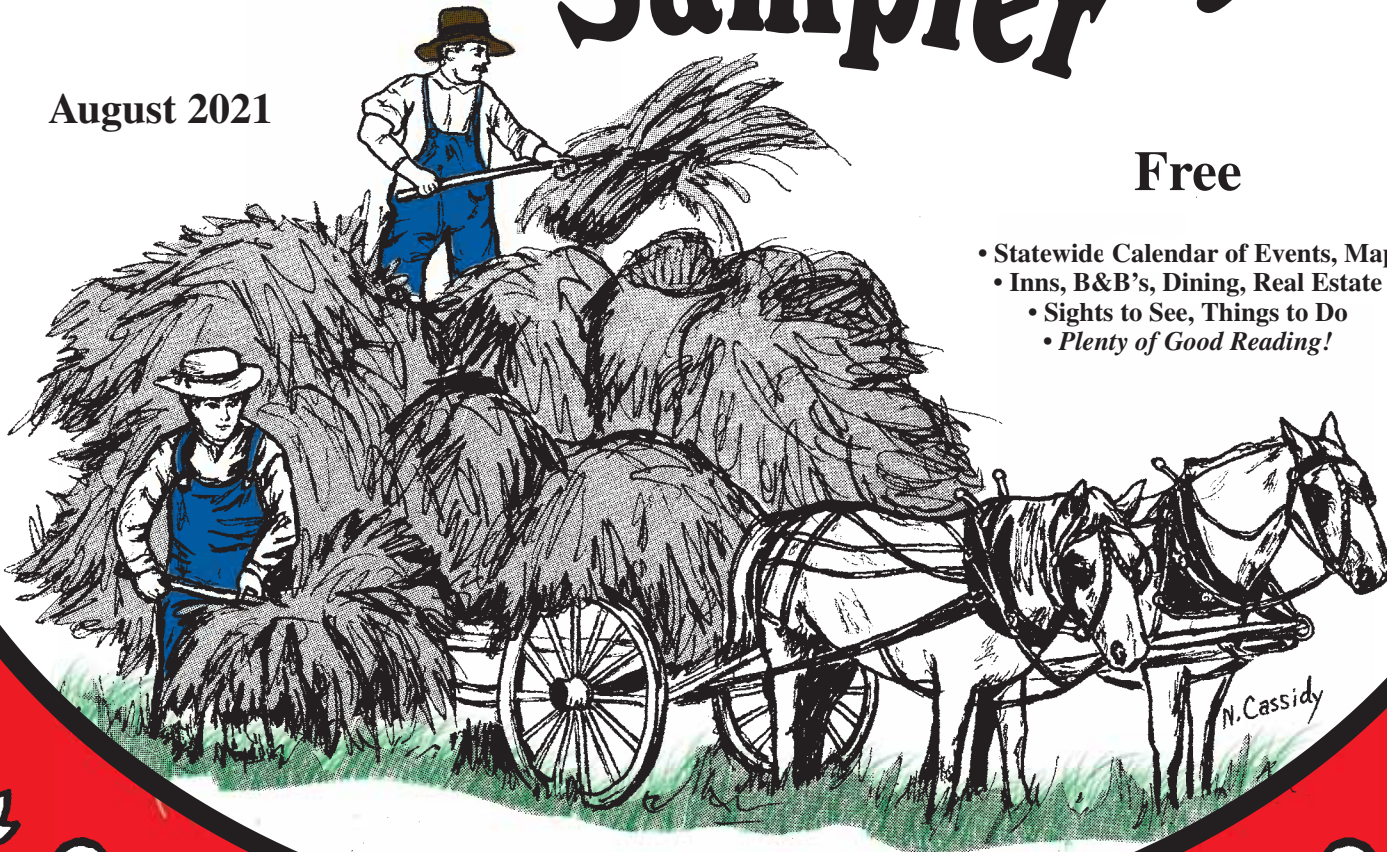


Vermont Country Sampler

August 2021

Free

- Statewide Calendar of Events, Map
- Inns, B&B's, Dining, Real Estate
- Sights to See, Things to Do
- *Plenty of Good Reading!*



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Late Summer Journal

Guardian Spirits

by Bill Felker

Many years ago, I was doing research on belief systems of Mayan Guatemalan coffee plantation workers.

One of the ideas I encountered in my studies was that humans could have guardian spirits or alter egos or co-essences (called nahuals or naguals) which reflected their personality or deep nature.

When my dog, Ranger, died this past March, I had an unusual mental collapse that seemed unrelated to grief (as I had felt it in other situations).

Ranger was an old dog and spent much of his time sleeping or just watching me. Whenever I moved, he would follow me. He was a beautiful creature, mostly border collie, a rescue with major health problems, and he seemed attached to me in a quiet, solid way I had never experienced with an animal.

Recently, I have had dreams of Ranger looking

at me, as he always did. It occurred to me after one of those dreams that, even though we had been together for only a couple of years, Ranger had been a nahual. And whether or not such a notion was literally true did and does not seem relevant.

And I have noticed other emotions that seem to connect to different kinds of creatures, especially some of the kinds of insects that I have seen in the garden over the years. I have grown fond of certain invasive species of plants and shrubs. I loved the 17-year cicadas that recently took over the region for a few weeks.

Nothing too unusual here. The body seeks balance and compensation, opens to spaces that didn't seem to exist before. Nahuals may not appear magically pre-formed from without or within a personality but rather may be convivial creatures of opportunity that discover and inform their partners, keep them company.



Planet Zydeco will be performing September 19 at Next Stage in Putney, VT.

Putney, VT

18th Annual Twilight on the Tavern Summer Concerts

Twilight Music continues its 18th Twilight On The Tavern Lawn series of folk, world beat, zydeco, Celtic, jazz, rock, and bluegrass summer concerts on Sunday, August 1 with roots and world music quartet The Gaslight Tinkers. Co-presented with Next Stage Arts Project, the five concert series continues on Sundays, August 22 and September 5 and 19. August

concerts begin at 6 p.m. and September concerts begin at 5 p.m. in downtown Putney on the Putney Tavern lawn (bring a lawn chair or blanket) or at Next Stage at 15 Kimball Hill in case of rain. The series is sponsored by the Town of Putney, Green Mountain Well, Soundview Paper Company, and many other Putney area businesses and organizations. The con-

certs are free to the public (donations are accepted) and food will be available.

Concert Schedule

Sunday, August 1, 6 p.m. The Gaslight Tinkers. A joyous blend of global rhythms around a core of traditional New England old time and Celtic fiddle music.

Sunday, August 22, 6 p.m. Moxie. A non-stop, effervescent fountain of al-original, bubbly, super-danceable, 80s-esque indie rock.

Sunday, September 5, 5 p.m. Julian Gerstin Sextet. Caribbean drums, Balkan

rhythms, jazz melodies and a world of imagination. Julian Gerstin is a percussionist, composer and ethnomusicologist. At the Vermont Jazz Center, Julian co-leads the Latin Jazz Ensemble with Eugene Uman.

Sunday, September 19, 5 p.m. Planet Zydeco. High energy, accordion and guitar driven dance music of Louisiana.

Next Stage Arts is located at 15 Kimball Hill in Putney, VT. For more information, call (802) 387-5772 or visit www.twilightmusic.org.

VERMONT CENTER FOR ECOSTUDIES. Uniting People and Science for Conservation. The Vermont Center for Ecostudies promotes wildlife conservation across the Americas using the combined strength of scientific research and citizen engagement. Visit our website at vtecostudies.org

Flames Stables. Route 100 South, Wilmington, VT (802) 464-8329. Scenic Horseback Riding Year-Round Trail Rides \$30 for 40 Minutes. Children Over 6 Can Ride Alone. ~ By Reservation ~ Great Family Fun at the Lowest Prices Around! Now Open

ROCKINGHAM ARTS AND MUSEUM PROJECT (RAMP). Economic Development Through the Arts. 7 Canal Street Bellows Falls, VT 05101 (802)463-3252 www.ramp-vt.org. Bravo!!! The Exner Block provides live-work spaces for artists and retail spaces supporting the arts:

GREEN MOUNTAIN ORCHARDS. Pick-Your-Own Apples & Peaches Coming Late in August. Pick-Your-Own Blueberries through September. Enjoy Pies, Donuts & Cider from our Gift Shop. 130 West Hill Road, Putney, VT (802) 387-5851 + www.greenmtorchards.com. Open daily 8 am - 6 pm + Fun for the Whole Family!

Our Own Sweet Corn Peaches, Blueberries! We have Pick-Your-Own Blueberries at our field on Rt. 30 in Newfane, VT from 7 am to 4 pm. Fresh Summer Produce—Tomatoes Peppers • Lettuce • Cucumbers • Zucchini Green Beans and Wax Beans • Herbs Cut Flowers & Gladiolas Peaches • Apples. Homemade Baked Goods—Jumbo Cookies, Fresh Fruit Pies, Pastries, Breads. Our Own Jams, Jellies, Honey, Vermont Cheeses, and Homemade Fudge. We have Maple Creemees! Our own 2021 Maple Syrup. Watch for Our—Pumpkins • Squash • Gourds Indian Corn • Cornstalks • Mums • Asters. We have Maple Creemees! DUTTON FARMSTAND. Gift Certificates 391 & 407 VT Rt. 30, Newfane, VT (802) 365-4168. 2083 Depot St., Manchester, VT (802) 362-3083. 308 Marlboro Rd., W. Brattleboro, VT (802) 254-0254. "Buy Direct From a Farmer" Open year-round, 9 am - 7 pm daily www.duttonberryfarm.com On Facebook—Dutton Berry Farm

Weeds. Milkweed floss, Cursed at, reviled, Providing the life saving fiber. Quack grass, Tough and undying rhizomes, Holding the soil Where the tame grass fails, Saving the land. Belligerent thistle, Touch me if you dare, Defying the world. Mullen, so tall and straight growing, Thriving on sand where the tame life dies. Tumble weed, sand burs, cockle, wild carrot, Hated by man for their tough independence; Hated by man for refusing to serve Like his tame plant slaves that die without care: Hated by man, But holding the hill tops, The gullies, the sand plains, the rock crags, Reclaiming the land where the man moves out, Building the land that man has exhausted, Dying but springing to new life once more, Refusing to yield in the face of man's hatred, Unyielding and free, Till the last man has died And weeds dance in his bones. —FLOYD L. YEOMANS 1947

Vermont Country Sampler August 2021, Vol. XXXVII. The Vermont Country Sampler is distributed free over-the-counter in and out of Vermont, and by paid subscription, \$24/12 issues. Advertising rates on request. Deadline 1st of the preceding month. Calendar of Events published free of charge. Vermont Country Sampler, 3048 Middle Rd., North Clarendon, VT 05759 • (802) 772-7463. Contact us to subscribe to our e-mail list: vermontcountrysampler@gmail.com. Current and back issues of the Sampler and calendar are available online at www.vermontcountrysampler.com



Harvesting the hay in the late 1800s at Billings Farm & Museum in Woodstock, VT.

photo courtesy of Billings Farm & Museum

Woodstock, VT

August at Billings Farm & Museum

Visit Billings Farm & Museum in August for all sorts of late summer events. Stroll through the gardens, sit on the bench and enjoy the vistas. Meet our farm animals. Take a wagon ride around the farm. Step back in time in the 1890 Farm Manager's House and Farm Life exhibits. Savor delicious ice cream and sample traditional and modern farm fresh recipes offered throughout the month.

Quilts and tractors, farm animals up close, bees and butterflies, and sunflowers galore – August at Billings Farm & Museum is buzzing with activity!

Special August Events

• **Antique Tractor Day – August 1.** See working antique tractors on parade and cheer on your favorite in the "Slow Race." Tractor-drawn wagon rides around the farm, pedal tractors pulls for kids and wooden tractor crafts! Trail Break Taps and Tacos will be on site serving a variety of tacos, street corn chips and salsa and a beer garden.

• **3rd Annual Sunflower House.** Delight in this artfully designed garden created by the Woodstock Inn & Resort's Master Gardener, Benjamin Pauly. This 20,000 square foot extravaganza – the largest Sunflower House in the United States – has over 100 varieties of sunflowers ranging in height from 18 inches to a towering 14 feet.

• **35th Annual Quilt Exhibition.** On display through August 22. Explore this exhibition of juried contemporary quilts made by local quilters, historical quilts from the museum's collection, and challenge quilts from the Heart of the Land Quilters' Guild from the Hartland, Vermont area. See hand quilting demonstrations and enjoy scavenger hunts.

• **Putting Your Garden to Bed.** August 21, 10-11:30 a.m. A Billings Backyard Workshop. Master Gardener Ben Pauly will show you best practices to end the garden season. The presentation is followed by a 30-minute Q&A. Please register by August 20.

• **Sunflower Sunday.** August 22, 9 a.m. Find bliss in the Sunflower House. Join us for a free guided meditation walk leading guests through mindful moments while surrounded by radiant sunflowers. Light refreshments including herbal tea infused with herbs grown on the farm.

• **Pollination Celebration.** August 28-29. Enjoy the beauty of the flower and vegetable gardens and learn about the importance of bees, butterflies, moths. Meet a beekeeper, explore the Sunflower House and see pollinators in action. Homemade honey ice cream at the Dairy Bar, a Garden Talk with Master Gardener Ben Pauly, and Herbal Teatime at the Garden Shed. Kids can learn the honeybee dance and make

seed balls to take home. Sunday only: Trail Break Taps and Tacos will be on site from 11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. with a variety of tacos, and a beer garden.

Weekly Activities

• **Farm Animal Weeks** – Meet a different farm animal each week with daily activities: Sheep, August 2-8; Chickens, August 9-15; Jersey Cows, August 16-22; and Goats, August 23-27.

• **Mindfulness Mondays** – Heighten your senses in our relaxing farm landscape in a 20-minute instructor-led mindfulness activity offered at 10:30, 11:00, and 11:30 am.

• **Time Travel Tuesdays** – Travel back in time with 1890 farm activities! Guess the artifact, butter making, hands-on crafts and games.

• **Wagon Ride Wednesdays** – Enjoy a wagon ride around the farm offered from 11:00 – 2:00.

• **Thursday Threads** – Celebrate the fiber arts with demonstrations and hands-on textile-related crafts. August 5, 12 and 19.

• **Foodie Fridays** – Discover how we use seasonal ingredients from our farm and gardens to make delicious recipes and enjoy sampling! Enjoy the beauty of the Sunflower House

from the porch of the Garden Shed during Herbal Tea Happy Hour from 3-4:30 p.m.

Visiting Safely

Billings Farm & Museum follows guidance from the CDC and the Vermont Forward Plan to determine our protocols. All guests over the age of two are required to wear a face covering in all indoor spaces. For outdoor spaces, mask wearing is optional for fully-vaccinated persons; unvaccinated persons must wear masks when around people and unable to maintain 6' physical distances. No entry is permitted without a face covering. Visit billingsfarm.org/safety for details.

Billings Farm & Museum is located at 69 Old River Rd. off Rt. 12 just north of the village in Woodstock, VT. Summer & fall hours: May 31 to October 31, daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dairy Bar open weekends and holidays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission: adults 16-61 \$16; 62 & over \$14; students 16 & up \$9; children 4-15 \$8; children 3 and under are free.

Visit us on billingsfarm.org, and find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/BillingsFarmMuseum/](https://www.facebook.com/BillingsFarmMuseum/) and Instagram at [instagram.com/billingsfarm](https://www.instagram.com/billingsfarm). Call (802) 457-2355.



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Athens Brick Meetinghouse Ice Cream Social & Concert

The Athens Brick Meetinghouse Committee in conjunction with the Athens Historic Preservation Society is hosting an Ice Cream Social and a concert featuring Bard Owl on Sunday, August 8 at the 1817 Brick Meetinghouse in Athens, VT.

Doors will open at 4:30 p.m. with an Ice Cream Sundae "buffet bar" set up on the lawn. Concert goers are invited to bring a picnic dinner to enjoy on the Meetinghouse Common prior to the concert.

Enjoy the music of Bard Owl, a lively Williams-ville-based music duo, comprised of T. Breeze Verdant on guitar, vocals, and stomp box and Annie Landenberger, on vocals and percussion.

Bard Owl has been playing since 2016 with an eclectic mix of old, new, and original tunes. They've built their repertoire of blues-jazz tunes while working on recordings. The duo will have an accompanying harmonica player!

The Athens Brick Meetinghouse is historically significant to the Windham County region of Vermont, and particularly the twelve surrounding towns which comprised the "Old Athens Circuit"—Grafton, Rockingham, Townshend, Londonderry, Weston, Chester, Ac-

ton, Springfield, Landgrove, Windham, Putney and Mt. Holly. Circuit preachers from Athens, traveled out to these towns to perform religious services.

Quarterly camp meetings with congregants from these towns often lasted two days at this "Mother Church."

The concert will start at 5 p.m. in the Meetinghouse. Suggested Donation of \$10. Additionally, raffle tickets will be on sale for a cord plus of hard maple firewood. You will also find information and can submit a bid for our silent auction on a great load of local rough cut lumber donated by Matt Stickney, valued at approximately \$400. Bidding starts at \$100.

All proceeds go to support ongoing efforts to preserve this historic gem. Tax deductible donations can be made to the Athens Historic Preservation Society to further our efforts to preserve Meetinghouse.

Athens Brick Meetinghouse is located at 5 Meetinghouse Rd. in Athens, VT.

For more information contact Sherry Maher at (802) 869-2141 or email at athensmeetinghouse1817@gmail.com, or follow Athens Meetinghouse on Facebook.



Sunflowers bloom in a field at Merck Forest & Farmland Center in Rupert, VT. photo by Merck Forest & Farmland

The Old-Fashioned Garden

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

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

So bright and lovely is the dear old place,
It seems as though the country's very heart
Were centered here, and that its antique grace
Must ever hold it from the world apart.
Immured it lies among the meadows deep,
Its flowery stillness beautiful and calm as softest sleep.

The morning-glories ripple o'er the hedge
And fleck its greenness with their tinted foam;
Sweet wilding things up to the garden's edge
They love to wander from their meadow home,
To take what little pleasure here they may
Ere all their silken trumpets close before the warm midday.

The larkspur lifts on high its azure spires,
And up the arbor's lattices are rolled
The quaint nasturtium's many-colored fires;
The tall carnation's breast of faded gold
Is striped with many a faintly-flushing streak,
Pale as the tender tints that blush upon a baby's cheek.

The old sweet-rocket sheds its fine perfumes,
With golden stars the coreopsis flames,
And here are scores of sweet old-fashioned blooms,
Dear for the very fragrance of their names—
Poppies and gilly flowers and four-o'clocks,
Cowslips and candytuft and heliotrope and hollyhocks,

Harebells and peonies and dragon-head,
Petunias, scarlet sage and bergamot,
Verbenas, ragged-robins, soft gold-thread,
The bright primrose and pale forget-me-not,
Wall-flowers and crocuses and columbines,
Narcissus, asters, hyacinths, and honeysuckle vines.

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


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

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

But, sweeter far, in this old garden-close
To loiter 'mid the lovely old-time flowers,
To breathe the scent of lavender and rose,
And with old poets pass the peaceful hours.
Old gardens and old poets, — happy he
In whose summer days pass such sweet company.

—JOHN RUSSELL HAYES
1866-1945, Swarthmore, PA





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7th Annual Vermont Open Farm Week

Do you love local food and farms? Want to get to know your farmer better—and get a behind-the-scenes look into Vermont's vibrant working agricultural landscape?

During the 2021 Vermont Open Farm Week, August 8-15, you can meet the farmers, plants, and animals that bring your favorite high-quality Vermont products to your plate.

The greatest part about Open Farm Week is that every farm is unique. Milk a cow and harvest a carrot at one farm, sit on a tractor and take in the smell of freshly cut hay at another and then head over to another for woodfired pizza night and a garden tour. Events are happening all across the state, it's a great time to get out and explore! Here are some of the farms inviting you to visit. Go to diginvt.com for more.

Sunday, August 8

BETHEL. Butter, Yogurt & Cheese Making Class. Learn how to make delicious butter, yogurt, ricotta cheese, and Fromage Blanc cheese from organic, grass-fed raw milk! Hands-on learning, food tasting and discussions. Fee \$45 per person. Reserve online. 1-4:30 pm. Earthwise Farm & Forest, 341 McIntosh Rd. (802) 234-5524. www.earthwisefarmandforest.com.

CORNWALL. Ice Cream Sundays in the Sugarhouse. The farm will be serving up vanilla ice cream drizzled with maple syrup or some good old-fashioned homemade maple caramel. Browse the Maple Museum, curated and presented by Chuck Hermann. 10 am – 4 pm. Bread Loaf View Farm, 486 Cider Mill Rd. (802) 349-1755. info@breadloafviewfarm.com. www.breadloafviewfarm.com. Also August 15.

PUTNEY. Sheep Herding Demonstration. See the border collies move the sheep! Learn about the history of herding and how the dogs help their shepherds with daily tasks. Registration required. Morse Brook Farm, 226 Kurkul Rd. (802) 518-2155. farminfo@morsebrookfarm.com. www.morsebrookfarm.com.

TUNBRIDGE. Community Celebration with the White River Land Collaborative. Live music, local food and beer for sale, guided farm tours, demonstrations and information tables, historic information including from a local Abenaki presenter, and kids' activities. Free, no registration required. No dogs allowed. 12-4 pm. Flying Dog Farm, 7 Belnap Rd. whiteriverlandcollaborative@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/whiteriverlandcollaborative.

Monday, August 9

CAMBRIDGE. Open Farm Week Events at The Farm Between. Free Morning Birding Walk. Gather at the parking area and then explore the farm's trail system across 18 acres of fields, fruit trees, and berry plants with longtime birder John McKay, 7:30-9 am. Free Fruit, Berry & Wild Plant Tour at 10 am. Please register by emailing thefarmbetween@sterlingcollege.edu. The Farm Between at Sterling College, 3727 Rt. 15. (802) 335-2000. www.thefarmbetween.sterlingcollege.edu.

CRAFTSBURY. Introduction to No-Till Farming. Breadseed Farm's market garden focuses on regenerative practices and soil health. Farm tours, tastes of crops in the field, and demo-ing a favorite tool – the broadfork! 3 pm. Breadseed Farm, 1176 S. Albany Rd. (802) 586-7553. Also August 11 at 3 pm.

WAITSFIELD. Feeding Pigs. Meet and interact with Von Trapp Farmstead's herd of 50 pasture raised pigs. 12-2 pm. Von Trapp Farmstead, Marble Hill Rd. (802) 496-6100. info@vontrappfarmstead.com. vontrappfarmstead.com.

Tuesday, August 10

DANBY. Community Farm Tour & Work Day. Join Farmer Ben to explore the Community Farm fields and our approach to growing vegetables with and for the community. Free. Work day is 9-11 am. Tour is 11 am – 12 pm. Food Preservation Workshop 3:30-5 pm. Smokey House Center, 426 Danby Mountain Rd. (802) 293-2300. www.smokeyhouse.org.

PLAINFIELD. Picnic by the Pasture. Bring a blanket and a lunch and enjoy a picnic adjacent to the pasture of the oldest registered fold of Highland Cattle in the United States. Enjoy one of the most picturesque views in Vermont. Comb a Highland cow or calf and discover how peaceful communing with this heritage breed can be. Admission by donation. 11 am – 2 pm. Greenfield Highland Beef, 487 Gray Rd. (802) 454-7384. www.greenfieldhighlandbeef.com.

PUTNEY. Hiking with Goats. Guided walk through Morse Brook's fields. Enjoy the trails and views with enthusiastic hiking goats. Please leave your canine companions at home, the goats will appreciate it! Registration required. Morse Brook Farm, 226 Kurkul Rd. (802) 518-2155. www.morsebrookfarm.com. Also August 11 & 15.

Wednesday, August 11

CAMBRIDGE. Insect Walk and Jam Social. Insect scavenger hunt at 10 am followed by bug-themed arts and crafts activities at 11 am! Farm-made jams, crafted with berries grown right here! Homemade bread (including a gluten-free option) to accompany the spreads, along with freshly-made beverages. All ages. 10 am – 1 pm. Please register by emailing number attending to thefarmbetween@sterlingcollege.edu. The Farm Between at Sterling College, 3727 Rt. 15. (802) 335-2000. www.thefarmbetween.sterlingcollege.edu.

ELMORE. Guided Berry & Nut Growing Tour. See many different and unusual kinds of berries and nuts that are grown on the hillside farm and have your growing questions answered. 11 am. Elmore Roots Nursery, 631 Symonds Mill Rd. (802) 888-3305. fruitpal@elmereroots.com. elmore-roots-nursery-108496.square.site.



photo by Janet Steward
Shat Acres Vickie stands in the hilly mists above the farm where she lives in Plainfield, VT. Vickie was the Highland Role of Excellence Female for the United States in 2005. Shat Acres is the oldest registered fold of Highland Cattle in the US—since 1967. You can see these beautiful cattle on August 9 at the Picnic by the Pasture at Greenfield Highland Beef.

MONKTON. Garlic Braiding Workshop. \$30/person includes instruction and enough garlic and flowers to make a 16-bulb braid. Register online at www.lastresortfarm.com or by phone (802) 453-2847. 10 am – 12 pm. Last Resort Farm, 2246 Tyler Bridge Rd. www.lastresortfarm.com.

SOUTH BURLINGTON. Farm Tour at Common Roots Farm at South Village. Farm fresh tastings prepared by the Common Roots chef, an Abenaki story at the Seven Sisters Garden, a discussion on pollinators with the beekeeper, samples from local vendors, and much more! Tours at 4 & 5 pm. Common Roots, 55 Allen Rd. www.commonroots.org.

Thursday, August 12

BRATTLEBORO. Guided Animal Tour. Guided tour and walk through new orchard and historic Cow Tunnel to South Meadows as you find tasty treats to feed to the chickens and goats. Register ahead of time at www.retreatfarm.org/tours. Free, donations are welcome. 2 pm. Retreat Farm, 45 Farmhouse Square. (802) 490-2270. www.retreatfarm.org. Through August 15.

HUBBARDTON. Farm Walk and Picnic. Walk through 45 acres of fields and pastures, sharing some of the history and what's being done to restore the buildings and the land. See the sheep and cows, the chickens and goats, and walk through the fields growing heirloom produce. Visit one of the favorite spots on the farm: the 100 year old orchard with incredible views of the mountains and Lake Bomoseen. Optional picnic can be purchased and picked up prior to your hike. Just bring your own blanket. Free, registration required at www.froghollowvt.com. 11 am – 7 pm. Frog Hollow Farm, 924 Frog Hollow Rd. (802) 468-7975. froghollowvt.com. Through August 14.

NORTHFIELD FALLS. Farm Tour & Open House. Selling dried flower crafts, jams and jellies, herbal teas, maple syrup, and cbd salves. Free tour of the fruit, berry, and nut orchard, herby drying greenhouse, flower drying barn, and herb and flower beds. Maple barn and two-acre maple operation. Demonstration of how the herbs are harvested and dried. Kids can touch and smell plant samples. Delicious Taste of Summer iced tea and refreshments available. 10 am – 12 pm and 1-3 pm. Reserve by emailing caroln1@tds.net or calling (802) 485-7444. Lightfoot Farm, 540 Davis Ave. Ext. www.lightfootfarm.com. Also August 15 10 am – 12 pm.

WESTFIELD. Farm Tour, Picnic & Cookout. Sample products and then join the farmers to walk the pastures, meet the cows, and discover the farm. Bring a picnic blanket or chairs and enjoy homegrown grass-fed hamburgers and fresh local side dishes! Hamburgers with sides: \$10/plate. Various drinks and dairy products will be available for purchase. Please RSVP by emailing christine@butterworksfarm.com or calling (802) 744-6023. 3-7 pm. Butterworks Farm, 421 Trumpass Rd. (802) 744-6023. butterworksfarm.com.

Friday, August 13

HARDWICK. Community Farm & Food Celebration. Great food, live music, and activities for kids and adults. See baby goats, live oxen and artisan craft demonstrations, and learn how black ash baskets are made. Shop the Hardwick Farmers Market and taste test heritage tomato varieties to vote for your favorite. Signature cocktails by Barr Hill in commemorative ceramic mugs and grilled cheese sandwiches from Jasper Hill Farm will be available for purchase. Raffle. 3-6 pm. Center for an Agricultural Economy, Atkins Field, 100 Granite St. (802) 472-5362. hardwickagriculture.org.

RANDOLPH CENTER. Open Sugarhouse Day. Explore Vermont maple! Enjoy a sugarhouse tour, taste free samples of the four maple syrup grades, take a self-guided hike through the sugarwoods, and have a maple creamee! Hayrides at the top of each hour! Free. 2-7 pm. Silloway Maple, 1313 Boudro Rd. (802) 272-6249. sillowaymaple.com.

RICHMOND. Fried Chicken Dinner. Fried chicken with organic side salads and maple cornbread at the farm! Live music, lawn games, trivia, and mural painting. Before dinner, enjoy a hike across the street at the Richmond Town Forest trails. Get tickets at maplewindfarm.com/store/fried-chicken-dinners. Seatings at 5 pm & 6 pm. Maple Wind Farm, 1149 E. Main St. (802) 434-7257. maplewindfarm.com.

WOLCOTT. Box Dinner & Live Entertainment. Meet the growers, see some of the crops, and experience an amazing sunset while enjoying live music. Vegetarian boxed picnic dinner includes farm raised produce, homemade maple balsamic dressing, local bread, cheese, and more. Dessert will be included along with a complimentary local brew or lemonade. Bring a blanket; tables will also be set up outside and inside the agritourism greenhouse. A rain or shine event. \$40/picnic. Reservations required. 6-9 pm. Sandiwood Farm, 1665 Town Hill Rd. (802) 888-2881. sandiwoodfarm.com.

Saturday, August 14

HUBBARDTON. Farm to Table Dinner. Open-air dinner on the farm. Each course is paired with an Appalachian Gap Cocktail. Appetizers and pre-dinner drink while you make your way to the orchard where to dine on the top of the hill with views of the Taconic Mountains and Lake Bomoseen. Bonfire and dessert behind the barn. For reservations visit www.froghollowvt.com. 7 pm. Frog Hollow Farm, 924 Frog Hollow Rd. (802) 468-7975. www.froghollowvt.com.

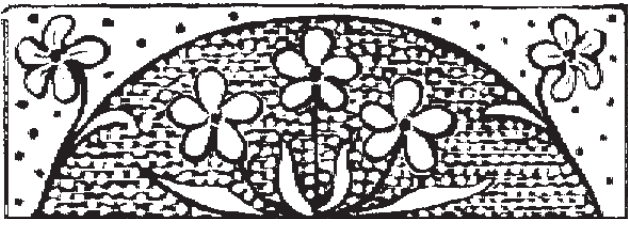
PUTNEY. Wagon Rides. Take a hay wagon ride to the top of the hill at Morse Brook Farm and take in the amazing view. Bring your binoculars! There may even be a co-pilot goat to entertain you on the way up the hill. Stick around for sugar on snow! Registration required. Morse Brook Farm, 226 Kurkul Rd. (802) 518-2155. farminfo@morsebrookfarm.com. www.morsebrookfarm.com.

Sunday, August 15

DANVILLE. Raw Milk & Cookies: Tour a Micro-Dairy. Have you ever toured a micro dairy? Meet the cows and see how Sunday Bell's milk is produced. Sample their fresh raw milk with a warm cookie and experience one of Vermont's quintessential foods for yourself. 12-6 pm. Sunday Bell Farm, 487 Tampico Rd. (802) 299-6557. sundaybellfarm@gmail.com. www.facebook.com/sundaybellfarm

JEFFERSONVILLE. In the Field with Abenaki Land Link and Chief Don Stevens. Join Chief Don Stevens and the Healthy Roots Collaborative in the field at West Farm to explore the Abenaki Land Link Crops. Chief Stevens will talk about the food sovereignty work of the Nulhegan along with the historical significance of the three sisters crops and the story of Mother Corn. Attendants will also learn about seed saving and enjoy snacks from the farm. Free. 10 am – 12 pm. West Farm, 497 W. Farm Rd.

WESTFIELD. Smoothie Stand and Farm Tours. Stop in to Butterworks Farm to meet the farmers and cows, tour the farm, sample products, and indulge in one of their fresh and famous Butterworks smoothies! Smoothies: \$6/each. Free tours & samples. 11 am – 4 pm. Butterworks Farm, 421 Trumpass Rd. (802) 744-6023. www.butterworksfarm.com.



The Natural Calendar In the Field and Garden

Seasons of August

by Bill Felker

Week One of August

Make corrective lime and fertilizer applications for August and September seeding. Keep carrots, oats, bran, iodized salt and good greens on hand to invigorate bucks as the breeding season opens.

Don't let your ducklings get heat stroke. Keep them in the shade and have plenty of water available. If a duck is panting, s/he may have heatstroke.

The harvest of winter wheat and oats is typically complete throughout the nation. In the northern states, the spring wheat is coming in, and the great cabbage and cauliflower harvests have usually begun.

Week Two of August

Heat and moisture stress may contribute to much lower production of cool-weather forage. Rotation of pastures or allowing the grazing of hayfields can help.

As the moon waxes, set out cabbage, kale and collard sets. Seed the lawn. Check the weight of animals scheduled to be bred and adjust feed as needed.

As breeding time approaches for goats and sheep, remember that aromatic plants such as thyme, mint and clover are said to be conducive to fertility in mammals.

August and September are soil-testing months—both for your fall and winter garden as well as for the fields where you intend to sow winter wheat and rye, alfalfa, clover and timothy. Plant or renew pasture in September or October for April and May.

Week Three of August

Elderberries and wild grapes should be perfect for juice and wine by the middle of the month. Garlic planting time is here along the Canadian border from Washington to Maine.

Second-crop raspberry and strawberry harvest time picks

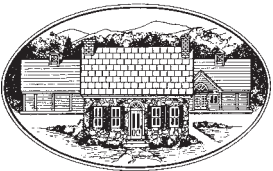
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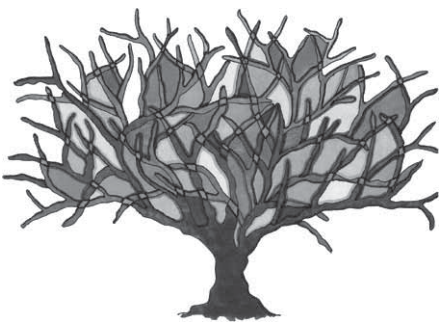
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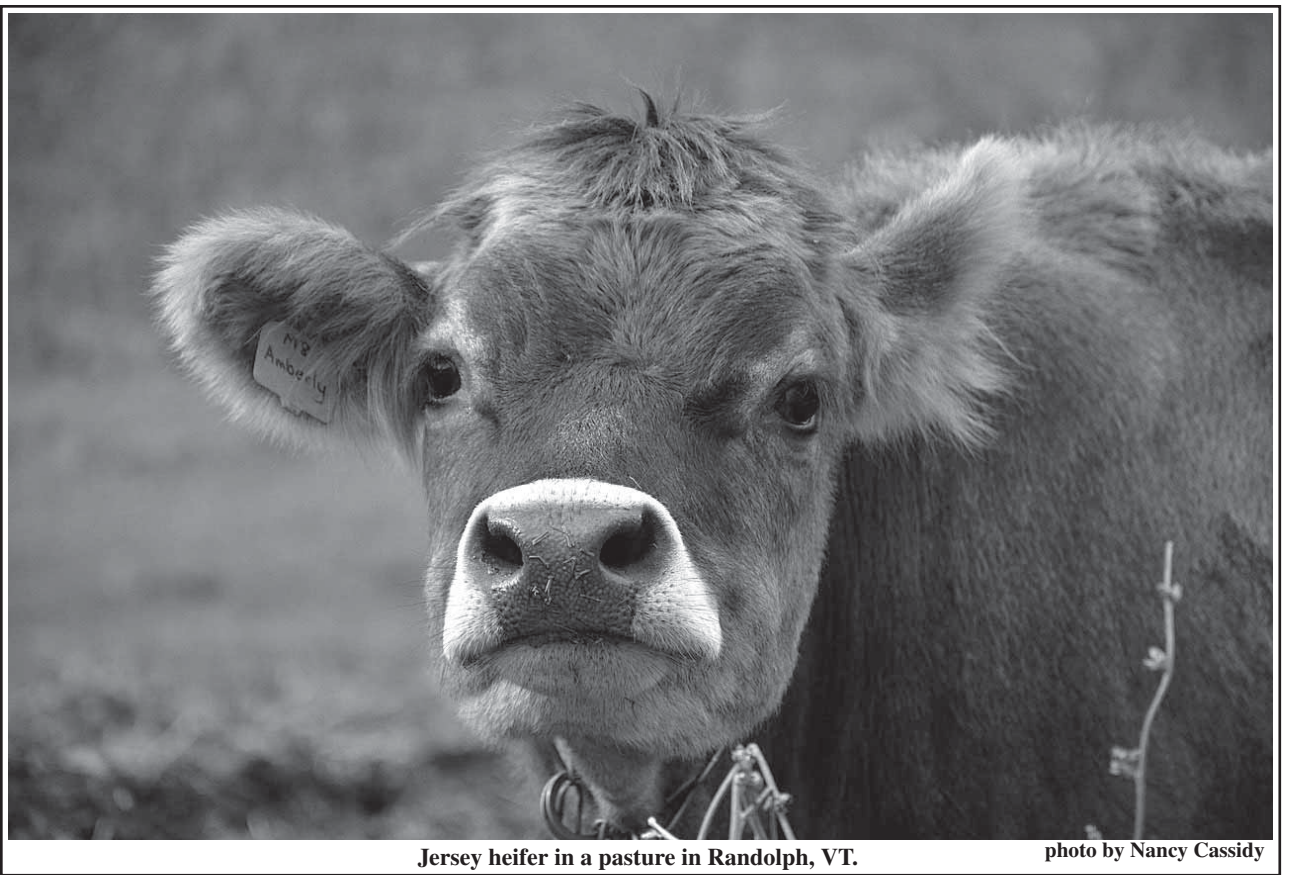
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Jersey heifer in a pasture in Randolph, VT.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

up. Mum selling time is approaches for the mum growers. Pansy time is here for the autumn pansy market.

Second-brood corn borers, the second generation of bean leaf beetles, and the rootworm beetles still work the fields. Banded ash clearwings attack local ash trees.

The summer apple harvest is typically more than half complete along the 40th Parallel. Farmers make preparations for the seeding of winter rye, wheat, and barley.

Week Four of August

When the violet Joe Pye weed flowers become gray like the thistle-down, then peaches, processing tomatoes and peppers

are almost all picked along the 40th Parallel, and the fruit of the bittersweet turns orange.

When watermelons are ripe and firefly season comes to a close, then farmers and gardeners cut the last of the oats and put in fall peas. The potato harvest is usually a fourth complete. Wild grapes are ready to pick. Farmers prepare fields for the seeding of winter wheat.

Pumpkins are about full size, some turning. Winter squash is almost mature. Autumn plantings of lettuce, spinach, turnips, beets and radishes should be well developed, at least an inch or two high. Most first and second plantings of beans have been harvested.

Driving Home the Cows

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

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

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

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

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

Thrice since then had the lanes been white,
And the orchards sweet with apple bloom;

And now, when the cows came back at night,
The feeble father drove them home.

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

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

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

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

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

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

—KATE P. OSGOOD.
Fryeburg, Maine, 1841-1900



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A Vermont Almanack for Late Summer

by Bill Felker

Our bodies have formed themselves in delicate reciprocity with the manifold textures, sounds, and shapes of an animate earth—our eyes have evolved in subtle interaction with other eyes, as our ears are attuned by their very structure to the howling of wolves and the honking of geese... We are human only in contact, and conviviality, with what is not human.

—David Abram, *The Spell of the Sensuous*

The Sun

August 22, 2021 is Cross-Quarter Day and marks the halfway point between summer solstice and autumn equinox. The Sun enters Virgo on the same day. Having fallen just five and a half degrees between summer solstice and August 1 (from a declination of 23 degrees 26 minutes to a declination of 18 degrees), the Sun now speeds up its apparent retreat from Deep Summer to one degree every three days, and it holds that rate of decline through September, rushing headlong into autumn.

Phases of the Buzzing Cicada Moon And the Restless Billy Goat Moon

The time of estrus typically begins for goats when the day's length falls below 14 hours. Male goats, the Billy Goats, know right away when estrus begins, and they start trying to find the females.

August 2: Lunar Apogee (when the Buzzing Cicada Moon is farthest from Earth: 3:00 a.m.)

August 8: Restless Billy Goat Moon is new at 8:50 a.m.

August 15: Second Quarter: 10:20 a.m.

August 17: Lunar Perigee (when the Moon is closest to Earth): 4:00 a.m.

August 22: Full Moon: 7:02 a.m.

August 29: Lunar Apogee (when the Moon is farthest from Earth: 9:00 p.m.)

August 30: Last Quarter: 2:13 a.m.

The Stars

August is the month of the Milky Way in the eastern early night sky. Cygnus the swan can be found there, its formation a giant cross. Below it is Aquila, spreading from its keystone, Altair, like a great eagle. Almost directly above you, Vega of the constellation Lyra is the brightest star in the heavens. Hercules stands beside it. June's Corona Borealis and the huge Arcturus have moved to the west.



Hayrack in a late summer field, in Randolph, VT.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

An hour or two before sunrise, walk out and look to the east. Orion will be rising, in the same position he will be in on Christmas Eve. The Pleiades and Taurus will be almost overhead. Cygnus, the summer swan of August evenings, is setting in the northwest.

The Shooting Stars

The Perseid meteor shower between July 17 and August 24, peaking on August 12-13, up to 60 meteors in an hour.

The Planets

Mars remains in Leo this month, disappearing from the night sky. Venus, however, moves retrograde into Virgo, remaining the bright Evening Star in the far west. Saturn rises

at dusk from the east and precedes Jupiter as both planets cross the southern sky throughout the night.

The August Weather Outlook

The cool fronts of Late Summer ordinarily reach the Mississippi River around August 4, 10, 17, 21 and 29.

As the dark moon early in the month is influenced by apogee (the moon's weak position farthest from Earth), hot, dry conditions are likely throughout the first half of the month. Lunar perigee (August 17) and full moon (August 22) during the month's third week, however, should bring an end to the Dog Days and contribute to thunderstorms and a temporary taste of autumn. Hurricane formation is most likely during August's third week, as well.

The Seasons of Late Summer

by Bill Felker

The Time of Judas Trees

Late Summer is the time in which the Judas trees betray the year and show their color, bright orange and gold in the otherwise solid green of maples. It is the time that catalpas start to wear thin, and showers of black walnut leaves foretell autumn. Saplings are browning under the high canopy. Patches of scarlet have appeared in the sumac and poison ivy.

In perennial gardens, the last phlox, the golden and purple coneflowers, bright helianthus and pale resurrection lilies define Late Summer. Along the freeway, beds of white boneset have come into bloom beside the drifts of Deep Summer's blue chicory and silver queen Anne's lace.

In the woods and pastures, ironweed, wingstem, wild ox-eye, tall bell flower, white snakeroot, wild lettuce, heal-all, wild cucumber, tall coneflower, clearweed, touch-me-not and the first goldenrod are blossoming. Wild plums are ripe for jam, and woodland grapes are black-purple. Some elderberries are ready for wine. Puffball mushrooms emerge.

Morning fogs thicken as the night air cools in Judas maple time. Crickets, cicadas and katydids become more insistent. Grackle activity increases while cardinal song becomes fainter. The early morning robins are silent. Long flocks of blackbirds pursue the harvest.

This is the time that all the spiders in the woods weave their final webs. The katydids, which started to sing in the last week of Deep Summer, now chant through the night. Cicadas fill the afternoons. Orange bittersweet berries are mature and ready to pick. In the wetlands of the Southeast, alligators hatch from their eggs.

Ragweed Time

Well into Late Summer, ragweed pollen fills the humid afternoons, wood nettle goes to seed in the bottomlands, honeysuckle berries and wild cherries ripen, and hickory nuts and black walnuts drop into the undergrowth.

Blackberries are ready to eat when ragweed blossoms. And the season's second-last wave of wildflowers, the Joe Pye

weed, monkey flower, tall coneflower, clearweed, horsetweed, white snakeroot, jumpseed, prickly mallow, virgin's bower, white boneset, field thistle and Japanese knotweed, come into bloom in the open fields and along fence rows.

Coneflowers and phlox still rule the gardens. Orange-and-gold-flowered trumpet vines still curl through trellises. Ephemeral resurrection lilies replace the day lilies, the Asiatic lilies and the Oriental lilies. Mums and stonecrop color the dooryards.

In the shade of the woods, leafcup is the dominant flower, almost the only one in bloom. Along the lakeshores, arrowhead blossoms as rusty dodder spreads across the tattered black raspberry bushes. Milkweed flowers turn to pods.

In the mornings, cardinals and doves still call briefly half an hour before dawn. Robins sometimes give long singsong performances throughout the day. Cricketsong increases in the evenings. Blue jays still care for their young, whining and flitting through the bushes. But starlings and warblers become more restless. The number of fireflies dwindles. Hummingbirds, meadow larks, Baltimore orioles, plovers and purple martins start to disappear south; their departure marks a quickening in the sun's drop to equinox.

Katydid and Cricket Season

As Late Summer deepens, all the katydids sing in the night. They call out the close of the Dog Days, and even though the heat often lingers, the rhythm of the season has shifted, its tones have been altered, colors and sounds and scents all pointing to fall.

Now, almost everywhere in the country, average temperatures start to drop a degree and a half every seven days until the middle of September, at which point they decline about one degree every three days into January. Migration clucking among the robins increases. Some days, there will be a long and steady cardinal song before sunrise, then silence. Hummingbirds, wood ducks, Baltimore orioles

and purple martins start to disappear south. When katydids call at dusk, cottonwoods are yellowing. Locust leaves turn brown, damaged by leaf miners. Violet Joe Pye weed grows like thistle-down. The prickly teasel stiffens. Spicebush berries redden. Tall goldenrod heads up. Rose pinks and great blue lobelia color the waysides. In the thunderstorms of late summer, green acorns fall to the sweet rocket growing back among the budding asters.

When Black Walnut Leaves Start to Fall

As Late Summer ages, catalpas start to pale. Buckeye leaves turn brown under the high canopy. Black walnut leaves trickle to the ground, foretaste of the great leafdrop to come. Patches of scarlet appear in the sumac and poison ivy.

Bees are everywhere in the fields now. Rows of lanky great mulleins, black and gone to seed, line the bike paths. Elderberries are dark and sweet for wine. Pokeweed plants are the size of small trees, with purple stalks and berries. The panicked dogwood shows its pale fruit, its leaves fading pink. Trefolds decay, and staghorns darken brown above their red or yellow leaves.

But goldenrod brightens the fields, and the height of tall bellflower season softens the mood of the decaying forest undergrowth with blossoms of powder blue.

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To learn more about an event, call the Joy Green Visitor Center at (802) 394-7836 or stop by. Advance reservations are recommended. Our farm and forest products may be purchased at our Visitor Center or our Online Store.

Visit the farm, venture into the forest or stay overnight in a rustic cabin or lean-to. Over thirty miles of trails for hiking. The property is open free to the public daily, from dawn to dusk, year-round.

Summer Event Schedule

July 31, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteer Work Party. From mulching raspberries to maintaining trails, volunteers work side-by-side Merck Forest & Farmland Center staff in stewarding the land. Come give a hand, and learn while you work! Free. Register on our website.

August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 3-4:30 p.m. Sunday Meet & Feed. Join Merck staff on Sunday afternoons as they go about afternoon chores feeding our animals. Get to know our sheep, horses, chickens, and pigs during our daily routine. Fee: \$5 per person. Due to staffing constraints, we are not able to accommodate last-minute registrations or walk-ins. Please register by noon on the Saturday before for this program by going to our website. *Also Sundays through October 3.*

August 5 & 12, 2-4 p.m. Thursday Meet & Feed. On Thursday afternoons, under the bright blue sky of Vermont, you and your children can take part in an ages-old tradition: daily chores on our hillside farm. Our farm staff will lead your family around the farm as you feed the chickens and collect eggs from the nest boxes, and feed & water the sheep, horses and pigs. You might weed the children's garden, or pick berries. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Due to staffing constraints, we are not able to accommodate last-minute registrations or walk-ins. Fee: \$5 per person. Please register by noon on the Wednesday before for this program by going to our website.

August 14, 2-4 p.m. Second Saturday Hike. Enjoy a guided hike with a Merck Forest & Farmland Center staff member who will discuss the ecology, history, farming culture and forestry of the area. Wear proper hiking footwear for our rugged trails, and bring water, snacks and bug spray. Please arrive 15 minutes before hike begins at 2 p.m. Fee: \$5 per person, pre-registration is required. Register on our website. This event will only be cancelled in case of extreme weather. Refunds are not available, unless event is cancelled by Merck Forest & Farmland Center. *Also September 11, October 9 and November 13.*

August 28, 10-11:30 a.m. Mushroom Hunt for Children. A walk and search for families with kids. Families should bring baskets to gather mushrooms in. Fee: \$10. Register your family members on the website.

August 28, 12-2 p.m. Mushroom I.D. Workshop for Teens & Adults. An adult workshop on mushroom identification. Mycologist Sue VanHook will bring mushrooms in to be identified, but participants are invited to forage and bring in their own samples as well. Fee: \$10 per person. Register your family members on our website.

August 28, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteer Work Party. From mulching raspberries to maintaining trails, volunteers work side-by-side Merck Forest & Farmland Center staff in stewarding the land. Come give a hand, and learn while you work! Free. Register on our website. *Also September 25.*



photo courtesy of Merck Forest & Farmland Center.
Happy campers hide out in a tree at Merck Forest and Farmland Center in Rupert, VT.

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

Merck Forest and Farmland Center is a non-profit educational organization. The Center's mission is the sustainable management of its forest, promotion of innovative agricultural practices, and the education of local students.



Summer is Swift

Summer is swift and turns not back.
Sequence of berries is straw, rasp, blue, and black;
Of minor field-life, hyla, firefly, locust.
In each a two-weeks age is focused.

—JAMES HAYFORD
Orleans, VT, 1952

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Old-Time North Country End-of-Summer Desserts

by Ella Shannon Bowles and Dorothy S. Towle

Blueberry Johnny Cake

½ cup shortening	¼ teaspoon salt
½ cup sugar	½ cup white flour
1 egg, well beaten	1½ cups blueberries or huckleberries
1 cup milk	Dash of nutmeg
1½ cups cornmeal	
3 teaspoons baking powder	

Cream the shortening and sugar, and add the beaten egg and milk. Stir in the corn meal. Sift the baking powder and salt with the white flour, and stir into the corn meal mixture gradually. Lightly flour the blueberries, and mix them into the batter without breaking the berries. Add the nutmeg last. Bake in a hot oven, 425°F, for half an hour. Serve very hot with butter or cream.

Appledore Pudding

Butter a pudding dish and line it with strips of stale cake. Fill the dish within three inches of the top with blueberries, blackberries, or currants. Add one-half cup of sugar to each quart of berries, or one cup to each quart of currants. Cover with slices of cake wet with half a tumbler of sherry wine. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°F, for half an hour. Cover with egg-white meringue and set in the oven again until light brown. Serves six to eight.

Nantucket Corn Pudding

6 ears corn	¼ pound sugar
1 pint milk	Nutmeg and mace
¼ pound butter	4 eggs

Boil the corn and scrape the kernels from the cobs. Turn the milk over the corn. Cream the butter, sugar, and spices. Beat the eggs and fold into the butter mixture. Combine with the milk and corn and turn into a buttered baking dish. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°F, until set like custard, about thirty to forty minutes. Serve with butter and sugar or with sugar and cream. Not good cold. Serves six.

Apple Slump

2 cups peeled sliced apples	1 teaspoon cinnamon
⅔ cup sugar	Baking powder biscuits
½ cup water	

Combine the apples, sugar, water, and cinnamon. Bring to a boil. Cover with the biscuits, place the cover on tightly,



A herd of Jersey cows at rest in a field in Rochester, VT

photo by Nancy Cassidy

and continue cooking for twenty-five minutes or until the biscuits are done. Remove the biscuits, pour the apples over them, and serve with cream. Blueberries, peaches, cherries, or other fruit may be cooked the same way, adding a teaspoon of lemon juice or a little grated lemon rind if the fruit is very sweet. Serves six.

Blueberry Flummery

2 cups blueberries	½ cup sugar
¼ cup water	juice of 1 lemon
3 teaspoons cornstarch	¼ teaspoon salt

Cook the blueberries in the water until soft. Strain and mix with the remaining ingredients. Cook until thick. Mold and chill. Serve with heavy cream. Serves four. Blackberries or raspberries may be used instead of blueberries.

Shaker Peach Dumplings

Peel small peaches and cut in pieces. Put in a kettle with a little water and sugar to sweeten. Cook slowly until a good syrup is formed. Add nutmeg if desired. Make a batter of the following:

1 cup white flour	1 teaspoon sugar
1 cup whole wheat flour	½ teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons baking powder	1 cup milk

Drop by the teaspoonful on top of the boiling fruit, cover closely, and steam ten to fifteen minutes. Serve with the fruit in the center of the dish and the dumplings around the edge. Serves six to eight.

Blueberry Teacake

½ cup butter	¼ teaspoon salt
¾ cup sugar	1 cup milk
1 egg	1 teaspoon vanilla
2¼ cups flour	1 cup blueberries
4 teaspoons baking powder	

Cream the butter and sugar and add the egg. Stir well. Sift the dry ingredients and add alternately with the milk to the first mixture. Add the vanilla. Flour the blueberries and stir in quickly, being careful not to crush the berries. Turn into a buttered pan and bake in a moderate oven, 375°F, for thirty-five minutes. Serve warm with butter or pan cream.

We thank Barbara Towle for permission to share these recipes with you. When authors Ella Bowles and Dorothy Towle assembled them, now over 75 years ago, they passed on to us some of the best and most authentic of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century New England dishes.

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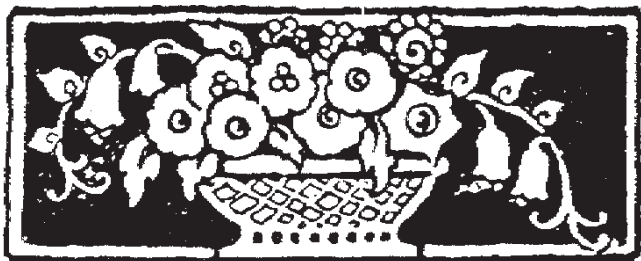
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Uncle B.

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

A couple of weeks ago, we got slammed at the Birdseye—the diner my husband and I own in the center of Castleton. Slamming is where you can't keep up because there are suddenly way too many customers and way too few staff.

We had been having an early dinner when crowds of people came through the door. My husband began bussing, and I said I'd bring out waters.

So I went from table to table. I got to a table in the corner and said, "Watch out! The last time I did any waitressing was in 1961 at the Prospect."

We all laughed because they were old-time-locals, and they knew the hotel on Lake Bomoseen.

Both my parents worked at the Prospect House Hotel when they were at Castleton's Normal School, and my father continued as head waiter for more than a decade, including all the time I was growing up. The year before I started college they decided it was time for me to have a job.

This was a nepotistic-privilege because the waitress positions at the Prospect House were highly desirable, and my father began receiving application letters months before the summer began. He tended to hire local girls whose mothers had worked with him when they were all at the Normal School. But his best waitresses, he told me, were UVM Home Economics majors who'd come off the farm and handled anything he had to throw at them, even tables of twenty.

With me, we soon learned that I was at my limit managing one table of four not-very-demanding diners, usually people who liked my father so much they were charmed to have 'Little Rex' as their waitress.

My parents were both teachers, and I think, looking back, that they had some misgivings about someone as young and naïve as I was, even at seventeen, going up to the hotel to work.

Normally I'd spend solitary summers reading and playing with my sister in the brook behind Boomer Brough's, or the two of us would bike down to Crystal Beach, or drive out with my mother to my Grandparents' house at Castleton Corners to visit Aunt Alma.

My parents didn't want me boarding at the hotel. Instead, I'd ride with my father back and forth for the day's three meals. I found this a pretty demanding schedule after summers of doing just about anything I pleased.

There was never a day off and not much recovery time between meals. But I liked being with my father, talking about what was going on at the hotel. I'd be sitting in the front seat of the car on broiling early afternoons, waiting for him to finish up lunch and reading, as I remember, *Advise and Consent*. When we got back to Castleton, I'd take a nap, and then it was time to return.

Sometimes, I'd wait sitting in the cool, shadowy, old-barn-like interior of the enormous and deserted hotel kitchen. That's where I met Mary McCormick, a good friend for years, who was already at CSC, and didn't think I'd like the school, but she was wrong.

There was a lot going on in that 1950s/60s Vermont-hotel-world. The excessive social drinking was right out of a Cheever short story. Harriet Baker, who'd inherited the hotel, hosted a by-invitation, daily, afternoon cocktail party, and for the rest of the guests, drinks were served on the wide wooden hotel porch, which had spectacular views north up the lake and opened into the dining room.

An old barn near the golf course had been converted into a dormitory for the African-American help who arrived from Florida every year on the Whitehall train and took over the kitchen. Perhaps to aid in tolerating long hours and cultural differences, there was a lot of activity out in that barn.

But no one disturbed the cooks. They were absolute monarchs—regularly receiving placating and financially-remunerative visits from the Bakers—because everyone realized that the hotel survived on the strength of its cuisine.

Also given a pass was the romantic activity in the waitresses' dormitory, an over-the-kitchen site of many fervid as-



photo from collection of Pamela Hayes Rehlen
Head cook Uncle B. (on right) in 1961 at Bomoseen's Prospect House Hotel.

signations. Down at the shoreline, a Fair Haven crew arrived every summer to rent out boats, oversee a lot of gambling activity, and during the racing season, send a daily runner to Saratoga. But I was 'Little Rex'. I had no clue about any of any of this.

I remember the Sunday morning I got in line for the help's breakfast and saw that Uncle B. had heaped bacon on my eggs and then covered the plate with a napkin.

"Uncle B.," I cried out, alarmed, "The waitresses aren't allowed to have bacon, and there's a lot of bacon here."

Uncle B. was head cook, a rangy old-timer from the Deep South who thought a lot of my father, but 'Little Rex' was clearly a cretin.

That was the kind of kid I was. That was the world of Bomoseen's Prospect House Hotel—now vanished without a trace.

Pamela Hayes Rehlen has written and lived most of her life in Castleton, Vermont. She is the author of stories, articles, essays, magazine features, and of two books: The Blue Cat

and the River's Song (\$17 plus shipping and handling) and The Vanished Landmarks Game—Vermont Stories from West of Birdseye (\$20 plus shipping and handling) available at the Castleton Village Store, P.O. Box 275, Castleton, Vermont 05735, and at a number of Vermont booksellers. To reach the store, call (802) 468-2213.

All back issues of these columns can be read in the Sampler archives, usually on page 11, at www.vermontcountry.com.

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Portents

Late August, and on any day,
When river winds blow free,
I shall expect a yellow leaf
To flutter down to me.
And on the sandy pasture hill
Above the bluet bed
I'll see the leaves of sumac change
To lovely brilliant red.
And I shall feel as one bereft,
Knowing that the Summer's left.

—NELLIE S. RICHARDSON
1876-1970, Springfield, VT

Useful Vermont Websites

Vermont State Parks: vtstateparks.com
Green Mountain National Forest: fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl
Vermont Outdoor Guide Association: voga.org
Hunting & Fishing: vtfishandwildlife.com
Things to Do: findandgoseek.net
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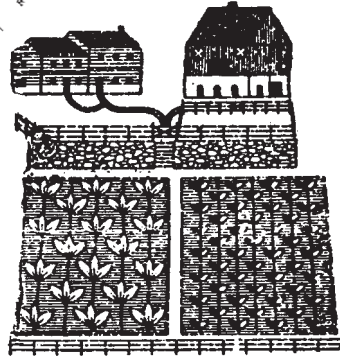
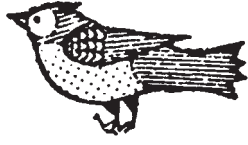
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Vermont Country Calendar

See the end of the Ongoing Activities for daily listings.
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ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2021

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Indoor and outdoor exhibits. Learn how to use the atlatl (ancient spear thrower). Children's French Colonial dress-up basket. Chimney Point history trail. Access for boating and fishing. Adults \$5, under 15 free. Open Friday-Sunday and Monday holidays, 10 am - 5 pm. 8149 Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October 10.*

AVERILL. Quimby Country. Vermont's oldest sporting camp and original family summer camp. All-Inclusive family vacations. Waterfront cottages. Quimby Country, 1127 Forest Lake Rd. (802) 822-5533. info@quimbycountry.com. quimbycountry.com.

BARNARD. Thursday Night Music Series at Feast and Field. 5:30-8 pm. At Fable Farm, 1544 Royalton Tpk. (802) 234-1645. info@barnarts.org. www.barnarts.org. *Thursday nights through September 30.*

BARRE. Concerts in Currier Park & Food Truck Thursdays. Food trucks on site from 4-8 pm. Live music from 6-8 pm. Currier Park. (802) 477-2967. thebarrepartnership.com. *Thursdays through September 30.*

BARRE. Exhibit. *The Parade is Coming!* through August 19. Additional shows on view. Wednesday-Friday 11:30 am - 5 pm, Saturday 11:30 am - 4 pm, and by appointment. Studio Place Arts, 201 N. Main St. (802) 479-7069. www.studioplacearts.com.

BELLOWS FALLS. Bellows Falls Fish Ladder. Learn about the Connecticut River watershed and the regional ecology and take a peek beneath the waters in this immersive experience. Open Friday and Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. 17 Bridge St. (802) 460-4664. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. www.nature-museum.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. Bellow Falls Third Fridays (BF3F). Some merchants stay open later. Bellows Falls Opera showing movies. Greater Falls Farmers Market 4-7 pm. (802) 460-2333. bellowsfallsvt.org. *Third Fridays.*

BENNINGTON. Volunteer Maintenance of the George Aiken Wildflower Trail. Trail-side activities for kids. Bring a friend, gardening gloves, and your favorite equipment. Saturdays, 9-10 am. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org. *Every Saturday.*

BENNINGTON. Concerts in the Courtyard. Have a bite to eat and a performance by regional musicians. Kids activities. Bring your own chair. Free. Fridays at 5 pm (weather permitting). Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. info@benningtonmuseum.org. benningtonmuseum.org. *Fridays thru September 3.*

BENNINGTON. 24th Annual North Bennington Outdoor Sculpture Show (NBOSS). Large-scale outdoor works throughout the historic village of North Bennington, at the Hiland Hall Gardens, and on the 10-acre campus of Bennington Museum in Old Bennington. 50 internationally recognized and emerging artists. Sculptures available for purchase; maps available on site. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. benningtonmuseum.org. *Through November 7.*

BENNINGTON. Bennington Battle Monument. Gift Shop. Free admission (ground level only, observation level closed). Friday-Monday, 10 am - 5 pm. Bennington Battle Monument, 15 Monument Circle. (802) 447-0550. historicsites.vermont.gov. *Through October.*

BENNINGTON. Summertime Cafe: Corner of India. Order in person, or call or email in advance to have your order ready. Cash only. Sundays, 11 am - 3 pm. In the Courtyard at Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org. *Through September 5.*

BENNINGTON. Summer Farmers Market. Live music. Every Saturday 10 am - 1 pm. At the Deer Park, 100 Veterans Memorial Dr. benningtonfarmersmarket.org. *Through October 30.*

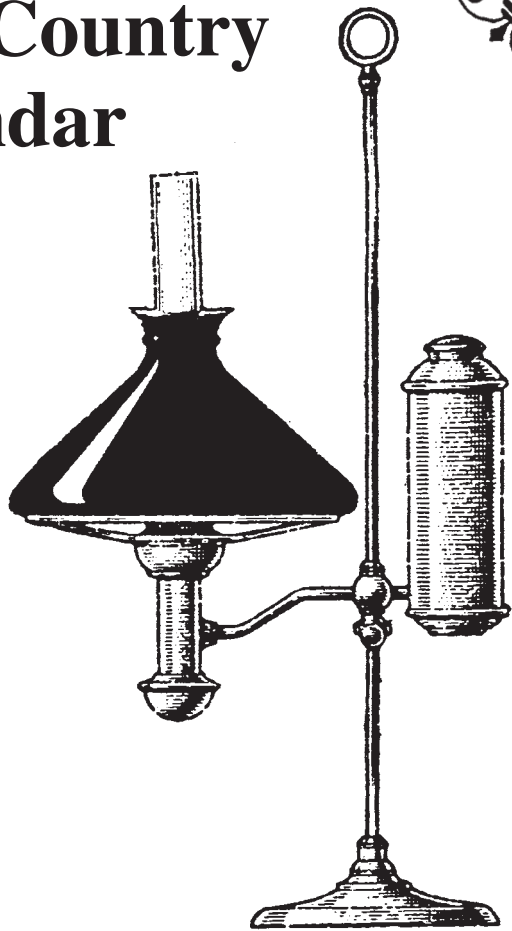
BENNINGTON. The Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont. Museum shop. Admission \$4 adults, \$2 children three and older, \$10 families. Please wear masks inside museum. Saturdays and Sundays 1-4 pm. 212 Union St., corner of Valentine St. (401) 578-9512. jcmintv@hotmail.com. dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com.

BENNINGTON. Bennington Museum. Works by Grandma Moses. Admission: adults \$12, seniors (62+) and students \$10, under 18 free. Friday-Monday, 10 am - 4 pm. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org.

BRANDON. Music at the Riverbend. Free live music. 7 pm. Kennedy Park behind the Brandon Inn, 20 Park St. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org. www.brandon.org. *Every Wednesday evening in August.*

BRANDON. Compass Music and Arts Center. Tuesday-Friday 10 am - 4 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center/Brandon Music, 333 Jones Dr. cmacvt.org.

BRANDON. The Guild Gallery. Fine art and crafts from 30+ member-artists. Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 5 pm, Sunday 10 am - 4 pm. Brandon Artists Guild, 7 Center St. (802) 247-4956. brandonartistsguild.org.



BRATTLEBORO. Five New Exhibits. Wednesday-Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124 x 113. www.brattleboromuseum.org. *Through October 11.*

BRATTLEBORO. Weekly Food Truck Roundup. Local food, Vermont craft brews, live music, and lawn games. Thursdays, 5-8 pm. Retreat Farm, 45 Farmhouse Sq. (802) 490-2270. retreatfarm.org. *Thursdays thru September 22.*

BRATTLEBORO. Live Music. Stone Church presents rock, jazz, folk, americana concerts. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Visit website for schedule. The Stone Church, 210 Main St. (802) 579-9960. stonechurchvt.com.

BRATTLEBORO. First Friday Gallery Walk. 5-8 pm. Pop-Up Art Stations at Patio by the River, Pliny Park, and the Museum Lawn. (802) 257-4886. brattleboro.com/downtown/gallery-walk. *First Fridays through October.*

BRATTLEBORO. Foodtruck Roundup. Thursdays, 5-8 pm. Retreat Farm, 45 Farmhouse Sq. (802) 490-2270. retreatfarm.org. *Thursdays through September 2.*

BRATTLEBORO. Vermont Jazz Center. Concerts online and in-person, classes, workshops. Vermont Jazz Center, 72 Cotton Mill Hill. (802) 254-9088. www.vtjazz.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Retreat Farm. Labyrinth garden, arts installations, walking paths and trails. Historic cow tunnel, pollinator pathway. Meadows waterfront trail. Forest playground, storybook walk. Living sculpture. Learn about the significance of this site to the Abenaki people. No restrooms or public facilities. Free. Open dawn to dusk. 45 Farmhouse Square. (802) 490-2270. www.retreatfarm.org.

BURLINGTON. Summerville. Live music performances, local food and drink for purchase. "Make and Take" activities. Raffle prizes. Free. Thursdays at 5:30 pm. The Intervale Center, 180 Intervale Rd. (802) 660-0440. intervale.org/summerville. *Thursdays through September 2.*

BURLINGTON. Leddy Park Beach Bites. Lakeside picnickers enjoy food truck fare, a beer garden, kids' activities and live entertainment. Free. Wednesdays, 5-8 pm. Leddy Park, 216 Leddy Park Rd. (802) 864-0123. enjoyburlington.com. *Wednesdays through August 11.*

BURLINGTON. Spirit of Ethan Allen. Daily cruises on Lake Champlain. (802) 862-8300. spirit@soea.com. www.soea.com.

BURLINGTON. Free Summer Concert Series. Free. 12:30-1 pm. City Hall Park. www.burlingtoncityarts.org. *Wednesdays and Fridays through August 27.*

BURLINGTON. Exhibit: *Falling into Language, a Travelogue.* Immersive installation by Vermont-based artist Kaylynn TwoTrees. Admission. Wednesday-Friday 12 noon - 5 pm, Saturday: 12 noon - 8 pm. Burlington City Arts, 135 Church St. (802) 865-7166. burlingtoncityarts.org. *Through October 9.*

BURLINGTON. All Hearts in the Park. Community storytelling session. 5 pm Tuesdays. City Hall Park. akrebbs@burlingtoncityarts.org. burlingtoncityarts.org. *Tuesdays through September 14.*

BURLINGTON. Burlington Farmer's Market. Rain or shine. Saturdays, 9 am - 2 pm. 345 Pine St. (802) 310-5172. info@burlingtonfarmersmarket.org. burlingtonfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays through October.*

BURLINGTON. Contemporary Art Gallery. Thursday-Saturday 11 am - 5 pm, and by appointment. Soapbox Arts, 266 Pine St., Suite 119. (802) 324-0014. info@soapboxarts.com. www.soapboxarts.com.

BURLINGTON. Vermont Lake Monsters Baseball Games. Tickets \$9. Stadium parking \$4 per car. Visit website for schedule. Centennial Field, 287 Colchester Ave. (802) 655-4200. www.vermontlakemonsters.com. *Thru August 13.*

Black Raspberry Almond Cobbler

Cobblers are a baked fruit dessert made something like a crisp but with a light, sweetened biscuit-like topping.

6 cups fresh black raspberries ¾ cup honey
5 Tbsp quick-cooking tapioca ½ cup water
2 Tbsp butter ¼ tsp almond extract

Combine black raspberries, honey, tapioca and water in a medium-sized saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly for 1 minute. (Be careful not to scorch it!) Turn off heat and stir in the butter and almond extract. Let cool while preparing the topping, then pour into a greased 9x13 pan.

Topping

2 cups whole wheat flour 3 tsp baking powder
¼ cup butter ½ cup almonds
½ cup buttermilk 2 eggs

In a food processor, put flour, baking powder, and almonds. Whiz until almonds are chopped fine. Add butter and whiz again until it forms a crumbly mixture. Add eggs, buttermilk, and almond extract and whiz just until dough forms a lump. Shape into biscuits and set them over the fruit in the 9x13 baking pan. Try to cover all the fruit as best you can with the biscuit mixture. Bake at 400° for 25-30 minutes.



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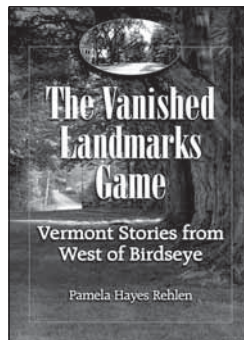
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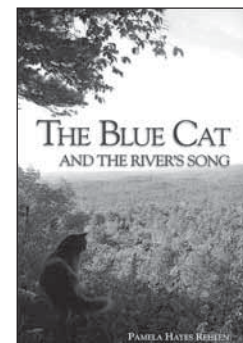
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Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing Activities 2021, continued)

BURLINGTON. ECHO, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain. Exhibits, workshops, programs, museum store. Adults \$18, students & seniors \$16, children 3-17 \$14.50, children 2 and under free. Open seven days a week! ECHO, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, 1 College St. (802) 864-1848. info@echovermont.org. www.echovermont.org.

BURLINGTON. Ethan Allen Homestead Museum. A site dedicated to the Revolutionary War hero. Outdoor tours include The Allen House, A recreated Abenaki Encampment, and the Heritage Garden. Admission: \$12, students 5-17 \$6, under 5 free. Open Thursday-Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm. Allen Homestead Museum, 1 Ethan Allen Homestead. (802) 865-4556. ethanallenhomestead.org. Through October 31.

BURLINGTON. Summerville. Live music, local food, kid's games. Free. 5:30-8 pm. Intervale Center, 180 Intervale Rd. intervale.org. Thursdays through September 2.

COLCHESTER. Sam Mazza's Farm Market. Pick-your-own raspberries and blueberries. Home-grown produce. Bakery, ice cream, fudge, wines and specialty foods. Corn maze opens Labor Day Weekend. Open 7 am to 7 pm. 277 Lavigne Rd. (802) 655-3440. www.sammazzafarms.com.

CHARLOTTE. Clemmons Family Farm. 148-acre historic farm, African-American owned land and cultural heritage resource. Visit website for more info. (765) 560-5445. www.clemmonsfamilyfarm.org.

CRAFTSBURY. Craftsby Farmers' Market. Saturdays, 10 am - 1 pm. Route 14, Craftsby Common. (802) 586-8022. craftsbyfarmersmarket.com. Every Saturday.

DANVILLE. Summer Farmers Market. Wednesdays 9 am - 1 pm. Located on the Danville Town Green. (802) 592-3088. sites.google.com/site/caledoniafarmersmarket. Thru Oct.

EAST HARDWICK. 19th Annual Phlox Fest. Garden tours at 1 pm Wed. thru Sun. Phlox cut flower display. Door prizes. Through August 15. The Tea Garden Café open till September 12, from 11:30 am to 3:30 pm, Thursday through Sunday. Nursery open to mid-September, 10 am - 5 pm Wednesday through Sunday. Summersweet Gardens Perennial Pleasures Nursery and Tea Garden, 63 Brick House Rd. (802) 472-5104. summersweetgardens.com.

EAST MONTPELIER. Bragg Farm Sugarhouse & Gift Shop. Tours. Maple Ice Cream Parlor. Maple syrup, candies & cream. Mail orders welcome by phone or on-line. (802) 223-5757. 1005 Rt. 14. www.braggfarm.com.

ENOSBURG. Cold Hollow Sculpture Park. Admission free. Thursday-Sunday, 12-6 pm. Cold Hollow Sculpture Park, 4280 Boston Post Rd. (512) 333-2119. coldhollowsculpturepark.com. Through October 10.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Trucks, Taps & Tunes. live entertainment, cold beer, and food. Admission is free; food and beverage for purchase. 5-8 pm. Essex Experience, 21 Essex Way. essexexperience.com. Every Wednesday.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Vermont Genealogy Library. Classes, archives, research, books. Open Tuesday 3-9:30 pm and Saturday 10 am to 4 pm. Vermont Genealogy Library, 57 River Rd. (Rt. 117). mail@vtgenlib.org. www.vtgenlib.org.

FAIR HAVEN. Fair Haven Concerts in the Park. Free admission. Free parking. 50/50 raffle table. Food for sale. Cancelled in case of inclement weather. 7 pm. Downtown Fair Haven. (802) 265-3010. Thursdays through August 19.

FAIRFAX. Fairfax Fridays Farmer's Market. Farmers' market begins at 4:30 pm; live music 6:30-7:30 pm. At the Community Center, 1210 Main St. (802) 849-6111. fairfaxrecreation.com/fridays. Every Friday.

FAIRLEE. Summer Music Series. Free. Tuesdays, 6:30-8 pm. 75 Town Common Rd. (802) 331-0997. contact@fairleearts.org. fairleearts.org. Tuesdays through August 31.

FERRISBURGH. Rokeyby Museum. Exhibit: "Free & Safe", interpretive trail, and agricultural outbuildings. Exhibit: "A Modern Artist - The Commercial Art of Rachael Robinson Elmer" through October 24. Adults \$10, seniors \$9, students \$8, under 5 free. Free on Tuesday 1-5 pm. Facemasks and social distancing in place. Daily 10 am - 5 pm. Rokeyby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. (802) 877-3406. www.rokeyby.org.

GLOVER. Domestic Resurrection Circus performed by Bread and Puppet Theater. Saturday and Sunday at 4 pm through August 29. Tickets \$10. By reservation. Open for drop-in visits to see museum puppets, masks, costumes, paintings, buildings, and landscapes. Bread and Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. breadpup@together.net. www.breadandpuppet.org.

GRAFTON. The Nature Museum at Grafton. Hands-on exhibits, dioramas, and mounted specimens. Pollinator garden, Village Park trails, Fairy House Trail, pond dipping, backyard picnics. The Magic Forest Playscape, designed with elements from nature creating a whimsical trail that leads through the woods, designed for all ages, open from dawn to dusk daily. Free admission. Open Friday through Sunday through fall, 10 am - 4 pm. The Nature Museum at Grafton, 186 Townshend Rd. (802) 843-2111. info@nature-museum.org. www.nature-museum.org.

GROTON. Outdoor Family Weekend. Hands-on activities for experienced and first-time campers. Fee: \$175, covers the campsite (up to eight individuals), three workshops per camper, nightly campfires, entertainment, and access to all park facilities including free canoe rentals. Materials fee for some workshops. Registration deadline August 20. Stillwater State Park. (802) 651-8343 x 509. allison.smith.2@uvm.edu. facebook.com/outdoorfamilyweekendvt. September 10-12.

HARDWICK. The Vermont Curators Group Itinerary. Hardwick to Waitsfield. Five exhibitions. Meandering scenic route on a trip through at least 11 towns. 251 Club of Vermont. vt251.com. vermontcuratorsgroup.com.

HARTLAND. Summer Farmers Market. 4-7 pm Fridays, rain or shine. 153 Rt. 5 in front of Hartland Public Library. (603) 252-1288. hartlandfarmersmarket.com. Thru Sept. 24.

HINESBURG. Red Wagon Plants First Thursdays in the Garden. A free walk behind the scenes in our gardens and greenhouses. 6-7:30 pm. Red Wagon Plants, 2408 Shelburne Falls Rd. (802) 482-4060. August 5 and September 2.

HUBBARDTON. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Exhibits and programs. Admission: adults \$3, children under 15 free. Open Friday through Sunday 10 am - 5 pm. Hubbardton Battlefield, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov. Through October 10.

HUNTINGTON. Birds of Vermont Museum. Discover birds: indoors as lifelike woodcarvings, and outdoors in their wild feathered selves. Programs, bird walks, museum store. Wednesday through Sunday 10 am to 4 pm. 100 acres of trails are always open. Adults \$7, seniors \$6, children 3-17 \$3.50. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. www.birdsofvermont.org. Through October.

LEBANON, NH. AVA Gallery and Art Center. Exhibits, classes, programs. Tues-Fri 11 am - 6 pm, Sat-Sun 11 am - 4 pm. 11 Bank St. www.avagallery.org.

MANCHESTER. Concerts on the Green. Six free concerts. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. No smoking. Free. Wednesdays, 6-8 pm. Factory Point Town Green, 30 VT Rt. 11. (802) 362-1439. parks@manchester-vt.gov. facebook.com/manchestergov. Wednesdays thru August 11.

MANCHESTER. Exhibit: "Many Voices." The paradoxical story of the black Pullman porters. Admission. Thursday-Monday, 10 am - 4 pm. On the platform of Hildene's restored 1903 Pullman palace railcar, Sunbeam, at Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home, 1005 Hildene Rd. (802) 362-1788. info@hildene.org. www.hildene.org. Through September 24.

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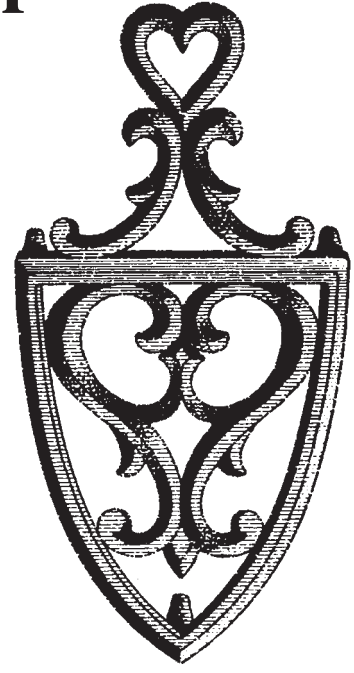
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Vermont Country Calendar



MANCHESTER. Hildene – The Lincoln Family Home. Tour the home, gardens, farm, walking rails. Masks and social distancing required. Admission: \$23 adults, \$6 youth, under 5 no charge. Open Thurs – Mon, 10 am – 4 pm. Hildene, 1005 Hildene Rd. off Rt. 7A south of the village. (800) 578-1788. hildene.org.

MANCHESTER. Play: *Queen of the Night* by Travis Tate. Tickets: \$45. 8-9:30 pm daily; no performances Mondays or Thursdays. Open-air performance space at Southern Vermont Arts Center, 930 Southern Vermont Arts Center Dr. (802) 867-2223. boxoffice@dorsettheatrefestival.org. dorsettheatrefestival.org. August 10 through September 4.

MANCHESTER. Art Exhibits, Classes, Programs. Wednesday–Saturday 10 am – 4 pm, Sunday 12 noon – 4 pm. Southern Vermont Arts Center, 930 SVAC Dr. (802) 362-1405. svac.org.

MANCHESTER. Dutton’s Farmstand. Season’s best fruits, and vegetables. Our own maple syrup, apples, cider. Baked goods, pies, bread, cookies, creemees! Daily 9 am – 7 pm. Dutton’s Farmstand, 2083 Depot St., Rts. 11/30. (802) 362-3083. www.duttonberryfarm.com.

MENDON. Mendon Mountain Orchards. Family-run motel and 26-acre heirloom apple orchard. Bakery and country store. Apple pies and cider. Mendon Mountain Orchard, 16 US Rt. 4. (802) 775-5477. www.mendonorchards.com.

MIDDLEBURY. Free Little Art Gallery. Anyone can participate by creating a mini-work of art in any medium. Bring your art and place it in the Free Little Art Gallery. If you see a work you like, you are welcome to take it home with you. At the front of the garden, Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. mmanley@henrysheldonmuseum.org. henrysheldonmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Exhibits. *Henry at 200: Collector, Museum Founder & More. Faces of Addison County: A Trent Campbell Retrospective.* Kate Pond *From the Heart: A Sculptor’s Process.* Tuesday–Friday 11 am – 4 pm, Saturday 10 am – 4 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. mmanley@henrysheldonmuseum.org. henrysheldonmuseum.org. Through September 11.

MIDDLEBURY. Middlebury Farmer’s Market. 9 am – 12:30 pm. VFW at 530 Exchange St. (802) 673-4158. middleburyfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays thru October.

MONTPELIER. Hunger Mountain Co-op Brown Bag Summer Concert Series. Free. 12 noon – 1 pm. Christ Church Courtyard, 64 State St. (802) 223-9604. montpelierlive.org. Thursdays through September 9.

MONTPELIER. Exhibit: The State of Sculpture. Sculpture Garden, Vermont Arts Council, 136 State St. (802) 828-3291. vermontartscouncil.org. Through August.

MONTPELIER. Vermont History Museum. Open 10 am to 5 pm. Wednesdays–Saturdays. 109 State St. (802) 479-8500. vermonthistory.org/museum.

MONTPELIER. Cross Vermont Trail Association. A project to build a multi-use, four-season path across the width of Vermont, following the Winooski River and Wells River valleys. (802) 498-0079. crossvermont.org.

MONTPELIER. Nature programs online and in person. North Branch Nature Center, 713 Elm St. (802) 229-6206. www.northbranchnaturecenter.org.

MONTPELIER. Northeast Wilderness Trust. Forever-wild conservation is about freedom...for wildlife, natural processes, and the untrammelled evolution of the landscape. We work with partner organizations and landowners to evaluate land for wilderness conservation. Northeast Wilderness Trust. (802) 224-1000. newildernesstrust.org.

MORRISTOWN. Wednesday Night Live Concerts. Bring your chairs or blankets. Food vendors. Creative arts tent, recreation events. Free. 5:30-7:30 pm. Oxbow River Front Park. (802) 888-6669. ifollert@morrystownvt.org. morrystownvt.org. Every Wednesday through August 18.

NEWFANE. Dutton’s Farmstand. Pick-your-own blueberries and raspberries. Season’s best fruits, and vegetables. Our own maple syrup, apples, cider. Baked goods, pies, bread, cookies, creemees! Dutton’s Farmstand, 391 & 407 Rt. 30. (802) 365-4168. duttonberryfarm.com.

NEWFANE. The West River Railroad Museum. Old Depot and Water Tank House both built in 1880. Free. Saturdays and Sundays 12-5 pm. Cemetery Hill Rd. historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org. Open through October 10.

NEWFANE. The Windham County Museum. Early Vermont furniture, folk art, Civil War artifacts, clothing, toys, and tools all related to Windham County’s history. Free. Sat. and Sun. 2-5 pm, Wednesdays 10 am – 4 pm. www.historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org. Through October 10.

NORWICH. Summer Sings! 8/6 Faure “Requiem + Pergolesi Magnificat.” 8/13 Haydn “Creation.” 8/20 Brahms “Requiem.” 8/27 Vivaldi “Magnificat (SSA).” Bring your own chair. Suggested donation: \$10. Fridays, 6:30–8:30 pm. Outdoor Pavilion at Montshire Museum of Science, One Montshire Rd. (203) 984-3126. info@choralartsuv.org. choralartsuv.org. August 6, 13, 20, and 27.

NORWICH. Montshire Museum of Science. Air and weather; creatures; light and sight; native plants and the environment. All ages. Adults \$18, children 2-17 \$15, under 2 free. Reservations in advance. Tuesday-Friday 10 am – 5 pm. Montshire Museum of Science, One Montshire Road off Rt. 5. montshire.org. (802) 649-2200. Through September 5.

NORWICH. Summer Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. 281 Rt. 5 South. (802) 384-7447. norwichfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October.

NORTH BENNINGTON. Park McCullough Historic Governor’s Mansion. Adults \$15, seniors \$12, students \$8, 8 & under (with an adult) free. Friday-Sunday, 10 am – 2 pm. Park McCullough Historic Governor’s Mansion, 1 Park St. (802) 491-7677. parkmccullough.org.

NORTH SPRINGFIELD. Displays and exhibits about the town’s history. Free. Saturdays 1-4 pm, or by appointment. Springfield Art and Historical Society, 65 Rt. 106. (802) 886-7935. sahs@vermontel.net.

ONLINE. Sacred Texts. Study core teachings of the world’s spiritual traditions, using Socratic dialogue, to unravel hidden meanings and new understandings. Fee: \$45. Sundays at 7 pm. Halcyon Arts New England. (413) 345-2917. halcyon-arts.org. Fourth Sundays September through May.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities 2021, continued)

ONLINE. 2021 Vermont Master Composter Course. Registration is only open for Track 2 self-paced and out-of-state students. Fee: Vermont residents \$50, out-of-state \$150. (802) 656-1777. go.uvm.edu/vtmastercompostercourse. Sept. 10 through Nov. 12.

ONLINE. Birding Hotspots in Rutland County. Publicly accessible places with a variety of habitats. Visit these places and report your sightings to www.eBird.org. Rutland County Audubon. www.rutlandcountyaudubon.org/hotspots.

ONLINE. Outdoor Radio. Over 50 episodes online, with topics ranging from birds to bats and beavers to peepers. Co-hosts: Kent McFarland and Sara Zahendra. Find the episodes on the VCE website Vermont Center for Ecostudies. vtcecostudies.org.

ONLINE. Forevergreen: A Vermont Adventure in Music. Bringing the music of Vermont and the artists who have an affinity for the Green Mountain State directly to you. All shows stream live at 7 pm on Vermont Tourism YouTube and Facebook. vermontvacation.com/forevergreen.

ONLINE. Solstice Seeds 2021 Catalogue of Open Pollinated Seeds. Solstice Seeds, Hartland, Vermont. solsticeseedsvt@gmail.com. solsticeseeds.org.

ONLINE. 2021 Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Licenses Available Online. License gift certificates also available. John.Hall@vermont.gov. vtfishandwildlife.com.

ONLINE. 4-H at Home. University of Vermont Extension programs for kids of all ages on veterinary science, civic engagement and environmental leadership to gardening and nutrition, babysitting and learning to code. Free. uvm.edu/extension/youth/4-h-home.

ONLINE. Interactive All-Vermont Band Guide. Big Heavy World. (802) 865-1140. bigheavyworld.com/band-guide.

ONLINE. The Lake Champlain Digital Museum: Digital Exhibits, Virtual Shipwreck Tours. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. (802) 475-2022. lcm.org.

ORWELL. Mount Independence State Historic Site. Exhibits. Six miles of walking and hiking trails, one suitable for outdoor wheelchairs and strollers. Gift shop. Adults \$5, children under 5 free. Open Tuesday – Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicsites.vermont.gov. Open through October 10.

PITTSFORD. Tuesdays Concerts. 6 pm. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St. info@pittsfordvillagefarm.org. www.pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

PLYMOUTH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Exhibits, buildings, and walking trails. Tuesday – Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm. Adults: \$5 (Museum only), \$8 (Museum & tour of Homestead), children under 15 free. Family pass (up to 8 people) \$25. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicsites.vermont.gov. Open through October 17.

POULTNEY. Photography Exhibit: “Portraits of a Community”. Gallery hours: Sundays 1-4 pm, Fridays 5-7:30 pm by appointment. Stone Valley Arts Center at Fox Hill, 145 E. Main St. stonevalleyarts.org. Through August 29.

QUECHEE. VINS Nature Center. Outdoor exhibits daily with educators presenting. Adults \$17.50, seniors (62 plus) \$16.50, college students \$16.50, educators & vets \$16.50, youth 4-17 \$15, kids 3 & under free. Open daily 10 am – 4 pm. Covid protocols. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 149 Natures Way. (802) 359-5000. vinsweb.org.

RANDOLPH. Earthwise Farm & Forest. A certified organic, draft-animal powered homestead farm. Workshops. Farm tours. Earthwise Farm & Forest, 341 MacIntosh Hill Rd. (802) 234-5524. earthwisefarmandforest.com.

READING. Exhibits: “Deep Blue”. Works by 70 artists from the Hall Art Foundation collections. Katherine Bradford: “Philosophers’ Clambake”. Admission: \$10. Saturday and Sunday, 11 am – 4 pm, self-guided visits. Reservations recommended. Hall Art Foundation, 544 Route 106. hallartfoundation.org. Through November 28.

RICHMOND. Music While You Pick Concert Series. Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Picking starts at 5 pm, 2-quart minimum purchase per adult. Owl’s Head Blueberry Farm, 263 Blueberry Farm Rd. (802) 434-3387. Tuesdays and Thursdays through August 17.

ROXBURY. Roxbury Fish Culture Station. The renovated facility will produce 25,000 pounds of fish, and 60,000 brook and rainbow trout annually for stocking in state waters. Outdoor grounds open; covid protocols. Art installation: “The Origin of the River” by Vermont sculptor Sean Hunter Williams features a single spawning female wild brook trout enlarged six times. Roxbury Fish Culture Station, 3696 Roxbury Rd. (802) 461-6019. chris.ingram@vermont.gov. vtfishandwildlife.com.

RUPERT. Merck Forest and Farmland Center. Workshops, events, children’s activities, hiking trails. 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. info@merckforest.org. merckforest.org.

RUTLAND. Chaffee Art Center. Exhibits, workshops, classes, gift shop. Art in the Park August 14 & 15 and October 9 & 10 in Main Street Park. Open Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 12-4 pm and Saturday 10 am – 2 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers’ Market. Saturdays through Oct. 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wednesdays through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Through October.

RUTLAND. Wonderfeet Kids’ Museum. Fri-Sun, 10 am – 12 noon and 2-4 pm. Wonderfeet Kids’ Museum, 11 Center St. (802) 282-2678. wonderfeetkidsmuseum.org.

SHAFTSBURY. Robert Frost Stone House Museum. The house, built circa 1769, was considered historic even before the Frost period. It sits on seven acres and still retains some of Frost’s original apple trees. Adults \$10, seniors & students \$6, under 18 \$5, children under 10 free. Friday-Monday, 10 am – 4 pm. 121 Historic Rt. 7A. (802) 447-6200. www.bennington.edu. Through October 31.

SHELBURNE. Shelburne Farms. Walking trails. Programs and activities for the whole family. A Gardener’s Tour of the Formal Gardens, with local horticulturist Paul Wiczorek and Birgit Deeds. Fee: \$15, registration required. Thursdays, 3-4 pm. Welcome Center parking lot. Admission by donation. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. (802) 985-8686. www.shelburnefarms.org.

SHELBURNE. Exhibit. *New England Now: People*. Works of art portray multifaceted and evolving concepts of the “New Englander.” Admission. Wednesday–Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. info@shelburnemuseum.org. www.shelburnemuseum.org. Through October 17.

SHELBURNE. Shelburne Farmer’s Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. 332 Shelburne Hinesburg Rd. (802) 985-2472. sbpavt.org/the-market. Through October 9.

SOUTH BURLINGTON. SoBu Nite Out. Spend an evening in the park, listening to live music, enjoying different cuisines. Food trucks and local bands. 5-8 pm. Veterans Memorial park, 1000 Dorset St. (802) 846-4108. southburlingtonvt.gov. Thursdays through August 19.

SOUTH HERO. Summer Concert Series. 6:30-8:30 pm. Snow Farm Vineyard, 190 West Shore Rd. (802) 372-9463. lanes@snowfarm.com. snowfarm.com. Thursdays through September 2.

The Chicago World’s Fair and a Famous Fascist

by Charles Fish

To a young man not long off the farm in Ira, Vermont, the Chicago World’s Fair of 1933 might have seemed an unlikely adventure. My father Charles Fish, then twenty-one, had the good luck to meet a man who wanted a truck delivered to Chicago, so with some friends off he went.

He came home with a packet of materials documenting the wonders of the Fair, including the Havoline Motor Oil thermometer, the world’s tallest at 218 feet; historic trains, “Giants of Speed and Power”; the great General Motors exhibit; and the Sky Ride “rocket cars” that zoomed you between steel towers 625 feet high and 1,825 feet apart. A side trip took you to Swift & Company’s meat-packing plant where you could watch the processing of meat and poultry from slaughter to government inspection, including 750 hogs per hour.

These commercial and industrial marvels were in service of the Fair’s purpose to celebrate Chicago’s centennial and to inspire confidence in the modern way of life even in the depths of the Great Depression. The formal name was “A Century of Progress International Exposition”, its theme “Technological Innovation”, and its motto “Science Finds, Industry Applies, Man Adapts”. The architecture was modern

in contrast to the neoclassical buildings of Chicago’s 1893 World’s Fair.

Unlike the 1893 Fair, this one was a financial success, drawing 48,469,227 admissions in its two-year run. It was, of course, more than technological progress that drew them. Among my father’s papers is the program for Governor’s Day, featuring Illinois Governor Henry Horner, eight living ex-governors, a military review, and a chorus of 10,000 voices. His notes mention seeing French girls in the French building, German girls in the German building. He saw “the boy draw the girl across the stage in a cart by his lower eyelids” and “a man lift a 50 lb. weight by a thing clamped to the skin of his chest.” And there was the food, for breakfast

“Twenty-four planes landed on Lake Michigan...Chicago was awed.”

“2 eggs, 4 slices bacon, potatoe, 2 whole slices of toast, 2 cups of coffee, cup of jelly 25 cents.” In a special Fair edition of the *Chicago American*, you learned that you could ride anywhere on the streetcars for seven cents or stay at The Stevens, the world’s largest hotel, “in one of its 3,000 rooms for \$3.00 per night.”

Workers had their say, for many union ads appeared, including the Milk Drivers, the United Brewers, and the Chicago Federation of Musicians. And you could marvel at photos in the *Chicago American* of Italian seaplanes coming to Lake Michigan in the “greatest mass flight of aviation,” a good-will gesture from Mussolini, led by the “dashing and picturesque bearded young hero,” General Italo Balbo, Air Minister of Italy. Intrigued, I looked him up online and found a story as interesting as the Fair itself.

For spectacle and acclaim, Balbo exceeded even the *Chicago American*’s puffery. Twenty-four planes landed on Lake Michigan after a flight with eight stops from Rome. Chicago was awed. The city gave him a parade and renamed 7th Street Balbo Drive. The Sioux adopted him as Chief Flying Eagle. When Mussolini later honored the event with the gift of a 2,000-year-old column, the city established it as the Balbo Memorial to be seen today in Burnham Park. Mussolini’s inscription on the monument’s base implies a connection between his regime and ancient Rome, for the column was originally intended to “Safeguard the Fortunes and Victories of the Roman Triremes” and now stands as a symbol of Balbo’s squadron “that with Roman Bravery Flew Across the Ocean in the 11th year of the Fascist Era.” (Controversy flares up from time to time over the street name and monument as you might think, given WWII.)

From Chicago, Balbo’s twenty-four planes were accompanied by thirty-six American planes on a flight to New York,

where he was given a Manhattan parade and spoke to a large crowd at Madison Square Garden. Knowing his audience, he said, “Be proud you are Italian. Mussolini has ended the era of humiliation.” He had lunch with FDR, who awarded him the Distinguished Flying Cross, and he made the cover of *Time* magazine.

Back home Balbo had been politically active from childhood, drawn to fascism by his hatred of communism and socialism. He played a major role in Mussolini’s rise to power in the Fascist Party and was a prominent Party leader himself, building up the Italian air force. Allegedly worried about his popularity, Mussolini removed him from Rome in 1935, appointing him Governor General of the Italian colony of Libya, later Commander-in-Chief of Italian North Africa; some say he opposed the brutal Italian invasion of Ethiopia. In 1940, after war broke out, he was killed by friendly fire when his plane was mistaken for an enemy aircraft.

How closely did Balbo reflect our common idea of a fascist? He was said to think of fascism more as a path to a revitalized Italy than as a vehicle for foreign conquest. He was the only Italian leader to oppose the anti-Semitic “Racial Laws” and the alliance with Hitler: “you will end up shining the shoes of the Germans.” His record was tarnished in Libya by ordering Jews whipped for closing their stores on the Sabbath, but he was considered a good administrator overall, especially for the benefit of the Italian residents.

Eulogies aren’t reliable guides to character, but one prominent leader said that “The death of Balbo was a great tragedy, there was a worthy successor of the Duce, a man who had something of the Renaissance in him.” That was the testament of Hitler. RAF Commander Arthur Longmore dropped a condolence wreath and leaflet over the Italian lines with these words: “The British Royal Air Force expresses its sympathy in the death of General Balbo—a great leader and gallant aviator personally known to me, whom fate has placed on the other side.” This is war as imagined by gentlemen in high station.

This story has taken me from Ira to Chicago, New York, Rome, and Libya, an unexpected but welcome journey.

Much of this article is drawn from Charles Fish’s current work, *A Boy, a Family, a Village: Boxes from a Vermont Attic*, a manuscript in search of a publisher. The Balbo story is mainly from Wikipedia articles on the man and the monument. Charles’s other Vermont publications include *In Good Hands: The Keeping of a Family Farm*, *Blue Ribbons and Burlesque: A Book of Country Fairs*, and *In the Land of the Wild Onion: Travels Along Vermont’s Winooski River*. Charles lives with his wife Eleanor in Dummerston where he continues to photograph and write about Vermont.

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Vermont Country Calendar

SOUTH ROYALTON. Joseph Smith Birthplace Memorial. Free. Monday-Saturday 9 am – 5 pm, Sunday 1:30-5 pm. 357 LDS Lane off Rt. 14. (802) 763-7742.

SPRINGFIELD. Open Wall Art Show – *Full Spectrum*. Classes and workshops. Wednesday and Saturday 11 am – 5 pm, Friday 11 am – 7 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. galleryvault.org. *Thru Oct. 13.*

STATEWIDE. Vermont Atlas of Life. Lectures, field trips, events for naturalists to get together. Vermont Center for Ecostudies. www.vtecostudies.org. inaturalist.org/projects/vermont-atlas-of-life.

STATEWIDE. Vermont State Parks. Vermont has 55 developed and staffed state parks and other undeveloped state park lands. (888) 409-7579. vtstateparks.com.

ST. ALBANS. St. Albans Summer Concert. Food and drinks on sale from Road Grill BBQ and 14th Star Brewery! Free admission. 5:30 pm. In Taylor Park, 12 South Main St. (802) 524-6581. www.stalbansvt.com/summerconcerts. *Wednesdays through August 25.*

ST. ALBANS. Northwest Vermont Farmer's Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 2 pm. Taylor Park. facebook.com/05478NorthwestFarmersMarketVT. *Saturdays through October.*

ST. JOHNSBURY. Outdoor Farmers Market. Saturdays 9 am – 1 pm. In the parking lot behind Star Theater at Eastern Ave. and Pearl St. (802) 592-3088. sites.google.com/site/caledoniafarmersmarket. *Through October.*

ST. JOHNSBURY. Exhibits, film, shows, education, Catamount Arts, 115 Eastern Ave. (802) 748-2600. catamountarts.org.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium. Exhibits, programs, special events, wildflower table, collections, Star Space Astronomy Tours. Butterfly House open through early September. Adults: \$12, seniors (65+) and children 5-17 \$8, 4 and younger free. Planetarium admission: \$7. Wed. thru Sun. 10 am – 5 pm. COVID protocols. 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. Hike the trails, open seven days dawn to dusk! Gallery and Dog Chapel open Fri 10 am – 4 pm, Sat & Sun 11 am – 5 pm. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. off Spaulding Rd. (800) 449-2580. contact@dogmt.com. www.dogmt.com.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Levitt Amp St. Johnsbury Music Series Concerts. Free. 5-7 pm. At Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. info@dogmt.com. dogmt.com. catamountarts.org. *August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, September 4.*

STATEWIDE. The 251 Club. Since 1954, organization of Vermont enthusiasts whose objective is to visit the state's 251 towns and cities. (802) 233-8649. www.vt251.com.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Open Farm Week August 8-15. Vermont farms open for tours and educational events. For a schedule go to diginvt.com/events-in-vermont/vermont-open-farm-week-2021. *August 8-15.*

STATEWIDE. Vermont State Parks. Visit 55 developed and staffed state parks and other undeveloped state park lands. (888) 409-7579. www.vtstateparks.com.

STOWE. Spruce Peak Summer Concert Series. No chairs allowed. Tickets: lawn seating \$40, table seating \$50. 7 pm. Green opens at 5 pm. Spruce Peak Village Green. (877) 291-3781. sprucepeak.com/concerts. *August 12, 26, September 9, 16, 23.*

STOWE. Exhibits. Helen Day Art Center, 5 School St. (802) 253-8358. helenday.com.

STRAFFORD. Justin Morrill Homestead. Guided tours on the hour of the Gothic Revival house, artwork, formal gardens, interpretive exhibits and walking trail. Fee: \$4, children 14 and under free. Self-guided tours of the garden at no cost. Saturday & Sunday, 10 am – 5 pm. 214 Justin Morrill Highway. (802) 828-3051. morrillhomestead.org. *Through October 10.*

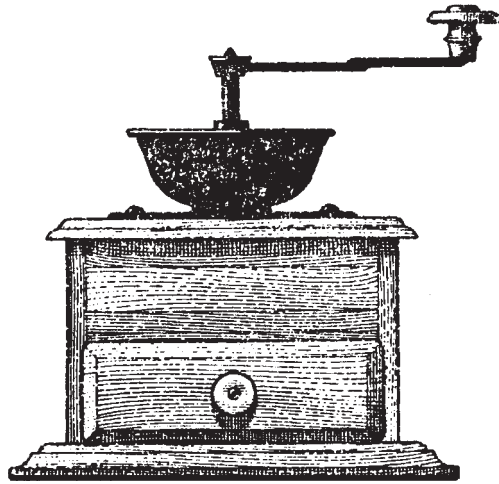
SWANTON. Swanton Food Truck Sundays. Along with the Farmers Market. 12 noon – 5 pm. Swanton Village Green. *Third Sundays thru October.*

VERGENNES. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. New outdoor exhibits. Replica schooner Lois McClure. Replica gunboat Philadelphia II. Free admission. Open daily 10 am – 4 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor. (802) 475-2022. lcmmm.org. *Through October 17.*

WAITSFIELD. Waitsfield Farmers' Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. Mad River Green, Route 100. (802) 472-8027. waitsfieldfarmersmarket.com. *Through mid-October.*

WATERBURY. Concerts in the Park. Free. 6-8:30 pm. Rusty Parker Memorial Park. waterburyvtrotary.org/page/concerts. *Thursdays through August 26.*

WESTFORD. Concert Series on the Westford Common. Sundays, 6 pm food, 7-8 pm show. Westford Town Common. (802) 658-0212. facebook.com/events/830949867513995. *August 8, 15 & 22.*



WESTON. Play: *An Iliad*. A gripping adaptation of Homer's classic. Tickets: adults \$50-\$74, students \$25. Wednesday, July 14 7:30 pm; all other Wednesday matinees 2 pm; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday 7:30 pm; Sunday matinees 3 pm. Weston Playhouse Theatre Company, 703 Main St. (802) 824-5288. westonplayhouse.org. *Through August 6.*

WEST BRATTLEBORO. Dutton's Farmstand. Season's best fruits and vegetables. Our own maple syrup, apples, cider. Baked goods, creemees! Dutton's Farmstand, 308 Marlboro Rd. (802) 254-0254. www.duttonberryfarm.com.

WEST MARLBORO. Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. 600 mounted specimens of native northeastern birds and mammals, close to 250 species represented. Northeastern Mineralogy Collection. Wed. thru Mon. 10 am to 4 pm. Southern Vermont Natural History Museum, 7599 Rt. 9. (802) 464-0048. www.vermontmuseum.org.

WEST RUTLAND. The Sculpture Garden. Free. The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. www.carvingstudio.org.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Musical: *Million Dollar Quartet*. When musical icons Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins gathered at Sun Records. Tickets: adults \$43.50, students \$17.75. Tuesday-Friday 8 pm, Saturday 4 pm & 8 pm, Sunday 5 pm. Performed by Northern Stage. Courtyard Theater, Barrette Center for the Arts, 74 Gates St. (802) 296-7000. boxoffice@northernstage.org. northernstage.org. *August 11 through September 12.*

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Art Exhibits, Workshops. Two Rivers Printmaking Studio, 85 North Main St., Suite 160. (802) 295-5901. tworiversprintmaking.org.

WILLISTON. Truckin' Tuesdays. Food trucks, live music, mini-golf course, ice cream. Tuesdays, 5 pm. Adams Farm Market, 986 Old Stage Rd. (802) 879-5226. www.adamsfarmmarket.com. *Every Tuesday.*

WINDSOR. American Precision Museum. Exhibit: "Igniting Innovation: The Manufacturing Revolution in Precision Valley." Museum shop, learning resources. Admission \$10, seniors \$8, families \$20, children under 6 free. Daily 10 am – 5 pm. 196 Main St. (802) 674-5781. americanprecision.org. *Through October 31.*

WINOOSKI. Winooski Farmers' Market. Free meals under the age of 18. Sundays, 10 am – 2 pm. Champlain Mill Green, 20 Winooski Falls Way. downtownwinooski.org/winooski-farmers-market. *Every Sunday.*

WOODSTOCK. Wagon Ride Wednesdays. Adults \$16, seniors \$14, children ages 4-15 \$8. Wednesdays, 11 am – 3 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. billingsfarm.org. *Through August 25.*

WOODSTOCK. Market on the Green. Meat, cheese, ice cream and veggies are among the local products available for purchase at this weekly marketplace. Wednesdays, 3-6 pm. Woodstock Village Green, 31 The Green. (802) 457-3555. woodstockvt.com. *Wednesdays through October 13.*

WOODSTOCK. Woodstock History Center. Exhibits, lectures, workshops, outreach, publications, and programs for adults, families, and children. Exhibits, collections, events. Free admission. Open Wednesday-Saturday starting July 7. Woodstock History Center, 26 Elm St. (802) 457-1822. woodstockhistorycenter.org.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. 35th Annual Quilt Exhibition through August 22. Meet our farm animals: sheep, pigs, calves, chickens in the small animal barn. Dairy operations. Farm Life Exhibits. Online film series. Admission \$16 adults ages 16-61, \$14 seniors ages 62 and over, \$9 students ages 16 & up, \$8 children ages 5-15, \$4 children ages 3-4. Open Thursday through Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm. 69 Old River Rd. off Rt. 12 just north of the village. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

SATURDAY, JULY 31

BELLOWS FALLS. 2021 Rockingham Old Home Days. Fireworks! Food trucks, music, karaoke & local organizations. 5K race 8 am. 4-10 pm. Bellows Falls Waypoint Center, 17 Depot St. info@gfrc.org.

If Still Your Orchards Bear

Brother, that breathe the August air
Ten thousand years from now,
And smell—if still your orchards bear
Tart apples on the bough—

The early windfall under the tree,
And see the red fruit shine,
I cannot think your thoughts will be
Much different from mine.

Should at that moment the full moon
Step forth upon the hill,
And memories hard to bear at noon,
By moonlight harder still,

Form in the shadow of the trees, —
Things that you could not spare
And live, or so you thought, yet these
All gone, and you still there,

A man no longer what he was,
Nor yet the thing he'd planned,
The chilly apple from the grass
Warmed by your living hand—


I think you will have need of tears;
I think they will not flow;
Supposing in ten thousand years
Men ache, as they do now.

EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY
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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, July 31, continued)

BURLINGTON. Festival of Fools. Street performers from around the globe. Continuous street theater and music. Many performances are free; check the schedule. 12 noon – 10 pm. Church St. (802) 865-7166. vermontfestivaloffools.com. Also Aug. 1.

HOLLAND. Live at The Barrage. Princess Nostalgia and Father Figuer. Original live music. Doors 6 pm, music 7-9. Tickets \$10 cash or venmo. All ages & all stars and stripes. b.y.o. be responsible. Follow signs saying “Barrage” near Stearns Brook Rd. in beautiful Holland, VT, the last exit in America. (802) 922-1503.

PITTSFORD. Workshop: Drum Journeys of the Earth. Drum experience with musician Gary Meitrott. Sponsored by the Maclure Library. 10 am. At the Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St. (802) 483-2972. maclurelibrary.org.

RUTLAND. Outside The Box Under the Stars Concert. Tusk, The World’s #1 Fleetwood Mac Tribute. Food trucks, beer/wine garden. Rain or shine, BYO chair. Tickets: \$39. Gates at 6 pm, showtime 7 pm. The Meadow at The Vermont State Fairgrounds, enter on Dana Ave., 227 South Main St. (802) 775-0570. boxoffice@paramountvt.org. www.paramountvt.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers’ Market. Saturdays through October 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wednesdays through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Through October.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

BURLINGTON. Festival of Fools. Street performers from around the globe. Sunday grand finale featuring all the performers of the festival. Many performances are free; check the schedule. 12 noon – 10 pm. Church St. (802) 865-7166. vermontfestivaloffools.com.

NORTH BENNINGTON. Blues & Brews. Locally crafted beer, Kansas City style barbecue, and live music by Bob Stannard & Those Dangerous Bluesmen. Tickets: \$45, includes barbecue and one complimentary brew. 1:30-5 pm. On the lawn of the Park McCullough Historic Governor’s Mansion, 1 Park St. (802) 491-7677. christopher@parkmccullough.org. www.parkmccullough.org.

PUTNEY. Yellow Barn Summer Gala. Gala performance and champagne toast. Tickets: \$150, reservations necessary. 2:30 pm arrival. 3 pm music in the garden, 4:30 pm champagne celebration. Hayward Gardens, 508 McKinnon Rd. (802) 387-6637. info@yellowbarn.org. www.yellowbarn.org.

WESTON. *Seussical the Musical*. Follow Your favorite characters in the zany world of Dr. Seuss. Free, tickets required. 11 am. Walker Farm Field, 705 Main St. (802) 824-5288. westonplayhouse.org.

WOODSTOCK. Antique Tractor Day. Antique tractor parade, tractor-pulled wagon rides and tractor activities. Trail Break Taps and Tacos food truck onsite plus a beer garden and non-alcoholic options from 11 am – 4:30 pm. Adults \$16, seniors 62 and over \$14, students 16 & up \$9, children 4-15 \$8, 3 and under free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Rd. off Rt. 12 north of the village. (802) 457-2355. www.billingsfarm.org.

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

MIDDLEBURY. 42nd Annual Festival on-the-Green Concert: KeruBo, a dynamic ensemble playing gospel, blues and Afro-jazz fronted by Kenyan-born music artist KeruBo. Free. 7-8:30 pm, rain or shine. Under a tent on the Middlebury Village Green. (802) 462-3555. festivalonthegreen.org. kerubomusic.com. Thru August 6.

PUTNEY. Yellow Barn Concert: Works by MacMillan, Gubaidulina, and Beethoven. Proof of Covid-19 vaccination required; wear masks while inside. Tickets: \$20, seniors \$17, students \$10. 8 pm. The Big Barn, 49 Main St. (802) 387-6637. info@yellowbarn.org. www.yellowbarn.org.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

BENNINGTON. *Seussical the Musical*. The zany world of Dr. Seuss. Free; tickets required. 1 pm. Willow Park Lower Pavilion, Willow Park. (802) 824-5288. westonplayhouse.org.

ESSEX. Dog Days of Summer. Farmers market and festival for dogs and their owners. 5-7 pm. The Green at 90 Center Rd. (802) 578-8436. bellcateschooldogtreats.com.

MIDDLEBURY. 42nd Annual Festival on-the-Green Concert: The Paul Asbell Quintet, a genre-blurring, virtuosic waltz through the deep heritage of American folklore. Free. 7-8:30 pm, rain or shine. Under a tent on the Middlebury Village Green. (802) 462-3555. festivalonthegreen.org.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

FRANKLIN. Free Field Day for Farmers. Updates and demonstrations. Catered lunch. Following lunch, travel to Riverview Farm to view management practices. Free, registration required. 10 am – 2:30 pm. Bridgeman View Farm, 4826 Hanna Rd. (802) 524-6501 x 432. 2021summerfarmmeeting.eventbrite.com.

LYNDONVILLE. *Listen Up*. The original musical based on the lives of Vermont teens. Outdoors under the stars. Bring blankets and low-back lawn chairs. Tickets: \$15 advance, \$20 at the door. 7:30 pm. NVU Lyndon Rugby Field, 1000 College Rd. catamountix.com. listenupvt.org. Also August 5.

MIDDLEBURY. 42nd Annual Festival on-the-Green Concert: Treetop Mansion. Free. 7-8:30 pm, rain or shine. Under a tent on the Middlebury Village Green. (802) 462-3555. festivalonthegreen.org. treetopmansionmusic.com.

PUTNEY. Yellow Barn Concert: Works by Gubaidulina, Tulve, MacMillan, Davidovsky, and Schumann. Proof of Covid-19 vaccination required; wear masks while inside. Tickets: \$20, seniors \$17, students \$10. 8 pm. The Big Barn, 49 Main St. (802) 387-6637. www.yellowbarn.org.

RUPERT. Program. Natural Communities of Merck Forest, with Liz Thompson, Eric Sorenson, and Bob Zaino, authors of *Wetland, Woodland, Wildland: A Guide to the Natural Communities of Vermont*. Moderate hike, 2-3 miles. Free, registration required. 1-5 pm. Merck Forest & Farmland Center. (802) 223-5234. info@vlt.org. vlt.org.

RUTLAND. *Seussical the Musical*. Follow Horton the Elephant, the Cat in the Hat, and more of your favorite characters into the colorful, zany world of Dr. Seuss. Free; tickets required. 6 pm. Giorgetti Park, Oak Street Ext. (802) 824-5288. westonplayhouse.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers’ Market. Saturdays through Oct. 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wednesdays through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. May through October.

SOUTH POMFRET. Summer Concert Series: Brian Cook. Rock, pop, soul, R&B, country, folk, and originals, ranging from the 1960s to now. Pack a picnic. Tickets: \$5, under 5 free. 6:30-8 pm. ArtisTree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. communications@artistreevt.org. artistreevt.org.

Way Back Then

Salt and Steak

by Charles Sutton

My grandmother Maude (her preferred nickname BonneMama) was divorced in 1910 when such happenings were frowned upon. So my father, then 12, was raised by a single mom. In later years when working in the stock market he was earning enough to thank her for raising him alone by helping with her rent and other expenses. For many years she had paid her own way by renting out a room with board. At one time she worked as a private detective.

Her main extravagance was earrings (she had over hundred pairs) and she wore slightly outlandish dresses and hats. Her son, my father, a reserved and quiet individual, never said anything about how she looked nor her flamboyant manner. But she was an embarrassment to him. He was also so very appreciative when his wife, my mother, ‘took over’ BonneMama when she came to visit from her apartment in Scarsdale, NY to our small farmstead in Fairfield, CT, not far from New York City.

One can imagine how delighted my parents were when BonneMama decided to marry one of her many suitors—Jack Crooks, a successful insurance broker who could support her. At the start they lived in her apartment and there was no need to rent out rooms ever again.

Jack and BonneMama often visited us on weekends, bringing a carload of stuff, mostly things we didn’t need, like discolored flower vases and dated newspapers and magazines. My brother Fred and I didn’t mind these visits as we liked the outgoing, friendly Jack and he seemed really interested in us boys and what we were up to. At an early age we had been taught to play bridge (mostly to provide a fourth player) and Jack loved playing bridge with us. This became a must-do every visit. Jack preferred me as a partner because frankly I was the more skilled player than my brother who played well, too, but his mind was elsewhere, usually on his hobby of collecting snakes and tending tropical fish. We didn’t mind being stuck indoors on nice days because playing with Jack meant he would give us 50 cents or a dollar which was a lot of money back then.

It being the summer most of our meals were out on a terrace overlooking a small apple orchard. Father would do the charcoal grill, usually hamburgers or hot dogs and sometimes unshucked corn.

On one visit Jack treated us to a big sirloin steak which he alone would prepare and cook. He said he had a really good recipe that would not only flavor the steak but prevent it from being charred or burnt by covering both sides with a thick layer of salt, pushed in hard so it would stick.

My parents, both good cooks, were skeptical but had to be gracious because this steak was a gift and they were of the generation when one had to be polite.

Once the steak was done Jack smacked it with a large carving knife so its salted outside cover would fall off from both sides. No salt came off. It had either cooked into the



BonneMama in the garden in Fairfield, CT.

steak or hopefully had burned off and fallen into the charcoal.

No such luck. The salty steak was inedible to all of us including his wife BonneMama. So we ate small bits and pretended it was delicious. Jack thought so, too, and said it was one of the best ones he had ever grilled.

He and salty steak may have been the best of friends, but he never did offer to cook another one for us again.

Charles C. Sutton is the co-publisher with Catherine O’Kane, of the Vermont Country Sampler, now in it’s 37th year. He recently turned 90 (some retirement!).

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Vermont Country Calendar

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

FAIR HAVEN. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers' Market. Thursdays 3-6 pm. In Fair Haven Park. (802) 747-8264. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October.*

HANOVER, NH. Live Performance. Pedro Giraud Tango Quartet. Free tickets. 7 pm. Hop Courtyard, 4 E Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. www.hop.dartmouth.edu.

HIGHGATE. Franklin County Field Days. Agriculture, track events, amusement rides, and a wide range of food. Rides, demolition derbies, horse shows, and more! Admission \$15, all ages, every day, includes midway rides, track events, live entertainment, exhibits, and parking. Airport Rd. franklincountyfielddays@gmail.com. www.franklincountyfielddays.org. *Through August 8.*

MANCHESTER. Manchester Music Festival Mainstage Concert. Amy Schwartz Moretti, violin; Bion Tsang, cello; and Adam Neiman, piano. Rachmaninoff: Piano Trio No. 1 in G minor. And Tanayev Piano Trio in D Major. Tickets: \$35. 2 & 7:30 pm. Arkell Pavilion, Southern Vermont Arts Center, 930 SVAC Dr. (802) 362-1405. mmfvt.org.

MIDDLEBURY. 42nd Annual Festival on-the-Green Concert: Beg, Steal or Borrow. Free. 7-8:30 pm, rain or shine. Under a tent on the Middlebury Village Green. (802) 462-3555. festivalonthegreen.org. begstealorborrowvt.com.

PUTNEY. Yellow Barn Concert. Works by MacMillan, Shostakovich, Szymanowski, and Beethoven. Proof of Covid-19 vaccination required; wear masks while inside. Tickets: \$20, seniors \$17, students \$10. 8 pm. The Big Barn, 49 Main St. (802) 387-6637. info@yellowbarn.org. www.yellowbarn.org.

SHELburne. *Seussical the Musical.* The zany world of Dr. Seuss. Free; tickets required. 1 pm. Circus Lawn at the Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 824-5288. westonplayhouse.org.

WILMINGTON. Old Home Week. All-day activities culminating with a bonfire at Adams Farm from 6-10 pm. For a full schedule of events, visit wilmingtonohw2020.org. *Also August 8.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

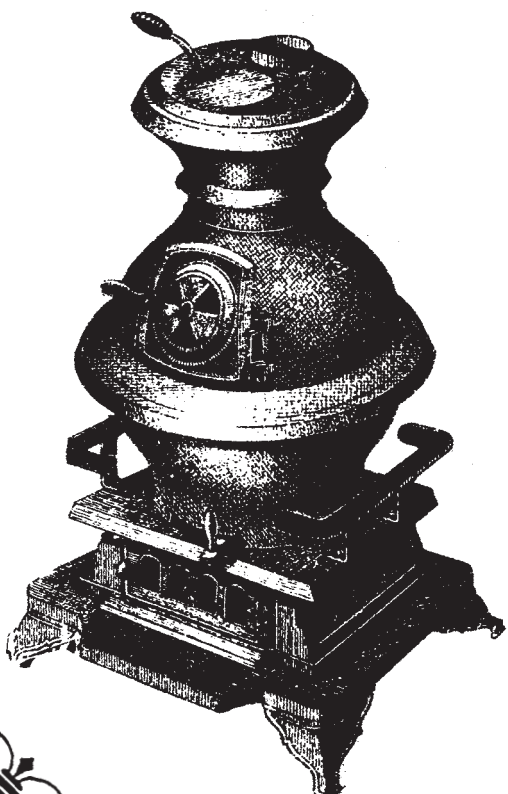
BRATTLEBORO. XOX! Share the Love: Artful Tic-Tac-Toe during Gallery Walk. Organic crooked-shaped, brightly colored wood Xs and Os and a complicated, "wonky-shaped" game board. Free. 5-8 pm. Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. info@brattleboromuseum.org. brattleboromuseum.org.

CLAREMONT, NH. Summer Concert Series: Pedro Giraud Tango Quartet. Live outdoor performance led by the virtuoso bassist and composer Pedro Giraud, who spices up the form while retaining all the lushness and beauty of tango. Free, registration required. 6 pm. Union Church. (603) 646-2422. www.hop.dartmouth.edu.

HIGHGATE. Franklin County Field Days. Agriculture, track events, amusement rides, and a wide range of food. Rides, demolition derbies, horse shows, and more! Admission \$15, all ages, every day. Airport Rd. www.franklincountyfielddays.org. *Through August 8.*

MIDDLEBURY. 42nd Annual Festival on-the-Green Concert: Low Lily. Free. 7-8:30 pm, rain or shine. Under a tent on the Middlebury Village Green. (802) 462-3555. festivalonthegreen.org. www.lowlily.com.

PUTNEY. Yellow Barn Concert: Works by Lim, Crumb, Strauss, Knussen, MacMillan, and Schubert. Proof of Covid-19 vaccination required; wear masks while inside. Tickets: \$30, seniors \$25, students \$15. 8 pm. The Big Barn. (802) 387-6637. www.yellowbarn.org.



RUTLAND. Concert: EagleMania. Rain or shine. Bring a low lawn chair; blankets discouraged, bags not permitted. Glass, pets, and outside alcohol prohibited. Tickets: \$39. Gates 6 pm, showtime 7 pm. The Meadow at The Vermont State Fairgrounds; enter on Dana Ave., 227 South Main St. www.paramountvt.org.

SHAFTSBURY. Concert: Village Harmony Teen World Music Ensemble. 6-7 pm. Lake Shaftsbury State Park. (802) 426-3210. villageharmony.org.

WESTON. *Seussical the Musical.* The zany world of Dr. Seuss. Free; tickets required. 1 pm. Walker Farm Field, 705 Main St. (802) 824-5288. westonplayhouse.org. *Also August 7.*

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Light River Junction First Friday. Outdoor arts venue with live outdoor movies, live music, food and drink. 8 pm. Vermont Premiere of Jay Craven's newest work, "Martin Eden". Free. 5-10 pm. Hotel Coolidge parking lot, 50 Currier St. (802) 291-9100. vitalcommunities.org. wrif.org.

WILMINGTON. Old Home Week. All-day activities culminating with a Blueberry Block Party. South Main Street is closed! Live music from the back of a flatbed truck, blueberry treats, crafts. 5-8 pm. For a full schedule of events, visit wilmingtonohw2020.org. *Through August 8.*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

BENNINGTON. Sixth Annual Southern Vermont Summer Homebrew Festival. Sample over 100 of the regions best homebrews. Food trucks with American food and Southern barbeque. Vendors. Multiple bands. Admission \$44.06, designated driver \$17.55 fee, VIP \$59.98 fee. 12 noon - 4 pm in downtown. (802) 447-3311. vthomebrewfests.com.

BRANDON. Annual Yard Sale Day. Official listings available starting 7 am at the Visitor Center at the Brandon Museum, corner of Rts. 7 and 73 West. Free. 8 am - 5 pm. (802) 247-6401. info@brandon.org. www.brandon.org.

HIGHGATE. Franklin County Field Days. Agriculture, track events, amusement rides, and a wide range of food. Rides, demolition derbies, horse shows, and more! Admission \$15, all ages. Airport Rd. www.franklincountyfielddays.org. *Also August 8.*

LUNENBURG. Annual Old Home Day Celebration. Horseshoe tournament, vendors, demonstrations, bouncy house, "messy play" bingo, great food. Music by "Still Kickin'." Raffles, maple creamies. Lunenburg Common. (802) 751-9279. topofthecommon.org/old-home-day.

ORFORD. 44th Annual Orford Flea Market. Up to 190 vendors sell antiques, handcrafted items, and the usual treasures. Refreshments. Breakfast sandwiches, pie and ice cream. Free admission. 9 am - 5 pm. Town Common, Rt. 10. (603) 353-4855. ovfdinc@gmail.com. *Also August 8.*

PITTSFORD. Crankie Picture Show. An animating afternoon with presenter Meredith Holch. Sponsored by the Maclure Library. 1 pm. At the Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St. (802) 483-2972. maclurelibrary.org.

PUTNEY. Yellow Barn Concert: Works by Rehnqvist, MacMillan, Tapping, Britten, and Bach. Proof of Covid-19 vaccination required; wear masks while inside. Tickets: \$30, seniors \$25, students \$15. 8 pm. The Big Barn, 49 Main St. (802) 387-6637. info@yellowbarn.org. www.yellowbarn.org.

QUECHEE. Incredible Insect Festival. Learn about the importance of pollinators. Demonstrations, exhibits, games and crafts. Meet entomologists and beekeeper. Admission. 10 am - 5 pm. Vermont Institute of Natural Science Nature Center, 149 Natures Way, off Rt. 4. (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. vinsweb.org.

RUTLAND. Outside The Box Under the Stars Concert: ABBA The Concert. A tribute to Abba. Food trucks, beer/wine garden. Rain or shine, BYO chair. Tickets: \$49. Gates 6 pm, showtime 7 pm. The Meadow at The Vermont State Fairgrounds, 227 South Main St. (802) 775-0570. boxoffice@paramountvt.org. paramountvt.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers' Market. Saturdays through October 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wednesdays through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October.*

ST. JOHNSBURY. Annual Dog Mountain Summer Dog Party. Four-legged friends and their two-legged companions gather for a romping good time. Live music by Gulf Coast Blues artist, Shrimp Tunes. Tacos Del Reino food truck. Local vendors. Dog contests, bounce house, lawn games, doggie agility course. Free, rain or shine. 12 noon - 4 pm. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. (800) 449-2580. dogmt.com.

TOWNSHEND. Grace Cottage Hospital Fair Day. A small gathering on the Townshend Common with live music, lunch, and pies, cakes, and t-shirts, and hats for sale. Also online auction August 1-8. www.32auctions.com/GraceCottageFairDay. 10 am - 2 pm. On the Townshend Common. (802) 365-9109. www.gracecottage.org.

WESTON. *Seussical the Musical.* Follow your favorite characters into the colorful, zany world of Dr. Seuss. Free; tickets required. 1 pm. Walker Farm Field, 705 Main St. (802) 824-5288. www.westonplayhouse.org.



Firefly

Last night a tiny insect lighted on my hand
His back was silver—legs, some spider's silken strand,
So slim he had to fly away,
One moment only did he stay,
Ere, miracle minute, he fled.

(Infinitesimal design, what use are you?
I wonder—dare I ask myself that question, too?)
His wings were very treads of wings,
Transparent, gleaming, pale-green things;
The merest speck, his round, red head—

A lovely, living atom, glowing on my hand—
There are so many things I do not understand!

—RACHEL VELMA PROUTY, 1933

Any Old Vermont Sugarhouses Out There?

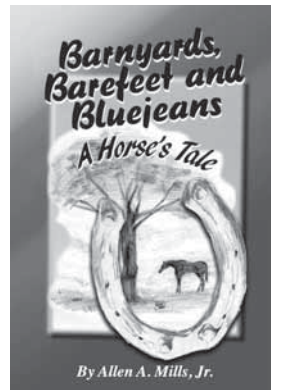
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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, August 7, continued)

WILMINGTON. Old Home Week Parade at 11 am. Floats, bands, and festivity. House tours and events all afternoon and evening following the parade. Chicken BBQ 4 pm, silent auction. For a full schedule of events, visit wilmingtonohw2020.org. Also August 8.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. 40th Anniversary Asbury Shorts Film Concert. Recommended for ages 16+. Tickets: \$15, student/accessible \$10. 1:30 pm and 7 pm. Briggs Opera House, 5 South Main St. (908) 229-3820. wrif.org.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

ATHENS. Ice Cream Social and Concert, featuring Bard Owl, a lively Williamsville-based music duo. Ice Cream Sundae "buffet bar" on the lawn. Bring a picnic dinner to enjoy on the Meetinghouse Common. Raffle tickets on sale for a cord plus of hard maple firewood. Suggested donation: \$10. Doors open at 4:30 pm; concert at 5 pm in the Athens Brick Meetinghouse, 5 Meetinghouse Rd. (802) 869-2141. athensmeetinghouse1817@gmail.com.

BENNINGTON. Summer 2021 Book, Postcard & Paper Fair. Sponsored by the Vermont Antiquarian Booksellers Association. 10 am - 4 pm. Free admission. At Grace Christian School, 104 Kocher Dr. (802) 282-9769. john@catamountbooks.com. www.vermontisbookcountry.com.

BRATTLEBORO. Brattleboro Concert Choir Outdoor Community Sing: J.S. Bach's motet "Jesu, meine Freude." Bring your own picnic dinner. Free; registration required. 4-5:30 pm. Brattleboro Music Center, 72 Blanche Moysse Way. (802) 257-4523. bmcvt.org.

GREENSBORO. Back Roads Readings: Poets Mary Ruefle and Julia Alvarez followed by book signing and reception. Outside in a tent with socially distanced seating. Free, no tickets required. 3-4 pm. Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St. (802) 533-2000. www.highlandartsvt.org.

HIGHGATE. Franklin County Field Days. Agriculture, track events, amusement rides, and fair food. Admission \$15, all ages, every day. Airport Rd. franklincountyfielddays@gmail.com. franklincountyfielddays.org.

ORFORD. 44th Annual Orford Flea Market. Free admission. 9 am - 4 pm. Town Common, Rt. 10. (603) 353-4855.

PUTNEY. Concert. Gili Yalo & The Anbessa Orchestra. Tickets \$20. 5 pm. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill Rd. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org.

RUTLAND. Rutland Vets Town Hall. Veterans are invited to speak for up to ten minutes about what it was like to serve their country. Free. 1-2:30 pm. Godnick Center, 1 Deer St. (802) 786-5185. vtvetstownhall.org. Also September 19

STATEWIDE. Vermont Open Farm Week. Vermont farms open for tours and educational events all over the state. For a schedule go to diginvt.com/events-in-vermont/vermont-open-farm-week-2021. Through August 15.

STOWE. Checking on the Heifers. Meet the cows and learn about the Percys' dairy operation. Take a walk through Raven Ridge Forest before or after you meet the cows. Free; pre-registration required. 9-11 am. H. D. Burnham Farm, Dewey Hill Rd. (802) 253-7221. elisabeth@stowelandtrust.org. stowelandtrust.org.

WILMINGTON. Old Home Week. Farewell Pancake Breakfast 8:30-11 am at the Twin Valley Elementary School. Silent auction, walking tour. For a full schedule of events, visit wilmingtonohw2020.org. Also August 8.

MONDAY, AUGUST 9

BRATTLEBORO. 46th Annual Summer Jazz In-Person Piano Workshop. Instructors: Zaccari Curtis, Ray Gallon, and Eugene Uman. Tuition: \$1,350 (includes five-day workshop and lunches). Vermont Jazz Center, 72 Cotton Mill Hill, Studio 222. eugene@vtjazz.org. vtjazz.org. Thru August 13.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Open Farm Week. Vermont farms open for tours and educational events all over the state. For a schedule go to diginvt.com/events-in-vermont/vermont-open-farm-week-2021. Through August 15.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

GREENSBORO. Back Roads Summer Poetry Series: Mary Ruefle and Julia Alvarez. Free. 3 pm, followed by book signing and reception with the poets. Outside in a tent, at the Highland Center for the Arts. (802) 633-4956. lisavonkann@gmail.com. backroadsreadings.org.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Open Farm Week. Vermont farms open for tours and educational events all over the state. For a schedule go to diginvt.com/events-in-vermont/vermont-open-farm-week-2021. Through August 15.

VERGENNES. Addison County Fair & Field Days. Five-day event. 1790 Field Days Rd. addisoncountyfielddays.com. Through August 14.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

BRANDON. Vermont Blues Retreat. With Vermont Blues musicians Dennis Willmott, Paul Asbell, Kenny B., Joe Moore, Chuck Eller, and Jeff Salisbury. Masterclasses and workshops concluding with faculty concert on Saturday August 14 at 7:30 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center and Brandon Music. Concert: (802) 282-8655. (802) 247-2700. vermontbluesretreat.com. Through August 14.

DUMMERSTON. Scott Farm Crepe Night. Come dine on savory and sweet crepe, bring your friends and family. Gluten free options. A charge applies. 5:30-8 pm. Call for reservations. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. www.scottfarmvermont.com. Also September 8 and October 13.

FAIR HAVEN. Friends of the Fair Haven Free Library Book Sale. 4:30-6:30 pm. Fair Haven Free Library, 107 N. Main St. (802) 265-8011. fairhavenfree.org. Also Sept. 11.

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers' Market. Saturdays through Oct. 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wednesdays through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Through October.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Open Farm Week. Vermont farms open for tours and educational events all over the state. For a schedule go to diginvt.com/events-in-vermont/vermont-open-farm-week-2021. Through August 15.

VERGENNES. Addison County Fair & Field Days. Five-day event showcases cattle judging, tractor pulls, kiddie rides, crafts, exhibits, dairy, poultry, foods, and much more. 1790 Field Days Rd. addisoncountyfielddays.com. Through August 14.

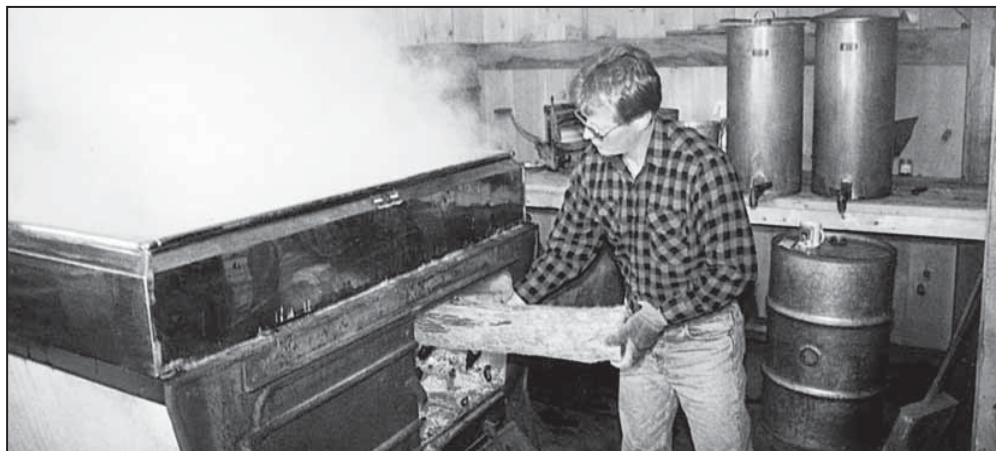
WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Musical: *Million Dollar Quartet*. Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins gathered for one of the greatest jam sessions ever. Adults \$43.75, students \$17.75. Tues-Fri 8 pm, Saturday 4 pm & 8 pm, Sunday 5 pm. Northern Stage. Courtyard Theater, Barrette Center for the Arts, 74 Gates St. (802) 296-7000. www.northernstage.org. boxoffice@northernstage.org. Thru Sept. 12.



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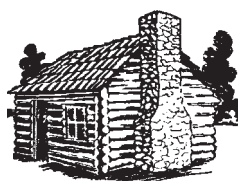


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Vermont Country Calendar

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

PUTNEY. Concert. Rev. Sekou & The Freedom Fighters. Tickets \$20. 6 pm. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill Rd. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Open Farm Week. Vermont farms open for tours. For schedule go to diginvt.com/events-in-vermont/vermont-open-farm-week-2021. *Thru August 15.*

VERGENNES. Addison County Fair & Field Days. 1790 Field Days Rd. addisoncountyfielddays.com. *Through August 14.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

LEBANON, NH. Nexus Music and Arts Festival. Concert: Twisted Pine, free, 5:30 pm. Concert: Bitter Pill, free, 7 pm. Katie Runde, Chalk Artist, free, 8 pm. Concert: Singer/guitarist Eric Johanson, free, 8 pm. Colburn Park. (603) 448-0400. lebanonoperahouse.org. *Thru August 15.*

NORWICH. Theater on the Hill. Presenting a workshop production of *a curious thing; or superheroes k'aint fly* by Jeremy O'Brian. Tickets \$25 at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill. Courtyard 6:30 pm with food and beverages. 8 pm. At King Arthur Baking Co., 135 U.S. 5. (802) 332-3270. jagproductionsvt.com. *Thru Aug. 15.*

RICHMOND. Fried Chicken Dinner. Pasture-raised chicken dinner with maple cornbread, two organic side salads; dessert add-ons. Live music, lawn games. Bring your own blanket or lawn chairs. Rain or shine; in case of rain, dinners will be drive-through take-out. 5-7 pm. Maple Wind Farm, 1149 E Main St. maplewindfarm.com.

STATEWIDE. Vermont Open Farm Week. Vermont farms open for tours. For schedule go to diginvt.com/events-in-vermont/vermont-open-farm-week-2021. *Thru August 15.*

VERGENNES. Addison County Fair & Field Days. Five-day event. 1790 Field Days Rd. addisoncountyfielddays.com. *Also August 14.*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

LEBANON, NH. Nexus Music and Arts Festival. Drumming Workshop and Concert: Akwaaba Ensemble, 3 pm. Mystic Bowie's Talking Dreads, 5:30 pm. Concert: Reckless Breakfast, 7 pm. Concert: Red Baraat, 8 pm. Public art and al fresco dining. Free. Colburn Park. (603) 448-0400. lebanonoperahouse.org. *Also August 15.*

NEWFANE. Eighth Biennial Windham County History Fair. Vintage exhibits, demonstrations and historic tours. Antique cars and trucks, crafters, bargain table, raffles, and food. Free. 9 am - 4 pm. Newfane Common, Rt. 30. www.historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org.

NORWICH. Theater on the Hill. Presenting a workshop production of *a curious thing; or superheroes k'aint fly* by Jeremy O'Brian. Hosted by JAG and King Arthur Flour. Tickets \$25 at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill. Courtyard opens 6:30 pm with local food and beverages. Performance 8 pm. At King Arthur Baking Company, 135 U.S. 5 South. (802) 332-3270. jagproductionsvt.com. *Also August 15.*

PAWLET. Concert. Freddi Shehadi. An Emmy Award/Mobius Award-winning guitarist/composer. Refreshments. Tickets \$5. 7 pm. Pawlet Town Hall Auditorium. (802) 325-3123. pawletpubliclibrary.wordpress.com.

PEACHAM. Concert: Sierra Hull and Justin Moses. Opening act: Bob and Sarah Amos. Tickets: adults \$30, students \$15. Masks mandatory if not vaccinated, and please notify Frank Miller (frank.miller@charter.net) to arrange distanced seating. 7 pm. Peacham Congregational Church, 56 Church St. (802) 748-2600. catamountarts.org.

PLAINFIELD. Play: Modern Times Theater will perform *The Perils of Mr. Punch* live and updated for the 21st century. Admission by donation. Bring your own chairs or blankets. 4-5:15 pm. Plainfield Rec Field, Recreation Field Rd. (802) 498-3173. plainfieldoperahousevt.org.

RANDOLPH. Live&Out Concert Series: The VT Bluegrass Pioneers. Banjo Dan Lindner, his mandolin-playing brother, Willy Lindner, Danny Coane, and Sam Blagden on bass and tenor harmonies. Bring a chair. Refreshments for sale. Tickets: pay what you can. 7 pm. Farr's Hill. Chandler Center for the Arts. (802) 728-9878. outreach@chandler-arts.org. chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. Art in the Park. Fine artists, craftspeople, and specialty food producers. live music, and demonstrations. Saturday 10 am - 7 pm. Sunday 10 am - 5 pm. Free. Main Street Park, junction of Rts. 7 & 4. (802) 775-0356. www.chaffeeartcenter.org. *Also August 15.*

RUTLAND. Outside The Box Under the Stars Concert: The Machine performs Pink Floyd. Food trucks, beer/wine garden. Rain or shine, BYO chair. Tickets: \$35. Gates at 6 pm, showtime 7 pm. The Meadow at The Vermont State Fairgrounds, 227 South Main St. (802) 775-0570. www.paramountvt.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers' Market. Saturdays through October 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wednesdays through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October.*



STATEWIDE. Vermont Open Farm Week. Vermont farms open for tours. For a schedule go to diginvt.com/events-in-vermont/vermont-open-farm-week-2021. *Thru August 15.*

VERGENNES. Addison County Fair & Field Days. 1790 Field Days Rd. www.addisoncountyfielddays.com.

WOODSTOCK. Taste of Woodstock Annual Street Festival. Live music all day. Food, spirits, beer, wine, crafts, children's activities. 10 am - 6 pm. Elm St. (802) 457-3555. info@woodstockvt.com. woodstockvt.com.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

FERRISBURGH. Annual Pie and Ice Cream Social. An afternoon of sweets, music, and tours of the historic Robinson home. 1-4 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby.org.

LEBANON, NH. Nexus Music and Arts Festival. Concert: Kat Wright and two members of her octet, free, 5:30 pm. Concert: Jes and Jakob, free, 7 pm. Concert: Moondance, free, 8 pm. Public art and al fresco dining. Colburn Park. (603) 448-0400. lebanonoperahouse.org.

NORWICH. Theater on the Hill. Presenting a workshop production of *a curious thing; or superheroes k'aint fly* by Jeremy O'Brian. Tickets \$25 at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill. Courtyard at 6:30 pm with food and beverages. 8 pm. At King Arthur Baking Co., 135 Rt. 5 South. (802) 332-3270. jagproductionsvt.com.

RUTLAND. Art in the Park. 10 am - 5 pm. Free. Main Street Park, junction of Rts. 7 & 4. (802) 775-0356. www.chaffeeartcenter.org.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

RUTLAND. 175th Vermont State Fair. Admission \$5 all ages on opening night, season pass \$25. Free parking. 5-11 pm. 175 South Main St. (802) 775-5200. vermontstatefair.org. *Through August 21.*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

RUTLAND. Vermont State Fair. Jeff Dunham: Seriously? 8:30 pm, tickets at paramountvt.org. Fair admission \$10 ages 13 & up, \$5 ages 6-12, ages 5 and under free. Vermont State Fair Grounds, 175 S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.org. *Through August 21.*

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers' Market. Sat through Oct. 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wed. through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October.*

SHAFTSBURY. Celebrate Your Farmer Social. Farm-fresh pizza dinner baked in NOFA-VT's wood-fired pizza oven, followed by a farm tour. Pre-registration required. 5:30-7:30 pm. Clear Brook Farm, 47 Hidden Valley Rd. (802) 442-4273. clearbrookfarm.com.

WILLISTON. Opera: Puccini's Tosca. 7:30 pm; doors at 6:30 pm. Isham Family Farm, 3515 Oak Hill Rd. (802) 247-4295. barnopera@brandon-music.net. barnopera.com.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

DUMMERSTON. Concert. Arun Ramamurthy with Trina Basu. South Indian Carnatic music. Tickets \$20, under 12 free. 6 pm. Naulakha, 481 Kipling Rd. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org.

NORTH BENNINGTON. Moose Junior at Norshaft Lions Park. The Vermont Arts Exchange is firing up the Art Bus with a musical concert for the whole family! Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Free. In case of rain, we'll reschedule. 6:30-7:30 pm. Norshaft Lions Park, Houghton Lane. www.vtartxchange.org.

PITTSFORD. Butterflies and Bats. An entertaining and informational nature adventure with presenter Jerry Schneider. Sponsored by the Maclure Library. 11 am. At the Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St. (802) 483-2972. maclurelibrary.org.



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Vermont Country Calendar

(Thursday, August 19, continued)

RUTLAND. Vermont State Fair. Pond Hill Pro Rodeo 6:30 pm, tickets at paramountvt.org. Admission \$10 ages 13 & up, \$5 ages 6-12, ages 5 and under free, season pass \$25. Free parking. 5-11 pm. Vermont State Fair Grounds, 175 S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. vermontstatefair.org. *Thru Aug 21.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

BELLOWS FALLS. Bellow Falls Third Friday (BF3F). Greater Falls Farmers Market 4-7 pm. (802) 460-2333. bellowsfallsvt.org. *Third Fridays.*

CASTLETON. Opera: Puccini's "Tosca." Tickets: \$50. 7:30-9:30 pm. Cedar Meadow, 646 Rice Willis Rd. (802) 772-5601. welch@barnopera.com. barnopera.com.

NORWICH. Theater on the Hill. Performance of *Next to Normal* in concert. Hosted by JAG and King Arthur Flour. Tickets \$25, at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill. Courtyard 6:30 pm with local food and beverages. Performance 8 pm. At King Arthur Baking Company, 135 U.S. 5 South. (802) 332-3270. www.jagproductionsvt.com. *Through August 22.*

RUTLAND. Vermont State Fair. Admission \$10 ages 13 & up, \$5 ages 6-12, ages 5 and under free. Free parking. Vermont State Fair Grounds, 175 S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. www.vermontstatefair.org. *Also August 21.*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

BRANDON. Opera: "Tosca." Barn Opera of Brandon performs one of Puccini's greatest operas. Tickets: \$50. 7:30 pm. Estabrook Park, 760 Grove St. (802) 772-5601. www.barnopera.com.

MONTPELIER. Riverfest. Community-wide, family-friendly river celebration. 1-3 pm. North Branch Nature Center, 713 Elm St. (802) 229-6206. www.northbranchnaturecenter.org.

NORWICH. Theater on the Hill. Performance of *Next to Normal* in concert. Hosted by JAG and King Arthur Flour. Tickets \$25, at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill. Courtyard opens 6:30 pm with local food and beverages. Performance 8 pm. At King Arthur Baking Company, 135 U.S. 5 South. (802) 332-3270. www.jagproductionsvt.com. *Also August 22.*

QUECHEE. Forest Fairy Hunts. Build fairy houses with natural materials and trek through the forest while hunting for fairies. Visit from our Fairy Grandmother. Wearing wings encouraged. Adults \$17.50, seniors (62 plus), students, educators & veterans \$16.50, youth (4-17) \$15, 3 & under free. 10 am - 2 pm. Vermont Institute of Natural Science Nature Center, 149 Natures Way, off Rt. 4. (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. vinsweb.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont State Fair. Admission \$10 ages 13 & up, \$5 ages 6-12, ages 5 and under free. Free parking. Vermont State Fair Grounds, 175 S. Main St. (802) 775-5200. vermontstatefair@outlook.com. www.vermontstatefair.org.

RUTLAND. Learning the Common Ferns of Vermont, with Peter Hope. Bring insect repellent, magnifying lenses, and a lunch to enjoy at the park before the walk. Sponsored by Rutland County Audubon Society. Free, all ages. Presentation 10 am in the Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. Lunch and walk at Pine Hill Park, 2 Oak St. (802) 747-4466.

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers' Market. Saturdays through October 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wednesdays through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October.*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

NEWBURY. Annual UnCommon Jam Festival. Food and craft beer. Admission: \$10. 1-6 pm. The Common, Main Street. (603) 989-5500. hhi.exdir@gmail.com.

NORWICH. Theater on the Hill. Performance of *Next to Normal* in concert. Tickets \$25, at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill. Courtyard 6:30 pm with food and beverages. 8 pm. At King Arthur Baking Co., 135 Rt. 5. (802) 332-3270. www.jagproductionsvt.com.

WESTON. Conversation: David E. Sanger. In-person conversation about Washington, America, and the World in 2021. 7 pm. Indoors at the Weston Playhouse, 703 Main St. (802) 824-5288. westonplayhouse.org.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

BRATTLEBORO. Gallery Walk. Brattleboro Museum and Art Center is open late and admission is free during Gallery Walk, a first-Friday community celebration of all things artful. 5-8 pm. Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

LEBANON, NH. Concert: Richard Thompson. Singer/guitarist showcases his fleet-fingered fretwork, poetic songwriting, and engaging storytelling. Tickets: \$55-\$75. 7:30 pm. Lebanon Opera House, 51 North Park St. (603) 448-0400. lebanonoperahouse.org.

LYNDONVILLE. Caledonia County Fair. Vermont's Oldest Fair! Tickets \$12. 4-9 pm. Caledonia County Fairgrounds, 1 Fairgrounds Rd., Mountain View Park. (802) 748-4208. www.caledoniacountyfair.com. *Through August 29.*

MIDDLEBURY. Seventh Annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival. Five Days of Screenings. More than 120 films scheduled. Festival pass \$100, day pass \$40, individual tickets: advance \$17, walk-up \$13. Opening night/afterparty: \$60. Screening venues: Town Hall Theater, Marquis Theatre, Swift House Inn. middfilmfest.org/mnff7. *Through August 29.*

PITNEY. Bread & Puppet Theater. presents *Our Domestic Resurrection Circus*. After the show Bread & Puppet will serve its famous sourdough rye bread with aioli, and Bread & Puppet's "Cheap Art"—books, posters, postcards, pamphlets and banners from the Bread & Puppet Press—will be for sale. Co-presented by Next Stage Arts and Sandglass Theater. Tickets \$20, under 12 free. 6 pm. The Grammar School Soccer Field, 48 Hickory Ridge Rd. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers' Market. Saturdays through Oct. 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wednesdays through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *May through October.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26

FAIR HAVEN. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers' Market. Thursdays 3-6 pm. In Fair Haven Park. (802) 747-8264. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October.*

LYNDONVILLE. Caledonia County Fair. Vermont's Oldest Fair! Admission. 7 am - 9 pm. Caledonia County Fairgrounds, 1 Fairgrounds Rd., Mountain View Park. (802) 748-4208. www.caledoniacountyfair.com. *Thru August 29.*

PITTSFORD. Presentation: Reptiles. A presentation by the Southern Vermont History Museum. Sponsored by the Maclure Library. 11 am. At the Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St. (802) 483-2972. www.maclurelibrary.org.

Norwich, VT

Theatre On The Hill Presented by JAG Productions and King Arthur Baking Company

After a 17-month hiatus from live performances, JAG Productions returns to the stage with the Theatre on the Hill outdoor summer series, hosted by King Arthur Baking Company and running August 13 through September 12.

Every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evening over the course of five weekends, JAG Productions will offer live theatrical productions including workshops, concerts, burlesques, and staged readings that illuminate Black life and Black aesthetics.

All shows will be performed from the picturesque grassy hill at King Arthur Baking Company on Route 5 in Norwich,

Vermont. Local food and beverages will be available starting at 6:30 p.m. each night of the series, including Upper Valley food trucks like Munchie Rollz, Griddle and Groovy, and more.

Performances will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and are on sale at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill.

Born out of JAG Productions' mission to catalyze compassion, empathy, love, and understanding through the lens of the African-American experience, as well as King Arthur Baking Company's commitment to become more effective partners to those experiencing injustice and marginalization, Theatre on the Hill will showcase how powerful it can be to celebrate performance art and advocate for a more just, healthier, well-rounded community.

Jarvis Green, JAG's Founder & Producing Artistic Director, is in his fifth year of bringing exciting and impactful Black queer and trans theatre to our region. Jarvis says, "We cannot wait to join together again this summer—in person—for this thrilling offering of performances, along with locally-focused food and drinks, held in a gorgeous natural setting. That is the transformative experience that we are calling Theatre on the Hill."

Regarding Theatre on the Hill's pursuit of greater human understanding through art, King Arthur Baking Company's

Vice President of CSR and Sustainability, Suzanne McDowell, says, "Food and art are inextricably connected, and both are integral facets of life, place, and community. The idea of Theatre on the Hill stemmed from this connection, and the potential for King Arthur Baking to offer a vibrant, living space for JAG's work."

JAG Productions and King Arthur Baking Company are excited to welcome and host many New York City guest artists here in the Upper Valley.

Performance Schedule

August 13-15. A workshop production of *a curious thing; or superheroes k'aint fly* by Jeremy O'Brian. A 90-minute queer romance about parenthood and death.

August 20-22. Performance of *Next to Normal* in concert, with book and lyrics by Brian Yorkey and music by Tom Kitt. Winner of three 2009 Tony Awards, including Best Musical Score and the 2010 Pulitzer Prize, *Next to Normal* is an unflinching look at a family struggling with the effects of mental illness.

August 27-29. Performance of *Next to Normal* in concert, with book and lyrics by Brian Yorkey and music by Tom Kitt. Winner of three 2009 Tony Awards, including Best Musical Score and the 2010 Pulitzer Prize, *Next to Normal* is an unflinching look at a family struggling with the effects of mental illness.

September 3-5. *Life in Sepia: Vermont's Black Burlesque Revue*. A revival of burlesque through the decades, showing the imprint of Black excellence throughout the history of this under-appreciated art form.

September 10-12. Staged reading of *For the Love of Jazz* by Raven Cassell. Set in NYC late 1920s-30s, this Jazzical sits with a brilliant woman who chooses to put her career first and have total control of her fluid sexuality.

King Arthur Baking Company is located at 135 U.S. 5 South. (802) 332-3270. info@jagproductionsvt.com. www.jagproductionsvt.com.

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Vermont Country Calendar

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

BONDVILLE. 2021 Bondville Fair. Since 1797! Friday \$5 before 5 pm, \$10 after 5 pm. \$15, seniors \$5 all weekend, includes free parking, unlimited amusement rides, track events, entertainment. Gates open at 10 am daily; rides open at 12 noon. Bondville Fair, 30 VT Rt. 30. (802) 297-2927. bondvillefair.org. *Through August 29.*

COLEBROOK, NH. 30th Annual North Country Moose Festival. Street Fair featuring artisan crafters, food vendors, cruise night, kid's games, live music, arts & crafts, moose cruise parade, and more! Free. 3-8 pm. Main Street. (603) 237-8939. moosefestival.com. *Also August 28 in Canaan.*

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. Tribute Concert to Michael Jackson and Abba. Free with paid admission to the fair. 7 pm. Champlain Valley Fair, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. champlainvalleyfair.org.

LYNDONVILLE. Caledonia County Fair. Vermont's Oldest Fair! Admission. 7 am - 9 pm. Caledonia County Fairgrounds, 1 Fairgrounds Rd., Mountain View Park. (802) 748-4208. www.caledoniacountyfair.com. *Through August 29.*

NORWICH. Theater on the Hill. Performance of *Next to Normal* in concert. Tickets \$25, at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill. Courtyard opens 6:30 pm with local food and beverages. Performance 8 pm. At King Arthur Baking Company, 135 U.S. 5 South. (802) 332-3270. info@jagproductionsvt.com. www.jagproductionsvt.com. *Through August 29.*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

BRATTLEBORO. Kampfires Cajun Zydeco Fest 2021. With Jeffery Broussard and the Creole Cowboys, Planet Zydeco, and Easy Street Bayou. Outdoors. Covered dance floor. Cajun food, craft beers. Full hookup RV and camping sites. No coolers, dogs, or smoking, outside alcohol permitted. Tickets \$10, under 12 free, VIP \$20. Tickets at brownpapertickets.com. Music 1-6:30 pm, rain or shine; gates at noon. Kampfires Campground, 792 Rt. 5. (802) 254-2098. kampfires.com.

BONDVILLE. 2021 Bondville Fair. Oldest fair in Vermont, since 1797. Friday \$5 before 5 pm, \$10 after 5 pm; Saturday \$15, Sunday \$10, seniors \$5 all weekend, includes free parking, unlimited amusement rides, track events, entertainment. Gates open at 10 am daily; rides open at 12 noon. Bondville Fair, 30 VT Rt. 30. (802) 297-2927. bondvillefair.org. *Also August 29.*

CANAAN. 30th Annual North Country Moose Festival. Down home country fair! Artisan crafters, food vendors, moose chili, horse drawn wagon rides, classic car show, moose calling contest, cow plop bingo, maple tasting & contest, kid's games, arts & crafts, live music, dog show, Art contest, and more! Admission \$5 (ages 13 and up), children 5-12 \$3, 4 and under free. 10 am - 3:30 pm. Recreation Park. (603) 237-8939. www.moosefestival.com.

EDEN MILLS. Nulhegan Abenaki Heritage Weekend. Singing, drumming, and dancing. Free event, rain or shine, fun for the whole family. 10 am - 5 pm. Mount Norris Scout Reservation, 1 Boy Scout Camp Rd. (804) 943-6197. dancingbluewolf@gmail.com. www.abenakitribe.org/heritage-gathering. *Also August 29.*

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. Grandstand Motocross Show: Freestyle Motocross. 7 pm. Champlain Valley Fair, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org.

LUDLOW. Best of Vermont Summer Festival. Specialty foods; wine, spirits and brew tastings. Artisan products, live music, hot air balloons; and so much more. Saturday 12 noon - 7 pm, Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 pm. Okemo Field on Route 103 and Bixby Rd. yourplaceinvermont.com. *Through August 29.*

LYNDONVILLE. Caledonia County Fair. Vermont's Oldest Fair! Admission. 7 am - 9 pm. Caledonia County Fairgrounds, 1 Fairgrounds Rd., Mountain View Park. (802) 748-4208. www.caledoniacountyfair.com. *Also August 29.*

NORWICH. Theater on the Hill. Performance of *Next to Normal* in concert, with book and lyrics by Brian Yorkey and music by Tom Kitt. Hosted by JAG and King Arthur Flour. Tickets \$25, at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill. Courtyard 6:30 pm with food and beverages. 8 pm. At King Arthur Baking Co., 135 U.S. 5 South. (802) 332-3270. jagproductionsvt.com. *Also August 29.*

RANDOLPH. Live&Out Concert Series: Bow Thayer and Company. Bring a chair. Refreshments. Tickets: pay what you can. 7 pm. Sponsored by Chandler Center for the Arts. At Farr's Hill. (802) 728-9878. www.chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Outdoor Summer Farmers' Market. Saturdays through October 30th, 9 am to 2 pm, and Wednesdays through October 27th, 1-5 pm, both downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October.*

SHEFFIELD. 11th Annual Walk in the Woods, with woodland owner Al Robertson. Cider tasting and light refreshments after the walk. Rain or shine. Sponsored by Vermont Woodlands Association. Free; donations welcomed. 11 am. Pfläzlerwald Tree Farm, 1619 Berry Hill Rd. (802) 747-7900. www.vermontwoodlands.org.

VERGENNES. 39th Annual Vergennes Day. 60+ vendor booths in City Park. Live music on the bandstand. Pancake breakfast at the fire station. Horse and wagon rides. Little City Road Race, Lions Club chicken BBQ, and merchant sales throughout downtown. 10 am - 3 pm. City Park. (802) 377-7080. www.vergennesday.com.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

BONDVILLE. 2021 Bondville Fair. Since 1797. Friday \$5 before 5 pm, \$10 after 5 pm; Saturday \$15, Sunday \$10, seniors \$5 all weekend, includes free parking, unlimited amusement rides, track events, entertainment. Gates open at 10 am daily; rides open at 12 noon. Bondville Fair, 30 VT Rt. 30. (802) 297-2927. bondvillefair.org.

EDEN MILLS. Nulhegan Abenaki Heritage Weekend. Singing, drumming, and dancing. Free event, rain or shine, fun for the whole family. 10 am - 5 pm. Mount Norris Scout Reservation, 1 Boy Scout Camp Rd. (804) 943-6197. www.abenakitribe.org/heritage-gathering.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. Monster Truck Motorsports - A Night of Fire and Destruction. 4 pm. Champlain Valley Fair, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org.

LYNDONVILLE. Caledonia County Fair. Vermont's Oldest Fair! Admission. 7 am - 6 pm. Caledonia County Fairgrounds, 1 Fairgrounds Rd., Mountain View Park. (802) 748-4208. caledoniacountyfair.com.

NORWICH. Theater on the Hill. Performance of *Next to Normal* in concert. Tickets \$25, at www.jagproductionsvt.com/theatre-on-a-hill. Courtyard opens 6:30 pm with local food and beverages. Performance 8 pm. At King Arthur Baking Company, 135 U.S. 5 South. (802) 332-3270. www.jagproductionsvt.com.

PLAINFIELD. Concert: Sky Blue Boys and Cookie. Admission by donation. Bring your own chairs or blankets. 5-6:15 pm. Plainfield Opera House Summer Outdoor Series. Plainfield Rec Field, Recreation Field Rd. (802) 498-3173. plainfieldoperahousevt.org.

STOWE. Race To The Top Of Vermont. A 4.3 Mile, 2564 vertical ft hill climb up the tallest mountain in Vermont. As many as 800 hikers, mountain bikers, and runners from across the U.S. and Canada to climb Mount Mansfield. The course climbs up the historic Toll Road. www.rttvt.com.

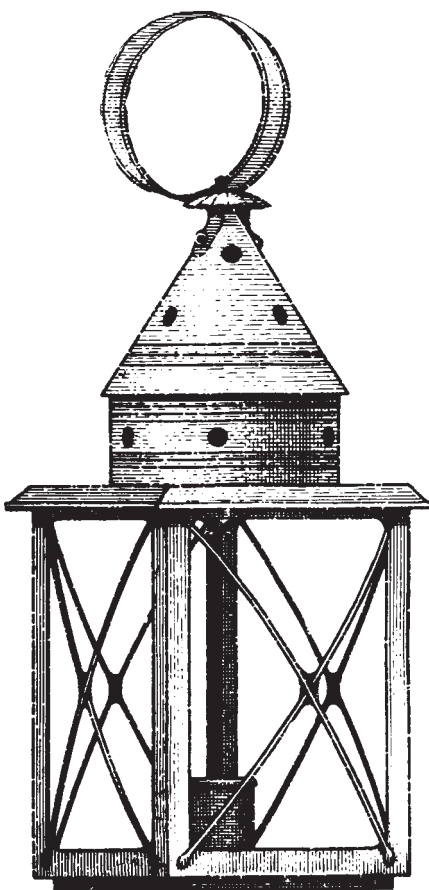
WINDSOR. Picnic at Artisans Park. Meander through the maze, labyrinth, and 18 works of art along the Connecticut River. Tickets: \$102 for two (garden admission included). 12 noon - 4 pm. Artisans Park, Artisan Eats Vermont, 9 Artisans Way. (802) 434-2000. www.vermontfresh.net.

MONDAY, AUGUST 30

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. Trevor Contois presents the music of Elton John. On the Xfinity Stage in the Grandstand. Free with paid admission to the fair. 7 pm. Champlain Valley Fair, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31

ESSEX JUNCTION. Champlain Valley Fair. The Dave Matthews Tribute Band. On the Xfinity Stage in the Grandstand. Free with paid admission to the fair. 7 pm. Champlain Valley Fair, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. info@cvexpo.org. www.champlainvalleyfair.org.



VT Fish & Wildlife

Protect Grassland Birds by Mowing Later

Bobolinks, meadowlarks, Savannah sparrows, and grasshopper sparrows enrich our summers with their songs, but some of these species are in decline due to the loss of appropriate grassland habitat.

Landowners can make a difference by altering the times of year they mow fields. The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is encouraging landowners to help these beloved species by waiting a little longer to mow to give these birds a chance to complete their nesting season.

"People maintain fields and meadows in Vermont for a variety of reasons, from commercial hayfields and grazing pastures, to simple aesthetic beauty," said Doug Morin, biologist for the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. "Mowing is the most common way to maintain grasses, but if

mowed early in the summer, grassland birds will lose their nests and chicks."

Bobolinks build nests among the grasses and wildflowers of fields and meadows. When bobolinks are present, other grassland bird species such as Savannah sparrows and grasshopper sparrows, may also be nesting among the grasses.

Deer fawns, wild turkey chicks, and other animals take refuge in the grass and are also at risk by mowing too early.

According to Morin, landowners who mow their fields for aesthetic reasons can maintain these fields and accommodate nesting birds simply by cutting later in the summer, preferably after August 15.

For more information contact VT Fish & Wildlife Dept. at www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

Sheffield, VT

11th Annual Walk in the Woods

Join Al Robertson, woodland owner and member of the Vermont Tree Farm Committee, on Saturday, August 28 at 11 a.m. on his property, Pfläzlerwald Tree Farm, as we take a leisurely walk in his forest and enjoy the trails. Check out last year's logging job. Learn about upcoming resilience plantings and wildlife thinnings. Learn about the cider and the orchard. Talk about how we can help you with your ideas in your woods.

Our assumption is that most will be vaccinated by this date; for those not vaccinated we will have masks and sanitizer available, and the tour will maintain social distancing. Light refreshments will be served after the walk.

This is a field event (rain or shine) so dress accordingly. Mild to moderate hiking on rough trails is required. There is no charge for this workshop (Donations to the VWA/ Vermont Tree Farm Committee welcomed!), and no registration is required. The workshop is sponsored by the Vermont Woodlands Association.

Directions to Pfläzlerwald Tree Farm: Pfläzlerwald is located in the town of Sheffield, in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont adjacent to

I-91 between Lyndonville, north of St. Johnsbury, and Barton. Whether traveling north or south on I-91, get off on Exit 24, the Wheelock/Sheffield exit. The exit puts you on Vermont Rt. 122. Make a right turn on to Route 122. Travel Rt. 122 north approximately 6 miles through Wheelock to Sheffield. (For those coming from the west, travel to the south end of VT Rte 16, on VT Rt. 15 east of Hardwick, and go north on VT Rt. 16, turning on to the north end of VT Rt. 122. Travel VT Rt. 122 south to Sheffield). As you enter Sheffield, there is an intersection, with the Post Office on the south side. The road on the north side is Berry Hill Road. Turn and proceed up Berry Hill Rd. Follow Berry Hill Road about 1.6 miles, past the intersection with Blake Pond Rd./Maple Row. At about 1.6 miles, on the left, is the gated entrance to Pfläzlerwald, 1619 Berry Hill Road. There is a large Pfläzlerwald Tree Farm sign to the side of the entrance. Proceed always up about ¼ of a mile to the house and barn.

Pfläzlerwald Tree Farm, 1619 Berry Hill Rd., Sheffield, VT. www.vermontwoodlands.org.

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North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

Tales of the Ocean and Denizens of the Deep

August is a traditional month for seashore vacations or even day trips. With oceans and beaches on our minds, here are some children's books that will enhance your holiday or allow you to dream of one.

We might have a vague idea of how life on earth came about from the ocean but would like to know more about what really transpired millions of years ago – from the beginning up to now.

Out of the Blue—How Animals Evolved from Prehistoric Seas by Elizabeth Shreeve and illustrated by Frann Preston-Gannon (\$17.99. Candlestick Press. www.candlewick.com) helps us understand each unique period in time. Each epoch has its own name and dates with illustrations of the creatures of that time.

It all began with *Archean Eon* (4 to 2.5 billion years ago) with simple-cell microbes in the ocean. Then came the *Ediacaran Period* (635 to 541 million years ago) when microbes ate each other producing strange, squishy creatures. In the *Cambrian Period* (541 to 485 million years ago) major animals began to take shape fueled by greater oxygen. In the *Ordovician Period* (485 to 444 million years ago) a tiny millipede comes on land. In the *Silurian Period* (444 to 419 million years ago) crustaceans develop and in the *Devonian Period* (419 to 359 million years ago) small insects evolve and take flight. In the *Carboniferous Period* (359 to 299 million years ago) mysterious mollusks, land and sea snails, and octopuses appear. In the *Permian Extinction* (251 million years ago) most land and sea animals die off after an asteroid hits earth wiping out all large animals. Then comes the *Jurassic Period* (201 to 145 million years ago) when the earth comes alive as dinosaurs roam, pterosaurs take to the skies and giant reptiles return to the sea. And now we are in the *Cenozoic Era* (66 million years ago to present time) where mammals have developed into large hooved animals like goats and cows, and also dolphins, porpoises and whales, which dominate the seas.

Two pages are devoted to each time period enhanced by clearly-defined drawings. You will be intrigued by what lived and how it might have looked millions of years ago.

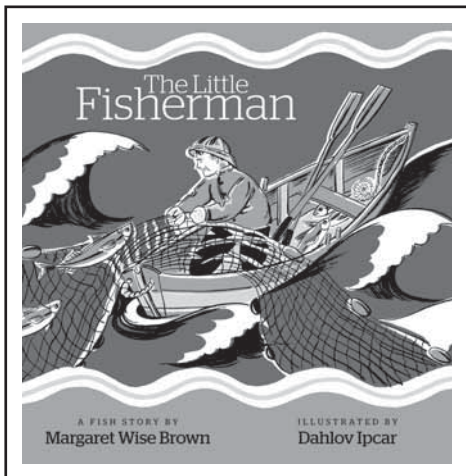
Some surprises for us were chordates, the first creatures with signs of spinal cords like ours; nautiloids with many different type of shells; jawless fishes like lampreys and hogfish of today; and echinoderms like sea stars and sea urchins. You will agree this really is "a story from out of the blue!"

Scientists estimate there are at least one million species of fish, animals, plants and other organisms living in the world's oceans. So the author had ample choices for this book from 34,000 recognized species of fish in her **Ultimate Earth Oceans and Seas—Explore—Discover—Learn** by Miranda Baker and illustrated by Gareth Lucan (\$14.99. Little Tiger Press. www.tigertalesbooks.com).

In this handsome, large board book with colorful fold-outs the author presents a sample of predators of the sea (great white shark and saltwater crocodile); giants of the deep (blue whales and giant manta rays); the best disguised (clown fish and mini octopuses); fastest swimmers (flying fish and orca whales); and weird and wonder species (the large narwhal and tiny nudibranch sea slug).

Readers will learn the deadliest of all animals on earth and sea is the tiny blue-ringed octopus; the largest is the blue whale which also can hear other whales up to 1,000 miles away; the fastest goes to sailfish; and one of the weirdest is the vampire squid which can turn its body inside out!

The book sounds an alarm that waste caused by humans like the Great Pacific Garbage Patch (three times the size of France) has done terrible damage to the ocean's eco-systems.



When artist Dahlov Ipcar (1917-2017) and her husband Aldoph moved Maine after World War II they pioneered a "back-to-the-earth" subsistence dairy farm at the coastal village of Georgetown. It is no surprise that the subsequent 30 books she then illustrated would have and Maine settings. Her first book published in 1945 was **The Little Fisherman** written by Margaret Wise Brown and illustrated by her. (\$10.99. Reprinted as a Board Book. Islandport Press. www.islandportpress.com).

This charming book introduces us to two Maine fishermen, one a great big man with a large, multi-sail vessel with a large crew, the other a small boy fisherman, with only one helper, who pilots a small, two-sailed vessel. Both fishermen fill their holds with fish caught in nets and sell all their catch to a fish market. They walk together as they head to their own homes—competitors, yes, but also friends. Incidentally we see some of the fish priced at 10 cents a pound!

One of the pleasures of going to the seashore is to find seashells have been scattered there from changing tides. For a perfect guide to these seashell gifts with beautiful drawings see **Seashells—Treasures From The Northeast Coast** by writer-illustrator J. Roach-Evans (\$10.95. Islandport Press. www.islandportpress.com).

The naturalist-teacher author who wrote and illustrated her first book at age nine and who lives in Massachusetts, is an avid beachcomber. It took her years to find all the shells in her book so she says you should "take your time, enjoy the hunt, and don't expect to find everything in one day, one week, or even one year!"

Her handy guide is an education. We learn that these shells were once homes for animals called mollusks, gastropods that have one shell or bivalves that have two shells. In your hunt for gastropod shells hopefully you will find the beautiful Northern Moon Snail, Slipper Snail and Tortoise-shell Limpet. A common one you could find are inch-long Periwinkles. Two of the biggest gastropods are the Knobbed Welk and the 7-inch long Channeled Welk. Happy treasure hunt!

One might imagine that the middle of winter would be the worst time for an ocean-side visit. Not so. Bundle up and enjoy this adventure with a mother, daughter and her doll in **Seaside Stroll** by Charles Trevino and illustrated by Maribel Lechuga (\$16.99. Charlesbridge. www.charlesbridge.com).

In *Seaside Stroll* readers will be amazed to discover every single word in the narrative starts with the letter S. The trio carefully take slow steps on the snowy sand and enjoy such sights as shells, seagulls, ship-at-sea, sand and snow sculptures. The girl stumbles and her doll slips into a splashing tidal pool. She retrieves it and once home the child and her doll both get sprayed, squirted, and scrubbed with soap suds in a shower and then after supper, a story and it's to sleep. Incidentally, the *Seaside Stroll* sketches are stunning.



Book News

The Sound of the Sea Seashells and the Fate of the Ocean

by Cynthia Barnett

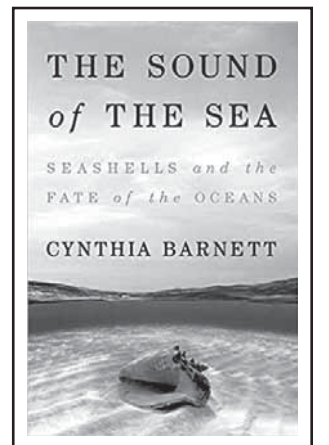
(\$27.95. W.W. Norton & Company, Inc. norton.com)

The *Sound of the Sea—Seashells and the Fate of the Oceans* is a compelling history of seashells and the animals that make them, revealing what they have to tell us about nature, our changing oceans, and ourselves.

Seashells have been the most coveted and collected of nature's creations since the dawn of humanity. They were money before coins, jewelry before gems, art before canvas.

In *The Sound of the Sea*, acclaimed environmental journalist Cynthia Barnett, blends cultural history and science to trace our long love affair with seashells and the hidden lives of the mollusks that make them. Spiraling out from the great cities of shell that once rose in North America to the warming waters of the Maldives and the slave castles of Ghana, Barnett has created an unforgettable account of the world's most iconic seashells. She begins with their childhood wonder, unwinds surprising histories like the origin of Shell Oil as a family business importing exotic shells, and charts what shells and the soft animals that build them are telling scientists about our warming, acidifying seas.

From the eerie calls of early shell trumpets to the evolutionary miracle of spines and spires and the modern science of carbon capture inspired by shell, Barnett circles to her central point of listening to nature's wisdom—and acting on what seashells have to say about taking care of each other and our world.



Cynthia Barnett is the author of three previous books, including *Rain*, which was longlisted for the National Book Award and named a finalist for the PEN/E. O. Wilson Award for Literary Science Writing. She lives with her family in Gainesville, Florida, where she is also Environmental Journalist in Residence at the University of Florida.

To learn more go to www.cynthiabarnett.net.



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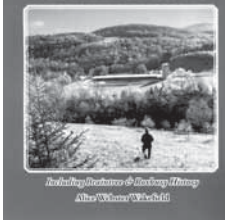
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The Fresh Harvest Cookbook

Four Seasons, 150 Recipes

by Keith Sarasin and Chris Viaud

(\$24.95. Cider Mill Press. www.cidermillpress.org)

A bumper crop of corn should be coming in now with its prices going down. Most will be enjoyed on-the-cob but some corn will be pan-fried in butter or end up in chowder.

Have you ever heard of corn stock similar to chicken or veggie stock as a base for soups, chowders and other dishes? In addition to a corn stock recipe this cookbook gives you suggestions for its use in your favorite recipes.

Start with 14 cups (yes!) of water and add 8 corn cobs (kernels removed), a bay leaf, sprig of thyme and some black pepper. Boil and then simmer for 45 minutes, strain and cool. The author-chefs use the stock in a chilled soup made with kernal corn, a few herbs, seasonings, onions, and heavy cream.

A dozen or so recipes using corn or corn meal are here to tempt you.

Corn is a major ingredient in Chilled Corn Soup with Shrimp Salad; Lobster Tostadas With Charred Corn; Roasted Corn & Red Pepper Bisque; and Seared Scallop & Sweet Corn Chowder. Also, try the almost paper-thin Cornmeal Crepes.

Another seasonal vegetable that will be coming up in your garden and the farm markets are Brussels sprouts. These are usually just boiled or pan fried in olive oil. Try recipes for Roasted Brussel Sprouts with Hot Honey & Hazelnuts; Brussel Sprouts Roasted with Bacon; or Charred Brassicas with Pickled Ramps and Buttermilk Caesar Dressing.

You may have plenty of spinach, chard or other greens in your garden or at your farmers market but what do you plan to do with a bumper crop of kale that will be sweetening up with the coming fall frosts. Try Kale Chips (made with seven seasonings) or as a Salad with Blood Orange Vinaigrette. One with a Vermont flavor is Jerk Acorn Squash with Baby Kale Salad & Maple Vinaigrette. Or

try Squash Risotto with Baby Kale, Toasted Walnuts and Dried Cranberries.

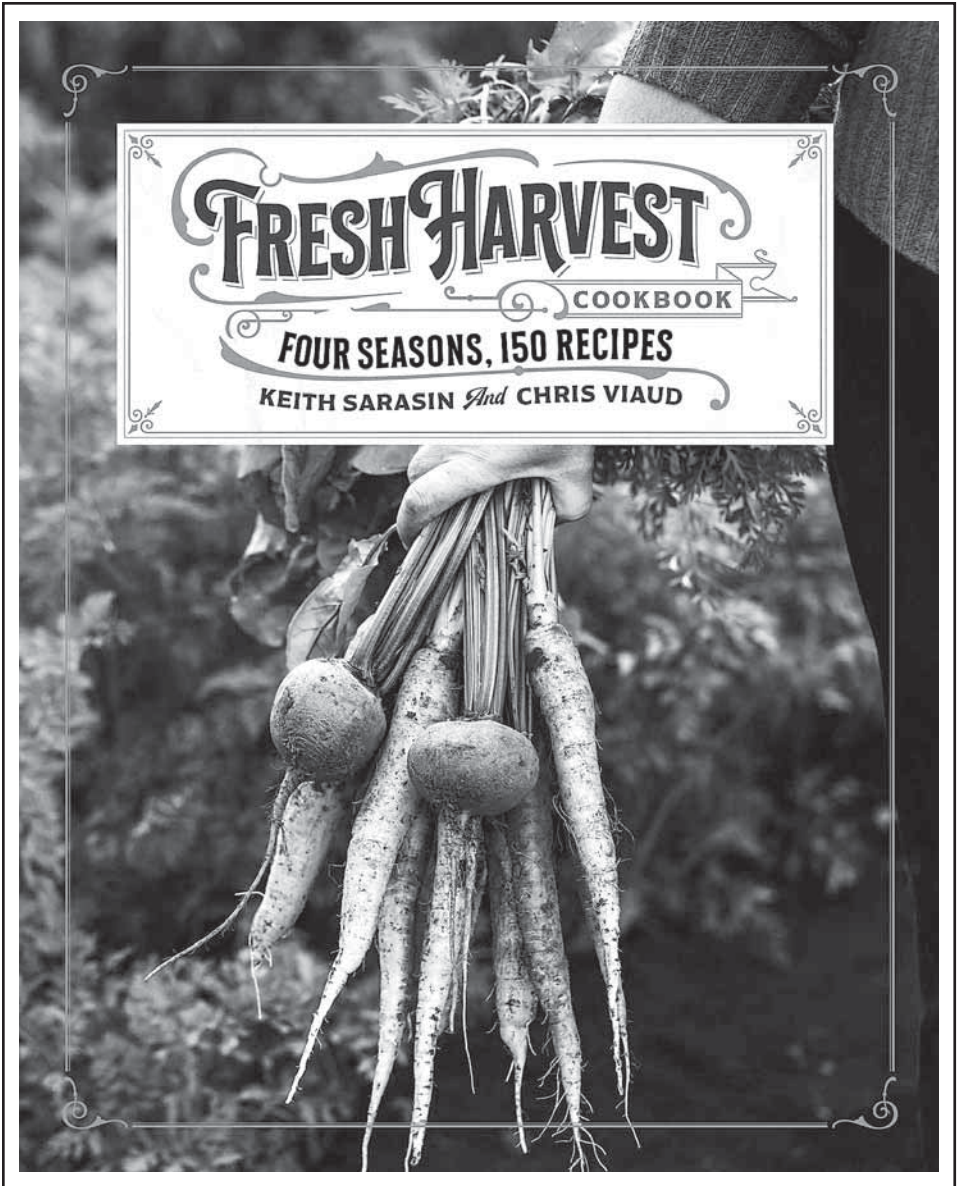
The cookbook has 15 unusual suggestions for salads: Watermelon Salad with Ricotta & Arugula; Roasted Baby Beets, Radish & Apple Salad with Blue Cheese Mousse; and Blackened Salmon with Grilled Vegetable Salad. The chefs have their own way with New Potato Salad and Leftover Chicken Salad made with celery, onion, walnuts or pecans. This is served on your home-baked Sourdough Bread with baking instructions (if needed) and a Sourdough Starter made with rye flour. It takes a week.

Don't put away the outside grill just yet as here are tempting recipes including Grilled Lamb Loin with Quinoa & Radish Leaf Chimichurri, a South American sauce made of garlic, herbs and red wine vinegar; Grilled Chicken Paninis with Sundried Tomato Aioli & Garden Salad; and Grilled Corn with Chipotle Mayonnaise & Goat Cheese.

Several seafood recipes include Clam Chowder with Potato Chips; Cornmeal Crusted-Pollock with Rosemary Chips; Mussels with Pickled Ramps; Oyster Sliders with Red Pepper Mayonnaise; Celery Root Bisque with Poached Clams; and Butter-Poached Lobster.

There are tempting desserts scattered throughout like Strawberry-Rhubarb Ricotta Cakes with Lemon Merengue; Blueberry and Banana Bread Pudding; Grape-nut Custard Pudding (a New England favorite); a classic Indian Pudding; Roasted Parsnip Ice Cream; Black Forest Trifle with Preserved Cherries and Cocoa Crumble; Squash Whoopie Pies with Ginger Cream and many more.

The book includes a chapter on Preservation & Fermentation with one lesson entitled Canning 101 with an introduction to mason jars and canning pots. You could learn how



to make a Fermented Hot Sauce, a Kombucha tea and even Homemade Yogurt.

This useful cookbook is organized by seasons—Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter—providing recipes that use the best of local produce. It is a large 10" x 8" book with many full-page color photographs of all the dishes as well as close-ups of many

of the foods used in the recipes. We wish our vegetables looked so inviting.

Authors Keith Sarasin and Chris Viaud co-own The Farmers Market Diner and Greenleaf Restaurant in Milford, NH. Sarasin is the author of *The Farmers Dinner Cookbook*, *The Perfect Turkey*, and *Meat: The Ultimate Cookbook*. Learn more at keithsarasin.com.

Book News

Diary of a Young Naturalist

by Dara McNulty

(\$29.85. Greystone Books. www.greystonebooks.com)

Evocative, raw, and beautifully written, *Diary of a Young Naturalist* vividly explores the natural world from the perspective of an autistic teenager juggling homework, friendship, and campaigning for the environment.

This remarkable book chronicles the turning of fifteen-year-old Dara McNulty's world. From spring and through a year in his backyard in Northern Ireland, McNulty spent the seasons writing. These vivid, and moving diary entries about his connection to wildlife and the way he sees the world are raw in their telling. Above all, the book portrays McNulty's intense connection to the natural world.

"I was diagnosed with Asperger's/autism aged five... By age seven I knew I was very different, I had got used to the isolation, my inability to break through into the world of talking about

football or Minecraft was not tolerated. Then came the bullying. Nature became so much more than an escape; it became a life-support system."

Dara McNulty is a naturalist, conservationist, and activist. He's received many awards for his conservation work, and he's written and presented numerous natural history programs for BBC radio and television. McNulty is the youngest ever recipient of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds medal for conservation. He lives with his family and Rosie the rescue-greyhound at the foot of the Mourne Mountains in Northern Ireland.

Diary of a Young Naturalist is Dara McNulty first book. It is Book of the Year: The Guardian; winner of the 2020 Wainwright Prize for Nature Writing; and longlisted for the Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction.



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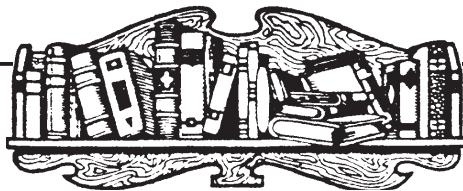
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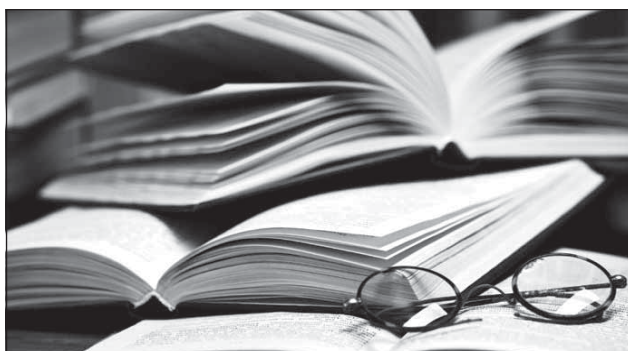
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Sunday

Dorset. Dorset Farmers Market. Sundays, 10 am – 2 pm. H.N. Williams Store, Rt. 30. marketmanager@dorsetfarmersmarket.com. www.dorsetfarmersmarket.com. *Through October 10.*

Glover. Glover Farmers Market. Sundays, 11 am – 2 pm. Glover Town Green. (802) 525-4051. gloverfarmersmarket@gmail.com. www.gloverfarmersmarket.org. *Through October 3.*

Peacham. Peacham Farmers Market. Sundays, 12 noon – 3 pm. Peacham Village Green. peachamfarmersmarket@gmail.com. peachamfarmersmarket.com. *Through August 29.*

Putney. Putney Farmers Market. Sundays, 11 am – 2 pm. Putney Food Co-op Green, 8 Carol Brown Way. (802) 777-2228. putneyfarmersmarket@gmail.com. putneyfarmersmarket.org. *Through October 31.*

Stowe. Stowe Farmers Market. Sundays, 10:30 am – 3 pm. Snowdrift/Stowe Motel field, 2043 Mountain Rd. stowefarmersmarket@gmail.com. stowefarmersmarket.com. *Through October 10.*

Winooski. Winooski Farmers Market. Sundays, 10 am – 2 pm. Winooski Falls Way in front of Champlain Mill, 20 Winooski Falls Way. farmersmarket@downtownwinooski.org. *Through October 3.*

Tuesday

Burlington. Old North End Farmers Market. Tuesdays, 3-6:30 pm. Dewey Park, Spring St. oldnorthendfarmersmarket@gmail.com. onefarmersmarket.com. *Through October 26.*

Northfield. Northfield Farmers Market. In-person shopping 3-6 pm on the Town Common. Online Store: order Thursday through Sunday for pick-up at the market on Tuesdays from 4:30-5:30 pm. (802) 485-8586. northfieldfarmersmarketvt@gmail.com. northfieldfm.eatfromfarms.com. *Every Tuesday, through October 12.*

Wednesday

Barre. Barre Farmers Market. Wednesdays, 3:30-6:30 pm. Pearl Street Ped-Way. (802) 477-2967. director@thebarrepartnership.com. thebarrepartnership.com/barrefarmersmarket. *Through August 25.*

Danville. Summer Farmers Market. Wednesdays, 9 am – 1 pm. Danville Town Green, off US Rt. 2 between the Danville-Peacham Rd. and Park St. (802) 592-3088. cfmamanager@gmail.com. sites.google.com/site/caledoniafarmersmarket. *Through October 6.*

Rutland. Vermont Outdoor Wednesday Summer Farmers Market. Wednesdays, 9 am – 2 pm. Downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October 27.*

South Hero. Champlain Islands Farmers Market. Wednesdays, 3-6 pm. St. Rose of Lima Church, Rt. 2. champlainislandsfarmersmkt@gmail.com. champlainislandsfarmersmarket.org. *Through September 15.*

Woodstock. Woodstock Market on the Green. Wednesdays, 3-6 pm. Village Green. (802) 457-3555. info@woodstockvt.com. woodstockvt.com/events/market-on-the-green. *Through October 13.*

Thursday

Fair Haven. Fair Haven Farmers Market. Thursdays, 3-6 pm. Fair Haven Park. vfmrutland@gmail.com. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October 28.*

Jericho. Jericho Farmers Market. Thursdays, 3-6 pm. Mills Riverside Park, 338 VT Rt. 15. (802) 825-8612. jerichofarmersmarket@gmail.com. jerichofarmersmarket.com. *Through October 7.*

Manchester. Manchester Farmers Market. Thursdays, 3-6 pm. Adams Park, 5048 Main St. mfmvermont@gmail.com. manchesterfarmers.org. *Through October 7.*

Royalton. Royalton Farmers Market. Thursdays, 3-6 pm. South Royalton Town Green. (802) 763-8302. royaltonfarmersmarket@gmail.com. *Through October 9.*

St. Albans. St. Albans Bay Farmers Market. Thursdays, 4:30-7:30 pm. St. Albans Bay Park, 596 Lake St. (802) 309-1685. j.montagne@stalbanstown.com. *Through September 26.*

Vergennes. Vergennes Farmers Market. Thursdays, 3-6 pm. City Hall Park, 120 Main St. (802) 233-9180. vergennesfm@gmail.com. *Through October 7.*



Competitor readies his team of Belgian draft horses at Tunbridge Fair. photo by Nancy Cassidy

Waterbury. Waterbury Farmers Market. Thursdays, 4-7 pm. Rusty Parker Memorial Park, 51 S. Main St. waterburyfarmersmarket.com. *Through September 9.*

Friday

Arlington. Arlington Village Farmers Market. Fridays, 4-7 pm. Arlington Rec Park, Recreation Park Rd. off Rt. 7A. (802) 430-3578. arlingtonvillagefarmersmarket.com. *Through September 17.*

Bellows Falls. Greater Falls Farmers Market. Fridays, 4-7 pm. Waypoint Welcome Center, Connecticut River Byway. (802) 376-9534. gffarmersmarket.com. *Through September 24.*

Brandon. Brandon Farmers Market. Fridays, 9 am – 2 pm. Central Park. (802) 273-2655. cijka4@gmail.com. *Through October 8.*

Chelsea. Chelsea Farmers Market. Fridays, 3-6 pm. North Common in Chelsea. (419) 320-8369. chelseafarmersmarket.org. *Through September 24.*

Fairfax. Fairfax Fridays Farmer's Market. Weekly community get-together, concert series, and Farmers' Market. Farmers' market begins at 4:30 pm; live music 6:30-7:30 pm. On the front lawn of the Community Center, 1210 Main St. (802) 849-6111. knorwood@fwsu.org. fairfaxrecreation.com/fridays. *Every Friday, through September 24.*

Hardwick. Hardwick Farmers Market. Fridays, 3-6 pm. Atkins Field, 100 Granite St. hardwickfarmersmarket@gmail.com. hardwickfarmersmarketvt.com. *Through October 8.*

Hartland. Summer Farmers Market. Open for online and in-person Fridays May 28-September 24. 4-7 pm every Friday, rain or shine. In front of the Hartland Public Library. (603) 252-1288. hartlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com. hartlandfarmersmarket.com. *Through October 8.*

Killington. Killington Farmers Market. Fridays, 3-6 pm. Killington Sports at Rt. 4. killingtonfarmersmarket@gmail.com. *July 2 through October 8.*

Lyndon. Lyndon Farmers Market. Fridays, 3-6 pm. Bandstand Park. (802) 274-1411. lyndonfarmersmarket@gmail.com. *Through October 8.*

Richmond. Richmond Farmers Market. Fridays 3-7 pm. Volunteers Green, 286 Bridge St. (802) 881-1249. richmondfarmersmarketvt.org. *Through October 15.*

Rochester. Rochester Farmers Market & Exchange. Fridays, 3-6 pm. Rochester Park, 16 Park Row. rochesterfsmvt@gmail.com. *Through October 15.*

West Townshend. Townshend Farmers Market. Fridays, 4:30-6:30 pm. West Townshend Country Store, 6573 VT Route 30. west-river-community-market.myshopify.com. *Through October 8.*

Saturday

Bennington. Summer Farmers Market. Saturdays, 10 am – 1 pm. At the Deer Park, 100 Veterans Memorial Dr. benningtonfarmersmarket.org. *May 1 through October 30.*

Brattleboro. Brattleboro Area Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 2 pm. Route 9 by the Creamery Covered Bridge. (802) 254-8885. farmersmarket05301@gmail.com. brattleborofarmersmarket.com. *Through October 30.*

Burlington. Burlington Farmer's Market. Rain or shine. Saturdays, 9 am – 2 pm. 345 Pine St. (802) 310-5172. info@burlingtonfarmersmarket.org. burlingtonfarmersmarket.org. *Saturdays through October 30.*

Craftsbury. Craftsbury Farmers Market. Saturdays, 10 am – 1 pm. Craftsbury Common. (802) 586-8022. mama.kris.coville@gmail.com. craftsburyfarmersmarket.com. *Through October 2.*

Grand Isle. Champlain Islands Farmers Market. Saturdays, 10 am – 2 pm. St. Joseph's Church, Rt. 2. champlainislandsfarmersmkt@gmail.com. champlainislandsfarmersmarket.org. *Through October 30.*

Londonberry. West River Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. Junction of Rt. 11 & Rt. 100. (802) 297-7775. westriverfarmersmarket@gmail.com. westriverfarmersmarket.com. *Through October 9.*

Middlebury. Middlebury Farmer's Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 12:30 pm, at the VFW at 530 Exchange St. (802) 673-4158. www.middleburyfarmersmarket.org. *Through October 30.*

Montgomery. Montgomery Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. Pratt Hall, 2005 N. Main St. (802) 326-4189. prattthall@gmail.com. montgomeryhistoricalsociety.org. *July 10 through September 11.*

Montpelier. Capital City Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. 133 State St. manager@montpelierfarmersmarket.com. capitalcityfarmersmarket.com. *Through October 30.*

Morrisville. Morrisville Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. Hannaford's Green Lawn. movillefarmersmarket@gmail.com. morrisvillefarmersmarket.org. *Through October 9.*

Newport. Newport Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 2 pm. The Causeway. (802) 274-8206. breezyhillaccesszych@yahoo.com. *Through October 16.*

Norwich. Summer Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. Norwich Farmers Market Grounds, 281 Rt. 5 South. (802) 384-7447. manager@norwichfarmersmarket.org. www.norwichfarmersmarket.org. *Through October 30.*

Pomfret. Mt. Tom Farmers Market. Saturdays, 10 am – 2 pm. Suicide Six Ski Area Parking Lot, 247 Stage Rd. (802) 763-2070. oxxfarm22@gmail.com. *Through October 16.*

Randolph. Randolph Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. Gifford Medical Center Green, 44 S. Main St. randfarmmarket@yahoo.com. *Through October 2.*

Rutland. Vermont Outdoor Saturday Summer Farmers' Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 2 pm. Downtown at Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Through October 27.*

Shelburne. Shelburne Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. Palmers Sugarhouse, 332 Shelburne Hinesburg Rd. (802) 985-2472. shelburnefarmersmarketvt@gmail.com. sbpavt.org. *Through October 9.*

St. Albans. Northwest Vermont Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 2 pm. Taylor Park. nwfmnc@gmail.com. facebook.com/05478NorthwestFarmersMarketVT. *Through October 30.*

St. Johnsbury. Outdoor Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. In the parking lot behind Anthony's Restuarant near Eastern Ave. and Pearl St. (802) 592-3088. cfmamanager@gmail.com. sites.google.com/site/caledoniafarmersmarket. *Through October 30.*

Waitsfield. Waitsfield Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 am – 1 pm. Mad River Green, Route 100. (802) 472-8027. waitsfieldmarket@yahoo.com. waitsfieldfarmersmarket.com. *Through October 16.*

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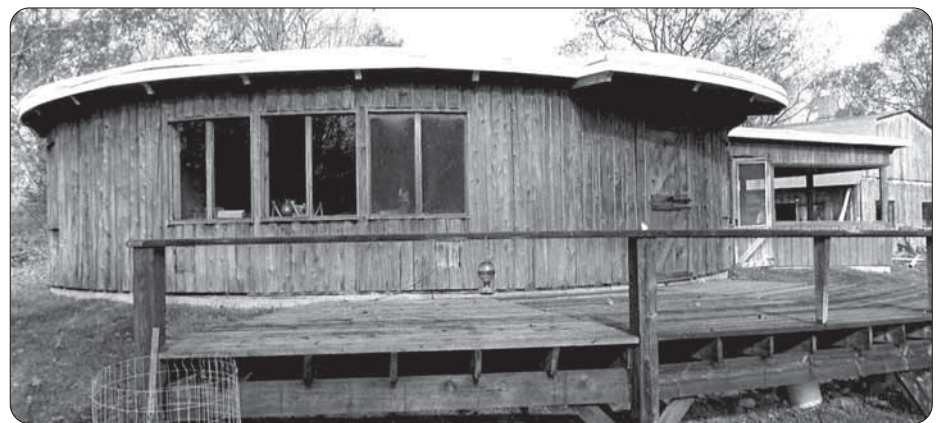
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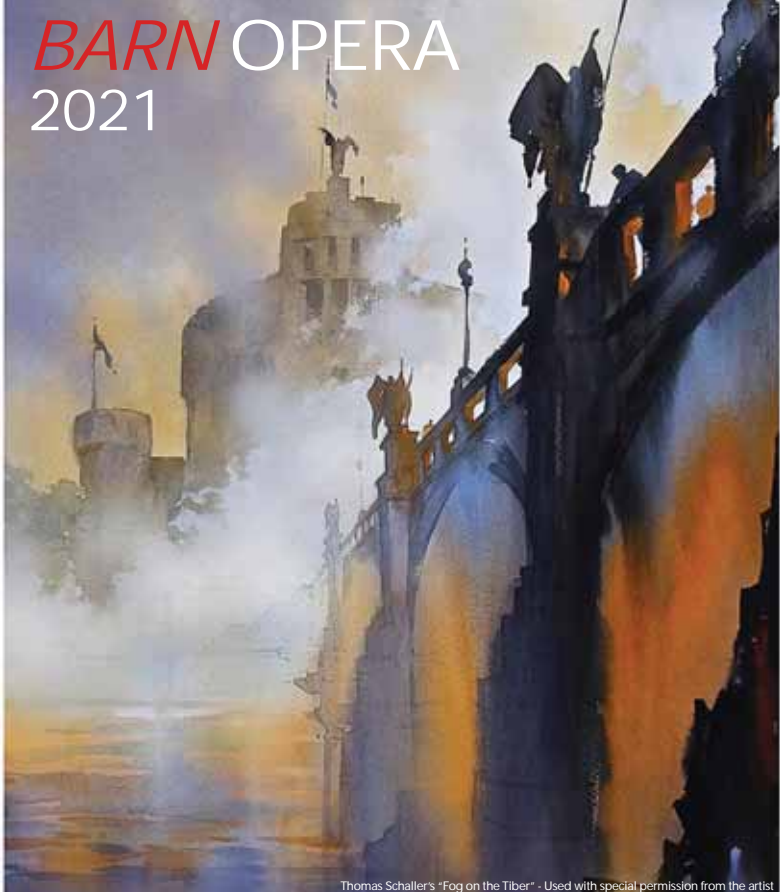
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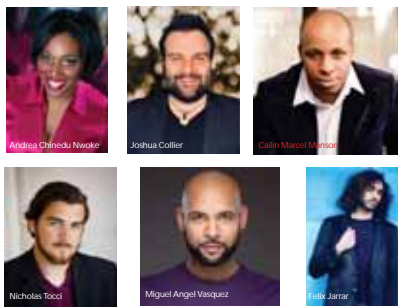
Thomas Schallers "Fog on the Tiber" - Used with special permission from the artist

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At our fields on Rt. 30 in Newfane, VT

Watch for Our:

Apples • Pumpkins • Squash • Gourds
Indian Corn • Corn Stalks • Fall Mums • Asters

DUTTON



FARMSTAND

"Buy Direct From a Farmer"

Fresh Summer Produce

Tomatoes • Zucchini & Summer Squash
Green & Wax Beans • Peas • New Potatoes
Eggplant • Kale • Swiss Chard • Cucumbers
Peppers • Salad Greens • Scallions • Herbs
Peaches • Apples from our own orchards
Lovely Summer Cut Flower Bunches
All your favorite fruits & vegetables.

Homemade Baked Goods

Fresh Fruit Pies, Jumbo Cookies, Pastries,
Breads. Our Own Jams, Jellies and Honey.
Vermont Cheeses. Homemade Fudge.

Gardening Supplies

Pottery, Peat Moss, Potting Soil, Mulches.



2021 Maple Syrup

— Gift Certificates —
We Have Maple Creemees!

Open Year-Round, All Three Locations • 9 am – 7 pm Daily
2083 Depot St., Manchester, VT • (802) 362-3083
308 Marlboro Rd., W. Brattleboro, VT • (802) 254-0254
391 & 407 VT Rt. 30, Newfane, VT • (802) 365-4168
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