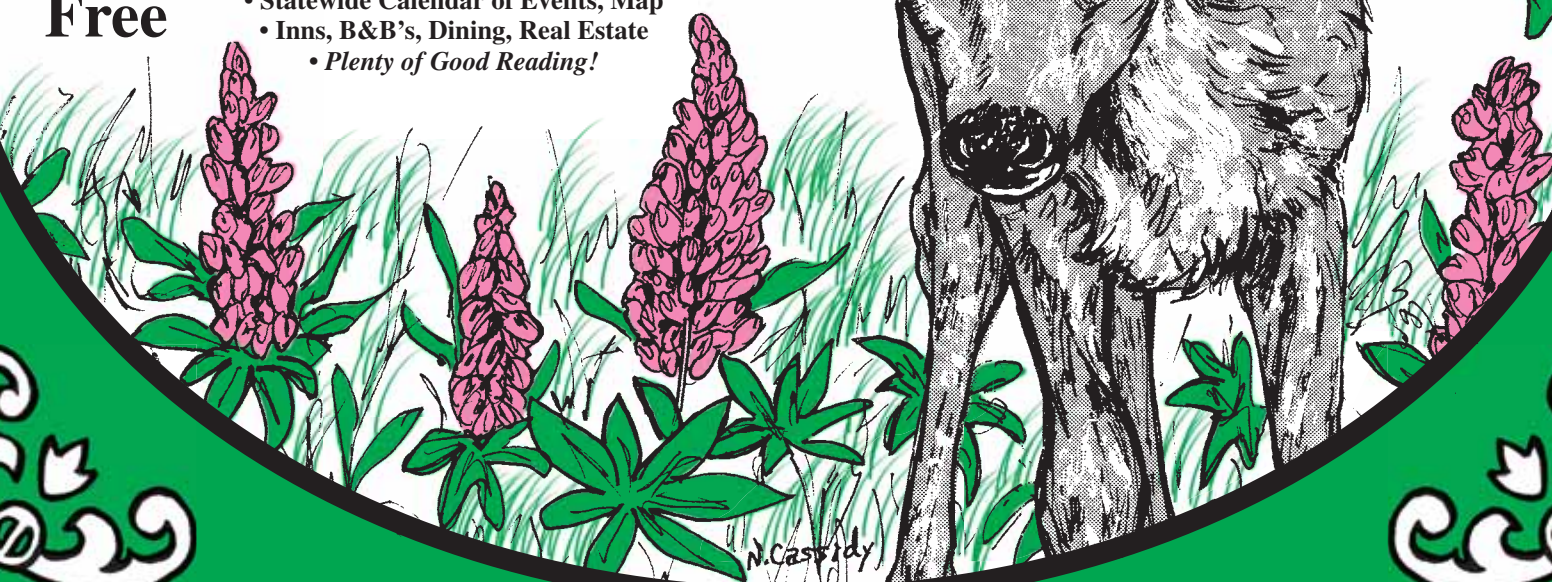


Vermont Country Sampler

June 2019

Free

- Statewide Calendar of Events, Map
- Inns, B&B's, Dining, Real Estate
- Plenty of Good Reading!



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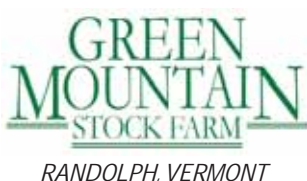
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For Further Information and to Arrange a Tour:

Sam Sammis, Owner
2 South Main Street, Randolph, VT
Email: Sammis@NewEnglandLand.com
Mobile: (802) 522-8500
Web: GreenMountainStockFarm.com



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June Journal

One Event Becomes Enough

by Bill Felker

Last year on June 9, I wrote the following: "Quiet morning in the yard. Grackles in the alley but not here at home. Small green berries on the bittersweet. All the bells gone from the lily of the valley. One great mullein seen flowering along the highway. One velvet purple Japanese iris blooming in the pond. The first firefly was glowing in the woods tonight."

Keeping notes like this about events in nature over a number of years has shown me what I already knew: if something happens once, it will often happen again.

Often, though, I assume too much and go too far.

When I see the same things happening every June, I develop expectations, and when

those expectations are fulfilled, I take the expectations a little further, and then a little further still. I find rules and laws and systems. Finally I start imagining that not only is each day's journal a record of its own events, but a history of what has always occurred and what will occur again and again.

I no longer wait for repetition in order to formulate patterns or models, precedents or predictions. One day's narrative is enough to evoke—not scientific truth—but fantasy. And then—once I reach that point, everything makes sense. Fantasy becomes Faith. I settle in to the solid landscape of here and now. One event becomes enough.



Naulakha, home to Rudyard Kipling in Dummerston, VT, while he wrote *The Jungle Books* and *Captains Courageous*. photo by Kelly Fletcher Photography

Dummerston, VT

Tours of Rudyard Kipling's Vermont Estate & Rhododendron Tour on May 29th & 30th

Come for a special one-hour guided tour of Nobel Prize winning author Rudyard Kipling's former Vermont estate, when the spectacular 100-yard multi-colored rhododendron tunnel, leading out to a spacious stone patio, is in full bloom!

See and learn about Naulakha, the authentically restored main house where Kipling wrote *The Jungle Books* and *Captains Courageous*, among others.

Visit the Kipling Car-

riage House, also one of The Landmark Trust USA's five historic vacation rentals, and the Barn Museum, once home to Kipling's team, Nip and Tuck.

Enjoy tea on the back deck after the tour, and feel free to wander the grounds to see the irises in bloom and the private clay tennis courts located below Naulakha (the first tennis courts built in Vermont). No dogs, please.

Four guided tours, each limited to 20 people, will be

offered on Wednesday, May 29th and Thursday, May 30th at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.; 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., rain or shine.

Tours are \$35 per person and fill quickly! Enjoy a picnic on the grounds, at our picnic tables or on the stone patio by the pergola. Brown bag lunches are available and need to be pre-ordered at the time of registering for your tour.

Located in Dummerston, near Brattleboro, VT Naulakha, one of seventeen National Historic Landmarks

in Vermont, is otherwise not open to the public unless as a vacation rental.

There is no guarantee that the rhododendrons will be in full bloom at the time of the tours since that is up to Mother Nature, but it is typically the time when they do bloom.

Proceeds from the tours will go to advance the work of The Landmark Trust USA.

Register online at landmarktrustusa.org/events/tours or by calling (802) 254-6868.

Dummerston Center

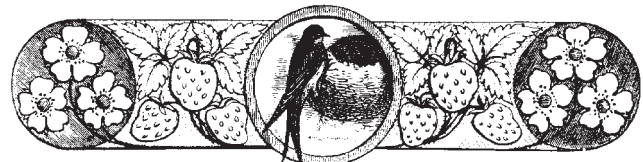
50th Annual Old Fashioned Strawberry Shortcake Supper

The Dummerston Congregational Church will hold their annual strawberry shortcake supper on Saturday, June 29, 2019 at Evening Star Grange in Dummerston Center with continuous servings from 5-7 pm.

The menu includes baked ham, baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad, tuna macaroni salad, and old-fashioned strawberry shortcakes with

real whipped cream. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 6-12 and the little ones are free. No reservations necessary.

The Evening Star Grange is located at 1008 East-West Rd. in Dummerston Center, VT. For information call (802) 257-0544 or email dccsecretarysjm@gmail.com Hope to see you there!

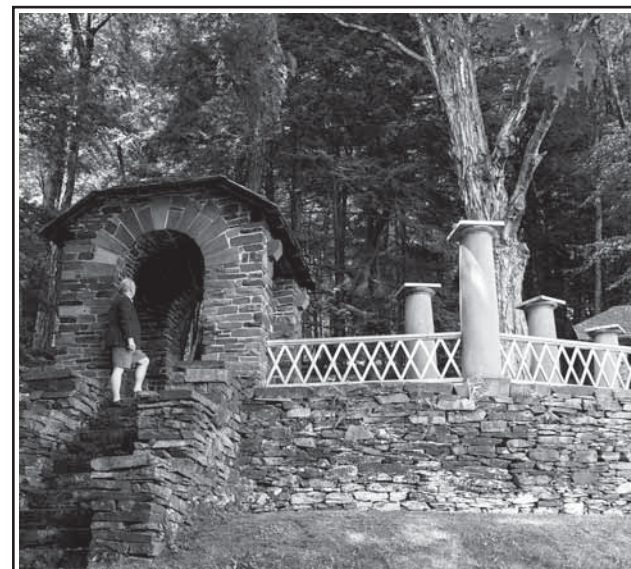


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The stone pergola at Naulakha in Dummerston, VT. photo by Kelly Fletcher Photography

Vermont Country Sampler
June 2019, Vol. XXXV
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Strolling of the Heifers
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Brattleboro, Vermont - June 7-8-9

THE PARADE!
Saturday, June 8 at 10 a.m.
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Friday Festival • Entertainment • Strolling of the Heifers Parade • Slow Living Expo • Famous Farmer's Breakfast • Tour de Heifer • Farm Tours

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Strolling of the Heifers

www.StrollingoftheHeifers.com



A 4-H exhibitor and her calf participate in the Strolling of the Heifers in Brattleboro, VT.

photo by Kelly Fletcher

Brattleboro, VT

Annual Strolling of the Heifers Parade and Festival Highlights Local Farmers and Local Food

June 7th 8th & 9th

The 18th Annual Strolling of the Heifers Weekend, featuring a parade of future farmers leading flower-bedecked heifer calves through historic Main Street Brattleboro, VT takes place this June 7th, 8th and 9th.

The centerpiece of the weekend is the world-famous Strolling of the Heifers Parade, which starts promptly at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 8th. The signature heifer calves lead the parade and are followed by other farm animals, tractors, bands, floats and much more.

The crowd then follows the parade to the all-day Slow Living Expo to enjoy food, family fun, entertainment and exhibits. The Expo will be on the Brattleboro Common and Lower Linden Street.

Over the years, Strolling of the Heifers has grown from a one-hour parade into a full weekend packed with family events and attracts tens of thousands of visitors to this scenic Connecticut Valley town in the heart of New England.

The mission of Strolling of the Heifers is to connect people with healthy local foods and with the farmers and producers who bring it to them. In recent years, the mission has expanded to include a year-round set of programs aimed at encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship in farm and food businesses.

First and foremost, the event shows support and appreciation for family farmers, but it also features many other regional food producers as well as vendors and exhibitors of sustainable goods and services.

Slow Living Expo

At the Slow Living Expo, visitors will find makers of many specialty foods including candies, chocolates, condiments, sauces, meats, food and beverages, along with craftspeople, green building and home energy specialists, healthy living and woodlands exhibitors. Visitors will also get to visit with the heifers.

The day will be filled with music and entertainment at the gazebo in the center of the Common and other locations. Music styles from honky-tonk to hip-hop with some folk, jazz and a capella will be performed by local and national bands. Full schedule available at: www.strollingoftheheifers.com.

A crowd favorite at the Expo is the non-stop trapeze artists

show by the New England Center for Circus Arts, which is based in Brattleboro.

Strolling of the Heifers Weekend

Friday Fest and the Finals of the Great New England Coffee Cakes & Sweet Breads Competition—Friday evening, June 7 from 5 to 9 p.m. The party will start on the Common with food trucks, vendors and live music.

Specialty Foods and VT Beverages Expo, at the Stroll's River Garden headquarters at 157 Main Street. A tasting of spirits and beer from Vermont distillers and brewers. The finals of its Great New England Coffee Cakes & Sweet Breads Competition, including public tasting to determine the People's Choice award winner.

Farm Art—Every June, the Gallery at the Garden at Strolling of the Heifers' headquarters at 157 Main Street, features works with a farm theme. This year artists Amber Bessette and Steven Meyers will display their artwork all month. Amber Bessette's acrylic paintings feature "Young Women in Farming" scenes from around her Guilford, VT farm. Steven Meyer's work depicts old farmsteads and dense forests from the West River Valley rendered with India ink on Yupo paper.

The Strolling of the Heifers Parade—Saturday morning, June 8th, at 10 a.m. sharp! The world-famous centerpiece of Strolling of the Heifers: a parade like no other, featuring up to 100 heifer calves, bedecked with flowers for the occasion and led by proud future farmers, along with many other farm animals, bands, floats, tractors, clowns and much more. (Please, no dogs at the parade or Expo, since they may scare the animals.) The heifers lead the parade, and there is pre-parade entertainment, so don't be late!

The Slow Living Expo—9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday June 8th. This festival happens at the Brattleboro Common and lower Linden Street, and is attended by the entire parade audience, which follows the parade up Main Street to come to the Expo. Among other things, the Expo will showcase: Antique tractors on the Common, Home Energy exhibits, crafts, the Woodlands Exhibit, wellness exhibits; entertainment, food trucks with food from around the world, and lots of surprises!

The Famous Farmers Breakfast—Sunday morning, June 9th. The Stroll's annual showcase of natural and organic

breakfast foods, held at the Marina Restaurant, off Putney Road at the West River.

The Tour de Heifer—all day, Sunday June 9th. Vermont's most challenging dirt road cycling tours, with 15, 30 and 60-mile options, plus a three-mile hiking option. Hosted by the Robb Family Farm in Brattleboro.

Farm Tour—Sunday, June 9th. The Stroll has partnered with six special farms in the Brattleboro area, each with something unique to offer, who will be offering guided tours. Check the website for locations and directions.

The money raised during Strolling of the Heifers weekend, largely through business sponsorships, supports the Stroll's year round programs at its River Garden headquarters in downtown Brattleboro. These include a Farm-to-Table Culinary Apprenticeship Program and Windham Grows, a program that helps scale up socially conscious farm and food enterprises by providing them with mentorship, consulting, services and resources. There are also daily brown bag lunch events featuring speakers and musicians.

For further information on all events and programs, please visit www.strollingoftheheifers.com.



Crowds gather to enjoy the festivities in Brattleboro, VT.

photo by Kelly Fletcher

Working Woodlands Workshops at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP

The Visitor Center & Mansion at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park in Woodstock, VT are open May 25 to Oct 31. Park trails are open dawn to dusk. To check details call (802) 457-3368 x 222 for more information.

If you only have a short time to spend, stop by the visitor desk to plan your park experience with guides and adventure packs. We look forward to seeing you on the trails, in the gardens, sitting a spell on the porch, or at one of these programs.

Vermont Forest Birds

Working Woodlands Workshop
Saturday, June 22, 2019, 7:30-9:30 a.m.

The hills are alive with the sound of birds! But what exactly are they telling us? The NPS Northeast Temperate Network has been monitoring bird populations in the park since 2006.

Join us for this two-hour workshop where Ed Sharron, NPS Science Communication Specialist, will share some of the findings revealed by the monitoring and explain how you can get involved in this volunteer run monitoring program. We'll also learn how to identify the songs of common birds in the park's forest and then head out for a walk around the park to look and listen for birds. A limited number of binoculars will be available for loan. Please dress appropriately for extended outdoor activity. Co-sponsored by Vermont Coverts and the Vermont Woodlands Association.

Workshop takes place at the Carriage Barn Visitor Center, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP. No cost.

Habitat Management for Landowners

Working Woodlands Workshop
Saturday, June 29, 2019, 9-11:30 a.m.

Are you a landowner wondering what you can do to improve habitat for wildlife and promote native tree species in your woods? This workshop led by Travis Hart, Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife, will provide you with the basics to get you started on creating a habitat management plan to promote desirable species and minimize habitat for invasive species. Travis will also provide an overview of programs that provide funding for landowners to implement habitat projects in their woods. Indoor presentation will be followed by a hike around the park to learn about habitat requirements for different species. Takes place at the Forest Center, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP. No cost.

Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park is located in Woodstock, VT at 54 Elm St. Parking is available in the Billings Farm & Museum overflow lot, located on Old River Road. To register or learn more call (802) 457-3368 x 222, or e-mail us at ana_mejia@partner.nps.gov.



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Sustainable forestry discussion at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park in Woodstock, VT. NPS photo

Woodstock, VT

Billings Farm & Museum Dairy Celebration Days

Vermont's rural heritage is open for its 37th season. Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a 148-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.

Billings Farm & Museum, announces its Dairy Celebration Days on Saturday and Sunday, June 22 & 23, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Celebrate Vermont's rich dairy heritage during this two-day event by sampling delicious dairy products including our award-winning Billings Farm Cheddar Cheese, and taking part in engaging dairy educa-

tion programs. Help make cheese, ice cream, and butter, and learn how goat milk is made into soap.

Also included in the weekend celebration is the Youth Invitation Dairy Show. Watch students from all around New England on Saturday as they prepare their cattle for the competition on Sunday.

Billings Farm & Museum is open daily, April 1 through

October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends Nov. - Feb., and Christmas & February vacation weeks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: adults: \$16; 62 & over: \$14; children 5-15: \$8; 3-4: \$4; 2 & under: free.

The Farm & Museum is located one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Vermont Route 12.

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



photo by Billings Farm & Museum
Competitors show their Jersey heifers at the Youth Invitation Dairy Show at Billings Farm.

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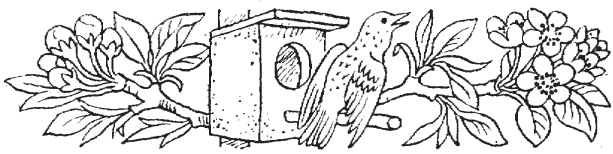
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The Farmer's Cookbook

Make Hay While the Sun Shines

by Marie W. Lawrence

During my childhood, the month of June brought two significant events: the end of school for the summer and haying. Actually, to be more accurate, it brought first-cut haying, as opposed to second or possibly even third cut. Grasses and plants mature in a cyclical fashion, so hay cut in June could well be of a different makeup than that harvested in late July or August. Graduated haying signaled a shift in farming practice from the early twentieth century, when frequently only one cutting was done in late summer, after the hay crop had matured and dried in the field. This made for lower yield and less nutritional value but, at the time, was accepted practice.

I didn't really wonder about such things when I was a kid; I just remember hearing the whine and groan of ancient farm trucks circling the seventeen-acre pasture across the road from our house. As they trailed after the tractor hauling a baler thumping out rectangular bales of hay, older neighborhood kids would haul the bales over to each truck in turn, hefting them up over the sides to whoever was perched up top stacking them.

I knew once he'd hayed his own large farm fields, our neighbor Ray would eventually drive his tractor over to the small pasture behind our house, cutting, tedding, winnowing, and eventually baling the hundred-plus bales that would feed our animals over the upcoming winter. Once he'd finished the process, we'd hustle to get all the bales safely under cover in our goat barn before any June thunderstorms rolled our way.

Predictably there would always be a few bales that would fall apart in the field, the twine around them not quite tight enough to hold the hay firmly in place. I used to think gathering up these partial bales was the easy part of the job—no more aching fingers and shoulders from grasping and hauling the tightly packed full-sized hay bales. That was until the time I had gathered one of those partial bales in my arms and was halfway back to the barn when the tail of a garter snake slid out of it and over my forearm. As the rest of the snake proceeded to smoothly follow its wayward tail over my arm, that particular bundle of hay and I parted ways in a speedy fashion.

National Dairy Month

With the many farm critters benefiting from hay harvested in June, how fitting that June is also National Dairy Month. It's the perfect time to be contemplating all the delicious milk-based dishes to be made courtesy of our friends the cows, goats, and sheep.

If you'd like to adventure on past the requisite puddings and milk-shakes, why don't you try your hand at cheese making? Especially with some of the soft varieties, making your own cheese may just be easier than you think. If you must rely on store-bought milk, there will be a few cautionary tales along the way; our system of pasteurization helps make the milk safer for consumption but not always such a reliable source for cheese making. If you're lucky enough to live in a rural area, as I do, sources of milk suitable for cheese making may be easier and more economical to come by.

You will need a few pieces of specialized equipment, such as a reliable cheese thermometer, which will register at a lower temperature than common candy or meat thermometers.

FARMER OR POT CHEESE

Time: ½ hour preparation time, approximately 1 day to set curd, another 12 hours draining.

Farmer or pot cheese is easier to make than hard or cured cheeses. If you have your own fresh milk supply, you may wish to double or triple this recipe. The buttermilk or lemon juice is necessary for curd formation when using pasteurized milk. If you're using ultrapasteurized, currently the most common commercially sold milk, I would suggest the acidity of the lemon juice for better results.

2 qt. milk, fat content your choice ¼ c. lemon juice or ½ c. buttermilk

Place the milk in a stainless steel bowl or saucepan that has been set in a larger pan of hot water. Heat the milk to 180°F. Stir in the buttermilk or lemon juice and remove both pans from the heat, with the smaller pan still semi-submerged in the water. Cover and allow the mixture to stand for up to 24 hours. You will be able to tell when this is ready because the solid white curd will separate from the liquid whey. Drain the mixture through a cheesecloth that has been set in a colander. Allow the curd to drain for about 4 hours in



photo courtesy of Merck Forest and Farmland
Gathering hay with horse and wagon at the Harwood Family Farm, photo taken many years ago, in Rupert, VT, along Old Town Road, the main route that cuts through Merck Forest and Farmland Center today. The barn in the center, now known as the Harwood Barn, is still used by the educational farm today.

the colander. Rinse it gently with cool water, then bring up the corners of the cheese-cloth, and tie them tightly to make a hanging bag. Allow the cheese to drain for another 6–8 hours, until it is fairly firm. Starting with ¼ teaspoon, stir in salt to taste. You may now add herbs or other seasonings as you wish. Refrigerate your farmer cheese, covered, and use within 3–4 days.

CRÈME FRAÎCHE

Approximate time: About 15 minutes preparation plus 12 hours for thickening.

This French specialty is a cross somewhere between sweet and sour cream. It's as delicious as a dessert topping, and also adds a nice accent to many soups. The buttermilk or sour cream starter will enable even ultrapasteurized cream to thicken, although if you have access to regular pasteurized cream, it is preferable for this recipe. Crème fraîche will store up to 10 days, refrigerated and covered.

2 T. buttermilk or ¼ c. sour cream 2 c. heavy cream

Place the cream in a small saucepan and heat it to 85°F. Stir in the buttermilk or sour cream and pour the mixture into a glass bowl or bottle. Cover and allow it to stand at room temperature for about 12 hours, until it is quite thick. Refrigerate, covered, for up to 10 days.

CREAM CHEESE

Time: About ½ hour preparation and then approximately 1 day draining time.

Cream cheese is another relatively easy-to-make fresh cheese. Again, it will take about one full day to complete, although most of this time is spent by the cheese mixture just hanging out forming curd. This will produce about a pound of cream cheese. Although regular rather than ultrapasteurized half and half will give you the best results, I have been able to successfully make cream cheese using a combination of Organic Cow ultrapasteurized half and half and Kate's cultured buttermilk (regular pasteurization). These are both local New England brands; you may wish to experiment with what is available locally to you. In general, the cheese will take a little longer to produce using ultrapasteurized dairy products.

2 pints pasteurized (not ultrapasteurized) half and half ½ c. buttermilk
¼ c. rennet tablet
2 T. water
½ t. salt

Place the half and half in a medium-large stainless steel saucepan. Heat slowly until the liquid measures just 100°F on an instant-read thermometer. Don't overheat it; this is important, as higher temperatures might "kill" the rennet. Immediately remove the half and half from the heat. Dissolve the rennet in the cool water. Stir the buttermilk and the rennet into the cream mixture. Cover the pan and allow it to set, undisturbed, for between 18–24 hours, at which time there will be a nice thick creamy topping over the entire surface. Pour this mixture into a small meshed wire sieve that has been lined with enough dampened cheese-cloth for

a double layer with extra hanging over the edges. Drain the whey, eventually twisting the ends of the cheesecloth together to form a draining bag. You may then either replace it in the strainer or place it on a plate and weight it down with a heavy plate. It can then drain in the refrigerator for another day, if you wish. Allow it to drain for another 12–24 hours for best consistency.

Strawberry Time

June air is mellow with the scents of new mown hay, freshly moved lawn, and freshly turned soil. It's also strawberry time in Vermont—a season to glory in those sublime crimson berries that never taste quite as good as when they're fresh picked from the bed. Pies, jams, and shortcakes are sure to follow close behind.

FRESH STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

New Englanders prefer biscuits to sponge cake for shortcake—hence, the name "short," as in buttery. Here the biscuit dough is made sweet and soft and then baked in a round tin to cut in wedges. Nothing quite compares to fresh strawberry shortcake with real whipped cream. It's in a class by itself.

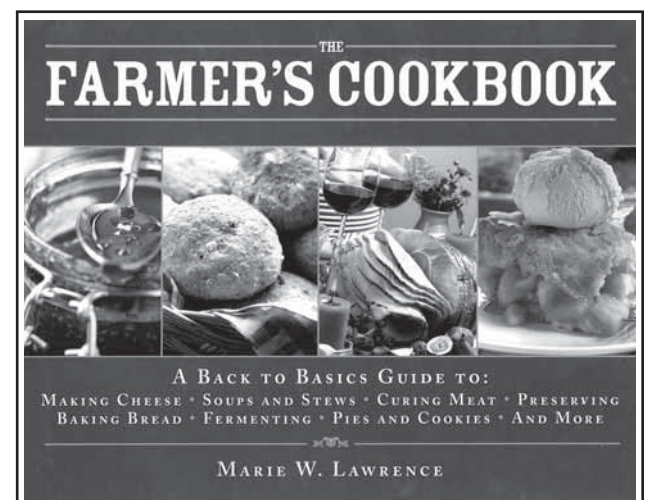
1 qt. strawberries, hulled and sliced ½ c. sugar, or to taste
¼ c. sugar 1 c. heavy cream

Shortcake

¼ c. flour ¼ c. sugar
2 t. baking powder ¼ c. butter, melted
½ c. milk

Combine the strawberries and sugar in a medium bowl. Allow them to sit while preparing the shortcake; this will allow time for the strawberries to "juice up." Combine the melted butter and milk in a medium mixing bowl. Stir in the combined dry ingredients until everything is just mixed; don't overbeat. Pour into a buttered 9" round cake pan, smoothing it evenly. Bake at 375°F until golden brown and baked through, approximately 25 minutes. A toothpick inserted into the shortcake's center should come out clean or with just a few crumbs clinging to it. Using a small cold bowl, combine the heavy cream and sugar, beating them together until the cream just holds fairly stiff peaks. I prefer to serve the shortcake while it is still hot out of the oven. Carefully cut it into eighths, removing the individual wedges to serving plates and splitting them open. Spoon the strawberries evenly over the cut surfaces of each. Add a dollop of the fresh whipped cream to the tops of your shortcake servings and enjoy! Some people have been known to save extra servings for breakfast the next day. This turn-of-the-century Thehay

The Farmer's Cookbook, \$24.96, Skyhorse Publishing, www.skyhorsepublishing.com. Author Marie W. Lawrence is a third generation Vermonter. An elementary school para-educator, mother of three, and grandmother of two, she lives with her husband in Brattleboro, VT.



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Poor Will's Guide to Farming & Gardening

by Bill Felker

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

June 2 – The New Moon is likely to strengthen the June 2 cold front, increasing chances of frost in the Northeast.

June 3 – New Moon time is favorable for pruning shrubs and trees that flowered earlier in the year.

June 4 – The canopy has closed above the woodland wildflowers when clovers are all blooming in the fields.

June 5 – Today is Eid al-Fitr, the Festival of the Breaking of the Ramadan Fast.

June 6 – Watch for mold in the hay stall in the feed storage area when humidity levels remain high for several days.

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

June 8 – Armyworms are at work when thistles bud.

June 9 – Plant the vegetable garden for August and September harvests.

June 10 – Mix medicinal herb seeds when you are seeding the pasture. Some favorites are balm, borage, chicory, horehound, hyssop, marjoram, rosemary, sage, and tansy.

June 11 – Exceptionally high temperatures may inhibit your bees' ability to make honey. Heat can also contribute to temporary sterility in male livestock.

June 12 – The second week of June often brings a heat wave. Cleanliness in the barn and yard pays off in fewer flies.

June 13 – Chickens in the pasture eat eggs of sheep parasites.

June 14 – Pasture rotation, regular testing and worming are among the very best ways to fight worms in your livestock.

June 15 – Plan to shear the scrotum of your rams for hot weather; keep them in a cool place with lots of shade.

June 16 – In addition to flies and gnats, mosquitoes can cause serious problems for your horses.

June 17 – Thunderstorms are likely as today's Full Moon influences the June 15 weather system. Chances of hurricane formation increase.

June 18 – Legumes should give your animals better nutrition and weight if you cut the crop right after bloom.

June 19 – Consider trimming the hooves of your pigs. Untrimmed feet can breed infections.

June 20 – Medicinal herbs for any homestead include dill (the seed is said to increase milk yields), fennel (for fevers, and constipation and all eye ailments), and anise (for digestive ailments).

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 – Don't let your pig get too warm. Hose him/her down with cool water to head off heat exhaustion.

June 23 – Consider an automated waterer for your pigs to help keep their water fresh and clean.

June 24 – If your animals have been out in the sun for a long period of time, and they are starting to pant and are unsteady on their feet, they could have sunstroke. Quickly check their temperature. Otherwise, immediately get your animal in the shade, sponge it down with cool water and put wet clothes around its head and neck. Sorrel and bran-molasses mash can also be helpful to overheated livestock.

June 25 – Many people plant turnips and beets for fall harvest and fall grazing under the waning moon of midsummer.

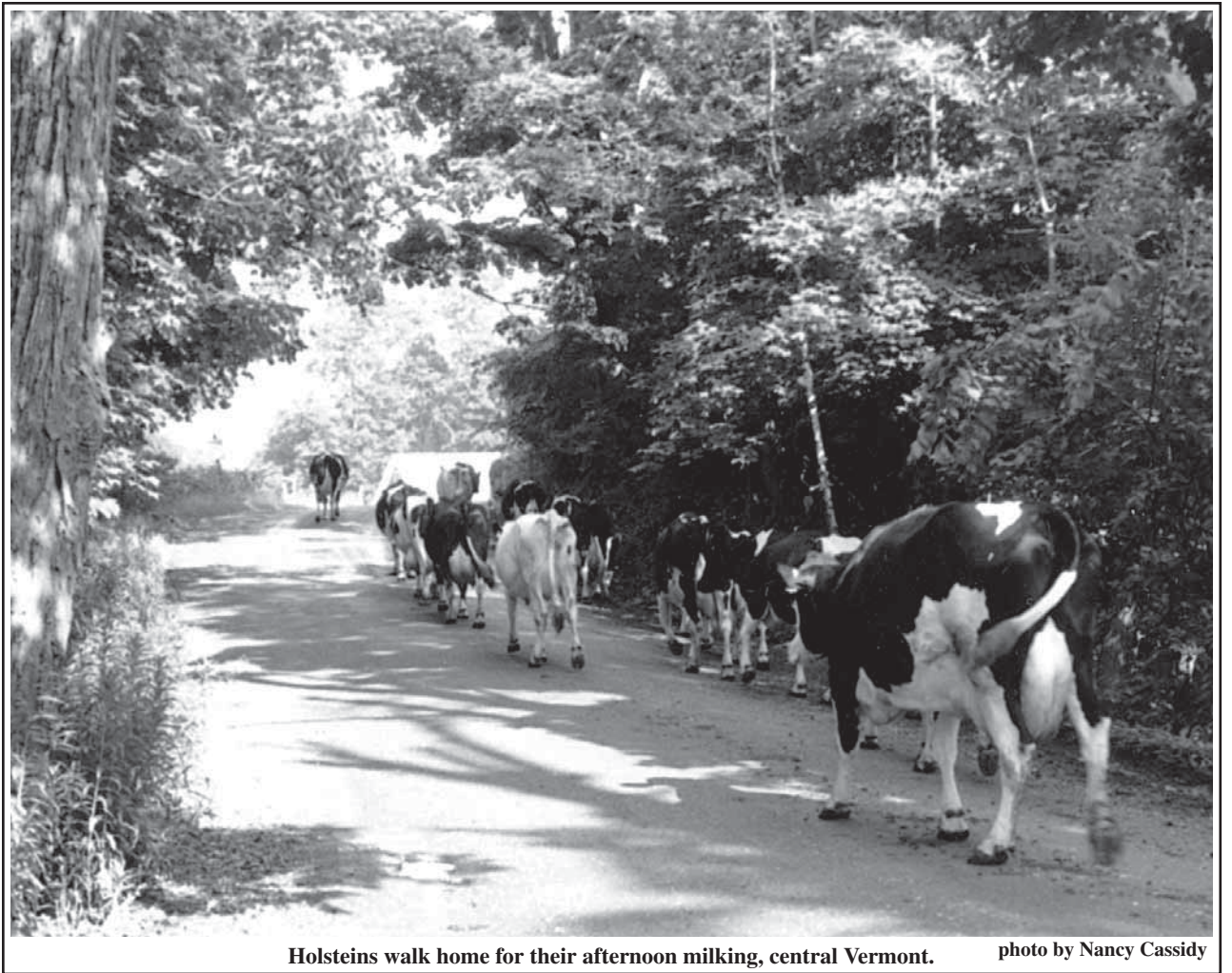
June 26 – If you have just a few goats, combine forces with other goatherds to buy larger quantities of hay at lower prices.

June 27 – When mimosa webworms appear on locust trees, potato leafhoppers reach serious levels in alfalfa.

June 28 – Since heat promotes the growth of bacteria, keep your goats' udders clipped to reduce milk contamination, and be sure to disinfect carefully before milking.

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

June 30 – When elderberry flowers turn to fruit, dig garlic before the heads break apart.



Holsteins walk home for their afternoon milking, central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

Driving Home the Cows

Out of the clover and blue-eyed grass,
He turned them into the river lane;
One after another he let them pass,
Then fastened the meadow bars again.

Under the willows and over the hill,
He patiently followed their sober pace;
The merry whistle for once was still,
And something shadowed the sunny face.

Only a boy! and his father had said
He never could let the youngest go!
Two already were lying dead
Under the feet of the trampling foe.

But after the evening work was done,
And the frogs were loud in the meadow swamp,
Over his shoulder he slung his gun,
And stealthily followed the footpath damp,—

Across the clover and through the wheat,
With resolute heart and purpose grim,
Though cold was the dew on his hurrying feet,
And the blind bats' flitting startled him.

Thrice since then had the lanes been white,
And the orchards sweet with apple bloom;
And now, when the cows came back at night,
The feeble father drove them home.

For news had come to the lonely farm
That three were lying where two had lain;
And the old man's tremulous, palsied arm
Could never lean on a son's again.

The summer day grew cool and late;
He went for the cows when the work was done;
But down the lane, as he opened the gate,
He saw them coming, one by one,—

Brindle, Ebony, Speckle, and Bess,
Shaking their horns in the evening wind,
Cropping the buttercups out of the grass—
But who was it following close behind?

Loosely swung in the idle air
The empty sleeve of army blue;
And worn and pale, from the crisping hair,
Looked out a face that the father knew,—

The great tears sprung to their meeting eyes;
"For the heart must speak when the lips are dumb,"
And under the silent evening skies,
Together they followed the cattle home.

For gloomy prisons will sometimes yawn,
And yield their dead unto life again;
And the day that comes with a cloudy dawn,
In golden glory at last may wane.

—KATE P. OSGOOD
Maine, 1860



Kate Putnam Osgood, born in Maine in 1840, was a contributor to the leading periodicals in her day. She was regarded as one of the most pleasing of American poets at that time.

Bellows Falls

20th Annual Roots on the River Festival Coming in June

After 20 years, the final act of the Roots on the River Festival promises to be memorable. "We're going out with a bang," producer Ray Massucco said. "This is my last year, and with no successor in sight, we decided to close the festival with some of our favorite acts from previous years!"

The music festival will run from Friday, June 7, through Sunday, June 9 with venues under the Big Tent at the Rodeway Inn and at the

Rockingham Meeting House. The lineup is virtually all Roots alumni and fan favorites including popular headliners James McMurtry, Hayes Carll, Mary Gauthier, Birds of Chicago, Bottle Rockets, Heather Maloney, and Eilen Jewell.

This will be Mary Gauthier's 14th appearance. She has hosted the Meeting House concert every year since 2014, and Roger Marin is the only artist who has performed at every Roots weekend. "We

already have loyal fans coming from Ireland, England, Canada, and at least 20 states so far!" Massucco said.

Other festival artists include Sarah Borges, Hayley Reardon, Brock Zeman, The Reverend Peyton's Big Damn Band, Meadow's Brothers, Nobody's Girl, Joe Crookston, and Sean Rowe.

Additionally, local performers will bookend the festival on Thursday evening and Sunday afternoon, including Ninja Monkey, Jesse Peters, Izzy Serebrov, The Milkhouse Heaters, The Cold River Ranters, and Matt Seiple.

The festival started in 2000 by local artist and music producer Charlie Hunter and featured headliner Fred

Eaglesmith and his band. Eaglesmith remained the keystone to the festival until 2013.

"My huge thanks and gratitude to Charlie Hunter and Fred Eaglesmith for the vision that created Roots, and to Charlie for letting me caretake Roots when he wanted to step out," Massucco said.

Through the years, many close friendships have formed between staff, fans, volunteers, and artists; the weekend feels a lot like a family reunion in many respects.

For more information, and to reserve tickets, please go to the festival's website: 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.

Find out how you can help this effort at www.caspt.org



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A Vermont Almanack for Early Summer

by Bill Felker

I hear the wild bee wind his horn,
The bird swings on the ripened wheat
The long green lances of the corn
Are tilting in the winds of morn,
The locust shrills his song of heat.

—John Greenleaf Whittier

Phases of the Milkweed Beetle Mating Moon

June 3: The Milkweed Beetle Mating Moon is new at 10:02 a.m.

June 7: The Moon reaches perigee at 6:21 p.m.

June 10: The Moon enters its second quarter at 12:59 a.m.

June 17: The Moon is full at 3:31 a.m.

June 23: The Moon is at apogee at 2:50 a.m.

June 25: The Moon enters its final quarter at 4:46 a.m.

The Sun's Progress

June 21: Summer solstice occurs on June 21 at 10:54 a.m., the Sun entering the Deep Summer sign of Cancer at the same time.

July 3: Earth reaches aphelion, the point at which it is farthest from the Sun.

The Planets

Now in Taurus, Venus lies almost due east just before dawn as the huge Morning Star.

Mars rises well after Venus from the east in Gemini, traverses the Gemini sky during the daylight, arriving in the west as the red Evening Star.

After sundown, find Jupiter rising from the southeast in Ophiuchus this month, setting into the western horizon just as Venus appears from the east in Gemini in the morning.

Up early in the evening, Saturn moves with Sagittarius along the southern horizon until it is lost in the dawn.

The Stars

Orion is the easy gauge of winter, rising with the Milky Way on November evenings, filling the southern sky throughout the night all winter, finally disappearing late in April. As Orion waxes, all of the pieces of summer recede; as that constellation wanes, each piece returns.

The Summer Triangle is the stellar gauge of summer. It is a parallel marker to Orion that clocks the unfolding of the leaves and flowers. Accompanied by the opposite end of the Milky Way, it appears on the evenings of May. Its triple constellations, Lyra, Cygnus and Aquila, contain three prominent capstone stars, Vega, Deneb and Altair, which form a giant triangle.

When all these stars come up after dark, the canopy of leaves is complete all along the 40th Parallel. Mock orange and peonies and iris blossom in the gardens, morning bird-song swells, strawberries ripen, sweet clover is open by the roadsides, and goslings enter adolescence.

When Vega, Deneb and Altair are positioned overhead at midnight, then the birds are quiet, ragweed pollen is in the air, blackberries are sweet, hickory nuts and black walnuts are falling, katydids and cicadas and late crickets are singing, rose of Sharon colors the garden.

When leaves are turning throughout the nation and the last wildflowers have completed their cycles, then Lyra, Cygnus and Aquila set in the west after sundown, leading the Milky Way through Cassiopeia and Perseus, dividing the heavens into equal halves, for an instant holding in balance summer and winter, linking the Summer Triangle with Orion rising again in the east.

Meteorology

Weather history indicates that cold waves will reach Vermont around June 2, 6, 10, 15, 23, 29. Full Moon on June 17 could contribute to unstable meteorological conditions in conjunction with the June 15 cool front and encourage the formation of an early hurricane.



Spring fawn in Central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept.

Vermont's Best Wildlife Watching

by Tom Rogers

Vermont is a wildlife viewing showcase. With a variety of habitats for wildlife to choose from, Vermont contains vast green woods, bogs straight out of a fairy tale, and even alpine tundra on top of its highest peaks. The state is an avian crossroads, where snowy owls spend the winter and magnolia warblers spend the summer. From birds singing to moose bugling to fish jumping, here are Vermont's premiere wildlife watching opportunities.

Hear the forest come alive with spring songbirds

No harbinger of spring is more distinctive than the sound of the birds singing in the forest. Whether it's the flute-like song of our state bird the hermit thrush or the trills and beeps of a song sparrow, the forests and fields of Vermont become awash with music each spring. Any green space from April through June is likely to have birds singing in the early morning hours. The area along Lake Champlain can be particularly good for spring songbirds.

A loon call breaks the silence of a Vermont pond

Haunting, eerie and unforgettable, the call of the loon may be the quintessential sound of Vermont's waters. While it may be relatively common now, not too long ago these waters were silent, as loons were on the brink of becoming extinct in the Green Mountain State. Fortunately, loon populations have started to rebound thanks to efforts from conservationists, but wildlife watchers should still take care not to disturb them during nesting season. Loon locations vary from year to year, but any large Vermont lake or pond surrounded by wilderness is likely to have loons calling during the summer months, particularly around sunrise and sunset.

Paddle the Missisquoi wetlands

The 6,729-acre Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge at the mouth of the Missisquoi River on northeastern Lake Champlain is truly a wildlife-viewing treasure. Paddlers will likely see a variety of wildlife including herons, wood ducks, red-winged blackbirds, beaver, and otters and may even catch a glimpse of a bugling moose or a rare spiny softshell turtle. The best way is starting at Louie's Landing. Check in at the refuge visitor center and online for seasonal closures.

Multitude of colors on waterfowl at Dead Creek

Addison County in the western part of the state contains a birders' paradise, Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, where all types of birds can be spotted types—marshbirds, shorebirds, hawks, owls, woodpeckers, and songbirds all frequent the area. From the exquisitely colored plumage of the wood duck, to the elusive flashes of color on mallards and teal, to the deep shading of ring-necked ducks and hooded mergansers, Dead Creek's waterfowl display spectacular colors. The best places to view waterfowl are in the ponds next to the Route 17 viewing area and from Brilyea Road along the refuge, where ducks swim among the cattails and rest on logs. The newly opened Visitor's Center is located at 966 VT Rt. 17 in Addison, VT. It is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday through September 2 and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, September 3 through November 3. The center offers displays, dioramas, brochures, and special programs.

For more information on places to watch wildlife, visit vtfishandwildlife.com and search for "watch wildlife" or check out a wildlife management area near you.



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The Early Days of Agri-tourism

by Bill Clark

Sixty years ago, we came out of the woods and built a huge roadside sugar house in Pawlet, VT. It was designed to accommodate viewing for 100 folks at any one time as they watched maple being made. "We thought, if we do it, they will come." 50,000 visitors, 100,000 gallons of syrup by 40 years later, wow!, yes they did come.

This is our story

It was 1944 and near the end of WWII. We kids were helping dad with the diary. Sugar had been rationed and was getting scarce. At the end of March it warmed up and schools had to close for three weeks—mud vacation. We teased dad to let us tap a few trees in our growing sugar woods. We borrowed 85 buckets from a neighbor, dug out the old stone arch in the woods and went at it. Made about 18 gals.

Smitten by the "Maple Bug," after haying in August, we went over in the pasture and cut 2,000 bd. ft. of scrub pine and that fall, on Saturdays, built our first sugar house. And put in a small evaporator. From 1945, every year we added on and also put in a bigger evaporator. We were now in high school. We formed "Clark Bros. Maple Sugar Co."

In 1949 some local writers for a national farm magazine "The Country Gentleman," heard about us and wrote up our story. That launched us in the mail order business with customers from a large orange grower in Florida to a movie star in Hollywood and many others in between.

We put battery powered lights in the sugar house so we could boil nights and I also built a half mile phone line from our house to the sugar house so we could communicate.

In the mid-1950s, brother Jack left the farma and went into the new bulk milk trucking business. Younger brother Leon then pitched in to help. By now, we were tapping all of our 1,500 trees. But I loved sugaring. I wanted something bigger. We needed a new sugarhouse out on the road. Then we could buy sap from other producers and start tapping roadside trees.

The adventure begins

Finally, in 1957 I got dad to let me use a strip of ground at the lower end of the calf pasture, below the cow barn and it was on the road!

I wanted to build a big sugarhouse with a huge evaporator where folks could come visit. It had to be special.

Turns out, we were about to get into "Agri-tourism." This was 30 years before anyone had ever heard of such a word.

That spring, I'd heard of someone who was doing something like that. So we traveled to Wilmington, VT where 2 miles east of town Martin Brown had built a huge building at the jct. of Rts. 9 and 100. Inside were 2 giant 6x18 King Evaporators and even steam finishing. On one side of the building was a huge raised deck where people could stand and watch the whole process. (This set-up really got me going.)

Over the summer I designed our new sugarhouse—it would be 28 feet wide and eighty plus feet long. The west end would be 28x20 ft. which would hold 40 4-ft. cords of wood. Forty feet in the center would hold a massive 6 ft. by 19 ft. evaporator. The east end would have a 2nd floor deck that would hold four 35 barrel storage tanks. Underneath would be our storage and sales area, sugar on snow, pictures and artifacts.

Come fall we got the foundations poured. We then hired a local carpenter to structure the building. It was mostly completed by Dec. We bought this special evaporator from Alton Lyon, Operator of Leader Evaporator Co. in Burlington, VT. The flue pan was 10 ft. long and the syrup pan was six sections, 9 ft. long. It had a 50 foot high stack and we built a 50 ft. steel tower to support it. All was in place that fall. Our sap dumping station was up by the barn-milkhouse. Inside we had a 6 ft. x 40 ft. wide walkway where people could stand and watch with signs telling what's happening. We built a bridge in front of the evaporator so folks could walk up over and down the other side to watch us drawing off, filtering and canning syrup. We had quite a few local visitors that spring.

6,000 taps and a new family

In 1959, we had about 6,000 taps and hired a couple neighbors to haul it with our ten barrel tanks. We did some



photo courtesy of Bill Clark
Visitors flock to the Clark's sugarhouse in the early sixties in Pawlet, VT.

local promotions and folks began to come.

I had met Sue Thomas and we were married in 1960 and she became part of this venture. Years later our four children also got involved.

1961 brought us big changes as we reached 8,000 taps. We added a covered dumping station, and put 2 fifty barrel storage tanks in it. We installed a 2½ ft. x 6 ft. gas fired finishing rig in the sugarhouse. We rented a 3,000 tap woods 15 miles away in Dorset. We piped sap down to a roadside tank where brother Jack picked it up with his empty bulk milk truck on his way home from Manchester.

Reaching out for visitors

1961 was the year we decided to really reach out for visitors to see maple. We went out of state and advertised in the Glens Falls "Post Star." That turned out to be a gold mine. Did they ever come, for five weekends in March and April. Also, at that time, Albany, NY TV station WRGB always had a half hour Ag. TV show. They heard about us and came up and filmed one half hour. That was also a great boost.

On weekends we always had one person just talking to the visitors so the syrup makers could keep their minds on syrup making. We also had a tripod and huge iron kettle out front so folks could see how the settlers did it.

In 1963, we expanded further and began running ads in the Troy, NY Record and the Schenectady NY Gazette. This brought even more folks. Good weeks we could always count on several hundred visitors.

Biggest day in our history

Then, in 1964, we did something that we probably shouldn't have. G.E.'s famous radio station, WGY, the greatest in the tri-cities, always did some farm broadcasts. So we got brave and did \$400 of ads for just one week. Wow! And syrup was only \$7.00/gallon! That Saturday was a day we'll never forget! People came by the 1,000s, not 100s. Probably at least a 1,000 made it into the sugar house. However from 1-3 p.m. cars just drove by bumper to bumper and could not even stop. We had the town highways marked for "one way traffic" for 20 miles. That was our single biggest day in history.

One family that did stop that day said they lived in Utica, NY and decided to drive 150 miles to Clark's Vermont Sugar House on a muddy road. Later, maple producers from miles around said they had unexpected visitors because they couldn't get in to Clark's.

On another Sunday, the next year, a group from the U.N. in NYC spent the weekend in the Glens Falls area and saw our ad. They all came over. It was a very busy day and afterwards our guest book showed signatures from four continents!



Bill Clark at his sugarhouse in Pawlet, VT many years ago.

30 miles away, the schools in South Glens Falls, NY got interested in us and for several years we set up a mid-week day just for them. Usually there were always four or five bus loads of students.

Switching from wood to oil

Now, it was 1965. We'd been using 80 cords of wood the past few years most of which we had to truck from a lumber yard in Salem, NY, 30 miles away. Fuel oil was cheap so in 1965 we put four oil burners under the evaporator, two in front and two in the middle. We got our best oil buy from Ernie Jacobie in South Glens Falls, 30 miles away. Ernie was a friend of Sue's folks and gave us a great deal at 11 cents per gallon for 2,000 gallons delivered to Vermont.

We put a ceiling in the woodshed, insulated it, and cement floor and had a beautiful sales and display room with a gas stove in it.

1968 got off to a slow start. By April 4th we had only made 400 gallons of syrup. Then we got sugar weather and the sap ran three days and two nights without stopping. We boiled day and night for four days. By midnight Thursday, our 2,000 gallon oil tank was empty. I had called Ernie earlier that day. His truck arrived at 1:30 a.m. Friday morning with 2,000 more gallons. The boil ended 8:30 p.m. Saturday night. In four days we had made 1,025 gallons of syrup. It was the single biggest run that we ever had in our history.

40 years of welcoming visitors

We kept our open house operation going 40 years through the 1990s. Children that visited here in the early 60s were back here in the nineties with their children.


So this the story of our experience with agri-tourism that we started 30 years before anyone ever heard the word. We have to say in all those years and 1,000s of people, no one ever got hurt or burned. Our system worked.

In the February 2019 issue of the "Maple Digest," someone at UVM wrote a seven-page article of all the "Dos and Don't" of getting into agri-tourism. Even that article didn't give the safety steps that we took.

Agri-tourism isn't for everyone, but if you have the "will power," go for it. It's a great opportunity to make new customers with retail up front while creating an online mail order business. If you're building a new sugarhouse plan it for public use. Here in Vermont, where we produce three gallons of syrup per capita, we need to increase retail sales. While we're at it, Vermont should offer at least four "Maple Open House Weekends," instead of just one. I'll bet they would all be filled with visitors!

Bill and Sue Clark are still involved with the maple business with Clark's Farm & Maple Country Kitchen, 1647 Tadmer Rd., Wells, VT 05774. (802) 325-3203. Fax: (802) 325-2291.





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Early Summer at Merck Forest & Farmland Center

Early summer has come to Merck Forest and Farmland Center. There are plenty of family-centered fun activities and events to take part in, or you can just enjoy a stroll around the farm, or an invigorating hike along our 30+ miles of trails.

Summer Event Schedule

To learn more about the details of an event that interests you, please call the Visitor Center at (802) 394-7836. For outdoor events, please dress for the weather: sturdy shoes/boots, layered clothing, snow/raingear, flashlight/headlamp, snacks and water. Outdoor events are held weather-permitting.

Second Saturday Hike to the Thoreau Cabin. June 8, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., \$5 per person. This guided hike follows our Annual meeting and will be led by the Executive Director, Rob Terry. The route up to the Thoreau cabin will be of moderate difficulty, and will take place even if it's raining. Participants must be dressed appropriately for the weather with sturdy footwear, water and snacks.

Pond Exploration Workshop. June 15, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., \$5 per person. What's splashing about in Page Pond? We'll find in this interesting (and a little damp!) program. Open to all ages.

Bird I.D. & Habitat Workshop. June 22, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., \$5 per person. What birds are in our area and what kind of habitats do

they enjoy? Find out in the Merck woodlands. Note the morning start time—we want to find the birds when they're most active. Dress appropriately for being in the woods.

Volunteer Work Party. June 29, Free. On the last Saturday of the month: work with great people in the great big beautiful out-of-doors. We might be doing trail maintenance in the woods, or clearing up the berry patches of weeds. Call (802) 394-7836 to find out what and when things are scheduled and come join the crew!

Merck Forest and Farmland Center is a non-profit educational organization in the Taconic Hills of southwestern Vermont. The Center's mission is the sustainable management of its forest, the promotion of innovative agricultural practices on its upland farm, the education of local students in outdoor exploration and the study of natural sciences, and the creation of recreational opportunities. The property is open free to the public daily, from dawn to dusk, year-round.

Merck Forest and Farmland Center is located between Rupert and Dorset, at 3270 Rt. 315 (Rupert Mountain Rd.) in Rupert, VT. Once you reach the top of the very big hill turn into Merck Forest's driveway. If you start going back down the hill, you've gone too far. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.



photo by Merck Forest and Farmland Center
Happy camper finds a frog at Merck Forest and Farmland Center, Rupert, VT.



photo by Merck Forest and Farmland Center
Barns and pasture in early summer at Merck Forest and Farmland Center in Rupert, VT.



photo by Merck Forest
Red-wing blackbird sings.



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Vermont Strawberry Festivals and Suppers

It may seem that spring came slowly this year but suddenly here it is, a little chilly or not. The dandelions have all bloomed, the lilacs are coming and then the peonies, school graduations, bushes of white bridal's wreath in the front yard, and before you know it, those crimson red juicy Vermont strawberries followed up by all the festivities of the Fourth of July. Long in coming, spring is so soon over. Enjoy a Strawberry Supper while you can!

Saturday, June 15th—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 15th—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. To benefit the Beland Family medical expenses. 4-7 p.m. The Brick Church (Clarendon Congregational Church), 298 Middle Rd. (802) 773-3873. www.brickchurchvt.com.

Saturday, June 22nd—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 22nd—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 22nd—Springfield, VT. 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



The Middletown Springs Historical Society hosts their 45th Annual Strawberry Festival on the Green in Middletown Springs, VT on June 23rd. The Historical Society Museum is open for the event.

music. Farm store. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Wellwood Orchards, 529 Wellwood Orchard Rd. (802) 263-5200.

Sunday, June 23rd—Barton, VT. Strawberry Social. Strawberry shortcakes, live music, and more! Held on the green at Barton Public Library, rain or shine. \$5. 2-4 p.m. Benefit for the Barton Public Library, 100 Church St., Barton, VT. (802) 771-8649.

Sunday, June 23rd—Middletown Springs, VT. 45th Annual Strawberry Festival. To benefit the Middletown Springs Historical Society. The Historical Society Museum will be open all afternoon, as well as on Sunday afternoons through October. Admission is free. Live music by the Peter Huntoon Band playing tunes from the sixties for your enjoyment. Children's activities. Small flea market, local crafts and artists. Raffle. Quarts of strawberries for sale. Strawberry shortcake with homemade biscuits, vanilla ice cream, and whipped cream, coffee, ice tea, and lemonade. Free admission, food items ala carte. 2-4 p.m. on the Green, Rt. 140. Rain or shine. (802) 235-2376.

Thursday, June 27th—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 28th—Waterbury, VT. 46th Annual Strawberry Supper. Delicious buffet dinner with homemade potluck creations 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. Handicap accessible. Silent auction 4-7:30 pm. First come, first served. 5-7 p.m. Waterbury Congregational Church, 8 N. Main St. (802) 244-6606.

Saturday, June 29th—Dummerston Center, VT. 50th 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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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
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Colonial Convalescent To 47 Main

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

The historic Armstrong House on Main Street in the center of Castleton is a stacked-porch, 1850 Greek Revival which has for more than sixty years been a group home. Once it was a little world of refined elderly from around here; now it's a little world of colorful eccentrics from away.

In 1958, Bernard and Marjorie McCann, a Fair Haven couple who had been operating a convalescent home at Castleton Corners for the previous ten years, bought the house from the Oateses. They wanted to expand their business and get more living space for themselves and their three young daughters.

Marjorie McCann was a nurse, and Bernie—a plumber and electrician with an interest in antiques—was employed at Norton's Hardware in Fair Haven. His antiques interest was probably why Bernie was drawn to the plantation-style Armstrong building.

The McCann's three daughters, Susan, Judith, and Bridget, had always lived with old people. Their two grandmothers were with the family in the previous Castleton Corners nursing home, and after the McCanns moved into their new place, the daughters found that they were once again surrounded by grandmother-like old ladies, celebrating Christmas and holidays together, everyone comfortably at the center of the country-squire-style world of 1950s and '60s Main Street Castleton.

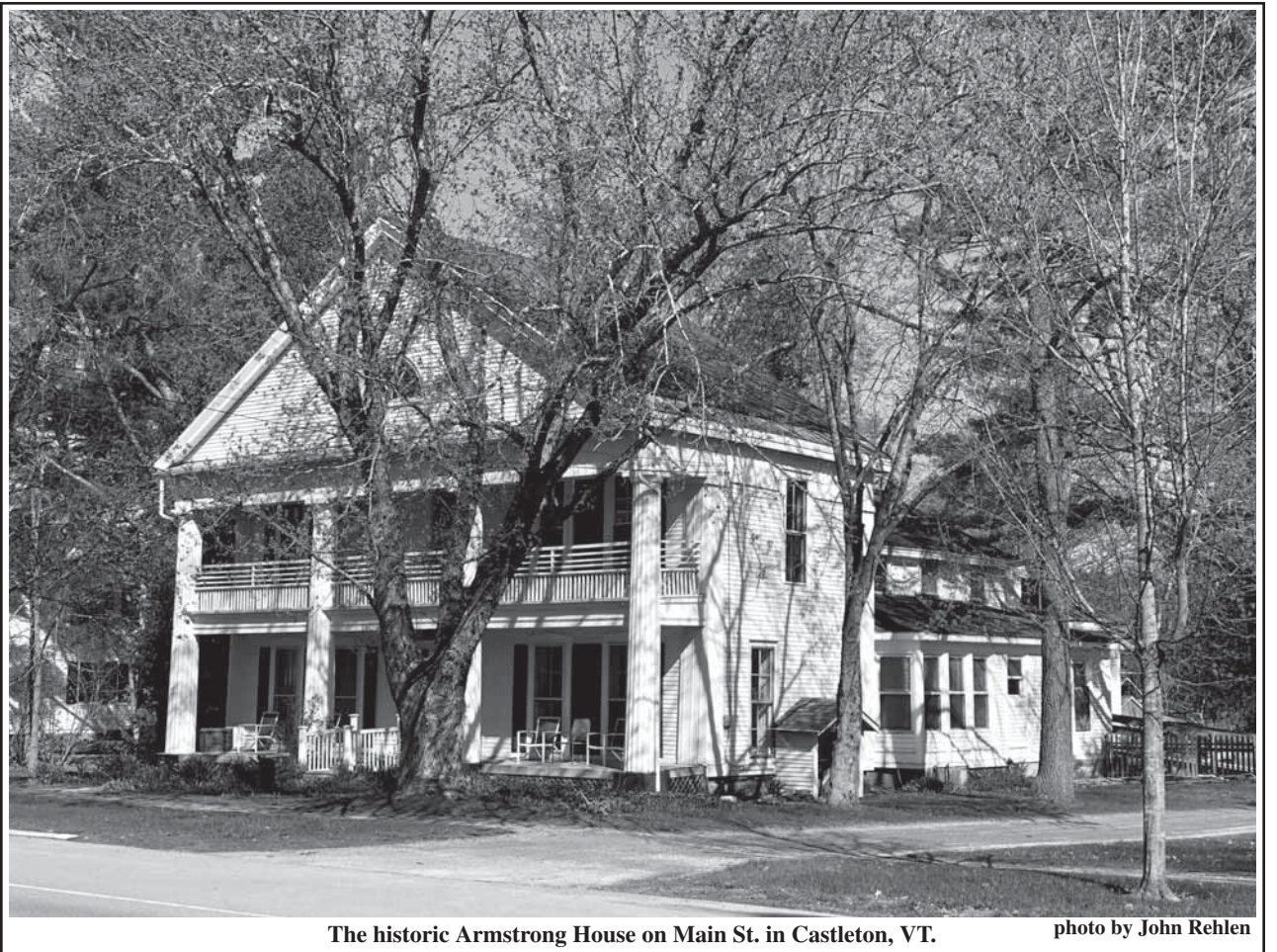
The young McCanns sang in the Federated Church choir, attended Harold Browns' Sunday School classes, and acted as pages for the Normal School proms. Helen Hall led their Girl Scout meetings. They ice skated on the winter-flooded town green, and took part in every Colonial Day.

They got to know all the town notables when these notables were in their prime: Reverend Olaf and Elizabeth Johnson, Professor Lizzy Hale, grande dames Mildred Northup, Helen Brown and Hulda Cole, town manager Leo Towers, Leo's brother 'Bucky,' 'Bucky's' wife Martha Towers, and the Normal School's Miss Black.

The girls' parents ran the convalescent home as a team. Marjorie did all the cooking and kept the books. Bernie handled maintenance and did the grocery shopping, loading his daughters into the car to drive to the Toy-Town-style, Fair Haven center, A and P. Drs. Stannard, Reedy, Swenyor, and just-starting Dr. Bob Cross, stopped by mornings bringing town news and checking residents' well being.

But an ever-increasing number of state regulations eventually finished off the Colonial Castleton Convalescent Home operation. Bernie was told he had to stream-line his space and close up his fireplaces.

The McCanns got around a sprinkler requirement because they were located close to the town fire department, but finally couldn't escape a new passages-width rule. When



The historic Armstrong House on Main St. in Castleton, VT.

photo by John Rehlen

gurneys weren't able to clear the turns in their hall staircase, Bernard saw the handwriting on the wall.

In 1969, the McCanns sold their business to a couple from Rotterdam who had immigrated to the United States to work at Cuttingsville's Spring Lake Ranch.

'Bas,' a Dutch Reformed Church minister as well as social worker, and Teuntje Leenman wanted to establish their own residential treatment center designed along Spring Lake Ranch lines, and like Bernie McCann before him, 'Bas' valued the look of the 1850s building.

He and his wife brought their four teen-aged children along with them to Castleton, and the Colonial Castleton Convalescent Center became simply 47 Main. Instead of local elderly, the place came to house a series of colorful characters from away—often far away—who were encouraged to participate in whatever was going on in the community.

The town of the 1970s was not the isolated, little-world-community of the 1950s. Everyone knew the McCanns; the Leenmans from Rotterdam and Spring Lake Ranch were people no one knew.

'Bas' held weekly ethics symposiums in the light-filled Armstrong House front room. The local doctors no longer stopped by for check-ups; instead a van drove residents to Burlington physicians.

There was a mandated, after-lunch, group-walk, usually up North Road. On Sundays, several 47 Main-ers—including one who was Jewish—always sat in the front pew at the

Federated Church.

Tiny, manic, gravel-voiced, chain-smoking, Spenser regularly sneaked into Saint Marks Church and played mighty works—faintly heard up and down Main Street—on the 1880s organ.

He sometimes talked my son, Wenger, into giving him rides around town so he could smoke, undetected, in Wenger's truck. Smoking was strictly prohibited at 47 Main—and in general. Afterward, Spenser would further inveigle Wenger into being the lone attendee at one of his Phantom of the Opera-style performances.

Spenser died some time ago, as did another long-time-resident, Sarah—a Blanche Dubois-style Southern belle—whom we all miss, even though she used to be light-fingered in our store.

Today, the McCann daughters remember being raised "in wonderful times." 'Bas' and Teuntje Leenman long ago retired and returned to the Netherlands. Their son 'Vim' now owns the family business, and the Armstrong house is pretty much unchanged. The front rooms are still filled with light and there's always the bustle of comings and goings in a well-lived-in place.

It gives me a lot of pleasure to see how things have turned out.

*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—Vermont Stories from West of Birdseye** (\$20 plus shipping and handling) available at the Castleton Village Store, P. O. Box 275, Castleton, Vermont 05735, and at a number of Vermont booksellers. 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.*

"Everyone knew the McCanns; the Leenman's from Rotterdam and Spring Lake Ranch were people no one knew."

Strawberry Lore

By Lisa Halvorsen
Garden Editor,
University of Vermont Extension

It's strawberry picking time in New England, and although the season is short, hundreds of people will visit pick-your-own operations and roadside stands in June for those ripe, red berries.

New varieties are being introduced each year, but it's interesting to note that strawberries have been popular throughout history.

The word "strawberry" is derived from the Old English word "strewberige" that refers to its pattern of growth—strewn or strowed over the grounds. The scientific name, "*Fragaria*," from the Latin "fragrare" (to smell fragrant) refers to the distinctive quality of the fruit. The word became "fraise" in French, but "erdbeere" (earth

berry) in German. One of the earliest historical references to strawberry cultivation was in King Charles V's time.

In 1368, the ruler ordered his gardener, Jean Dudoy, to plant 1,200 strawberry plants in the garden at the Louvre in Paris.

When it came to strawberries, even Shakespeare got into the act. In the play, "Richard III," the Duke of Gloucester asks the Bishop of Ely to send for some of the "good strawberries" he had seen in the Bishop's garden at Holborn.

Louis XIV had strawberries forced for his out-of-season pleasure. His grandson, Louis XV, set up a strawberry experiment station after he had been presented with a

choice potted strawberry on July 6, 1764. A.N. Duchesne, the young man who gave him the plant, was put in charge of research. Two years later, at age 19, Duchesne produced the most complete scholarly work ever written on the natural history of the strawberry, *Histoire Naturelle des Fraisières*.

Although good-tasting, strawberries were appreciated for more than their fruit.

In the Middle Ages, the plant was considered a cure for "depressive illness" and

also was used "to take away redness of the face."

The first, easing the depressive pressures of responsibility, may explain why strawberry leaves appear on the coronets of English earls, marquises, dukes, and the children of the Prince of Wales.

The second was most likely the reason why Madame de Tallien, in Napoleon's time, added the juice of ten kilos (22 pounds) of strawberries to the water every time she took a bath!

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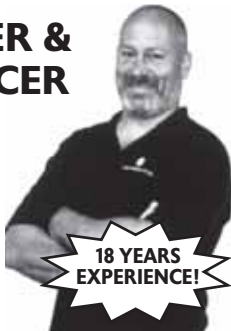


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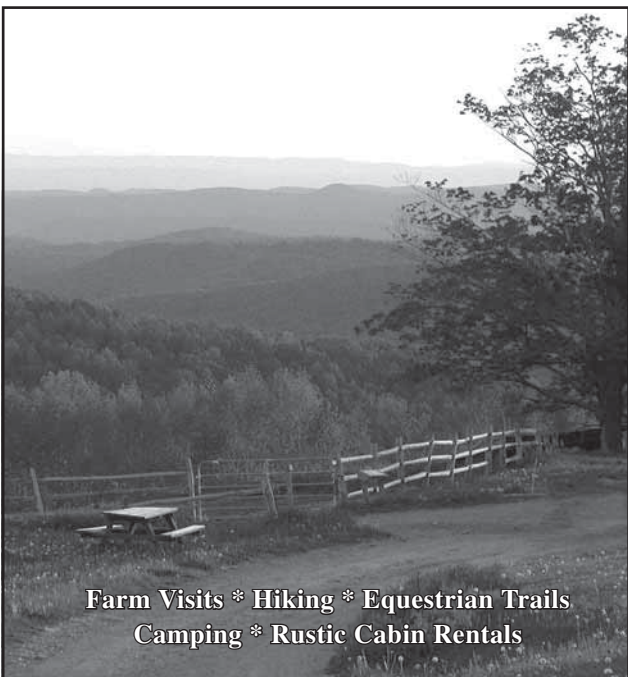
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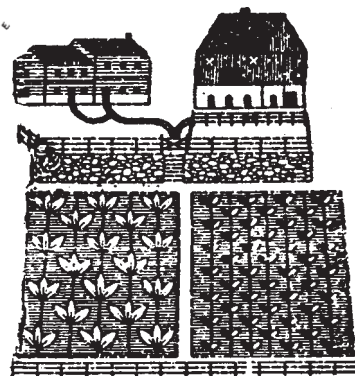


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Vermont Map



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Vermont Country Calendar

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

TUESDAY, MAY 21

BURLINGTON. Book Launch. Onion River Press and Phoenix Books Burlington will celebrate the launch of *Goes Without Saying*, by Vergennes author and designer, Jory Raphael. The book is a delightful collection of brain-teasing visual puns, filtered through the lens of pictograms and pop-culture. Party 6-7 pm. Phoenix Books, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

HARDWICK. Book & Author Event: author and wildlife expert Charles Fergus will share tips and stories from his book *Make a Home for Wildlife: Creating Habitat on Your Land*. This book is meant to help landowners – whether large or small acreage – improve the quality of their land. 7 pm. The Galaxy Bookshop, 41 South Main St. (802) 472-5533. galaxybookshop.com.

THURSDAY, MAY 23

FAIRLEE. Concert: Vermont's professional a cappella group Counterpoint presents Six Degrees. Through music, narration, and video, Six Degrees brings a crucial environmental message: how climate change threatens our survival and how we can address these dangers. Adult \$20, student \$10. 7 pm. Fairlee Town Hall, 75 Town Common Rd. (802) 540-1784. contact@counterpointchorus.org. counterpointchorus.org. fairleearts.org.

FRIDAY, MAY 24

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert: Contemporary Modal Music with Ross Daly and Kelly Thoma. \$20-\$35. 7:30 pm. The Chapel, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org.

HYDE PARK. Concert: The Sky Blue Boys & Cookie. Carrie Cook adds her blues-inflected vocals and brilliant bass work to the acoustic mix. All tickets \$15 at the door. 7:30 pm. Hyde Park Opera House, 85 Main St.

WATERBURY. Benefit Plant Sale. Gather your spring plants and Evergreen Gardens will donate 20% of your total purchase to The Children's Room. Free admission. Cash and checks only. 5-7 pm. 15 Cabin Lane. (802) 244-5605. childrensroomonline.org.

SATURDAY, MAY 25

ATHENS. Second Annual Plant and Bake Sale. 10 am - 1 pm. Athens Brick Meetinghouse, Meetinghouse Rd. (802) 869-2141. athensmeetinghouse1817@gmail.com.

BRANDON. Concert: Cradle Switch. Five-piece acoustic Americana group. \$20. Pre-concert dinner available for \$25, reservations required. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. brandon-music.net.

CORINTH. Two-Day Plant and Book Sale. Plants from local growers, greenhouses and private gardens, a book sale, and Women's Fellowship bake sale. 8 am-2 pm. Blake Memorial Library, 676 Village Rd. (802) 439-5338. *Also 9 am - 1 pm. May 26.*

EAST CORINTH. Flea and Art Market. Art, antiques, handcrafts and more. Lunch available by donation. Proceeds benefit East Corinth Congregational Church. 10 am - 2 pm. 640 Village Rd. (802) 439-5870. loribuik@gmail.com.

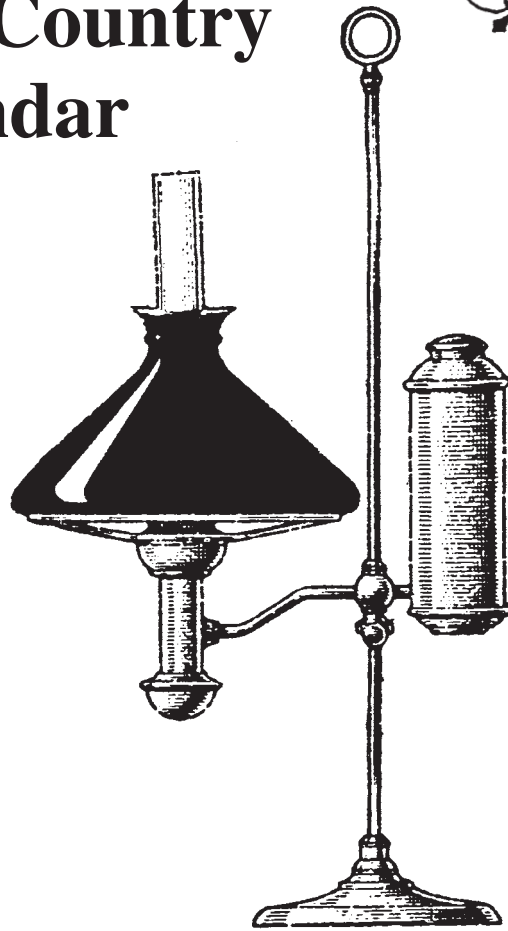
ESSEX. Memorial Day Parade. 9:30 am Service at Veterans Memorial Park, Five Corners. 10 am Parade leaves gate F of the Champlain Valley Exposition. 12 noon Chicken Barbeque, VFW Post 6689, 73 Pearl St. Parking available at Essex High School, Railroad Ave by the Amtrak Station and surrounding areas. No parking on Route 2A or Pearl Street. (802) 363-8401.

HANOVER. Concert. Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra program includes a cello concerto by the Mexican-American composer Noah Luna, a work commissioned by Dartmouth College for its 250th anniversary, inspired by the murals by the famous Mexican artist José Clemente Orozco in Dartmouth's Baker-Berry Library. The commission features young cellist and "From the Top" alumnus Gabriel Cabezas. 8 pm. Tickets: \$10-\$25. Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 E. Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. hop.box@dartmouth.edu.

MANCHESTER. Concert: Windhaven's Wind Orchestra. Karel Husa's Music for Prague 1968, James David's Big Four on the River, and Leonard Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from "West Side Story". \$10. 7-8 pm. Maple Street School, 322 Maple St. (802) 362-7162. taconimusic.org.

NORWICH. Grange Breakfast. Buffet-style meal includes pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, eggs, biscuits and gravy, real maple syrup and beverages. Price: \$5-\$8, children under five free, family rate available. 8-11 am. Norwich Grange, 344 N. Main St. (802) 356-0844. *Also June 29.*

NORWICH. Contradance. Live music by Birl (Tad Dreis, guitar/harmonica; Sam Foucher, accordion; and Garrett Grabow, banjo) and calling by Nils Fredland. No partner or experience necessary. Newcomers may arrive at 7:45 p.m. for a walk-through. Bring clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing and a potluck snack for the break. Admission \$12, students \$8; under 16 free. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. 8-11 pm. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 295-6225. uppervalleydmc@gmail.com.



NORWICH. Mindbender Mansion Opens. Enter the puzzling world of Mindbender Mansion, an eclectic exhibition full of brainteasers and challenges to test brain power and problem solving skills of even the most experienced puzzlers. Developed by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, this visiting exhibition brings 2500 square feet of science fun to the Montshire for the summer. 10 am - 5 pm. Montshire Museum of Science, One Montshire Rd. (802) 649-2200. www.montshire.org.

STOWE. Mill Trail Open House. Join us for a fun, family-friendly event and learn about the history of the property. Participate in a nature walk. All Open House events are free and open to the public. 10 am-2 pm. Mill Trail, Notchbrook Rd. (802) 253-7221. www.stowelandtrust.org.

THETFORD. Vermont Medieval Festival Faire. The Town Green comes alive with the sights and sounds of a medieval village. A king and queen, knights and ladies, peasants, craftsmen, shepherds and farmers gather to celebrate the age through music, dance, games of skill and chance, food, parades, storytelling and more, along with a performance by the No Strings Marionette Co. Costumes are encouraged. Rain or shine. Admission: \$7, under 4 free. 11 am - 4 pm. Open Fields School, 37 Academy Rd. (802) 785-2077. info@openfields.org. vtmedfest.com.

WEST RUTLAND. Workshop: Carve a Wood Spoon. Two-day workshop leads participants through the creation of their own unique cooking/ serving spoon out of cherry, maple, mahogany or other hardwood. \$325. 9 am to 5 pm. The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. carvingstudio.org. *Thru May 26.*

WEST RUTLAND. Workshop: Dry Stone Walling. The workshop will be an introduction to the basics of dry-jointed stone work. Wall building techniques such as using the length of each stone into the wall, and laying each stone to cover the joint below, will be explained and practiced in the construction of a freestanding, dry stone wall. \$595. 9 am to 5 pm. The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. info@carvingstudio.org. dansnowstoneworks.com. *Through May 26.*

WOODSTOCK. Sheep Shearing and Herding. Watch the spring shearing of the farm's ewes and demonstrations of Border Collies herding sheep in the farm fields. Hands-on wool activities. Admission. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, 5302 River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. *Also May 26.*

SUNDAY, MAY 26

BARRE. Tiny Twilight Cafe. Low-stress opportunity for parents and caregivers of children up to age three to connect with each other in a safe and welcoming environment. Local mom Marcy Kreitz and Good Beginnings Postpartum Angel volunteer Hannah Pfeil are parent hosts. Free. 4:30-6:30 pm. Every fourth Sunday. A light dinner provided. Downstreet Community Space, 22 Keith Avenue, Suite #100. (802) 595-7953. info@goodbeginningscentralvt.org.

ESSEX. Bike Fix & Swap. The Essex/Westford Community Bike Fix & Swap, hosted by Essex CHIPS and the Village of Essex is an opportunity for youth and families to donate, swap, or fix their bikes before the the summer season. Included are Fix-A-Flat Workshops, Electric Bike Demonstration, Bike Safety Rides (30 minutes) and Skinny Pancake Food Truck. Free. 10 am - 2 pm. Maple Street Park, 75 Maple St. (802) 595-0191. www.essexchips.org/bike-fix-swap.

GUILFORD. 11th Spring Organ Concert & Holiday Cookout. Guest organist TBA performs solo and ensemble works on the c. 1897 Tracker Organ. Holiday cookout with meat and veggie grilling options, homemade sides and salads, sips, fruit, and ice cream sundaes. Concert: \$15, optional meal \$10. 3 pm. The Organ Barn, 158 Kopkind Rd. (802) 254-3600. office@fomag.org. www.fomag.org.



It Isn't the Town, It's You

If you want to live in the kind of a town
That's the kind of a town you like,
You needn't slip your clothes in a grip
And start on a long, long hike.

You'll find elsewhere what you left behind,
For there's nothing that's really new.
It's a knock at yourself when you knock your town;
It isn't your town—its you.

Real towns are not made by men afraid
Lest somebody else gets ahead.
When everybody works and nobody shirks
You can raise a town from the dead.

And if while you make your stake
Your neighbor can make one, too,
Your town will be what you want to see,
It isn't your town—it's you.

—R. W. GLOVER
1856-1966 Sheridan, Arkansas

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Depot Park, Rutland, VT
Fair Haven Market, Downtown Fair Haven
Thursdays 3-6 pm • mid-June through Oct 24

Vermont Country Calendar

(Sunday, May 26, continued)

HANOVER. Chamber Music Concert, The student-run Dartmouth Chamber Orchestra presents "Pirates of the Caribbean" and other selections. Free. 1-2 pm. Common Ground, Collis Center, 2 N. Main St. (603) 646-2422. music@dartmouth.edu.

TUNBRIDGE. Memorial Day. Library book, plant, craft and bake sale 9 am-12:30 pm.; nonprofit groups on the Parish House lawn; Town Hall memorial service 10:30 am; parade and ceremony 11:10 a.m. Ice cream, bounce house and cow pie bingo at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds. Fire department chicken barbecue by reservation (802) 889-3274. Locations on Rt.100 around town starting 9 am.

MONDAY, MAY 27

HUBBARDTON. Memorial Day Remembrance. The site is open today in honor of Memorial Day. At noon battlefield flags will be raised to full-mast and tribute paid at the battle monument to the soldiers of Hubbardton. Admission: adults \$3, children under 15 free. 12-12:15 pm. At Hubbardton Battlefield, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton. *Open May 25 to October 13.*

TINMOUTH. Concert: Village Harmony Alumni Ensemble in a program of world vocal music. \$5-\$15. 7:30 pm. Tinmouth Community Church. (802) 881-6775. villageharmony.org.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

DUMMERSTON. Rudyard Kipling's Vermont Estate & Rhododendron Tour. Come for a special one-hour guided tour of Nobel Prize winning author Rudyard Kipling's former Vermont estate, when the spectacular 100-yard multi-colored rhododendron tunnel, leading out to a spacious stone patio, is in full bloom! See and learn about Naulakha, the authentically restored main house where Kipling wrote *The Jungle Books* and *Captains Courageous*, among others. Visit the Kipling Carriage House, also one of The Landmark Trust USA's five historic vacation rentals, and the Barn Museum, once home to Kipling's team, Nip and Tuck. Enjoy tea on the back deck after the tour, and feel free to wander the grounds to see the irises in bloom and the private clay tennis courts located below Naulakha (the first tennis courts built in Vermont). 10 and 11:30 am; 1 and 2:30 pm. \$35 per person. Enjoy a picnic on the grounds, at our picnic tables or on the stone patio by the pergola. Brown bag lunches are available and need to be pre-ordered. Register online at landmarktrustusa.org/events/tours/ or by calling (802) 254-6868. *Also May 30.*

FERRISBURGH. Fishing Clinic: Fish Processing. How to cut up a variety of fish species quickly, easily, and safely, and how to safely store just-caught fish to keep it fresh for eating. Veteran anglers may also learn a few tricks to make processing fish easier and more efficient, as well as ways to maximize the amount of meat harvested from each fish. Equipment provided. Dress for the weather; program takes place outside. Bring your own snacks or meal. Pre-registration required. Free. 6-8 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. (802) 244-7036. vtfishandwildlife.com.

THURSDAY, MAY 30

BARNARD. Music on the Farm Thursday Night Music Series. Emma Back and Senayit, indie-singer-songwriters. Suggested donation: \$5-\$10. 5:30-8 pm, doors open 5 pm. Feast and Field Market, 1544 Royalton Turnpike. clovermont@gmail.com. barnarts.org.

BURLINGTON. Book & Author Event: Join Frances Cannon to celebrate the launch of *Walter Benjamin Reimagined*, an illuminated tour of Walter Benjamin's ideas; a graphic translation; an encyclopedia of fragments. Tickets: \$3, with a coupon for \$5 off a copy of the book. Proceeds go to the Vermont Foodbank. 7 pm. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. phoenixbooks.biz.

MONTPELIER. Performance: The Complete History of Comedy — Abridged. Madcap, witty, and topical skits, standup, slapstick, one-liners, cream pies, double-entendres, jokes, and jibes. Recommended for ages 8 & up. Tickets: Friday & Saturday \$30, Thursday & matinee \$25, special \$15 preview Thursday May 30, students & seniors 65+ \$5 discount, 11 & under \$10. 7:30 pm Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays; 2 pm Sundays. Lost Nation Theater, City Hall Arts Center, Main St wheelchair accessible. (802) 229-0492. lostnationtheater.org. *Thurs - Sun, May 30 - June 16.*

FRIDAY, MAY 31

BRANDON. Concert: Cretan and Mediterranean Music performed by world musician Ross Daly with Kelly Thoma, Tev Stevig, and Michael K. Harrist. Tickets: \$20. Pre-concert dinner available for \$25. Reservations required for dinner and recommended for the show. Venue is BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. edna@brandon-music.net. brandon-music.net.

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival: Free live music on four stages in downtown Burlington. Nightly showcases in restaurants and venues all over the city. Concert: Bobby McFerrin with native South Carolinians Ranky Tanky, and the Vermont All State Jazz Ensemble, young jazz musicians from Vermont. Tickets: \$27-\$85. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. *Through June 9.*

CASTLETON. Clinic: Introduction to Fishing. For beginners and families. Learn about Vermont fish species, styles of fishing, aquatic ecology, and fish habitat. Equipment provided. Dress for the weather; program takes place outside. Bring snacks or meal. Pre-registration required. Free; park day use fee. 6-8 pm. Bomoseen State Park. (802) 244-7036. vtfishandwildlife.com.

ROXBURY. Green Mountain Club's 109th Annual Meeting. 10 am Friday through 11:30 am Sunday. Windridge Tennis and Sports Camps, 1215 Roxbury Rd. Register at greenmountainclub.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. White River Indie Festival. Festival pass \$60, single ticket \$10. Barrette Center for the Arts. (802) 281-3785. wrif.org. *Through June 2.*

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert. Windborne: "Song on the Times." Songs of social struggle from movements over the past 400 years. Tickets \$20-\$30. 7:30 pm. The Chapel, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org.

BRADFORD. Trail race to the summit of Wrights Mountain. Main 3.5-mile race includes a challenging ascent and descent. 1.5-mile fun run open to kids 13 and under. Walkers welcome. Live music and refreshments. Proceeds benefit Friends of Wrights Mountain Fund. Price: \$5-\$25. 8:30 am. Wrights Mountain, Devil's Den trailhead, Chase Hollow Rd. (802) 439-3562. bradfordconservation.org/race.

BRISTOL. Summer Field Days: A Weekend of Pasture Management, Livestock Integration, and Agroforestry Systems. Learn about building a robust soil network that supports grazing livestock, food production, and biodiversity. Classroom and field. Potluck style lunch; bring a dish to share. Fee: one day \$20, weekend \$35. Saturday at Wild Roots Farm, Bristol; Sunday at Valley Clayplain Forest Farm, New Haven. (802) 377-1214. wildrootfarmvt@gmail.com. wildrootfarmvermont.com. *Through June 2.*

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival: Free live music on four stages in downtown Burlington. Nightly showcases in restaurants and venues all over the city. Concert: Chris Potter Circuits Trio. \$42. 6 and 8:30 pm. FlynnSpace. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. *Through June 9.*

FLORENCE. Touch-a-Truck. Fire, Police, Highway, First Response, Ambulance and more. K-9 demonstrations. Kettle corn, cotton candy, hamburgers, hot dogs, French fries and fried dough. Activities for kids, car safety seat checks. Suggested donation: \$5 per family. 9 am - 1 pm. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St. (802) 483-6335. pittsfordvillagefarm.org

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Rutland Downtown Farmers Market

Depot Park, Rutland, VT
(Next to Walmart)

Every Saturday, 9 am - 2 pm
— May 11th through October 26th —

Every Wednesday, 3-6 pm
— May 15th through October 30th —

Fair Haven Market: Thursdays, 3-6 pm
— June 6th through October 24th —

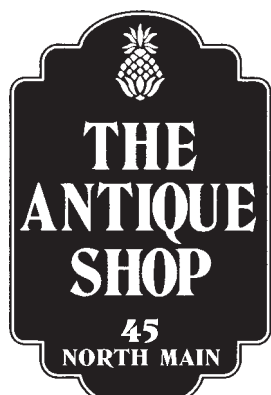
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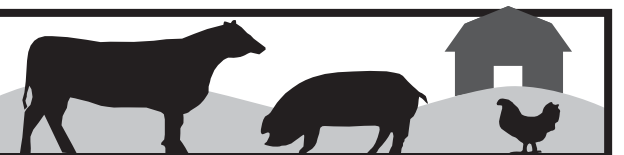


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Vermont Country Calendar

MIDDLEBURY. Opera Company of Middlebury 16th Season. *Cendrillon*. A rarely-heard take on Cinderella, by French composer Jules Massenet. Tickets: \$55, \$65, \$80. 7:30 pm. Town Hall Theater. (802) 382-9222. townhalltheater.org. ocmvermont.org. Also June 6 and 8 at 7:30 pm, and June 2 at 2 pm.

NORWICH. Concert: Cantabile Women Singers. The choral ensemble presents "The Sun, Moon and Stars," including works by Thompson, Stroope and others, as well as folk and traditional music. Tickets \$5-\$15, under 12 free with adult. 4 pm. Norwich Congregational Church, 15 Church St. cantabilewomen.org.

POULTNEY. Town Wide Yard Sale. 9 am - 4 pm. poultneyareachamber.com.

RIPTON. Concert: Caitlin Canty. General admission \$10, generous admission \$15, kids under 12 \$3. 7:30 pm open mic followed by featured performer; doors open at 7 pm. Open mic sign up: (802) 388-9782. Ripton Community Coffee House, 1305 Rte 125. (802) 349-3364. rch.org.

RUTLAND. Razzle Dazzle. Miss Jackie's Hi-Fi Studio's students and teachers perform an exciting show of ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, lyrical, modern, hip hop, baton and acrobatic performances. A culmination of the dedication, hard work and love in classes emulating the founder Miss Jackie's style and passion. Adults: \$28. 18 and under \$18. 1 & 7 pm. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St. (802) 775-0903. paramountvt.com.

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

ST. ALBANS. Film Premiere: One Town at a Time, a documentary that explores Vermont through the lens of the 251 Club of Vermont. The film includes diverse voices, such as former Gov. Jim Douglas and Ben & Jerry's co-founder, Jerry Greenfield. Q&A discussion with director Mike Leonard will follow. Admission free; \$10 suggested donation. 6:30 pm. Saint Albans Museum. onetownatotime251.com.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. White River Indie Festival. Festival pass \$60, single ticket \$10. Barrette Center for the Arts. (802) 281-3785. wrif.org. Also June 2.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival: Free live music on four stages in downtown Burlington. Nightly showcases in restaurants and venues all over the city. Concert: Patti LaBelle. Tickets: \$25-\$120. 7 pm. Flynn MainStage. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Through June 9.

QUECHEE. Mushroom Hunting Workshop. Forage for edible wild foods including fiddleheads, ramps and morels, with hosts Ryan Bouchard and Emily Schmidt, founders of The Mushroom Hunting Foundation. Fee: \$70. 11 am - 3:30 pm. VINS Nature Center, 149 Nature's Way. (802) 359-5000. vinsweb.org.

WEATHERSFIELD. Hike in Weathersfield Bow. Jeff Pelton of the Weathersfield Historical Society leads a loop hike on the class 4 Old Springfield Road. Rain or shine (but not thunderstorms). Dress for ticks and bring a water bottle. Free. 2 pm. Park and meet at the Bow Baptist Church, 1102 Route 5. (802) 885-9517.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. White River Indie Festival. Festival pass \$60, single ticket \$10. Barrette Center for the Arts. (802) 281-3785. wrif.org.

MONDAY, JUNE 3

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival: Free live music on four stages in downtown Burlington. Nightly showcases in restaurants and venues all over the city. Concert: Makaya McCraven. Tickets: \$32.25. 7 pm. FlynnSpace. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Through June 9.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival: Free live music on four stages in downtown Burlington. Nightly showcases in restaurants and venues all over the city. Concert: Leyla McCalla. Tickets: \$32.50. 6 pm and 8:30 pm. FlynnSpace. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Through June 9.

WALLINGFORD. Concert: Stewart and Slattery. Fiddle, guitar, vocals from roots traditions. Donation. 7 pm. Town Hall, 75 School St. (802) 446-2872. townadmin@wallingfordvt.com.

THURSDAY, JUNE 6

BARNARD. Music on the Farm Thursday Night Music Series: Jay Nash, Americana singer-songwriter. Suggested donation: \$5-\$10. 5:30-8 pm, doors open 5 pm. Feast and Field Market, 1544 Royalton Tpk. clovermont@gmail.com. barnarts.org.

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival: Free live music on four stages in downtown Burlington. Nightly showcases in restaurants and venues all over the city. Concerts: St. Paul & The Broken Bones, Alabama-based rock and roll soul band, with Tank & The Bangas; Tickets: \$53.25; 6 pm at the Waterfront Tent. Christian Sands Trio; Tickets: \$32.25; 6 pm at FlynnSpace. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Through June 9.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Revels North Pub Sing. 7 pm. Big Fatty's BBQ, 186 S. Main St. (802) 295-5513. info@revelsnorth.org. revelsnorth.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 7

BARRE. Concert: "Rhythm of the Heart." Benefit concert for Pitz Quattrone. Two sets of fantastic music with many top Vermont artists. Unique raffle items and Vermont craft beer. \$15 admission, additional donations can be made in the lobby. 7 pm, doors at 6. Barre Opera House, 6 North Main St. (802) 476-8188. barreoperahouse.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. 20th Annual Roots on the River Music Festival. Performances in The Big Tent at Rodeway Inn on Rt. 5 from noon till closing. Local food and beverage vendors onsite to serve you, so leave those coolers in the parking lot. Kids 9 and under are free with an adult; youth 10-16 are \$10 at the gate. Day, Weekend and Deluxe tickets are \$35 to \$115 in advance at www.vermontfestivalsllc.com. Through June 9.

BRATTLEBORO. 18th Annual Strolling of the Heifers Weekend. 5-9 pm party on the Common with food trucks, vendors, live music. Specialty Foods and Vermont Beverages Expo on Main St. Farm Art at Gallery at the Garden, 157 Main St. strollingoftheheifers.com. Through June 9.

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival: Free live music on four stages in downtown Burlington. Nightly showcases in restaurants and venues all over the city. Concert: Bria Skonberg. Tickets: \$32.50. 6 pm and 8:30 pm. FlynnSpace. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Through June 9.

LEBANON, NH. Aria Jukebox. Opera highlights, sung by Opera North's 2019 resident artists. During the dessert reception before the concert, the audience chooses from three arias in the singers' "jukebox." Tickets: \$35. 7 pm. United Methodist Church, 18 School St. (603) 448-0400. operanorth.org.

WASHINGTON. Field Expedition Camp: Eagles. For children entering grades 6-8. Participate in real-world research and help birds at the same time. Learn and practice hands-on field research methods, and present your findings to VINS staff and camper families. Sleep out under the stars, sit with friends around the campfire, contribute to bird conservation. (802) 359-5000. vinsweb.org. Through July 12.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

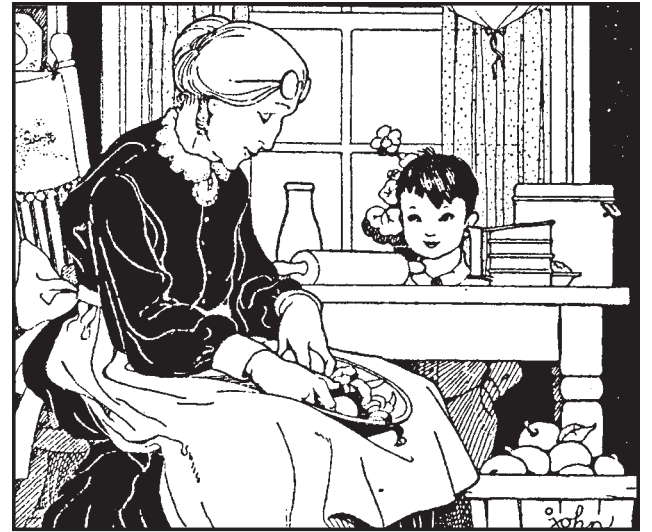
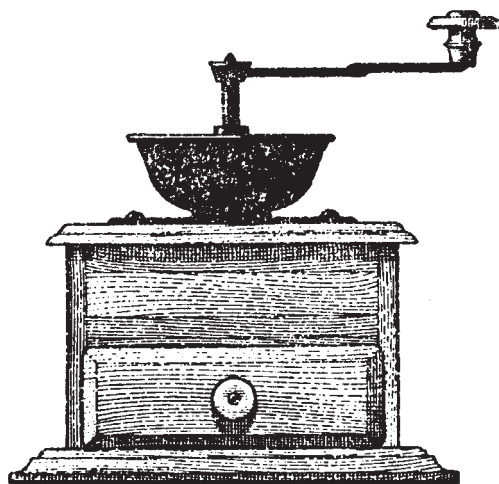
STATEWIDE. Vermont Days: Free admission to all state-owned historic sites and days state parks. historicites.vermont.gov. Through June 9.

BELLOWS FALLS. 20th Annual Roots on the River Music Festival. Performances in The Big Tent at Rodeway Inn on Rt. 5 from noon till closing. Local food and beverage vendors onsite to serve you, so leave those coolers in the parking lot. Kids 9 and under are free with an adult; youth 10-16 are \$10 at the gate. Day, Weekend and Deluxe tickets are \$35 to \$115 in advance at www.vermontfestivalsllc.com. Also June 9.

BRATTLEBORO. 18th Annual Strolling of the Heifers Weekend. Parade at 10 am: Heifer calves lead, followed by other farm animals, tractors, bands, floats and much more. 9 am - 4 pm Slow Living Expo: food, family fun, entertainment, exhibits, on the Brattleboro Common and Lower Linden St. Farm Art at Gallery at the Garden, 157 Main St. strollingoftheheifers.com. Through June 9.

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival: Free live music on four stages in downtown Burlington. Nightly showcases in restaurants and venues all over the city. Concerts: Toots and the Maytals with The Big Takeover and Sabouyouma; Tickets: \$43.75; 6 pm at the Waterfront Tent. Tia Fuller; Tickets: \$32.25; 6 pm at FlynnSpace. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com. Through June 9.

DUMMERSTON CENTER. Old-Fashioned Chicken Pie Supper. Menu: chicken pie with homemade biscuits mashed potato, veggies, salad and a variety of spring themed desserts. No reservations necessary. Tickets: adults \$11, children 6-12 \$5, 5 and under free. 5-7 pm. Evening Star Grange, 1008 East-West Rd. (802) 254-2517.



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Cold Hollow Cider Mill. 3600 Waterbury-Stowe Rd., Waterbury Center, VT. (800) 327-7537. www.coldhollow.com. Apples, cider, hard cider, baked goods, cider jelly, applesauces, apple butters, Vermont foods, crafts, and other products. Apple Core Luncheonette and Brew. Open daily 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Thanksgiving and Christmas.

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Green Mountain Orchards. 130 West Hill Rd., Putney, VT. (802) 387-5851. www.greenmountainorchards.com. Apples year round, our own cider, baked goods from our own bakery including apple and blueberry pies, jams and butters, and Vermont products. Pick-your-own apples, blueberries and more in season. Open seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, June 8, continued)

GRAND ISLE. Vermont's Summer Free Fishing Day: Family Fishing Festival and opening day of the state's regular bass fishing season. Basic fishing instruction and the chance for kids to catch big trout in a hatchery pond. No experience needed. Fishing rods, reels and bait provided. Educational exhibits and aquariums. Free. 9 am – 3 pm. Ed Weed Fish Culture Station, 14 Bell Hill Rd. vtstateparks.com/fishing.html. vtfishandwildlife.com.

HUBBARDTON. Deep Sky Astronomy Night. Members of the Green Mountain Astronomers will share their telescopes and knowledge. Bring a picnic for sunset. Night sky viewing begins 9:10 pm. Weather permitting, call to confirm. 9–11 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton.

MANCHESTER. Workshop: Legacy Planning for Woodland Owners. Offered by the Vermont Woodlands Association. \$15, includes coffee, pastries, and materials. 8:30 am - noon. Community Library. (802) 747-7900. vermontwoodlands.org.

MENDON. Green Mountain Club Outing: Upper Elevation Work Party. Spring cleaning and maintenance on the higher stretches of the LT/AT. Bring work gloves, water and lunch. Tools will be provided. 9 am. For info, contact Wayne Krevetski (802) 282-2237, Larry Walter (802) 775-3855. www.gmckillington.org.

ORANGE. Food Plot Seminar, hosted by Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. Topics include soil sampling, preparing the soil, seeding, fertilizing, and proven tips on creating a successful food plot for deer and other wildlife. Tutorial on the placement of trail cameras to help monitor wildlife use. Come dressed for the weather and bring bug and tick repellent. 9 am – 1 pm. Off Ballardine Rd. Register online at: <https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/138511>.

PAWLET. "Vermont Life" Skill Share program: Fishing. Fishing with Let's Go Fishing Program volunteer instructor Richard Mann. How to fish and about water ecology, fish population and habitat needs, and rules and regulations. Free. 10 am – 1 pm. Lake St. Catherine State Park. (802) 325-3123. pawletpubliclibrary.wordpress.com.

RUPERT. Second Saturday Hike to the Thoreau Cabin. This guided hike follows our Annual meeting and will be led by the Executive Director, Rob Terry. Moderate difficulty; will take place even if it's raining. Dress appropriately for the weather with sturdy footwear, water and snacks. Fee: \$5. 1–3 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rte. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

SPRINGFIELD. Tree Pruning Workshop. Hands-on class with arborist and tree surgeon Eric Bragg. Learn how to make well thought-out pruning cuts on fruit trees and woody landscape plants of various sizes. Bring pruning tools and a bag lunch. Price: \$15 donation suggested. Visit eventbrite.com to register. 9 am – 12 noon. Howard Dean Education Center, 307 South St. (603) 675-9123.

STOWE. Family Health and Fitness Day. Action painting, nature exploration, group games, BBQ. Free; concession fees may apply. 11 am – 2 pm. Linthilac Park. stowerec.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. 70th Anniversary Pet Parade. Anyone with a pet, all ages! Costumes and decorated bicycles encouraged! Theme: "Christmas in June." Registration behind the St. Johnsbury House 8:30 am. Parade at 10 am. Main St.

WEST RUTLAND. Opening Reception for Exhibit: "Ladies in Waiting." Rita Fuchsberg's installation examines the experiences of women on death row. Live music and refreshments. 5–7 pm. The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. info@carvingstudio.org. carvingstudio.org. Exhibit runs through July 14.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

BELLOWS FALLS. 20th 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. 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.vermontfestivalsllc.com.

BRATTLEBORO. 18th Annual Strolling of the Heifers Weekend. Farmers Breakfast at the Marina Restaurant, off Putney Rd. at the West River. Tour de Heifer: challenging dirt road cycling tours, 15-, 30- and 60-mile options, 3-mile hiking option, at Robb Family Farm. Farm Tour: six farms offering guided tours. Farm Art at Gallery at the Garden, 157 Main St. strollingoftheheifers.com.

BURLINGTON. Discover Jazz Festival: Free live music on four stages in downtown Burlington. Nightly showcases in restaurants and venues all over the city. Film Screening: Amazing Grace; Tickets: \$15; 1:15 pm at Merrill's Roxy Cinema. Concert: Brian Wilson presents Pet Sounds: The Final Performances; with Beat Root Revival; \$53.50–100.75; 8 pm at Flynn MainStage. (802) 863-7992. discoverjazz.com.

CABOT. CD Release Concert: Katie Trautz's new album *Passage*. Katie will be accompanied by Julia Wayne on harmonies, and Mike Roberts on electric guitar. Tickets: \$16 advance, \$20 at the door. Reservations recommended. Potluck and BYOB. 4 pm; doors open 3:15 pm. The Schoolhouse in Lower Cabot. cabotarts.org. katietrautz.com.

GUILFORD. Concert: A Cappella à la Carte. Guilford Chamber Singers performing 30 minutes of unaccompanied repertoire on the theme of "Life & Death, Love & Loss: Three Centuries of Part Songs." Guest ensemble TBA offers another half-hour of a cappella works. Dessert reception. Free; donations welcome. 7:30 pm. Guilford Community Church, 38 Church Dr. (802) 254-3600. www.fomag.org.

MONDAY, JUNE 10

WEST RUTLAND. Workshop: Carving in Stone. Stone carving is one of our oldest sculptural traditions. The acts of percussion and abrasion in stone with the intent of removing the "excess" in order to find the desired core form is a primal act: we are working with the very substance of the earth itself. \$625. 9 am to 5 pm. The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. carvingstudio.org. jimzingarelli.com. Through June 14.

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

RANDOLPH. Conference: The State of Vermont's Water. Speakers, panelists, and exhibitors. Topics include: groundwater and storm water rule updates, nitrates and chloride in water, agricultural best practices, permits, and more. Optional tour of new Vermont Tech environmental lab. Light breakfast, coffee breaks, & lunch included in pre-registration. Please pre-register by June 1. Fee: \$50, \$60 at the door. 8 am – 4 pm. Vermont Technical College. (802) 747-7900. info@vectogether.org. vectogether.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13


BARNARD. Music on the Farm Thursday Night Music Series: Julian & Charles, vibes and harp duo. Suggested donation: \$5–\$10. 5:30-8 pm, doors open 5 pm. Feast and Field Market, 1544 Royalton Tpk. barnarts.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

ADDISON. An Evening with Bugs. Biologist Mark Ferguson and Vermont State Game Warden Kelly Price will lead the group in insect observation using a variety of trapping methods. Bring a flashlight, tick protection and dress appropriately for the field. 8:30–11 pm. Dead Creek Visitor Center, off Route 17. vtfishandwildlife.com.

WESTON. Concert: Vermont's professional a cappella group Counterpoint presents Six Degrees. Through music, narration, and video, Six Degrees brings a crucial environmental message: how climate change threatens our survival and how we can address these dangers. Adults \$5, under 12 free. 4 pm. Church On The Hill, Lawrence Hill Rd. (802) 540-1784. contact@counterpointchorus.org. counterpointchorus.org. sundaysonthehill.org.

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Friday, June 28, 5-7 pm
Waterbury Congregational Church
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Silent auction 4-7:30 pm

Adults: \$12 • Kids 12 and under: \$8
Families (2 adults + 2 kids): \$30
Silent auction 4-7:30 pm
Take-out and dessert-only options available.
Dinner is first come, first served so get here first if you have a favorite dish!

Nothing says summer like strawberry shortcake shared with neighbors and friends.

Vermont Country Calendar



MONDAY, JUNE 17

BELLOWS FALLS. Eugene Friesen's Creative Cello Workshop. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. *stonechurcharts.org. Through June 20.*

SAXTONS RIVER. Workshop for Teens: The Art of Storytelling, with Michelle Bos-Lun. Generate oral and written stories about times and people in your life. Written pieces will be collected into a booklet. Concludes with a final presentation. Students will have the opportunity to perform their stories at the Great River Theater Festival on July 13. \$135. Pre-registration required. 9 am – 12 noon. Main Street Arts. (802) 869-2960. *Through June 21.*

WEST RUTLAND. Workshop—Stone Carving: Tools & Technique. Individual instruction will guide you in developing your concept, choosing a stone, techniques of carving using a wide variety of tools, and refining the finished form. \$625. 9 am to 5 pm. The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. *carvingstudio.org. rickrothrock.com. Through June 21.*

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert: Eugene Friesen, solo cello. \$15-\$35. 7:30 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. *stonechurcharts.org.*

WOODSTOCK. Peak Bloom at Eshqua Bog. Learn about the ecology of Eshqua Bog Natural Area's stunning orchids, including Showy Lady's Slippers. Free. 10 am. Eshqua Bog Natural Area, 2410 Garvin Hill Rd. *hannah.epstein@tnc.org.*

WORCESTER. 13th Annual Carolan Festival. Gathering of people who play, listen, sing, or dance to the music of Turlough O'Carolan (1670-1738), Irish harper and composer. Fri 6:30 pm through Sun afternoon. The Mallery Farm, 108 Norton Rd. *carolanfestvt@gmail.com. carolanfestvt.com. Through June 16.*

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

ASCUTNEY. Book, Bake and Mini Yard Sale. 9 am – 1 pm. Weathersfield Proctor Library, 5181 Route 5. (802) 674-2863.

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert: Cellos in Bellows. Peter Eldridge, piano and vocals, and Eugene Friesen, cello. Tickets: \$20, seniors \$15. 7:30 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. *stonechurcharts.org.*

BELVIDERE. Rattling Brook Bluegrass Festival, all day. Vermont's longest-running bluegrass event. The Vermont Bluegrass Pioneers will play a couple sets, the first around noon. Bring a cooler and a blanket and chill out to an afternoon of fine music. On Facebook.

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. *sammazzafarms.com.*

MANCHESTER. Who Grows There? A Walk in the Hildene Woods with Alan Calfee. Become acquainted with the variety and majesty of the trees on the 412-acre Lincoln estate, walking the trails. Fee: \$15. Register by June 14. 10 am – 12 noon. Check in at the Hildene Welcome Center, 1005 Hildene Rd. (802) 367-7960. *stephanie@hildene.org. hildene.org.*

NORTH CLARENDON. Annual Strawberry Festival. Ham, coleslaw, potato salad, deviled eggs, baked beans, beverages, strawberry shortcake or strawberries & ice cream. \$10, children 5-12 \$5, 4 & under free. Dessert only, \$5. To benefit the Beland Family medical expenses. 4-7 pm. The Brick Church (Clarendon Congregational Church), 298 Middle Rd. (802) 773-3873. *brickchurchvt.com.*

RUPERT. Pond Exploration Workshop. What's splashing about in Page Pond? We'll find in this interesting (and a little damp!) program. Open to all ages. Fee: \$5. 2-4 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rte. 315. (802) 394-7836. *merckforest.org.*

SHELburne. Sounds of the Earth. Natural soundscape-inspired music. Live music, vocal and drumming workshops, children's activities, raffles, food trucks and more. Performances by the JACK Quartet, TURNmusic, Rural Noise Ensemble, Jan Williams, Robert Black, Eve Beglarian, and participants of the New Music On The Point Festival. No advance RSVPs required, donations accepted at the door. 12 noon – 6 pm. Shelburne Farms, off Rt. 7. (802) 377-3161. *lara@scragmountainmusic.org. scragmountainmusic.org.*

SHELburne. Shelburne Museum Classic Auto Festival. Vermont Auto enthusiasts and Shelburne Museum celebrate the long history and innovation of electric vehicles. Vintage cars, hands-on activities for all ages, talks, and more. Cost included in Museum Admissions. 10 am – 5 pm. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-4436. *info@shelburnemuseum.org. shelburnemuseum.org. Through June 16.*

SHOREHAM. Community Breakfast. Enjoy Blueberry Pancakes, French Toast, Sausages, Home Fries, Quiches, and more for only \$8 adults, \$4 children, and \$20 a family. Celebrate the arrival of true warm weather! 8:30 to 10:30 am at the Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd.

SOUTH BURLINGTON. The Music of Grateful Dead for Kids: Father's Day Celebration. The Rock and Roll Playhouse band offers families with children age ten and under games, movement, stories and an opportunity to rock out. Tickets: \$15 day of show, children under 1 admitted free. 12 noon. Higher Ground, 1214 Williston Rd. (802) 652-0777. *highergroundmusic.com/event/1840561.*

ST. JOHNSBURY. Feast with the Beasts. Mingle in the museum, tour our full campus. Great hall full of flowers and music, tables with samples from catering kitchens. Sample drinks created by St. Johnsbury Distillery and Eden Ice Ciders. Tickets: \$50, includes heavy hors d'oeuvres plus two drinks from the wine and beer bar. 6-10 pm. Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium. 1302 Main St.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

LEBANON, NH. Concert: Keb' Mo', blues/Americana musician Kevin Moore, a modern master of American roots music. Opening set by young blues upstart Jontavious Willis. Tickets: \$47-\$169. 7:30 pm. Lebanon Opera House, 51 N. Park St. (603) 448-0400. *info@lebanonoperahouse.org. lebanonoperahouse.org.*

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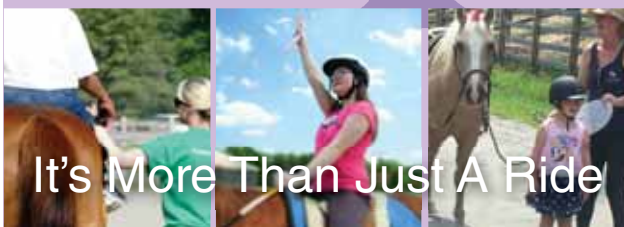
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Vermont Country Calendar

PITTSFORD. Presentation: Bird Anatomy. Rutland County Audubon VP Mike Blust will give a fun presentation on bird anatomy. Check out the RCAS member bird photo exhibit. Free. 630 pm. Maclure Library, corner of Adams St. rutlandcountyaudubon.org.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert: 1200 Horses, a band of cellos. Tickets: \$20, seniors \$15. 7:30 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

BARNARD. Music on the Farm Thursday Night Music Series: Pete's Posse, folk/roots. Suggested donation: \$5-\$10. 5:30-8 pm, doors open 5 pm. Feast and Field Market, 1544 Royalton Tpk. barnarts.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

BARNARD. Play: *Waiting for Godot*. Outdoors at Feast & Field—up on the knob. Some chairs pre-set, camp chairs and blankets encouraged. Cider, wine, beer and snacks available, starting 45 min before show time. Picnicking before the show is welcome. Tickets: adults \$20, students \$15. Fridays & Saturdays 6:45 pm, Sundays 5 pm. BarnArts Center for the Arts, 6211 Route 12. info@barnarts.org. barnarts.org. Through June 30. Rain dates: June 26, July 3.

BURLINGTON. "Across the ZOO-niverse." All-day Festival celebrating Make Music Day. Live performances by violinist Emma Back; singer-songwriter Hunter Paye; indie rock quartet Beards and Glasses; protest band David Rosane & the Zookeepers; multi-instrumentalist Sara Grace; and the powerful voice of Senayit. Free. 1-7 pm in the main room at Fletcher Free Library, 235 College St. davidrosane@gmail.com. senayitt@gmail.com. bigheavyworld.com/makemusic.

HIGHGATE. All Arts Council of Franklin County's "Summer Sounds" Concert: The Vermont Bluegrass Pioneers. Free. 7 pm. Town Park on Rt. 78.

LEBANON, NH. Food Truck Festival. Sample specialties from New England food trucks and drinks from Salt Hill Pub at this two-day event. Includes live music. Price: \$5-\$20, 5 and under free. Friday 5-9 pm, Saturday 11 am - 3 pm. Colburn Park, 51 N. Park St. (603) 448-5121.

MIDDLEBURY. Concert: Tony Trischka, perhaps the most influential banjo player in the roots music world. Tickets: \$20-25 plus fees. 7:30 pm. Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. (802) 382-9222. townhalltheater.org.

POMFRET. Summer Revels 2019: A Celebration of Life in New England. Celebrates the music, stories, and people of a small Vermont village, told through singing, stories, and games. Free / by donation. 5:30 pm. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (866) 556-3083. revelsnorth.org/summer-revels.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

ATHENS. Quilt Show & Craft Fair. 10 am - 3 pm. Athens Brick Meetinghouse, Meetinghouse Rd. (802) 869-2141. athensmeetinghouse1817@gmail.com.

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert: They. A powerhouse duo consisting of Berklee College of Music students AC Muench and Oliver Esposito, playing poignant originals and funky fun covers. Tickets: \$20, seniors \$15. 7:30 pm. The Chapel, Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Six New Exhibits: Ocean's Edge. Dona Ann McAdams: Performative Acts. Barbara Takenaga: Looking at Blue. Angus McCullough: Coincidence Control. Timothy Segar: Character Development. David Plowden: Bridges. Free Reception at 5:30 pm to celebrate the opening. (Open 11 am - 5 pm every day except Tuesday. Regular admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$4, 18 and under free. Free admission for all on Thursdays, 2-5 pm.) Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. brattleboromuseum.org.

CASTLETON. Town Wide Yard Sale. A day of fun and a chance to find bargains, treasures, and one-of-a-kind items to fit everyone's pocket book. 9 am - 2 pm. Castleton Community Center Green and indoors at the Center, 2108 Main St. (802) 468-3093. castletoncsi.org.

EAST BURKE. Burke Mountain Club Centennial Celebration. The community is invited for live music, square dancing, old fashioned games, kids' activities, craft demonstrations, and cake and ice cream. The White Schoolhouse Museum on the grounds will provide a glimpse into life in the community 200 years ago. The schoolhouse was preserved and moved from its original location in 1923 and served as the Burke Historical Society. Free. 10 am - 4 pm. Burke Mountain Club, 368 Rt 114. (802) 626-9823.

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 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, corner of Rts. 7A & 11/30 across from Northshire Bookstore. (802) 362-3473.

NEWPORT. Vermont Breakfast on the Farm. Enjoy a free breakfast and learn how Vermont's agricultural community works together to produce safe, delicious, wholesome food. Meet the farmers and the cows who make local dairy possible in Vermont. 8 am - 1 pm. Maxwell's Neighborhood Farm, 213 Maxwell Rd. (802) 828-2430. vermontbreakfastonthefarm@gmail.com. vermontbreakfastonthefarm.com.

NORTH POMFRET. Annual Strawberry Supper. Baked ham and baked beans, potato salad, tossed salad, deviled eggs, rolls, coffee, punch, strawberry shortcake & whipped cream. Ladies Circle Bazaar and quilt raffle tickets. Supper benefits the North Pomfret Congregational Church. Seatings at 5, 6:15 & 7:30 pm. Pomfret Town Hall. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 10. (802) 457-3259.

NORWICH. Summer Revels 2019: A Celebration of Life in New England. Celebrates the music, stories, and people of a small Vermont village, told through singing, stories, and games. Free / by donation. 5:30 pm. Norwich Green. (866) 556-3083. revelsnorth.org/summer-revels.

PITTSFORD. Flea Market. 9 am - 3 pm. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

PROCTOR. Wilson Castle Jam Fest. Also lights and sounds by Mad River Valley Light and Sound Company (MRVLAS). Beer for sale. 21+ event. BYOB. Tickets: \$25 online, \$30 at the door. 7 pm till 2 am. Wilson Castle, 2970 West Proctor Rd. eventbrite.com/e/wilson-castle-jam-fest-tickets-61177835553. wilsoncastle.com.

RUPERT. Bird ID & Habitat Workshop. What birds are in our area and what kind of habitats do they enjoy? Find out in the Merck woodlands. Dress appropriately for being in the woods. Fee: \$5. 8-10 am. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rte. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

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

ST. JOHNSBURY. Dog Mountain Founders Celebration. A dog party to celebrate the life and loves of Dog Mountain founders, Stephen and Gwen Huneck. If you have dogs, bring them. Free, held rain or shine. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to Dog Mountain. 12 noon - 4 pm. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Road, St. (800) 449-2580. contact@dogmt.com. dogmt.com.

Way Back Then

Seventy-Five Years of Gardening

by Charles Sutton

Gardeners are out getting ready for spring plantings, maybe even have gotten some peas and onion sets in the ground early, although it has been unseasonably cold.

This rite of spring began for my brother Fred and I three quarters of a century ago! In 1942, families all over America started planting Victory Gardens as part of the World War II effort. Imagine how excited we were when our farmer neighbor, a Mr. Hidu from Hungary, came with his draft horses to our home in Fairfield, Connecticut, to plow, harrow and level off a patch for our vegetable garden.

Although this was a family effort to produce large quantities of fresh vegetables, each of us grew at least one special vegetable for the fun of it. My brother chose beans used to make bean spouts for Chinese dishes that he was already cooking at age 11. I grew a crop of peanuts that made pretty plants but produced no peanuts. Our parents planted okra—a strange looking and tasting vegetable to us.

Early days of organic gardening

Long before they were so named we were planting 'organic gardens' using no chemical fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides. Our fertilizer came from our own chicken manure and composted leaves and grasses. Although mother was a city person she quickly learned how to can and preserve our home grown

vegetable—this was before freezers were common. Later when my brother and I were off to school, college and military service, mother continued to grow some vegetables, but flowers gradually took over. Fred and I had new gardens wherever our lives took us.

My next big vegetable garden was in Hollis Center, Maine, which was first covered with a truck load of chicken manure, and exploded into some giant sized plants. One day a stranger drove into the driveway and wanted to know what I had done to produce such a beautiful and bountiful garden. I gave him a quick lesson in organic gardening and off he went.

I was working for the Portland Press Herald then and supplemented my reporters income with some free lance articles. I wrote one for the Boston Globe Sunday magazine explaining what was this organic gardening thing!

Backyard garden

Not long after that I discovered how to grow vegetables in the city. Along with taking a job on the Bridgeport (Connecticut) Post newspaper I purchased a derelict building bordering Washington Park in East Bridgeport, and had a plot in a community garden which was part of a Housing for Humanity effort. But what pleased me the most was a tiny home garden in my backyard which already came with an apple tree and some grape vines. I put in a small salad garden and a tiny tract of green grass lawn.



Charles Sutton (l) and brother Fred Sutton (r) working in their Victory Garden in 1942 at home in Fairfield, CT.

This little paradise attracted a stray cat (bringing along her three kitten one at a time) into a new home behind a stack of fire wood.

Tomato jungle and bean house

My next venture in gardening was in Danby, Vermont, where a large two-acre sunny field was the ideal place for several gardens. One plot was lent to a neighbor, and the remaining space went into a specialty tomato garden and the other plot into a general garden laid out with pie-shaped sections lined with left over antique bricks from a torn down chimney.

Heirloom tomatoes were becoming a 'must thing to try' and I was hooked on them big time. I squeezed some 20 varieties into one patch. They grew like weeds into a large mass requiring some skill to harvest without trampling down the plants and stepping on the tomatoes! Vegetable gardens usually are laid out in long uniform rows so it was fun to arrange my garden in an unique mandala design. Each pie shaped piece inside the larger circle had it s own space—ideal for smaller crops like salad greens, Chinese

vegetables, and herbs.

Gardening encourages one to try something new—seed catalogs are full of tempting suggestions. One can also try an experiment like when one summer my wife suggested a bean house. So I framed out a 6' x 10' building in a section of the garden and planted pole beans around its uprights. The beans loved the challenge and grew up and over their new home. What a trip going inside the house later to harvest the beans hanging down in clusters all over the place or just to sit in wonder. A bean haven!

Container gardening

My challenge today is living where my choice for a garden is on a huge deck attached to our rental home. This supports some dozen containers like large window boxes. On top of a bed of pebbles I have added a mixture of dirt, compost and rotted cow manure. This has produced an abundance of vegetables for stir frying, salad greens, herbs, and plenty of flowers. The porch garden does support a few containers of tomato plants, but no jungle.

Happy gardening!



Mr. Hidu brings his draft horses to the Sutton's home in Fairfield, CT to fit their Victory Garden.

Vermont Country Calendar

VERGENNES. Abenaki Heritage Weekend. Abenaki visual and performing artist showcase their creative works alongside scholars, culture bearers, and historians. Songs, drumming, dancing, games, food preparation, and other life skills. Illustrated talks and Round Table discussions on topics such as Abenaki as a living language, and heirloom plants. Admission (regular Museum admission, good for two consecutive days): adults \$14, seniors \$12, students 6-18 \$8, 5 and under free. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor. (802) 475-2022. info@lcmm.org. lcmm.org. *Through June 23.*

WEST ADDISON. Lake Champlain Bridge guided walk. Learn about the history of what you see walking across the Lake Champlain Bridge. Lisa Polay and Elsa Gilbertson lead this round-trip guided walk. Meet at the Crown Point, NY, State Historic Site museum. Bring a picnic to enjoy before or after. Rain or shine, dress for the weather. Includes admission to both museums. 11 am – 1 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Route 17W.

WEST RUTLAND. Marsh Monitoring Walk. Kids, new birders and non-members welcome! Grow your birding skills with our friendly bird experts. Walk the 3.7 mile loop or go halfway. Meet at the marsh boardwalk on Marble Street at 7 am. birding@rutlandcountyaudubon.org. rutlandcountyaudubon.org.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum Dairy Celebration Days. June is Dairy Month. Learn more about the milk producers and products made from their milk. Demonstrations and programs on three dairy animals: cows, sheep, and goats. Watch students from all around New England on Saturday as they prepare their cattle for the competition on Sunday. Adults: \$16, over 62 \$14, students 16 & up \$9, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm and Museum, Route 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. billingsfarm.org. *Also June 23.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

ADDISON. Snake Mountain Botanical Walk. Explore the unique flora of one of the Champlain Valley's largest remaining forest blocks. Everett Marshall, a scientist with Vermont Fish & Wildlife's Natural Heritage Inventory, will lead the group up the side of this popular mountain. 10 am – 1 pm. Snake Mountain Wildlife Management Area. Sign up and get meeting point at vtfishandwildlife.com.

BARTON. Strawberry Social. Community strawberry social serving strawberry shortcakes, live music and more. \$5. Benefit to raise funds for Barton Public Library. 2-4 pm, rain or shine. On the greens at Barton Public Library, 100 Church St. (802) 771-8649. adolanrutherford@gmail.com. Barton-public-library.org.

HUBBARDTON. Talk and Discussion: The First Amendment. Historian and site interpreter Paul Andrisic provides the history of the amendment. Questions and discussion moderated by site interpreter Bob Franzoni. Battlefield walk guided by Franzoni. 2-3 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton.

MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS. 45th Annual Strawberry Festival. To benefit the Middletown Springs Historical Society. Historical Society Museum open all afternoon. Admission free. Live music by the Peter Huntoon Band playing tunes from the sixties for your enjoyment. Children's activities. Small flea market, local crafts and artists. Raffle. Quarts of strawberries for sale. Strawberry shortcake with homemade biscuits, vanilla ice cream, and whipped cream, coffee, ice tea, and lemonade. Free admission, food items a la carte. 2-4 pm on the Green, Rt. 140. Rain or shine. (802) 235-2376.

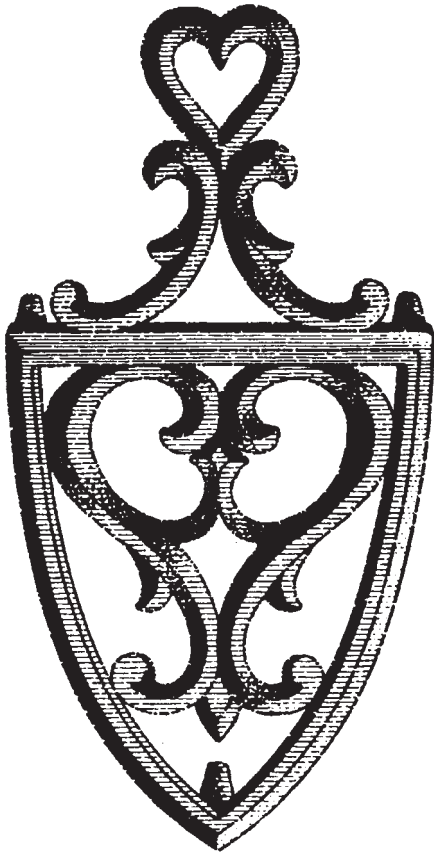
PAWLET. Film. *Rooted: Cultivating Community in the Vermont Grange.* Local farmers share the impact of changes in agriculture on the community. Followed by panel discussion with local farmers. Free. 2-4 pm. Pawlet Public Library, 141 School St. (802) 325-3123. pawletpubliclibrary.wordpress.com.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum Dairy Celebration Days. June is Dairy Month. Learn more about the milk producers and products made from their milk. Demonstrations and programs on three dairy animals: cows, sheep, and goats. Also included in the weekend celebration is the Youth Invitation Dairy Show. Adults: \$16, over 62 \$14, students 16 & up \$9, children 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm and Museum, Route 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

BRISTOL. Concert: Bristol Town Band. Bring a lawn chair, blanket or picnic dinner and enjoy an evening of small town entertainment — a summer tradition that has continued since shortly after the Civil War. There is often a fundraiser barbecue before each concert. 7 pm on the Green. (802) 453-5885.

TUNBRIDGE. Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Four-day event. Over 50 hours of performances across four stages. Line-up includes fan favorites along with some new entertainers appearing at Jenny Brook for the first time. Spend the day or bring a camper or tent and stay the entire time. Tickets \$10-\$150, children free. 8 am – 11:59 pm. Tunbridge World's Fairgrounds, 1 Fairground Ln. (802) 518-2126. candi@jennybrookbluegrass.com. jennybrookbluegrass.com. *Through June 30.*



THURSDAY, JUNE 27

EAST BARRE. Concert by The Sky Blue Boys. Free. 6:30 pm. Aldrich Library, York Branch, 134 Mill St.

BARNARD. Music on the Farm Thursday Night Music Series: Flynn, indie-soul. Suggested donation: \$5-\$10. 5:30-8 pm, doors open 5 pm. Feast and Field Market, 1544 Royalton Tpk. clovermont@gmail.com. barnarts.org.

SHOREHAM. Fantastic Strawberry Festival. Strawberry shortcake, strawberries on ice cream, strawberry pie, strawberry sundaes, and more! Prices vary according to items purchased, but beverages are free. Whole strawberry pies available for purchase. It is a wonderful way to enjoy the strawberry season in the company of friends. 5 to 7 pm at the Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd.

TUNBRIDGE. Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Four-day event. Over 50 hours of performances across four stages. Line-up includes fan favorites along with some new entertainers appearing at Jenny Brook for the first time. Spend the day or bring a camper or tent and stay the entire time. Tickets \$10-\$150, children free. 8 am – 11:59 pm. Tunbridge World's Fairgrounds, 1 Fairground Ln. (802) 518-2126. jennybrookbluegrass.com.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28

CASTLETON. 15th Annual Golf Outing, to benefit Castleton Community Center Elderly and Disabled Transportation program. 18 holes (Captain & Crew format), \$10,000 hole-in-one-contest, \$500 Price Chopper Gift Card Hole-in-One plus prizes for low gross, low net, longest drive and closet to pin for both men and women. Registration fee: \$90, includes greens fee, golf cart, dinner, player gifts, raffles and prizes. Lake St. Catherine Country Club. (802) 468-3093. castletoncsi.org.

LYNDONVILLE. NEMBAFest, the biggest Mountain Bike Festival on the East Coast! Over 90 vendors, over 4000 attendees, over 100 miles of trails for all ability levels. Very family friendly. Adult Registration with camping \$130, without camping \$110; on-site \$145/\$115. 8:30 am – 4 pm. Kingdom Trails Nordic Adventure Center, 2079 Darling Hill Rd. (802) 626-6005. info@kingdomtrails.org. NEMBAfest.com. *Through June 30.*

SALISBURY. Chamber Music Concert: Point Counterpoint Faculty Ensemble. Free-will donation. 7:30 pm. Salisbury Congregational Meeting House, 853 Maple St.

SHOREHAM. Annual Strawberry Festival. Feast on strawberry shortcake, strawberry sundaes, strawberry pie, ice cream with strawberries, just plain strawberries, or the works. Prices vary. Whole strawberry pies for sale. 5-7 pm. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-2687.

TUNBRIDGE. Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Four-day event. Over 50 hours of performances across four stages. Line-up includes fan favorites along with some new entertainers appearing at Jenny Brook for the first time. Spend the day or bring a camper or tent and stay the entire time. Tickets \$10-\$150, children free. 8 am – 11:59 pm. Tunbridge World's Fairgrounds, 1 Fairground Ln. (802) 518-2126. jennybrookbluegrass.com. *Through June 30.*

WATERBURY. 46th Annual Strawberry Supper. Delicious buffet dinner with homemade potluck creations at historic downtown church followed by strawberry shortcake (made with local strawberries). Full meal includes drink & dessert, or "just desserts." Take-out too. Silent auction. Adults \$12, 12 and under \$8, families \$30. Handicap accessible. First come, first served. 5-7 pm. Waterbury Congregational Church, 8 N. Main St. (802) 244-6606.

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Vermont Country Calendar

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

ADDISON COUNTY. Vermont Gran Fondo in Addison County. Road cycling over Addison County mountain gaps: Appalachian, Middlebury, Lincoln. Choose from three courses. Details at vermontgranfondo.com.

DUMMERSTON CENTER. 50th 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. Evening Star Grange Hall, 1008 East West Rd. (802) 257-0544. (802) 257-1128.

GREENSBORO. Circus Smirkus. Smirkus Troupers, ages 10 to 18, perform in Circus Smirkus' very own 750-seat European-style one-ring big top tent. Admission. 1-4 pm. The Circus Barn, 1 Circus Rd. (877) 764-7587. smirkus.org.

HANOVER, NH. Hood Museum Highlights Tour. Discover various works in the galleries through this guided tour. Walk-ins welcome. Free. 2-3 pm. Hood Museum of Art, 6 E. Wheelock St. (603) 646-2808. dartmouth.edu.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Singer-songwriter Iris DeMent brings a modern sensibility to the Pentecostal gospel twang of her native Ozarks, 27 years after she pioneered what is now called Americana. Tickets: \$11- \$42. 8 pm. Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 E. Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. hop.box@dartmouth.edu. hop.dartmouth.edu.

NORWICH. Grange Breakfast. Buffet-style meal includes pancakes, French toast, sausage, bacon, eggs, biscuits and gravy, real maple syrup and beverages. Price: \$5-\$8, children under five free; family rate available. 8-11 am. Norwich Grange, 344 N. Main St. (802) 356-0844. Also July 27, August 31, September 28.

RUPERT. Volunteer Work Party. Work with great people in the great big beautiful out-of-doors. Trail maintenance in the woods, or clearing up the berry patches of weeds. Call to find out what and when. Free. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rte. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

SOUTH POMFRET. Nature Camp: Pomfret Pioneers. For children ages 4 & 5 or entering kindergarten. Campers will look, listen, feel, smell and taste their way as they blaze trails through the forests, meadows and other natural spaces. On the last day, campers will be guided along the VINS Nature Center trails on a quest to find a mystery creature. (802) 359-5000. vinsweb.org. Through August 2.

TUNBRIDGE. Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Four-day event. Over 50 hours of performances across four stages. Line-up includes fan favorites along with some new entertainers appearing at Jenny Brook for the first time. Spend the day or bring a camper or tent and stay the entire time. Tickets \$10-\$150, children free. 8 am - 11:59 pm. Tunbridge World's Fairgrounds, 1 Fairground Ln. (802) 518-2126. candi@jennybrookbluegrass.com. jennybrookbluegrass.com. Through June 30.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

FAIRLEE. Concert and Ice Cream social. Traditional concert band music (marches, pop, golden oldies, polkas and light classics) performed by the Lyme Town Band. Ice cream with toppings available for purchase. In case of rain, the event will move into the adjacent air-conditioned and accessible Town Hall auditorium. Free. 4-6 pm. Fairlee Town Common, 70 Town Common Rd. (802) 331-0997. fairlearts.org.

FERRISBURGH. 22nd Annual Challenge Race. Rowing and paddling enthusiasts take to the water for a three-mile race open to all human-powered boats. The triangular course crosses Lake Champlain from Vermont to New York and back and covers some of the most beautiful scenery in the region. Registration at 9:30 am, race begins at 11 am. \$25/participant fee, includes gift bag and lunch. 9 am. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. lcm.org.

MONKTON. Strawberry festival. 10 am - 2 pm. Monkton Volunteer Fire Department, 3747 State's Prison Hollow Rd.

NEW HAVEN. Concert: Rick Klein & Peter Macfarlane. Part of The Sunday Sessions at Lincoln Peak Winery. Relax on the porch with wine and live music. Wine available by the glass. Free. Rain or shine on the covered porch (we'll move indoors if it's pouring). 2-4 pm. Lincoln Peak Winery, 142 River Rd.

TUNBRIDGE. Jenny Brook Bluegrass Festival. Four-day event. Line-up includes fan favorites along with some new entertainers appearing at Jenny Brook for the first time. Tickets \$10-\$150, children free. 8 am - 12:30 pm. Tunbridge World's Fairgrounds, 1 Fairground Ln. (802) 518-2126. candi@jennybrookbluegrass.com. jennybrookbluegrass.com.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

ADDISON. Dead Creek Visitor Center Open for the Season. Displays highlighting history and conservation, fish and wildlife management, habitat features, and the many species that live in the region. Self-guided tours. Open on weekends, 9 am - 4 pm. Dead Creek Visitor Center, off Route 17. vtfishandwildlife.com/watch-wildlife/dead-creek-visitor-center. Through the end of August.

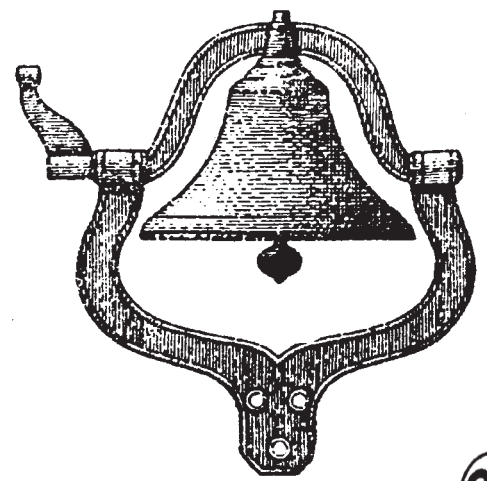
ALBURGH. Soldiers & Citizens Civil War Museum. Explore free exhibits on soldier life, home front, "underground railroad" and more. Room of Curiosities for fossil, mineral, and local history displays. Located in the New England Via Vermont building, 28 Milk Street (across from the municipal office building). Open seasonally daily 10-5, except Wed. & Sun. by chance. (802) 796-3665. newenglandviavermont.com. Check Facebook for updates.

BARNET. Karme Choling Shambhala Meditation Center. Meditation practice and contemplative study in beautiful rural Vermont. Karme Choling, 369 Patnaude Lane. (802) 633-2384. karmecholing.org.

BARTONSVILLE. Friday Night Bingo. 6:30 pm. Bartonville Grange (located across from Rockingham State Police Barracks on Rt. 103), 116 Upper Bartonville Rd. (802) 875-4438. Every Friday.

BELLOWS FALLS. Genealogy Group at Rockingham Library. Join genealogy enthusiast Wayne Blanchard on a quest to discover your family roots. With the many free databases available at the library. Beginners and seasoned genealogists are welcome. Call to register, spots fill up fast. Free. 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. Rockingham Library, 65 Westminster St. (802) 463-4270. rockinghamlibrary.org. Every Thursday.

BRATTLEBORO. Daily Brown Bag Lunch Series. Bring your lunch and hear free presentations on a wide variety of subjects. Monday-Friday, 12 noon - 1 pm. The River Garden, 157 Main St. (802) 257-2699. strollingoftheheifers.com.



What Ceres Might Say

Celebrating 100 years of Two Dairy Cooperatives in Vermont

by Roger Allbee

This year is the 100th year of operation of two well-known cooperatives that have farmer members in Vermont, the St. Albans Cooperative and the Cabot Cooperative. Both were started in 1919, at a time of great economic turmoil in the US, when prices to farmers were being challenged. As business units, both have changed over time to better meet consumer and their farmer member needs.

Cabot merged with AgriMark Dairy Cooperative in 1992 and today is part of a larger cooperative organization that serves its farmer members in the New England States and New York. Cabot is well known for its specialty cheddar cheeses. St. Albans today supplies both Ben and Jerry's with quality cream for its Ice Cream, and Commonwealth Dairy with milk for its yogurt.

The early 1900's was a very interesting time in agriculture in Vermont as well as the entire United States. Due to the economic disparities between urban and country life in the late 1800's and early 1900's, President Teddy Roosevelt had created the Country Life Commission.

The recommendations from this commission were later investigated by both Presidents Taft and Wilson. They had both sent people to Europe to study agricultural cooperatives and rural credit (see 63rd Congress, 1st session, Senate Doc 214, *Agricultural Cooperation and Rural Credit in Europe, 1913, GPO*). As a result of this investigation, and based upon the report, Congress passed, and President Wilson signed, the Federal Loan Act of 1916, establishing the first part of what became known as the Federal Farm Credit System.

The late 1800s and early 1900s was the beginning of a period of agricultural policy activism in the United States.

The Grange movement was started in 1867 as a fraternal organization, but quickly became active on a number of fronts to include railroad rates, fair pricing to farmers, and promoting farmer cooperatives (see *Early Cooperatives, March 7th, 2011, Extension*). It is said that cooperatives flourished during the three decades from 1890 to 1920, and as many as 14,000 were organized after this period. The American Farm Bureau Federation, started originally as part of Cooperative Extension, became an activist organization in the early and later 1900's advocating for cooperatives, as well as the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933 (challenged in federal courts and reauthorized with changes in the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1937, that created the Federal Marketing Order System for dairies that exist to this day).

Vermont was becoming a fluid milk state after 1890, as the cities reached out for a source of product (see www.whatceresmightsay.blogspot.com: *Historical Perspective: Why Vermont Became a Dairy State, Thursday, August 23rd, 2018*).

It is interesting to note from the history, that in 1917, as head of the Federal Food Administration during World War I, Herbert Hoover appointed a commission to determine a fair price to dairy farmers in the Boston Milk Market, a cost of production plus a reasonable profit, and a way to price surplus production during the flush milk production period (see *Agriculture of Vermont, Ninth Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture, July 1916 to June 30, 1918*). It is said that this mechanism for balancing supply and demand of milk production "while quickly dismantled after the WWI Armistice, became the foundation for massive intervention in a highly demoralized industry after 1933." (See *Business History Review, Vol 55, No. 2. (Summer 1981), pp. 170-187*).

Many laws were put in place over the succeeding years to address farm cooperatives and farm viability. The Capper-

Volstead Act, passed to allow farmers the ability to work together on pricing, evolved after the Sherman Anti-trust Act of 1890 which did not provide needed protection to these newly formed cooperatives. This law remains one of the key elements of cooperative anti-trust law protection today.

In 1932, the Report Rural Vermont, A Program for the Future, by the Vermont Commission on Country Life, was put forth (after the major flood of 1927). In the section on agriculture and dairy, the report suggests that the future of dairy within the state is promising, provided: 1) farmers keep down the cost of production, 2) there is a mechanism to balance supply and demand, and 3) farmers develop a more efficient marketing system.

Over the years, changes have occurred on several levels on the farm, in markets served, in transportation and communication, with technology, and within the policy environment. Today there are approximately 700 commercial dairy farms in the State, and only one of these dairy cooperatives, St. Albans, has its office within the State. Cooperatives in the country have all changed over the years (see: www.whatceresmightsay.blogspot.com: *The Vermont Story: History of Farmer Cooperatives and How They Have Impacted Vermont Agriculture, December 20, 2012*). Many studies have been done relative to the role and challenges of farmer challenges are reported in the blog www.whatceresmightsay.blogspot.com. 100 years of changes have occurred within the farmer cooperative movement and in the Vermont agriculture as it exists today.

It should be noted, that many of the so called old timers who had witnessed the sharp decline in Vermont's world class merino sheep industry, and then the relatively quick movement away from its world class butter production, indicated that Vermont's future was never competing with the West on a commodity basis, but in developing those products that consumers in the growing markets in the Northeast would want. It appears that is where Vermont agriculture is today as well.

There is a need to understand the past to appreciate the future (see [blog post In Vermont Agriculture and Food Systems, Understanding the Past Reinforces the Future, www.whatceresmightsay.blogspot.com](http://www.whatceresmightsay.blogspot.com)).

Roger Allbee is the former Secretary of Agriculture for the State of Vermont. He also has been a member of the Senior Management Team of the former Farm Credit and Bank for Cooperatives for the Northeast; a former Chair of the Animal Products Advisory Committee to a former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and U.S. Trade Ambassador. He lives in Townshend, Vermont with his wife Ann.

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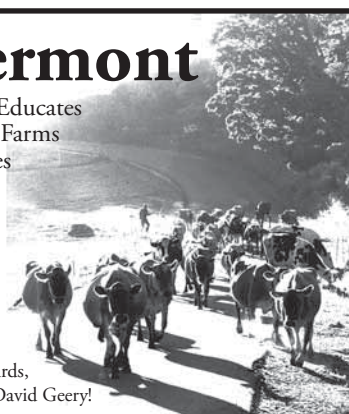
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Vermont Country Calendar

BRATTLEBORO. The Cotton Mill. Housed in a three-story, 145,000 square foot renovated mill building dating back to 1910, The Cotton Mill is home to over 60 small businesses and artists' studios. Painters, dancers, jewelry makers, circus performers, jam and granola makers, filmmakers, bodyworkers, woodworkers, jazz musicians, toymakers and many others form a vibrant & bustling community just minutes from downtown. 74 Cotton Mill Hill. info@thecottonmill.org. www.thecottonmill.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center. Regular admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$4, 18 and under free. Free admission for all on Thursdays, 2-5 p.m. Open 11 am - 5 pm every day except Tuesday. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. brattleboromuseum.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Post Oil Solutions meets frequently and sponsors events with a mission to advance cooperative, sustainable communities. For info contact Tim Stevenson at info@postoilsolutions.org or www.postoilsolutions.org.

BRIDGEWATER. Bingo at the Bridgewater Grange. Doors open 5:30 pm, games 6:30 pm. Refreshments available—hot dogs, donuts, coffee, soda. Bridgewater Grange, Rt. 100A. (802) 672-6223. *Continuing on Saturdays.*

BURLINGTON. VTeen 4-H Science Pathways Café. Topics include Geographic Information Systems; Farming, Climate Change & Water Quality; Natural Resources Management Academy; Science on Lake Champlain; and The Science of Maple. For students entered grades 7-12 in the fall. Free, registration required by June 1. (802) 888-4972 x 402. lauren.traister@uvm.edu. *June-July.*

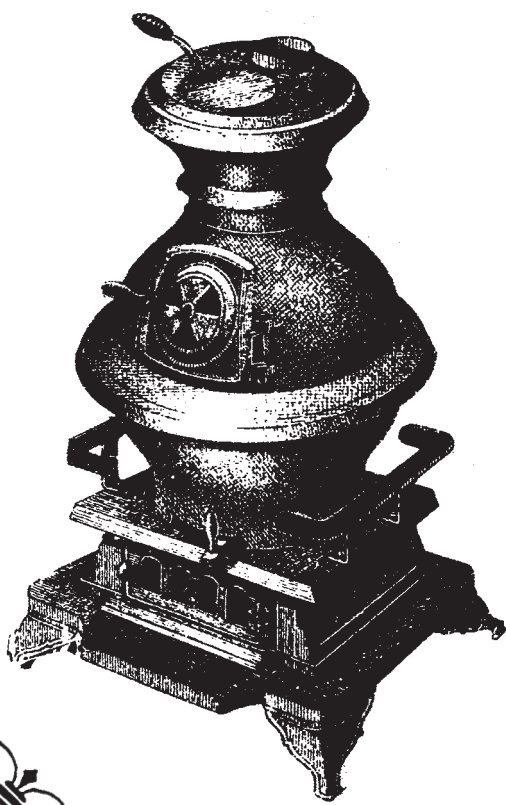
BURLINGTON. Poetry Experience. Rajnii Eddins facilitates a poetry and spoken-word workshop aimed at building confidence and developing a love of writing. Free. 1-3 pm. Fletcher Free Library, 235 College St. (802) 865-7211. www.fletcherfree.org. *First and Third Saturday of every month.*

BURLINGTON. Jericho Cafe and Tavern Irish Session. Moderately paced, all welcome. A comfortable place for people of various experiences to share a tune. The intention is to include all who want to play. Admission free, donations welcome. 7-9 pm. Jericho Cafe & Tavern, 30 Rt. 15. denisedean15@gmail.com. admin@burlingtonirishheritage.org. burlingtonirishheritage.org. *Every first and third Thursday of the month.*

BURLINGTON. Irish Music Open Session. Come to play or to listen. The session is open to musicians & singers. Fine local musicians bring their best Irish tunes. This is not a slow session, so sit down and strap yourself in. Come ready to play, sing, dance or tap your toes, and try to keep up. Admission free, donations welcome. 7-9 pm. Radio Bean, 8 North Winooski Ave. burlingtonirishheritage.org. *Every Wednesday.*

BURLINGTON. Concert: Gypsy Reel. High energy stirring music rooted in the Celtic tradition but garnered from the whole world. 7-10 pm. Rí Rá Irish Pub and Restaurant, 123 Church St. burlingtonirishheritage.org. *Every Wednesday.*

CANAAN. Ninth Annual Fly Fishing Summer Camp for Teens, ages 13-16. 5-days/4-nights. Learn and practice casting, basic fly tying, knot craft, insect identification and imitation, fish identification and behavior, safe wading techniques, angling ethics and coldwater conservation. Practice on local lakes, ponds and streams, including the Connecticut River. Cost: \$450; scholarships may be available. Apply by April 15. Jackson's Lodge. vermonttroutcamp.com. jacksonslodgevt.net. *June 23-June 27.*



CASTLETON. Coffee Hour. Enjoy homemade goodies, hot brew and good company. Free. 9-11 am. Castleton Community Center, 2108 Main St. (802) 468-3093. *Continues on Fridays.*

CHESTER. High Tea at Inn Victoria. Afternoon savories, sweets, fruit, and a variety of teas. \$21.99 per person. Open by reservation 3-4:30 pm, Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Inn Victoria, 321 Main St. (802) 875-4288. innvictoria.com.

CHESTER. Bingo at the Gassetts Grange Hall. Raffle and 50/50 drawings. Refreshments on sale. 6:30 pm. Junction of Rt. 10 & 103N. (802) 875-2637. *Thursday nights.*

CHESTER. Monthly Public Astronomy Meetings for the Southern Vermont Astronomy Group. Second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm—free to the public at Whiting Library. Star parties and other events. For membership and information contact the Southern Vermont Astronomy Group, PO Box 424, Chester, VT 05143. sovera.org.

CHESTER. Monthly Square Dance and Rounds. Refreshments on sale in the kitchen. 50/50 tickets on sale; drawing held for free admittance for the next month's dance. \$5 donation at the door. 7-11 pm. Breakfast 8-9:30 am for \$7. Gassetts Grange Hall, junction of Rt. 10 & 103N. (802) 875-2637. *Monthly on first Saturdays.*

FAIRLEE. Scottish Country Dancing. Every Wednesday 7-9 pm. May 22-June 19. Price \$3 but first-time attendance is free. All dances taught. No partner necessary. Beginners welcome. Sponsored by Reel & Strathspey Society of Fairlee. Fairlee Town Hall, 75 Town Common. (802) 439-3459. fairlee3class@rscdsboston.org.

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Exhibits and programs. Admission: adults \$3, children under 15 free. Wednesday through Sunday 10 am - 5 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton. *Open May 25 to October 13.*

KILLINGTON. Ars Poetica. Fourth Wednesday of the month. Free. 6-8 pm. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Rd. (802) 422-9765. sherlib.wordpress.com.

LEBANON, NH. ValleyNet Community Technology Center. 10-seat computer lab in the new Grafton County Senior Citizens Council building, Campbell St., downtown. Center is open for walk-ins 9 am - 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday. Free. (802) 649-2126.

LEICESTER. Addison County Farm Animal Homeopathy Study Group. Learn how farmers are applying homeopathy to their herds or flocks. In-depth look of at least one remedy, some theory and a case analysis. Meets the second Tuesday of each month and is open to all levels. 12 noon to 2 pm at Taconic End Farm. Info call Annie Claghorn, (802) 247-3979. foxclag@gmavt.net.

LUDLOW. Fletcher Farms School for the Arts and Crafts. Vermont's oldest residential arts and crafts school. Register for our arts and crafts classes. Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts, 611 Rt. 103 South. (802) 228-8770. fletcherfarm.org. www.fletcherfarm.org.

LYME, NH. Summer Events. Lakeside buffet and music series Sundays at 6 pm starting June 24 and new lakeside barbecue and concerts Wednesdays at 5:30 pm starting June 26. Reservations requested. BYOB. Loch Lyme Lodge, Rt.10. (603) 795-2141. www.lochlymelodge.com.

MILTON. Children Read to Cleo the Therapy Dog. 10-11 am. Milton Public Library, 39 Bombadier Rd. (802) 893-4644. miltonlibraryvt.org. *First and third Saturdays.*

MONTPELIER. Exhibit: "Vermont Music, Far & Wide." Colorful and interactive exhibit of eclectic artifacts that showcase Vermont music history from recent decades. Local History Gallery, Vermont History Museum, 109 State St. (802) 479-8500. eileen.corcoran@vermonthistory.org. vermonthistory.org. (802) 865-1140. jim@bigheavyworld.com. bigheavyworld.com. *Through July 27.*

NORWICH. Suds & Science. Each month join Vermont Center for Ecostudies scientists and colleagues at the Norwich Inn for a cold brew and interesting conversation on a selected natural history topic. 7-8 pm at the Norwich Inn. (802) 649-1431. www.vtecostudies.org. *First Tuesday of every month.*

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 Chilafox Rd (in West Charleston). (802) 754-9583. On Facebook.

PERU. Winter Yoga class. All abilities, all bodies, and all personalities are welcome to join in on any Yoga practice, anytime. Fee: \$15/regular class drop in & \$20/CBD class. \$60 for five classes purchased in advance. Tuesday 9:30-10:30 am; Wednesday 5:30-6:30 pm; Thursday 1:30-2:30 pm. CBD (Hemp Extract) Yoga Class will take place every third Wednesday evening class of each month. Barn Sanctuary at New Spring Farm, 135 Batchelder Barn Rd. (802) 356-0191. peaceofparadisising@gmail.com.

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. Poultney Public Library, 205 Main St. (518) 282-9089 or (802) 287-5556. poultneypubliclibrary.com. *Ongoing every Thursday.*

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities 2019, continued)

POULTNEY. Check Out a Bike at the Poultny Public Library. Five bicycles available to be checked out for two days, with a helmet and a lock. A current Poultny Public Library patron over the age of 18 will need to sign a borrower agreement form. Poultny Public Library, 205 Main St. (802) 287-5556. poultnypubliclibrary.com.

POULTNEY. Stone Valley Arts. A non-profit community arts center. visual art shows, literary events, music concerts, dance performances, guest speakers, and classes in dance, drawing, music, scriptwriting, yoga and meditation. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St. (802) 884-8052. stonevalleyartscenter@gmail.com. www.stonevalleyarts.org.

QUECHEE. Artist Exhibition. Photographer Marc Beerman's wildlife and landscape photography captures the innocence, simplicity, and beauty of the world around him. VINS Nature Center, 149 Nature's Way. (802) 359-5000. vinsweb.org. *Through August 7.*

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Wildlife exhibits, workshops, and special events. Wildlife rehabilitation. Admission: 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. (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. www.vinsweb.org.

RANDOLPH CENTER. Silloway Maple Sugarhouse Tour. Open year 'round. Tour our solar powered, wood-fired maple sugarhouse. Hear how syrup used to be made, compared with today's modern ways. See the reverse osmosis machine, where part of the water is removed before boiling. Sample maple candy, shop for syrup, cream, and sugar - ship or bring home. Take your children and dogs on a self-guided hike to see the tubing system in the woods. 7 am - 8 pm. Silloway Maple, 1303 Boudro Rd. Call ahead and we'll meet you at the sugarhouse! (802) 272-6249 or (802) 249-0504.

RUPERT. Merck Forest and Farmland. Pick-your-own blueberries and raspberries through August as supply permits. Camping, cabins, 30 miles of trails, farm, workshops and seasonal events. Visitor's Center and store with certified organic maple syrup, our own 100% wool blankets, and more. Free. Open year round, dawn to dusk. 3270 Rt. 315, west of Manchester. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. The Mint, Rutland's Makerspace. A collaborative community workshop and business incubator, born out of the Rutland Mini Maker Faire, led by a team of dedicated volunteers. Full wood shop and metal shop, plus 3D printing. Classes in woodworking, metal work, vinyl cutting, welding, 3D printing and design, CNC and more. The Mint, 112 Quality Ln. (802) 779-4242. rutlandmint.org.

RUTLAND. Himalayan Salt Cave. Come relax in the only public Himalayan Salt Cave in North America. Mon-Fri 10 am - 7 pm, Sat & Sun 10 am - 6 pm. \$12. Pyramid Holistic Wellness Center, 120 Merchants Row. For reservations call (802) 775-8080. www.pyramidvt.com.

RUTLAND. Vermont Backroad Tours. Fee. Book in advance. (802) 446-3131. www.vtbackroadtours.com.

SO. BURLINGTON. Old Time Mountain Jam. Full throttle jam session for advanced or intermediate acoustic string players, though all are welcome. Southern old time music with New England and French Canadian styles. 6-8:30 pm. Halyard Brewing Company, 80 Ethan Allen Dr. halyardbrewing.us. woodburystrings.com. *First Thursdays.*

SO. ROYALTON. Joseph Smith Birthplace Memorial. Memorial includes historic artifacts, films, sculptures and hiking paths. Free. Monday-Saturday 9 am - 5 pm, Sunday 1:30-5 pm. 357 LDS Lane. (802) 763-7742. www.lds.org/locations/joseph-smith-birthplace-memorial.

SPRINGFIELD. Stellafane. A place and an organization devoted to amateur astronomy, founded by Russell W. Porter in 1923, and considered by many to be the "Birthplace of Amateur Telescope Making." Home to The Springfield Telescope Makers, Inc., an active amateur astronomy and telescope-making club that sponsors many events, classes, and an annual convention in August on Breezy Hill. Springfield Telescope Makers, Inc., PO Box 601, Springfield, VT 05156. stellafane.com.

STATEWIDE. Salvation Farms. Volunteer opportunities to glean and process Vermont raised, surplus fruits and vegetables for use by vulnerable populations. (802) 522-3148. salvationfarms.wordpress.com.

ST. ALBANS. Book Cellar—Library Used Book Sale. \$3 per bag of books! Sponsored by Friends of the St. Albans Free Library. Tuesdays from 10 am - 8 pm. Held in the library basement. St. Albans Free Library, 11 Maiden Lane. (802) 524-1507. stalbansfreelibrary.org.

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

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

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. The Center for Cartoon Studies. Exhibitions, and classes. Two-year course of studies, Master of Fine Arts degrees, summer workshops. Public gallery hours are Monday-Friday from 12-4 pm through June 9. The Center for Cartoon Studies, 46 South Main St. (802) 295-3319. www.cartoonstudies.org.

WINDSOR. Stuffed Animal Repair. Sue Spear, stuffed animal repair specialist, will fix up stuffed friends. Free. 6-8 pm. Windsor Public Library, 43 State St. (802) 674-2556. *Every Wednesday.*

WOODSTOCK. Foodways Fridays. See how seasonal vegetables and herbs from the heirloom garden at Billings Farm & Museum are used in historic recipes. Different take-home recipes each Friday. Price: \$4-\$16. 10 am - 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. billingsfarm.org. *Every Friday through October.*

WOODSTOCK. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park. 20 miles of trails and carriage roads are open year-round. Gardens and mansion. Vermont's only national park. Guided tours of the mansion \$4/\$8, under 15 free. Walk the grounds free. Free workshops. Parking is available in the Billings Farm & Museum overflow lot, located on Old River Road. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historic Park, 54 Elm St. (802) 457-3368 x 22. nps.gov/mabi.

Statewide

Vermont's Summer Free Fishing Day, Grand Isle Family Fishing Festival, Bass Opener, are all on Saturday, June 8

Vermont's annual, state-wide Summer Free Fishing Day is Saturday, June 8 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 or easily taught to newcomers while enjoying quality time together."

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

Designed for young anglers and families, this exciting 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 for use by participants.

The festival will also highlight the updated Ed Weed Fish Culture Station visitor center, so fishing festival participants will be able to see the educational exhibits and learn how to identify Lake Champlain fish species in the exhibit aquariums.

Vermont's regular bass season also opens on June 8, 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 also has 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 vtstateparks.com/fishing.html.

To learn more about fishing in Vermont, visit www.vtfishandwildlife.com.



photo by Tom Rogers
Happy girl catches a fish! Vermont has great fishing!

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Vermont Country Calendar

SELECTED MUSEUMS & EXHIBITS

BARRE. Vermont History Center and Leahy Library. Thousands of books, manuscripts, photographs, maps, audio, video and film recordings, and many other items which shed light on the lives and times of past Vermonters. Exhibit: "Anything for Speed: Automobile Racing in Vermont" open thru March 2019. Over a century of the history and evolution of racing in Vermont, through objects, photographs and recollections. Admission: Adult \$7, seniors \$5, students free, families \$20. Admission includes both the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier and the Vermont History Center in Barre. Open Monday-Friday, 9 am - 4 pm. Vermont History Center, 60 Washington St. (802) 479-8500. info@vermonthistory.org. vermonthistory.org. *Through March 30, 2019.*

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. Lectures, workshops, concerts, films, and the George Aiken Wildflower Trail. Admission: adults \$10, seniors and students over 18 \$9. Admission is never charged for younger students, museum members, or to visit the museum shop. Open 10 am - 5 pm every day except Wednesdays. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. www.benningtonmuseum.org.

BRANDON. The Stephanie Stouffer Galleries. Compass is now the sole agent for Stouffer's original artwork, and also retails some of the commercial products which carry Stouffer's iconic designs. Open Monday - Saturday from 10 am-5 pm. At The Compass Music and Arts Center, located in Park Village at 333 Jones Dr. (Park Village is located 1.5 miles north of downtown Brandon off of Arnold District Rd., off Rt. 7). (802) 247-4295. www.cmacvt.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Five Exhibits. Open every day except Tuesday, 11 am - 5 pm. Admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$4, 18 and under free. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

BURLINGTON. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center. Exhibits, workshops, programs, café, gift shop, story hour. Admission: \$9.50 adults, \$7 ages 3-17, \$8 seniors and students, under 3 free. Monday-Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center at Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, One College St. (877) 324-6385. info@echovermont.org. echovermont.org.

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. The museum is also available to educational groups and schools for tours by appointment. Open Saturdays from 11 am - 1 pm. Rutland Railway Association, 79 Depot Lane. For more information call John Schaub at (802) 768-8427. info@rutlandrailroadmuseum.org. www.rutlandrailroadmuseum.org.

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

MANCHESTER. Hildene House Tours of Robert and Mary Lincoln's home. The museum store in our 100-year-old carriage barn welcomes visitors for distinctive gifts. Tours daily at 2 pm with a prior reservation, not recommended for children under 10. Admission \$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, south of the village. (802) 362-1788. info@hildene.org. www.hildene.org.

MARLBORO. Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. Perched on an overlook—on a clear day the horizon is 100 miles away! 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. Hogback Mountain Gift Shop next door. Admission: adults \$5, seniors \$3, children 5-12 \$2, kids 4 and under are free. Open 10 am - 4 pm weekdays, 10 am - 5 pm weekends. Rt. 9, Hogback Mountain. (802) 464-0048. museum@sover.net. www.vermontmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont. The oldest chartered community history museum in the United States, since 1882. Exhibits, research center, and museum shop. Admission: adults \$5; youth (6-18) \$3, seniors \$4.50, family \$12. Open Tues-Sat 10 am - 5 pm

and select Sundays in December 1-4 pm. The Henry Sheldon Museum, One Park St., across from the Ilsley Library. (802) 388-2117. henrysheldonmuseum.org.

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

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.

RANDOLPH. Exhibit: Paper Possibilities. Ten artists who use paper in diverse and innovative ways have cut, printed, painted and sculpted paper into a visual feast. Free. Fridays and Saturdays, 12 noon - 6 pm, and during Chandler performances. Chandler Gallery, Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-9878. chandler-arts.org. *Through March 2.*

RUTLAND. Chaffee Art Center. Exhibits, workshops, classes, Art in the Park October 6 & 7 in Main Street Park. Open Mon-Fri 10 am - 5 pm, Sat 9 am - 3 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

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

SHAFTSBURY. Robert Frost Stone House Museum. The house, built circa 1769, was considered historic even before the Frost period. It is a rare example of colonial architecture made of native stone and timber, and has changed little since Frost's time. The house sits on seven acres and still retains some of Frost's original apple trees. Wednesday-Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm. 121 Historic Rt. 7A. (802) 447-6200. frosthous@bennington.edu. www.bennington.edu.

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. vtc@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. Current exhibit: Open Wall Show—"Rhythms." *Through July 25.* Mon 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, Wed-Sat 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. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 am-1 pm, or by appointment. 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. info@carvingstudio.org. carvingstudio.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Main Street Museum. A small, public collection of curiosities and artifacts, each one significant and telling a story about human beings and the universe we are part of—an alternative experiment in material culture studies. Open Tues & Wed 4-7 pm. Parking adjacent to the rear of the building. Located at 58 Bridge St., Studio 6, near the underpass. (802) 356-2776. info@mainstreetmuseum.org. mainstreetmuseum.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. Open Saturday and Sunday, November through February from 10 am - 4 pm. Also open February vacation week from 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.



The Mirror Of My Realm

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

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




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

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

—JAMES HAYFORD
Orleans, VT, 1953

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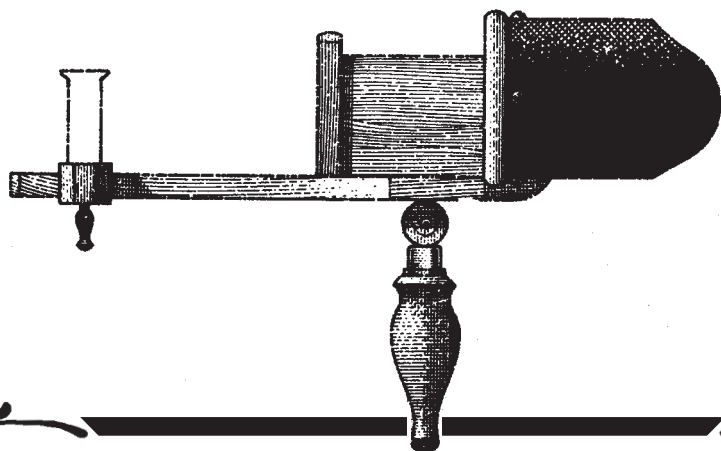
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Katie Trautz CD Release Concert at Lower Cabot Schoolhouse

Celebrate the release of Katie Trautz's new album *Passage* in the intimate concert setting of the Lower Cabot Schoolhouse on June 9th at 4 p.m.! Katie will be accompanied by Julia Wayne on harmonies, and Mike Roberts on electric guitar. Seating is limited, so reservations are recommended! Tickets are \$20 at the door, \$16 in advance. The event is presented by Cabot Arts.

Passage is a collection of music written over the past decade, with echoes of Honky-tonk, Appalachian music, and modern Americana that give the album an eclectic and creative sound. The album reflects the complicated passage between childhood and adulthood, closing a chapter of songwriting about love, loss, death and birth.

This is Katie's eleventh album, including at least four with Wooden Dinosaur, and three with Mayfly. *Passage* is her second solo album, but the focus on original music sets it apart from Katie's previous record.

The album includes songs accompanied by country-style guitar, dobro, ethereal harmony, and a warm, steady rhythm section. The musicianship is excellent, bringing a cohesive and creative sound to the studio.

Katie's musical compadres on the record include Michael Chorney, Rob Morse, Dan Davine, Asa Brosius,

Mike Roberts, Julia Wayne and Will Andrews. The history Katie has with these musicians is long, adding to the depth and sensitivity of the material. She has worked with many of them in previous projects, and has stayed personally connected over the years, often looking to them for inspiration in her own music.

The album was digitally released in late December, and can be found on iTunes, amazon.com, CDbaby, and www.katietrautz.com. Hard copies of the CD are also available for order at www.katietrautz.com, and can be found at local stores in the Central Vermont area: Buch Spieler and Vermont Violins in Montpelier, VT, and Harry's Hardware in Cabot, VT.

Katie Trautz is a native Vermont fiddler who has toured nationally and internationally. Katie is the co-founder of the Summit School of Traditional Music and Culture, based in Montpelier, VT. Following her eight-year directorship at the Summit School, she became the Executive Director of Chandler Center for the Arts in Randolph, VT. In the fall of 2016, she decided to return to teaching music, while raising her new baby son.

The Lower Cabot Schoolhouse is located at 1643 Rt. 215 S. in Cabot, VT. (802) 793-3016. cabotarts.org.



Vermont Fiddler Katie Trautz releases her new album, *Passage* on June 9th at Lower Cabot Schoolhouse.



The Old-Fashioned Garden

Among the meadows of the countryside,
From city noise and tumult far away,
Where clover-blossoms spread their fragrance wide
And birds are warbling all the sunny day,
There is a spot which lovingly I prize,
For there a fair and sweet old-fashioned country garden lies.

The gray old mansion down beside the lane
Stands knee-deep in the fields that lie around
And scent the air with hay and ripening grain.
Behind the manse box-hedges mark the bound
And close the garden in, or nearly close,
For on beyond the hollyhocks an olden orchard grows.

So bright and lovely is the dear old place,
It seems as though the country's very heart
Were centered here, and that its antique grace
Must ever hold it from the world apart.
Immured it lies among the meadows deep,
Its flowery stillness beautiful and calm as softest sleep.
The morning-glories ripple o'er the hedge
And fleck its greenness with their tinted foam;
Sweet wilding things up to the garden's edge
They love to wander from their meadow home,
To take what little pleasure here they may
Ere all their silken trumpets close before the warm midday.

The larkspur lifts on high its azure spires,
And up the arbor's lattices are rolled
The quaint nasturtium's many-colored fires;

The tall carnation's breast of faded gold
Is striped with many a faintly-flushing streak,
Pale as the tender tints that blush upon a baby's cheek.
The old sweet-rocket sheds its fine perfumes,
With golden stars the coreopsis flames,
And here are scores of sweet old-fashioned blooms,
Dear for the very fragrance of their names, —
Poppies and gilly flowers and four-o'clocks,
Cowslips and candytuft and heliotrope and hollyhocks,
Harebells and peonies and dragon-head,
Petunias, scarlet sage and bergamot,
Verbenas, ragged-robins, soft gold-thread,
The bright primrose and pale forget-me-not,
Wall-flowers and crocuses and columbines,
Narcissus, asters, hyacinths, and honeysuckle vines.

A sweet seclusion this of sun and shade,
A calm asylum from the busy world,
Where greed and restless care do ne'er invade,
Nor news of 'change and mart each morning hurled
Round half the globe; no noise of party feud
Disturbs this peaceful spot nor mars its perfect quietude.

But summer after summer comes and goes
And leaves the garden ever fresh and fair;
May brings the tulip, golden June the rose,
And August winds shake down the mellow pear.
Man blooms and blossoms, fades and disappears, —
But scarce a tribute pays the garden to the passing years.

Sweet is the odor of the warm, soft rain
In violet-days when spring opes her green heart;
And sweet the apple trees along the lane
Whose lovely blossoms all too soon depart;
And sweet the brimming dew that overfills
The golden chalices of all the trembling daffodils.
But, sweeter far, in this old garden-close

To loiter 'mid the lovely old-time flowers,
To breathe the scent of lavender and rose,

And with old poets pass the peaceful hours.
Old gardens and old poets, — happy he
Whose quiet summer days are spent in such sweet company!

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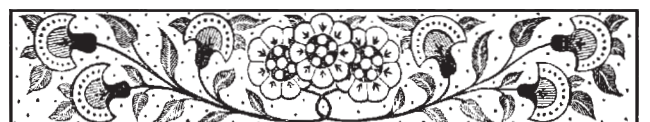
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Barre, VT

Rhythm of the Heart Benefit Concert June 7

A benefit concert for Pitz Quattrone takes place on Friday, June 7, 2019 at 7 p.m. (Doors at 6 p.m.) at the Barre Opera House in Barre, VT. \$15 admission, additional donations can be made in the lobby.

On April 4, Vermonter, Didgeridoo Adventurer and Radio Host, Pitz Quattrone had unexpected, life-saving open heart surgery to replace a faulty aortic valve. Mick Jagger had his aortic valve replaced one day later! The only difference in these two mighty souls is their ability to pay for medical bills and the impact that their lost wages will have on their families. Pitz is home now in the midst of the long, slow recuperating process. This is a marathon, not a sprint.

Three of Pitz's dear friends, JD Green, Chad Hollister, and Shrimp have organized a benefit concert to help raise needed funds.

The event, "Rhythm of the Heart" promises to be a night of celebrating love, friendship, smiles, and music. Two sets of fantastic music will feature many top Vermont artists. There will also be several unique raffle items on hand and Vermont craft beer.

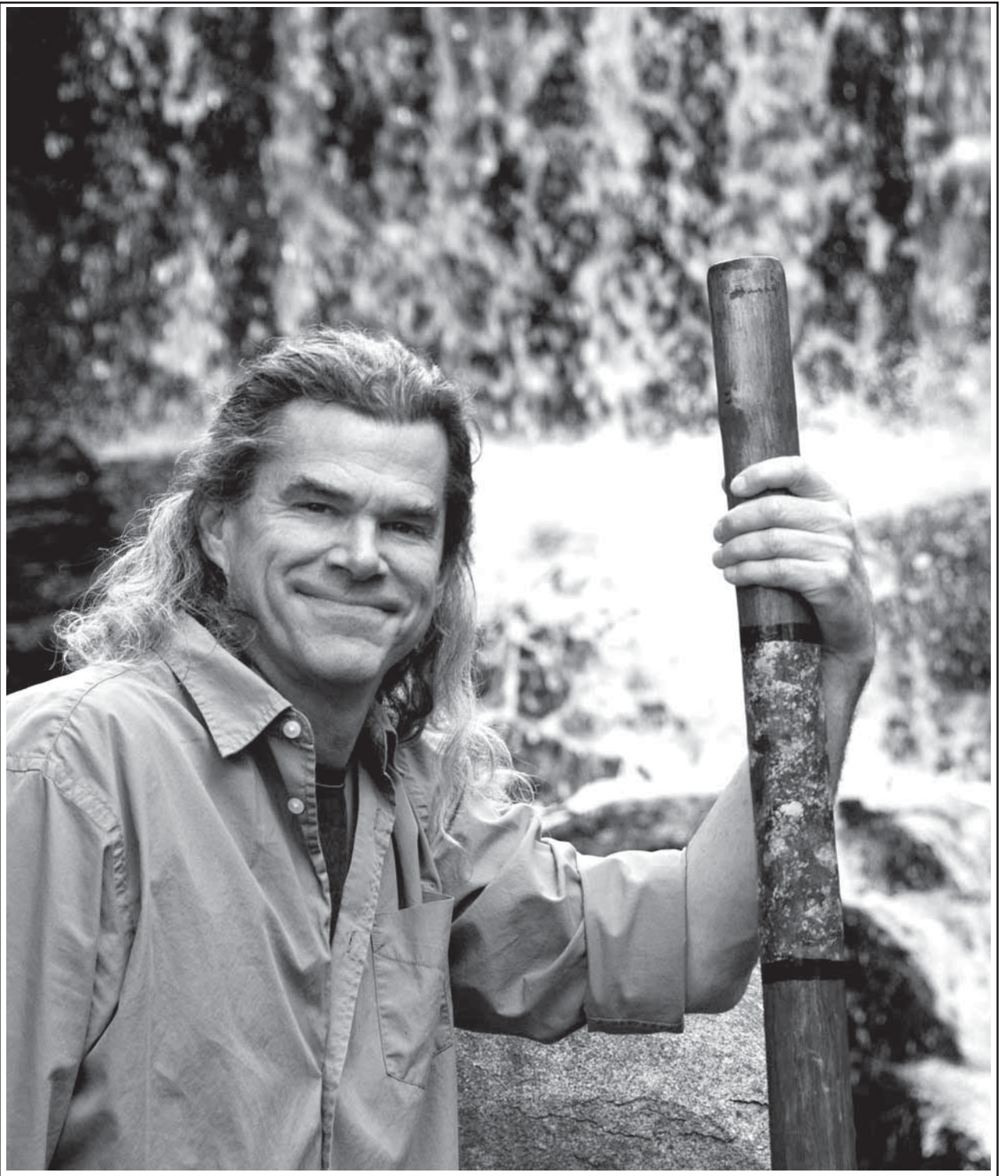
Confirmed Artists: Chad Hollister Dave Keller Chris Robertson Shrimp Amy Torchia Tony Vacca Pitz & The Freelancers MC: JD Green. There is only one Pitz

Quattrone. Master player, builder, and teacher of the ancient native Australian instrument, the didgeridoo. Writer of songs, from tragic to comic, and everything in between. Dynamic frontman, able to bring an audience to its feet, with his singing, playing, and wild rock-funk testifying.

Since the early 90's, Pitz has become the 'go-to guy' for didgeridoo. He has toured from Greenland to Africa and throughout the U.S., performing with top artists such as Ronstadt Brothers, Dark Star Orchestra, Senegalese superstar Baaba Maal's band, his own band The Freelancers and the duo, DidgeriGroove. A feature article in The Huffington Post has further increased Pitz's international profile.

All the while, Pitz has built a reputation as a learned and inspiring teacher. Able to bridge cultural divides with his quirky enthusiastic energy, Pitz has brought the pleasures of didge playing and building to thousands of kids and adults around the world. By turns hilarious and serious, funky and intense, there is only one Pitz Quattrone.

Barre Opera House is located at 6 North Main St., Barre, VT. Ticket information: barreoperahouse.org. (802) 476-8188.



Pitz Quattrone



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Bears are on the Prowl in Vermont

Bear-human conflicts probable in 2019 following poor Autumn for wild bear foods. Black bears have awakened from their winter slumber and are once again roaming the landscape looking for food. Vermont Fish & Wildlife is asking the public to help keep Vermont's bears wild by removing any potential food sources that would cause them to associate people with food.

This season we may see a particularly high number of bear-human conflicts, according to Vermont's lead bear biologist Forrest Hammond. "Last fall, there were not many wild bear foods out on the landscape due to the natural cycles of the plants that bears feed off of," said Hammond. "As a result, bears went into their dens hungrier than usual and, as they get increasingly desperate, may seek human food sources. Before bears become a problem, it is more urgent than ever that Vermonters take steps to avoid attracting them by eliminating potential food sources."

Vermont State Game Wardens report receiving numerous complaints of bear-human conflicts earlier this spring, unlike in previous years when they were infrequent until May and June. In one instance in Richmond, multiple attempts were made over several days to stop a bear from killing sheep and destroying property on a farm. Ultimately, the bear needed to be put down.

Hammond offers a few simple tips to avoid attracting bears:

- Remove food sources that might attract hungry bears. These include pet food, barbecue grills, garbage, compost, and campsites with accessible food and food wastes.
- Birdfeeders are one of the most common bear attractants, so remove all birdfeeders and clean up seeds beneath them, at least for the time being.
- Store garbage containers in a garage, shed or basement, and put your garbage out the morning of pickup rather than the night before. Remove the garbage as often as possible.
- Consider installing electric fencing, a cheap and effective deterrent to bears, around dumpsters, chicken coops, berry gardens, beehives or other potential food sources. Motion-activated lights and alarms can also be used to deter bears before they become a problem, but may become less effective once a bear becomes habituated to people.
- Maintain a compost bin that is as scent free as possible by adding three parts carbon-rich 'brown' materials like dry leaves, straw, or ripped up paper for every one part food scraps or 'green' materials. Turn the pile every couple of weeks and bury fresh food scraps down in the pile to reduce their attractiveness. In backyard composters, avoid composting meat, dairy, or overly smelly foods.
- Keep a respectful distance from any bears you encounter. If a bear is up a tree near your home, bring your children and pets inside. Never approach bear cubs or attempt to 'rescue' them if you find them alone. If you see a bear in a residential



A black bear savors the smell of ferns in the Vermont woodland.

photo by David Hall

area or you encounter an aggressive bear, please contact your local warden or report the bear at vtfishandwildlife.com.

Residents are required by law to remove bear attractants and are reminded that it is illegal to feed bears in Vermont, even unintentionally. Residents are also prohibited from killing problem bears without first taking extensive nonlethal measures and must first receive authorization from a State Game Warden.

Relocation is generally not an option," noted Hammond. "It is extremely difficult to relocate a nuisance bear far

enough away that it doesn't return and, sadly, these bears sometimes need to be put down to protect human health.

"A large and healthy bear population is butting up against an increasing number of people who have built houses in the woods, fragmenting bears' habitat and attracting them with backyard food sources. The bears are not going to change their behavior so it's up to us to make the change."

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



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Addison, VT

Fish & Wildlife's Dead Creek Visitor Center is Open for the Season

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department says Dead Creek Visitor Center off Route 17 in Addison, VT is open for the season.

The visitor center will be open on weekends from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through the end of August and will offer a variety of free programs for

all ages throughout the spring and summer.

The Dead Creek Visitor Center educational facility features displays highlighting the history of Dead Creek and conservation, fish and wildlife management, conservation partnerships, habitat features, and the many species – particularly birds – that live in the region.

Visitors can take a self-guided tour to learn about local fish and wildlife, the history of Dead Creek, habitat and land management, and the impacts of climate change on the natural world. Knowledgeable staff or volunteers will be on hand to answer questions, help visitors find a place to see wildlife, or assist with buying a hunting or fishing license or Vermont Habitat Stamp.

"Dead Creek is beloved by so many and is a great place to experience nature," says Amy Alfieri, biologist and manager of the Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area.

Here are two events based at the Dead Creek WMA coming up in June:

An Evening with Bugs at Dead Creek, Friday, June 14, 8:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Dead Creek Visitor Center. Mid-June is the peak of insect emergence, and biologist Mark Ferguson and Vermont State Game Warden Kelly Price will lead the group in insect observation using a variety of trapping methods.

Snake Mountain Botanical Walk, Sunday, June 23, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Snake Mountain Wildlife Management Area, Addison and Weybridge. Explore the unique flora of one of the Champlain Valley's largest remaining forest blocks. There are plants found here that are rare and interesting and aren't commonly seen elsewhere in heavily-developed Addison County.

For more info or to sign up see vtfishandwildlife.com.

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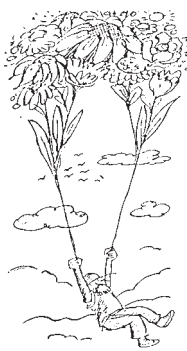
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Jam, a Man, and His Dog

by Burr Morse

This morning my dog Fern and I had a good discussion about toast and jam. Y'want something deeper?...c'mon, she's a dog! I was luxuriating in my lounge chair about to partake in a toasted slice of pumpernickel slathered with butter and raspberry jam when Fern, our elderly Black Lab, ambled over. She looked up and said, "I know you pretty damned well, Burr and you're going to give me some." I shot back, "Yup, probably right."

As I savored the heavenly flavor matchup, Fern focused with Billy Graham-size reverence on what I was doing. In the end, yes, she got her share. I ripped off ample chunks and flung 'em into her goofy, waiting maw. And, yes, she thanked me profusely. Afterward I looked on the dog age calculator and found, by golly, Fern and I are exactly the same age. Having been together all that time, we do, indeed, know each other pretty damn well.

During Betsy's recent hospital stay, we placed Fern with our friend Ginny and her two canine companions, Bennie and Nelly. Ginny said Fern was the perfect guest...described her as a "diplomat", she did, but really, Fern's just a wimp. At our house, she's not allowed on the furniture. In fact, Betsy lays my music stand across our couch which both gives me another good excuse not to practice and keeps Fern floor-bound. On Fern's return to the Morse residence, however, Betsy forgot the music stand. The first morning back home we caught her sleeping ever so peacefully on the couch, looking like she had just returned from a cruise. When sternly banished to the floor, her protests fell flat on Betsy's deaf ears.

After Fern and I "broke bread", she backed right up for some quality backside scratchin' (hers, not mine). These days through age and habits, lots of bumps and sags have settled into her wrong places and I know her time's limited before going over the Rainbow Bridge...Yikes...that means me, too! Yes, I bear a few bumps and sags in my own "wrong places".

Fern and I'll no doubt meet up one day beyond that Rainbow Bridge, as well as Averill, Tessa, Maple, Rumi, Tia, and Nipper. It'll be a great reunion complete with buttered toast and jam, backside scratchin', and dog/human peace. Although I've been blessed with some great human friends throughout my life so far, there's something extra special about my dog friends. Right now Fern's laying at our window, basking in the radiant sunshine. I look down at her and she smiles at me...how can this old Vermonter not love a bumpy old dog?

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Fern contemplates the running creek.

photo courtesy of Burr Morse



There's nothing like a good roll in the snow!

photo courtesy of Burr Morse



Good dog, Fern!

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Where Natural History Meets Art

North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

Planting, Hatching, and Becoming—All Rites of Spring

The change of seasons has been a long time coming as we look out our dreary windows at the rain and sometimes snow, and unseasonable cold. But imagine how the creatures outside our door are dealing with it. Maybe with better cheer than we have as they wait for the warmth to come, and come it will. Here are some tales of spring and one remarkable woman who is changing the face of the Earth one tree at a time.

After reading this beautiful book *My Happy Year* by E. Bluebird by Paul Meisel (\$17.99. *Holiday House*. www.holidayhouse.com) readers may be inspired to look for these pretty birds and even build them some nesting boxes. That's where we meet a family of three just-born baby bluebirds. The date is June 1. They eat almost all day being fed "beetles, crickets, caterpillars, grasshoppers, moths and spiders. Yum!" By June 15th, the fully-feathered baby birds start taking their first airborne ventures from the birdhouse. They fly up into a tree where mom and dad continue to feed them. By July 4 we learn: "Flying s amazing! Through the trees, over the meadows and streams. Everything is so beautiful from up here."

When fall arrives the bluebirds fly south for the winter. The book ends with happy sight of one of our bluebirds finding a mate in the spring and starting a family of her own...with five perfect blue eggs. Enjoy the stunning drawings that reflect the Happy Year's changing seasons.

Recently-arrived robins can be seen scratching around for some worms. They especially appreciate this gift from the soil, and we can, too, by spending some time reading *Carl and the Meaning of Life* by Deborah Freedman (\$17.99. *Penguin Young Readers*. www.penguin.com/youngreaders). Carl, "the earthworm lives underground, moving, always moving, burrowing, tunneling, digesting dead leaves, feasting and casting, turning hard dirt into fluffy soil day after day..." However, one day he wonders why he does that and asks other animals—a mouse, a rabbit, fox, a squirrel, a beetle if they seem to have no answer, so in the end Carl finds out that even the smallest of life's creatures (like a worm) can answer life's biggest question how one life touches and has meanings for all. The sensitive artwork that accompanies the narrative shows how the earthworm's diggings creates a soil necessary for other creatures and vegetation to survive and interconnect.

Even though 30% of our planet is still covered by forests, it is hard to imagine that some 18.7 million acres of this natural growth are being destroyed every year through logging (mostly illegal), agriculture, urbanization, forest fires and other natural disasters. We often hear about individuals or organizations attempting to save these forests, and you can learn about one such person in Kenya in *Wangari Maathai: The Woman Who Planted Trees* by Franck Prevot and illustrated by Aurelia Fronty (\$7.99. *Paper*. *Charlesbridge*. www.charlesbridge.com).

This fascinating story is about how one village girl founded a movement to save the forests, engaged in politics, and

challenged the corrupt Kenyan president. For her efforts she won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004, and through her efforts millions of trees (including popular and beneficial fig tree) were planted where before the forests were being destroyed to make room for tea plantations and to raise cattle for the British colonists in power. Lush drawings capture the essence and natural world of Africa and its people.

Sometimes amusing drawings in a book just make you feel good. This is the case in *Cat's Egg* by Aparna Karthikeyan and Christine Kastl (\$13.95. *Karadi Tales Company*. www.karaditalles.com). This is a funny story about a cat who by chance has obtained a golden egg which she is determine to sit on and hatch out a kitten. Soon bored with the task the cat seeks others to sit the egg: a dog, a crow, a cuckoo, turtle—but they all turn her down. Cat takes the egg back to her friend the dog who sniffs and pokes and it peels at it until turns into a chocolate mess that "small humans eat," the dog says. This is an Easter Egg. It would never have hatched into a kitten. Dog says no to eating this egg because cats and dogs get very sick eating chocolate—a point well made.

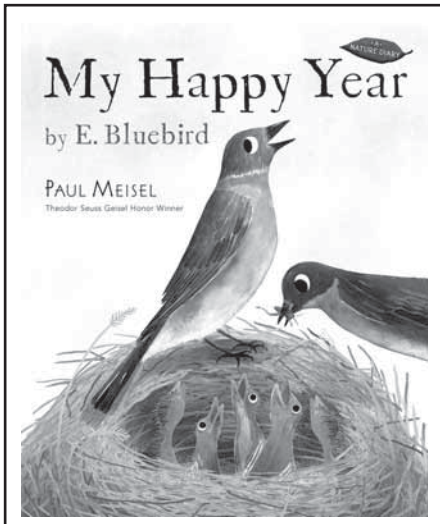
Karadi Tales is an Indian publishing company who brings us stories with an interesting twist from the other side of the world.

We are reminded about the arrival of spring each year with the sound of peepers, but what's with these creatures that turn into frogs. We know they like swampy waters and eat insects, but what's their full story? For a book that covers everything one may possibly want to know about frogs enjoy each colorful page of *The Frog Book* by Steve Jenkins & Robin Page (\$17.99. *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*. www.hmhc.com).

We learn there are 6,000 species of frogs in an amazing varieties of colors, shapes and sizes. You will meet many with names to compliment their unusual appearances: waxy monkey frog, long-nosed horn frog, lemur leaf frog, Wallace's flying frog, meowing night frog, tomato frog, African clawed frog, dessert rain frog, and crab-eating frog.

Learn about how frogs find mates, what they eat, how they defend themselves, how they grow up from tadpoles to froglets to adults, how some frogs live in the sea, some on the land or in the trees and other habitats. Whether you're scared of frogs or not, you'll appreciate the many spectacular drawings. This book is informative and entertaining.

This rainy spring has brought out armies of peepers with their particular resounding chirping sounds. There must be so many (from the noise) one way wonder what they do for space. Find out in *999 Tadpoles* by Ken Kimira and illustrated by Yasunari Murakami (\$17.95. *NorthSouth Books*. www.northsouth.com) where one pond becomes too small for the fast-growing peppers/tadpoles...and in this case 999 of them. The day they turned into frogs was the day they must move. Join them crossing a field to a larger pond but having to escape from a hungry snake, and then a hawk. But the hawk grabs father. Mother grabs father's feet, and full string of the kid frogs hang on too. The hawk, pleased initially with his haul of frog food, grows weary and can't hang on for long hauling such weight. The frogs are dropped and splash down into a large pond. "It's cool," says one; "It's wet," says another; "It's home," says a third. Readers can actually count the 999 baby frogs either in the pond or sky bound. This is a delightful book.



Children's Book Review by Charles Sutton

Enormous Smallness: A Story of E.E. Cummings

For most of us our first encounters with the sounds and images of poetry might have been 'Ba, ba, black sheep... or Twinkle, twinkle little star. Children transform what they hear and imagine in their own rhymes of fantasy. Listen and you'll be surprised what comes out of your child's mind. That's what the famous American poet Edward Estlin Cummings started doing at age six, turning his vivid imagination into pictures and poems.

In this fascinating narrative entitled *Enormous Smallness: A Story of E.E. Cummings* by Matthew Burgess and illustrated by Kris Di Giacomo (\$17.95. *Enchanted Lion Press*. www.enchantedlionpress.com) we learn Cummings mother started collecting his poems in a book titled *Estlin's Original Poems*. This would be the beginning of a lifetime of writing poems that transcended the traditional regimented rhymes and rhythms of poetry but immediately attracted a storm of criticism. Cummings persevered and went onto to become one of America's most famous poets.

As the title of the book suggests Cummings admired things enormous like elephants and the smallness of tiny animals, snowflakes, grasshoppers and birds—all

that found a home in his poems. He created a style of his own, often putting all the words in lower case like his name, e.e. cummings. Sometimes he spread his poems all over the page, even splitting words to achieve an effect. When he gave lectures on poetry and creativity he always reminded his audiences that "it takes courage to grow and to become who you really are."

Cummings lived most of his life at 4 Patchin Place, Cambridge, MA, or at the family's Joy Farm in New Hampshire. During World War II he drove an ambulance and was a POW briefly as a suspected spy—an experience he wrote about in a book, *The Enormous Room*.

To illustrate Cummings' fascinating life one would need an especially creative artist and Kris Di Giacomo does just that, combining a tapestry of words (many of them poems) in appealing settings like a tree house that was heated with a wood stove, the busy streets of New York and Paris and the farmlands of New Hampshire.

This book gives us a gentle look into e.e. cummings' life. There is a useful chronology of his life and several of his poems included. Here is one that we especially liked from an early age.

somewhere i have never travelled,gladly beyond
by e.e. cummings (1894–1962)

somewhere i have never travelled,gladly beyond
any experience,your eyes have their silence:
in your most frail gesture are things which enclose me,
or which i cannot touch because they are too near

your slightest look easily will unclose me
though i have closed myself as fingers,
you open always petal by petal myself as Spring opens
(touching skilfully,mysteriously)her first rose

or if your wish be to close me,i and
my life will shut very beautifully,suddenly,
as when the heart of this flower imagines
the snow carefully everywhere descending;

nothing which we are to perceive in this world equals
the power of your intense fragility:whose texture
compels me with the colour of its countries,
rendering death and forever with each breathing

(i do not know what it is about you that closes
and opens;only something in me understands
the voice of your eyes is deeper than all roses)
nobody,not even the rain,has such small hands

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# Gorham Silver

Designing Brilliance

1850–1970

Edited by Elizabeth A. Williams

(\$75. Rizzoli/Electa. [www.rizzoliusa.com](http://www.rizzoliusa.com))

On May 1852 a young silversmith John Gorham from Rhode Island, whose silverware company would later become the largest in the world, took a paddle boat steamer to England in search of skilled workmen and new technologies.

Gorham spent hours during the 11-day trip checking out the ship's coal-fired steam engines, reenforcing his desire to find an inventor to make a stream press that could inculcate patterns into his silver flatware. Then it was being done by horsepower—an actual horse named Dick walking in circles in the basement of his shop in Providence, RI.

Gorham got the legendary Scottish inventor James Nasmyth to design, build and deliver him such a drop press for silver-making. The inventor had already developed a steam hammer needed to turn paddle wheels on steamers.

This was just one of many brilliant decisions that made the Gorham silver company an industry leader not only technologically, but also in artistic achievement, meeting at that time (the mid-19th Century) America's social and cultural norms from everyday tableware to public presentation pieces and unique sculptures.

This large coffee-table book with more than 300 color and black & white photographs coincides with an exhibition of Gorham silver at the Rhode Island School Design (RISD) Museum, Providence, RI, beginning May 3 and running through December 1. Next year the collection will be shown at the Cincinnati Art Museum in Ohio and at The Mint Museum in Charlotte, NC.

The exhibition was created from more than 3,500 pieces of silver and design drawings and company business records and memorabilia. RISD staff as well as 85 volunteers painstakingly readied the silver (cleaning and repairs) for the exhibit.

Gorham Silver was founded by John's father Jabez Gorham in 1831, with its chief product spoons of coin silver. The company also made thimbles, combs, and jewelry. When son John took over in 1847 his continuing expertise and decisions led to dominance of the marketplace—so strong that even Tiffany and Co. at one time had Gorham producing its silverware. Between 1879 and 1893 Gorham had displays at every International fair where it consistently won many prizes.

Always looking for ways to expand business John also built the world's largest bronze-casting facility.

Gorham was quick to take advantage of advancements in photography by having pictures taken of all his designs that could be shown by salesmen rather than carrying actual pieces in heavy suitcases.

He hired experienced European immigrant

craftsmen and by the late 1860s, they accounted for a third of his workforce. These appreciative workers were given a free hand without old world constraints. Gorham was one of the few New England manufacturers to practice progressive employee welfare which eventually included pensions, group health care, reduced work hours, and a company savings bank. He installed a state-of-the-art system that kept workers comfortable by installing massive fans and hidden hot water pipes. His 36-acre factory complex had its own power plant, water supply and fire station with no outside utility costs. A dedicated rail spur brought in coal, lumber and silver, and sent out massive amounts of finished product.

The company was successfully managed by John Gorham for 36 years and then for economic reasons (depressions and financial panics) the business was turned over to corporate executives, initially William Crins and Edward Holbrook, who were savvy enough to keep the firm prosperous despite the ups and downs of the economy.

How the company adapted to World Wars I and II makes interesting reading. Being in a business that specialized in metals (silver, bronze, etc.) the Gorham factories converted easily to produce war materials.

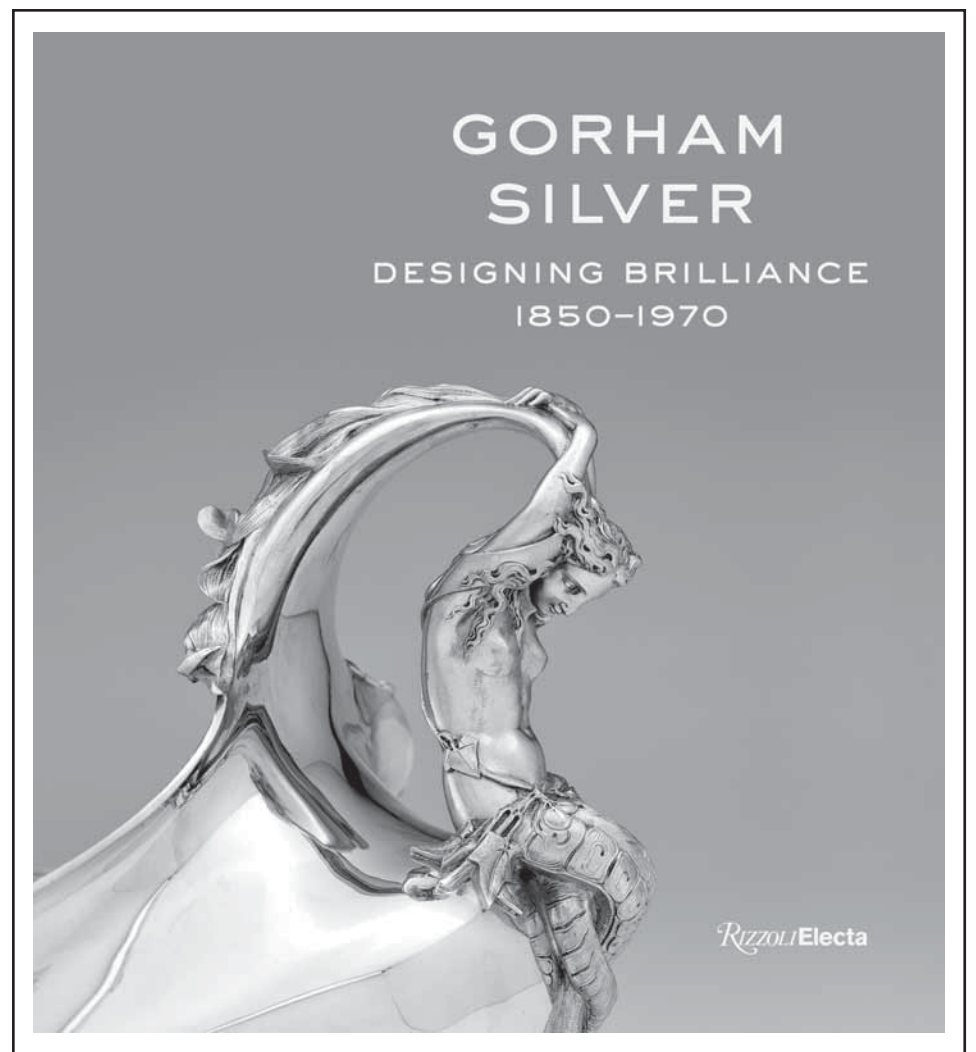
## Book Review by Charles Sutton

For World War I Gorham produced bullet casings for hand guns and field artillery. Also, we read: "The plant employed 2,000 people, most white women, who packed one hundred thousand (loaded) hand grenades a day."

For World War II the company produced 36 products for war use including "40-millimeter steel cartridge casings, gun mounts; gas mask parts; parachute hardware, 75-millimeter smoke shells, castings for submarines, parts of torpedoes, tank bearings; and 20-pound fragmentation bombs."

Over the years the company was awarded major commissions for American presidents and special commemorative events but the biggest came from the Universal Life Insurance Co. of New York for an opulent 740-piece Victorian era dining service created for that company's president Henry Furber, a self-made lawyer-businessman of that era. He had the collection hand-crafted for him based on a design of a 17-pound thirty-two inch silver and gilt kidney-shaped tray made already by Gorham known as the Cellini Salver for which Furber had already paid \$3,000.

The White House used Gorham Silver services during many administrations includ-



ing an impressive tea and flatware service for Mary Todd Lincoln; a tea service for Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant to commemorate the country's 100th anniversary that included a Century Vase that contained 2,000 oz. of sterling silver. And in 1899 it produced a "loving cup" composed of 70,000 dimes designed for Admiral George Dewey. Among the company's famous sculptures were some 44 Hiker statues commemorating American soldiers who fought in the Spanish-American War, the Boxer Rebellion and the Philippines-American War.

The Gorham Manufacturing Company came to an unhappy ending in 1967 when it ceased its production. New owners started reducing the quality of the product in attempt to regain a market share, but that was ultimately not successful. The remaining assets were first taken over by Textron; by Dansk International Designs in 1989; then to Brown-Foreman Corp in 1991 and was finally absorbed to a company named Lennox Group.

The book concentrates on the how and why the Gorham company was so successful for so many years, surviving economic depressions, two world wars, and volatile silver prices. What contributed to its end were changes in American lifestyles especially after World War II with the availability of

affordable stainless-steel flatware and a shift away from formal dining habits. One can also imagine that another unexpected change was how old or new wealth found ample other ways to show off their status beyond elaborate and costly silver. Who really needed to use silver butter plates?

Attempts were made in vain to save and convert Gorham's abandoned, but well-built factory buildings to other uses and redevelopment. The book ends with a few glimpses of the Gorham empty, desolate and vandalized work areas in the old factory complex in contrast to the book's many photographs of its busy workforce and their beautiful, shining creations. Truly the passage of an American era.

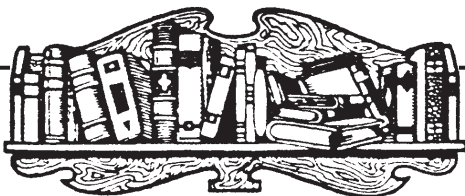
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North Country Reflections

# The Roving Gardener Visiting the Gardens of Stockbridge for Learning and Fun

by Judith Irven  
Photographs by Dick Conrad

Whether or not you have a garden of your own, may I suggest the perfect pastime for spring and summer: spending time in an exquisite garden that somebody else has created and maintains!

Stockbridge, MA, in the heart of the Berkshire hills and just an hour's drive south of the Vermont border, is a garden-lovers paradise. Here, within a five mile radius, you can visit three special gardens of yesteryear and a major botanical garden with its graceful contemporary-style plantings.

The gardens at The Mount, Chesterwood and Naumkeag, all maintained in their original style, illustrate the garden aspirations of their talented and eclectic owners.

By contrast, the much larger Berkshire Botanical Garden—although created over 80 years ago—has gradually evolved over time. Not only is it a beautiful place to spend a peaceful afternoon, it is also a source of inspiration for garden lovers everywhere.

### Strict formality: two personal gardens from 1900

The gardens at Chesterwood and the Mount were created within two years of each other and, while neither is extensive, both are excellent examples of the formality of the era and they still exhibit their owners' original plant choices.

The prolific sculptor Daniel Chester French is especially remembered for his massive statue of Lincoln that graces the Lincoln Memorial. Although based in New York City, he loved to spend his summers in the Berkshires. So in 1896, French and his wife purchased 122 acres of land just outside Stockbridge.

Two years later he designed his summer studio and the adjacent garden. Today both his garden and his studio are open to visitors, together with a museum in the residence house that he built later.

His garden, featuring a long formal axis created by a wide gravel path flanked by beds filled with his favorite flowers, is structurally quite simple. And, since it runs right past his studio, it is also extremely functional, providing easy access for him to move his sculptures outside and view them in different settings.

Then, leading directly from his main studio door, he added a second perpendicular axis—this one a wide grassy path edged with peonies and tree hydrangeas, terminating in a woodland trail that leads to rocky ledges with views of the surrounding countryside. Finally, he marked the intersection of these two axes with an imposing fountain.

From Chesterwood it is just five miles to Edith Wharton's home and gardens in the village of Lenox. In addition to being a renowned writer, Wharton was also consummate traveler and student of European architecture and gardens. And in 1902, she applied this knowledge to design The Mount, her classically inspired mansion and associated gardens.

She loved to entertain her many literary friends on the long rear terrace, with its commanding views across the Berkshire hills. From here she and her guests could descend the broad staircase to the 'Lime Walk', a 290' crushed marble allée edged with pleached Linden trees (*Tilia cordata*).

Turning right took them to the square sunken Italian Garden enclosed on three sides with high stonewalls. She



The Berkshire Botanical's New Wave Garden shows off many beautiful plants grown in the style of the well-known Dutch designer Piet Oudolf. photo by Dick Conrad

decorated this simple space with a circular pool edged with white petunias and a rustic fountain at its center.

Turning left took them to the more elaborate French Garden that was open to the woods beyond. This featured an ornate fountain in the center of a large rectangular pool—also edged with white petunias—and additional outer beds filled with colorful flowers.

Since both French and Wharton enjoyed walking in their woods, they had the underbrush removed and the trees pruned up to encourage understory flowers and ferns. They also added strolling paths that to this day beckon the visitor to explore this natural environment.

### Naumkeag—a garden of the mid-20th century

Naumkeag, built in 1884 by Joseph and Caroline Choate, was the grand summer home for these well-connected New Yorkers.

But it would fall to their daughter Mabel, after she inherited the property in 1929, to gradually create the surrounding gardens during a 30-year collaboration with the renowned landscape architect, Fletcher Steele.

The resulting 'garden rooms' are both diverse and flowing—representing a marked break from the linear designs at Chesterwood and The Mount. There is a sense of exploration as the various garden rooms, each with its unique feel and style, entice you. Start at the house with the Afternoon Room, which has neatly clipped boxwood hedges watched over by fiery dragons. Next, from the upper terrace look down the serpentine beds of the rose garden. Then seek out the hidden Chinese garden with its classic Moon Gate, the evergreen garden and large circular pool that affords a beautiful view of the distant hills, and finally the famous 'Blue Steps'—actually a series of waterfalls surrounded by white birch trees.

### The Berkshire Botanical Garden

This venerable botanical garden, founded in 1938, radiates a wonderful 'settled' feeling. Majestic trees, both deciduous and evergreen provide the perfect backdrop of beauty and shade for people as well as for plants.

But, although it was established over eighty years ago, as befits a public garden, it has evolved with the times. The overall spatial design is delightfully informal—no straight lines here! And, all around, established beds, some sunny and others shady, are filled with mature perennials and shrubs.

Furthermore the planting design is anything but old-fashioned. In addition to colorful flowers that come and go, skillful designers have created season-long visual interest by massing plants of contrasting textures. The plants are all carefully labeled and the whole place is beautifully maintained—with nary a weed in sight.

The Berkshire Botanical Garden is actually bisected by Route 102, with the Visitors Center plus the more functional 'demonstration vegetable gardens' and associated greenhouses in the southern segment. So, after signing in, be sure to cross the road and wander around the ornamental display gardens in the northern segment.

The individual display gardens run the gamut, from an

expansive sunny herb garden to a shady bog garden surrounding a tranquil pond, all demonstrating how to match plants with their specific growing conditions.

The New Wave Garden—a long crescent-shaped bed encircling a central sunny lawn—showcases the informal planting style of contemporary designers like Piet Oudolf. Here shorter plants are combined with medium and taller selections in an irregular, interwoven planting pattern. The border is only cut back in spring, allowing the plants to reseed themselves and spread naturally over time as well as providing food and cover for birds and insects during the winter.

While The New Wave garden is predominately sunny, the exposure at its far end is relatively shady, with many familiar shade-loving plants, from masses of six-foot high goatsbeard (*Aruncus diocus*) at the back, down to discrete clumps of diminutive Siberian Bugloss (*Brunnera macrophylla*) along the walkways.

Nearby the magnificent daylily walk is filled with hundreds of different cultivars creating a kaleidoscope of summer color. And the sweeping herb garden is beautifully situated on the broad sunny slope. Winding stone paths and steps crisscross the slope, bringing visitors in close contact with all the aromatic plantings, while large smooth embedded rocks both stabilize the slope and also add visual appeal.

In the natural hollow at the bottom of the hill there is a serene pond surrounded by masses of vigorous plants that thrive in the wet conditions—including hostas and ferns, grasses and Rodgersias—all seemingly co-existing in easy harmony.

And if you go in springtime be sure to wander through the old-fashioned Proctor garden to enjoy the lilacs in bloom surrounded by a carpet of blue phlox.

### Photographs of these lovely gardens

You can see many photographs of each of these four gardens on my North Country Reflections website:

<https://northcountryreflections.com/roving-gardener/great-gardens-of-stockbridge-massachusetts/>

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](http://www.northcountryreflections.com). Dick Conrad is a landscape and garden photographer; to see his photographs go to [www.northcountryimpressions.com](http://www.northcountryimpressions.com).

### Remember This

...remember this, remember this. Forget nothing, don't forget the sweetness, don't forget the severity. If indifference and unkindness take hold of your being, stir your memory and think of all the beautiful, all the burdensome things. Remember there is life and there is death, remember there are moments of bliss and there are graves. Do not be forgetful, but instead remember this.

—ROBERT WALSER  
Biel, Switzerland, 1914

(from *Girlfriends, Ghosts, and Other Stories* by Robert Walser; translated by Tom Whalen—*New York Review of Books*, [www.nyrb.com](http://www.nyrb.com))

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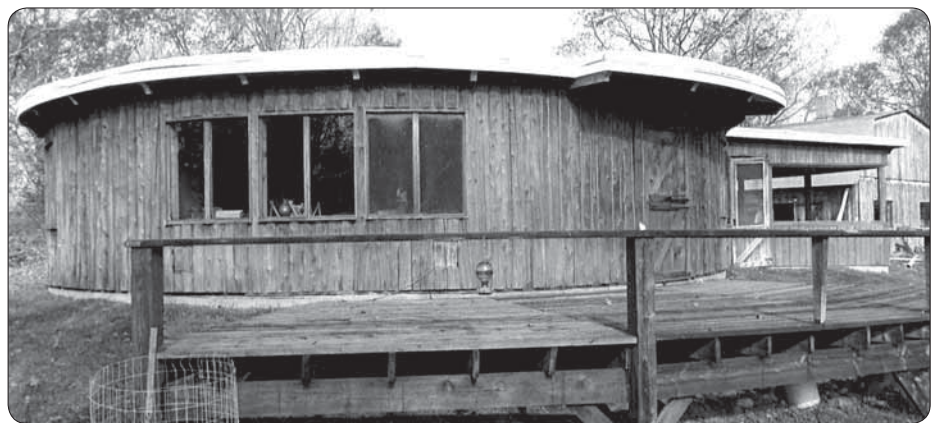
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