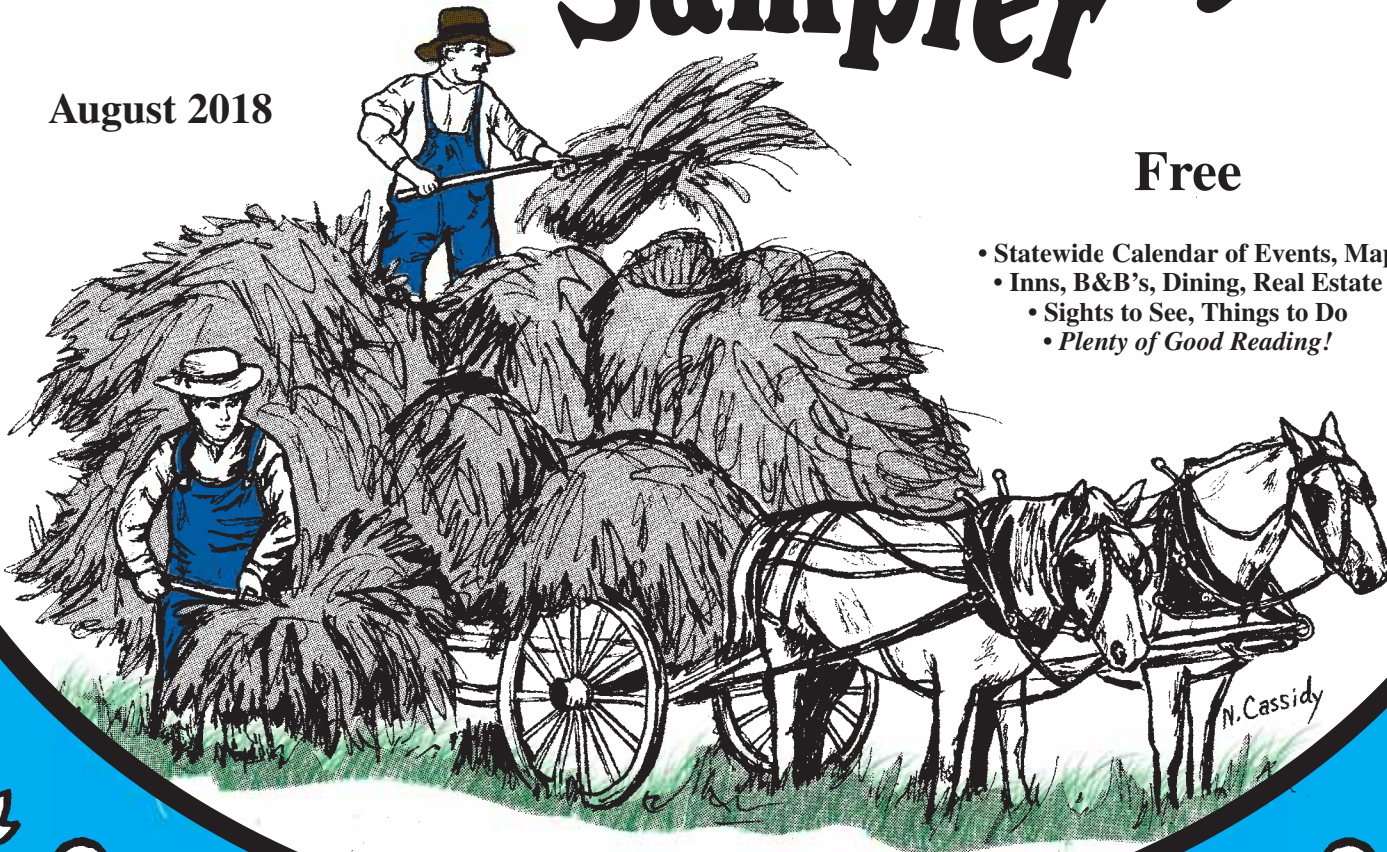


Vermont Country Sampler

August 2018

Free

- Statewide Calendar of Events, Map
- Inns, B&B's, Dining, Real Estate
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For Further Information or to Arrange a Tour, Please Contact:

Sam Sammis, Owner

(802) 522-8500 - Sammis@NewEnglandLand.com



Cosmic Children

by Bill Felker

5:00 a.m. Gibbous Moon setting behind the locust trees. After a soft, long night rain, low, broken, round clouds drift from due west, uncovering the moonlight in creases and lumps. High-pitched screech of tree or ground crickets. Katydid low and distant.

I stand in the dark, deaf to the sources of the sounds, aware that I can only hear a fraction of what is happening around me.

My references that describe different insect calls help a little, but recordings of this cricket or that cricket mostly demonstrate that my hearing is not good enough to hear them all.

So I can identify maybe three kinds of crickets, and I am quite aware that I am only able to hear a fraction of the species that live in my neighborhood. I conclude that I must accept the immensity of my inability and my lack of awareness of all but the tiniest fraction of what is happening.

The first cardinal sings at 6:07 a.m. I ruminate more about the fragments that I perceive, about how incom-

pletion is the normal state of things, how immersed in the world I am, but isolated, too, separated from the outside by my inability to sense all that is holding me in place.

I can only fall back upon random detail to make the world of what I know from rippling, disconnected meteors of sound and color. I write down the number of butterflies in my garden each day. I keep track of bird calls (the ones I can hear). I note the beginning and the end of flower bloom. And I remember, too, that events do not end when they take place.

If I cannot see every facet of the Great Comet Time itself come back, I can at least watch a few of its shining, cosmic children reappear year after year, comforting, filling in my insufficiency with repetition and maybe even with a promise of understanding.

Steady cardinal calls and high, un-named crickets at 6:30. Zinnias, orange and violet, red and yellow, slowly take form and color in the twilight by 6:34. Crows wake at 6:40, cardinals quieting down a few minutes later.



R.R. STATION, NEWFANE, VT.

The Newfane Railroad Station of the West River Railroad, circa 1910 (photo by Porter Thayer, courtesy of the Historical Society of Windham County).

Newfane, VT

Railroad and County Museums Open for the Season

The West River Railroad Museum and the County Museum in Newfane, VT are open for the season through Columbus Day weekend in October. Both Museums are located in the Village of Newfane which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Anyone with an interest in the history of Vermont and of Windham County in particular will enjoy a visit to the Museums. Admission is always free and school group visits are encouraged.

The Newfane Railroad Station has recently been restored as the West River Railroad Museum. It comprises the old Depot and Water Tank House both of which were built in 1880. It houses a large collection of artifacts, documents and photographs documenting the Railroad's impact over its 50 years of operation in the West River Valley.

The Railroad Museum (on Cemetery Hill Road) is a short walk from the Historical Society's County

Museum on Main Street (Route 30).

The Historical Society of Windham County was founded in 1927 to preserve the history of Windham County. The brick federal style County Museum (on Route 30) was built in 1936 as a showcase for the Society's extensive collection. Two floors of exhibition space display impressive examples of early Vermont furniture, folk art, Civil War artifacts, clothing, toys, and tools all tell stories of Windham County's history. Its archives include early documents, records

and photographs spanning three centuries of Windham County history.

County Museum hours: Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays from 12 noon to 5 p.m. (Also by appointment). West River Railroad Museum hours: Saturdays and Sundays from 12 noon to 5 p.m. (Also by appointment).

See the Historical Society of Windham County's website for the latest news and schedule of events: www.historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org.

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Vermont Country Sampler

August 2018, Vol. XXXIV

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Vermont Country Sampler

P.O. Box 197, N. Clarendon, VT 05759

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www.vermontcountrysampler.com



A competitor guides her team of oxen at the Tunbridge World's Fair in Tunbridge, VT.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

It's Fair Time in Vermont!

It's late summer and it's time to go to the fair! Whether you're entering your prize vegetables, or going for the horse pulls, the mid-way, or all that fair food, there's nothing like a Vermont fair!

Pownal Valley Fair

July 29 • Rt. 346, Pownal, VT

Exhibit hall, produce, crafts, quilts, flowers, honey, maple syrup and herbs, antique tractor pull, bingo, petting farm animals, fireworks, and music. Kids' fun fair. (802) 823-5258.

Franklin County Field Days

August 2-5 • 300 Airport Rd., Highgate, VT

Horse, pony & antique tractor pulls. Live music. ATV drag race, poker tournaments. Exhibits, midway rides, 4H dairy show, draft horse show, antique tractor parade, bands, and more. Breakfast in the 4H booth. (802) 238-4904. franklincountyfielddays.org.

Addison County Fair & Field Days

August 7-11 • 1790 Field Days Rd., New Haven, VT

Vermont's biggest agricultural fair! Children's barnyard, horse show, dairy show, tractor pulls, kiddie rides. Crafts, exhibits, live entertainment, pony and ox pulling, midway, parade, pet show, demo derby. (802) 545-2557. www.addisoncountyfielddays.com.

88th Annual Danville Fair

August 10-11 • On the Green, Danville, VT

A grand street parade, rides, lots of fair food, music, a horse and pony pull, and a fireworks show on the closing night. www.danvillevtchamber.org.

173rd Annual Vermont State Fair

August 14-18 • S. Main St., Rutland, VT

Agricultural exhibits. Spectacular rides, thrill rides, family rides, and kiddie rides! Dan Tyminski and Tim Brick in concerts, comedy shows, lots of live music, demolition derby, livestock shows, and much, more. Admission adults \$10, ages 7-12 \$5, 6 and under free; Tuesday \$5 adults, children 5 and under free; Thursday Senior Day \$5 admission or free with Green Mountain Passport free. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.org.

101st Annual Deerfield Valley Farmer's Day Fair

August 19-12 • Baker Field, Wilmington, VT

Exhibition, classic car show, demolition derby, exhibit halls, horse pull, horse show, pie eating contest, saw contest, Awesome Animal Adventure, midway, buy tickets separately. Admission 4 & under free, ages 5-12 \$4, ages 13-64 \$8, 65 and up \$4. (802) 319-0117. www.dvfair.com.

151st Annual Orleans County Fair

August 15-19 • 278 Roaring Brook Rd., Barton, VT

Agricultural exhibits, 4-H judging and displays, cattle and sheep shows, antique tractor pulls, kiddie rides, crafts, grange exhibits. Harness racing, petting zoo. Live entertainment, draft horse pulling, horse show, and demolition derby. A great historic old-time country fair. (802) 525-3555. www.orleanscountyfair.net.

163rd Annual Caledonia County Fair

August 22-26 • Mountain View Park, Lyndonville, VT

Mini, pony, horse, & ox pulls. Yoked cattle show, cattle judging, cattle costume contest & sheep and goat show. ATV/UTV racing, motocross show, farm tractor, 4WD truck & lawn tractor pulls. Calvacade, tractor rodeo, pig scramble, chainsaw carver, all star rock band. Canana Smith concert. (802) 626-8101. www.caledoniacountyfair.com.

221st Annual Bondville Fair.

August 24-26 • 30 Vermont Rt. 30, Bondville, VT

The oldest continuous fair in Vermont! Midway rides, live music, Cheryl the Clown. Craft fair, quilt show. Horse, ox, truck and tractor pulls. Farm animals, sugar house demonstration. Flowers, vegetables, handcrafts, art & more. www.bondvillefair.org.

Champlain Valley Exposition

August 24 - September 2 • 105 Pearl St., Essex Jct., VT

The Ten Best Days of Summer! Concerts by Old Dominion, Billy Currington, The Machine performs Pink Floyd, Rick Springfield, Eddie Money, Greg Kihn and Tommy

Tutone. Demolition derby, agricultural exhibits, horse shows, horse pulling, cattle shows. Midway, grange, 4H, and lots of entertainment. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org.

74th Annual Guilford Fair

Sept. 2 & 3 • 163 Fairgrounds Rd., Guilford, VT

Horse draw, cattle and horse shows and sheep shearing demonstrations. Live music, beautiful homegrown produce, flowers, handiwork and hobbies. guilfordfairvermont.com.

147th Annual Tunbridge World's Fair

September 13-16 • Rt. 110, Tunbridge, VT

Old fashioned agricultural fair in a rural setting. 4-H exhibits, midway, free grandstand. Livestock Cavalcade, agricultural exhibits, antique tractor pulls, crafts, live entertainment, ox and pony pulling, gymkhana, harness racing. Sheep dog trials, Log Cabin Museum, Larkin Contra Dancing, Antique Hill. (802) 889-5555. www.tunbridgeworldsfair.com.

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Poor Will's Daybook for August

by Bill Felker

One's own landscape comes, in time, to be a sort of outlying part of himself; he has sowed himself broadcast upon it, and it reflects his own moods and feelings...How has the farmer planted himself in the fields; built himself into his stone walls, and evoked the sympathy of the hills by his struggle!

—JOHN BURROUGHS

August 1 – Average temperatures drop approximately one to two degrees a week in August, two to three degrees a week in September.

August 2 – Ragweed pollen fills the afternoons. Golden and purple coneflowers and white, pink and violet phlox still dominate the gardens. Red trumpet vine still curls through the trellises. The pure white virgin's bower opens. Mums and red stonecrop appear in the dooryards. Prickly mallow, field thistle, clearweed, willow herb and Japanese knotweed blossom in the woods and alleys. Summer apples are half picked.

August 3 – Even though the night grows longer in August, the percentage of possible sunshine per day increases to the highest of the year throughout the country.

August 4 – The Black-Eyed Susan Moon enters its last quarter, and this weak lunar position should diminish the effects of the August 4 cool front. From this point on, the likelihood for highs in the 90s begins a steady decline across the northern tier of states, and the possibility for a high only in the 60s grows stronger.

August 5 – Robin calls increase throughout the day, short clucking signals for migration. Flocks of starlings (called murmurations) spin and dive above the fields.

August 6 – Green acorns fall from their branches. Black walnut foliage thins. Fruit of the bittersweet ripens. Spicebush berries redden.

August 7 – Hummingbirds, wood ducks, plovers, Baltimore Orioles and purple martins start to disappear south.

August 8 – Get ready to seed or re-seed spring pastures and green manure areas in September or October under the waxing moon.

August 9 – Farmers bring in corn for silage, digging potatoes, picking tomatoes and finishing the second cut of alfalfa hay.

August 10 – The August 10 cool front is often the strongest weather system of Middle and Late Summer. This year, today's lunar perigee and tomorrow's new moon are likely to greatly enhance its power and increase the chances for hurricanes in the Caribbean.

August 11 – The Blackberry Jam Moon is new this morning. As the moon waxes during the week ahead, make blackberry jam (of course). Plant fall peas. Put out kale and collard sets for November. Seed the lawn.



An old hayrack disappears into the late summer meadow in Central Vermont. photo by Nancy Cassidy

August 12 – Gather up the winter squash plants as their stems dry, leaving about two inches of stem on the fruit; store in a cool, dry location. Make juice and wine and jelly from elderberries and wild grapes.

August 13 – Nurseries set out their mums, and pansy time is here for the autumn pansy market.

August 14 – Morning fogs thicken and become more frequent as the night air cools more often into the 50s and below.

August 15 – Grackle flocking increases while cardinal song becomes fainter.

August 16 – Today is Cross-Quarter Day, the halfway point to equinox, and an important marker for harvest and breeding preparations for sheep and goats.

August 17 – The cool front that typically arrives near this date reinforces the transition from summer stability to autumn unpredictability.

August 18 – The moon enters its mild second quarter. Before frost, pick and preserve some marjoram, sage, clover and fennel to feed to your ewes and does after birthing.

August 19 – Garlic planting begins along the Canadian border. In warmer regions, wait until October or November.

August 20 – Dig tender gladiolus and dahlia bulbs and store them for the winter away from frost and moisture.

August 21 – If you plant your spinach now, it should overwinter and provide an early spring crop.

August 22 – Test the soil of your fall and winter garden as well as of the fields in which you intend to sow winter wheat, rye, alfalfa, canola, clover and timothy.

August 23 – The moon reaches gentle apogee, weakening the power of the full moon (due on the 26th).

August 24 – Now the likelihood of severe heat is only half of what it was at the beginning of August. And with the last two cool fronts of August, the chance for frost increases in Vermont.

August 25 – Precipitation is likely before tomorrow's full moon, and this moon will more than likely strengthen the cool front that typically arrives at the end of the month.

August 26 – The moon is full today. Late August and all of September offer near ideal conditions for dividing and transplanting perennials under the waning moon. Crocus, aconites, snowdrops, daffodils and tulips can go in the ground all across the Northeast.

August 27 – Greenbrier berries turn blue-black. Rare autumn violets bloom. The year's final tier of wildflowers is budding: beggarticks, bur marigolds, asters, zigzag goldenrod.

August 28 – The cool front that crosses the nation in the next few days is the first weather system of Late Summer likely to bring frost across the Northern states.

August 29 – Telephone wires fill with birds as migrations accelerate. Flickers, redheaded woodpeckers, red-winged blackbirds, house wrens, scarlet tanagers, indigo buntings, Eastern bluebirds, robins, grackles and black ducks move south.

August 30 – In the rivers and lakes, lizard's tail drops its leaves. The last firefly blinks in the grass. Puffball mushrooms emerge in moist woodlands.

August 31 – Burrs from the panicked tick trefoil stick to your pants legs and to your pets, sheep and goats.

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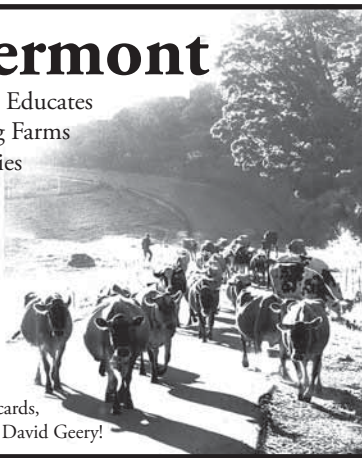
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Remember This

...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)

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photo by Scott Farm
Bins of apples at Scott Farm Market in Dummerston, VT.



photo by Scott Farm
Harvesting apples at Scott Farm in Dummerston, VT.



photo by Scott Farm
Orchardist Zeke Goodband leads an orchard walk at Scott Farm in Dummerston, VT.

Dummerston, VT

Scott Farm Opens on Labor Day Weekend

Welcome to Scott Farm in Dummerston, VT, home to 125 varieties of ecologically-grown heirloom apples and other fine fruits.

The Scott Farm, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, has been in active cultivation since 1791.

This 571 acre farm has been owned since 1995 by The Landmark Trust USA, a non-profit organization whose mission is to rescue important but neglected historic properties and bring them back to life. At Scott Farm this has meant revitalizing the entire farm operation from orchard to farmhouses to barns.

The farm's present orchardist, Ezekiel Goodband, has had a lifelong passion for apples. His search for old varieties has taken him to abandoned orchards throughout New England and as far as Kazakhstan, the birthplace of apples.

The orchard now contains over 125 heirloom and unusual apple varieties.

Scott Farm also grows gooseberries, medlars, quince, raspberries, blueberries, grapes, pears, plums, and peaches.

Scott Farm CSA Fruit Shares – Nine weeks of ecologically-grown fresh fruits starting the second week in September. The first on-farm pick-ups will be September 10 or September 13. If Mother Nature cooperates, the season begins with peaches, followed by farm stand apples combined with an assortment of heirloom apples, and as the season progresses, plums and pears. Get weekly emails with the selections of the week, their history and best use, plus some recipes and musings. Full & half shares. Call (802) 254-6868 to arrange for purchase and delivery.

Scott Farm Special Events and Workshops – Orchard strolls, baking with fruit, hard cider tastings, heirloom apple day, and apple harvest dinner. Check our website.

Scott Farm Market – Our Farm Market opens Saturday, September 1, Labor Day weekend, for the 2018 season, and will be open daily, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., through Wednesday, November 21, the day before Thanksgiving.

Scott Farm Products – Jams, jellies and an assortment of pies made from their

fine fruits and fresh-picked berries in season. The first apples begin to come down from the hillside orchard around the middle of August. Labor Day weekend they begin pressing their legendary heirloom apple cider.

Scott Farm cultivates over 125 ecologically-grown apple varieties, to include one of the largest collections of heirloom apples in the country. As they ripen different varieties are offered in the Farm Market along with aromatic quince, peaches, plums, pears, apricots, medlars, berries, cut flowers, and pumpkins.

Scott Farm Market Vermont-Made Products – In addition, the Farm Market also features an array of Vermont-made products from producers such as Side Hill Farm, Grafton Cheese, Fat Toad Caramel, Saxy Chef, Plymouth Cheese, Stone Soldier Pottery, Sugar Bobs Finest Kind, Glabach Maple Syrup, Northwood Apiaries, Sheep's Nose Farm eggs, North Country Bacon, Vermont Peanut Butter, and J.K. Adams cutting boards, along with an assortment of books, African Bolga baskets, and

Silky Saws for tree pruning.

Heirloom Apple Boxes – Heirloom Apple Gift Box sales are available in the fall when the harvest begins. Heirloom Apple Boxes from Scott Farm Orchard make a unique and delicious gift! Each selection is different depending on the time of harvest—the varieties change daily so you can count on a delicious surprise! We will choose the best of the heirlooms available at the time of your order and send a sampling with a few different varieties. The box will also include a card with a description of each apple variety, its history, and best use. Gift boxes are available in 12 or 18 counts. Shipping is free via USPS Priority Mail.

Pick Your Own Apples – usually begins Labor Day weekend and peaks in October. PYO is available when the apples are ready for harvest, which can run into November.

Scott Farm Orchard is located at 707 Kipling Rd., Dummerston, VT 05301. (802) 254-6868. apples@scottfarmvermont.com. www.scottfarmvermont.com.



photo by Scott Farm
Whetstone Ciderworks at Scott Farm in Dummerston, VT.

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A Tractor Parade at the Antique Tractor Day at Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock, VT.

photo by Billings Farm & Museum

Woodstock, VT

Summertime at Billings Farm & Museum

Vermont's rural heritage, is open for its 35th season. Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a 147-year tradition of agricultural excellence and offers farm programs and historical exhibits.

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!

For a quick snack while you're visiting, stop by the Dairy Bar, located on the ground floor of the 1890 Farm House. Here are some special summer events for you.

Time Travel Tuesdays

August 7, 14 & 21 • 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Every Tuesday at Billings Farm & Museum experience late 19th century chores and pastimes in the farmhouse firsthand, and stay as long as you like. There's plenty of work and fun for every age!

Wagon Ride Wednesdays

August 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 and

September 5, 12, 19 & 26 • 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Enjoy a horse-drawn wagon ride around the Billings Farm grounds and fields.

32nd Annual Quilt Exhibition

August 1 • 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This juried exhibition of colorful quilts made exclusively in Windsor County will celebrate 31 years of quilting excellence at the Billings Farm. Quilting demonstrations, programs and activities for children and adults. Through September 16.

Foodways Fridays

August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and

September 7 & 14 • 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Discover how we use seasonal vegetables and herbs from our heirloom garden in historic recipes. Different take-home recipes each week!

Farm to Ballet

August 4 • 6:30 p.m.

This colorful ballet performance reinterprets classical pieces to tell the story of three seasons on a Vermont farm. Accompanied by a live string sextet playing Vivaldi. Tickets: \$25, children 12 and under \$10. Reservations recommended. In the event of inclement weather, the show will be cancelled.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Guests may enjoy the 1890 Farm House, and visit the livestock in the barns and fields. The show begins at 6:30 p.m. Please bring chairs and blankets to sit on. Bring your own picnic or purchase a fresh-off-the-grill Billings Farm Grilled Cheese Sandwich with Tomato Jam and a garden-fresh side salad prepared by the Woodstock Inn. Also available at our Dairy Bar: Billings Farm picnic supper, Vermont ice cream, and beverages.

18th Annual Antique Tractor Day

August 5 • 10 am to 5 pm

Billings Farm & Museum, gateway to Vermont's rural heritage, will host its 18th Annual Antique Tractor Day on Sunday, August 5, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. featuring both restored and unrestored tractors dating from the 1920s to the 1970s. The narrated tractor parade at 1 p.m. provides a wonderful opportunity to see the machines operating, while learning the details and historical background of each tractor.

Tractor-drawn wagon rides will be offered along with activities for children to include: make-it-take-it wooden tractors, a toy tractor sandbox, ice cream making, and pedal tractor pulls.

Garden Tours

August 7, 14, 21 & 28 • 1 pm

Explore both the Billings Farm's kitchen garden and the National Park's formal gardens. Sample garden fresh snacks and create your own flower arrangement from the cutting garden to take home. Joint program with the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. Combination ticket required.

Heritage Chicken Day

August 18 • 10 am to 5 pm

Heritage Chicken Day will feature programs and information about each breed's unique traits, plus interesting facts about chickens and eggs. A variety of heritage chicken breeds will be featured, including threatened and rare breeds like the Blue Andalusian and Buff Laced Polish. All are protected breeds of the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy, a nonprofit membership organization working to conserve over 180 historic breeds of livestock and poultry and maintain genetic diversity. Chicken-themed activities and programs for children will include make-and-take crafts and games.

Farm House/Manor House

August 18 • 1 pm

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

Billings Farm & Museum is one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on Rt. 12. Open through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; weekends November through February; and Christmas & February vacation weeks.

Admission includes events and programs plus the dairy farm, farm life exhibits, the restored 1890 Farm House, and the 32nd Annual Quilt Exhibition. Adults \$16; 62 & over \$14; children 5-15 \$8; 3-4 \$4; 2 & under are free.

A combination ticket for both Billings Farm & Museum and Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park mansion tour is \$21 for adults ages 16-61, \$16 for seniors age 62 and over, valid for two days. For more information call (802) 457-2355 or visit www.billingsfarm.org.

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A Vermont Almanack for Late Summer

by Bill Felker

Often I am permitted to return to a meadow
as if it were a given property of the mind
that certain bounds hold against chaos,
that is a place of first permission,
everlasting omen of what is.

—ROBERT DUNCAN

The Black-Eyed Susan Moon and the Blackberry Jam Moon

When flocks of ducks and geese have settled into their post-birthing routines and Middle Summer's wildflowers start to pale, then blackberries redden and then turn sweet and black, perfect for cobblers and jam. Blackberries ripen when peaches are ripe, when katydids chant through the nights and when ragweed pollen joins the thistledown drifting through the hottest days of the year.

August 4: The Black-Eyed Susan Moon enters its last quarter at 1:18 p.m.

August 10: The moon reaches perigee at 1:05 p.m.

August 11: The Blackberry Jam Moon is new at 4:57 a.m.

August 18: The moon enters its first quarter at 2:48 a.m.

August 23: The moon reaches apogee at 6:23 a.m.

August 26: The moon is full at 6:56 a.m.

The Sun's Progress

This month, the Sun moves halfway between summer solstice and autumn equinox, entering Virgo and reaching Cross-Quarter Day on August 23. A partial eclipse of the Sun occurs on August 11, only visible in northern North America beginning at 4:47 a.m.

The Planets

All four major planets are visible after dark this month. Find Mars in Capricorn following Saturn in Sagittarius along the southeastern horizon after sundown. Venus in Virgo is the brightest evening star due west after sunset, followed by Jupiter in Libra in the southwest.

The Avenger of Injustice

That day the old buck rammed
The little kid
That could barely keep its feet
And stretched it bleating on the ground,
I blew my lid.
I damned
Him and I beat
Him with my fists.

I am so sick of seeing folks pushed around,
So seldom in position to enter the lists.
If I had had a gun
The census on my place would hav read less one.

He stood right still, the gentle brute,
And let me pound.
He looked surprised,
But his hide is touch.
When I had had enough—
My hands are sore—
I wondered why I'd been so exercised.
I found the kid
Who'd tottered off and hid,
Not furt, just scared,
And told it someone cared.
I may have given it a kiss.
And then I patted the buck:
Go thou and butt no more.
If I had had the terrible luck
To kill him, would that have evened any score?
I seldom do a thing like this.



—JAMES HAYFORD
Orleans, VT, 1953



Visitors enjoy a summertime horse-drawn wagon ride at Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock, VT.

photo by Billings Farm & Museum

The Stars

Now Libra has moved deep into the west by 11:00 p.m., with Scorpio following close behind along the horizon. The Northern Cross (or Cygnus, the Swan) has moved directly overhead and will tell the time of year throughout the autumn until Orion appears in the east once again.

The Shooting Stars

The Perseid meteors peak August 11 through 13 in the east an hour or so after midnight below the Milky Way in Perseus. This shower can produce up to 60 meteors in an hour and will not be obscured by the moon.

Meteorology

Observe the daily circle of the sun,
And the short year of each revolving moon:
By them thou shalt foresee the following day,
Nor shall a starry night thy hopes betray.

—VIRGIL

The cool fronts of Late Summer ordinarily reach Vermont around August 4, 10, 17, 21 and 29. Lunar perigee on August 10, new moon on August 11 and full moon on August 26 are likely to strengthen fronts due near those dates.

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23rd Annual Southern Vermont Garlic and Herb Festival on Labor Day Weekend—Garlic, Food, Bar, Music, & Games

The 23rd Annual Southern Vermont Garlic and Herb Festival will take place at Camelot Village in Bennington, VT on Saturday, September 1st and Sunday, September 2nd, 2018.

The two-day event has been attended by over 15,000 people in the past and has been named one of Vermont's "2018 Top Ten Events of the Year." The festival, also known as "Garlicfest," has been a magnet event for the Bennington, drawing international crowds for more than two decades.

The weekend, filled with garlic, also offers over 20 food options, and kids' activities. Relax at the Beer and Wine Garden under the tent listening to music both days from eight live bands.

For the kids there will be face painting, inflatable fun jumps and other activities.

Wander around the spacious lawns sampling garlic delicacies and enjoy the festivities. Everything from garlic ice cream to garlic jelly, pickled garlic, roasted garlic, garlic braids and, of

course, plain garlic bulbs of every variety will be available for sampling and purchase, along with planting and braiding and cooking demonstrations.

"Every year we get thousands of people coming through our gate from places like Texas, Alaska, Germany, China," comments Lindy Lynch, chairperson of the Garlicfest. The event takes over 1,500 volunteer hours to put on.

Festival hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost for a one-day pass is \$8 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. A two-day pass is \$10.

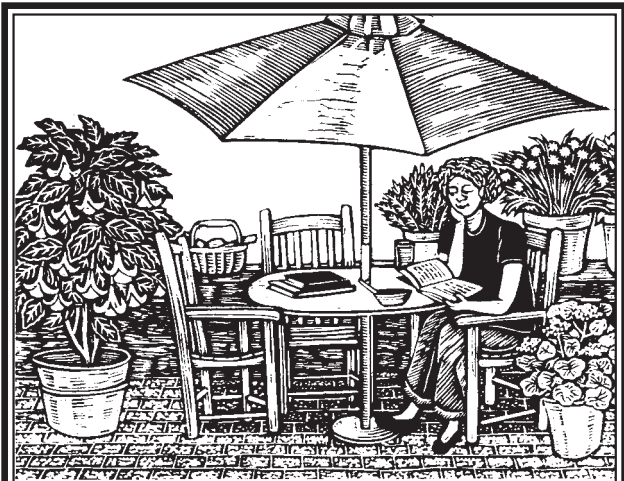
For aspiring gardeners, garlic growers, garlic lovers or those simply looking for a fun way to spend a late summer weekend, the event promises something for everyone.

Camelot Village is located on Route 9 in Bennington, VT just west of downtown..

For more information visit www.lovegarlic.com or call the Chamber offices at (802) 447-3311.



The Southern Vermont Garlic and Herb Festival in Bennington, VT has plenty to offer in the way of food, fun, music, and of course, garlic! The festival takes place on September 1 & 2 this year.



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Braids of garlic bulbs will be on hand at the Southern Vermont Garlic and Herb Festival in Bennington, VT.

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Oh, it means to me
The balsam scent of a poplar tree
When the sun is shining after rain;
And a garden spot of rich black soil
With strength to do the bending toil
When the birds are singing spring again.
It means a ride in the country air,
Just on and on and on, to where
I can find a quiet lovely spot—
Perhaps a lane where the meadowsweet
And mint are stirred by clicking feet
Of homing cows from the pasture lot.

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August Events at Merck Forest & Farmland Center

Summer's happening at Merck Forest in a big way. There are plenty of organized activities and events, or you may just bring family and friends to enjoy a stroll around the farm, or an invigorating hike along our 30+ miles of trails. Raspberries are starting to come in now, and blueberries will be along in another week or so. There will be berrying through August, supply permitting.

Summer Event Schedule

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

Free Bluegrass Concert. August 4, 6 p.m. Bob Amos and Catamount Crossing will set up on the Saphouse deck and crank out the bluegrass tunes as the summer sun sinks over the Adirondacks. Bring a picnic supper, bring your kids; we'll have a grand time, rain or shine.

Farm Chores for Children. Thursday afternoons, August 2nd, 9th and 16th, 2-4 p.m. Children will assist the farm staff with afternoon chores. Youngsters may feed the horses, pick berries, collect eggs and perform other tasks. \$5 per child; children must be accompanied by an adult companion.

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

Lecture and Guided Hike: "Changes in Vermont Landscape". August 11, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Professor Bill Hegeman and students from Middlebury College will lead a hike and discussion of Taconic Hills ecology. Participants should be prepared for the weather with sturdy footwear, water and snacks. \$5 per person.

Evening Hike Series—Perseid Meteor Shower Viewing, August 11, 6-8 p.m. Full Sturgeon Moon Walk, August 25, 6-8 p.m. Join us on hikes of moderate difficulty in the evening landscape. Will take place only if weather permits. Dress appropriately for the weather with sturdy footwear, headlamps, water and snacks. Reservations requested; \$5 per person.

Super Saturday Volunteer Workday. August 25, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The last Saturday of the month is our Volunteer Workday – join us this month for a project on the trails or on the farm, and we'll work together to get it done!

Merck Forest and Farmland Center is a non-profit educational organization with 3,162 acres and includes a 3,100 acre managed forest, a certified-organic sugaring operation and a 62-acre farm. They offer demonstrations, apprenticeships, workshops, school programs, and recreation. 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, atop the very large hill at 3270 Rt. 315 in Rupert, VT. Please do not rely solely on your GPS: once you reach the top of the big hill on 315, turn into Merck Forest's Driveway. If you start going downhill, you've missed us! (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.



photos by Merck Forest and Farmland Center
Kids doing farm chores have a talk in the barn at Merck Forest and Farmland Center in Rupert, VT.

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Castleton Hosts 80th Annual Colonial Day House Tour

Step back in time as hostesses in Colonial attire greet guests in homes along Castleton's historic Main Street during the 80th Annual Colonial Day House Tour on Saturday August 18th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Castleton Womans Club sponsors this annual event featuring over a dozen sites throughout the village including outstanding period homes, public buildings and historic sites. To mark the 80th Anniversary of Castleton Colonial Day, representatives from the Vermont Legislature will present a State Proclamation at 4 p.m. at the Castleton Federated Church.

The Federated Church on Main Street, described as builder Thomas Royal Duke's architectural masterpiece, is a popular stop on the tour. The pulpit, with its intricate moldings and panels is one of the most extraordinary in the state. Duke is famous for his beautifully scaled spiral staircases which can be seen in some of the homes on the tour.

At the Higley House, home of the Castleton Historical Society, visitors can tour the exhibits, antique tools, carriage collection and period fashion display of 19th cen-

ture clothing and accessories. On display at the Higley House will be the famous Blue Cat Quilt depicting historic landmarks in town and highlights from the book *The Blue Cat of Castleton*. The quilt was entirely hand-sewn and hand-quilted with over 375 hours spent in creating the unique pattern of quilting stitches.

Following this year's tour there will be a free Vermont Humanities Council event hosted by the Castleton Historical Society. At 4 p.m., New Haven Connecticut Museum and Historical Society Director William Hosley will talk about "Country Houses for a New Republic: Connecticut and Vermont's Master Builders". He will discuss the contributions of some legendary builders whose work helped give birth to a new architecture that was both worldly and nationally distinctive.

The 2018 Castleton Colonial Day House Tour will be held rain or shine. Tour tickets are \$20 (\$18 seniors 62+) can be purchased on Colonial Day at ticket booths on Main Street. For information call (802) 468-5691 or e-mail: rileyvt@comcast.net.



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The Blind Boys

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

In the 1950s, when I first knew about them, the Blind Boys lived in a little cobbled-together farmstead on Fair Haven's Scotch Hill. They were seldom seen, but both my father, and my grandmother—who lived on Dutton Avenue, the narrow dirt road that beyond her house climbed up into Scotch Hill and from there into the, at that time, wilds of West Castleton—knew all about the Blind Boys.

My father said that there were three of them, and they weren't all blind, but each of the brothers had some sort of disability. They kept a few animals and lived what had to have been a brutally-marginal life.

In the 1950s, I used to go stay with my Fair Haven grandmother. She had a house with a bay window and a side porch, built about 1900 and very similar to a lot of other houses in town. My grandfather settled her there after their three children were grown. He drove his Auburn car down to check up on her once a week, but stayed at, and ran, a farm in Benson.

My grandmother, whom I loved dearly, was a solitary, fearful, person gently-grieving a lost West Haven girlhood. She mostly lived in just three rooms of her house. She either sat reading in a dim-corner armchair or set up in the middle of the living room at a round oak table on which she wrote a great many letters.

“The were seldom seen, but both my father, and my grandmother...knew all about the Blind Boys.”

In the summer, she filled mason jars with pinky-purple phlox and put them on this central table next to boxes of scented stationary sent to her by my Aunt Elizabeth, who years earlier had moved to Oregon.

Out in front of her house, elms shaded tranquil Dutton Avenue, and on either side of the—at that time—narrow dirt road, there was a deep ditch full of a rich assortment of tall weeds, wild flowers and the dark glint of old rain water.

I remember a summer morning, like any of the summer mornings. Mr. Little delivered a box of groceries to my grandmother's kitchen door, and when I was the one to open it, he called out gaily, “How young and beautiful you look today, Mrs. Hayes,” and we laughed together at his great joke.

But Mr. Little is long-gone, as is Little's Market, as is Barslow's Bakery, and Calvi's soda fountain. Fair Haven is a different place now.

The other Main Street grocery stores went out of business. Both Norton's Hardware and the Factory Outlet burned down. The Fair Haven Era newspaper is no longer published.

The two grand marble houses became, one a bed and breakfast and the other senior housing. The Park Boys can't be found lounging along the park-encircling fence. My father's high school turned into the town offices building.

But what I particularly remember is gone—things that are hard to imagine ever existed.

There was once a substantial block of pale marble at the



photo courtesy of Pamela Hayes Rehlen

Pamela Hayes Rehlen's grandmother Mary Hitchcock Hayes's home on Dutton Avenue in Fair Haven in the 1950s.

head of a slate-pieces walkway leading to my grandmother's flower-box-lined, front porch, steps.

One summer day, I was playing there, using the block as a pretend tea table, when I heard steadily-approaching jingling and dragging sounds. Way off down the street, a dirty, beat-up, farm wagon was coming toward me.

Even in those days this contraption was a relic. For all the jingling and dragging from the farm wagon itself, the two men on it were silent. One was standing up in front holding the horse's reins. At the back end of the wagon, another sat slumped forward, his legs hanging down, vacant-eyed, swaying and silent.

The Blind Boys were coming into town. Their clothing—which was rags—their horse, and their wagon, everything was the no-color of smoke and ancient farm-things. Riding on the dragging, jingling, steadily-progressing wagon, they

seemed two phantoms. But I stayed crouched at the side of the road until I heard my grandmother, suddenly out on the porch, calling me in.

When ten years later a new Route Four into New York State was built, the Dutton Avenue that I'd always known was obliterated. My grandmother's elms came down. Her cool, green, tree-shaded, lawn shrank away before the road-widening bulldozers.

The impregnable marble block, my childhood tea table, was wrested out of the ground—a dark, earth-stained, underside exposed—and tossed onto a pile of construction rubble.

No longer a road leading up into the dark forests and drowned quarry holes of wild West Castleton, Scotch Hill turned into a stretch of new suburban houses with spectacular views toward the Adirondacks.

Perhaps the Blind Boys were taken into state care. Perhaps they died. Their little huts and animal pens on the western-view side of Scotch Hill were demolished, the land cleared and sold.

It's hard to believe they ever existed, lived the way they did, and once came rolling past me, a little girl crouched by the side of the road, in that long-gone world of my grandmother's house on Dutton Avenue.

*Pamela Hayes Rehlen has written and lived most of her life in Castleton, Vermont. She is the author of stories, articles, essays, magazine features, and of two books: **The Blue Cat and the River's Song** (\$17 plus shipping and handling) and **The Vanished Landmarks Game—Castleton Stories from West of Birdseye** (\$20 plus shipping and handling) available at the Castleton Village Store, P. O. Box 275, Castleton, Vermont 05735, and at a number of Vermont book sellers. To reach the store, call (802) 468-2213. All the back issues of these columns are available to read under the archives at www.vermontcountrysampler.com.*

Poultney, VT

Tom Merwin and the Forty-Seven Main Street Artists

Tom Merwin and the Forty-Seven Main Street artists bring “The Drawing Water Project” art exhibit to Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill in Poultney, VT, from July 26th to August 26th, 2018.

There will be an opening reception with Tom Merwin on August 5th from 2-5 p.m. The public is invited to view “The Drawing Water Project” art exhibit and to participate in a community paint event, using acrylic on individual canvases, during the opening reception. The event is free and everyone is welcome.

Tom Merwin is the recipient of a 2017 Vermont Psychiatric Survivors Grant for the Drawing Water Project. The Drawing Water Project is an engaged creative movement to dismantle social

marginalization through the arts. For the past three years, showing in Burlington at SEABA, Union Station and Vermont Community Television, in Brandon at Compass Music and Arts and The Merwin Gallery in Castleton, the painters of Forty-Seven Main Street together with their paintings and poetry travel beyond the social construct that separates and marginalizes the creative voice of ‘the other’. They work together to challenge the convenient labels of disability, mental illness and poverty to transform barriers into opportunities for mutual beauty and growth. The larger plan is to take painting to where it is needed throughout Vermont for communion and healing, bringing art supplies to communities and residences

where sisters and brothers can join them in their expressions and exhibitions.

Tom explains, on his website, that he was “Initially influenced by the Hudson River School and abstract expressionists I soon made a link to a continued love of Chinese and Japanese painting. My painting process expresses a layering of symbol and spirituality using nature as a doorway to the expression of existential concerns. I find this work a way of entering being more fully (on

the other side of words).” For more information visit

Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill, 145 East Main St., Poultney, VT. (802) 884-8052. stonevalleyartscenter@gmail.com. www.stonevalleyarts.org. The gallery is open Sundays 1-4 p.m. and when Fox Hill is open for other events.

For more information on Tom Merwin's work visit merwinstudios.com. Merwin Gallery is located at 557 Main St., Castleton, VT. (802) 468-2592.



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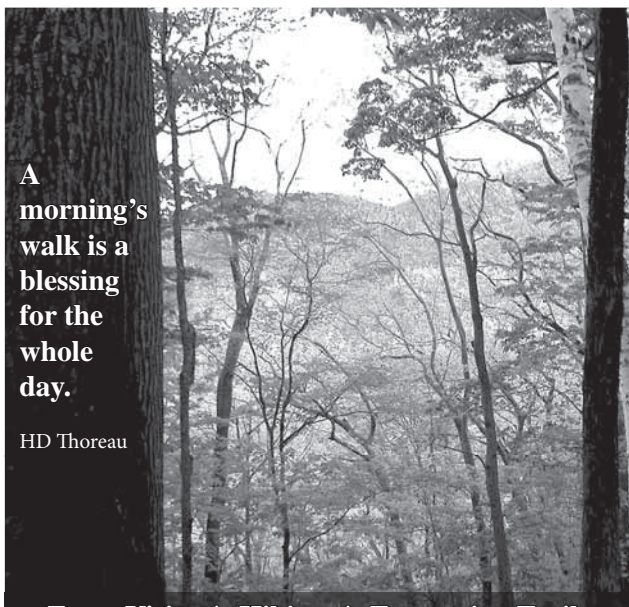
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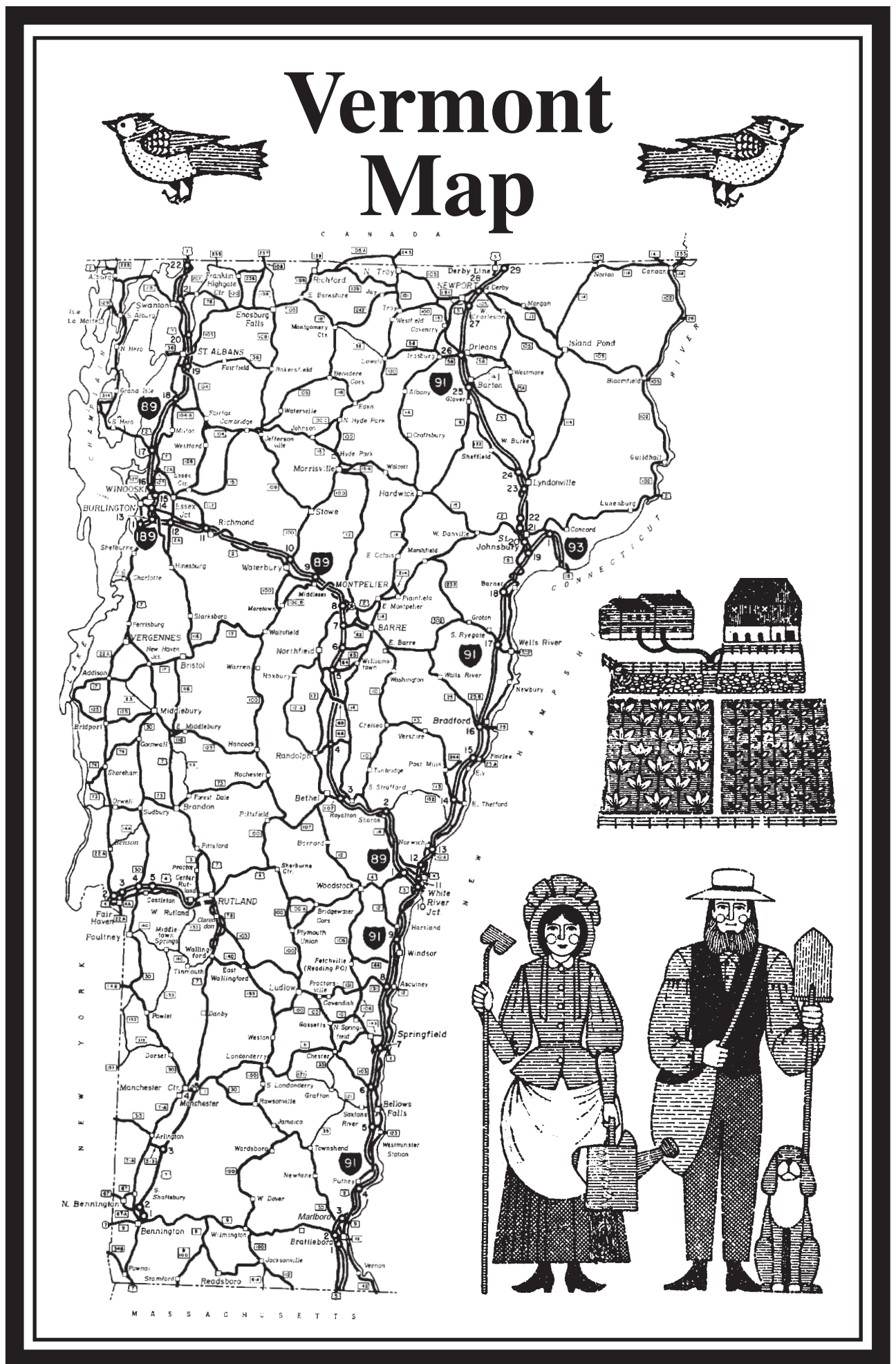
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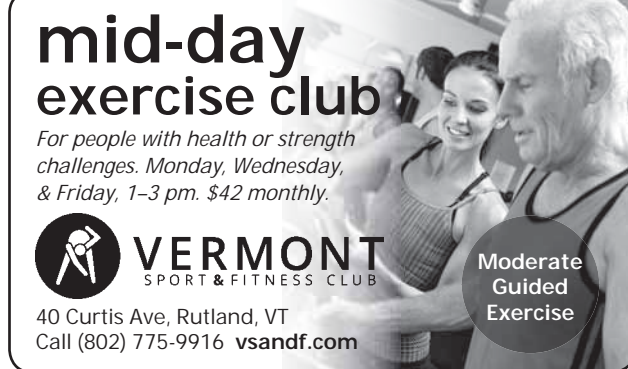
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Vermont Map



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Vermont Country Calendar

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

FRIDAY, JULY 27

BARRE. Barre Heritage Festival. Multi-day community celebration. Parade and fireworks. 10 am - 8 pm. (802) 477-2967. barreheritagefestival.org. *Through July 28.*

DANBY. 12th Annual Danby Olde Country & Bluegrass Festival. Tickets \$25, after 5 pm \$15, 15 and under free with paid adult. Bring a chair. Food concession, craft vendors, raffles, water. 245 Tift Rd., off Scottsville Rd., off Rt. 7. (802) 293-5515. www.danbyoldecountrybluegrassfestival.wordpress.com. *Also July 28.*

DEERFIELD VALLEY. Deerfield Valley Blueberry Festival. Over 70 events. Readsboro, Whitingham, Jacksonville, Wilmington, and Dover. (802) 464-8092. vermontblueberry.com. *Through August 5.*

JOHNSON. Oxen Pulling. 2400, 2800, 3200 lb. classes and free-for-all. 10 am. Lamoille County Field Days Fair Grounds, 203 Wilson Rd. (802) 635-7113. icfielddays@gmail.com. www.lamoillefelddays.com. *Through July 29.*

JOHNSON. Lamoille County Field Days. Admission \$12. Free parking. 9 am to midnight. 203 Wilson Rd. (802) 635-7113. www.lamoillefelddays.com. *Through July 29.*

NO. HAVERHILL. 74th Annual North Haverhill Fair. Admission \$12, five-day \$48, kids 12 and under free, parking free. 8 am - 10 pm. 1299 Dartmouth College Highway, Rt. 10. (603) 989-3305. garyscruton@yahoo.com. www.nohaverhillfair.com. *Through July 29.*

RUTLAND. Seven to Sunset Concert: Phil Henry Acoustic Trio. Bring a picnic basket, family and friends. Free. 7-8:30 pm. Main Street Park, corner of West Street and Route 7. (802) 773-1822. rutlandrec.com.

RUTLAND. Friday Night Live: John Waite. British born rock star, successfully writing, recording and performing popular music for more than 35 years. Family friendly activities, lots of food and fun! Free. 5-10 pm. Center St. (802) 773-9380. rutlandvermont.com.

SO. WOODSTOCK. Dressage Days. Ballet on horseback. A relaxing day watching the best in the region compete over three days. Spectators welcome at no charge. Dogs must be on a leash. 8 am - 5 pm. Green Mountain Horse Association, 5491 South Rd. (802) 457-1509. gmhainc.org. *Through July 29.*

STOCKBRIDGE. NoTown Music Festival. Music, community and camping. Food vendors. Cost: day pass \$40, weekend pass \$96, under 17 free with parents. Free field parking. 12:30-11:30 pm. Bartlett's Corners, Tweed River Tubing, 2056 Rt. 100. (603) 442-9509. notownfestival.com. *Through July 29.*

WARDSBORO. Concert: Bruce Mandel, Contemporary Folk & Americana. Cost: \$10, includes concert & refreshments. Doors open 6:30 pm. Wardsboro Town Hall Café, 71 Main St. www.wardsborocurtaincall.net.

WOODSTOCK. 10th Annual Bookstock. A literary festival with a over 40 authors, artists, and performers. Huge used book sale on the Green and vintage book sale at the library. Music, food, workshops, exhibits. Free admission. On the village Green. info@bookstockvt.org or visit www.bookstockvt.org. *Through July 29.*

SATURDAY, JULY 28

BELMONT. Early Roads of Mount Holly Tour. Historian Dennis Devereux will lead a car tour of the early roads in Mount Holly. 1-3 pm. Mount Holly Community Historical Museum, 29 Maple Hill Rd. (802) 259-2460.

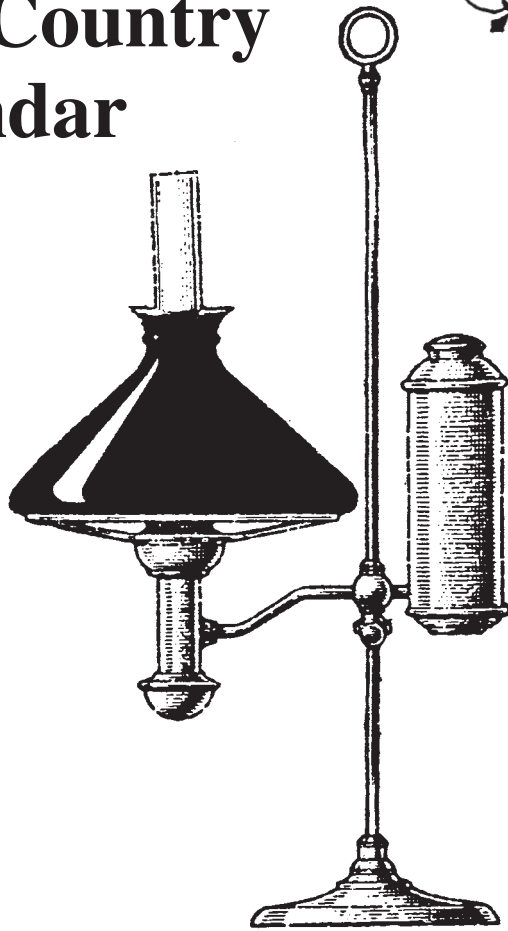
DANBY. 12th Annual Danby Olde Country & Bluegrass Festival. Tickets \$25, nights after 5 pm \$15, 15 and under free with paid adult, weekend ticket \$60. Bring a chair, food concession, craft vendors, raffles, water available. 245 Tift Rd., off Scottsville Rd., off Rt. 7 north of town. (802) 293-5515. www.danbyoldecountrybluegrassfestival.wordpress.com.

JAY. 5th Annual Jeezum Crow Festival. Join us in the Stateside Amphitheater for a full day of live music from Gov't Mule, Robert Randolph & the Family Band, Seth Yacovone Band, Electric Sorcery, Rick Redington & The Luv, and Swimmer. Tickets \$45, children 6 and under free. 1-11:30 pm. Jay Peak Resort, 830 Jay Peak Rd. (802) 988-2611. jaypeakresort.com.

JOHNSON. Horse Pulling. 3150 & 3350 lb. classes and free-for-all. 10 am. Lamoille County Field Days Fair Grounds, 203 Wilson Rd. (802) 635-7113. icfielddays@gmail.com. www.lamoillefelddays.com. *Also July 29.*

JOHNSON. Lamoille County Field Days. Midway rides, music, entertainment, vendors, and more! Admission: \$12. Free parking. Open at 9 am. 203 Wilson Rd. (802) 635-7113. www.lamoillefelddays.com. *Also July 29.*

KILLINGTON. Killington Music Festival Music in the Mountains Concert: Potpourri on Killington Peak. Breathtaking music and views. Tickets: \$25. 7 pm. Ramshead Lodge, Killington Rd. (802) 422-1330. Information: (802) 773-4003. killingtonmusicfestival.org.



MANCHESTER. Manchester Music Festival presents *A Night At the Opera*, featuring singers from the Metropolitan Opera and Warren Jones. 7:30-9:30 pm. Southern Vermont Arts Center, 930 Southern Vermont Arts Center Dr. (802) 362-1956. mmfvt.org.

MANCHESTER. Manchester Music Festival Family Concert and Ice Cream Social. 2-4 pm. Burr and Burton Academy, 57 Seminary Ave. (802) 362-1956. mmfvt.org.

MARLBORO. Marlboro Music Festival. Tickets \$5 to \$40, call (215) 569-4690. 8:30 pm. Persons Auditorium on the Marlboro College campus, 2472 South Rd. (215) 569-4690. marlboromusic.org. *Through August 12.*

NO. HAVERHILL. 74th Annual North Haverhill Fair. Admission: \$12, kids 12 and under free, parking free. 9 am - 10 pm. 1299 Dartmouth College Highway, Rt. 10. (603) 989-3305. nohaverhillfair.com. *Also July 29.*

PAWLET. Pawlet Public Library 51st Annual Book Sale. All volunteer-run event is the primary fundraiser for the library. The library accepts book donations for the sale up to the second week in July. Mettawee Community School auditorium. (802) 325-3123. pawletpubliclibrary.wordpress.com. *Also July 29.*

PITTSFORD. Free Ice Cream Social. With family activities. Volunteers welcome! 1-3 pm. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St. info@pittsfordvillagefarm.org. www.facebook.com/pittsfordvillagefarm.

POWNAL. 25th Annual Pownal Valley Community Fair. Admission is free. Fireworks at 9:15 pm. 10 am - 10 pm. Route 346, located behind the post office and fire house. (802) 823-7907.

RUPERT. Full Buck Moon Walk. Staff-guided hike, moderate difficulty, will take place even if it's raining. Dress appropriately for the weather with sturdy footwear, headlamps, water and snacks. Reservations requested. Fee: \$5 per person. 6-8. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. Located between Rupert and Dorset, at the top of the very large hill. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Seven to Sunset Concert: Aaron Audette. Bring a picnic basket, family and friends and enjoy a summer evening of free live music. Free. 7-8:30 pm. Main Street Park, corner of West Street and Route 7. (802) 773-1822. rutlandrec.com.

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

STOCKBRIDGE. NoTown Music Festival. Music, community and camping. Food vendors. Day pass \$40, weekend pass \$96, under 17 free with parents. Free field parking. Saturday 12:30-11:30 pm. Bartlett's Corners, Tweed River Tubing, 2056 Rt. 100. (603) 442-9509. notownfestival.com. *Also July 29.*

WEST DOVER. Blueberry Bash. Blueberry Parade, BBQ, beer. Live music. Open backyard game/activities. Free admission; all games/activities are free. 12 noon - 5 pm. Mount Snow Resort, 39 Mount Snow Rd. (802) 464-8092. vermontblueberry.com.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Musical: Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach*. Tickets \$25, students \$19. 2 & 7:30 pm. Northern Stage, Barrette Center for the Arts, 74 Gates St. (802) 296-7000. northernstage.org. *Also July 29.*

WOODSTOCK. 10th Annual Bookstock. A literary festival with over 40 prominent authors, artists, and performers. Huge used books sale on the Green and vintage book sale at the library. Music, food, workshops, exhibits. Robert Pinsky's Poem Jazz at the Town Hall Theater. Free admission. On the village Green. bookstockvt.org. *Also July 29.*

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, July 28, continued)

WOODSTOCK. 32nd Annual Quilt Exhibition. Quilting activities and demonstrations, with quilters on hand to discuss their work. Adults \$16, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. *Through September 16.*

SUNDAY, JULY 29.

DEERFIELD VALLEY. Deerfield Valley Blueberry Festival. Visit website for schedule. (802) 464-8092. vermontblueberry.com. *Through August 5.*

JOHNSON. Pony Pulling. 1850 & 2250 lb. classes and free-for-all. 10 am. Lamoille County Field Days Fair Grounds, 203 Wilson Rd. (802) 635-7113. lamoillefelddays.com.

JOHNSON. Lamoille County Field Days. Admission: \$12. Free parking. Open at 9 am. 203 Wilson Rd. (802) 635-7113. lamoillefelddays.com.

LYME, NH. Summer Buffet Music Series on Post Pond. Susan Brison performing. Buffet dinner 6 pm. Adults \$25, kids 5-12 \$10, 4 and under free. Reservations required. Loch Lyme Lodge, 70 Orford Rd. (603) 795-2141. *Also August 5, 12, 19, 26 and September 2.*

NO. HAVERHILL. 74th Annual North Haverhill Fair. Admission \$12, parking free. 8 am – 6 pm. 1299 Dartmouth College Highway, Rt. 10. (603) 989-3305. www.nohaverhillfair.com. *Through July 29.*

PAWLET. Pawlet Public Library 51st Annual Book Sale. Mettawee Community School auditorium. (802) 325-3123. pawletpubliclibrary.wordpress.com.

PLYMOUTH. Grace Coolidge Musicale #2. Mezzo-soprano Ellen Nordstrom and pianist Abigail Charbeneau perform “The Best of Berlin,” celebrating Irving Berlin’s 100th birthday. Donation suggested. 4-5:30 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicssites.vermont.gov.

SPRINGFIELD. Black River BioBlitz. International citizen science event. Work with experts and enthusiasts to explore, learn, and collect information about plants and animals. Come for an hour or stay for the day. Bring your camera or smartphone. Swag bags for suggested \$10 donation. Hoyt’s Landing and Muckross State Park. Leave your vehicle at Park & Ride by exit 7 off I-91 and catch the BioBlitz Shuttle. 10 am – 3 pm. (802) 738-0456.

STOCKBRIDGE. NoTown Music Festival. Music, community and camping. Food vendors. Tickets: day pass \$40, under 17 free with parents. Free field parking. 1-9 pm. Bartlett’s Corners, 2056 Rt. 100. (603) 442-9509. notownfestival.com.

WOODSTOCK. 10th Annual Bookstock. A literary festival with over 40 prominent authors, artists, and performers. Huge used books sale on the Green and vintage book sale at the library. Music, food, workshops, exhibits. Free admission. On the village Green. bookstockvt.org.

MONDAY, JULY 30

BENNINGTON. “The New Yorker” Celebration. Talk by former New Yorker cartoon editor Bob Mankoff at 1 pm. Screening of “Very Semi-Serious” documentary at 2 pm. 5 pm dinner at Southern Vermont College. Steve Ross performs songs from the Great American Songbook at 7:30 pm. Laumeister Art Center, 44 Gypsy Lane. (802) 442-7158. artcenter.svc.edu.

RUTLAND. Rutland Free Library Summer Book Sale. Thousands of organized, new and gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for all ages. Come each week for a highlighted topic, and buy-one-get-one-free sales. Always a nice selection of rare and antique books. Most items \$.25–\$.3. 4-8 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org. *Also August 6.*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers’ Market. Farm fresh veggies and fruits, artisan cheeses, handcrafted breads, maple syrup, Vermont crafts, prepared foods, and more. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Wednesdays through October 24.*

STOWE. Vermont Mozart Festival. Vermont Mozart Festival Chamber Players perform. Tickets: \$15, children free. 7 pm. Trapp Family Lodge “Mozart Room”, 700 Trapp Hill Rd. (802) 598-9520. vermontmozartfestival.org.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2

CANAAN, NH. Canaan Meetinghouse Readings. Lloyd Schwartz reads from his fourth book of poetry, *Little Kisses*. Joan Silber reads from *Improvement*, a novel about a single mother. Free. 7:30 pm at the 1793 Old Meetinghouse, Canaan St. opposite the beach on Canaan Street Lake. (603) 523-9650. meetinghouse readings.wordpress.com.

CHARLOTTE. Vermont Mozart Festival. “Magic Flute” Woodwind chamber arrangement. Free. 6:30 pm. Charlotte Town Beach, 1371 Lake Rd. (802) 598-9520. vermontmozartfestival.org.

HIGHGATE. Franklin County Field Days. 300 Airport Rd. (802) 238-4904. franklincountyfelddays.org. *Through August 5.*

RUTLAND. Seven to Sunset Concert: Marble City Jazz Band. Bring a picnic basket, family and friends and enjoy a summer evening. Free. 7-8:30 pm. Main Street Park, corner of West Street and Route 7. (802) 773-1822. rutlandrec.com.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

BENNINGTON. 40th Annual Bennington Arts Weekend. First Fridays: Businesses open until 8 pm. Southern Vermont Art & Craft Festival at Camelot Village on Rt. 9. Nearly 200 art and craft exhibitors. Admission \$5. 10 am – 5 pm. (802) 447-3311. craftproducers.com. *Through August 5.*

BURLINGTON. 11th Annual Festival of Fools. 100 of the best international street performers from around the globe transform the downtown district into a world of foolish fun. Free. Four main stage locations surrounding the Church Street Marketplace and City Hall Park. (802) 865-7166. vermontfestivaloffools.com. *Through August 5.*

HIGHGATE. Franklin County Field Days. 300 Airport Rd. (802) 238-4904. franklincountyfelddays.org. *Through August 5.*

STOWE. Vermont Mozart Festival. Program includes Mozart and Haydn. Fireworks following the concert. Tickets: \$30, children free. 7 pm. Trapp Family Lodge Meadow, 700 Trapp Hill Rd. (802) 598-9520. info@vermontmozartfestival.org. vermontmozartfestival.org.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

BELLOWS FALLS. Workshop: The Beaver – One of Nature’s Extraordinary Architects. Explore hands-on beaver biofacts, listen to a story, try on a beaver costume, and build your own beaver craft. For children ages 4 and up. Sponsored by the Nature Museum at Grafton. Free. 10-11 am. BelloWS Falls Visitor Center and Fish Ladder, 17 Bridge St. (802) 843-2111. nature-museum.org.

BENNINGTON. Fourth Annual 4 Corners North HomeBrew Festival. Live music, food vendors, home brewed beer, cider, mead, braggot, and wine. 12 noon – 3:30 pm. Four Corners North, County St. between North St. (Rt. 7) and School St. (802) 447-3311. 4cnhomebrewfest.com.

BENNINGTON. Southern Vermont Art & Craft Festival. Nearly 200 art and craft exhibitors. Large food market. Admission \$8, weekend pass \$10, kids free. 10 am – 5 pm. Camelot Village on Rt. 9. (802) 447-3311. craftproducers.com. *Also August 5.*



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Rutland, VT

Ellen Shattuck Pierce’s Solo Exhibition at The Alley Gallery

The opening reception for Ellen Shattuck Pierce’s solo exhibition, “Thirty-six Views of Home,” a collection of prints about motherhood, will be on Saturday, August 11, 2018 from 6-8 p.m. at The Alley Gallery, Center St. Rutland, VT.

A pleasurable evening with a Rutland-native returned home to a downtown gallery will include free wine, light refreshments, and live music.

The exhibition, “Thirty-six Views of Home,” will be on view at The Alley Gallery from Thursday, August 2 through Saturday, September 29. Admission is free.

Ellen Shattuck Pierce moved to Boston to pursue her art career after growing up in Rutland, VT. Pierce went to the School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, graduated from UMass Boston, and received her Ed.M in Arts Education from Harvard.

Being part Canadian, Pierce longed to spend time in Canada and moved to Toronto to complete her MFA at York University. During this time, Nunavut Arctic College in Iqaluit, Nunavut invited her to teach a month-long printmaking course. The stark landscape and the rich stories told in the Inuit artists’ work has had a lasting impact on Pierce’s art.

After returning to Iqaluit a second time, Pierce settled in Boston where she teaches art to elementary students in Cambridge and works in her studio. Studio life and the home life she shares with her husband, two teen boys, a dog, and a cat, inform one another in complimentary ways. “This work, like all my work, is about motherhood; it’s a theme I cannot escape,” Pierce says of her current exhibit.

“If art is a reflection of life, then I have a deep understanding of life from which to draw. As a mother and art teacher, I immerse myself in the thinking, tinkering, talking, and tattling of little bodies.” Ellen Shattuck Pierce reflects on her collection. “On good days, my kids and students are

charming, my chores meditative, my art a witty reflection of the everyday mundanity and challenge of building humans. On bad days, I am sucked dry and my images are violent. Ice dam stalactites plunge through my dining room ceiling.”

Pierce is overwhelmed by giving and by the want to give in. “These opposing identities are in all of us,” she comments, “parents or not.” Pierce’s exhibition, “Thirty-six Views of Home,” addresses this tension as a visual rupture in an otherwise patterned, color-matched, organized interior.

Pierce borrows her title from Japanese ukiyo-e painter and printmaker Hokusai’s, “Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji,” as they inspired her to create a suite of prints which tell a story from several vantage points. Though Pierce chose her immediate surroundings rather than landscapes as her subject, she used traditional printmaking techniques and striking color in keeping with Hokusai’s woodblock style of art.

“Thirty-six Views of Home” will be on view at The Alley Gallery, along with other open gallery exhibitions at the Castleton University Bank Gallery, 77 Gallery, and RUVT Gallery, during the Summer Art Walk on Saturday, August 4, during the Downtown Rutland Street Party & Sidewalk Sales. A tour departs at 2 p.m. from Castleton University Bank Gallery at Merchants Row and Center St.

The Alley Gallery is open to the public Thursday & Friday from 12-5 p.m. and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and during special events. The Alley Gallery is handicap accessible through the entrance on Merchants Row, then take the elevator down one level.

The Alley Gallery is located down Center Street Alley in Rutland, VT. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. (603) 732-8606. vtalleygallery@gmail.com.

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Vermont Country Calendar

BRANDON. Annual Yard Sale Day. Scores of yard sales all around town. Pick up a map & listing sheet at the Visitor Center, Stephen A Douglas Birthplace & Brandon Museum, next to the Baptist Church, corner of Routes 7 and 73 West.

BURLINGTON. 11th Annual Festival of Fools. The best international street performers from around the globe and transforms the downtown district into a world of foolish fun. Free. Four main stage locations surrounding the Church Street Marketplace and City Hall Park. (802) 865-7166. vermontfestivaloffools.com. Also August 5.

HIGHGATE. Franklin County Field Days. 300 Airport Rd. (802) 238-4904. franklincountyfielddays.org. Also August 5.

ORFORD, NH. 42nd Annual Orford Flea Market. Up to 190 vendors. Refreshments and food. The Church will be selling breakfast food and later pie & ice cream. 9 am – 5 pm. Rain or shine. On the Common, Rt. 10. (603) 353-4855. ovdinc@gmail.com. Also August 5.

PAWLET. Concert: Washington County Band. Free. 7–9 pm. Library Lawn, Pawlet Public Library, 141 School St. (802) 325-3123. pawletpubliclibrary.wordpress.com.

PITTSFORD. Pittsford Village Farm Concert and BBQ. Jeri Katherine Howell Trio with Jimmy Kalb and Nat Colten perform. Bring your chairs and blankets for good food and great music! 5-7 pm. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St. www.facebook.com/pittsfordvillagefarm.

PLYMOUTH. Plymouth Old Home Day. Scott Greenberger, author of the new Chester A. Arthur biography, speaks at 1 pm. Reenactment of Calvin Coolidge's "Homestead Inaugural" at 2:47. Wagon rides, chicken barbecue, old-time music, sheep shearing, Crown Point Road Association program and display, Living history reenactors, water pump log demonstration, historic children's games. 10 am – 4 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicsites.vermont.gov.

RUPERT. Bluegrass Concert. Featuring Bob Amos and Catamount Crossing. Bring a picnic, bring your kids, bring your dance partner. Free. 6 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Live music. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 27.

RUTLAND. Downtown Street Party! Sidewalk sales, open-air market, live music, street party for the community! Free. 9 am – 5 pm. Center St. and Merchants Row. (802) 773-9380. downtownrutland.com.

TOWNSHEND. Grace Cottage Hospital Auxiliary Fair Day. Art show, baby parade, pony rides, chicken dinner, music, raffle. 9 am – 6 pm. Townshend Common. (802) 365-9109. www.gracecottage.org.

WEST RUTLAND. Annual St. Bridget's Fun Day. Yard sale & tent sale. 25 basket raffle. Food sale. Kids' activities. Car wash. \$5 "Fill-a-bag." 7 am – 3 pm. Pleasant St. (802) 438-5771.

WOODSTOCK. Farm to Ballet. Full-length performance that reinterprets classical ballet pieces to tell the story of a Vermont farm from Spring to Fall, performed with a live string sextet. Bring blankets or chairs and a picnic or purchase farm fresh food. Tickets: \$25, 12 and under \$10. Doors at 5:30 pm, show at 6:30 pm. Billings Farm and Museum, 69 Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355. farmtoballet.org. billingsfarm.org.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

BENNINGTON. Southern Vermont Art & Craft Festival. Nearly 200 art and craft exhibitors. Large food market. Admission \$8, kids free. 10 am – 4 pm. Camelot Village on Rt. 9. (802) 447-3311. craftproducers.com.

BRATTLEBORO. Farm to Ballet. Performance that reinterprets classical ballet pieces to tell the story of a Vermont farm from Spring to Fall, performed with a live string sextet. Children's Farm & Forest program, indoor and outdoor play spaces. Bring blankets or chairs and a picnic or purchase farm fresh food. Tickets: \$25, 12 and under \$10. Doors at 3:30 pm, show at 5 pm. The Retreat Farm, 45 Farmhouse Square. farmtoballet.org.

BROWNINGTON. Summer Poetry Series. Back Roads Readings presents Wyn Cooper and Michael Collier. Free, handicapped accessible and everyone welcome. Donations appreciated. 3 pm. Followed by a book signing and reception at 4 pm. Brownington Congregational Church, Hinman Settler Rd. (802) 633-4956. www.backroadsreadings.com.

BURLINGTON. 11th Annual Festival of Fools – Kids Rock the Park. The best international street performers from around the globe and transforms the downtown district into a world of foolish fun. Free. 12 noon Friday to 6 pm Sunday. Four main stage locations surrounding the Church Street Marketplace and City Hall Park. (802) 865-7166. www.vermontfestivaloffools.com.

BURLINGTON. Vermont Mozart Festival. Tickets \$15. Dinner at 5:30 pm, concert at 7 pm. Burlington Country Club, 568 S. Prospect St. (802) 598-9520. vermontmozartfestival.org.

HIGHGATE. Franklin County Field Days. 300 Airport Rd. (802) 238-4904. franklincountyfielddays.org.

ORFORD, NH. 42nd Annual Orford Flea Market. 9 am – 4 pm. Rain or shine. On the Common, Rt. 10. (603) 353-4855.

POULTNEY. Opening Reception for "The Drawing Water Project, Forty-Seven Main Street Artists" with Tom Merwin. View the exhibit and participate in a community paint event. Free. Everyone welcome! 2-5 pm. Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill, 145 E. Main St. (802) 884-8052. stonevalleyarts.org. merwinstudios.com. Thru August 26.

ROCHESTER. Rochester Chamber Music Society Concert: Beyond the Notes. Sarah Whitney, violin; Ani Kalayjian, cello; Cynthia Huard, piano. Solos, Duos and Trios; Ravel, Glière, Piazzolla, and Jazz infused folk. Freewill donations gratefully accepted. 4 pm. Rochester Federated Church, 15 N. Main St. (802) 767-9234. www.rcmsvt.org.

WOODSTOCK. 18th Annual Antique Tractor Day. Both restored and unrestored tractors from the 1920s to the 1970s. Narrated tractor parade at 1 pm. Tractor-drawn wagon rides, activities for children, make-it-take-it wooden tractors, a toy tractor sandbox, ice cream making, and pedal tractor pulls. Adults \$16, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8

CRAFTSBURY. 4th Annual Farmer Olympics. Individual farm teams show off their finely-honed skills in events from physical to cerebral to plain ridiculous. 4-8 pm. Sterling College, 16 Sterling Dr. kyla@nofavt.org.

NEW HAVEN. Addison County Fair & Field Days. Vermont's biggest agricultural fair! 1790 Field Days Rd. (802) 545-2557. www.addisoncountyfielddays.com. Thru August 11.

PROCTORSVILLE. Cavendish Summer Music Series Concert: Jason Cann. Free. Bring a lawn chair, a picnic and a cold drink. Goodman's American Pie pizza wagon. 6 pm. Proctorsville Village Green, Depot and Main Streets. (802) 226-7736. cavendishcecca.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses, handcrafted breads, maple syrup, Vermont crafts, prepared foods, and more. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 24.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

NEW HAVEN. Addison County Fair & Field Days. Vermont's biggest agricultural fair! 1790 Field Days Rd. (802) 545-2557. www.addisoncountyfielddays.com. Thru August 11.

RUTLAND. Seven to Sunset Concert: Distant Thunder. Bring a picnic basket, family and friends. Free. 7–8:30 pm. Main Street Park, corner of West Street and Route 7. (802) 773-1822. rutlandrec.com.

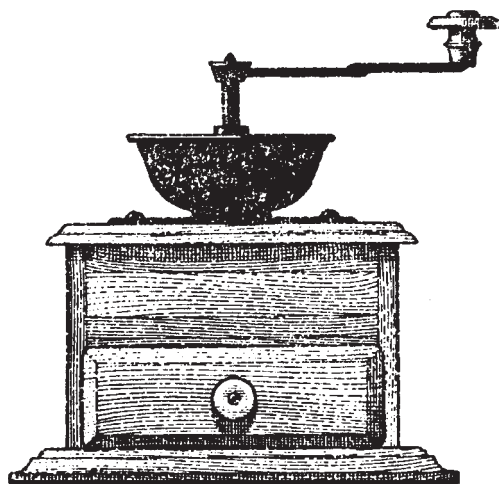
FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

DANVILLE. 88th Annual Danville Fair. Parade, rides, lots of fair food, music, a horse and pony pull. On the Green. www.danvillevtchamber.org. Also August 11.

JAY. Strangefolk Garden of Eden Festival. After over a decade apart, Jon, Reid, Erik and Luke have returned to the stage as Strangefolk for sold out shows. Tickets \$40 one day, children 6 and under free. 6 pm. Stateside Amphitheater at Jay Peak Resort, 830 Jay Peak Rd. (802) 988-2611. jaypeakresort.com. Also August 11.

MANCHESTER CENTER. Book & Author Event. Ezra Parzybok presents his book, *Cannabis Consulting: Helping Patients, Parents, and Practitioners Understand Medical Marijuana*. Free. 6 pm. Northshire Bookstore, 4869 Main St. (802) 362-2200. www.northshire.com.

NEW HAVEN. Addison County Fair & Field Days. Vermont's biggest agricultural fair! 1790 Field Days Rd. (802) 545-2557. addisoncountyfielddays.com. Also August 11.



RUTLAND COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY



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

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

Vermont Country Calendar

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

BRATTLEBORO. Artist Talk: Roz Chast. In connection with the exhibit "Roz Chast: Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?" the longtime staff cartoonist for The New Yorker discusses her life, career, and graphic memoir about her parents' final years. Admission: \$20. 7:30 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124 x 101. info@brattleboromuseum.org. brattleboromuseum.org.

CABOT. Concert with Katie Trautz and Nate Gusakov. Local fiddler Katie Trautz will be joined by phenomenal banjo-player and song-writer Nate Gusakov. The Den at Harry's Hardware, 3087 Main St. (802) 563-2291. www.harryshardwarevt.com.

DANVILLE. 88th Annual Danville Fair. A grand street parade, rides, lots of fair food, music, a horse and pony pull, and fireworks. On the Green. www.danvillevtchamber.org.

DUMMERSTON. Workshop: Rustic Peach & Berry Galettes. With Pastry Chef Laurel Roberts Johnson. Fee: \$50 includes the tart you bake, another batch of dough, and a take-home tote of peaches. 10 am - 1 pm. Call or register online. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. ScottFarmVermont.com.

EAST HARDWICK. 16th Annual Phlox Festival. Two acres of gardens and over 142 varieties of phlox in full bloom. Garden walk at 1 pm. Door prizes. Free. 10 am - 5 pm. Perennial Pleasures Nursery & Tea Room, 63 Brick House Rd. (802) 472-5104. perennialpleasures.net. Through August 12.

JAY. 11th Annual Jay Summer Fest. Free admission. 10 am - 5 pm. Downtown Jay. www.jayvt.com.

JAY. 14th Annual August West Festival. Celebrates the music of The Grateful Dead. 12 noon-6 pm. On the Green (next to Jay Country Store). (802) 327-2154. www.jaypeakresort.com.

JAY. Strangefolk Garden of Eden Festival. After over a decade apart, Jon, Reid, Erik and Luke have returned to the stage as Strangefolk for sold out shows everywhere they have performed. Tickets \$40, children 6 and under free. 6 pm. Stateside Amphitheater at Jay Peak Resort, 830 Jay Peak Rd. (802) 988-2611. www.jaypeakresort.com.

MANCHESTER. Manchester Music Festival. Music of Grieg, Tchaikovsky and Sibelius. Tickets: \$45. 7:30 pm. Free pre-concert talk at 6:45 pm. Southern Vermont Arts Center, 930 SVAC Dr. mmfvt.org.

NEW HAVEN. Addison County Fair & Field Days. Vermont's biggest agricultural fair! 1790 Field Days Rd. (802) 545-2557. www.addisoncountyfielddays.com.

RUPERT. Lecture and Hike: "Changes in VT Landscape" Guided Hike. Professor Bill Hegeman and students from Middlebury College will lead a hike and discussion of Taconic Hills ecology. Cost: \$5. 10 am - 2 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUPERT. Perseid Meteor Shower Viewing. Staff-guided hike. Reservations. Fee: \$5 per person. 6-8 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. 57th Annual Summer Foliage Art in the Park Festival. 10 am - 4 pm. Main Street Park, Junction of Rts. 4 & 7. (802) 775-0356. chaffeeartcenter.org. Also August 12.

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

WATERBURY. 61st Annual Vermont Antique and Classic Car Meet. Adults \$12, kids under 12 free. 8 am - 6 pm. Farr's Field, 1901 Rt. 2. (802) 249-0272. hemmings.com. Also August 12.

WEST NEWBURY. Vermont Summer Festival. 'Maddie Cakes' gourmet pastries, BBQ ribs lunch, local desserts. Parade. White elephant sale, silent auction. Exhibit on "Treasures of the Soul". Face painting, music. Bring your own chair. Free admission. 8 am - 2 pm. Follow signs to West Newbury Hall, 219 Tyler Farm Rd. westnewburyhall.org.

WOLCOTT. Farm to Ballet. Performance that reinterprets classical ballet pieces to tell the story of a Vermont farm. Performed with a live by a string sextet. Farm stand, farm to school activity table, fire pit, self-guided garden and sugarhouse tours. Bring blankets or chairs and a picnic or purchase farm fresh food. Bar with beer, wine and local spirits. No BYOB. Please bring cash. Tickets: \$25, 12 and under \$10. Doors at 5 pm, show at 6:30 pm. Sandiwood Farm, 1665 Town Hill Rd. farmtoballet@gmail.com. www.farmtoballet.org.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

BENNINGTON. Vermont Antiquarian Booksellers Association Annual Summer Book & Ephemera Fair. Scarce, rare & out-of-print books both antiquarian & modern; antique maps, prints, postcards & ephemera for sale. Free admission. 10 am - 4 pm. Grace Christian School, 104 Kocher Dr. (802) 282-9769. vermontisbookcountry.com.

EAST HARDWICK. 16th Annual Phlox Festival. Two acres of gardens and over 142 varieties of phlox in full bloom. Garden walk at 1 pm. Door prizes. Free. 10 am - 5 pm. Perennial Pleasures Nursery & Tea Room, 63 Brick House Rd. (802) 472-5104. perennialpleasures.net.

ESSEX. Farm to Ballet. Performance reinterprets classical ballet pieces to tell the story of a Vermont farm. Performed with a live by a string sextet. Farm tours. Butterfly garden and pollinator habitat. Bring blankets or chairs and a picnic or purchase farm fresh food. Tickets: \$25, 12 and under \$10. Doors at 5 pm, show at 6 pm. Moonrise Farms, 15 Gray Way. farmtoballet@gmail.com. farmtoballet.org.

FERRISBURGH. Annual Pie Social. Music, lawn games, and homemade pies of every type, served plain or with scrumptious Vermont ice-cream, in the Museum's shady back yard. Abby's Agenda will perform jazz standards. Proceeds support the Museum's work. 1-4 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby.org.

RUTLAND. 57th Annual Summer Foliage Art in the Park Festival. Free admission. 10 am - 4 pm. Main Street Park, Junction of Rts. 4 & 7. (802) 775-0356. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

WATERBURY. 61st Annual Vermont Antique and Classic Car Meet. Adults \$12, kids under 12 free. 8 am - 6 pm. Farr's Field, 1901 Rt. 2. (802) 249-0272. hemmings.com.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14

RUTLAND. 173rd Annual Vermont State Fair. S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.org. Through August 18.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15

ARLINGTON. Wednesday Night Music and Pizza: The John Thomas Band, original blue collar blues. We're firing up our outdoor oven for a wood fired pizza buffet. The West Mountain Inn, 144 West Mountain Inn Rd. (802) 375-6516. westmountaininn.com.

BARTON. 151st Annual Orleans County Fair. 278 Roaring Brook Rd. (802) 525-3555. www.orleanscountyfair.net. Through August 19.

RUTLAND. 173rd Annual Vermont State Fair. Admission adults \$10, ages 7-12 \$5, 6 and under free. S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. vermontstatefair.org. Through August 18.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm in Depot Park. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 24.

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Rutland Downtown Farmers Market

Depot Park, Rutland, VT
(Next to Walmart)

Every Saturday, 9 am - 2 pm

— Through October 27th —

Every Wednesday, 3-6 pm

— Through October 24th —

Fair Haven Market at Fair Haven Park

— Thursdays, 3-6 pm, through October 25th —

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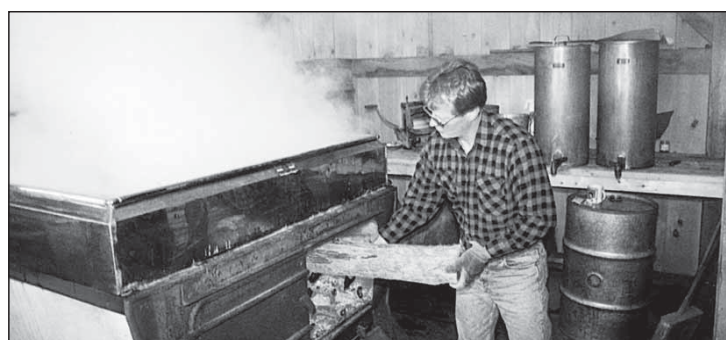
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Vermont Country Calendar

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16

BARTON. 151st Annual Orleans County Fair. 278 Roaring Brook Rd. (802) 525-3555. www.orleanscountyfair.net. Through August 19.

PLYMOUTH. Bennington Battle Day. Free admission to all State-owned Historic Sites. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov.

RICHMOND. Blueberry Picking and Music by The Vermont Bluegrass Pioneers. The music is free as long you pick at least two quarts of blueberries. Grounds open for picking at 5 pm, music 6-8 pm. Owl's Head Blueberry Farm, 263 Blueberry Farm Rd. banjodan@pshift.com. skyblueboys.com/banjo-dan-and-the-mid-nite-plovboys.

RUTLAND. 173rd Annual Vermont State Fair. Adults \$10, ages 7-12 \$5, 6 and under free; Thursday Senior Day \$5 admission or free with Green Mountain Passport. S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. vermontstatefair.org. Thru August 18.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17

BARTON. 151st Annual Orleans County Fair. 278 Roaring Brook Rd. (802) 525-3555. www.orleanscountyfair.net. Through August 19.

BRATTLEBORO. Concert: Alash Ensemble from Tuva. Tickets: \$25. 8 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124 x 101. brattleboromuseum.org.

HARDWICK. Kingdom Farm & Food Days. Atkins Field Days in Hardwick with draft horse demonstration, farm produce, crafts, herbs, and live music, 3-6 pm at Atkins Field. www.kingdomfarmandfood.org. Through August 20.

PEACHAM. Weekend Acoustic Music Festival. Concerts with Jonathan Edwards, Del Ray, Bob Amos and Catamount Crossing, Dana and Susan Robinson, John Kirk and Trish Miller, Nils Fredland, and many more. Dance events at Peacham Town Gym. Crafts, workshops, family tent. Tickets online at www.catamountarts.com or (802) 748-2600 or at the door. www.pamfest.com. Also August 18.

RANDOLPH CENTER. Open Farm Week Pancake Supper. Join Silloway farm sugarmakers for a pancake supper in their sugarhouse. Enjoy watermelon, pancakes, sausage, and our award-winning maple syrup from our wood-fired evaporator. Come early for a maple candy making demonstration at 4:30! Rain or shine. \$8 per adult plate, \$3 per child plate. 5-7 pm. Silloway Maple, 1303 Boudro Rd. (802) 272-6249. www.sillowaymaple.com.

RUTLAND. 173rd Annual Vermont State Fair. Admission adults \$10, ages 7-12 \$5, 6 and under free. S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.org. Through August 18.

SHELburne. Burger Night with The Sky Blue Boys & Cookie. Delicious, wholesome food. Show starts at 5 pm, break for fun music and parade for the kiddies, followed by another set by our trio. Bread and Butter Farm, 200 Leduc Farm Rd. skyblueboys.com/banjo-dan-and-the-mid-nite-plovboys. breadandbutterfarm.com.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

ADDISON. Solar, Deep Sky, and Mars Astronomy Night. Members of the Green Mountain Astronomers share their telescopes and knowledge. Dependent on sky conditions; call to confirm. Bring a flashlight, and blanket or lawn chair. Admission by donation. 7:30-11 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/chimney_point.

BARTON. 151st Annual Orleans County Fair. 278 Roaring Brook Rd. (802) 525-3555. orleanscountyfair.net. Also August 19.

CASTLETON. 80th Annual Colonial Day House Tour. Hostesses in Colonial attire greet guests at over a dozen sites. State Proclamation at 4 pm at the Castleton Federated Church. 4 pm William Hosley talk: "Country Houses for a New Republic: Connecticut and Vermont's Master Builders". Tickets: \$20, seniors 62+ \$18; ticket booths on Main St. 10 am - 4 pm. (802) 468-5691. rileyjtvt@comcast.net.

COLCHESTER. 10th Annual Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival. Tickets: \$25-\$40, some concerts free. 7:30 pm. Elley Long Music Center, 223 Ethan Allen Ave. (802) 846-2175. lccmf.org. flyntix.org. Thru August 26.

CRAFTSBURY. Kingdom Farm & Food Days. Pete's Greens Open Farm Day. Free tours and a free light lunch! Tours at 11:30 am, 1 & 2 pm. Open 11 am - 3 pm. Pete's Greens, 266 S. Craftsbury Rd. www.petesgreens.com.

DUMMERSTON. Hard Cider Tastings by Whetstone Ciderworks of Marlboro, VT. Whetstone Ciderworks of Marlboro, VT will pour samples, answer questions, and sell their delicious, dry, food-friendly artisanal hard ciders—showcasing heirloom and traditional European cider apples, mostly grown at Scott Farm. 11 am - 12 pm. No charge or cover, 21 & over. (802) 254-6868. Also August 19, September 29 & 30, October 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 & 28.

DUMMERSTON. Vermont Open Farm Week: Orchard Strolls and Hard Cider Tastings. Join orchardist Zeke Goodband at for a tour of the heirloom orchard (otherwise not



open to the public). Free. 10-11 am. Farm Market open 9:30 am - 12 noon. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. ScottFarmVermont.com. Also August 19.

HUBBARDTON. Castleton Colonial Days. The Hubbardton Battlefield is a stop on the 80th annual summer Castleton Colonial Days, sponsored by the Castleton Women's Society. Special guided battlefield hike at 2 pm. 10 am - 4 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton.

MIDDLEBURY. Ciderstock - Fifth Annual Woodchuck Cidery Music Festival. Great music by 311, Moon Taxi, Jukebox the Ghost, Seth Yacovone Band. Delicious food, refreshing cider, in the backyard behind the cidery. Tickets \$40, kids 12 and under free. Doors at 2 pm, music at 3 pm. Woodchuck Cidery, 1321 Exchange St. woodchuck.com/ciderstock.

PEACHAM. Weekend Acoustic Music Festival. Concerts with Jonathan Edwards, Del Ray, Bob Amos and Catamount Crossing, Dana and Susan Robinson, John Kirk and Trish Miller, Nils Fredland, and many more. Dance events at Peacham Town Gym. Crafts, workshops, family tent. Held in the heart of the village. Tickets online at www.catamountarts.com or (802) 748-2600 or at the door. www.pamfest.com.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, August 18, continued)

RANDOLPH. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival Concert. Mozart, Washut, and Vaughn Williams. Tickets \$25. 7 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.cvcmf.org. *Through August 26.*

RUTLAND. 173rd Annual Vermont State Fair. Admission adults \$10, ages 7-12 \$5, 6 and under free. S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.org. *Also August 18.*

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays through October 27.*

SHOREHAM. Breakfast: Blueberry pancakes, French toast, home fries, sausage, quiche, fruit, and beverages. 8–10 am. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. Cost: adults \$8, children \$4, families \$20. (802) 897-5420.

WOODSTOCK. Heritage Chicken Day. A variety of heritage chicken breeds will be featured. Programs about each breed plus facts about chickens and eggs. Chicken-themed activities for children include make-and-take crafts and games. Adults \$16, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19

BARTON. 151st Annual Orleans County Fair. Live entertainment, draft horse pulling, demolition derby, horse show, and more. 278 Roaring Brook Rd. (802) 525-3555. orleanscountyfair.net.

COLCHESTER. 10th Annual Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival. Tickets: \$25-\$40, some concerts free. 7:30 pm. Elley Long Music Center, 223 Ethan Allen Ave. (802) 846-2175. www.lccmf.org. flynntix.org. *Thru August 26.*

DUMMERSTON. Workshop: Exploring Fruit Preservation through Peaches. With cookbook author & instructor Andrea Chesman. Fee: \$50 includes a pint of canned peaches and a tote of Scott Farm's fresh peaches. Andrea's harvest preservation books will be available for purchase at the class. 1-4 pm. (802) 254-6868. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. ScottFarmVermont.com. andreachestman.com.

DUMMERSTON. Vermont Open Farm Week: Orchard Strolls and Hard Cider Tastings. Join orchardist Zeke Goodband at for a tour of the heirloom orchard (otherwise not open to the public). Free. 10-11 am. Farm Market open 9:30 am – 12 noon. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. ScottFarmVermont.com.

DUMMERSTON. Hard Cider Tastings by Whetstone Ciderworks of Marlboro, VT. Whetstone Ciderworks of Marlboro, VT will pour samples, answer questions, and sell their delicious, dry, food-friendly artisanal hard ciders—showcasing heirloom and traditional European cider apples, mostly grown at Scott Farm. 11 am – 12 pm. No charge or cover, 21 & over. (802) 254-6868. *Also September 29 & 30, October 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27 & 28.*

GREENSBORO. Circus Smirkus 30th Anniversary Big Top Tour: "Midnight at the Museum," a magical museum that springs to life when the clock strike midnight. Amazing acrobats, mystifying magicians, jaunty jugglers, and wondrous wirewalkers. Tickets \$16-\$23, under 2 free. 1 pm & 6 pm. Circus Barn World HQ. (877) 764-7587. pr@smirkus.org. www.smirkus.org.

RANDOLPH. 8th Annual Breakfast with Bach – Baroque Brunch. Hosted by the Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival. Music by Bach and Handel. Breakfast at 11 am in the Esther Mesh Room, Chandler's Upper Gallery. Admission \$8. Concert at 12:30 pm in Bethany Church. Goodwill offering at the door. Tickets \$25. 7 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.cvcmf.org.

RUTLAND. 173rd Annual Vermont State Fair. Adults \$10, ages 7-12 \$5, 6 and under free. S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. vermontstatefair.org.

WILMINGTON. 101st Annual Deerfield Valley Farmer's Day Fair. Admission 4 & under free, ages 5-12 \$4, ages 13-64 \$8, 65 and up \$4. Baker Field. (802) 319-0117. www.dvfair.com. *Through August 21.*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22

LYNDONVILLE. 163rd Annual Caledonia County Fair. Admission: \$17. Carload evening \$30. Open at 4 pm. Mountain View Park. (802) 626-8101. www.caledoniacountyfair.com. *Through August 26.*

MIDDLEBURY. Fourth Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival: Kids & Family Day. Three family friendly films: 10 am "The Big Bad Fox & Other Tales", 1 pm "Through the Windmill", 4 pm "Science Fair." Fun activities throughout the day in the Marquis Cafe, special kids' menu. Tickets to individual screenings: adults \$10, kids 8-18 \$5, under 8 free. Marquis Theater, 65 Main St. (802) 247-4650. info@midfilmfest.org. midfilmfest.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. Farm fresh veggies, fruits, artisan cheeses, breads, maple syrup, Vermont crafts, prepared foods, and more. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Wednesdays through October 24.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23

COLCHESTER. 10th Annual Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival. Concerts, talks, masterclasses. Tickets: season pass \$225, individual tickets \$25-\$40, some concerts free. 7:30 pm. Elley Long Music Center, 223 Ethan Allen Ave. (802) 846-2175. www.lccmf.org. www.flynntix.org. *Thru August 26.*

LYNDONVILLE. 163rd Annual Caledonia County Fair. Admission: \$17. Open 7 am. Mountain View Park. (802) 626-8101. caledoniacountyfair.com. *Through August 26.*

MIDDLEBURY. Fourth Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival. An incredible weekend of films, parties, panels, and special guests and presentations. Screening about 90 films, a diverse array of features and shorts across all genres, as selected by Artistic Director Jay Craven. Three venues: Town Hall Theater, the Marquis Theater and Dana Auditorium at Middlebury College. Tickets: \$80, \$32, \$12. 10 am – 10 pm. midfilmfest.org. *Through August 26.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24

BONDVILLE. 221st Annual Bondville Fair. The oldest continuous fair in Vermont! 30 Rt. 30. www.bondvillefair.org. *Through August 26.*

CALAIS. Concert: The Vermont Bluegrass Pioneers. 7:30 pm. Whammy Bar, Maple Corner. banjodan@pshift.com. skyblueboys.com/banjo-dan-and-the-mid-nite-plowboys.

COLEBROOK, NH. 27th Annual North Country Moose Festival. Festivities include a dog show, art contest, food vendors, live music, cruise night, maple tasting, classic car show, moose chili, barn dance, local area artisans, cow plop bingo, moose calling contest, horse-drawn wagon rides, and more! Free admission. 3-8 pm. Main Street. (603) 237-8939. northcountrychamber.org. *Also August 25 in Canaan, VT.*

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Concert by Old Dominion. Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 3 pm – midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. champlainvalleyfair.org. *Thru September 2.*

LYNDONVILLE. 163rd Annual Caledonia County Fair. Admission: \$17. Open 7 am. Mountain View Park. (802) 626-8101. caledoniacountyfair.com. *Through August 26.*

MANCHESTER CENTER. Book & Author Event. Dzigar Kongtrul Rinpoche presents his book, *Training in Tenderness*. Free. 6 pm. Northshire Bookstore, 4869 Main St. (802) 362-2200. northshire.com.



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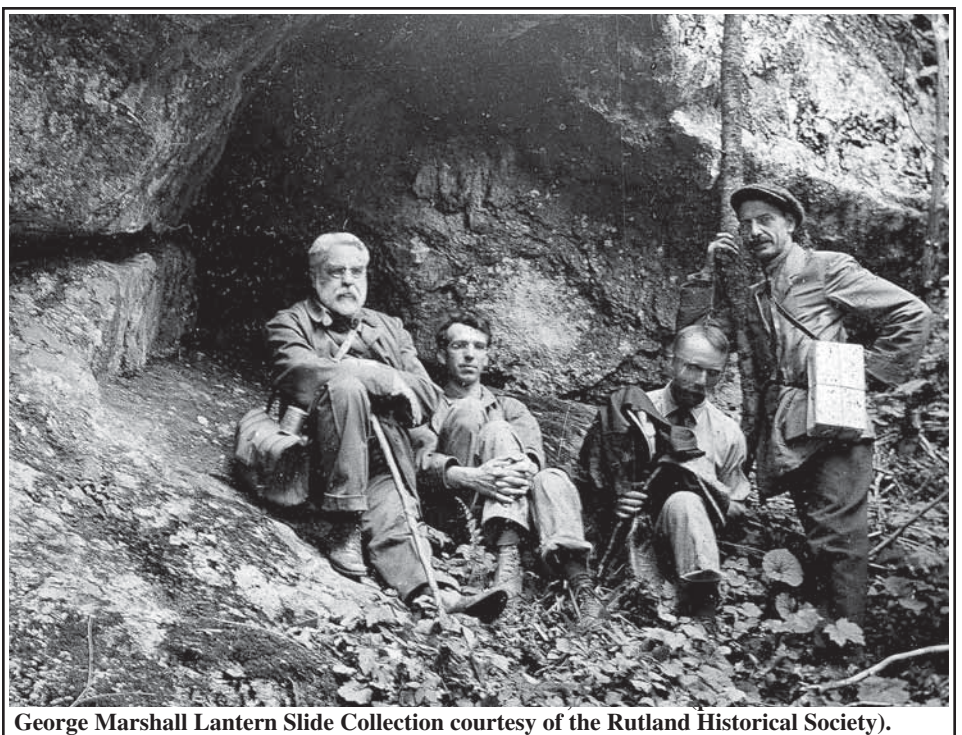
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George Marshall Lantern Slide Collection courtesy of the Rutland Historical Society).

A Vermont Breakfast

<p>When summer days speed up so fast That August bumps September, You need a breakfast that will last, And, 'less I disremember, There's nothing 'round the morning hour With which a man can grapple Like good salt pork, and plenty o'nt, Enriched with good fried apple.</p> <p>It doesn't fade away so soon Your stomach squirms with wonder; A saint can work right up to noon And not be "sawn asunder"; It beats them package foods a mile— That top-shelf ten-cent scrapple— Jest hand me good old fried salt pork Enriched with good fried apple</p> <p>Good solid pork, a-salted down 'Way back there last November, That sputters sweet and spatters brown, And 'less I disremember, Them apples by the garden gate That had a reddish dapple—</p>	<p>Yes; that's the kind of pork I mean, And that's the kind of apple</p> <p>Jest wipe 'em where your hand is flat, And slice 'em thin and slanting, And tip 'em in the spider fat The while it's hot and panting; Say; that's the kind of morning dish With which the soul can grapple— Good sweet salt pork, and plenty o'nt, Enriched with good fried apple.</p> <p>A meal that bids the spirit sing— The dish that saves September; And yet there's jest one other thing, And, 'less I disremember, A good cream gravy starts the stuff A-sliding past your thrapple, And makes that pork celestial pig And glorifies that apple.</p>
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— DANIEL L. CADY
West Windsor, VT 1861-1934

Vermont Country Calendar



MIDDLEBURY. Fourth Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival. Films, parties, panels, and special guests and presentations. Screening about 90 films, a diverse array of features and shorts across all genres, as selected by Artistic Director Jay Craven. Three venues: Town Hall Theater, the Marquis Theater and Dana Auditorium at Middlebury College. Tickets: \$80, \$32, \$12. 10 am – 10 pm. middfilmfest.org. *Through August 26.*

RANDOLPH. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival Concert. Solo Piano Recital by Annemieke McLane. Admission: goodwill offering. 7 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.cvcmf.org. *Through August 26.*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

BONDVILLE. 221st Annual Bondville Fair. The oldest continuous fair in Vermont! 30 Rt. 30. www.bondvillefair.org. *Also August 26.*

CANAAN. 27th Annual North Country Moose Festival. Festivities include a dog show, Moose Festival art contest, food vendors, live music, cruise night, maple tasting, classic car show, moose chili, barn dance, local area artisans, cow plop bingo, moose calling contest, horse-drawn wagon rides, and more! Admission: \$5 per adult (12 and up), children 5-12 \$3, 4 and under free. 10 am – 3 pm. Recreation Park. (603) 237-8939. northcountrychamber.org.

CHELSEA. First Annual Arts on the Green Market & Festival. More than twenty-five New England artists and vendors, culinary treats. Art activities for children and families, silent auction of regional works. Music by Jason Baker and Doug Perkins, Arabalon drumming ensemble, Tamarack, and Jazz Tweed Duo. Free. 10 am – 5 pm. North Common green in Chelsea Village. chelseavt-arts.com.

CHITTENDEN. Chittenden Day. Bobcat Bolt race 8:30 am. Parade at noon. Opening Ceremonies at Barstow School at 1 pm. Lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers. Live music, food, crafts, vendors, silent auction. Old-fashioned games, Softball game at 4 pm. Chicken BBQ 5 pm, with free ice cream. Fireworks 8:50 pm. Barstow School, 223 Chittenden Rd. (802) 483-6963.

COLCHESTER. 10th Annual Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival. Tickets: \$25-\$40, some concerts free. 7:30 pm. Elley Long Music Center, 223 Ethan Allen Ave. (802) 846-2175. lccmf.org. www.flynntix.org. *Also August 26.*

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Performance by Gabriel "Fluffy" Iglesias. Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am – 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Through September 2.*

GREENSBORO. Concert: Le Vent du Nord. "If you've seen them before, you already know. And if you've never seen them, words won't do them justice." Tickets: \$40, \$35, \$30, \$20. 7:30 pm. Main Stage, Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St. (802) 533-2000. highlandartsvt.org.

LYNDONVILLE. 163rd Annual Caledonia County Fair. Canaan Smith concert. Admission: \$17. Open 7 am. Mountain View Park. (802) 626-8101. www.caledoniacountyfair.com. *Also August 26.*

MIDDLEBURY. Fourth Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival. Films, parties, panels, and special guests and presentations. Screening about 90 films, a diverse array of features and shorts across all genres, as selected by Artistic Director Jay Craven. Three venues: Town Hall Theater, the Marquis Theater, and Dana Auditorium at Middlebury College. Tickets: \$80, \$32, \$12. 10 am – 10 pm. middfilmfest.org. *Through August 26.*

RUPERT. Full Sturgeon Moon Walk. Staff-guided hike, moderate difficulty, weather-permitting. Dress for the weather with sturdy footwear, headlamps, water and snacks. Reservations requested. Fee: \$5 per person. 6-8 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

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

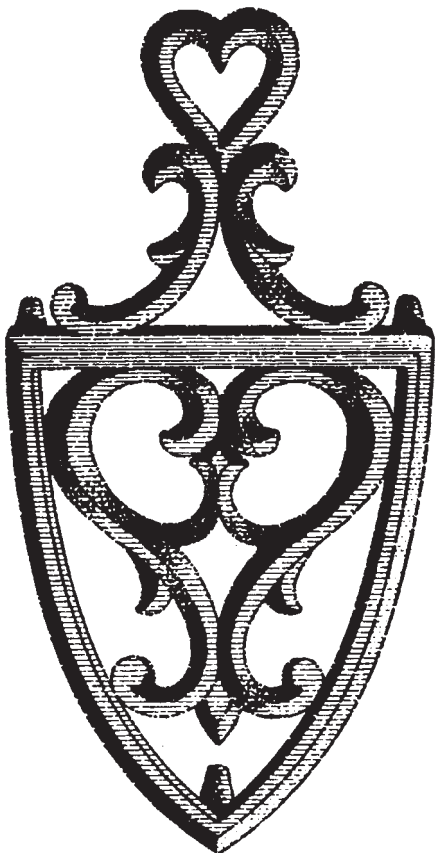
SUNDAY, AUGUST 26

BONDVILLE. 221st Annual Bondville Fair. The oldest continuous fair in Vermont! 30 Rt. 30. bondvillefair.org.

COLCHESTER. 10th Annual Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival. Tickets \$25-\$40, some concerts free. 7:30 pm. Elley Long Music Center, 223 Ethan Allen Ave. (802) 846-2175. www.lccmf.org. www.flynntix.org.

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am – 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Through September 2.*

HUBBARDTON. Last Sunday: East Hubbardton Cemetery. Site interpreter Carl Fuller leads this walk, to talk about the early settlers of Hubbardton, their roles in the 1777 Battle of Hubbardton, and life after the war. If inclement weather shorter inside program. 2-4 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicsites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton.



LYNDONVILLE. 162nd Annual Caledonia County Fair. Admission: \$17. Open 7 am. Mountain View Park. (802) 626-8101. www.caledoniacountyfair.com.

MIDDLEBURY. Fourth Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival. An incredible weekend of films, parties, panels, and special guests and presentations. Screening about 90 films, a diverse array of features and shorts across all genres, as selected by Artistic Director Jay Craven. Three venues: Town Hall Theater, the Marquis Theater, and Dana Auditorium at Middlebury College. Tickets: \$80, \$32, \$12. Closing night free. 10 am – 10 pm. middfilmfest.org. *Thru August 26.*

PLYMOUTH. Grace Coolidge Musicales #3. The series concludes with Abigail Charbeneau and Susan Cobb presenting a "piano four hands" program featuring Mozart's Sonata in F major and Johannes Brahms' Variations on a Theme by Robert Schumann. Donation suggested. 4-5:30 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicsites.vermont.gov.

WOODSTOCK. Central Vermont Chamber Music Festival Concert. Beethoven, Klein, Dvorak. Tickets \$10. 4 pm. Woodstock Unitarian Universalist Church, 7 Church St. (802) 457-3981. www.cvcmf.org.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29

BURLINGTON. City Hall Park Concert: Daddy Long Legs. Free. 12 noon – 1 pm. City Hall Park, 149 Church St. (802) 846-2523. zwilliamson@burlingtoncityarts.org. burlingtoncityarts.org.

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am – 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Through September 2.*

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am – 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Through September 2.*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

BELLOWS FALLS. Workshop: All About Black Bears. Hear about black bear facts, explore some black bear biofacts, snuggle up for a story reading, and create your own bear den craft. Recommended for children ages 4 and up. Sponsored by the Nature Museum at Grafton. Free. 10-11 am. Bellows Falls Visitor Center and Fish Ladder, 17 Bridge St. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. www.nature-museum.org.

BENNINGTON. 23rd Annual Garlic Fest. Workshops, demonstrations. Food, arts and crafts vendors. Everything garlic. Face painting, inflatable fun jumps and other children's activities. Live music both days. Tickets: adult 8, child 12 and under \$2, adult two day pass \$12. Service dogs only. 10 am – 5 pm, rain or shine. Camelot Village, 66 Colgate Heights, Rt. 9. (802) 447-3311. www.bennington.com. *Also September 2.*

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Concerts. Demolition derby, agricultural exhibits, horse shows, horse pulling, cattle shows. Midway, grange, 4H, and lots of entertainment. Adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am – 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org. *Also September 2.*

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ACORN
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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, September 1, continued)

NORTHFIELD. Labor Day Festival. Street dance, food, craft and game booths. Breakfast buffet, Boy Scouts soap box derby at 4 pm. northfieldlaborday.org. *Through September 3.*

PLYMOUTH. 14th Annual Plymouth Folk & Blues Festival. Lineup includes Jay Ottaway, Julia Mark, Seth Adam, Cricket Blue, Alice Howe, and Dan Weber. Wagon rides on Saturday; children's crafts and face painting both days. 2-5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. plymouthfolk.com. historicssites.vermont.gov. *Also September 2.*

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

SHOREHAM. Get ready for the Town-Wide Yard Sale by coming to Breakfast: Blueberry pancakes, French toast, home fries, sausage, egg dishes, fruit, and beverages. Cost: adults \$8, children \$4, families \$20. 8-10 am. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-5420.

WELLS RIVER. So Long Summer, Hello Fall Festival. Sidewalk sales, in-store specials, Baldwin Memorial Library book sale, WRAP bake sale, Rain or shine. 9 am – 2 pm. (802) 757-2708. wrapwr@gmail.com.

WOODSTOCK. Labor & Leisure Day. Wagon rides, building a split rail fence, ice cream making, laundry, croquet, playing historic base ball and more. Adults \$16, 62 & up \$14, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4. Combination ticket with Marsh-Billings: adults 16-61 \$21, seniors 62 and over \$16. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

BENNINGTON. 23rd Annual Garlic Fest. Demonstrations, workshops. Food, arts and crafts vendors. Face painting, inflatable fun jumps and other children's activities. Live music. Adult \$8, children 12 and under \$2. Service dogs only. 10 am – 5 pm, rain or shine. Camelot Village, 66 Colgate Heights, Rt. 9. (802) 447-3311. bennington.com.

BRATTLEBORO. Annual Dawn Dance. All night dancing. Contra dancing with three bands and three callers from 8 pm Sunday evening to 7 am Monday morning. May also be English Country Dancing on Sunday afternoon from 2:30-5:30 pm. Tickets at the door 7:30 pm or online. More information on website. Gibson-Aiken Center, 207 Main St. (Rt. 5). www.dawndance.org.

ESSEX JCT. Champlain Valley Exposition. The Ten Best Days of Summer! Concerts. Demolition derby, agricultural exhibits, horse shows, horse pulling, cattle shows. Midway, grange, 4H, and lots of entertainment. Admission: adults \$12, kids 5-12 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am – 12 midnight. 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org.

GUILFORD. 74th Annual Guilford Fair. Admission: adults \$8, children 6-12 \$2, 5 and under free, seniors \$5. Ride bracelets from 1-4 pm \$20. 163 Fairgrounds Rd. guilfordfairvermont.com.

NORTHFIELD. Labor Day Festival. Wunderle's Big Top Adventure. Food, craft and game booths. Breakfast buffet at American Legion 7-11 am. Fire department tag sale. Book sale at Brown Public Library. Gold panning, face painting. 9th Annual Car Show. Bonfire—AC/DC Tribute Band 7-10 pm. northfieldlaborday.org. *Also September 3.*

ORWELL. Hike into History. On this guided tour, walk in the footsteps of Revolutionary War soldiers. Meet at museum for orientation. Adults \$5, children under 15 free. 1-3 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicssites.vermont.gov.

PLYMOUTH. 14th Annual Plymouth Folk & Blues Festival. Lineup includes Jay Ottaway, Julia Mark, Seth Adam, Cricket Blue, Alice Howe, and Dan Weber. Children's crafts and face painting both days. 2-5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt.100A. (802) 672-3773. plymouthfolk.com. william.jenny@vermont.gov. historicssites.vermont.gov.

RANDOLPH. Chandler's New World Festival. Celebrate Vermont's Celtic and French Canadian heritage. More than 70 musicians are drawn from New England, Canada and the British Isles. Concerts. Music and dance, workshop sessions, children's activities, and open dancing on five continuous stages. Food and drink. Tickets: adults \$44, students 13-18 \$12, children 12 and under free. After 6 pm \$31. Noon to midnight downtown. Main Street is closed to traffic. For tickets call 12-4 weekdays at (802) 728-6464. www.newworldfestival.com.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

GUILFORD. 74th Annual Guilford Fair. Admission: adults \$8, children 6-12 \$2, 5 and under free, seniors \$5. 163 Fairgrounds Rd. guilfordfairvermont.com.

NORTHFIELD. Labor Day Festival. Parade at 10 am. Food, craft and game booths. Celtic dancing. Chicken BBQ at noon. No Strings Marionette Show. Fire department tag sale. Book sale at Brown Public Library. Annual Car Show. Bonfire – AC/DC Tribute Band, 7-10 pm. northfieldlaborday.org.

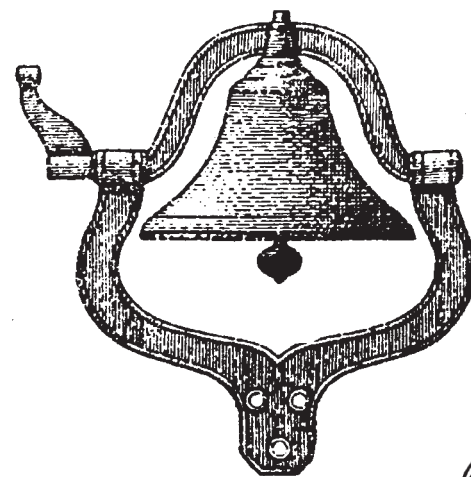
ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2018

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Exhibits and hands-on activities. Chimney Point History Trail, with interpretive signs and pier from the 1929 Lake Champlain Bridge. Adults \$5, children under 15 free. Open Wednesday – Sunday and Monday holidays, 10 am – 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicssites.vermont.gov. *Through October 14.*

ADDISON. Dead Creek Visitor Center. Displays showing the history of Dead Creek, fish and wildlife management, habitat features, and species that live in the region. Self-guided tour. Staff or volunteers on hand. Fridays through Sundays, 9 am – 4 pm. Dead Creek Visitor Center, 966 VT Rt. 17. (802) 759-2397. vtfishandwildlife.com. *Thru August.*

ALBURGH. Soldiers & Citizens Civil War Museum. Explore free exhibits on soldier life, home front, Civil War medicine, Underground Railroad and more. Fossil, mineral and local history displays. In the Via Vermont building, 28 Milk Road, across from the post office. Open seasonally 10 am – 5 pm, Wed. and Sun. by chance. (802) 796-3665. Check Facebook for updates. newenglandviavermont.com.

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



Way Back Then

Root Beer—Homemade Then and Handcrafted Now

by Charles Sutton

During World War II (1941-1945) most families saved and contributed tin cans, aluminum pots and pans, containers of meat grease (used to make nitroglycerine for explosives), and balls of tinfoil for the war effort. There were victory gardens everywhere and older men, like my father, were air raid wardens.

My brother Fred and I (pre-teens) did our part, gardening, raising chickens, and joining in meeting the challenges of rationing. We also helped the family's budget by making our own soda—even though Coke and Pepsi cost only 5 cents a bottle. We concocted our own root beer in big kettle batches in our cellar. The product was put up in a variety of different sizes of bottles we had collected at home, from friends, or along the roadside. Mother supplied us with root beer concentrate, granulated sugar, yeast, and tap water. She

also bought us bottle caps and a cap bottle—a handy, two-handed gadget which never failed to secure the cap tightly on each bottle.

Because sugar was rationed we couldn't go over-board making our drinks. We sort of rationed them out, too, so they would last. And we agreed not ask for treats like cookies that used up a lot of the sugar ration. Our "crafted" root beer really had a nice flavor, not over-sweet or tainted with chemical preservatives. No high-fructose corn syrup either.

In one of our batches we put in too much yeast which was what produces the fizz or air bubbles. One night we heard explosions in the cellar as a few of the bottles couldn't contain the built-up air pressure and shattered. Some mess! But we sheepish brothers gladly cleaned it up with promises to carefully follow the recipe in the future as regards to yeast. We were all relieved the bottles let go when no one was in the cellar where they were stored.

The cellar actually was a very important room during the war as that's where mother stored all her mason jars of vegetables, including tomato juice, and preserves. Bins of potatoes and root vegetables were also kept there. When the first frost came in the Fall, Fred and I would pull up our tomato plants (still covered with red and green tomatoes) and hang them upside down from the ceiling. The family would harvest these tomatoes from the cellar until Christmas. We boys never minded going to the cellar for food as we could

check on how well our supply of root beer was holding out... and maybe even quench our thirst.

Those who enjoy the frothy, sassy root beer drink today can thank the Philadelphia pharmacist Charles E. Hires for being the first to put together and market his own formula in the late-1800s. A teetotaler himself he almost named his drink "root tea" but was persuaded to name it "root beer" to appeal the large market of hard-drinking Pennsylvania miners. His original recipe was said to have been made out of 16 wild roots and berries including juniper, pipsissewa (prince's pine), spikenard, wintergreen, sarsaparilla and hops. Another version of the recipe says it was made out of 26 roots, berries and herbs similar to a recipe that native American Indians had been making for centuries. Hires is said to have created the recipe on his honeymoon in 1875. He first marketed his liquid concentrate in 1880 and in 1893 launched a bottled, ready-to-drink product.

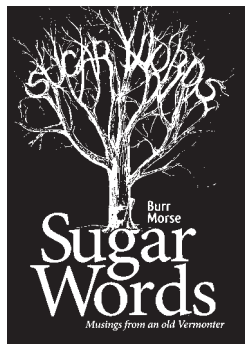
People in Vermont who like root beer should be sure to visit the A&W Drive-in Restaurant on Rt. 7 in Middlebury, VT. The business was started in California by Roy W. Allen in 1919, partnering with Frank Wright in 1922, hence the name A&W. This food-stop was the country's first drive-in featuring 'tray-boys' for curbside service. With "everything root beer" including their famous root beer floats, fries, coney dogs, burgers, and chicken, this place is a real summer Vermont day-trip destination.

Vermont is big on craft beers and craft sodas. While there are many to choose from Rookie's Root Beer has been made in Burlington, VT since 2006 and is available on tap at 72 places throughout the state. They make other sodas including Orange Cream. Look them up at farrelldistributing.com and use the beverage locator to see which flavors are available nearby. Stop by their stand at the Burlington Farmers Market. And visit Rookie's Facebook page.

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Vermont Country Calendar

DUMMERSTON. CSA Fruit Shares: Nine weeks of ecologically-grown fresh fruit. Peaches, apples, plums and pears. Weekly email with the selections of the week, their history and best use, plus recipes and poetic musings. Full & half shares available, Monday or Thursday pick-up. First on-farm pick up Monday, Sept 10 or Thursday, Sept 13. Full share (about 5 lbs) \$90, half share (about 2.5 lbs) \$45. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. ScottFarmVermont.com.

DUMMERSTON. The Scott Farm. 125 heirloom apple varieties & other fine fruits. CSA fruit shares. Vegetables. Pies. Vermont products. Pick your own apples. Heirloom cider. Thanksgiving pies. Farm market. Baking, preserving & hard cider workshops. Harvest dinner. Hard cider tastings & festival. Weddings. Vacation rentals. Open daily 9am – 5 pm. The Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd. ScottFarmVermont.com. September 1 – November 21.

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

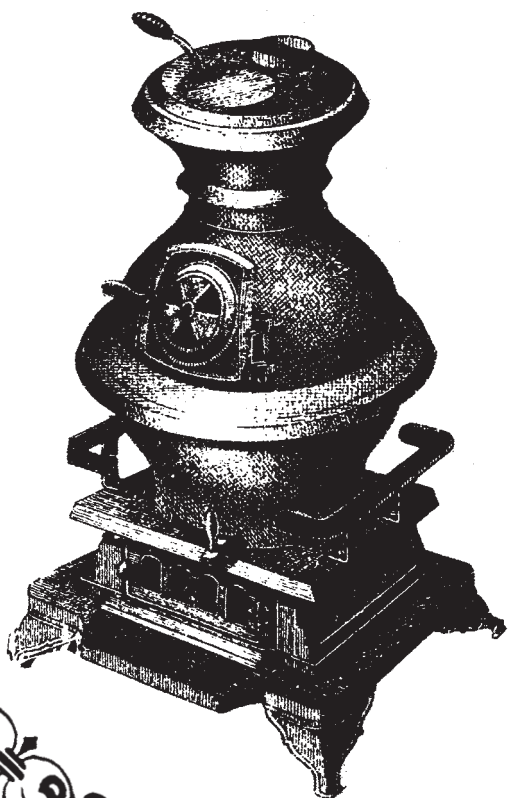
HARDWICK. Perennial Pleasures Nursery. Tea Garden—teas are served in the flower garden, under a covered porch or, when the weather is inclement, in a little plant-filled conservatory, 12-4 pm, by reservation only, through Labor Day. Free Sunday Garden Tours at 12 pm from early-June to mid-August—tours last around 45 minutes, no charge. Phlox Fest from July 29 to August 12, tours are daily at 1 pm. Perennial Pleasures Nursery, 63 Brockhouse Rd. (802) 472-5104. perennialpleasures.net.

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Exhibit: "Hubbardton Battle—American Rebels Stem the Tide, July 7, 1777." Period artifacts, battle diorama, and a large fiber optic map. Children's colonial dress-up basket, Interpretive Trail. Bring your flag to be raised over the Hubbardton Battlefield and receive a certificate. Admission: adults \$3, children under 15 free. Open 10 am – 5 pm, Wednesday–Sunday and Monday holidays. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicssites.vermont.gov/directory/Hubbardton. *Through October 14.*

MARLBORO. Marlboro Music Festival. Tickets \$5 to \$40, call (215) 569-4690. Public concerts on Saturday at 8:30 pm and Sunday at 2:30 pm from July 14 to August 12, and on Friday, August 3 and 10 at 8 pm. All concerts take place in Persons Auditorium on the Marlboro College campus, 2472 South Rd. (215) 569-4690. info@marlboromusic.org. marlboromusic.org. *July 14 through August 12.*

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

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



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

PLYMOUTH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site Opens for the Season. Plymouth Notch, Vermont is the birthplace and boyhood home of Calvin Coolidge, the 30th President of the United States. The Village is virtually unchanged since the early 20th century. New exhibit: "Presidential Holiday: The Coolidge Summer Retreats, 1924-1928." Experience the excitement of the Killington Stage Race as hundreds of cyclists speed through the village! Admission: adults \$10, children 6-14 years \$2, children under 6 years free. Registered groups of 10 or more: \$7/person. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. www.historicssites.vermont.gov. *Through October 28.*

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

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

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Wildlife exhibits, workshops, and special events. Wildlife rehabilitation. Adults: \$15.50, seniors (62 plus) \$14.50, youth (4-17): \$13.50, children 3 and under free. Open 7 days a week 10 am – 5 pm. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 6565 Woodstock Rd. (802) 359-5000. 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 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. Rutland Area Flea Market. Indoors, year-round, clean & friendly! Cozy cafe offers refreshments and light lunch. 10 am – 4 pm. 200 West St. corner of Forest St. (802) 770-9104. On Facebook. *Every Saturday and Sunday.*

SHELBURNE. Shelburne Farms. Property tours, farmyard and trails, welcome center & farm store. \$8 adult; \$7 senior; \$5 child 3-17; property tours additional. Open daily 9 am – 5:30 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. shelburnefarms.org. *Through mid-October.*

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

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.

STRAFFORD. Justin Morrill State Historic Site. Experts from the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation offer tours of the Gothic Revival house. Self-guided tours of the formal Victorian gardens, interpretive exhibits, fairy village and walking trails also available. Admission: \$6, 14 and under free. Open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am – 5 pm. Justin Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Morrill Memorial Hwy. (802) 765-4484. tracy.martin@vermont.gov. historicssites.vermont.gov. *Through October 14.*

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



In My Mother's Garden

There were many flowers in my mother's garden,
Sword-leaved gladiolas, taller far than I,
Sticky-leaved petunias, pink and purple flaring,
Velvet-painted pansies smiling at the sky;

Scentless portulacas crowded down the borders,
White and scarlet-petalled, rose and satin-gold,
Clustered sweet alyssum, lacy-white and scented,
Sprays of gray-green lavender to keep 'til you were old.

In my mother's garden were green-leaved hiding-places,
Nooks between the lilacs—oh, a pleasant place to play!
Still my heart can hide there, still my eyes can dream it,
Though the long years be between and I am far away.

When the world is hard now, when the city's clanging
Tires my eyes and tires my heart and dust lies everywhere,
I can dream the peace still of the soft wind's blowing,
I can be a child still and hide my heart from care.

Lord, if still that garden blossoms in the sunlight,
Grant that children laugh there now
among its green and gold—
Grant that little hearts still hide its memoried sweetness,
Locking one bright dream away
for light when they are old!

—MARGARET WIDDEMER
Gloversville, NY 1884-1978



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personalities &
the efforts to
protect them.
Craft Activities
& Games

69 Old River Rd. • Woodstock, Vermont
802-457-2355 • billingsfarm.org

Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities 2018, continued)

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

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

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

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

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

BARRE. Studio Place Arts. Exhibits, classes, workshops, and artists' studios. Free. Tues, Wed & Fri 10 am - 5 pm, Thurs 11 am - 7 pm, Sat 9 am - 5 pm. 201 N. Main St. (802) 479-7069. studioplacarts.com.

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. One admission fee for both the Vermont Heritage Galleries in Barre and the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier. Adults: \$5; families: \$12; students, children, seniors: \$3; members and children under 6: free. Monday through Friday, 9 am - 4 pm. Vermont Historical Society, 60 Washington St. (802) 479-8500. info@vermonthistory.org. www.vermonthhistory.org.

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

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

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Museum and Art Center. Exhibits, workshops, events Admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, students \$4, 18 and under are free. Open every day but Tuesday, 11 am - 5 pm. Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. brattleboromuseum.org. *Through September 24.*

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. echovermont.org.

BURLINGTON. Fleming Museum of Art. More than 20,000 objects that span the history of civilization. Adults \$5, family \$10, students and seniors \$3, children 6 and under free. Tue, Thu, Fri 10 am - 4 pm, Wed 10 am - 7 pm, Sat-Sun noon - 4 pm. Fleming Museum of Art, 61 Colchester Ave. (802) 656-0750. flemingmuseum.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 information call John Schaub at (802) 768-8427. info@rutlandrailroadmuseum.org. rutlandrailroadmuseum.org.

FERRISBURGH. Exhibit. The Fabric of Emancipation: The African Diasporic Lens of American History through Contemporary Fiber Arts. The work of eight of the country's preeminent fiber, textile and needle artists expressing what it means to be of African descent in the Americas. Admission: adults \$10, seniors \$9, students \$8, children younger than 5 free. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby.org. *Through October 28.*

GLOVER. Bread & Puppet Museum. One of the largest collections of some of the biggest puppets in the world housed in a 100-foot-long converted dairy barn built in 1863. Events, exhibits, performances. Free admission, donations welcome. Open 10 am - 6 pm daily summertime. By appointment off-season. Bread and Puppet Farm, 753 Heights Rd., Rt. 122. (802) 525-3031. www.breadandpuppet.org. *Open through November 1.*

HUNTINGTON. Birds of Vermont Museum. Features over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Museum, special events and bird walks, exhibits, children's programs, gift shop, video, restrooms and trails with maps available. Exhibit: "Common Grounds"—Art in Recognition of 100 Years of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and its conservation consequences. Admission: adult \$7, senior \$6, child 3-17 \$3.50. Daily 10 am - 4 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. birdsofvermont.org. *Through October 31.*

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

Chelsea, VT

First Annual Arts on the Green Market and Festival in Chelsea

The Chelsea Arts Collective, in collaboration with First Branch Community Collaborative, is set to host the first annual Arts on the Green Market & Festival on Saturday, August 25th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the North Common green on Rt. 110 in historic Chelsea Village.

This one-day community event will be free and open to the public and will feature more than twenty-five New England artists and vendors, musical performances, and culinary treats from Green Mountain Pizza Co., Sweet Doe Dairy Gelato, Chicken Wiggle Farm, and Cornerstone Catering. Art activities for children and families will take place throughout

the day, along with a silent auction of regional works. There will be music by singer-songwriters, Jason Baker and Doug Perkins; Arabalon drumming ensemble; the all-female trio, Tamarack; and Jazz Tweed Duo.

"I really believe in the power of the arts to lift a community," says Carrie Caouette-De Lallo, founder of the Chelsea Arts Collective. "The Collective is very much an action group," says Sarah Caouette, co-founder of First Branch Community Collaborative, the partner organization that has been collaborating with the Chelsea Arts Collective for the last few months to plan the event.

The Collective is made up

of multi-talented, working artists from around the First Branch region who understand how art invites people to dream. They have developed arts projects and events that help restore a sense of vitality to the community, as well as stimulate sustainable rural growth. An example of one of their projects that has really taken off is the Chelsea Barn Quilt Project.

The First Branch Community Collaborative had followed a similar path to organizing—recruiting civic-minded residents from different backgrounds, who wanted to facilitate economic development and social impact in the community. "It made sense for us to join forces," says Caouette. "The

Chelsea Arts Collective had great ideas, and we were able to provide administrative, marketing, outreach, and moral support."

Chelsea, like many small towns in Vermont, has felt dynamic changes in recent years due to regulatory and economic factors. In the spirit of Chelsea's Old Home Day, which was traditionally held in the month of August, their hope is the Arts on the Green Market & Festival will offer a new tradition. Art lovers of all communities are invited to come share the day.

For more information about the Arts on the Green Market & Festival, visit chelseavt-arts.com/about-the-festival.html.

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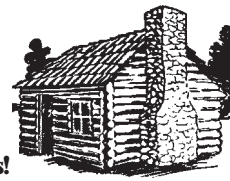
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Vermont Country Calendar

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 added to the general admission. No admission charged for Welcome Center and Museum Store. Open year round 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home, Rt. 7A. (802) 362-1788. hildene.org.

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

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

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

NEWFANE. Windham County Museum. Early Vermont furniture, folk art, Civil War artifacts, clothing, toys, and tools. Open Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays, 12 noon - 5 pm, and by appointment. Windham County Museum, Main St., Rt. 30. historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org. *Through Columbus Day weekend.*

NEWFANE. West River Railroad Museum. Artifacts, documents and photographs documenting the Railroad's impact over its 50 years of operation. Admission free. Saturdays and Sundays, 12 noon - 5 pm, and by appointment. West River Railroad Museum, Main St., Rt. 30. historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org. *Through Columbus Day weekend.*

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

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

POULTNEY. Exhibit: The Drawing Water Project. Tom Merwin and the Forty-Seven Main Street artists take painting to where it is needed throughout Vermont for communion and healing, bringing art supplies to communities and residences. Sundays, 1-4 pm, and when Fox Hill is open for other events. Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill, 145 E. Main St. (802) 884-8052. stonevalleyarts.org. merwinstudios.com. *Through August 26.*

PLYMOUTH. Tuesday Tales of The Notch. Join site administrator Bill Jenney for a guided tour of Calvin Coolidge's Plymouth Notch. This behind-the-scenes program offers special perspectives about life in an early Vermont hill town. Wednesday Afternoons with Farmer Fred - Fred DePaul demonstrates a variety of historic farming activities such as sheep shearing, grain flailing, and wagon rides, 1-5 pm. Reservations suggested. 2-3:30 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicssites.vermont.gov. *First Tuesday of each month.*

QUECHEE. Vermont Toy Museum. Collection of more than 100,000 toys. Toy and gift shop. Admission \$3. Open Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon. 11 am - 5 pm. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. On the 2nd floor inside Quechee Gorge Village, Rt. 4. (802) 295-1550 x 102. vermonttoy museum.com. www.quecheegorge.com.

READING. Exhibit: *The Solace of Amnesia.* Curated by Alexis Rockman and Katherine Gass Stowe.

Approximately twenty-five artists are represented in *The Solace of Amnesia*, which includes over thirty paintings, photographs, works on paper and sculptures selected from the Hall Art Foundation collections. Admission \$10. Open by appointment Saturday and Sunday for tours at 11 am and 2 pm. Free unguided tours first Fridays from 5-8 pm. Hall Art Foundation, 544 VT Rt. 106. (802) 952-1056. vermont@hallartfoundation.org. www.hallartfoundation.org. *Through November 25.*

ROCHESTER. Exhibits: Light and Paper/Mes Plantes, Peter Moriarty's camera-less pictures and negative prints on 16" x 20" gelatin-silver sheets; and Hyper Flora, JoAnne Carson's beguiling and unique landscapes. BigTown Gallery, 99 North Main St. info@bigtowngallery.com. bigtowngallery.com. *Through August 25.*

RUTLAND. Exhibit: MASS - MATTER. Contemporary work from several former MASS MoCA (Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art) artists-in-residence including Karen Y. Chan, Suzy Gonzalez, Yorgos Maraziotis, Amalya Meira, Jeremy Olson, John Richey, and Whitney Ramage. Wednesday - Friday, 10 am - 4 pm. 77 Gallery, 77 Grove St. the77gallery@gmail.com. *Through August 31.*

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

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.

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

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

SPRINGFIELD. Gallery at the VAULT. A Vermont State Craft Center featuring fine art and hand-crafted gifts from over 125 local and regional artists and craftsmen. Classes, workshops. Exhibit: *Local Glimpses* August 1 to October 18. Tuesday - Saturday 11 am - 5 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org.

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

ST. JOHNSBURY. The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain and Dog Chapel. Free. Gallery open 7 days a week in the summer. Dog Chapel open seven days a week from dawn to dusk. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. off Spaulding Rd. (800) 449-2580. dogmt.com.

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

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



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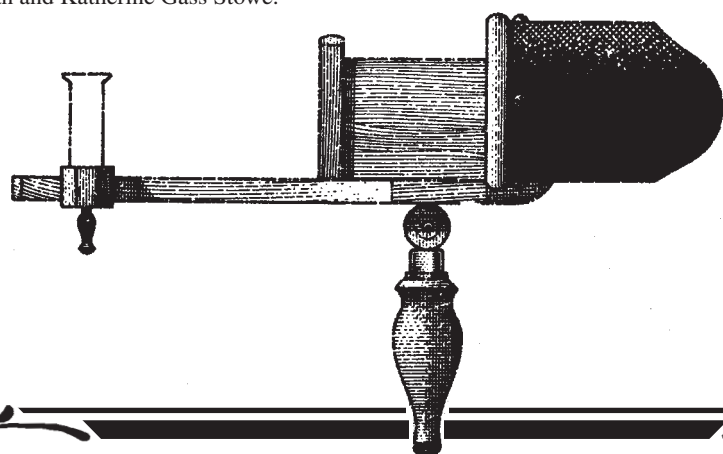
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Berkshire Dairy Farm Honored as Vermont Dairy of the Year

by Lisa Halvorsen

Freelance Agricultural Journalist for UVM Extension

When Franklin Thompson began milking cows in 1826 on a 130-acre parcel of land abutting the Canadian border, little could he know that seven generations later, his Berkshire farm would still be operational—and thriving. Or that it would be the recipient of one of the most coveted dairy awards in the state, the Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year.

This year's winner, Aires Hill Farm, is a 400-head Holstein operation on 550 acres of owned and rented land. Karie Thompson Atherton is the primary manager and part-owner, responsible for making all the decisions in the daily operation of the farm.

She took over in August 2014 when her father Edward Orlyn Thompson and uncle James Bryan (Bernie) Thompson decided to retire. She was eight months pregnant with daughter Maggie at the time.

"It was a now or never decision," Atherton recalls. "It was a big decision whether to sell or not, but I was unwilling to see the farm end."

Aires Hill, one of several farms nominated this year, epitomizes everything that an outstanding dairy farm should including exemplary management practices and herd performance, high-quality milk production and a strong commitment to promoting the dairy industry. The judging committee, comprised of past Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year winners, also looked at production records, conservation practices and other criteria in addition to farm visits and interviews.

Other finalists for the award were Harrison's Homegrown Organic Dairy (Melanie and Pat Harrison), Addison; Paul-Lin Dairy (Paul, Linda and Claire Stanley), East Fairfield; and Skyline Holsteins (Sheena Daigle), Derby.

Aires Hill currently milking 195 cows twice a day

Atherton currently milks 195 cows twice a day in a double-ten parallel milking parlor. The farm has been with St. Albans Cooperative Creamery since 1986, consistently earning awards for its high-quality milk. In 2016 Atherton received an award from the co-op for Platinum Quality milk and for having two perfect inspection scores of 100.

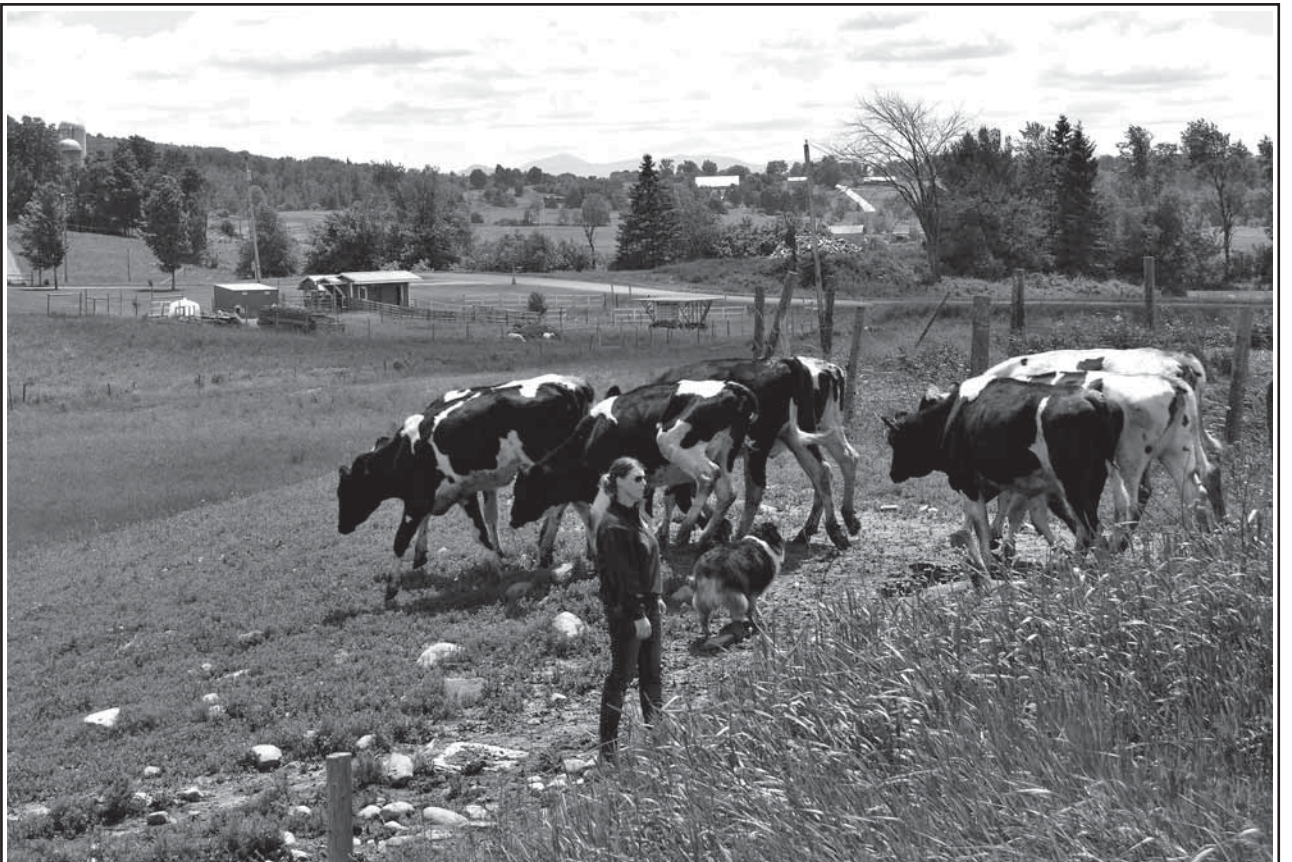
Atherton attributes open communication with her employees and service providers as one of the keys to the farm's success but acknowledges that she wouldn't be where she is today if not for her parents and uncle.

"I really owe everything to them for the opportunity to farm. I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them. They built this operation. I'm just riding their coattails."

Atherton attends to her cows and it pays off

Atherton also believes that attention to cow comfort and getting calves off to a healthy start are critical to a successful dairy operation. She replaced all the mats in the free-stall barn, a move that has led to contented cows and boosted milk production, and added grooved cement floors in the barn and milking parlor to minimize risk of cow injuries. In addition, the farm has had a closed herd for the past 14 years, a decision that has reduced incidence of bringing in diseases from other herds and contributed to better overall calf health.

The farm grows all its own forages, supplementing with purchased grain. The farm also uses rotational grazing for dry cows to help reduce feeding costs. "We have four paddocks and rotate every two days, giving each paddock six days of rest for the grass to grow," Atherton says.



Karie Atherton, who uses rotational grazing on her farm, moves some of her herd onto fresh pasture. photo by Peggy Manahan/UVM Extension

That the dairy farm is a good steward of the land is evident by its conservation practices, many including use of buffers, blocking access of cattle to streams and developing a nutrient management plan were implemented before the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets made these required agricultural practices. Winter rye is used as a cover crop on 100 percent of the cropland.

Rumination collars will help

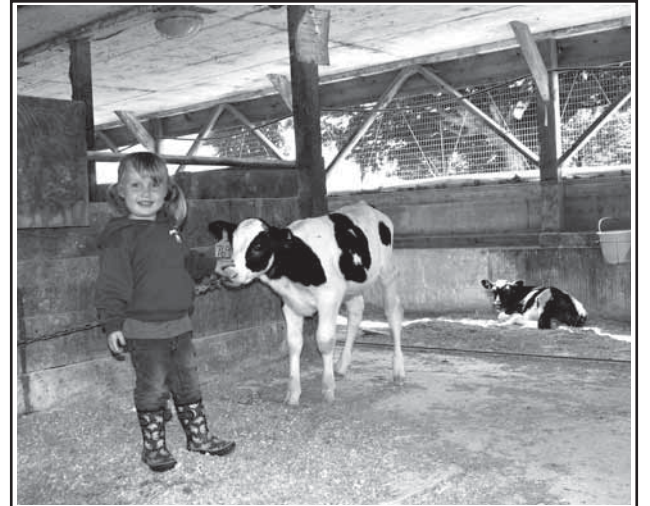
Earlier this year Aires Hill received a matching \$40,000 grant from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board to purchase rumination collars to help monitor the cows' activity, which alert the farmer to cows in heat or requiring attention. The grant also covers installation of a cow identification system in the milking parlor.

"Exiting generations of successful farms tend to manage well with what they have, holding off on investing in new technology unless there is a clear plan for someone to take over," University of Vermont (UVM) Extension's Tony Kitsos, the awards program coordinator, says. "They tend to have retirement at their forefront, whereas the next generation has new farm improvements on their horizon. With Karie as the primary manager, the farm sees a clear path forward for investments in new technology."

The former 4-H'er is active in farm causes

Atherton is a former 4-H'er and is active in the St. Albans Co-op Young Cooperators. She also works with the Cold Hollow Career Center, offering students an opportunity to work on the farm and learn about dairying. She is also active in farmer causes, including the Ben & Jerry's Caring Dairy program at the Gold Level.

As to the future, Atherton doesn't foresee any major changes. "I have done three big projects in three years, so for now I plan to sit tight. We do need new corn bunkers," she admits, acknowledging that milk prices will need to be higher before she takes that step. In the past few years she has



Three-year-old Maggie Atherton loves to visit the calves in the barn. photo by Peggy Manahan/UVM Extension

purchased a tractor with front and back mowers and installed two-strand high tensile fencing around the heifer pasture.

"Farms that will make it through these recent economically challenging times must have a passion for this business. Karie and her family have demonstrated this passion," Kitsos concludes.

The Vermont Dairy Farm of the Year award is presented annually by University of Vermont Extension and the Vermont Dairy Industry Association. The winner is honored at an awards banquet at Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA, in September, with winners from the other New England states, and at the Vermont Farm Show in January.

To learn more about the farm, follow Aires Hill on Facebook at www.facebook.com/aireshillfarm.

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See YouTube "Stuck in Vermont/Silloway" Video



At Aires Hill Farm: from left, Karie Atherton (holding daughter Maggie) with husband Nick Atherton and dog Sully, uncle James Bryan (Bernie) Thompson and parents Edward Orlyn and Rebekah Thompson. photo by Peggy Manahan/UVM Extension

Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival Takes Us Behind the Scenes

Screenings at three venues in Middlebury

The historic Town Hall Theater

The Marquis Theater

Dana Auditorium at Middlebury College

— August 23rd through August 26th —

by Jay Craven

Few experiences in my life compare with the weeks before I started production on my first feature film, “Where the Rivers Flow North,” starring Rip Torn, Tantoo Cardinal, and Michael J. Fox. I had never done this before and had no idea what my collaborators would bring to the table or even how they’d work on a day-to-day basis. I laid awake at night, worried about how I could control all the moving parts and work with everybody.

The whole ordeal of making this ambitious film was far larger and more complicated than I expected—but one revelation provided relief. I was lucky to have hugely imaginative and talented collaborators who put their best ideas forward and helped organize their own crews to implement the decisions we made jointly. The most exciting aspect of making these feature films was working with these partners in the creative process.

I’m excited to support the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival in spotlighting the teams that come together to create a movie—from the production designer to the writers, producers and directors, filmmaking is an art form grounded in community.

Perhaps no one is more aware of that than emerging filmmakers who are in the process of constructing their own teams in the beginning stages of their careers.

This year’s fourth edition of the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival is shaping up to provide even more of what we’ve enjoyed and succeeded in presenting during our first three years. We expect to screen about 80 films by first and second time filmmakers, inspired by our pledged mission to support dynamic emerging talent.

We’ll show films by Vermonters and by filmmakers from around the world. But we’ll also continue our tradition of paying tribute to special guests who have made a substantial impact on American and international film culture.

“La La Land” production designers honored

This year’s honorees will include the production designers, David and Sandy Reynolds-Wasco, who worked with me on my first venture into filmmaking. They designed “Where the Rivers Flow North” and they recently received the Academy Award for their work on Damien Chazelle’s wildly popular 2017 musical, “La La Land.”

David Wasco grew up in Bennington, VT where his father taught art at Mount Abraham High School. He and Sandy added very substantially to the look and feel of “Rivers,” and I remain grateful for their fertile imaginations and immense contribution.

Through Dave and Sandy’s formidable work I learned how important production design is to filmmaking. When people remark about how stunning a film looks, they usually mention the cinematography or the costumes. We rarely credit the production design that is responsible for everything we see on screen, from the color of the walls and wallpaper to the largest or tiniest prop, vehicle, boat, or animal.



photo by Mike Conley

Guests congregate on the steps of the Town Hall Theater at the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival.



photo by Mike Conley

Filmmaker Kasha Slavner (left) talks with Nancy Gerstman, co-founder and co-president of Zeitgeist Films, at the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival.

For “Where the Rivers Flow North” the Wascos built Noel Lord’s cabin using lumber they located and borrowed due to our low budget. They found a stuffed Catamount to adorn the film’s tavern scene and they transformed St. Johnsbury’s modern Main Street running by the St. Johnsbury House Hotel. Overnight, they changed it from a modern intersection to an authentic 1927 townscape, complete with dirt on the streets, storefronts transformed into old shops, and period-perfect streetlamps found in a Montpelier cellar.

They achieved all of this between 8 p.m. Saturday night and 6 a.m. Sunday morning, when we began to shoot. Their crew of 26 young men and women stayed up all night to make sure we were ready—and they turned the town back to its original condition in time for work the next morning.

More than 2,000 people gathered on that cool October Sunday to marvel at the feel of a bygone era that David and Sandy Reynolds-Wasco has rendered so effectively. Onlookers craned their necks for each shot of the actors, extras, period cars, and horses and carriages that made their way through the town streets. A Hollywood film would have spent a million dollars to achieve all of this. David and Sandy pulled it off for \$8,000.

Behind the scenes at “La La Land”

They went on to design many other distinguished films – among them Wes Anderson’s “Bottle Rocket,” “Rushmore” and “The Royal Tenenbaums,” Quentin Tarantino’s “Reservoir Dogs,” “Pulp Fiction,” “Kill Bill,” and “Inglorious Bastards,” David Mamet’s “Heist,” and other recent pictures including “Collateral” and “Molly’s Game,” that we’ll show at the festival, along with “La La Land.”

Following our “La La Land screening” I’ll join David and Sandy on-stage to review their design plans and decisions for the film. They’ll show drawings and photos that take us behind-the-scenes on how this hugely ambitious picture developed.

Academy Award Documentary nominee

Other honorees this year will include two-time Academy Award-nominee Steve James whose documentary films get inside vital and quintessentially American stories such as young black men working to improve their personal chances through basketball (“Hoop Dreams”), activists working to prevent urban violence (“The Interrupters”), and a small Chinese-American run bank (“Abacus: Small Enough to Jail”), which we’ll screen at this year’s festival.

We’ll also feature a special Kids and Family Opening Day this year on Wednesday, August 22nd, the day before

Opening Night on Thursday, August 23rd. We’re excited to celebrate our youngest cinephiles and provide a day of movies just for them. Children under eight will be admitted for free, and the movies are great for kids ages six and up.

The Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival promises something for nearly everyone, along with the chance to discuss films you’ve seen with friends, filmmakers and even people you’ve never met.

More than 50 filmmakers will attend from around the world, so the festival also provides a rare chance to get the inside scoop on what it takes to follow a film to its realization, despite and maybe even because of all of the challenges that crop up along the way.

And, of course, what’s a festival without parties and engaging conversation? Between our bustling Friday and Saturday Night Parties in downtown Middlebury, daily happy hours, panels and discussions, and the Opening and Closing Night films, Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival will be packed to the seams with engaging content and dynamic events.

Stay tuned for several surprises that we’ll announce as we get closer to festival time—our newsletter provides breaking news and you can sign up at www.midfilmfest.org. We look forward to welcoming you to the 4th Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival this August!

Ticket prices range from \$12 for an individual film to \$32 for a day pass and \$80 for a season pass. Opening night screening and After Party is \$60. There are student discounts and closing night is free. For ticket purchase, information or to sign up for the newsletter go to midfilmfest.org. For questions call (802) 247-4650 or e-mail info@midfilmfest.org.



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Birding at Burlington's Intervale and Ethan Allen Homestead

by Bruce MacPherson

Burlington's Intervale consists of 900 acres of meadows, wetlands, small farms, and deciduous forest, bordered by the Winooski River to the north and east, Riverside Ave. to the south, and Route 127 to the west. Intervale Road in Burlington provides easy access to the Intervale and its trails. Two small parking lots are located just north of the Gardener's Supply Company and the Intervale Compost Project entrance respectively.

The Rena Calkins Trail begins at the first parking lot and extends to the Winooski River. One arm of the trail encircles the compost project, while the other passes behind the Gardener's Supply buildings and parking lot. A separate trailhead starting at Intervale Road leads to the Salmon Hole. Finally, the unpaved extension of Intervale Road runs between the small farms and community gardens, ultimately connecting with a bike path to the Ethan Allen Homestead. All of the Intervale's trails are easy to negotiate on foot, although the trails themselves are not particularly well-marked. During the winter these trails are often accessible with cross country skis or snow shoes, adding another level of enjoyment to the outing.

Diversity of birds at the Intervale

The diversity of birds encountered in the Intervale is really quite remarkable. A search of the archives of the Vermont Bird List turned up over 100 entries at this site and VT eBird lists 10 species. Reports of Bald Eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, Peregrine Falcons, Great Blue and Black-crowned Night Herons, Great Egrets, Downy and Pileated Woodpeckers, Baltimore Orioles, Indigo Buntings, Chimney Swifts, and a variety of warblers, vireos, and kinglets were included in these entries. Mallards, Black Ducks, and Common Mergansers are regular in the Winooski River, especially in winter and spring. Bald Eagles are regular, if sporadic, visitors to the Intervale throughout the year. Likewise, soaring Red-tailed Hawks are a regular feature of the Intervale, especially in winter.

If you go to the Intervale, do not ignore the section of the Winooski River that runs behind the Gardener's Supply parking lot. The small islands in that section of the river serve as a resting place for a variety of waterfowl, including Mallards, Black Ducks, and Common, and Hooded Mergansers. Although the Intervale offers fine birding throughout the year, I prefer to visit there during the winter, when the number of recreational users and farmers diminishes. In my most recent forays to the Intervale, Red-tailed Hawks, Northern Cardinals, and American Tree Sparrows were present in abundance.

Birding at Ethan Allen Homestead

Connected to the Intervale by the Burlington bike path,



Red-tailed Hawk.

photo by Mike Sargent

the Ethan Allen Homestead is an exceptional property for birding managed by the Winooski Valley Park District. The Homestead offers trails through wetlands, grasslands, woodlands and farm lands-well, garden lands, not to mention riverside trails along the Winooski River.

During a recent visit to the Homestead on a sultry July afternoon, I found goldfinches, chickadees, waxwings, and Song Sparrows present in abundance. I spotted a few House Wrens occupying a nest box near the Homestead and a number of Common Yellowthroat popped out of the bushes near one of the well-tended community gardens. Likewise, a Chipping Sparrow announced his presence by landing on the rail fence bordering the garden. In the wetland, where a nicely constructed boardwalk allows for excellent views of the entire marsh, I saw a Great Egret fly over and spied three Gray Catbirds flitting about in the trees. Surprisingly, I saw no herons or ducks, although I am sure that Great Blue Herons, Mallards, and Wood ducks, if not other waterfowl, inhabit the marsh. I'll need to check out this marsh later this summer.

And don't forget the bike path that winds along the border of the Intervale in parallel with route 127. Looking east from the bike path, you can survey the wetlands and marshy area of the Intervale for Wood Ducks, Belted Kingfishers, songbirds, Red-tailed Hawks and even the occasional Osprey.

In summary, Burlington's Intervale and the Ethan Allen Homestead offer superb birding sites that are readily accessible to residents of Chittenden County. Check out the VT eBird link below for a complete checklist of the possibilities. In fact, while writing this article on a beautiful summer morning, I convinced myself to visit the Intervale and the Homestead this very afternoon. I'll see you there. Good birding.

For more about the Green Mountain Audubon Society, the Ethan Allen Homestead, and the Intervale visit www.greenmountainaudubon.org/, www.wvvpd.org/ethan-allen-homestead/, and www.intervale.org/.

Colebrook, NH and Canaan, VT

27th Annual North Country Moose Festival August 24-25

Celebrate all things Moose at the 27th annual North Country Moose Festival! The festival takes place on August 24th in Colebrook, NH and August 25th in Canaan, VT.

This year's festivities include the art contest, food, artisan and craft vendors, live music, cruise night, maple tasting, moose chili, barn dance, local area artisans, cow plop bingo, a moose calling contest as well as family favorites like horse & wagon rides, a dog show, and maple syrup tasting contest, and the classic car show!

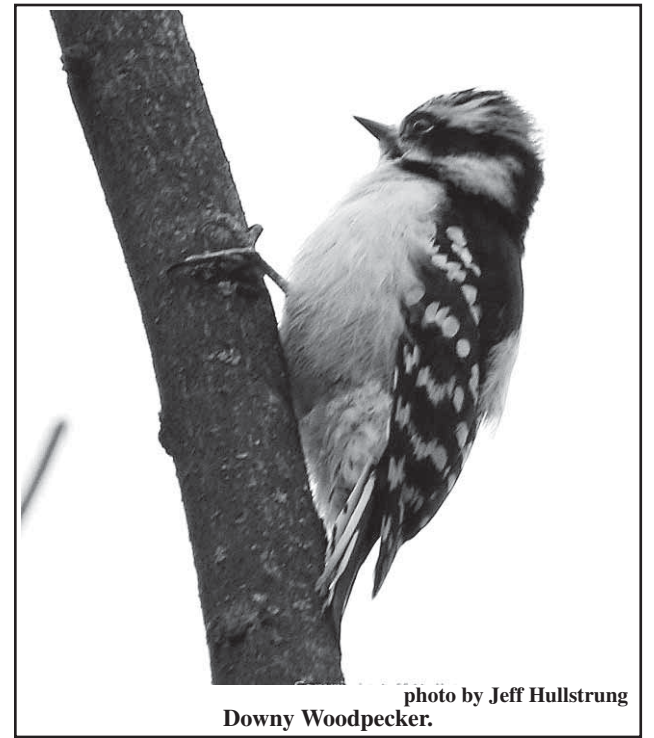
This is the North Country Chamber of Commerce's premier fundraising event.

Schedule

Friday, July 24th, 3-8 p.m. Downtown Main St., Colebrook, NH. Free admission.

Saturday, July 25th, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. - Recreation Park in Canaan, VT. Admission for is \$5 per adult (12 and up), children 5-12 \$3, 4 and under free.

For more information call (603) 237-8939. office@chamberofthenorthcountry.com. www.northcountrychamber.org.



Downy Woodpecker.

photo by Jeff Hullstrung

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When You're in a Pinch

by Burr Morse

I grew up in an age when just about everything under the sun was made in the good old USA, but that has surely changed. It took an outdoor music concert to bring back memories of Montpelier's most famous manufactured contribution: clothespins. Part of every outdoor musician's essentials, besides their instrument and music on a stand of course, are a handful of clothespins. In fact, in preparing for a recent outdoor concert, a group of musicians I play with were busy using them to anchor their music down against a stiff breeze. Someone piped up, "Did you guys know that wooden clothespins are made in Montpelier, Vermont?" I kept my mouth shut but knew different. They had been made there but their time has gone.

My memories suddenly came alive to a time in my youth when things were booming at the Montpelier clothespin factory. Back then, our family was still dairy farming. My father and I would go down there in the big farm truck to pick up loads of sawdust for cattle bedding. I have such fond

"The best part of all was collecting cull clothespins which were mixed in with the sawdust. To a young boy, that was real quality collecting."

memories of being in the truck bed with Dad, leveling out sawdust as it dropped in. The best part of all was collecting cull clothespins which were mixed in with the sawdust. To a young boy, that was real quality collecting.

The National Clothespin Company of Montpelier, Vermont finally stopped production in 2008 after 100 years of being a major world player in making wooden clothespins. I learned that from Peter and Janet Merrill, owners, custodians, and undisputed global king and queen of wooden clothespins. Peter and Janet still reside over the same 100 plus year-old building which has been retrofitted as a rental facility. Right now the old factory hosts a modern woodworking shop, office space, and a large area for sun do, qi gong, aikido, and tai chi (and why, the question begs, have so many of our displaced manufacturing buildings been retrofitted for "exercise" facilities?).

Janet's father Jack Crowell, Jack of all trades around there for a long time, bought the place in 1966, the same year Peter, Janet and I graduated from Montpelier High School. Around that time, things were thriving for US manufacturers. The Montpelier company was supplying a substantial part of the clothespin demand in the US, and employing 48 people. Clothespin manufacturing was already waning before Jack passed away in 1996. Peter and Janet were left having to scramble with new ideas to keep the place going. They even bought a couple injection molding machines and, with an "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em" attitude, made a line of plastic products for a time.

I asked Peter and Janet if they were bitter at all about the



Burr holds a handful of the famous clothespins, Montpelier, VT.

demise of their manufacturing plant. Peter's response showed no glimpse of resentment: "just the way things are", he said. Jack Crowell, on the other hand, was seemingly more sentimental, literally taking clothespins to the grave: His marker over in Middlesex Center Cemetery is, what else, a giant granite clothespin!

Betsy and I recently drove over to see Jack's grave and, sure enough, there in the middle section of the cemetery stands a very unique memorial to a Vermont manufacturer. At the base of the clothespin memorial lies his catchy epitaph:

*Here lies old Jack Crow
To bad he had to go
While on this earth he was hell bent
And one day he just up and went*

And I say, "here, here"...we needed his "hell bent" energy, his spirit, his product! Wooden clothespins made in Montpelier, Vermont were of great quality and served the world well but, alas, fell victim to a changing economy. Now what's left are a few relic machines, a new business model, and some memories of a product that, like the man himself "just up and went."

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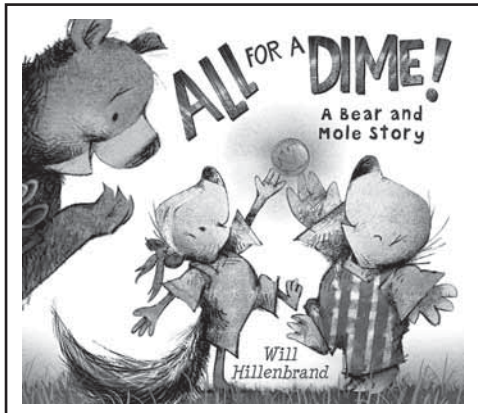
North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

August, the Long and Last Summer Month

It seems like summer has just begun and now suddenly it is over and we're thinking about school and picking apples. Still, we have August and a world of summer can be packed into this month. Here are some stories about the fun to be had.

Just the planning and packing for a "night out" camping trip may be its highlight as seen in *The Grand Expedition* by Emma Adbage, translated from Swedish by Annie Prime (\$16.95. *Enchanted Lion Books*. www.enchantedlionbooks.com). We meet two tiny Swedish youngsters intent on camping in their own backyard. The twosome collect what they will need: a pocket flashlight, a nature book, two toy knives, "something" to snuggle in and one lasso. They find no treats to take except a jar of pickles given to them by their father. They camp next to a big rock in the backyard. There's not much to do so they nibble on pickles and sing nursery rhymes. One boy has to go to the bathroom, and the other boy has been bitten by a mosquito. "It's no good anymore." Time to go home. Dad looks surprised when they come in. One falls asleep on the couch, the other joins Dad watching TV. "A grand expedition," the boy says. Dad agrees. Readers will also agree this a funny, delightful book with unforgettable drawings, especially the expressive look in the boys' eyes.



Go to this farmer's market for some delicious blueberries picked by a giant bear. Also see what you are able to buy for only a 10 cents in *All for a Dime—A Bear and Mole Story* by Will Hillenbrand (\$16.95. *Holiday House*. www.holidayhouse.com). The bear is joined by his friends, a mole and a skunk, who make signs, collect stools, pack, and set up their goods in tents. Bear has big sale day with the blueberries but there are no customers for the skunk's homemade skunk-smelling perfume or the mole's fresh caught worms. In a clever slight of hand they sell to each other—skunk buying his perfume from mole and mole buying worms from skunk—all for a dime! Later bear has one box of blueberries left and uses one of his many dimes to buy ice cream to be topped with blueberries. All three enjoy the treat that cost... only a dime! The full-page drawings are just as humorous as the story.

It's not uncommon on a hot, muddy summer day to complain about bugs. But in *Step Gently Out* by Helen Frost and photography by Rick Lieder (\$15.99. *Candlewick Press*. www.candlewick.com) one quickly sees, in spectacular close-up photos, that these tiny creatures—12 different kinds—are remarkable be they workers, climbers, builders or even gymnasts. One will meet the European honeybee, Chinese praying mantis, Tussock moth caterpillar, Eastern black ant, pavement ant, Big Dipper firefly, greater angle-wing katydid, ebony jewelwing damselfly, striped ground cricket, chickweed geometer moth, orb-weaver spider and common yellow jacket. The insects are presented with a gentle poem of which one refrain states: "the creatures shine with stardust, they're splashed with morning dew. In song and dance and stillness,

they share the world with you." If you like this book, check out Frost and Lieder's title, *Among a Thousand Fireflies*.

Imagine having your heart set on a day at the ocean, but it is far away. Not easily discouraged, the winsome rabbit you will meet in *Davy's Summer Vacation* by Brigitte Weninger and illustrated by Eve Tharlet (\$16.95. *NorthSouth Books*. www.northsouth.com) gets his family of six to pack up the wagon with buckets and shovels, toy boats, fairy-tale books, dolls, footballs, goggles, fishing gear and lots of treats. Parent rabbits add food, blankets, pillows, clothing and more only to have the weight of it all break off their wagon wheels. So is the trip over? No way for Davy, who talks his family into an alternate hike to a secret pond known to Davy's grandfather. This long trip ends in swimming and a picnic so magical even Davy says "we're right in the middle of the world." Charming drawings color this unforgettable outing.

A camping adventure is a time when personalities often are put to a test as seen in *Timo Goes Camping* by Victoria Allenby and illustrated by Dean Griffiths (\$12.95. *Pajama Press*. www.pajamapress.ca). Join five wildlife characters who must be courageous and work as a team in their first canoeing-camping trip together. See how well the nervous rabbit team leader Timo copes with his fellow travelers as accidents happen and teasing gets out of hand. Can a rabbit, squirrel, toad, hedgehog and badger get along in what turns out to be a stressful environment most of the time? Making this drama a little less nerve-wracking are exceptional illustrations of our endearing campers.

Like many youngsters sometimes being stuck at home isn't great with morning chores, having to pick up toys, and having only sisters to play with. So it goes in *There's No One I Love Like You* by Jutta Langreuter and illustrated by Stefanie Dahle (\$17.95. *NorthSouth*. www.northsouth.com) where Brayden Bunny tells his mother he's out of there and goes to visit Missy Mouse, Benny Badger, Fipsi Squirrel and Cousin Pepi. Mommy bunny tells his worried sisters not to worry saying "he'll be back." Our wayward bunny finds each new home fun at first, but not for long. Miss Mouse's home is too messy and he moves on. Badgers don't wash, giving off a bad odor, so he has to leave. By now Brayden does miss his mother's early morning scratch of his ears.

The squirrel family are welcoming but playing chase up and down the tree looking for hidey-holes is too tiring... he must leave. At Pepi's, he finds life wonderful—nothing to trip over, no funny smell, no house too high up, and no hard work. However, even in his 'perfect setting' Brayden gets a curious lump in his throat, a tugging in his stomach, and a jabbing in his heart. Brayden bounds for home where Mommy bunny goes him a big hug and scratches his ears... as only a mother can do, and Brayden is very happy.

This touching story is beautifully illustrated. You will enjoy seeing the mice, badger and squirrel homes even if they're not right for bunnies.



Bennington, VT

Annual Summer Book & Ephemera Fair

The Vermont Antiquarian Booksellers Association Annual Summer Book & Ephemera Fair is taking place this August 12th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Bennington, VT. Please join us for our third year located at Grace Christian School.

Antiquarian Booksellers from New England and the Northeast will be offering scarce, rare & out-of-print books both antiquarian & modern; antique maps, prints, postcards & ephemera for sale.

Even if you are not a collector (yet), go to a book fair if you can. Since they have to pack up and move a lot of books, booksellers tend to bring their very best.

Look for books by a favorite author, or books you read as a child or youth. How about dust jacket cover artwork? Look at the various types of book bindings to be found, particularly on old leather-bound books. Talk to the booksellers and other customers.

Most booksellers have a favorite author, famous person, subject or genre. I know of one bookseller whose favorite author is Jane Austen, and another who loves anything about the history of the Roosevelt family,

particularly Teddy Roosevelt. Some booksellers specialize in rare books, others in fine bindings.

You will see booths full of first editions, history, poetry, science fiction, vintage children's books and many other topics. Peruse the offerings of dealers of art, postcards, maps, pamphlets and other ephemera such as vintage advertising art, magazines and comic books.

Whether you know what you are looking for or just want to browse, perhaps to discover a new favorite for the first time, the book fair is a delightful place to pass a summer afternoon. Plan to stop by and have a look.

The Vermont Antiquarian Booksellers Association Annual Summer Book & Ephemera Fair is being held August 12th at Grace Christian School, 104 Kocher Dr., Bennington, VT. Less than an hour away from Brattleboro, VT; the Albany and Saratoga, NY areas; and the Pittsfield, MA area, the school is conveniently located at the intersection of U.S. Rt. 7 and Kocher Dr. on the north end of town.

For information call John Hess at (802) 282-9769. Visit vermontisbookcountry.com.

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Forest Gardening in Practice

An Illustrated Practical Guide for Homes,
Communities and Enterprises

by Tomas Remiarz

(\$31.95. Permanent Publications, distributed in the United States by
Chelsea Green Publishing. www.chelseagreen.com)

Roughly 30 years ago a few farmers and gardeners growing fruits and vegetables in a natural, sustainable way wondered why the woodlands and forests in northern temperate climates couldn't also provide edible foods. Tropical forests have been doing that for thousands of years.

These pioneering 'forest' gardeners, mostly living in England, had an extra incentive to expand food producing areas because most arable land was already in agricultural enterprises (or developed) and there little space for expanding. The forest gardeners had backgrounds in horticulture, organic gardening, permaculture, biodiversity, landscape design and alternate growing practices.

This fascinating book visits 14 of these forest gardens and edible landscapes located mostly in the United Kingdom, but also in Europe, United States and Canada.

The author Toms Remiarz has been creating and maintaining such gardens in the UK and Europe for the past 20 years and is a researcher for the Permaculture Association with particular interest in studying polycultures.

Two acres produces 1.25 tons of fruits and vegetables

Readers will be intrigued by what happened at Garden Cottage located in Coldstream, Scottish Borders, UK, one of the oldest forest gardens in existence (yet but 30 years old) where "diversity bred abundance and abundance bred success."

Its roughly two acres now annually produces 1.25 tons of fruit, vegetables, herbs and salads. The owners-gardeners Nancy Woodhead and Graham Bell are now enjoying their own black walnuts and butternuts which they patiently awaited 25 years to harvest!

We learn that most forest gardens are built in seven layers. From top to bottom at Garden Cottage are first a canopy of alders, apples, oak, hazel, rowan and white beam. The next, an understory of apple, cherry, pear, plum and quince trees followed by a shrub level of currants, roses, holly, and a variety of berries. After this come ground covers with alpine strawberry and ground elder followed by herbaceous perennials like borage, comfrey, ferns, mallow and many annual crops. The layer below ground produces lots of different garlics and onions, annual root crops, fungi and flowering bulbs. And there is a level for climbers such as blackberries, edible honeysuckle, grapes, hops, morning glory, passion fruit, roses and more. Other forest gardens also use the ground level for raising chickens, ducks, hogs, and other livestock.

A rooftop forest garden!

One of the most unusual forest gardens is on a rooftop! This garden of a ¼ acre (2,153 square feet) is atop the International Solidarity Center building in Reading, UK. In 1999 the building was in dire need of a new roof, so at that time, a decision was made to fix the roof to support not just a roof garden, but a forest garden.

The roof garden today 'supports' 200 plants from five continents including aloe vera, marsh mallow and sweet cherry from Africa; Chinese toothache tree, bamboo, lemon, peach, loquat and yam from Asia; sea

kale, hawthorn and good King Henry (goosefoot) from Europe; chokeberry, ground nut and echinacea from North America; and chili, lemon verbena, nasturtium and orca from South America.

The building had been over-designed with heavy roof support joists resting on reinforced concert piers which lessened the problem of weight. The roof today supports several feet of soil and compost, many trees, and extra weight from water. Its trickle irrigation system supplies 132 gallons every night in dry summer periods. The garden designer Paul Barney describes his work there "as an enormous hanging basket."

The book gives details on three forest gardens in the United States: Wellesley College Botanic Garden in Boston, MA; the Beacon Food Forest in Seattle, WA; and Village Homes in Davis, CA.

Wellesley College Botanic Gardens

For a seeing-is-believing 'before and after' forest garden (text and photos) take in the one-acre transformation at Wellesley College Botanic Gardens. There designer-ecologists Dave Jacke and Keith Zaitsberg, starting in 2011, went beyond the original 'forest analog' to encompass a range of habits from a grassland and heath to scrub and a variety of woodland habitats. Their design includes a stepped canopy with a gradual descent allowing sunlight to reach into its center creating

Book Review by Charles Sutton

a 'fruit bowl' effect. Many of the plantings are in donut shapes. Among what was planted there an experiment to see what grows best and is also edible were jostaberry, red currant, 'Kelley's blanket' strawberry (the most successful ground cover in the entire garden), American field mint, apple mint, Chinese artichoke, dwarf comfrey, milk vetch, yarrow, chives and several plum species.

Beacon Food Forest in Seattle, WA

Next visit the Beacon Food Forest which was started 2011 in Seattle, where its seven-acre garden is the largest public food forest in the United States, serving a diverse neighborhood (its elementary school translates their newsletter into 50 languages!).

The forest has grown from the idea of just four persons to a community project with hundreds of volunteers. Its originators were able to obtain official city backing (no mean task anywhere public lands are involved) and a grant of \$108,000 to cover planning and establishment costs for gathering space, access, rain shelter, places to wash food and money for plants. Insurance also was provided for volunteers.

Among its canopy trees are black walnut, butternut and heartnut. Understory fruit trees include apple, Asia pear, figs, pears, plums, pomegranate, jujube and more. Some 50 different vegetables and herbs are planted, many reflecting the needs of the city's ethnic population. Signs in the garden forest are in English, Chinese, Vietnamese, Somali and Spanish. Residents have their own plots in the garden and there is a communal garden which grows food for those in need.

Edible landscape in Davis, CA

Another success story is the "edible landscape" at Village Homes in Davis, CA.



Forest Gardening in Practice

An Illustrated Practical Guide for Homes, Communities and Enterprises



Developers of the 225-lot residential village had the foresight to build an edible landscape into their 68-acre design. This was 40 years before the first book on the subject appeared. Other ground-breaking feats of the community were an integrated system for harvesting surface water, passive solar building design and communal management. Plantings include vineyards, orchards (30 varieties of fruit trees), wildflower meadows and nut trees. Some 40 percent of the village is in greenbelt or common area.

Forest gardens in many settings

Remiarz details the ups and downs of creating forest gardens in different settings, For instance in one of the school-operated forest gardens what did the teachers do when the children started over-foraging its fruit and berry patches? The school moved its play area as far away as possible from the gardens.

The author has advice for creating a forest garden as a business enterprise, community effort, educational facility, a plant nursery, a park or other public setting, or at an individual home. There are chapters on site assessment and design (one of the gardens in the book is on a steep slope), ground cover, canopy trees, shrubs and other plants, garden troubles, integrating livestock into the garden, maintenance, details on paths and other access routes and soil preparation.

The book includes more than 300 plants suitable for forest gardens. The list include small and tall trees, large and small shrubs, tall and medium perennials, perennial ground covers, annuals, and woody, annual and perennial vines. Also included are what parts are edible: fruit, seed, leaf, flower, sap, shoot, root, flower bud, and even all parts.

The book touches on the roll of forest gardens in a world facing food shortages and climate change. One big advantage of the forest garden is that it is suitable for multi-crops rather than one-crop factory farming. Also its canopy of shade trees preserves water resources and protects plants in dry, scorching weather.

For humans, it looks like a cool place to be on a hot day...with lots of good things to eat.

Several other forest gardening books are available from Chelsea Green Publishing. Among them are:

Silvopasture—A Guide to Managing Grazing Animals, Forage Crops, and Trees in a Temperate Farm Ecosystem by Steve Gabriel (400 pages \$39.95). Silvopasturing is an integrated whole system in which trees, animals and forage crops prosper under a well-maintained canopy of trees. Enjoy beautiful color photos of animals enjoying the woods.

The Community Food Forest Handbook—How to Plan, Organize, and Nurture Edible Gathering Places by Catherine Bukowski and John Mitchell (260 pages \$24.95). The authors visit 20 sites across the country that are creating food forests that positively impact communities.

Farming the Woods—An Integrated Permaculture Approach to Growing Food and Medicines in Temperate Forests by Ken Mudge and Steve Gabriel (400 pages \$39.95). A how-to book detailing how to cultivate high-value non-timber forest crops such as American ginseng, shiitake mushrooms, ramps (wild leeks), maple syrup, fruit and nut trees, ornamental ferns and much more.



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North Country Reflections

Be Your Own Garden Designer

by Judith Irven

August is a quiet month in the life of a gardener—a wonderful time to relax and enjoy our creations. Spring weeding and planting is behind us and fall clean-up activities are still weeks away.

And, since you can readily see what aspects of the garden you like and don't like, August is also the perfect time to plan for changes you might want to make in the future.

And, for some fresh ideas, why not spend an afternoon or two visiting other people's gardens. (I describe several lovely New England gardens that are open to the public in my blog: northcountryreflections.com/roving-gardener/).

Then, once fall arrives, you will have plan to guide your new garden making. So, whether you have a minuscule garden that you would love to expand, or a huge garden that cries out for a make-over, here are some suggestions for how to get started.

Think like an artist

Creating a lovely garden is an inherently visual process, not unlike making a lovely painting. We love to ponder which plants will bloom together and all the different ways we might combine them to produce a kaleidoscope of beautiful images—ever-changing throughout the season. Indeed I often have visions of 'plein-air' artists like Claude Monet, working outdoors in diffuse natural light, carefully mixing their paints to recreate their mesmerizing gardens on canvas.

But I am also mindful that, before putting a dab of color on the canvas, many artists spend considerable time conceiving the spatial composition for their painting—be it a still-life, a pastoral scene, or an abstract mosaic. They contemplate the space the subject will occupy—often called the positive space—how it should be positioned, how much room it will need and how the different elements of the subject relate to one another.

They also consider the background—the negative space—that will surround and frame the subject. Differentiated from the subject in both color and texture, the negative space further dramatizes the final composition.

And finally, they take note of the edges—the lines formed on the canvas where the positive and negative spaces abut one another—which are another component of the picture's spatial composition.

Pictures on the ground

And, as with a lovely painting, the foundation for every beautiful garden is a compelling spatial composition that delineates the different garden spaces and the way they interrelate. It is like making pictures on the ground.

Furthermore, since the spatial design of your garden shows the size and shape of the individual beds, it becomes your basis for choosing the plants—trees, shrubs and perennials—that will populate those beds.

As I look out across my own garden I am continually struck by the interplay of the shapes of all the different spaces—the flowerbed, lawn, paths and sitting areas. And, off in the distance, this whole picture is framed by an outer border—in my case a meadow and the forest.



photo by Dick Conrad

When designing her garden Judith used gently flowing edges to delineate the lawn and all flower beds.

Closer to the house, of necessity, most of the edges are functional and straight. However, as I look beyond the vicinity of the house, the edges—such as the lines that separate the flower beds and the lawn—are gently curved.

In addition, since my garden is on a hillside, where there is also a change in elevation, there are retaining walls that delineate the line between two spaces, such as lawn and flowerbed. Thus a retaining wall also becomes an edge between two spaces.

Like many of us, I seem to spend considerably more time looking out across my garden from my kitchen window than actually out there strolling around. And, when seen from afar, it is the 'big picture' that I see. I delight in the contrasting shapes of the various spaces, further enhanced by the vertical nature of the plantings, and the ever-changing colors of the larger flower groupings. And this underlying composition, accentuated by plenty of woody plants, becomes the essence of the winter garden.

Of course, when I actually walk around my garden, then it's the details, like a clump of lady's slippers with delicate pink veining outlining the pouches, or the tapestry of leaves reflecting in a ground-level copper dish, that become the star attraction.

So the pleasure I get from my garden involves both types of encounters.

Combining spaces for a harmonious whole

It always helps to start with developing your big picture on paper, by laying in the individual shapes of the various components—hardscape, paths, lawn and planted areas—and then experimenting with different ways to combine them into a harmonious whole.

For functional reasons some garden spaces around the house—especially the driveway and utility area, deck or patio, vegetable garden, as well as all paths—will be delineated by straight lines, giving the area around the house a certain formality.

But, as one moves away from these more functional areas, it is the flowerbeds, sitting spaces and paths that become the main focus, and thus form the 'positive spaces' in your picture. Here smooth flowing shapes, such as one might see on a contour map, will impart a relaxed informal ambience to the finished design.

Typically these positive spaces will be surrounded and framed by the lawn, a space which invites us out into the garden and allows us to visit our plants up close. Thus the lawn is akin to the 'negative space' in a painting, taking its shape from the beds and further dramatizing them.

However, as you proceed to refine the shapes of the positive spaces, it helps to check and recheck to make sure the shape of the lawn will be attractive in its own right. Remember too that lawns must be easy to mow, without any sharp points or tight corners.

Practicalities

If you want to create a spatial design for your own property here, very briefly, are the main steps:

- Make a drawing that shows what is currently there, in-

cluding the outline of the house, paths, hardscape and beds. This is called the base plan. If possible draw this to scale (1/8th inch = 1 foot is ideal) using squared paper as a guide.

- Cover your base plan with a large piece of trace paper and experiment with shapes and sizes for the new planted areas and sitting areas you would like to develop.

- Gradually refine the shapes of all the various spaces, from both an aesthetic and a functional perspective. Aim for nice smooth shapes—no squiggly lines or awkward corners.

- Make fewer but larger flower beds (which results in less edge to trim and thus lower maintenance) that are deep enough to hold between two and five layers of plants—so a minimum of five feet, but possibly up to twelve feet deep.

- Ensure that the hardscape, especially a patio or a deck where people will sit and relax, is both attractively shaped AND fully functional, with enough space for both table and chairs and for people to move around.

- Make the paths easy to navigate by using either gentle curves or straight lines. To allow two people to walk together, make major paths four feet or more wide.

- Shape the lines of any retaining walls to complement the other parts of your spatial design.

Once you are happy with how it all looks, place a clean piece of trace paper over everything, create a final drawing and get it reproduced at a regular copy machine.

With your spatial plan as your guide, now you can delve into choosing beautiful plants for your new garden beds.

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

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

The End of Summer

When poppies in the garden bleed,
And coreopsis goes to seed,
And pansies, blossoming past their prime,
Grow small and smaller all the time,
When on the mown field, shrunk and dry,
Brown dock and purple thistle be,
And smoke from forest fires at noon
Can make the sun appear the moon,
When apple seeds, all white before,
Begin to darken in the core,
I know that summer, scarcely here,
Is gone until another year.

—EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY
Austerlitz, NY 1892-1950



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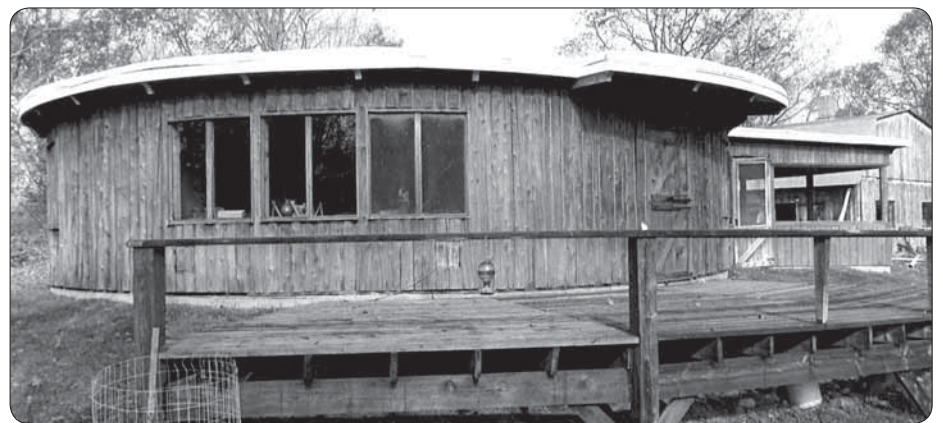
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