movement, dance, and art classes for children; dance, music, drawing, poetry, theatre, yoga, and meditation for adults.

Stone Valley Arts at Fox

Hill is located at 145 E. Main St. in Poultney, VT. (802) 884-8052. stonevalleyartscenter@gmail.com. www.stonevalleyarts.org. Follow us on Facebook at stonevalleyartscenter.

For more information about the workshop contact Bianca Amira Zanella at (603) 732-8606, or email zanellab@greenmntn.edu.



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Castleton's Pink House back in the late 1970s.

photo courtesy of Pam Rehlen

In contrast, our house was on a bright, barren corner lot. However, our spot has grown up—although never as lushly as around the Manchester place—and a number of years ago we planted two house-front-shading oaks.

When I was working behind the cash register at our Castleton Village Store, sometimes offended tourists traveling through town would stop to complain about a house at the end of Main Street which they felt had been painted an inappropriate color.

No one has come into the store to complain for a long time now, so I think the place has come to look less shockingly-unusual, and in my husband and my travels throughout New England we've seen other ancient, historically-respectable, pink buildings.

We've rented to a number of people over the years, and our most illustrious tenants were Keith and Emily Jennison. When Keith—much given to grand, histrionic statements—first moved in, he settled down in a front room, which he would soon turn into a ravishing little library-office, and announced, "I'm here to stay. The only way I'll ever leave is feet first."

The couple filled their downstairs apartment with books and antiques, photographs of famous writers effusively-inscribed to both of them, oriental rugs, and two cats.

Keith was a well-known author and retired editor, the originator of large print books. He taught a writing course at Castleton University. Rutland Herald news people drove out to talk with him about journalistic practices. A steady stream of the couple's admirers came to visit. (I was an admirer too, but I only had to walk across the street.)

Their home became a pilgrimage destination, and in the

end Keith got his great wish and was never forced to leave. Emily outlived him and moved to Rutland to be with her sister, but Keith—after many years and a final serious illness—finished his life in the Pink House.

Pamela Hayes Rehlen has written and lived most of her life in Castleton, Vermont. She is the author of stories, articles, essays, magazine features, and of two books: *The Blue Cat and the River's Song* (\$17 plus shipping and handling) and *The Vanished Landmarks Game—Castleton 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 book sellers. To reach the store, call (802) 468-2213.

All back issues of these columns are available to read under the archives at www.vermontcountrysampler.com.

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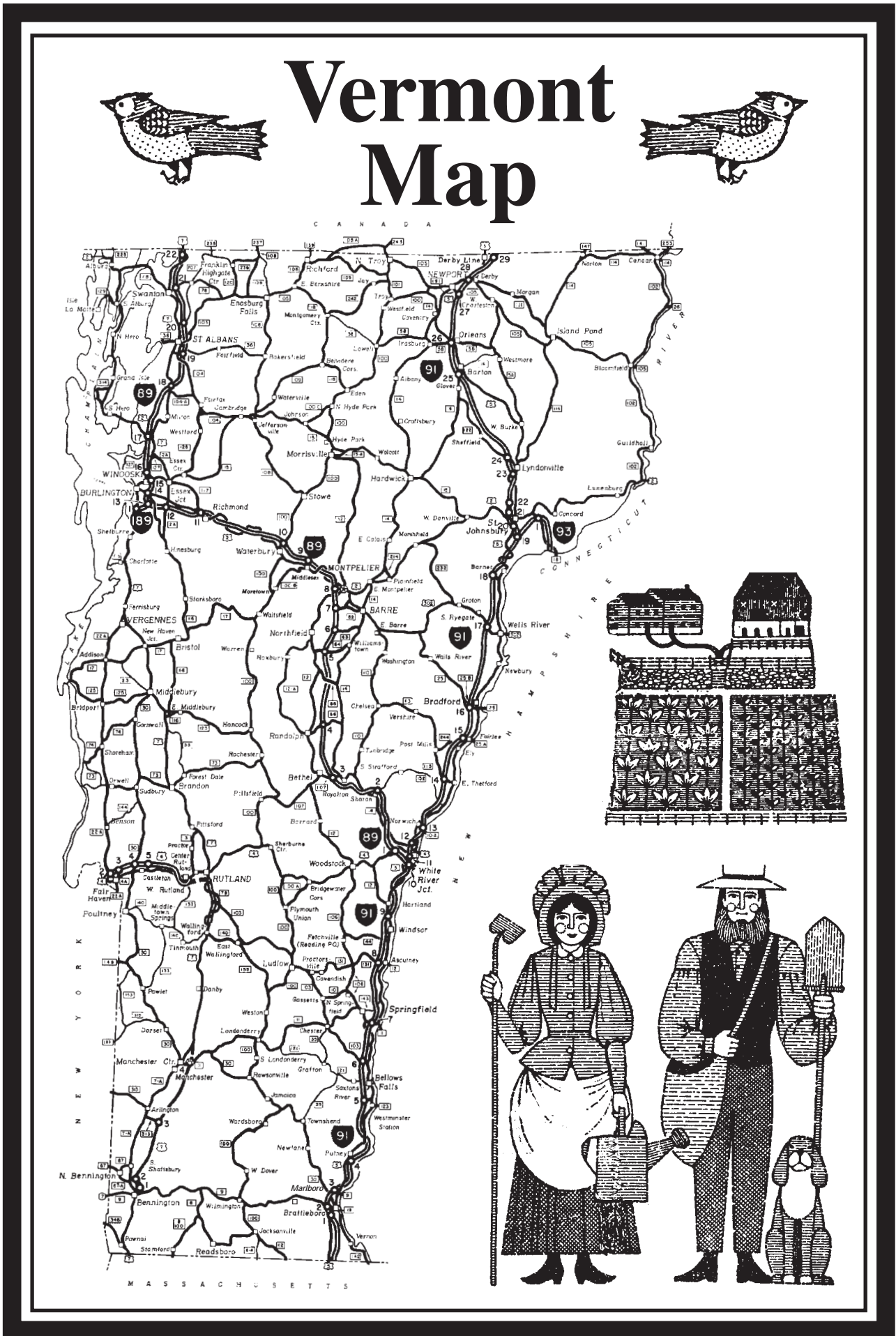


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Vermont Country Calendar

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

FRIDAY, MAY 25

TINMOUTH. Spring Concert Series: House Blend. Suggested donation: \$10-\$15. 7:30 pm, doors open at 7 pm. The Old Firehouse, Rt. 140 and Mountain View Rd. www.facebook.com/tinmoutholdfirehouseconcerts.

WINDSOR. TGIF at Old Constitution House! Join site administrator Bill Jenney for a special behind-the-scenes tour of one of Vermont's most important early buildings. 2-3 pm. Call (802) 672-3773 for reservations. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 North Main St. historicsites.vermont.gov. Last Friday of each month.

SATURDAY, MAY 26

ADDISON. New Exhibits: "Crossing Paths and Point of Contact", "New Exhibits on the Native American, French Colonial, English, and Early American History of the Chimney Point Area", and "A Brush with Nature: The Art of Lillian Kennedy". Admission: adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open Wednesday-Sunday and Monday holidays, 10 am - 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov. Open through October 14.

BENNINGTON. 34th Annual Mayfest Arts and Crafts Festival. 10 am - 5 pm. Downtown Bennington. (802) 442-5758. betterbennington.org.

CHITTENDEN. Kids Fishing Day. Open to the public. Teenies Pond. Sponsored by Teenies Tiny Poultry. Robert Bearor, (802) 773-2637. vtfishandwildlife.com.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Memorial Day Parade. At 10 am the parade begins on Rt. 2A at Five Corners ending at Champlain Valley Exposition fairgrounds. (802) 363-8401. essexmemorialdayparade.com.

FAIR HAVEN. Spring Fling 2018. Family activities, farmers markets, festivals, food/drink, crafters, flea market booths and yard sales all day. 9 am - 3 pm. On the Green. 802-265-8600. www.vtlakesregionchamber.org.

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site Opening Day. Adults \$3, children under 15 free. Open Wed-Sun & Mon holidays 10 am - 5 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov. Thru Oct. 14.

KILLINGTON. Killington Stage Race. Legendary northeast cycling event, a series of three races set against the cool, lush landscape of Vermont's Green Mountains. Killington, Route 4 east. killingtonstagerace.com. www.killington.com. Through May 28.

ORWELL. Opening Day at Mount Independence State Historic Site. Exhibits and activities. Children's discovery corner. Six miles of walking and hiking trails. Early Bird Nature Walk with Sue Wetmore, 8-10 am. Adults \$5, kids under 15 free. 10 am - 5 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicsites.vermont.gov. Open daily through October 14.

PLYMOUTH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site Opens for the Season. The birthplace and boyhood home of Calvin Coolidge, the 30th President of the United States. New exhibit: "Presidential Holiday: The Coolidge Summer Retreats, 1924-1928." Admission: adults \$10, children 6-14 years \$2, children under 6 years free, family pass (up to 8 people) \$25. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. www.historicsites.vermont.gov. May 26 through October 28.

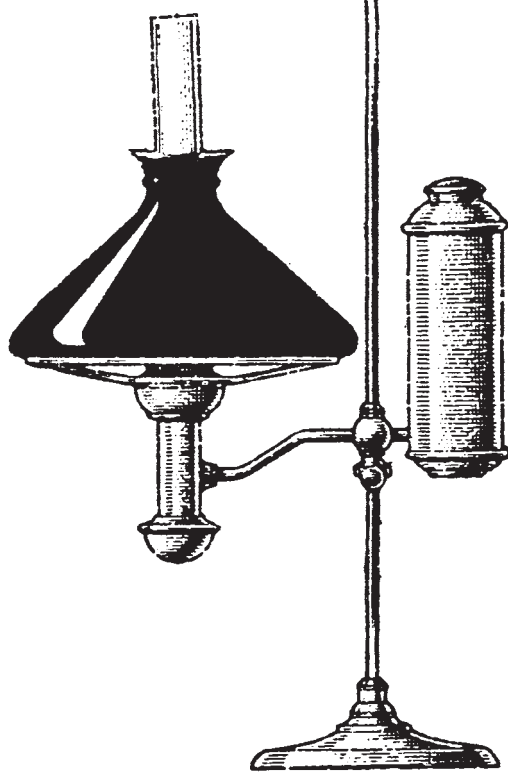
RUPERT. Full Strawberry Moon Walk. Staff-guided hike, moderate difficulty. Dress appropriately for the weather with sturdy footwear, headlamps, water and snacks. Reservations requested. Fee: \$5 per person. Time TBD. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. Located between Rupert and Dorset, at the top of the very large hill. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Farm fresh veggies, live music. EBT and debit cards. 9 am - 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 27.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Crafts Council Spring Open Studio Weekend. Visit artist studios and galleries statewide. 10 am - 5 pm. Visit website for details and map. www.vermontcrafts.com. Also May 27.

STRAFFORD. Justin Morrill State Historic Site. Tours of the Gothic Revival house. Self-guided tours of the formal Victorian gardens, interpretive exhibits, fairy village and walking trails. Admission: adults \$6, 14 and under free. Wed. thru Sun. 10 am - 5 pm. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Morrill Memorial Hwy. (802) 765-4484. Through October 14

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. (802) 785-2077. 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.friendsofwardsborolib.org.

WOODSTOCK. Sheep Shearing & Herding with Border Collies. Demonstration of hand shearing, hand-powered clippers, and electric shears. Border Collies herd sheep in the farm fields. Hands-on activities: carding wool, lamb handprints, and spinning demonstrations. Adults: \$16, over 62 \$14, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$3, under 3 free. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm and Museum, Route 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. Also May 27.

WOODSTOCK. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park Opens to the Public for the Season. Tours of historical buildings and grounds hourly from 10 am to 4 pm. Fee: adults age 16-61 \$8, seniors 62 and over \$4, children 15 and under free. Combination ticket with Billings Farm & Museum: adults 16-61 \$20, seniors 62 and over \$16. Reservations recommended for Mansion tours. Park in the Billings Farm & Museum parking lot. Begin your visit across the street at the Billings Farm & Museum Visitor Center, where park rangers are also stationed. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, 54 Elm St. (802) 457-3368 x 222. www.nps.gov/mabi. Through October 31.

SUNDAY, MAY 27

BRATTLEBORO. 2018 Memorial Day Dawn Dance. | Contra dancing with three bands and three callers from 8pm Sunday evening to 7am Monday morning, as well as English country dancing on Sunday afternoon from 2:30-5:30 pm. Contra dancing (8-11:30 pm); Couples dancing (11:30-11:50 pm) and Contra Dancing (12-3:30 am); Contra Dancing (3:30 am-7 am). 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.

CASTLETON. Barrel Race Sanctioned by the National Barrel Horse Association District #1. Come see the athletic horses race around the barrels! Spectators welcome. 2-4 pm. Hosted by Pond Hill Ranch, 1683 Pond Hill Rd. (802) 468-2449. www.pondhillranch.com. Also June 9.

CORINTH. Book and Plant Sale. 9 am - 1 pm. Blake Memorial Library. 676 Village Rd. (802) 439-5338.

GUILFORD. 10th Spring Organ Concert & Holiday Cookout. University of Vermont college organist and music professor David Neiveem performs solo and ensemble works on the c. 1897 Tracker Organ in the Barn. The program includes vocal and instrumental members of the Guilford Chamber Players. A festive holiday cookout follows on the deck and back lawn, with optional gathering space in the barn in case of inclement weather. Grilling options offered for vegetarians and carnivores alike, along with sides, salads, and sundae fixings. Tickets is \$15 for the concert, with a \$10 fee for optional meat. 3 pm. The Organ Barn, 158 Kopkind Rd., off Packer Corners Rd. www.fomag.org.

KILLINGTON. Killington Stage Race 2018. Legendary northeast cycling event in Vermont's Green Mountains. Killington, Rt. 4 east. killingtonstagerace.com. www.killington.com. Also May 28.

MANCHESTER. Barika Farm Concert. West African inspired funk band, Barika will be playing a Memorial Day concert. Satyrdagg is also performing. Tickets \$15, students/farmers \$10, kids free. Wood-fired pizza and beer/wine available for sale. Shows held in the barn in the event of rain. 5 pm. Earth Sky Time Community Farm, 1547 Main St. (802) 384-1400. earthskytime@gmail.com. www.earthskytime.com.



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Vermont Country Calendar

(Sunday, May 27, continued)

MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS. Middletown Springs Memorial Day Parade. The parade is at 3 pm starting at the Town Green. (802) 683-8106. mykidsandi@aol.com.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Crafts Council Spring Open Studio Weekend. Visit more than 226 artist studios and galleries statewide. 8 am – 5 pm. Pick up a map at any studio or tourist information centers on Vermont's interstate highways. Or get one at vermontcrafts.com.

WOODSTOCK. Sheep Shearing & Herding with Border Collies. Demonstration of hand shearing, hand-powered clippers, and electric shears. Border Collies herd sheep in the farm fields. Hands-on activities: carding wool, lamb handprints, and spinning demonstrations. Admission: adults: \$16, over 62 \$14, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$3, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm and Museum, Route 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. billingsfarm.org.

MONDAY, 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.

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. historicssites.vermont.gov.

KILLINGTON. Killington Stage Race 2018. Legendary northeast cycling event. Killington, Route 4 east. info@killingtonstagerace.com. killingtonstagerace.com. www.killington.com.

POULTNEY. Memorial Day Parade. The parade route starts in front of Stewart's and continues up Main Street beginning at 10 am. For more information go to www.poultneyvt.com.

TUNBRIDGE. Memorial Day. Library book and plant sale, bake sale and nonprofit fair on Parish House lawn 9 am – 1 pm. Memorial service at Town Hall at 11 am, followed by parade and ceremony. Fire Department host chicken barbecue (by reservation at (802) 889-3274 or (802) 889-5518). Ice cream, bounce house and dunk tank at the Tunbridge fairgrounds. Various locations along Rt. 110. (802) 889-3274. www.tunbridgevt.org.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

DUMMERSTON. Guided Tours of Rudyard Kipling's Vermont Estate & Rhododendron Display. See the main house, Naulakha, where Kipling wrote *The Jungle Books*, the Kipling Carriage House, the Barn Museum, and the 100-yard multi-colored rhododendron tunnel in full bloom. Tea on the back deck. Brown bag lunches are available. Fee: \$25. Call to reserve. 10 am, 12 noon, or 2 pm. 481 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. landmarktrustusa.org/events/tours.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 24.

THURSDAY, MAY 31

ENOSBURG FALLS. 62nd Annual Vermont Dairy Festival. Midway open 6-10 pm. Lincoln Park. (802) 933-4134. vermontdairyfestival.com. Through June 3.

RUTLAND. Author Appearance and Poetry Reading. Join April Ossmann and Cynthia Huntington for an evening of poetry. Free. 6:30 pm. Phoenix Books Rutland, 2 Center St. (802) 855-8078. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

SO. POMFRET. Play: Lanie Robertson's "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill" at the Grange Theatre. Presented by JAG Productions. Tickets \$35/\$32. 7:30 pm. ArtisTree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. www.artistreevt.org. Through June 3.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

BRATTLEBORO. 17th Annual Strolling of the Heifers. Main Street is shut down for a three-hour party with clowns, musicians, and street vendors. 5-8 pm. Main St. strollingoftheheifers.com. Through June 3.

BURLINGTON. 35th Annual Burlington Discover Jazz Festival. Artist interviews, films, workshops & 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. June 1-10.

BURLINGTON. Burlington Discover Jazz Festival Concert: Preservation Hall Jazz Band. Tickets \$15-\$52. 8 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org.

ENOSBURG FALLS. 62nd Annual Vermont Dairy Festival. Concessions open in the park at 4 pm. Concert with Chris and Erica at 6 pm. Texas Hold'em Tournament 6:30 pm. Midway open at 6 pm. Concert at 8 pm with Jimmy T. Thurston, VT's #1 Outlaw, free. Raffle drawing 9 pm. Lincoln Park. (802) 933-4134. vermontdairyfestival.com. Through June 3.

SO. POMFRET. Play: Lanie Robertson's "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill" at the Grange Theatre. Presented by JAG Productions. Tickets \$35/\$32. 7:30 pm. ArtisTree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. www.artistreevt.org. Through June 3.

ST. ALBANS. Exhibit Opening: Farming Franklin County. Our focus includes the legacy of maple, dairy, farmsteads, and supporting agricultural organizations and businesses in our region. Light refreshments served, reservations appreciated. 5:30-8 pm. Saint Albans Museum, 9 Church St. (802) 527-7933. stamuseum.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. 14th Annual White River Indie Festival. Screenings at Barrette Center for the arts, Briggs Opera House, and Main Street Museum. Call or visit website for screening schedule and tickets. (802) 281-3785. info@wrif.org. wrif.org. Through June 3.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

ARLINGTON. Annual Battenkill Duck Derby and Family Fair. Kiddie games, basket raffle, pony rides, bouncy house, food, entertainment, and much more. Grand prize of 1,000. Benefits Happy Days Childcare Program. Free Admission. 11 am – 2 pm. Arlington Recreation Area, Route 7A. (802) 447-3311. bennington.com.

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert: World Harps featuring Aine Minogue and Friends. Tickets \$15-\$45. 7:30 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. Tickets and information are available by calling (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org.

BRADFORD. Newmont Farm Open House. Lunch and ice cream, face painting for children. Live auction to benefit Vermont Dairy 4-H. Free. 11 am – 2 pm. Newmont Farm, 161 Mallary Rd. (802) 222-3953. wbgldstone@gmail.com.

BRANDON. Concert: Caroline Cotter. Singer-songwriter. 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.

BRATTLEBORO. 17th Annual Strolling of the Heifers. 10 am Parade with marching bands, clowns, outrageous floats and vintage tractors, and young farm kids walking their livestock. Parade ends up at the all-day Slow Living Expo: regional food producers, vendors and exhibitors of sustainable goods and services. Three major stages offering entertainment. Goat Olympics. Human Football pavilion. Free MOOver cow-themed buses from Main Street to both Expo sites. 9 am – 4 pm. Brattleboro Common and Brattleboro Retreat grounds. (802) 246-0982. strollingoftheheifers.com. Also June 3.

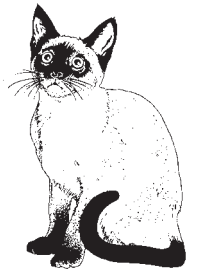
Blue Shapiro

Azulito,
With your oboe voice
you constantly talk to us.
Meow, meow, meow!
It's so funny!
We always talk back to you.
Meow, meow, meow!
We understand each other perfectly, don't we, love?
Whether it be in English or in Spanish,
it's the same for you.
How marvelous it is that you are bilingual!

With your beautiful blue sapphire eyes
surrounded by that black mask on your face,
and your taupe colored fur,
so soft when we stroke it,
you are the most beautiful Siamese cat ever!
You have one white paw.

What did you step in that made your paw white like that?

You are part of our family,
yes, truly a member now,
installed here with us.
We will take care of you,
don't ever worry, little love!
You know you're home now,
you'd never leave for any reason!



Your name was "Talker" in the shelter,
we well know why that is!
You always let us know that you're around!
You always want to be where we are,
you come right away whenever we call you.
You love us just as much as we love you!

Azulito, when the children come home from school
you're always there waiting for them right by the door,
after having spent the entire day sleeping.
Maybe your sleep is interrupted a bit and you go upstairs
to lap some water from your favorite water bowl.
Or perhaps you spend some time
looking out the window.
Your kitty adventures consist of watching birds
happily until Sofia and Gabriela come home.
Sofia picks you up,
and Gabriela always gives you a treat!
You are the happiest cat on earth!

—LAURA ELLZEY



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Saturdays 9 am to 2 pm, May 12th through October 27th
Wednesdays 3-6 pm, May 16th through October 24th

Fair Haven Farmers Market
North end of Green, Downtown Fair Haven, VT
Thursdays 3-6 pm, June 7th through October 25th

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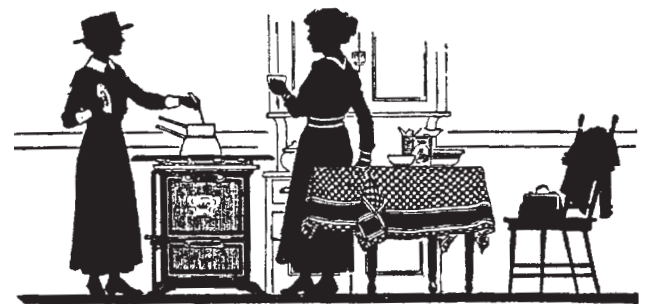
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Vermont Country Calendar



BURLINGTON. Burlington Discover Jazz Festival Concert: Chucho Valdes—Jazz Bata. Tickets \$15-\$52. 8 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org.

BURLINGTON. Burlington Discover Jazz Festival Concert: Camille Thurman & the Darrell Green Trio. Tickets \$30. 10 pm. FlynnSpace, Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org.

ENOSBURG FALLS. 62nd Annual Vermont Dairy Festival. Paul Bunyan Lumber Jack Show, free. 9 am concessions. Buddy the Clown at 10 am. Vermont's Longest Parade with the area's finest dairy displays at 10:30 am. Midway opens 12 pm. Abes Cabin, Buddy the Clown, Fire Dept Famous Chicken BBQ, farm stories, song, and entertainment all afternoon. Dark Horse, country music at 8 pm. Fireworks at 9:30 pm. Lincoln Park. (802) 933-4134. vermontdairyfestival.com. *Also June 3.*

GRAFTON. Kindred Spirits. Monthly Saturday program for ages 6-9. Hands-on activities both indoors and out, rain, snow, or shine! Admission by donation. 10-11:30 am; The museum will be open for exploration after Kindred Spirits until 4 pm. The Nature Museum, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. nature-museum.org.

HARTFORD. Greater Bargain Sale. Furniture, antiques, artwork, housewares, tool, garden items, linens, rugs, lamps, sporting equipment, canoes, office furnishings, small appliances, baby items, toys and games. 9 am - 1 pm. Greater Hartford United Church of Christ, 1721 Maple St. (Rt. 14). (802) 295-9635.

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.

ORWELL. National Trails Day Hike into History. Mark Brownell leads this guided hike into Revolutionary War history. 2-3:30 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicites.vermont.gov.

POULTNEY. Spring Townwide Yard Sale. Take a walk down Main Street and check out what people are selling. Over 80 vendors. Search the streets of Poultney for bargains both in the shops and on the sidewalks. 9 am - 4 pm. www.poultneyvt.com.

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

ROYALTON. Kids Fishing Day. Open to the public. Lake Casper. Sponsored by the Cascadanac Fish & Game Club. Dakota A. Stender, (802) 291-3156, (802) 291-3156. vtfishandwildlife.com.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. EBT and debit cards. 9 am - 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays through October 27.*

SHARON. Book, Plant and Pie Sale. Fundraiser for the Baxter Memorial Library. Donations of plants welcome. 9 am - 3 pm. Baxter Memorial Library, 5114 Rt. 14. (802) 763-2875.

SO. POMFRET. Play: Lanie Robertson's "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill" at the Grange Theatre. Presented by JAG Productions. Tickets \$35/\$32. 2 & 7:30 pm. ArtisTree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. www.artistreevt.org. *Also June 3.*

SO. WOODSTOCK. June Horse Trials. Just like in the Olympics, horses competing in a Horse Trials perform in three phases, each designed to test different aspects of athleticism: Dressage (obedience and finesse), Cross Country (speed, endurance and bravery), and Stadium Jumping (strength and precision). Free and open to the public. 8 am - 5 pm. Green Mountain Horse Association, 5491 South Rd. (352) 516-8466. www.gmhainc.org. *Also June 3.*

ST. JOHNSBURY. St. Johnsbury Seed and Weed Club Annual Plant Sale. Drop in for plants of all shapes and sizes. 9-11 am. On the lawn of the Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. fairbanksmuseum.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Official Opening of the Butterfly House. Come observe native butterfly species and silk worms. Watch as they sip nectar from nearby plants or sit quietly and see where they land! Open through Labor Day weekend. Free with museum admission. 9 am - 5 pm. Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. fairbanksmuseum.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Build a Bug Hut. Join museum staff and educators as we build an on-site bug habitat from recycled products plus all the furnishings only bugs would love. Learn about the benefits of bugs. Free with museum admission. Starting at 10 am. Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. www.fairbanksmuseum.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Seed and Weed Plant Sale. 8-11 am. Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. fairbanksmuseum.org.

SWANTON. Kids Fishing Clinic. Educational and informational venues will be operating near the Macs Bend Building while the fishing is on-going—fly casting, fly tying, spincasting, watershed models and demonstrations, Fish ID aquarium, lure making, and aquatic invasive species display. Light lunch provided and random drawing prizes will be given away at end of event. Register at (802) 868-4781. 8 am - 1 pm. Rain or shine. At Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, along Macs Bend Rd., from Louie's Landing Parking lot to Macs Bend boat launch site. (802) 868-4781. fws.gov/northeast/missisquoi.

WALLINGFORD. Kids Fishing Day. Open to the public. Glendenning Pond. Sponsored Wallingford Rotary. Gary Jaquith, (802) 558-4287, (802) 446-2404. vtfishandwildlife.com.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. 14th Annual White River Indie Festival. Screenings at Barrette Center for the arts, Briggs Opera House, and Main Street Museum. Call or visit website for screening schedule and tickets. (802) 281-3785. info@wrif.org. wrif.org. *Also June 3.*

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum Dairy Days. June is Dairy Month. Learn about the milk producers and products made from their milk. Demonstrations and programs with three dairy animals: cows, sheep, and goats. Adults: \$16, over 62 \$14, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$3. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm and Museum, Route 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. *Also June 9 & 23.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

BRATTLEBORO. 17th Annual Strolling of the Heifers. Famous Farmers Breakfast at the Marina Restaurant, off Putney Road at the West River. Tour de Heifer dirt road cycling tours: 15, 30 and 60-mile options, plus a three-mile hiking option. Farm tour: five farms will be offering guided tours. strollingoftheheifers.com.

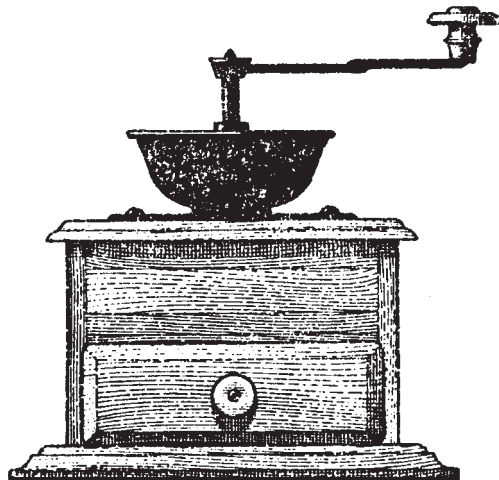
BURLINGTON. Burlington Discover Jazz Festival Concert: Christian Scott aTunde Adju. Two-time Edison Award-winning and Grammy-nominated musician. Tickets \$40. 6 & 8:30 pm. FlynnSpace, Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org.

CHITTENDEN. 37th 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, Teenie Tiny Rd. (802) 773-2637. teenie.bearor@gmail.com.

DUMMERSTON. Stroll Weekend Farm Tour. Orchardist Zeke Goodband will guide visitors through Scott Farm's heirloom orchard, home to more than 125 varieties of heirloom apples and other fine fruits. Free; registration required, at strollingoftheheifers.com. 9:30 am or 1 pm. Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. scottfarmvermont.com.

ENOSBURG FALLS. 62nd Annual Vermont Dairy Festival. All day Paul Bunyan Lumber Jack Show, free. Pancake breakfast at 7 am - 12 noon. 39th Annual Milk Run at 9 am. Church Service under the white tent at 10 am. Horse pull at 10:30 am. 50/50 raffle. Buddy the Clown. Johnny Cash Tribute Show at 11 am. At 12 pm concessions open, car show, Abes Cabin, midway open. 1 pm concert with Keeghan Nolan Nashville Recording Artist. Pedal Pull at 2 pm. Youth Milking Contest at 2 pm. Green Mountain Barbership Quartet at 2:30 pm. Drawings and cow plop contest at 4 pm. Lincoln Park. (802) 933-4134. vermontdairyfestival.com. *Through June 3.*

PLYMOUTH. Grace Coolidge Musicale #1. The first of four recitals in honor of one of America's most popular first ladies. Violinist Bozena O'Brien and pianist Abigail Charbeneau open the season with Beethoven's Violin Sonata No. 5 in F major, known as the "Spring Sonata" because of its light and cheerful character. Donation is suggested. 4 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicites.vermont.gov. *Open through October 21.*



Wild Strawberry Jam (Using Honey)

4 cups strawberry pulp (approx. 2 quarts)
6½ cups honey
¼ cup lemon juice

1 package pectin
¼ teaspoon margarine,
butter, or cooking oil

1. Wash, stem, and crush strawberries thoroughly until reduced to pulp.
2. Measure honey in bowl and set aside.
3. Measure fruit pulp into 6 or 8-quart saucepan or kettle. If a little short of fruit, add water. Add lemon juice.
4. Add the package of pectin to fruit in kettle. Stir thoroughly to dissolve, scraping sides of pan to make sure all the pectin dissolves. (This takes a few minutes.) Place mixture over high heat. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly to prevent scorching.
5. Add the premeasured honey. Mix well. Bring to full rolling boil (a boil that can't be stirred down). Add the ¼ teaspoon of margarine, butter, or cooking oil and continue stirring. Boil hard until the temperature reaches 221° on a candy or deep-fat thermometer.
6. Remove mixture from heat. Skim foam and pour into glasses. Securely tighten two-piece metal lids and submerge glasses in boiling-water bath for 5 minutes.

Yield: ten 8-ounce jars





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Vermont Country Calendar

(Sunday, June 3, continued)

SO. POMFRET. Play: Lanie Robertson's "Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill" at the Grange Theatre. Tickets \$35/\$32. 4 pm. ArtisTree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. www.artistreevt.org.

SO. WOODSTOCK. June Horse Trials. Just like in the Olympics, horses competing in a Horse Trials perform in 3 phases, each designed to test different aspects of athleticism: Dressage (obedience and finesse), Cross Country (speed, endurance and bravery), and Stadium Jumping (strength and precision). Free and open to the public. 8 am – 5 pm. Green Mountain Horse Association, 5491 South Rd. (352) 516-8466. www.gmhainc.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. 14th Annual White River Indie Festival. Screenings at Barrette Center for the Arts, Briggs Opera House. (802) 281-3785. wrif.org.

MONDAY, JUNE 4

PITTSFORD. Create-A-Comic Workshop. Learn how to craft your own comic, using our supplies and your imagination. We will laminate and send you home with your comic book. For children grades K-6. Free. 3-6 pm. Maclure Library, 840 Arch St. (802) 483-2972. contact@maclurelibrary.org. maclurelibrary.org.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

SO. BURLINGTON. Nature Photography with Peter Riley. Learn how to position yourself outdoors to increase your chances of creating an image that goes beyond snapshots. Fee: \$10. 6-8 pm. UVM Horticulture Center, 65 Green Mountain Dr. friendsofthehortfarm.org.

ST. ALBANS. Third Annual Kids Night at the Museum. Bounce house, games and activities, scavenger hunt, coloring contest. Great prizes. Dinner (pizza and fruit), water or milk. Guided tours of the museum. Tickets: adults \$5, children free. 5-8 pm. Saint Albans Museum, 9 Church St. (802) 527-7933. stamuseum.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

RUTLAND. Book Launch Event. Celebrate the launch of Yvonne Daley's book, *Going Up the Country: When the Hippies, Dreamers, Freaks, and Radicals Moved to Vermont*. Free. 6:30 pm. Vermont Farmers Food Center, 251 West St. (802) 855-8078. phoenixbooks.biz.

RUTLAND. Live at the Chaffee Art Center Music Series. Concert by Hungrytown. \$7. 7 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St. (802) 775-0356. chaffeeartcenter.org.

WINDSOR. Peony Week—Early Bloomers! Over 100 peonies. Light refreshments, daily specials. Q&A at 10:30 am. 10 am – 5 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. ciderhillgardens.com. *Through June 9.*

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

BELLOWS FALLS. 19th Annual Roots on the River Music Festival. Performances in The Big Tent at Rodeway Inn on Rt. 5 starting at 4 pm. Local food and beverage vendors onsite. Kids 9 and under free with adult; youth 10-16 \$10 at the gate. Day, Weekend and Deluxe tickets \$35 to \$145 at www.rootsontheriver.com. *Through June 10.*

BURLINGTON. Concert: Leslie Odom Jr.. Odom recently completed his run on Broadway as Aaron Burr in the hit musical, *Hamilton*. Tickets: \$25-\$70. 8 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (888) 974-3698. flynnntix.org.

RUTLAND. Friends of the Rutland Free Library June Book Sale. Thousands of organized, new and gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for all ages. June's highlight: summer sports books and vacation. June specials: all mysteries, buy one get one free; \$.50 romance novels 5/\$1. Most items \$.25-\$3. 10 am – 4 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. friends@rutlandfree.org. www.rutlandfree.org. *Also June 9.*

STOWE. Concert: An Intimate Evening with Séan McCann of Great Big Sea. Séan now tours as a solo artist. Tickets: \$20. 7 pm. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, 122 Hourglass Dr. (802) 760-4634. sprucepeakarts.org.

WINDSOR. Peony Week—Early Bloomers! See over 100 peonies. Light refreshments, daily specials. Daily Q&A at 10:30 am. 10 am – 5 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. ciderhillgardens.com. *Also June 9.*

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

BELLOWS FALLS. 19th Annual Roots on the River Music Festival. In The Big Tent at Rodeway Inn on Rt. 5 from noon till closing. Local food and beverage vendors onsite. Kids 9 and under free with an adult; youth 10-16 \$10 at the gate. Day, Weekend and Deluxe tickets \$35 to \$145 in advance at www.rootsontheriver.com. *Also June 10.*

BRATTLEBORO. Circus Performances: Out on a Limb. Tickets: VIP \$25, adults \$15, youth \$10. 3:30 pm and 7:30 pm. New England Center for Circus Arts, 10 Town Crier Dr. (802) 254-9780. necenterforcircusarts.org. *Also June 10.*

BURLINGTON. Concert: Anat Cohen & Choro Aventuroso, presented by Burlington Discover Jazz Festival. Tickets: \$40. 7 & 9:30 pm. FlynnSpace, Flynn Center, 153 Main St. (888) 974-3698. flynnntix.org.

EAST FAIRFIELD. Evenings with Vermont Treasures 2018 Season Concert: Bob Amos & Catamount Crossing. Refreshments for sale at intermission. Suggested donation: \$10. 7 pm, doors open at 6 pm. The Meeting House on the Green, 53 School St. (802) 827-6626. meetinghouseonthegreen.org.

GRAFTON. Slow Birding Walk. Bird Diva Bridget Butler will take us on a "slow birding" adventure through the forests and fields of a private property in Grafton. Dress for the weather; bring a notebook, water, and a comfortable, portable chair or pad to sit on. Pre-registration \$20. 7:30 am. The Nature Museum, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. nature-museum.org.

GRAND ISLE. Family Fishing Festival. Basic fishing instruction and the chance for kids to catch big trout in a hatchery pond. No prior fishing experience needed; fishing rods, reels and bait available for use. New educational exhibits and aquariums. Free. 9 am – 3 pm. Ed Weed Fish Culture Station, 14 Bell Hill Rd. vtfishandwildlife.com. vtstateparks.com/fishing.html.

HAVERHILL, NH. Concert: Iris DeMent. Singer-songwriter Iris DeMent performs music on topics ranging from religion to politics. Tickets: \$28-\$30. 7:30-9:30 pm; the cafe opens for dinner at 6 pm. Court Street Arts, 75 Court St. (603) 989-5500. irisdement.com.

HUNTINGTON. Bobcat Carving Workshop: Carve and paint a small Bobcat with David Tuttle of the Green Mountain Woodcarvers. Wood blank, eyes, paint, snacks, and coffee provided. All levels welcome. Bring your own tools and gloves if you have them; if you don't, let us know. Bring your lunch. Fee: \$40. 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. birdsofvermont.org.

MONTPELIER. Summit School Mini-Fest & Fundraising Event with Cajun band Chaque Fois. Concerts, square dancing, Cajun dancing, and desserts, with music by local favorites Sarah Blair, Tom McKenzie, Colin McCaffrey, Kick 'Em Jenny, and Chaque Fois. Admission: \$20. Doors open at 4 pm, Chaque Fois plays 7-10 pm. Unitarian Church of Montpelier, 130 Main St. (802) 485-9242. yazbozz@gmail.com. summitschool.wixsite.com/ChaqueFoisMusic.

NORWICH. Contradance. With Music by Red Dog Riley. Caller: Don Stratton. Potluck snacks at break, please bring something to share. Beginners & singles welcome. All dances taught. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. Admission \$10, students \$6, seniors donate, under 16 free. 8 pm. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 765-4662. www.davidmillstonedance.com.

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Depot Park, Rutland, VT
(Next to Walmart)

Every Saturday, 9 am – 2 pm

— May 12th through October 27th —

Every Wednesday, 3-6 pm

— May 16th through October 24th —

Fair Haven Market: Thursdays, 3-6 pm

— June 7th through October 25th —

vtfarmersmarket.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.

Victorian Inn/Main House: Seven guest rooms, each with individual baths.
Connected barn: presently the Bear Shop.
Six-vehicle parking lot. Lot size .6 acre, 26,136 sq. ft.
Landscaping: mature black walnut trees and heirloom pinksters, raspberries, garden, lawn.
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 \$470,000. Inn as a turnkey operation is negotiable. Value of Teddy Bear Shop is negotiable



Yes! We are for Sale.

Still open for business as usual, BUT looking for new owners to continue the incredible legacy of the Hugging Bear Inn & Shoppe OR move into this beautiful Victorian home as a private residence.

Hugging Bear Inn • 244 Main St.,
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Vermont Country Calendar



RANDOLPH. An Evening with Dar Williams. Dar has been called "one of America's very best singer-songwriters." Tickets: \$28-\$38. 7:30 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. June Friends of the Rutland Free Library Book Sale. June's highlight: summer sports books and vacation. June specials: all mysteries, buy one get one free; all \$.50 romance novels 5 for \$1.00. Most items \$.25-\$3. 10 am - 2 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. friends@rutlandfree.org. www.rutlandfree.org.

SO. BURLINGTON. Rhododendron Workday. Master Gardener Beth Gutwin provides guidance in our rhododendron and azalea collection. Free. 9 am - 12 noon. UVM Horticulture Center, 65 Green Mountain Dr. friendsofthehortfarm.org. Also June 16 & July 21.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Days. Enjoy a free sample of Vermont's fishing, state parks, cultural and historic resources. Free day use at all Vermont State parks. Free entry at State Historic Parks. Free admission to Vermont History Museum on Saturday. Free fishing day on Saturday. 8 am - 6 pm. (802) 241-4680. cassandra.gauvin@state.vt.us. vermontvacation.com/vermont-days. Through June 10.

STATEWIDE. Vermont's Summer Free Fishing Day. Also opening day of the state's regular bass fishing season. To learn more about fishing in Vermont or to purchase a fishing license, visit vtfishandwildlife.com.

WINDSOR. Peony Week—Early Bloomers! See over 100 peonies. Light refreshments and daily specials. Daily Q&A session at 10:30 am. Daily 10 am - 5 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.ciderhillgardens.com.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum Dairy Days. Learn more about the milk producers and products made from their milk. Demonstrations and programs with three dairy animals: cows, sheep, and goats. Adults: \$16, over 62 \$14, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$3. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm and Museum, Route 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. Also June 23.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

ADDISON. New Exhibit Celebration. For two new permanent exhibits: "Crossing Paths" and "Point of Contact". Meet Vermont State Archaeologist Jess Robinson and bring your artifacts for identification. Light refreshments. 1-4 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov. Exhibits run through October 14.

BELLOWS FALLS. 19th Annual Roots on the River Music Festival. Mary Gauthier will be performing at 11 am at the Rockingham Meeting House. The Festival winds up at 1:15 pm with The Gospel Hour with Alice Howe, Vance Gilbert, & The End of America. Kids 9 and under are free with an adult; youth 10-16 are \$10 at the gate. Adult tickets are \$35 to \$145 in advance at www.rootsontheriver.com.

BRATTLEBORO. Circus Performances: Out on a Limb. Tickets: VIP \$25, adults \$15, youth \$10. 1 pm. New England Center for Circus Arts, 10 Town Crier Dr. (802) 254-9780. info@necenterforcircusarts.org. necenterforcircusarts.org.

BURLINGTON. Concert: Rhiannon Giddens, presented by Burlington Discover Jazz Festival. Also performing: Amythyst Kiah. Tickets: \$15-\$52. 8 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (888) 974-3698. flynnntix.org.

HUBBARDTON. From Revolution to the Bill of Rights. Historian and site interpreter Paul Andriscin traces the road from the American Revolution to the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. Questions and moderated discussion to follow. 2-3 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton.

SO. POMFRET. Concert for a Cause: Jeremiah & Annemieke McLane. Husband-and-wife duo performs classical works by European and South American composers who drew inspiration from folk melodies. Donations to benefit The Family Place. 4 pm. ArtisTree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. artistreevt.org.

STRAFFORD. Open House & Homecoming for Land Grant College Graduates, at the home of Senator Justin Morrill, author of the Land Grant College Acts. The Senator (in the person of David McWilliams) will mingle and share refreshments with visitors. 2-4 pm. Senator Justin Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Justin Morrill Hwy. (802) 765-4484.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

BURLINGTON. Concert: John Prine with Valerie June. Prine has just released a highly-anticipated album, *The Tree of Forgiveness*, his first collection of new material since 2005. Tickets: \$71.50-\$113.50. 8 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (888) 974-3698. flynnntix.org.

WESTON. Musical: *Anne Of Green Gables*. The beloved novel set to music by Broadway's Cryer and Ford. Tickets: adults \$20, children \$10. 4 pm Tuesday-Sunday, and Saturday June 16 at 1 pm. Second Stage at Walker Farm, 705 Main St. (802) 824-5288. Through June 30.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

GRAFTON. Moths: Our Nighttime Jewels. Workshop with JoAnne Russo and The Nature Museum. Let's look for moths! Vermont Entomological Society member JoAnne Russo presents a talk accompanied by rich macro photographs of beautiful Vermont moths. followed by a flashlight field session, exploring the area and looking for caterpillars and moths. Suggested donation of \$7 in advance or \$10 at the door. Pre-registration \$20. 7:30 pm at the Grafton Trails and Outdoor Center, 783 Townshend Rd, Grafton, VT. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. nature-museum.org.

HUNTINGTON. Presentation: Jewels of Ecuador. Refreshments. Suggested donation: \$10. 6:30-8 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. birdsofvermont.org.

NO. BENNINGTON. Croquet league. Teams of three compete on a six-wicket course under "French" rules. Pot luck and cash bar at 6, socializing and then the games begin at 6:30. No dress code, but many choose to dress all in white. 6-8 pm. Historic Park-McCullough, 1 Park St. (802) 442-5441. info@parkmccullough.org. parkmccullough.org. Every Thursday through August.

RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY



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Basin Bluegrass Festival

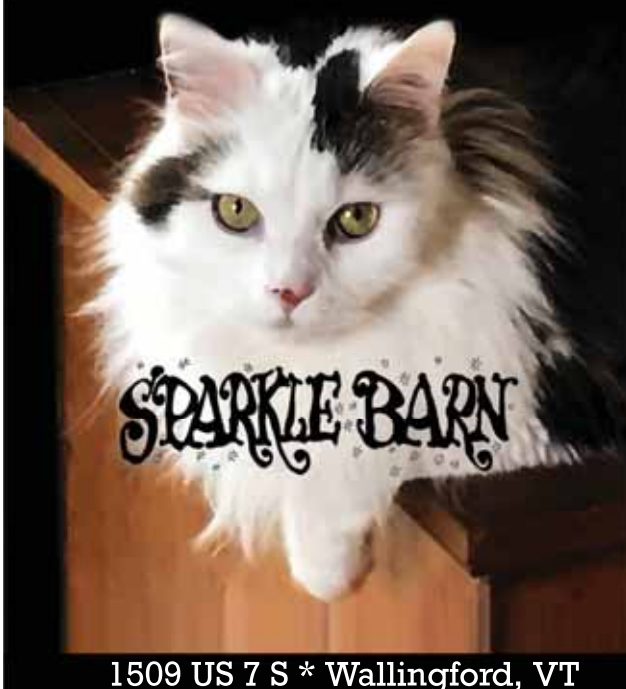


Brandon, Vermont
July 12, 13, 14 & 15, 2018
12 Bands

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\$50 per person till June 25, \$60 per person at the gate.
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Getting Started: First, check with your physician to be sure you are ready for a moderate, supervised, individualized exercise program. Then, call 775-9916 to set up your first visit. Wear comfortable clothing appropriate for physical activity to your first session.



VERMONT
SPORT & FITNESS CLUB

40 Curtis Ave, Rutland, VT T: (802) 775-9916
Dan Doenges E: dan@vsandf.com vsandf.com

Vermont Country Calendar

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

QUECHEE. 39th Annual Quechee Hot Air Balloon Craft and Music Festival. 20 balloons with five flights, tethered rides during the day. Live music and entertainment, comedy acts, demos, skydivers. 100 craft artisans and vendors. Admission: adults (13+) \$15, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free. Friday gates open 3 pm, balloon ascension 6 pm. Saturday & Sunday gates open 5:30 am, balloon ascensions 6 am & 6 pm. Quechee Festival Grounds, 70 Village Green Circle. (802) 295-7900. quecheeballoonfestival.com. *Through June 17.*

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Concert: "Violin Romance." Music for violin and piano, including Beethoven's Kreutzer Sonata, Brahms' A Major Sonata and short works by Kreisler. Tickets: \$18-\$20, children free. 7:30-10 pm. Briggs Opera House, 58 N. Main St. (603) 643-3337. marcia.colligan@dartmouth.edu.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

BELVIDERE. 35th Annual Rattling Brook Bluegrass Festival. The Vermont Bluegrass Pioneers will join a host of fine regional bands for the annual bluegrass frolic in the hills. 11 am - 8 pm. Belvidere Stage, Route 109.

BRISTOL. Ninth Annual Pocock Rocks Music Festival & Street Fair. Live musical performances from six regional bands. Over 30 vendors from microbrews, hard ciders, and spirits, to specialty foods, gifts, and crafts. Bouncy House, Vermont National Guard activities. Free. 3-8 pm. 1 Main St. (802) 760-6076. discoverbristolvt.com.

COLCHESTER. Sam Mazza's 22nd Annual Strawberry Festival. Fresh-picked strawberry shortcake with whipped cream. Strawberry milkshakes, strawberry fudge, strawberry jam & chocolate-dipped strawberries. Pony rides, kids games, petting zoo, face painting & Vermont specialty food samples. 11 am - 4 pm. Sam Mazza's, 277 Lavigne Rd. (802) 655-3440. www.sammazzafarms.com.

EAST POULTNEY. Summer Service. Old-time hymn singing with prayers and readings from the scripture. Dr. James Cassarino on the fine old organ. Light refreshments and fellowship after the service. 4 pm. St. John's Episcopal Church, Route 140. (518) 499-1850.

HARDWICK. Wild Edible Plants. So many plants growing in the fields and woods are perfectly edible, and tasty too, and some of the best are garden weeds. We'll taste some, and talk about identification and cooking. Free. Perennial Pleasures Nursery, 63 Brockhouse Rd. (802) 472-5104. perennialpleasures.net.

HUBBARDTON. Solar and Lunar Astronomy Night. Explore the sun before it sets, and the moon. The Green Mountain astronomers share their knowledge and telescopes, including the largest commercially made telescope dedicated to solar astronomy in Vermont. Bring a flashlight and blanket. Call to confirm. Admission by donation. 7:30-11 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282.

NO. CLARENDON. Annual Strawberry Festival. Menu: ham, coleslaw, potato salad, deviled eggs, baked beans, beverages, strawberry shortcake or strawberries & ice cream. Adults \$10, children (5-12) \$5, 4 & under free. Dessert only, \$5. 4-7 pm. The Brick Church (Clarendon Congregational Church), 298 Middle Rd. (802) 773-3873. www.brickchurchvt.com.

RUPERT. Summer Children's Workshop: Pond Exploration for Kids. Your youngsters will learn about pond residents and pond ecology. They will need clothing and footwear that can get wet and muddy (and perhaps a change of clothes). Children must be accompanied by an adult companion. Fee: \$5 per child. Time TBD. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

SO. BURLINGTON. Rhododendron Workday. Master Gardener Beth Gutwin provides guidance in caring for our rhododendron and azalea collection. Free. 9 am - 12 noon. UVM Horticulture Center, 65 Green Mountain Dr. friendsofthehortfarm.org. *Also July 21.*

ST. JOHNSBURY. Feast with the Beasts. Celebrating the 190th birthday of our founder, Franklin Fairbanks. Enjoy the flavors of our region and mingle among our exquisite galleries, including the pieces that originally inspired the Museum's creation. Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium, 1302 Main St. (802) 748-2372. fairbanksmuseum.org.

WOODSTOCK. 8th Annual Cheese & Dairy Celebration. Meet New England cheesemakers, sample their artisan cheeses and dairy products, and take part in dairy education programs. Enjoy hand-cranking ice cream and making dairy headbands and moo masks. Adults \$16, 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. *Also June 17.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

BRATTLEBORO. Southern Vermont CBD Hemp Farmers Market. Vermont cannabis, CBD, and hemp products. Meet their producers. Attendance is free. Other farmer and vendors may apply. 10 am - 2 pm. Robert H. Gibson River Garden, 157 Main St. headyvermont.com.

HARDWICK. Father's Day Tea. Croquet will be set up on the lawn. Complimentary boutonnieres or flowers for dads. Reservations recommended. 11:30 am - 4 pm. Perennial Pleasures Nursery, 63 Brockhouse Rd. (802) 472-5104. perennialpleasures.net.

WINDSOR. Garden Conservancy Open Days Garden Tours. Tickets \$7. 10 am - 4 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery. 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.ciderhillgardens.com.

WOODSTOCK. 8th Annual Cheese & Dairy Celebration. Meet New England cheesemakers, sample their delicious artisan cheeses and dairy products, and take part in engaging dairy education programs. Enjoy hand-cranking ice cream and making dairy headbands and moo masks. An "historic" base ball game will be played in the Billings' fields in the early afternoon. Join in or cheer on the teams! Admission: adults \$16, 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.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

BURLINGTON. Performance: David Cross in "Oh Come On." An inventive performer, writer, and producer on stage and screens both big and small. Tickets: \$40.75. 8 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (888) 974-3698. flynnitix.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

ESSEX JUNCTION. 42nd 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. 7-9:30 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 872-0034. vqf.org. *Through June 24.*

SHELBURNE. Program: Farm to Medicine Cabinet Plant Walk with Emma Merritt. This "weed walk" will introduce you to medicinal plants commonly found on Vermont's working lands, the local food movement, and nature-based, local medicine. Fee: \$15. 10-11:30 am. Farm Barn, Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. tmccarney@shelburnefarms.org. shelburnefarms.org.

TUNBRIDGE. 18th Annual Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Bluegrass Green Mountain style. Over 21 groups performing on four stages including the Gibson Brothers, Seldom Scene, the U.S. Navy band—Current Country, Seth Sawyer Band, and many more. Barn dance, potluck, kids activities, Bluegrass University, Tickets \$5-\$130. Camping. available. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, 1 Fairground Rd. off Rt. 110. (802) 518-2126. jennybrookbluegrass.com. candacesawyer@comcast.net. *Also June 22, 23 & 24.*

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Way Back Then

Canoeing the Allagash in Northern Maine

by Charles Sutton

Back in the seventies I was fortunate to take a week-long canoe trip down the East Branch of the Penobscot River in northern Maine, sponsored by the Allagash Canoe Club. The trip, a summer escape from my job as the news editor at the Bridgeport Post, covered a total of 72 miles from the Telos Lake landing to the confluences of the East and West Branches in the village of Medway.

Initially we would be making our way down the 26-mile Grand Lake Matagamon whose Indian name means "the old exhausted lake", because hawks had depleted ducks and partridges from the area which Indians had counted on for food.

"Exhausted" also became a good word for us canoeists as its windy rough waters required endurance and strength to maneuver.

Our route included some white-water canoeing, several portages, and many stretches of smooth lake or river waters—we were in wilderness most of the time. It was very peaceful and quiet with spectacular views of surrounding woods and mountains. We had our own pup tents and got up each morning around 6:30 a.m. Those who wanted to did some yoga exercises. Breakfast was cereal, fruit and coffee; sandwiches for lunch (on the way) and usually something cooked over a fire for dinner.

Every other day or so the guide, Edouard Gauthier, a French Canadian now from East Nassau, NY, would disappear for a couple of hours and come back with provisions. He knew where there was a store or farm that sold produce somewhere off our trail. This being a time to commune with the natural world, none of us smoked and there was little alcohol. The guide started the trip with a couple of gallon jugs of red wine (for everyone) which only slowly disappeared. There were 12 of us who had signed up for the trip, all

but two (a young couple), were strangers mostly from New England, but also Alaska, Canada, New York and Virginia. The guide Edouard canoed alone with most of our food and supplies. The rest of us would pair off, exchanging partners each day so as to socialize and get to know each other.

After only a day or two the pairings remained fixed. It was my good fortune that my companion would be an interesting woman, Joanne, from Fairbanks, Alaska. I was divorced, lonely, and still hoping for something permanent, so what time we did have together was special to me.

On the day of the Lake Matagamon run, Joanne and I used all our strength to control the canoe in its choppy waters to keep moving and not be blown off course. Despite the extra attention needed to paddle we talked non-stop, exchanging our life stories.

She told me she grew up in the Northwest and attended the University of Washington before going off to Alaska where she talked herself into a job on the Alaskan pipeline as a welder-pipe fitter. There were only two other women working with her among hundreds of men.

I asked her how she handled those odds and protected herself. "I made it known that I was just one of 'the guys' and expected to be treated as such," she recalled. She wore men's work clothes and did nothing feminine like wearing makeup. A small group of guys looked after her as if she were their own sister, daughter or other close family member. That helped her avoid being hit on or put in a compromising position. After a year there she left and went to India where she got a job as a carpenter in an ashram.

This was in the mid-1970s—the post Vietnam war era when hippies, back-to-the-earthers, and other free spirits were on the move, not only in the United States, but also visiting foreign countries, including joining the Peace Corps.

When our trip came to an end I had hoped Joanne and I might go into the future together, but this was not to be. She, being restless, still had horizons to explore. There were farewell hugs and she was off, a poignant end to my summer vacation.

"There were farewell hugs and she was off, a poignant end to my summer vacation."

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Vermont Country Calendar

MANCHESTER. Summer Solstice Celebration with Betsayda Machado and Paranda el Clavo. Spend the longest day of the year dancing on the farm with 12-piece Venezuelan Afro-soul ensemble. Tickets \$15, students/farmers \$10, kids free. Wood-fired pizza and beer/wine available for sale. 6 pm. Earth Sky Time Community Farm, 1547 Main St. (802) 384-1400. earthskytime@gmail.com. www.earthskytime.com.

WESTON. Play: Our Town. A fresh look at Thornton Wilder's timeless classic. Tickets: \$49-\$60. Tuesday-Saturday Evenings at 7:30 pm, Wednesday & Saturday Matinees at 2 pm, Sunday Matinee at 3 pm. Main Stage at Weston Playhouse, 12 Park St. (802) 824-5288. *Through July 7.*

WINDSOR. Peony Week—Mid and Late Bloomers! Stroll our grounds for inspiration to see peonies growing along paths & stone walls as they compete for your attention. Light refreshments and daily specials. Daily Q&A session at 10:30 am. Daily 10 am - 5 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.ciderhillgardens.com. *Through June 24.*

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

BELLOWS FALLS. Workshop: World of Owls—What's All the Hoot About? Discover how they hunt and which owls call New England home. Hear a story, see and touch real owl biofacts, and make a fun owl-themed craft. Recommended for children ages 4 and up. Sponsored by the Nature Museum at Grafton. Free. 10-11 am. Bellows Falls Visitor Center and Fish Ladder, 17 Bridge St. (802) 843-2111. nature-museum.org. *Also June 23.*

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert: Creative Cello featuring Eugene Friesen and special guest Jacob Szekely. Tickets \$15-\$45. 7:30 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. Tickets and information available by calling (802) 460-0110. Visit www.stonechurcharts.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. 42nd Annual Vermont Quilt Festival. New England's oldest and largest. Admission. 9 am - 5 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 872-0034. info@vqf.org. vqf.org. *Through June 24.*

LYNDONVILLE. NEMBA Fest (New England Mountain Bikers Association). Three days of riding, camping, demos, gadgets and gear, great music, local food & drink. Kingdom Trails, 2059 Darling Hill Rd. nembafest.com. *Through June 24.*

NORWICH. Contradance. Potluck snacks at break, please bring something to share. Beginners & singles welcome. All dances taught. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. Admission \$10, students \$6, seniors donate, under 16 free. 8 pm. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 765-4662. www.davidmillstonedance.com.

ROCHESTER. Rochester Chamber Music Society Concert: Choong-Jin Chang, viola, Cynthia Huard, piano. Music of Schumann, Hindemith, Brahms, Mozart, Bartók, and Beethoven. Freewill donations gratefully accepted. 7 pm. Rochester Federated Church, 15 N. Main St. (802) 767-9234. www.remsvt.org.

TUNBRIDGE. 18th Annual Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Bluegrass Green Mountain style. Over 21 groups performing on four stages including the Gibson Brothers, Seldom Scene, the U.S. Navy band—Current Country, Seth Sawyer Band, and many more. Barn dance, potluck, kids activities, Bluegrass University. Tickets \$5-\$130. Camping available. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, 1 Fairground Rd. off Rt. 110. (802) 518-2126. candacesawyer@comcast.net. jennybrookbluegrass.com. *Also June 23 & 24.*

WARDSBORO. Potluck Dinner & Dance Party featuring Wyld Nightz Band. Cost: \$15. Doors open 6 p.m. for supper. Wardsboro Town Hall Café, 71 Main St. www.wardsborocurtaincall.net.

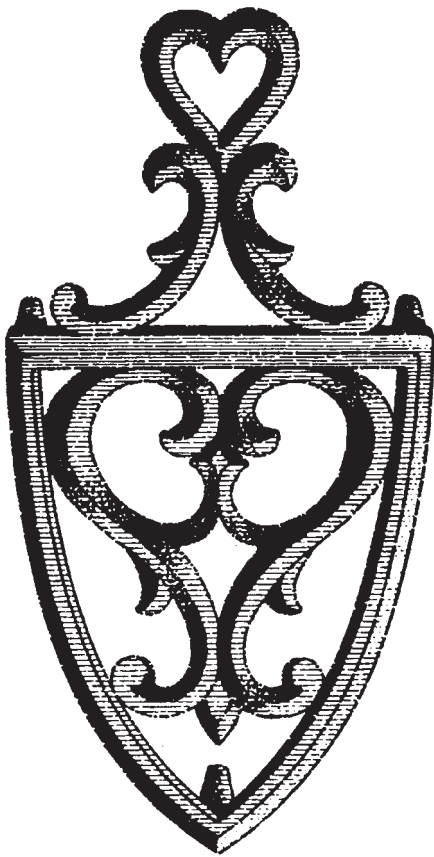
WINDSOR. Peony Week—Mid and Late Bloomers! Stroll our grounds for inspiration to see peonies growing along paths & stone walls as they compete for your attention. Light refreshments and daily specials. Daily Q&A session at 10:30 am. Daily 10 am - 5 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.ciderhillgardens.com. *Through June 24.*

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BRIDGEWATER CORNERS. Eighth Annual Long Trail Century Ride to Benefit Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports. 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.

BURLINGTON. Concert: Raffi. North America's preeminent family entertainer turns 70 this year, marking the occasion with a new album and a series of concerts. Tickets: \$33-\$81.25. 1 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (888) 974-3698. flynnntix.org.



CASTLETON. 11th Annual Town Wide Yard Sale. Bargains, treasures, crafts, food and one-of-a-kind items. Over 50 vendor tables both outdoors and indoors. "Drive-around Maps" available. 9 am - 2 pm, rain or shine. Castleton Community Center, 2108 Main St. (802) 468-3093.

ESSEX JUNCTION. 42nd Annual Vermont Quilt Festival. Admission. 9 am - 5 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 872-0034. vqf.org. *Also June 24.*

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. Take-out available. Adults \$12, children 8 and under \$5. One seating at 6 pm at the First Baptist Church, corner of Rts. 7A & 11/30 across from Northshire Bookstore. Call Martha Thompson for reservations at (802) 362-3473.

NO. HAVERHILL, NH. Farm & Forestry Day. Animals (including new calves), biomass plant, educational exhibits and tours of adjacent lands at the historic Grafton County Farm. Free ice cream. Barbecue (\$1 per person). Free. 10 am - 2 pm. Grafton County Farm, 3855 Dartmouth College Hwy. (603) 787-6941.

NO. 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 tickets. Supper benefits the North Pomfret Congregational Church. Seatings at 5, 6:15 & 7:30 pm at the Pomfret Town Hall. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 10. Call for reservations! (802) 457-3259.

NORWICH. House and Garden Tour. Walkable tour of six historic houses and their grounds and the gardens of St. Barnabas church. 3-7 pm. Norwich Historical Society, 277 Main St. (802) 649-0124.

NORWICH. Art in the Park. Fine art and handmade crafts on the Green. Demonstrations, kids activities, food, music and dance performances. 10 am - 4 pm. Norwich Green, 22 Church St. (603) 643-3115. *Also June 24.*

NORWICH. Contradance. Potluck snacks at break, please bring something to share. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. Admission \$10, students \$6, seniors donate, under 16 free. Instruction at 7:30 pm, contra dance at 8 pm. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 765-4662. davidmillstonedance.com.

RUPERT. Full Buck Moon Walk. Staff-guided hike, moderate difficulty. Dress for the weather with sturdy footwear, headlamps, water and snacks. Reservations. Fee: \$5 per person. Time TBD. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

SO. POMFRET. Summer Revels Solstice Festival. The culminating performance of our multi-generational Summer Revels Community Chorus. Food trucks, children's activities, entertainment, roving performances. Ends with a bonfire, songs. Free; donations gratefully accepted. 5:30-9 pm; gates open 5 pm. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. www.revels north.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Dog Mountain Founders Celebration. If you have dogs, please bring them. Hot dogs, chips and lemonade and treats or desserts visitors bring. Activities for all ages, door prizes, dog contests, caricatures by artist Kaio Scott, a storytime walk with Sally the lab, and live music by Abby Jenne and Bart Feller. Rain or shine. Free. 12 noon - 4 pm. The Stephen Huneck Gallery on Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. (802) 748-3075. info@dogmt.com. www.dogmt.com.

My Garden

A garden is a lovesome thing, God wot!
Rose plot,
Fringed pool,
Ferned grot—
The veriest school
Of peace; and yet the fool
Contented that God is not—
Not God! in gardens! when the eve is cool?
Nay, but I have a sign;
'Tis very sure God walks in mine.

—THOMAS EDWARD BROWN
England, 1830-1897



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Le Tour de Farms

Sunday, September 16th, 2018
11th Annual Tour de Farms
Vergennes, VT

This is the first time the Tour will start and end in Vergennes. Two routes: 10 and 30 miles. Sign up early and save \$25!

Register at www.acornvt.org/tourdefarms
For more information contact amelia@acornvt.org
or call (802) 382-0401

ACORN
The Addison County Relocalization Network

Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, June 23, continued)

SPRINGFIELD. Third 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 for sale. Live music. Farm store. Free admission. 10 am – 3 pm. Wellwood Orchards, 529 Wellwood Orchard Rd. (802) 263-5200.

STOWE. Third Annual Vermont Renaissance Faire. Adults \$18, kids 6-12 \$7.50, under 6 free. 10 am – 6 pm. Mayo Events Field, 80 Weeks Hill Rd. (802) 778-9178. info@vtgatherings.com. vtgatherings.com. Also June 24.

TUNBRIDGE. 18th Annual Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Over 21 groups performing on four stages. Barn dance, potluck, kids activities. Tickets \$5-\$130. Camping available. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, Rt. 110. (802) 518-2126. jennybrookbluegrass.com. Also June 24.

VERGENNES. Abenaki Heritage Weekend. Dancing, drumming, storytelling, craft and cooking demonstrations, presented by members of Vermont's Abenaki Tribes. Admission fee. 10 am – 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. lcmm.org. Thru June 24.

WINDSOR. Peony Week—Mid and Late Bloomers! Light refreshments and daily specials. Daily Q&A session at 10:30 am. Daily 10 am – 5 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.ciderhillgardens.com. Also June 24.

WOODSTOCK. Dairy Days. Learn about the milk producers and products made from their milk. Programs and demonstrations with three dairy animals: cows, sheep, and goats. Adults: \$16, over 62 \$14, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$3. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm and Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

ESSEX JUNCTION. 42nd Annual Vermont Quilt Festival. New England's oldest and largest quilt festival. Admission. 9 am – 5 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 872-0034. info@vqf.org. www.vqf.org.

HUBBARDTON. Last Sunday: Military Road Hike. Walk in the footsteps of history along a section of the 1776-77 military road that ran from Rutland through Hubbardton on the way to Mount Independence. Guide: Bob Franzoni. Rugged in places. Dress for the weather and wear boots. 1:30-4:30 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicssites.vermont.gov.

MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS. 43rd Annual Strawberry Festival. To benefit the Middletown Springs Historical Society. Museum exhibits and live music by Paul Morgan and friends. Small flea market, local crafts and artists. Raffle. Quarts of strawberries for sale. Strawberry shortcake with homemade biscuits, ice cream, and whipped cream, coffee, ice tea, and lemonade. 2-4 pm on the Green, Rt. 140. Rain or shine. (802) 235-2376.

NORWICH. Summer Revels Solstice Festival. The culminating performance of our multi-generational Summer Revels Community Chorus. Food trucks, children's activities, entertainment, roving performances. Ends with a bonfire, songs. Free; donations accepted. 5:30-9 pm; gates open 5 pm. Norwich Green. (866) 556-3083. revelsnorth.org.

NORWICH. Art in the Park. Fine art and handmade crafts on the Green. Demonstrations, kids activities, specialty foods, music and dance performances. 10 am – 3 pm. Norwich Green, 22 Church St. (603) 643-3115.

STOWE. Gardens of Stowe. Self-guided garden tour through private and commercial gardens at your own pace. Tented reception. Tickets: \$25. 12:30-5 pm. Pick-up garden tour map at JCOGS Event Tent, 1189 Cape Cod Rd. (802) 734-0661. stoweivibrancy.com.

STOWE. Third Annual Vermont Renaissance Faire. Adults \$18, kids 6-12 \$7.50, under 6 free. 10 am – 6 pm. Mayo Events Field, 80 Weeks Hill Rd. (802) 778-9178. info@vtgatherings.com. vtgatherings.com.

TUNBRIDGE. 18th Annual Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Over 21 groups performing on four stages including the Gibson Brothers, Seldom Scene, the U.S. Navy band—Current Country, Seth Sawyer Band, and many more. Barn dance, potluck, kids activities, Bluegrass University, Tickets \$5-\$130. Camping available. Tunbridge Fairgrounds, 1 Fairground Rd. off Rt. 110. (802) 518-2126. jennybrookbluegrass.com.

VERGENNES. Abenaki Heritage Weekend. Dancing, drumming, storytelling, craft and cooking demonstrations, presented by members of Vermont's Abenaki Tribes. Native Arts Marketplace and exhibit opening celebration for Alnobak: Wearing Our Heritage. Admission fee. 10 am – 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. info@lcmm.org. www.lcmm.org.

WINDSOR. Peony Week—Mid and Late Bloomers! Stroll our grounds for inspiration to see peonies growing along paths & stone walls as they compete for your attention. Light refreshments and daily specials. Daily Q&A session at 10:30 am. Daily 10 am – 5 pm. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery, 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. www.ciderhillgardens.com.

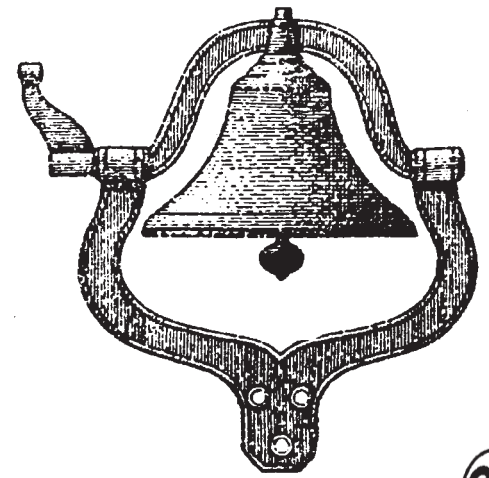
WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm 35th Anniversary Celebration. Parade of farm animals, live music, guest speakers, many special hands-on opportunities, and a rousing game of old-fashioned 1860s base ball. Magic Shows with renowned performer, Robert Olson recreating the early-19th-century magic of Richard Potter. Admission is free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

HANOVER, NH. Performance. Mark Morris Dance Group: Pepperland. Live musicians perform Ethan Iverson's arrangements of selected Sgt. Pepper songs plus Iverson originals inspired by the album. Tickets: \$22.50-\$60. 8 pm. Hopkins Center For The Arts, 4 East Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu. Thru June 30.

RUPERT. Farm Chores for Children. Join the farm staff at Merck Forest & Farmland Center for afternoon chores. Youngsters may feed the horses, pick berries, collect eggs and perform other tasks. 2-4 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org. Thursdays through August 16.

SHOREHAM. Annual Strawberry Festival. Feast on strawberry shortcake, strawberry sundaes, strawberry pie, ice cream with strawberries, just plain strawberries, or the works! Prices vary depending on the items purchased. A limited number of whole strawberry pies will also be for sale. Make strawberries your dessert or your entire meal that night and enjoy the fun and good food! 5-7 pm. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-2687.



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Strawberry Time

Strawberry time—and my grandma isn't here,
But I can hear her plainly, "Go on, child dear,
Down to Martin's fallow and pick a bowl or two
To eat with cream and sugar. Do, child, do."
And I would take the largest bowl and pick,
As fast as fast,
To get it full for Grandma, and at the very last
I'd pile the top with bunches of berries dark and red,
I couldn't seem to leave them, although she'd smiled
And said to snatch them off as quickly,
As quickly as could be—
"So we can have a little feast—just for you and me."
I'd soon be running home again, and she would laugh
And say, "Smart girl," and stroke my hair—
You know a grandma's way.
But once when we were eating them old Harriet went by,
And peeked in at the window, and I knew by her eye
That she'd be telling Mother and stirring up a fuss
The way she always did, and loved to do, about us.
And she did!
Then Mother scolded poor Grandma and me,
For she needed all that cream. We were so poor, you see.
But Grandma took it nicely, and braided up my hair,
And rocked me off to sleep in the red rocking-chair.

It's strawberry time, and the loveliest of the year,
But to me it's always lonely since Grandma isn't here,
But I think of her a lot and very often dream
Of when I picked the berries
And Grandma stole the cream.

—NELLIE S. RICHARDSON
Springfield, VT 1941

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Vermont Country Calendar



Rochester Chamber Music Society's 24th Summer Season

The Rochester Chamber Music Society opens their 24th season in the White River Valley in Rochester, VT offering a tantalizing variety of programming.

Music lovers throughout the state have discovered RCMS concerts are a perfect destination for a rewarding outing in central Vermont. We hope you can join us in the mountains for intimate chamber music performed by world-class musicians.

Freewill donations are gratefully accepted.

Friday, June 22. Joan Hutton Landis Memorial Concert. Choong-Jin (C.J.) Chang, viola, Cynthia Huard, piano. Program includes: Schumann, Fairytale Pictures for Viola and Piano, Op. 113, Hindemith, Sonata for Solo Viola, Op. 32, No. 4, Brahms, Sonata Op. 120, No. 1 in F minor, Mozart K. 499 D major "Hoffmeister", Bartók #3, and Beethoven op. 131. Concert at 7 p.m.

Sunday, July 8. Marguerite Schenkman Memorial Concert. Julia Salerno, violin; Benjamin Gish, cello; Cynthia Huard, piano. Program includes: Beethoven, Piano Trio in D major, Op. 70, No. 1 "Ghost", Handel-Halvorsen, Passacaglia Duo for Violin and Cello, Debussy, Trio in G major. Concert at 4 p.m.

Saturday, July 14. Twenty-first Annual Bach Bash. Professional and amateur musicians celebrate the music of Bach. At the Granville Town Hall. Concert at 7 p.m.

Friday, July 15. Vanessa Holroyd, flute; Cynthia Huard, piano. Program includes: J.S. Bach, Sonata in G minor, BWV 1020 Francois Borne, Fantasia Brillante on Themes from Bizet's Carmen, Prokofiev, Flute Sonata in D major, Op. 94. Concert at 4 p.m.

Sunday, August 5. Beyond the Notes. Sarah Whitney, violin; Ani Kalayjian, cello; Cynthia Huard, piano. Program includes: Solos, Duos and Trios; Ravel, Glière, Piazzolla, and Jazz infused folk. Concert at 4 p.m.

Concerts are held at the The Rochester Federated Church located at 15 N. Main St. in Rochester, VT unless otherwise noted.

For more information call (802) 767-9234 or visit www.rcmsvt.org.

STOWE. Concert: 10,000 Maniacs, one of the most enduring bands. Tickets: \$25-\$65. 7 pm. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, 122 Hourglass Dr. (802) 760-4634. sprucepeakarts.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

WATERBURY. 45th 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 desserts." 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.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

BURLINGTON. Concert: Ry Cooder. Renowned multi-instrumentalist performs. Tickets: \$25-\$65. 8 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. (888) 974-3698. flynnntix.org.

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 \$12, children \$6, under 5 free. Sponsored by the Dummerston Congregational Church. 5-7 pm. Held at Evening Star Grange Hall, 1008 East West Rd. (802) 257-0544 or (802) 257-1128.

MIDDLEBURY. Vermont Gran Fondo. Four-gap ride to conquer Lincoln Gap, Appalachian Gap, Middlebury Gap and Brandon Gap. 100+ miles climbing 10,000+ ft. 8 am - 7 pm. Woodchuck Hard Cider, 1321 Exchange St. (802) 377-7871.

POULTNEY. Pop Poem: A Found Poetry Workshop. Bianca Amira Zanella will share the joys of finding poetry in existing texts and/or images and refashioning them as new poems. All-ages event. Suggested donation: \$5. 2-4 pm. Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill, 145 East Main St. (across from Poultnery High School). (603) 732-8606. zanellab@greenmnt.edu. stonevalleyarts.org.

STRATTON. Stratton Mountain Music Summer Concert: The Marshall Tucker Band. 6-9 pm. Stratton Mountain Resort, 5 Village Lodge Rd. (800) 787-2886.

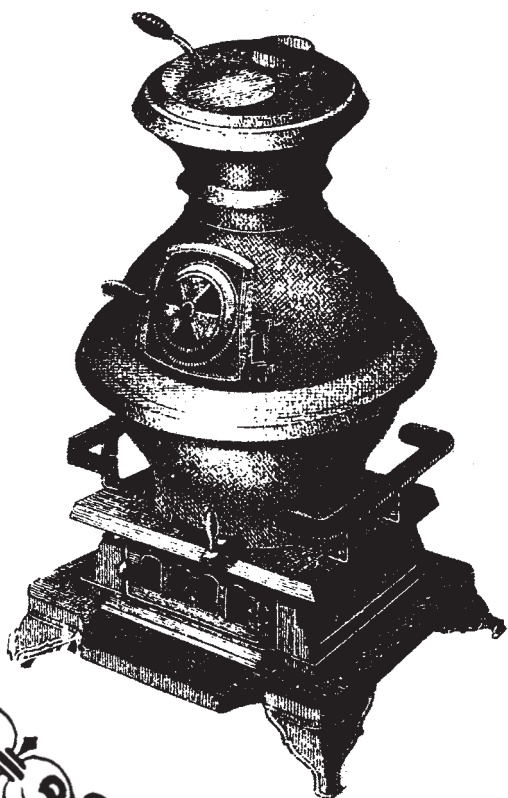
WESTMINSTER. 17th Annual Westminster Garden Tour. Special activities throughout the weekend. Lunch and refreshments available at the Westminster Institute or at the Hayward Garden. 10 am - 3 pm. Westminster Institute, Rt. 5. (802) 722-3607. westminstercare.org. Also July 1.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

FERRISBURGH. Frederick Douglass's Most Famous Speech: "What to the Negro is the 4th of July?" Join us to read Frederick Douglass's most famous speech, originally delivered on July 5, 1852. Declining to speak on the 4th of July, Douglass instead castigated the United States for decades of slavery and injustice. Free. 3-4 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby.org.

NEWPORT. Newport City Centennial Celebration. 18th-century reenactors at Prouty Beach. Live music & dance. Passenger rail rides. 10 am - 10 pm. Newport City Centennial Celebration, 122 Main St. (802) 334-5136. Through July 4.

SO. POMFRET. Vermont Symphony Orchestra: Summer Festival Tour. Musically-depicted majestic rivers, verdant fields, gardens in bloom, the clear night sky, and an extraterrestrial visitor. Pyrotechnics during the concert finale, and from 22-year-old violin virtuoso Rubén Rengel. 7:30-9:30 pm. Suicide Six, 247 Stage Rd. (802) 457-3981.



ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2018

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Exhibits and hands-on activities. Chimney Point History Trail, with interpretive signs and pier from the 1929 Lake Champlain Bridge. Admission: adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open Wednesday-Sunday and Monday holidays, 10 am - 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/chimney_point. May 26 through October 14.

BENNINGTON. The Bennington Battle Monument is open for the season. An elevator takes visitors to the observation floor of the 306-ft. monument for a spectacular view of three states. Exhibits and dioramas inside the Monument tell the story of the Revolutionary War Battle on August 16, 1777. \$5 adult admission, 6-14 \$1, children 5 and under are free. The Monument and gift shop are open seven days a week from 9 am - 5 pm. Bennington Battle Monument, 15 Monument Circle, just off Rt. 9. (802) 447-0550. historicites.vermont.gov. Through October 31.

BURLINGTON. 6th Annual ArtsRiot Truck Stop. Food trucks, full bar. Live music inside and out. 5-10 pm. At Howard Space at the corner of Pine and Howard Streets in the South End Arts District. ArtsRiot, 400 Pine St. (802) 540-0406. www.artsriot.com. Fridays thru September 28.

BURLINGTON. 35th 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. June 1-10.

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. historicites.vermont.gov. July 1 through October 15.

HARDWICK. Perennial Pleasures Nursery. 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, through Labor Day. Free Sunday Garden Tours at 12 pm from early-June to mid-August—tours last around 45 minutes, no charge. Perennial Pleasures Nursery, 63 Brockhouse Rd. (802) 472-5104. perennialpleasures.net.

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Exhibit: "Hubbardton Battle—American Rebels Stem the Tide, July 7, 1777." 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. Adults \$3, children under 15 free. Open 10 am - 5 pm, Wednesday-Sunday and Monday holidays. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton. May 26 through October 14.

MANCHESTER. Celebration of Peonies. Traditionally the last two weeks of May and the first two weeks of June when the Formal Garden signals the beginning of the season with 1,000's of peony blooms—many of them from the original 1907 plants. \$20 adults, \$5 youth, children under 6 free. 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Hildene, off Rt. 7A, south of the village. (802) 362-1788. hildene.org. Through mid-June.

MONTPELIER. Summer Library Book Sale. Great selection of books for sale. Hardcover, CDs and DVDs are \$2 apiece, softcovers are \$1. Presented by genres for easy choosing. Special collection in the front lobby that are \$5 to \$10. Great books at great prices. Free admission. Mon-Thurs 10 am - 8 pm, Fri 10 am - 5:30 pm, Sat 10 am - 1 pm. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, 135 Main St. (802) 223-3338. kellogg-hubbard.org. May 19 through the summer.

NO. BENNINGTON. The Park-McCullough House. One of the finest and best preserved Victorian Mansions in New England. Guided tours on the hour while the house is open: Friday 10 am - 2 pm, Saturday 10 am - 4 pm, Sunday 12 noon - 4 pm, and holiday Mondays 10 am - 4 pm. Adults \$15, seniors \$12, children 8-17 \$8, under 8 free. Historic Park-McCullough, 1 Park St. (802) 442-5441. parkmccullough.org. Through October 8.

ORLEANS. Vermont Reindeer Farm. Come see the only live reindeer in the whole state of Vermont! Many other farm animals to pet & feed. Nature trail, Reindeer games & gift shop. Vermont Reindeer Farm, 3108 Chilafoux Rd (in West Charleston). (802) 754-9583. On Facebook.

ORWELL. Mount Independence State Historic Site. Celebrating the 241st anniversary of the start of American construction of the Revolutionary War's Mount Independence and the military road to Hubbardton and Rutland, the 51st anniversary of the trail system, and the 26th anniversary of the Mount Independence Coalition. Six miles of walking and hiking trails. Adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open daily 10 - 5:30. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicites.vermont.gov. Through October 14.

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.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities 2018, continued)

PLYMOUTH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Birthplace and boyhood home of Calvin Coolidge, the 30th President of the United States. The Village is virtually unchanged since the early 20th century. New exhibit: "Presidential Holiday: The Coolidge Summer Retreats, 1924-1928." Adults \$10, children 6-14 years \$2, children under 6 years free, registered groups of 10 or more: \$7/person. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 28.*

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. Adults: \$15.50, seniors (62 plus) \$14.50, youth (4-17): \$13.50, children 3 and under free. Open 7 days a week 10 am - 5 pm. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 6565 Woodstock Rd., Rt. 4. (802) 359-5000. vinsweb.org.

RUPERT. Merck Forest and Farmland. Camping, cabins, trails, farm, workshops and seasonal events. Visitor's Center and store. 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.*

SHELburne. Shelburne Farms. Property Tours, Farmyard and Trails, Welcome Center & Farm Store. \$8 adult; \$7 senior; \$5 child 3-17; property tours additional. Open daily 9 am - 5:30 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. shelburnefarms.org. *Thru mid-October.*

SPRINGFIELD. Eureka Schoolhouse State Historic Site. the oldest one-room schoolhouse in Vermont and one of the few surviving eighteenth century public buildings in the State. Donation appreciated. Open weekends 10 am - 5 pm. Eureka Schoolhouse State Historic Site, 470 Charlestown Rd. (802) 828-3051. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 14.*

SPRINGFIELD. Stellafane. A place and an organization devoted to amateur astronomy, considered to be the "Birthplace of Amateur Telescope Making." Home to The Springfield Telescope Makers, Inc., an amateur astronomy and telescope-making club that sponsors events, classes, and a late summer convention. stellafane.com.

STATEWIDE. Vermont State Parks. Vermont has 55 developed and staffed state parks and other undeveloped state park lands. Day use fees: adults (14+) \$4, children 4-13 \$2, 3 and under free. Additional fees for cabins, shelters, pavilions, and boat rentals. Call (888) 409-7579, Mon-Fri, 9 am - 4 pm or parks@vermont.gov. Visit vtstateparks.com.

STRAFFORD. Justin Morrill State Historic Site. Tours of the Gothic Revival house. Self-guided tours of the formal Victorian gardens, interpretive exhibits, fairy village and walking trails also available. Adults \$6, 14 and under free. Open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Morrill Memorial Hwy. (802) 765-4484. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Thru October 14.*

VERGENNES. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Shipwreck tours, courses, workshops, exhibits, collections, special events. Fleet of full-size replica vessels which visitors may board. Small craft of display. Maritime Research Institute. Museum store. Adult \$14, seniors \$12, youth 6-18 \$8, children 5 and under free. Open 7 days a week, 10 am - 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Dr. (802) 475-2022. lcmmm.org. *Thru October 14.*

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. On Facebook and Twitter. www.vermonthherbal.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. www.newberrymarketwrj.com.

WINDSOR. Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery. Come and explore our gardens. Daily 10 am - 5 pm. 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. ciderhillgardens.com.

WINDSOR. Old Constitution House. The Vermont Constitution was far reaching—the first to prohibit slavery, establish universal voting rights for all males, and to authorize a public school system. The Constitution guided the Republic of Vermont for 14 years until 1791, when Vermont was admitted to the Union as the 14th state. See exhibits and the house where the constitution was signed. Adults \$3, children under 15 free. 10 am - 5 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 North Main St. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov. *May 26 through October 21.*

WOODSTOCK. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. Tours of historical buildings and grounds hourly from 10 am to 4 pm. Park in the Billings Farm & Museum parking lot and begin your visit across the street at the Billings Farm & Museum Visitor Center, where park rangers are also stationed. Adults 16-61 \$8, seniors 62 and over \$4, children 15 and under free. Combination ticket with Billings Farm & Museum: adults 16-61 \$20, seniors 62 and over \$16. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP, 54 Elm St. (802) 457-3368 x 222. nps.gov/mabi. *May 26 through October 31.*

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. Visit our award-winning Jersey herd, draft horses, and sheep and tour the restored 1890 Farm House. *A Place in the Land* our Academy Award®-nominee film will be shown every hour in the theater. Adults \$16, 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.

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

BARRE. Vermont History Center and Leahy Library. Adults \$5; families \$12; students, children, seniors \$3; children under 6 free. Mon thru Fri, 9 am - 4 pm. VT Historical Society, 60 Washington St. (802) 479-8500.

BELLOWS FALLS. River Artisans Cooperative. Really Handmade... Really Vermont. River Artisans is the longest continually operating craft cooperative in the state of Vermont. The works of 30+ of New England's finest craftspeople await you in our shop located in this historic riverside village. The shop is open year round Wed. through Mon. 10 am - 4 pm (closed Tuesday). River Artisans Cooperative, 28 the Square. (802) 460-0059. www.riverartisans.com.

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VT Fish & Wildlife

It's springtime and Vermont's turtles on are on the move. The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department is asking for the public's help in keeping them safe. Female turtles are looking for places to deposit their eggs, sometimes choosing to lay along the shoulders of roads, which can end tragically.

"Turtles often cross roads as they search for a nest site," said Steve Parren, biologist for the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. "They are a slow-moving animal in today's fast-paced world, so they have a tough time making it safely across the road. Turtles grow slowly and live a long time, so losing a mature breeding female

Keep an Eye Out for Turtles

is a huge loss to the turtle population."

Turtle nesting activity peaks from late May through June. At this time of year, drivers are urged to keep an eye out for turtles in the road.

To decrease the number of turtles that are killed by vehicles, the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department has been collecting data to identify stretches of road that are hotspots for wildlife migrations. They are working closely with VTrans, and with Jim Andrews from the Vermont Reptile & Amphibian Atlas, among others.

"When you spot a turtle in the road, you may be able to help it across. Be sure you're in a safe spot to stop and



photo by George Scribner, VT Fish & Wildlife
Turtles in Vermont are now digging their nests on the shoulders of roads. Drivers are urged to keep an eye out.

get out of your car, as human safety comes first," said Andrews. "If you're going to move a turtle off the road, always move it in the direction it was traveling. They know where they're going."

According to Andrews, most turtles can simply be picked up and carried across the road. However, if the turtle has no colorful lines, spots, or other markings, it is probably a snapping turtle, so people should not get too close to the animal to avoid being bitten. Snapping turtle's necks are nearly as long as their shell. Instead, people should push the turtle

across the road with an object like a shovel or broom.

Andrews is also asking paddlers, boaters, and anglers to report turtle sightings to the Vermont Reptile & Amphibian Atlas website at vtherpatlas.org. The reports help conservationists keep track of the status of these species.

"Just snap a photo or two of the turtle, and submit your observation via the website or email," said Andrews.

Observations can be submitted to the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas online at vtherpatlas.org or jandrews@vtherpatlas.org.

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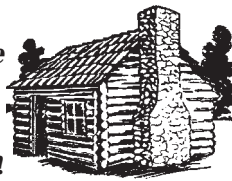
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Vermont Country Calendar

BENNINGTON. The Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont. 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. 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. thebennington.org.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Museum. Founding documents, fine art, Bennington Pottery, the 1924 Wasp Touring Car, Vermont furniture, and the Bennington Flag—one of America's oldest flags. Admission: adults \$10, seniors and students over 18 \$9. Free for younger students 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 Monday-Saturday 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 am - 5 pm, closed Tuesdays. Admission \$8 adults, \$6 seniors, \$4 students, free for youth 18 and under. 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. brattleboromuseum.org.

BURLINGTON. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center. \$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.

CENTER RUTLAND. The Rutland Railroad Museum. Housed in the Rutland Depot, built in 1917. See railroad artifacts and historical exhibits including HO & N scale model railroad layouts and a children's layout. Open Saturdays from 11 am - 1 pm. Rutland Railway Assn., 79 Depot Lane. (802) 768-8427. rutlandrailroadmuseum.org.

CHESTER. 103 Artisans Marketplace. Owned by artists Elise & Payne Junker, exclusive showroom of Junker Studio metalwork. Open Thursday through Sunday 10 am - 5 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday by chance. Located at 7 Pineview Dr. and Rt. 103, south of town—look for the life-size moose! (802) 875-7400. 103artisansmarketplace.com.

HUNTINGTON. Birds of Vermont Museum. Over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Special events and bird walks, exhibits, children's programs, gift shop, video, restrooms and trails with maps available. 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. *Thru Oct. 31.*

MANCHESTER. Hildene House Tours of Robert and Mary Lincoln's home. Tours daily at 2 pm with a reservation. \$20 adults; children 6 to 14, \$5; under 6, free. A fee of \$7.50 for the tour is added to the general admission. No admission charged for Welcome Center and Museum Store. Open daily year round 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home, Rt. 7A. (802) 362-1788. info@hildene.org. www.hildene.org.

MARLBORO. Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. See mounted specimens of over 600 native New England birds and mammals, a Raptor Center with live hawks and owls, amphibian and reptile exhibit and fall wildflower exhibit. 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. museum@sover.net. www.vermontmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont. The oldest chartered community history museum in the United States, welcoming visitors since 1882. Exhibits, research center, and museum shop. 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. Free admission. Tues-Sat 10 am - 5 pm. Vermont Folklife Center, 88 Main St. (802) 388-4964. vermontfolklifecenter.org.

MONTPELIER. Vermont History Museum & Bookstore. Adults: \$7; families: \$20; students, children, seniors: \$5; members and children under 6: free. Open 9 am - 4 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Pavilion Building, 109 State St. (802) 828-2291. vermonthistory.org.

NORWICH. Montshire Museum of Science. Trails, programs, and museum store. 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.

ORWELL. Exhibits: "Building Independence on Lake Champlain", illustrates the role Mount Independence played in the American Revolution. "The Faces of Mount Independence", a look at the people who served during the Revolutionary War. Adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open daily, 10 am - 5 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 14.*

PLYMOUTH. Tuesday Tales of The Notch, *first Tuesday of each month, 2-3:30 pm.* Wednesday Afternoons with Farmer Fred, *every Wednesday beginning June 6, 1-5 pm.* Afternoons at the Old Notch School, *Thursdays & Saturdays, June 23 - October 20, 1-3 pm.* Reservations suggested. 2-3:30 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicsites.vermont.gov.

READING. Exhibit: *The Solace of Amnesia.* Curated by Alexis Rockman and Katherine Gass Stowe. Admission \$10. Open by appointment Saturday and Sunday for tours at 11 am and 2 pm. Free unguided tours first Fridays from 5-8 pm. Hall Art Foundation, 544 Rt. 106. (802) 952-1056. www.hallartfoundation.org. *May 12 through November 25.*

ROCHESTER. Exhibit: "Dartmouth Influence". Showcases eleven women artists from the Visual Arts Department, to survey the breadth of philosophy, teaching capacity, and advancing commitment of the department. BigTown Gallery Rochester, 99 North Main St. (802) 767-9670. bigtowngallery.com. *Through June 30.*

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

SHELBURNE. Shelburne Museum. Renowned for its collection of American folk art and quilts. Home to holdings of decorative arts, design, decoys, and carriages. The paintings collection includes French Impressionists as well as over 400 18th-20th century American works. Over 20 gardens. Historic houses and community buildings. Adult \$25, seniors \$23, ages 13-17 \$14, children 5-12 \$12, under 5 free. 10 am - 5 pm daily. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. shelburnemuseum.org. *May 1 through October 31.*

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.

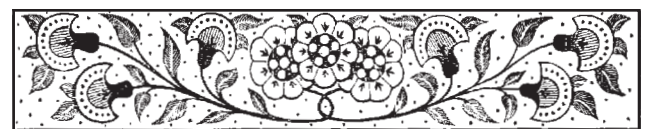
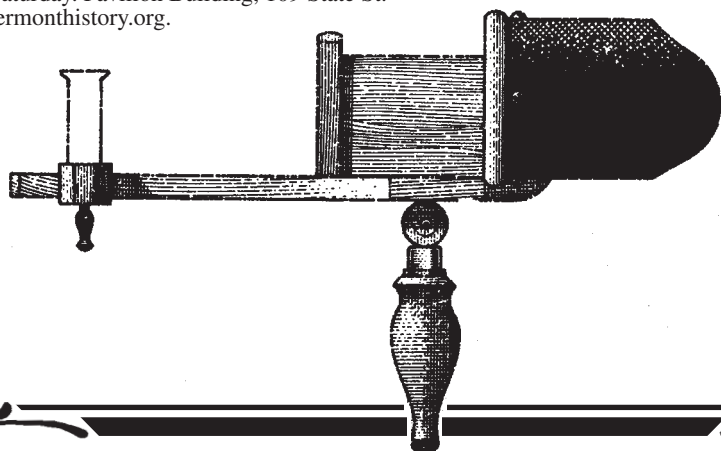
SPRINGFIELD. Gallery at the VAULT. A Vermont State Craft Center featuring fine art and hand-crafted gifts from over 125 local and regional artists and craftsmen. Classes, workshops. Exhibit: Cycles of Life. Open Wall art show. Through July 26. Art Exhibit: Cycles of Life, *May 9 through July 26.* Tuesday - Saturday 11 am - 5 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium. Exhibits, programs, special events, wildflower table, collections. 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 7 days a week in the summer. Dog Chapel open seven days a week from dawn to dusk. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. off Spaulding Rd. (800) 449-2580. contact@dogmt.com. www.dogmt.com.

WEST RUTLAND. Carving Studio and Sculpture Center Gallery. Annual Members' Exhibition, June 9-30. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 am-1 pm, or by appointment. 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. carvingstudio.org.

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, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.



Rose-Geranium

A pungent spray of rose-geranium—
A breath of the old life.
It brings up the little five-room cottage where I was born,
And where I grew through a smiling childhood.

The white-bearded grandfather
sits in his mended rocking-chair,
His eyes far off, crooning "The Sweet By and By,"
Marked with the tapping of his toe
upon the weathered porch-floor,
While the sunshine drizzles through the great oaks.

And there is my grandmother's kneeling figure,
Turning over the rich black earth with her trowel;
And the kind wrinkles on her face, as she says:
"Didn't the pansies do finely this year, Clem?"

And the scarlet verbenas, and the larkspurs,
And the row of flaming salvia...
Those roses...they're Marshal Niels...my favorites.
And little grandson, smell this spray of rose-geranium—

Just think, when grandmother was a little tiny girl
Her grandmother grew them in her yard!"

—CLEMENT WOOD
Schenectady, NY 1888-1950



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Old-Time Strawberry Recipes

French Strawberry Cream Cakes

Cream Cake: ½ cup butter, 1 cup boiling water, 4 eggs, 1 cup flour. Pour butter and water in saucepan and place on front of range. As soon as boiling point is reached, add flour all at once, and stir vigorously. Remove from fire as soon as mixed, and add unbeaten eggs one at a time, beating, until thoroughly mixed, between the addition of eggs. Shape cream cake mixture oblong, making twelve cakes. Bake thirty minutes in a moderate oven. If cream cakes are removed from the oven before being thoroughly cooked, they will fall. If in doubt, take one from oven, and if it does not fall, this is sufficient proof that others are cooked. Split when done, and fill with Strawberry Cream Filling.

Strawberry Cream Filling: 1 cup thick cream, ⅓ cup sugar, white of 1 egg, ½ cup strawberries, ½ teaspoon vanilla. Beat cream until stiff, using eggbeater; add sugar, white of egg beaten until stiff, strawberries mashed, and vanilla.

—Fannie Merritt Farmer, 1896

Baked Strawberry Pudding

½ pint of cream
1 ½ 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, 1902

Yankee-Style Strawberry Pudding-Pie

Ingredients—Sweet milk, 1 cup; 1 egg; butter, 1 tablespoonful heaping; baking powder, 1 teaspoonful; flour, 1 cup, or sufficient to make rather a thick batter (“batter” means like cake—better to handle with a spoon, or pour out); a little salt; sliced strawberries to half fill an earthen pudding-dish. **Directions**—Stir the baking powder into the sifted flour; melt the butter, beat the egg and stir all well together. Having picked over the strawberries, buttered the dish and laid in the fruit to only half fill it, dip the batter over fruit to wholly cover it, as with a crust. The dish should not be quite full, for as it rises it runs over in baking. Bake in a moderate oven to a nice brown, to be done just “at the nick of time” for dinner. Turn it bottom up upon a pie-plate, and sprinkle on some powdered cinnamon other spices, as preferred; then sprinkle freely of nice white sugar over all. Serve with sweetened cream or rich milk, well sweetened. Raspberries, blackberries, apples, peaches, pears etc., in their season, work equally as well as strawberries.

Remarks—This plan avoids the soggy and indigestible bottom crust of a regular pie. And it matters not whether you call it pie or pudding. It eats equally well, hot or even cold, with plenty of sugar and milk, having the cream from the top stirred in.

—Mrs. Sarah A. Earley, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, 1884



photo by Kimberly Grant

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

Sweet Strawberry Cake

Take three eggs, one cupful of sugar, two cups of flour, one tablespoonful of butter, a teaspoonful, heaped, of baking powder. Beat the butter and sugar together and add the eggs well beaten. Stir in the flour and baking powder well sifted together. Bake in deep tin plate. This quantity will fill four plates. With three pints of strawberries mix a cupful of sugar and mash them a little. Spread the fruit between the layers of cake. The top layer of strawberries may be covered with a baked meringue made with the white of an egg and a tablespoonful of powdered sugar or with fresh cream beaten and sweetened. Save out the largest berries and arrange them around in circles on the top in the white frosting. Makes a very fancy dish, as well as a most delicious cake.

—Hugo Zieman, 1913

Mother's Strawberry Shortcake

I believe your household will agree with me in thinking Puck never ate any strawberry shortcake. We may be ancient, but don't we remember, as well as if it was but yesterday, the dear, delightful ones made by mother in our childhood. And don't we know just how they were made, too; we heard her tell so many times, as every one wanted her recipe. She made them as follows: sour cream, 1 cup; cream of tartar, 1 teaspoonful; soda, ⅓ teaspoonful; with flour to make a suitable dough to roll ½ an inch thick. Baked nicely, split open and spread each piece with the sweetest, freshest butter. Then pour on to one of the halves, not 6 or 7 gritty, mussy berries, but 2 whole cups of those large, luscious ones from the south side of the garden. Of course, first slice the strawberries and let stand with some sugar. Put on the other half for a cover, and pour over sweetened cream when eaten.

Remarks—This is about as my own mother used to make it, so I know it will prove a good and worthy receipt to be followed by all who have the nice “sour cream” But good rich milk with soda—no cream of tartar—will also do very nicely. Any berries, fresh or canned, at all suitable for a short cake, ripe peaches, or even a nice, thick custard, may take the place of strawberries when they are not plenty.

—Aunt Lulu, Red Willow, Nebraska, 1884

Picnic Strawberry Rolls

Wash and hull 2 boxes of strawberries, drain and slice them, spread on a platter, sprinkle over them a very little lemon juice and 6 tablespoonfuls powdered sugar. Remove crusts from a dozen thin slices of white bread; spread melted butter, then the berries, roll and tie with baby ribbon at each end. Wring a napkin from cold water, pack the rolls in it, and then fold in a dry napkin.

—Times Cookbook by California Women, 1905

Strawberries Preserved in the Sun

While the sun-preserved fruits require time and patience, they are without doubt, much better than those cooked over the fire. In the country, where a hot-bed is at command, the work is easily done.

Put the strawberries into a wire basket, which plunge down in a pan of cold water, drain thoroughly, stem carefully without bruising. Weigh the strawberries, and to each pound allow one pound of granulated sugar.

Select large, stoneware plates, make them very hot either on top of the stove or in the oven; sprinkle over a layer of the granulated sugar and cover this closely with the berries. Cover with glass and stand in the sun's hottest rays. Move the dish as the sun changes its position. At four o'clock bring them in, and stand aside in a closet or cool place.

Next day put them out again in the sun. By this time they will no doubt have become clear, almost transparent, and thoroughly soft, but perfectly whole. Lift each berry carefully with a fork, and put into a tumbler or bottle. Boil the syrup over the fire for a few minutes until it thickens; strain, cool, and pour it over the fruit. This recipe will answer also for raspberries.

—Sara Tyson Rohrer, 1902

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 stoop 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!



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Tales of a Century Past

Good-Bye to the Farm

by Elisabeth Doren O’Kane

My father was born on this farm in the north country, with the little creek flowing the whole length of it. He spent a good deal of energy, health and money trying to make that creek flow a little faster and thereby do a better job of draining a few acres of low land.

It was sluggish until it got to the road that bordered our property and the little bridge, with the creek flowing under it. Beyond that it flowed through our neighbor’s farm until it reached a small pond used for watering their cows and horses. At the end of the pond were some big stones forming a small loosely built dam. Beyond the dam the land dropped off a bit.

It was one of my father’s dreams to move the dam and the pond a little further downstream so as to create a more active flow of water, and thereby improve that part of his farm which suffered from sluggish drainage. He was willing to do this at his own expense, but his neighbor was dubious about the project, and refused to let it go forward. So my father had to seek other means of making his low land productive.

He had studied civil engineering the short time he was able to attend college, and I remember well seeing him spend hours surveying those soggy farm fields with his tee-shaped level and other equipment. He used a ditching machine to create a straight path for the little creek. If he straightened the meandering stream, concentrating its total fall in a shorter distance he could speed it up a little. It required the use of a big noisy tractor to pull the ditcher. This led to a literal back-breaking incident.

My father was well-built and straight as an arrow. He could wrestle any man to the ground, and was justly proud of his physical prowess. How pride goeth before a fall!

The tractor was big and noisy and the ground was rough and unpredictable. I was installed as a warning giver. I rode sitting on the floor at the back end of the tractor. My job was to give a signal to the man driving it when my father wanted to stop. The noise was deafening. If my father motioned to me I was to hit the driver on the leg, and he would stop the tractor. All well and good, but this one day I was not on the job. I had not been fired at the age of 8 or 10, but some pleasure or other called me elsewhere-and this one day was the fateful one. The ditcher hit a big snag and my father was thrown from his seat. His back was badly injured.

This was long before the miracle drugs and miracle back-mending operations. Forever after that, once so straight and strong, he walked with a painful stoop.

However, this setback did not keep him from working at the nagging problem of bringing that field at the lower edge of the farm into more fruitful production. With the aid of a hired man the ditching project was completed, and was more or less successful. First they tried planting the field in strawberries, which thrived in the heavy clay soil. But after that it was planted to hay, and eventually used for pasture.

One year it was my pleasant job to keep the cows out of the other fields and confined to this unfenced pasture. I say a pleasant job, because I was allowed to ride a horse and play cowboy. It was not the slow old horse, Old Vic, that I usually rode, but a younger and more spirited one, named Hiram. This was good because I would get tired of just herding the



Elisabeth Doren with her little sister Harriet in the washtub boat on No-Name Creek on the Doren family farm. Older sister Lois helps from the bank of the creek.

stupid cows, and wanted more games to play, like jumping the horse across the ditch, and building a hut of fence rails and digging a well with a post-hole digger. This made guarding the cows more interesting, but after a few days of these shenanigans I was relieved of my post and sent to the house for a course in household chores.

The farm and its challenges were out of my mind for several years while I was off in distant parts of the country raising my own family. But it was poignantly brought back to me after my mother died and my father reluctantly decided to sell it.

He had sold it to his cousin across the road, to “keep it in the family.” An auction of farm implements and household goods had been held, and we were finally ready to leave.

My father paused for a moment to survey the land that had been his home all his life, and his father’s before that, and his father’s too. “The best land in the country,” I’d often heard him say.

This time he said, “There always was a little too much low land on that farm,” and he turned and walked away.

Elisabeth Doren O’Kane (1904–1998) wrote when she was in her eighties about her north country childhood of over 100 years ago.



Al and Bertha Doren on the St. Lawrence river, circa 1942.



The Doren homestead circa 1918.

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Finding the Balance Between Work and Play

Lyndsay Rose had been studying herbal medicine off and on her whole life, and after college found herself working for a quickly growing startup where she rose through the ranks becoming a manager. She worked in leadership roles for over 12 years finally realizing her heavy workload was not allowing her to live the life she had hoped for. Although she loved the organizations she worked for she found herself never having time or energy to do the things she loved.

Suzanne 'Zanni' Lacey was practicing massage therapy, Reiki, nutritional counseling, teaching yoga, and empowering people to take their health into their own hands as an herbalist for over 25 years. She founded Z Botanicals in Vershire, VT on a 150-acre hillside with pastures, forests, streams and ledges where she grows and wild crafts her plant medicine.

She was living her dream, but was overwhelmed with all the aspects of running an herbal business: cultivating, harvesting, and processing herbs, making medicine, seeing clients, bookkeeping, advertising, etc. It felt like too much until Lyndsay and Zanni met. Lyndsay was looking to deepen her herbal studies and Zanni was looking for someone to help her run her business.

After being introduced by a mutual friend Lyndsay worked with Zanni as an apprentice and within a few months became Zanni's business partner. Together they became Z Botanicals and Hemp Co.

Herbal products for health and beauty

Z Botanicals is now a small herb farm and apothecary nestled in the Green Mountains of Vermont.

Lyndsay and Zanni work together to cultivate, plant and wildcraft healing botanicals which they use to produce handmade, small-batch herbal tinctures, teas, salves, natural insect repellent and other handmade health and beauty items including Elderberry Elizer, Garlic and Mullein Ear Oil, Echinacea Tincture, Dandelion Tincture, Fire Bundle, Garden Tea, Chaga Immunity Tea, Nourishing Tea, Healing Salve, Comfrey Salve, Calendula Salve, Elicampane Tincture, Calendula and Shea Hand and Body Butter, and Natural Insect Balm, and No-Itch Spray. These products may be orderd from their website and they ship.

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A hillside herb garden at Z Botanicals in Vershire, VT.

Z Botanicals photo

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Lyndsay says, "Some days I wake up and have to pinch myself, I am doing what I love—helping people feel better all while paying my bills and having time for my children, gardening and other interests. I wish for everyone to feel so free."

Zanni comments, "Our partnership has enabled me to focus on my strengths and holds me accountable to our business. Our business is our baby. We love it so much and are so grateful we are not "raising" it alone."

Z Botanicals and Hemp Co. is located in Vershire, VT. For more information call (413) 281-3056, e-mail Lyndsay Rose at roselavenderandpine@gmail.com, or visit www.zbotanicals.net.



Zanni Lacey and Lyndsay Rose working together on Z Botanicals in Vershire, VT.

Z Botanicals photo

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Rent by the Day or Week!

If You Can't Beat 'em, Join 'em!

by Burr Morse

A few years ago I wrote about the tiny village of Adamant and once again, it's worthy of more than a mention. In fact Adamant's literally "in my face" these days every time I go into the woods because 'tis the season....Black Fly Season that is. Adamant is the black fly capital of the world. With a perfect "can't beat 'em, join 'em" attitude, Adamanters toast the nastiest of all flying creatures with their famous Black Fly Festival every year. The celebration opens with a nature walk around the shores of Sodom Pond with naturalist Rich Czaplinski. Then, some recorded music by the babbling brook leads to the performances by several live musical groups throughout the day. The grill starts at eleven for foot-long hotdogs, chicken sausage, black bean burgers, and lots more...gotta keep those humans succulent and tasty for the black flies...then it's onto a silent auction, a writers' slam hosted by Central Vermont's own "Shakespeare", Geof Hewitt, and a world-class parade.

First, Black Fly Festival then who knows...maybe Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade...

Last year this old black fly groupie dressed up his doodle bug (homemade tractor) as an insect, and drove it on up for a parade appearance. And, I might add, that stunningly ugly contraption fit in great and mixed with everything from goats veiled with insect nets to Pitz Quatrone's one man, one note didgeridoo marching band to kids on wagons celebrating nature's prime annoyance. And the theme color...what else?...basic black.

Although the Black Fly Festival is a "must go", Adamant is a great place to visit anytime. A few weeks ago my friend Bill Kaplan, sensing that I needed to get off the farm, appeared one day with his canoe and fishing gear. As I remember, his salutation was a bit stingy...something like, "Get in!" It was a beautiful day, about the only one we had that month, as we headed up to Adamant. We put in at the upper pond and the combination of lazy paddling and drifting led us north toward humongous slag piles and abandoned derricks left from long

"Although The Black Fly Festival is a 'must go', Adamant is a great place to visit anytime."

ago granite quarrying. An Adamant visit is more than a visit...it's a history lesson. As we drifted, an eagle perched on an overhanging limb as if to say "This is my land". The day was perfect, one of those "glad to be alive days".

We and no doubt the eagle, found there "waant no blinkin' fish in there" but that was fine with us...catching fish means y' gotta take 'em off the hook and figure out what to do with 'em. After a couple hours we headed back toward Bill's car. While we were loading up the canoe, Robby Porter, a native of Adamant, stopped to visit. Robby shared some of the area's history and we talked about some departed Adamant characters I remember well like Harrison Hood, Nelson Chase, and Wilfred Slayton. Finally, Bill delivered me, newly recharged, back to our farm.

Back at the Black Fly Festival: The festival always culminates with a sincere wish that all the black flies will die at day's end. Sometimes they cooperate and sometimes they don't, but the nasty little things always do their job...they give folks a reason to get together for a festive day of arts and entertainment. And yes, up there in Adamant, festivals come with a history lesson or two.

The 16th Annual Blackfly Festival takes place at the Adamant Co-op, 1313 Haggett Rd. in Adamant, VT, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (802) 223-5760. www.adamantcoop.org.

Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks, 1168 County Rd., Montpelier, VT is open year-round. Country Store, Sugarhouse, Woodshed Theater, Outdoor Farmhouse Museum and more. Cabot cheddar cheese and maple products shipped everywhere. Call (800) 242-2740 or visit morsefarm.com.



Burr Morse driving his black fly machine in the parade at the Annual Black Fly Festival in Adamant, VT.

Cajun Band Chaque Fois June Performances!

The Montpelier-based band "Chaque Fois!" performs Cajun music from southwest Louisiana that sets a festive atmosphere, weaving rhythms and harmonies with twin fiddles and vocals. The name translates to "every time," and represents the fun and energy the group generates whenever they play together.

The band is led by Katie Trautz (fiddle, vocals) and Alec Ellsworth (accordion, fiddle, vocals). Both multi-instrumentalists, they are joined by Chris Hollison guitar and triangle, and Helen Doyleon bass.

Saturday, June 9th, Summit School Mini-Fest and Fundraising Event, Unitarian Church of Montpelier, 130 Main St., Montpelier, VT. Doors open at 4 p.m. Chaque Fois plays from 7-10

p.m. Admission \$20. Come celebrate the sunshine and support the Summit School by attending the Springtime Mini-Fest and fundraising party! There will be square dancing, Cajun dancing, and desserts, with music by local favorites Sarah Blair, Tom McKenzie, Colin McCaffrey, Kick 'Em Jenny, and Chaque Fois!

For more info, visit: summit.school.wixsite.com/summitschool/home-1.

Friday, June 29th, 8th Annual Burger Night at Bread and Butter Farm, 200 Leduc Farm Rd., Shelburne, VT. 4:30-6:30 p.m. Admission \$25 for adults, \$10 for kids age 1-14.

Visit Bread and Butter Farm for a celebration of the community, the land, and the food that is grown there. Each Burger Night features

a family style from-the-land meal, live music, as well as farming inspired activities like interactive tours and eco art projects.

Burger Night offers a family-style buffet line so you can fill your plates with simple, delicious food. Buy tickets

in advance at: breadandbutterfarm.com/burgernight.

For more information contact Yasi Zeichner at (802) 485-9242, yazbozz@gmail.com. Visit Chaque Fois's on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/ChaqueFoisMusic.

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North Country Book News

Young Adult Book Review by Charles Sutton

The Story of Women in Baseball

In 1950 a girl named Kathryn Johnson cut off her long braids, put on a baseball cap and blue jeans and tried out for the Little League team in Corning NY. She made the team and after a few games she told the coach she was a girl. He didn't mind because she was a good player. But once the national Little League organization learned about this (some boys' parents complained) the League instituted "Girls are not eligible." This was nicknamed the 'Tubby Rule' after Kathryn's baseball nickname and stayed in effect for the next 23 years.

In 1973 another girl pitcher, Maria Pepe, and her parents who lived in New Jersey, challenged the Tubby Rule through a long legal battle which they won. The Little League had to accept girl players starting in 1974. Today one in seven players are girls.

The original two not-allowed-to-play girl stars' stories have been recreated in this exciting fictional story *Out of Left Field* by Ellen Klage (\$16.99. www.penguin.com/youngreaders) about the fight for equal rights in America's favorite sports arena—the baseball field. You will admire how the 10-year-old hero of the book, Kathy Gordon, takes on the Little League Association after they reject her from tryouts simply because she is a girl. She has been playing in a neighborhood sandlot with boys who accept her as one of them. She employs her curving knuckleball zeal for making things right!

Readers touched by Kathy's story of courage and determination against some mighty opponents are rewarded at the end of the narrative with a gallery of 11 real stories of famous women baseball players from 1893 through 1955. There are excellent drawings of each one showing how they looked in uniform and in action.

These woman played for minor-league, barnstorming, and exhibition teams with such names as Reading Coal Barons, Vermilion Independents, Ed Carr's All-Stars, Chattanooga Lookouts, Hollywood Girls, House of David, and Rockford Peaches. Other teams used the home town adding Bobbies, Belles, Sea Lions, Creoles (a Negro League minor team), All-Star Rangers, Clowns, and Monarchs. Several teams were called Bloomers (Boston, Western, and New York).

We learn the first recorded baseball game played by women was in 1886 at Vassar College. The first professional game

where fans paid admission and players got paid was in 1875 in Springfield, IL, between the Blondes and the Brunettes. Women continued to play baseball for next 75 years but when men's professional baseball became a multimillion business early in the 20th century, it became a 'man's game' and as our author points out, "the history of women's baseball was ignored, erased and gradually forgotten."

When reading about Kathy's heroes you will be amazed at what super-stars these women baseball players were. Some examples:

1. Pitcher Mildred Ella 'Babe' Didrikson Zaharis (1911-1956), later a gold medalist in javelin, hurdles and high jump in 1932 Olympics. In an exhibition game in 1934 she struck out New York Yankee slugger Joe DiMaggio. She also was the first female athlete to appear on the front of a Wheaties cereal box.

2. Pitcher Virne Beatrice 'Jackie' Mitchell (1914-1987) who in an exhibition game struck out both New York Yankees sluggers Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig (who were none too pleased). A few days after the game the baseball commissioner voided Mitchell's contract claiming baseball was "too strenuous" for a woman.

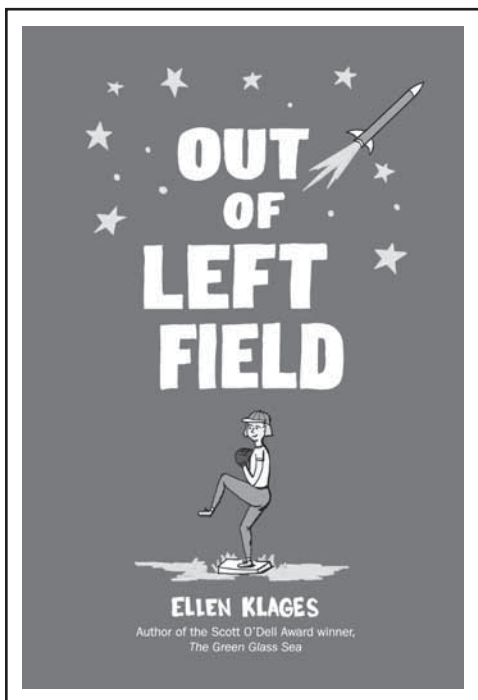
3. Second Base Sophie Kurys (1925-2013) who stole 201 bases (out of 203 tries), a record unequalled anywhere in professional baseball. She set that record in a skirt resulting in bruises and broken-skin 'strawberries.' She broke records set by Lou Brock (118 stolen bases) and Rickey Henderson (130).

4. Pitcher Elizabeth Stroud (1876-1919) the first woman to sign a contract to play 'organized' baseball and

the first woman to sign a minor-league contract. She wore a gray uniform with knee-length skirt, black stockings, shoes with cleats, and a jaunty cap.

5. Second Base Toni Stone (1921-1996), the first woman to play in the Negro League, appearing in 50 games in 1953 and hitting .243. During her career she played for the San Francisco Sea Lions, New Orleans Creoles, Indianapolis Clowns, and Kansas City Monarchs.

The author started collecting information on women in baseball 20 years ago while working for the Exploratorium museum in San Francisco where she created a website called "The Girls of Summer", part of an online exhibit: "The Science of Baseball". This led to this book, an out-of-the-park hit for young women who strive to be athletes. Ellen Klages also is the author of two other historical novels: *The Green Glass Sea* and *White Sands*, and *Red Menace*.



Children's Book Reviews

Days With Dad

by Nari Hong

(\$16.95. *Enchanted Lion Books*. www.enchantedlion.com)

We read a lot these days about young people and their search for happiness. There was even a recent *New York Times* article about the most popular course ever at Yale, Laurie Santos's "Psychology and the Good Life."

But how about kids who are concerned for the happiness of their parents? And what if one of the parents is handicapped—how does that work?

In *Days With Dad*, a young girl could care less about her father's disability (he hasn't been able to walk since he was a baby), she just loves him as he is. Every time he regrets he can't do some activity with her, like ice skating, she has a alternative event to do that can be just as fun. In that case the two go ice fishing together (and actually do catch some fish).

This touching story is narrated by a young girl, who offers a happy counterpoint for things she and her father can do together to replace the ones they can't. When Dad says "I'm sorry I can't go biking with you." Her reply is. "Oh, it's OK. I love going to the park and looking at flowers with you."

They always find fun things to do, be it bird watching, helping dad cook, drawing pictures of animals at the kitchen table, or singing while dad plays an ukulele. The young girl tells us that sometimes her dad worries about her, but she says, "I'm just happy being with him every single day."

Isn't it every parent's wish for their children to see them as they really are, never mind the handicaps real and imagined? How lucky this little girl and her dad are.

Each episode is shown in delicately hand-drawn line drawings, gently colored. Readers will sense an extra tenderness in these drawings because they're drawn from real experiences.

This autobiographical book, written in both English and Korean, is Nari Hong's first picture book. It made the 2017 list of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities by the IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) and the shortlist for the 2017 AFCC Asian Children's Book Award. She lives with her husband and daughter in Seoul, South Korea.

Father to Father

by Emilie Vast

(\$7.99. *Charlesbridge Publishing*. www.charlesbridge.com)

Father couldn't be father if weren't for his father and fathers before him. In this wonderful little book, *from Father to Father*, a father tells his son about his family of fathers from his great-great-grandfather to his own birth.

This long line of fathers is celebrated each with their own nesting doll drawing decorated in bright colors, embellishments, plants and

animals in the style of a matryoshka doll, also known as a Russian nesting doll.

The final nesting doll drawing is of the little boy who someday may be a father, too.

The book was first published in French as *De Papa en Papa*. Vast also has authored a similar book celebrating the line of mothers entitled *from Mother to Mother*.

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The Road Trip Book

1001 Drives of a Lifetime

Edited by Darryl Sleath, foreword by Charley Boorman
(\$36.95. Rizzoli International Publications. www.rizzoliusa.com)

This 960-page book is a remarkable creative effort with contributions from a dozen travel writers, most of whom are car or cycle buffs, as well as hundreds of photographers from around the world. Because of space limitations there is only one, maybe two photographs to accompany each travel route, but the photographs are spectacular.

We learn there are an estimated 40 million miles of highway, dirt track, ice roads, tunnels and bridges net-worked around the globe being used daily by some two billion automobiles, trucks, off-roaders, camper vans, RVs, buses, motorcycles plus other types of vehicles.

If you are eager for road-tripping (especially now that the weather is pleasant) there are many roads to travel, but for the best scenery, the most interesting places to visit and some with challenges other than traffic jams, *The Road Trip Book* offers you 200 choices in the United States; 40 each in England, France and Italy; and 32 in Canada. Every continent is represented. Even islands and mountain tops.

Vermont scores two trips

Considering that road trips are worldwide, New England fares well with 12 listings. One of the two for Vermont is a trip many of us have made, in part if not from start to finish. It's a 220-mile tour of Main Streets from Brattleboro to Newport. Featured along the way are several covered bridges, captivating countrysides and pastures, mountainous terrain, and quaint towns with "interesting eateries, galleries and antique shops."

The second Vermont trip is a 48-mile Lake Champlain Island hop where travelers will pass over spectacular bridges, view beautiful land and waterscapes, enjoy bird and even moose watching, and find plenty of clean sandy beaches.

Venturing into New Hampshire an obvious attraction is the 7.6-mile Mt. Washington Auto Road with its piston-straining average gradient of 11.6%. Your vehicle later can proudly display a sticker, "This Car Climbed Mt. Washington."

The other New Hampshire trip is billed "Quintessential New England"—a 36-mile route from Sanbornville to East Conway with its unspoiled woodland, lakes and white clapboard farmsteads.

Maine has four tempting routes taking advantage of its beautiful rock-bound coast: Acadia All-American Road from Ellsworth to Bar Harbor; Mt. Desert Island, a 37-mile round trip; Atlantic Highway 1 from Brunswick to Calais, 239 miles of coastal scenery, lighthouses, states parks and the "freshest seafood imaginable"; and The Old Canada Road scenic byway from Solon to Sandy Bay Township (78 miles), a journey into northern Maine forests to the Canadian border.

Trips made famous in movies

During a lifetime one is bound to have seen several movies based on travel adventures for pleasure, drama, or derring-do. The same trips offered here (or a close similarity) include the *Rain Man* road trip (2,980 miles) from Cincinnati, OH to Los Angeles, CA taken in a 1949 Buick Roadmaster convertible; *Easy Rider* (2,674 miles) from Ballarat, CA to Krotz Springs, LA done by actors Peter Fonda and Dennis Hopper on two Harley choppers; and *Road Trip—The Movie* from Ithaca, NY to Austin, TX, done by four college students on their annual spring break.

(This book reviewer took a similar, but non-stop trip (five of us in a big old Chrysler) from Ithaca, NY to Fort Lauderdale, FL in 1953.)

A movie set near to us in Vermont is the Martha's Vineyard *Jaws* Movie Tour (31.7 miles) which takes in several locations from Steven Spielberg's Academy Award-winning movie (1975) including "Jaws" Bridge and Gay Head Lighthouse.

Many crossing trips

The book features suggestions for trips across continents or other vast reaches, including deserts, salt flats and iced-over lakes.

Take your pick: The Trans-Siberia Highway (6,800 miles) from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok, Russia, which spans eight time zones; The Trans-Sahara Highway (2,800 miles) from Algeria to Nigeria, considered one of the world's most dangerous roads due to sand storms and security concerns; The Trans-Amazonian Highway (2,516 miles) which bisects the Amazonian rain forest, a remarkable feat of engineering that has drawn a lot of criticism for causing ecological havoc; The Trans-Canada Highway (4,990 miles) from Newfoundland to British Columbia which offers 3,500 points of interest including the scoured, glacial grassland of Saskatchewan; and The Trans-Andean Highway (382 miles), a trip that passes through the Andes mountains in South America in a region famed for its fine coffee with its high-light reaching over 13,000 feet of elevation.

Nearer to home one might consider a trip across America. One crossing suggested here is The Oregon National Historic Trail (3,300 miles) starting in Plymouth, MA, and ending up in Oregon City, OR, including 125 designated historic sites; "Travels with Charley" (9,762 miles) based on John Steinbeck's book (1962), starting in Sag Harbor, Long Inland, NY, and meandering over parts of the country from there to the Pacific Coast; and On the Road, the 3,100-mile trip from New York to California in 1947 based on Jack Kerouac's book about the beat generation which was later made into a movie (2012).

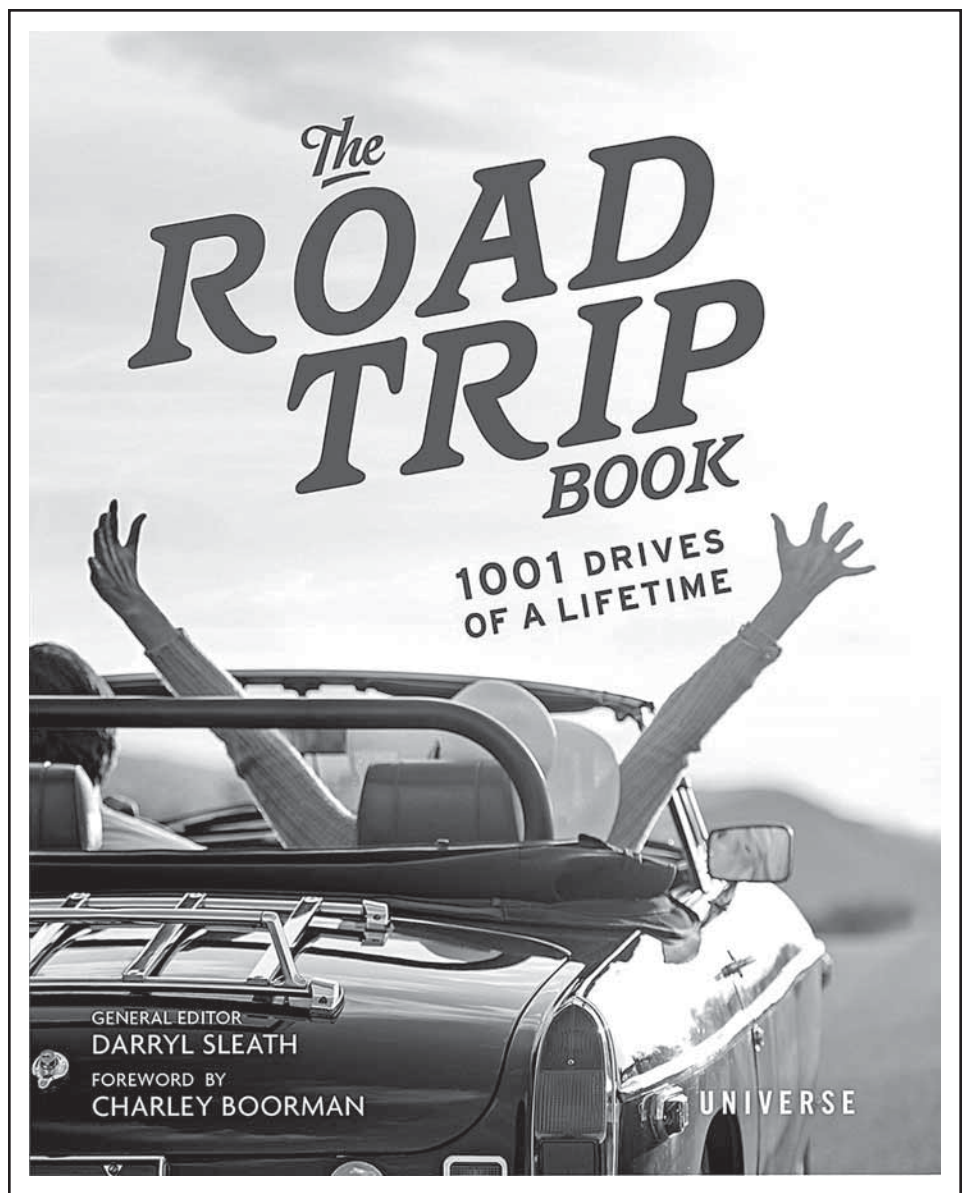
Trips for history buffs

History buffs, especially those fascinated by military events, will find plenty of suitable routes throughout the United States as well as abroad. Near to us in Massachusetts are the Mohawk Native American trail from Athol to Williamstown (67.7 miles); and a Revolutionary Road Tour from Pittsfield to Boston (168 miles).

Also recommended is the 180-mile Journey Through Hallowed Ground Scenic Byway from Gettysburg, PA to Monticello, VA passing through dozens of historic villages, battlefields, plantation mansions and national parks.

One can now travel 1,000 miles of the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Vietnam. This trail, built in the jungle during the war, was a major feat of engineering that helped North Vietnam win. The total network included 12,500 miles of parallel trails.

For those of us who lived during World War II there's a chance to drive on the 24-Zig Road, one of the most spectacular roads in China. It was built in southwest China to help US convoys carry war supplies and food to Chinese forces fighting the Japanese. At its peak 2,000 army trucks climbed that



road every day. The book shows an excellent photograph of the road today.

For other pictures of hairpin-rich-roads see the Cole de Tende in the Alps on the French-Italian border, an ancient pass used by the Romans, the Greeks and the Phoenicians; the Kotor Serpentine in Montenegro with 25 hairpin turns; Serra da Leba Pass in Angola in southern Africa with 95 curves, seven of which are consecutive hairpin bends over only one mile; and The Road to Heaven in northwest China, up the 4,983-foot Tianmen Mountain with 99 bends.

Outstanding choices

Many trips in the book fall into a 'wow class' urging you to tell others to read about them even though the chances of ever doing the route are remote. Among trips that wowed us were:

The Millau Viaduct Loop in southern France considered one of the world's best-looking bridges. It is also the world's tallest bridge reaching 1,125 feet above ground. The figure-eight itinerary both crosses the bridge and passes beneath it.

Bollenstreek Route—The Flower Route, a 45-mile drive from South to North Holland in the Netherlands, the center of the world's flower trade with its amazing multi-colored landscapes of crocuses, daffodils, roses, and of course, masses of tulips.

The Eshima Ohashi Bridge in Chugoku, Japan, resembles a giant roller coaster because its covers a short distance but had to be high enough to let large cargo ships pass underneath. It is frequently voted Japans 'most frightening bridge' as it look as if vehicles are climbing a rear vertical slope. It took seven years to build.

The Laerdal Tunnel in western Norway, the world's longest road tunnel (15.2 miles) and an important link between Bergen and Oslo. The tunnel features several huge cavern

halls with rest areas bathed in bright blue and golden lights to help claustrophobics and keep driver's brains stimulated.

Also, in Norway the 5.2 mile Atlantic Road with 80 breathtaking bridges which snakes from tiny island to tiny island on Norway's west coast.

The Amalfi Coast Road (47 miles) in Campania, Italy, is one of the most famous highways in the world, and the location for many movies including John Huston's *Beat the Devil* (1953) starring Humphrey Bogart. The route passes through exquisite villages along cliff tops with spectacular ocean views.

The world's longest 'dead-end' is the 2,485-mile Road to Anabar in Siberia. Those who 'survived' such a trip starting in Irkutsk, go all the way to the Arctic Circle with its overwhelmingly beautiful taiga, forests, located just below the tundra. Irkutsk also is the start and finish to a 600-mile Lake Baikal Ice Run (the route takes place all on the frozen lake and rivers).

How about a drive on sand? The Bonneville Speedway in Utah every August hosts a week of drag racing on its sand flats but at other times you will have the run of the place.

Editor Darryl Sleath, who also contributed to *1001 Cars to Dream of Driving Before You Die*, is the co-founder of the MotorPunk website (www.motorpunk.co.uk). Among his many top choices for trips are the Salar de Uyuni, the world's largest salt flats in Bolivia; the Harriet Tubman Byway commemorating the secret escape route through Maryland used by freedom seeking slaves; and the cliff-clinging Shafer Canyon Trail in Utah.

Charley Boorman, who wrote the forward, is an actor, travel adventurer and motorcycle enthusiast, who has appeared in many TV series featuring motor trips; among them, "Race to Dakar" featured in "By Any Means" (2008).

Book Review by Charles Sutton

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Challenges to Vermont Dairies in an Ever Changing Market Environment

by Roger Allbee

According to Vermont history, the State Seal is the only seal that recognizes the dairy industry. Plows appear on thirteen, sheaves of wheat on nine, but Vermont stands alone in recognition of dairy.

Dairying has never been easy, and always has been disruptive and subject to change, over time. After the demise of the world class merino sheep industry in the 1800s (caused by the loss of protective tariffs and inability to compete with Western low-cost producers) farmers turned to dairy, and butter and cheese production.

Once world's butter capital

By 1880 Vermont was considered by many to be the butter capital of the world, with St. Albans producing one fourth of the butter in the state. Whole industries grew up around butter and cheese. Before 1915, at the peak of the butter trade, nearly 300 butter and cheese plants were operating in the state. Almost every town had a creamery nearby.

The growth of cities like Boston and New York required an increasing amount of fluid milk for their residents. According to records, there was not agreement among Vermont dairy farmers and their leaders at the time in responding to this need. Some argued that milk should be kept in Vermont, and that shipping in fluid form out of state would lead to the closing of cheese and butter plants (which it did) and fair pricing issues to farmers. During this time, consumption was projected to grow in the urban areas, as it did for many years.

Became fluid milk producer

Becoming a fluid milk producing state did create major hurdles for farmers, especially relating to pricing and new required interstate sanitary standard requirements. Due to considered unfair pricing by buyers, action was taken to further help dairy farmers. Congress passed laws such as Capper-Volstead in 1922 for limited anti-trust protection against price fixing by farmer cooperatives; special financing programs with the Farm Credit Acts; University agricultural research and extension programs; the soil conservation act after the Dust Bowl of the 1930s; and in 1937 the Agricultural Adjustment Act was passed allowing farmers to form and participate in federal market orders.

Milk pricing became controlled

In that same year, a conference of dairy leaders from New England, organized by the Governors, approved for the first time, the federal control of milk pricing through these orders that still exist for conventional milk today. In 1982, the parity pricing concept for milk, created in 1949 after low farm dairy pricing, was eliminated by Congress resulting in the further price deregulation of the dairy industry.

Even at the state level many programs were enacted to mitigate the impact of poor returns on dairy and other types of farming. These have included the Current Use Tax Program in 1978, the VT Housing and Conservation Board for Purchase of Development Rights in 1987; an Agricultural



A herd of Jersey dairy cows graze and rest on a hillside farm in central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

Loan Program through VEDA, and more recently the Working Lands Enterprise Program.

Milk consumption decline

What is happening in the dairy sector today is well documented. The declining consumption of fluid milk, the dependence on export markets for better pricing, the westward movement of production, consolidation of and increase in size of farms, fewer milk product buyers and sellers, and the inability of the farmer owned cooperatives to capture higher raw product pricing for their owner/members as was envisioned when the farmer cooperative movement was established and encouraged in the early 1900's.

And also having a financial impact is the increasing public pressure for quick fixes to water quality resulting from farm practices or non-point source water pollution. (Note that the federal Clean Water Act was passed in 1972 influenced by the burning of the Cuyahogo River in Ohio).

Adjustments needed now

Adjustment has never been easy. Vermont dairy farmers, and some of their cooperatives have demonstrated resilience in the past. It will require, however, new thinking and possibly new products beyond fluid milk in a declining and very competitive fluid milk market. It will take many working together across the political and economic spectrum. It is too important sector for our economy, the tourist trade, and our sense of who we are as a state to do otherwise. The dairy cow on the State Seal remains important as does clean water and good soil health. All should be achievable we believe.

Roger Allbee is a former Secretary of Agriculture, Farm and Markets for Vermont. Information on the agricultural history of Vermont can be found on his blog at www.whatceremightsay.blogspot.com.

Pasture Bars

He found the Jerseys waiting patiently,
Grouped near the bars beneath the pasture hill,
Calm-eyed, serene, a part of patient days
And seasons going by with footsteps still.

With grave regard they watched the bar's release
Bring freedom and the fresh, sweet wayside grass
And homeward turned sedately, while he paused
Waiting the pleasure of an idling lass.

And then delayed beside the open bars,
Beyond which he could see the dark hills' blue
Changing to gold and rose, for one last need
To let the sunset through!

—ARTHUR WALLACE PEACH
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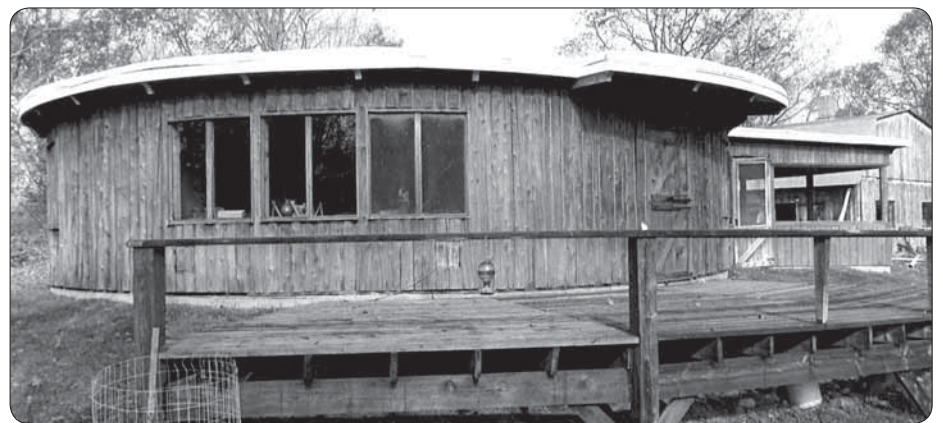
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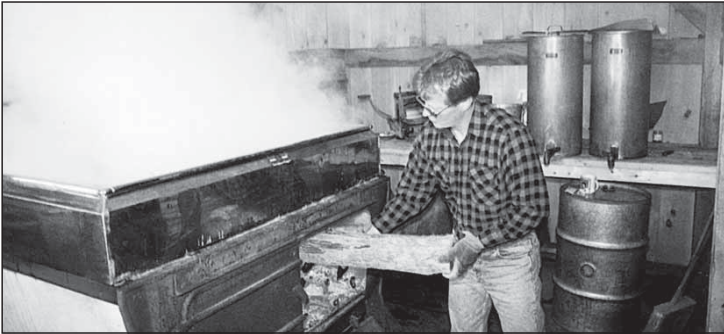
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