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October Notebook

October Faith

by Bill Felker

This fall I have been reading poems attributed to the fourth-century writer, Ambrose of Milan. His verses, sometimes used as hymns, combine traditional cosmology with petition.

The God of Ambrose is the power who has created the universe, the one who shapes the seasons, who teaches beauty to the morning and fire to the noonday sun.

Ambrose asks this giver of order to help us have the proper stability, the natural balance in our inner lives, to "extinguish the flames of conflict, to take away the heat of hurtful things, to give health of body and true peace to the soul."

He requests that the author of our days might also give meaning to our days, that our lives may reflect universal order and that our deaths, like night moving into day, might fulfill that apparent promise of rebirth.

In his poems, Ambrose

places time and eternity side by side, attempting to shape their common sense. We want to be like the world, he says, and like God, too. We want to live well and forever.

The prayer of Ambrose is like my own prayer to a figurement of my imagination, a God I would create if it did not already exist. The words put form on the energy of an autumn daydream directed outward to the architect of my cosmos.

I feel that this silent dream is like an echo, my own voice reassuring me I am not alone, the echo of my monologue instructing me about the path to follow, the devices that will bring me to an inner god that is only mirror of myself.

October lethargy pulls me deep into such a faith. Even if an all-knowing spirit who responds to my outreach is only fantasy, I join Ambrose in his rash requests, and then in a lazy suspension of disbelief, I rest in escape and trust.



Festival goers waiting for Gilfeather Turnip soup at the outdoor kiosk at Wardsboro's annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival on Main Street in Wardsboro, Vermont.

Honoring the New Vermont State Vegetable

The Gilfeather Turnip was awarded a great honor of being designated the official Vermont state vegetable in July 2016 this year after two years of ardent lobbying by Wardsboro Elementary School students, their teacher-sponsors and members of the Friends of the Wardsboro Library.

Festival organizers are

expecting record crowds this year in Wardsboro, VT on October 22nd at the 14th Annual Gilfeather Festival to honor the new celebrity status of the town's famous heirloom vegetable. Farmer John Gilfeather could never have imagined that one day his town and the state of Vermont would celebrate and honor the humble tuber

that he first propagated in the early 1900s with an all day festival.

Gilfeather Farm still exists today, right in the heart of Wardsboro, and the current owners carry on the tradition of Farmer John by planting a large crop of the heirloom

turnip that originated on their farm at the turn of the century.

For more information call (802) 896-3416 or visit [www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org](http://www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org) or [www.wardsborovermont.com](http://www.wardsborovermont.com).

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# 14th Annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival

October 22nd, 2016

Wardsboro's It's "Turnip Time" again in Wardsboro, Vermont, on Saturday, October 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., when hundreds will gather to celebrate Vermont's new state vegetable at the 14th Annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival. The free event takes place rain or shine. Bushels and bushels of turnips along with craft and farmers market vendors arrive early on festival day to "take over" the small village, inside and outside of Town Hall and under big and small tents on Main Street. It is the largest community fundraising event supporting the town's public library.

## The Annual Turnip Contest

The most exciting part of the Turnip Festival is the annual Turnip Contest, free for all to enter. Contestants may register Gilfeather turnips in one or more categories from 10 a.m. to 12 noon upstairs in Town Hall. Contest categories are: largest grown in Wardsboro; largest grown outside Wardsboro; best turnip name; and best strange and funny turnip. The largest turnip, total weight with greens, will be awarded "Grand Champion" of the festival. Winners are announced and ribbons awarded immediately after the judging. All children 12 and under who enter a turnip will receive an honorable mention award ribbon.

## The Turnip Cafe

The Turnip Café, located in the Wardsboro Town Hall, serves homemade cider donuts and coffee beginning first thing in the morning, followed by lunch featuring ala carte servings of turnip tastings plus the delicious, creamy Gilfeather turnip soup from 11 a.m. until the food runs out. Hot soup to go is also served at an outdoor kiosk. All food served that day is found in the 3rd edition of the Gilfeather Turnip Cookbook on sale in the Turnip Shoppe. The new cookbook exclusively features all categories of turnip recipes, many old favorites but most brand new to this new edition.

More and more people are discovering the culinary possibilities of the now-famous heirloom vegetable, and the menu at the Turnip Café provides evidence that turnips are adaptable to savory as well as sweet offerings. It's exciting that a humble root vegetable—which some say is actually more of a rutabaga—has attracted much attention to the small town even after leaf-season has peaked, and all for a good cause as well.

More than one hundred and fifty pounds of Gilfeathers are cooked for the event's signature Gilfeather turnip soup. Another one hundred and fifty pounds go to volunteer cooks to prepare the savory tastings for entrees and sweet dessert tastings on the menu.

## The outdoor turnip cart

The large turnip cart outside Town Hall is always loaded with hundreds of pounds of Gilfeathers, all shapes and sizes, many grown on neighboring farms such as Dutton's in Newfane or in local gardens. Turnips are sold by the pound



Turnip contest participant Brian Loftus of Wardsboro at last year's Gilfeather Turnip Festival in Wardsboro, Vermont. Entries are accepted on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Entry is free.

and "they go fast," according to the Friends' top turnip sales person, Cris Tarnay. This year's festival marks the 14th year that Tarnay has run the outdoor turnip cart selling organic and non-organic turnips and Gilfeather seed packets. Growers agree they are hardy and easy to cultivate from seed, but shouldn't be harvested before a bite of hard frost. They acquire a notable sweetness after a frost and that sweetness is what makes the Gilfeather so special.

## Friends' Turnip Shoppe and other vendors

More than 40 craft and farmers' market vendors are set up inside Town Hall and outdoors under the several big and small tents. A complete vendor list is available at [www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org](http://www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org). One of the most popular booths is the Friends' Turnip Shoppe featuring shirts, hats, kitchen towels, the new cookbook, children's books, felted turnip pins and mugs—all about the Gilfeather turnip—as well as many other gift items of local interest.

## Live entertainment

Live music is always a big draw at the Turnip Fest. Wardsboro's own troubadour, Jimmy Knapp, loves to serenade visitors throughout the festival with his original Gilfeather turnip ballads and many more of his original guitar compositions. Other local musicians and entertainers are scheduled to perform in the town hall throughout the event.

## Best raffle ever

On October 22, at 2 p.m., the drawing for the Friends of the Wardsboro Library's Best Raffle Ever takes place at Town Hall. The prize is a spectacular handmade, queen size quilt made and donated by Stratton resident Carol Steiner. She titled her quilt "Fifty Shades of Vermont Green." Tickets are available online at [www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org](http://www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org) or at the festival until the drawing. During the day, four large baskets will be raffled off beginning at 11 a.m. The baskets contain items donated by the various vendors—food, decor items, ceramics, and jewelry.

## Art exhibition featuring the Gilfeather Turnip

The Wardsboro Public Library at 170 Main Street is also honoring the famous heirloom vegetable in its October "Artist of the Month" art exhibition featuring Gilfeather Turnip.

This special art show featuring multiple artists was planned in conjunction with the Friends of the Wardsboro Library to complement the annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival. The participating artists are from Wardsboro and Stratton, and the display includes original paintings, fiber arts, ceramics and photography. Many are for sale. The exhibition runs all of October during library hours and is open to festival goers on October 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The library is located just a few doors from Wardsboro Town Hall.

The festival is a fundraiser for the Friends of the Wardsboro Library for the support of the Gloria Danforth Memorial Building, the home of the Wardsboro Public Library.

This year's festival received major financial and in-kind support from River Valley Credit Union, The Richards Group, Dutton's Farm, the Vermont Department of Agriculture and dozens of volunteers.

Wardsboro is located in southeastern Vermont on Rt. 100 between Stratton and Mount Snow Ski Areas. For more information call (802) 896-3416 or visit [www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org](http://www.friendsofwardsborolibrary.org) or [www.wardsborovermont.com](http://www.wardsborovermont.com).



Turnip contest winner, Braiden Pearson of Wardsboro, Vermont pictured with the largest turnip grown in Wardsboro at last year's annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival.



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**Woodstock, VT**

**Autumn Activities at Billings Farm & Museum**

Billings Farm is an operating Jersey dairy farm that continues a 145-year tradition of agricultural excellence and offers farm programs and historical exhibits that explore Vermont's rural heritage and values.

Billings Farm & Museum is celebrating its 33rd Anniversary this year. Whether you are a visitor or make Vermont your home, plan a trip to Billings Farm this fall!

**32nd Annual Harvest Weekend**

The Billings Farm & Museum will host the 32nd Annual Harvest Weekend on October 8 & 9 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The weekend features a husking bee and barn dance, plus a variety of 19th century harvest activities and programs for the entire family.

Each day, a traditional husking bee will begin at noon, followed by a barn dance from 1-4 p.m. Lend a hand pressing cider, preserving apples, threshing grain, and making butter and ice cream. Harvesting the heirloom vegetable garden will be nearing completion and children can help dig potatoes and other root crops and learn how crops are "put up" for the winter. Activities include shelling beans, fence building, apples-on-a-string, and 19th century games. Hot-spiced cider and homemade doughnuts will be on hand for all to enjoy!

**Autumn Wagon Ride Weekend**

The 9th Annual Autumn Wagon Ride Weekend takes place on Saturday and Sunday, October 15 & 16, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Capture the brilliant colors of a Vermont autumn on a scenic narrated horse-drawn wagon ride around the farm fields. Visit the dairy farm and restored farmhouse.

**23rd Annual Family Halloween**

Plan to come to the 23rd Annual Family Halloween on Sunday, October 30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Children in costume receive free admission when accompanied by an adult (adults pay the regular admission fee).

Pumpkin carving, doughnuts-on-a-string, wagon rides, cranking pumpkin ice cream, plus "not-too-scary" Halloween stories, pumpkin games, and animal programs will be featured. Costume parades around the farm will be held at 12 & 2 p.m., and all children will receive a ribbon.

*Billings Farm & Museum is open daily April 1 through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends November through February and Christmas & Presidents' weeks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: adults \$14; 62 & over \$13; children 5-15 \$8; 3-4 \$4; 2 & under, free. The dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and restored and furnished farmhouse, plus activities are included in the entrance fee. The Farm & Museum is located on Rt. 12. (802) 457-2355 or www.billingsfarm.org.*



photo courtesy of Billings Farm & Museum  
Haying the fields with an ox-drawn hay-wagon at Billings Farm in Woodstock, VT circa 1890.

**Sam Purdy's Huskin' Bee**

Late years most all huskin' is done in the field,  
Or by huskin' machines, when markets and yield  
Will warrant expense. It ain't often that we  
Are asked to a reg'lar old sort huskin' bee;  
And a tickelder man I don't think could be found,  
Than I was last week, when Sam Purdy come round  
And invited us down; for he'd made up his mind  
That he'd have a bee of the old-fashioned kind,  
On next We'n'sday night. Of course we all went.  
Old-fashioneder evening I never have spent.

The corn was all picked and piled on the barn floor,  
From the lean-to on back to the big rollin' door;  
And a seat had been fixed out of beehives and planks  
At the edge of the pile; while beyond the big bank  
Of corn had been rigged out of boards a long bin,  
That after we stripped 'em the ears were thrown in.  
Some forks, handle first, had been thrust in the hay  
That walled up the barn at the side of the bay,  
And the pumpkins that stuck on the fork tines so bright,  
Each held up a candle to furnish us light.

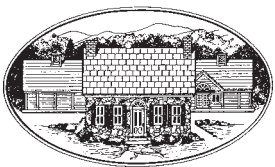
It was eight when the seat was well loaded with men,  
But they kept droppin' in till between nine and ten;  
So the husks piled behind us, and O, what a din  
The naked ears made as they fell in the bin!  
While we talked as we worked, of the weather and crops,  
Of the price of potatoes and apples and hops,  
Of politics, too, of free silver and gold;

And Sam passed some "hardware" to keep out the cold  
Which practice, at bees, some condemn as not right;  
But most took a little and no one got tight.

At 'leven, we finished and argered a while  
The number of bushels of ears in the pile;  
"Three hundred and fifty!" "four hundred!" said some.  
It wasn't decided when Purdy said, "Come,  
The women are waiting to give us a bite."  
Then we all followed him to the house where a light  
Was placed in the woodshed, nearby to a tub  
Of lukewarm soft water. A wash, and a rub  
On a towel, and we marched with the willingest feet  
To the long kitchen table, where all found a seat,  
And made, like an army, a valiant attack  
Upon the good victuals piled up like a stack.

There was apple pie, pumpkin pie, cookies and cake,  
Cream cheese and corn bread of Mis' Purdy's rare make,  
Baked beans, mashed potatoes and juicy boiled ham,  
Hot biscuit and coffee and raspberry jam.  
Did we make out a meal? Well, we did, as we ought,  
Then adjourned to the woodshed, where Sam come and brought  
New pipes and tobacker for such as would smoke.  
There, many a story and many a joke  
Were told 'ere we bid ev'rybody good-night,  
And started away from the circle of light  
Toward our homes. I'll allow it's not much of a yarn,  
But years were lived over in Sam Purdy's barn.

—WILL TEMPLER, 1899



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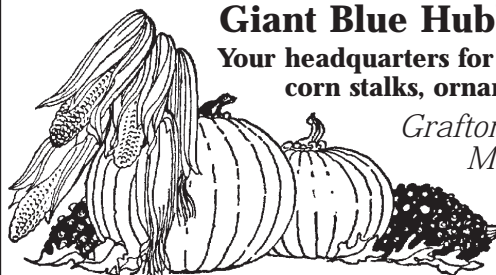
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# Celebrate Heirloom Apples at Scott Farm

## Heirloom Apple Day, Pick-Your-Own & Educational Workshops

The 14th Annual Heirloom Apple Day at Scott Farm Orchard on Kipling Road in Dummerston, VT beckons apple lovers of all ages to celebrate this iconic fall fruit. Come visit the 571-acre historic farm and orchard that border Rudyard Kipling's former Vermont home, Naulakha, and other historic rental properties owned and renovated by Landmark Trust USA.

### Heirloom Apple Day

On Sunday, October 9 at 10 a.m., 12 noon and 2 p.m., Scott Farm's Orchard Manager Zeke Goodband entertains guests with the enlightening history of the orchard and its ecologically-grown fruits, accompanied by a free tasting of some of the more than 120 varieties of heirloom apples grown on the property.

Sample Old World and Early American heirloom varieties such as Esopus Spitzenburg, a favorite of Thomas Jefferson, grown at Monticello; Reine des Reinettes, a French apple from the 1700s, considered the best hard cider apple in Normandy; Blue Pearmain, a New England apple dating back to the 1700s, mentioned by Henry David Thoreau in his journal; and Cox's Orange Pippin, an English favorite, awarded the highest honors by the Royal Horticultural Society—just to name a few of the exciting flavors bound to excite your palate.

According to Goodband who will be giving the talks, "There's Blue Pearmain, Thoreau's favorite. And Belle de Boskoop, a strudel specialist. And Ashmead's Kernel: "It would be referred to as 'fine-grained' flesh, but there's almost a crystal quality to it. When you pick it at the right time, it's just exquisite. That's the one, more than any other apple, where people pick it and come back and say, 'Oh, that's the best apple I've ever had!' When someone says that, it makes all the work of an entire year worthwhile."

### Pick-Your-Own

Following the talk and tasting, guests can fill bags with their favorite selections—all available for purchase.

Visitors can also pick their own apples in the orchard or select them from multiple apple bins in the Farm Market, along with Scott Farm Orchard's heirloom cider, freshly baked apple pies, fruit jams and jellies, and more.

In addition to the apple tasting, Whetstone Ciderworks, of Marlboro, VT, will be on hand to offer samples of their artisanal wine-like, award-winning hard ciders, such as Orchard King, Orchard Queen, Barnyard Blend, and Moonlighter—blended primarily with apples from Scott Farm Orchard.

"This is our favorite event of the year, when apple enthusiasts from all over New England come and sample our apples fresh, baked and squeezed!" says Operations Manager Kelly Carlin of Scott Farm Orchard and The Landmark Trust USA.

Rigani Wood-Fired Pizza of Brattleboro, VT, will be on premises with their portable wood-fired oven, cooking up and vending artisanal pizzas featuring local ingredients.

### Educational Workshops

In keeping with the Farm's mission to share living history, preserve and perpetuate heirloom apples and small fruits, and educate people about their cultivation and uses, Scott Farm also offers a variety of fall workshops. Local cider maker Jason MacArthur of Whetstone Cider Works teaches an introduction to making hard cider on Sunday, October 2 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Pastry Chef Laurel Roberts Johnson of The Queen of Tarts offers hands-on apple and fruit pie making workshops on Saturday, October 15, and Saturday, November 12, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Master Brewer Thomas Coleman teaches an introduction to brewing beer with wet hops on Sunday, October 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### Heirloom Apple Harvest Dinner

To further showcase the many delicious uses of apples, Scott Farm and the Vermont Fresh Network co-host the 9th annual Heirloom Apple Harvest Dinner at the Farm on Saturday, October 29. The five-course meal, prepared by Chef Tristan Toleno of Entera Catering, features heirloom apples and cider with other local foods.



photo by Kelly Fletcher Photography  
Visitors relax on the grounds of Scott Farm in Dummerston, VT.



photo courtesy Scott Farm Orchard  
Many varieties of heirloom apples are waiting for your at the farm store at Scott Farm in Dummerston, VT.

### Scott Farm

Established in 1791 when George Washington was serving his first term as President, Scott Farm consists of 571 acres and 23 buildings, all listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1995 the Vermont non-profit Landmark Trust USA took over the farm. The Trust has since restored many of the buildings, and under the guidance of Orchardist Zeke Goodband, has converted the orchard from conventionally-grown McIntosh to more than 120 ecologically-grown heirloom and uncommon apple varieties. The farm also grows peaches, plums, nectarines, pears, grapes, cherries, quince, medlars and gooseberries. Four fully restored historic vacation rentals, surrounding the farm, are available for short or long term self-catered stays throughout the year. Details at [landmarktrustusa.org](http://landmarktrustusa.org).

Scott Farm is located at 707 Kipling Rd. in Dummerston, VT. For more information on the festival, workshops, and the dinner, please call (802) 254-6868, email [events@scottfarmvermont.com](mailto:events@scottfarmvermont.com), or visit [scottfarmvermont.com](http://scottfarmvermont.com).

The Scott Farm Market is open daily through November 23, and you-pick apples are available September into October.



photo courtesy Scott Farm Orchard  
Educational workshop at Scott Farm in Dummerston, VT.

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## 48th Annual Apple Pie Festival Coming October 9th

Dummerston Congregational Church will hold their 48th annual Apple Pie Festival on Sunday, October 9, from 10 a.m. until sold out or about 5 p.m., whichever comes first!

Fifteen hundred (1500) apple pies are created and baked in the ovens in the basement of the church, beginning on Monday, September 26. Pies are transported daily to freezers located at the parsonage where they are stored until the Friday before the event, when they are brought back to the church and lined up on the back pews of the church to thaw.

On Sunday, the pies will be available for sale at \$16 per pie. Also for sale that day will be apple cider donuts and homemade ice cream hand cranked by the Youth Group members of the church, apple cider, and Grafton Cheddar Cheese. Apple pie can also be bought by the slice and enjoyed on the grounds.

Come and make a day of it. The Fire Department's Annual Pancake Breakfast (7-11 a.m.) begins your day. Then walk across the street to

The Grange where 29 crafters will be selling homemade items from wooden pens, knitted and stitched crafts, soaps and alpaca socks to homemade jams, jellies, pickles, as well as maple syrup and candy.

A huge, multi-family tag sale happens just up the street. Lunch at the Grange includes hamburgers, hot dogs, homemade baked beans and corn chowder.

Then back to the church to make your purchases, have a slice of pie, and wander down to the Dummerston Historical Society to view their latest exhibit.

We invite you to come and stay as long as you want. A tent is always in place, so even if the weather is not so great, come anyway!!

*The Dummerston Congregational Church is located at 1535 Middle Rd., Dummerston VT. Set your GPS for 1535 Middle Road, E. Dummerston, VT.*

*The Dummerston Church is located at the juncture of East-West and Middle Roads in Dummerston Center.*



photo by Nancy Cassidy

A wheel barrow full of pumpkins grace the front yard of this house in Central Vermont.

## Old-Time Autumn Squash Recipes

### Golden-Glow Raised Biscuit

1/2 yeast cake	3/4 cups brown sugar
1/2 cup lukewarm water	1 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup shortening	1 cup sieved cooked squash
1 cup scalded milk	6 cups sifted flour

Dissolve the half yeast cake in the lukewarm water. Melt the shortening in the scalded milk. When the milk is lukewarm, add the yeast. Mix the brown sugar and salt with the squash and stir into the milk. Add flour enough to make a dough that can be handled. Turn on a floured board and knead. Put the dough in a greased bowl and let it rise overnight. In the morning, knead again and roll to one inch thick. Use a round cutter to shape the biscuits. Set them close together on a round baking pan and let them rise until very light. Brush with melted butter and bake twenty minutes in a hot oven, 400 degrees F. Makes two dozen biscuits.

### Deep-Dish Baked Squash

Cut a Hubbard squash in pieces and steam for thirty to forty minutes, or until tender. Drain and remove the pulp from the shell. Mash the pulp and put it through a strainer. For every two cups of pulp, add the following ingredients:

2 tablespoons butter	1 egg yolk, beaten
1 tablespoon cream	Salt and pepper to taste
1 teaspoon maple sugar	1/2 cup buttered cracker crumbs

Mix the first five ingredients with the pulp, and turn it into a buttered baking dish. Cover with the cracker crumbs. Bake thirty minutes in a hot oven, 400 degrees F. Serves four to six.

### Squash Muffins

2 cups flour	1 egg
2 teaspoons baking powder	2/3 cup milk
2 tablespoons sugar	1 tbsp. melted shortening
3/4 teaspoon salt	1 cup sieved cooked squash

Mix and sift the dry ingredients. Beat the egg and mix with the milk, shortening, and squash. Pour the second mixture into the dry ingredients and mix just enough to blend. Bake in a hot oven, 450 degrees F., for twenty to twenty-five minutes. Makes one and a half dozen medium-sized muffins.

### Squash Pie

2 cups strained cooked squash	1/2 teaspoon allspice
2 cups milk	2 teaspoons cinnamon
2 eggs	2 tablespoons flour
1 cup sugar	1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ginger	

Most recipes for pumpkin pie may be used for squash pie also. This modern version of squash pie calls for more spices than are used in older recipes. Mix the squash, milk, and eggs. Sift the dry ingredients and stir into the squash mixture. Pour into an unbaked pie shell and bake in a moderate oven, 350 degrees F., until the crust is brown and the filling is set, about fifty minutes.

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# 28th Annual Cider Days Coming October 8th & 9th

What better place to be on a beautiful fall day than Cider Days in Mount Holly? Over the years, the "Cider Days" festival has become one of the most important fall festivals in the Okemo Valley. This event, held every Columbus Day weekend, revolves around a 100+ year old antique cider press. This wonderful old press employs the "rack & cloth" method of pressing cider and it is a unique attraction, which holds young and old alike spellbound as they watch and listen to the old press do its work.

Now in its 28th year, Cider Days has continued to grow, attracting as many as 800 people to the crossroads in the village of Belmont in Mount Holly, VT.

The event is organized by the Mount Holly Community Association and the proceeds go to support the events sponsored by the MHCA, and also their beautiful Library & Community Center.

Hot and cold cider by the cup is for sale at the Gazebo on the green. Gallon jugs of fresh pressed cider "cold" off the press is also available, as well as fresh cider from the orchard where we get the apples.

There is also local homemade apple pie and apple crisp, accompanied by ice cream or Crowley cheese and Cider Days tee shirts. Also available this year are the archival photos from the annual

photo contest. We invite everyone to peruse the photos, take the ones you like and leave a donation. However, the Gazebo is not the only vendor on the Green! About 36 local artisans, bakers, farmers, and food vendors fill the green with the pleasures of the fall season.

Other activities on the weekend include a huge book sale by the local library, as well as our annual calendar photo contest, which taps into the creativity of our community. Photos submitted are displayed (anonymously) in the library and everyone is invited to cast their vote, including all of the visitors to Cider Days weekend.

The Mount Holly Community Historical Museum (the Perkins House and the Blacksmith Shop) are also open to visitors during the weekend.

Once you've exhausted yourself shopping, voting, and sampling the cider, apple crisp, and apple pie, you'll be ready for someone else to cook your dinner! Go no farther than the Odd Fellows' Hall for a fabulous Roast Beef Supper served family style...seatings at 5 pm and 6 pm on Saturday, October 8th. The cost is only \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. The special treat of this supper is the eye-popping selection of 40 homemade pies for dessert... don't miss it!



The 100-year old antique cider press at Cider Days in Belmont, VT.

## October in Vermont

The clump of maples on the hill,  
And this one near the door,  
Seem redder, quite a lot, this year  
Than last, or year before;  
I wonder if it's jest because  
I love the Old State more!

If there was any poppies left,  
I guess they'd jest be vexed  
To see the hillsides all on fire  
Without the least pretext;  
Sometimes I think I'm in this world,  
And sometimes in the next.

Jest look! the woods are made of trees,  
Instead of wholesale green;  
Jest see the "wine glass elms" stand out,  
With hemlocks in between;  
Jest see the birch flags on their staffs  
So long and white and clean!

From Killington and Sterling peaks  
The flames are pouring down;  
The ferns below the pasture woods  
Are scorched and dead and brown;  
The shoemaker fire-bugs set the blaze  
I heard last night in town.

It's kinder more than folks can stand,  
This beauty, every year;  
The eye that's full can see no more  
Until it drops a tear;  
It's hard to tell jest where you are,  
In paradise or here.

—DANIEL L. CADY



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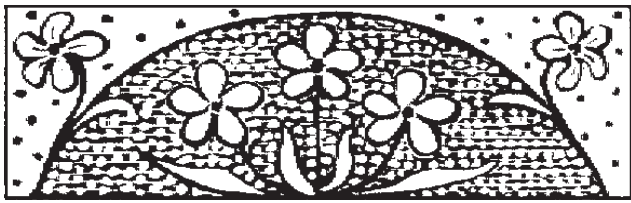
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# The Natural Calendar

*Plants and birds and animals and stars*

by Bill Felker

**October 1:** The Orionid meteors fall through Orion every night in October. Best viewing should be during the first weeks of the month while the moon is dark.

**October 2:** Streaks of scarlet have appeared on the oaks, shades of pink on the dogwoods throughout Vermont.

**October 3:** Juncos return to feeders across the North

**October 4:** Brown beggarticks stick to your stockings, and the winged seeds of Japanese knotweed fall.

**October 5:** In the swamps, next year's skunk cabbage starts to come up, barely visible in the browning grasses.

**October 6:** The foliage of the burning bush shrub is full scarlet.

**October 7:** Ginkgo fruits, which will be on the ground by late November, are turning pink.

**October 8:** Throughout the fields, asters and goldenrods show steep declines. In garden ponds, water lilies stop blooming.

**October 9:** Today is a pivot date for snow throughout the Northeast.

**October 10:** Beech leaves are usually rusting now. Dogwood is turning red and thinning.

**October 11:** Squirrels are eating the fallen Osage fruits. Water willow is yellowing along the rivers.

**October 12:** Long flocks of blackbirds continue their flights across the fields. Robin migration intensifies.

**October 13:** Along the fencerows, brown beggarticks stick to your stockings, and the winged seeds of Japanese knotweed fall. **October 14:** Among all the weeds, the smartweed seems impervious to the shortening days.

**October 15:** Once your leaves have come down, drive south. In the central states, along a line between New York City and Denver, the best leaf color occurs in the third week of October. Below the Mason-Dixon line, expect best coloration between the end of October and the middle of November.

**October 16:** Mating time has begun for deer. Don't let sheep and goats wander in the woods; hunters sometimes mistake them for dinner.

**October 17:** When the sky is dark at 8 p.m., the Big Dipper lies close to the northern horizon. Hercules is going down in the west, followed by the Summer Triangle. Sagittarius is sinking into the southwest; the Pleiades rise out of the east.



Autumn harvest produce at a farm stand in Central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

**October 18:** From now on, only a few swallowtails and fritillary butterflies visit the garden, and just a few fireflies glow in the grass.

**October 19:** Some ginkgos are pale golden green, some just a little faded. In the many woodlots, large patches of sky show through the thinning canopy.

**October 20:** As foliage thins, Eastern phoebes, catbirds, and house wren migration seasons deepen.

**October 21:** Cattails start to break apart as asters go to seed and fall raspberry time comes to a close.

**October 22:** Leaves of honeysuckles and forsythia, hold to their branches up to four weeks longer than the leaves of the high canopy

**October 23:** Today is Cross-Quarter Day, the halfway mark between autumn equinox and winter solstice. The sun enters Scorpio today, as well

**October 24:** Hosta seedpods crack, revealing their black contents.

**October 25:** The last cabbage moths look for cabbages. The last daddy longlegs hunt in the flowerbeds.

**October 26:** White snakeroot seeds come apart in downy clusters like thistle seeds or goldenrod. The final aster blossoms disappear. Winter craneflies spin in the sun.

**October 27:** Asian lady beetles seek winter refuge in crevices of house siding.

**October 28:** Forsythia often blooms again near this date.

**October 29:** At night, sluggish crickets fill in for the silent katydids.

**October 30:** Winds now start to rise to their winter speed, an average of nearly 15 miles an hour.

**October 31:** Prepare mulch for November protection of sensitive plants and shrubs. Wrap young, newly planted trees with burlap to help them ward off winter winds. Complete fall field and garden tillage before the November rains.

## The Sun

October 23 is Cross-Quarter Day, the halfway mark between autumn equinox and winter solstice. The sun enters Scorpio on that day, as well

## The Planets

Venus continues to be the evening star throughout the autumn. Mars flirts with her nearby in Sagittarius. Saturn shadows them both, seeming to almost touch Venus on October 30. Jupiter becomes the morning star on October 10 and keeps this position throughout the remainder of the year.

## The Stars

Autumn evenings bring the Milky Way from east to west across the sky. As midnight approaches, the red eye of Taurus will have risen over the horizon, pulling December's Orion with it.

## The Shooting Stars

October 7-8: The Draconids. October 21-22: The Orionids.

## Meteorology

Weather history suggests that cold waves usually reach Vermont on or about the following dates: October 2, 7, 13, 17, 23, and 30. Fish, game, livestock and people tend to feed more and are more active (and more troublesome) as the barometer falls one to three days before these weather systems.

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# A Vermont Almanack for Middle Autumn

by Bill Felker

The Exact Description of Things, however small and seemingly contemptible, and Accounts of what is observable in them, will always be of Use to those who study Nature, to what End soever that be.

—John Morton, 1712

## The Weeks of the Moon

### Week One

The Frog and Toad Migration Moon waxes throughout the week, coming into its second quarter at 11:33 p.m. on October 8. Rising in the morning and setting in the evening, this moon will be overhead around supertime.

As the dark moon waxes toward its second quarter, lunar conditions become ideal for seeding spring spinach, for planting winter wheat after the Hessian-fly free date, and for putting in a green manure cover crop in the garden. Autumn apples should fill with juice as full moon approaches.

When the barometer falls before the October 7 cold front, scout for game and do some fishing, especially in the afternoon and evening when the moon will be overhead.

Seasonal stress for families, businesses and livestock is expected to be light throughout the period: the moon is weak, the weather is relatively cool, clouds are typically uncommon, and the day is closer to its equinox length than to its length at winter solstice.

### Week Two

The Frog and Toad Migration Moon waxes until it becomes completely full at 11:23 p.m. on October 15. Rising in the evening and setting in the morning, the moon will be overhead around midnight.

Full moon should strengthen the traditional October 17 cold front, increasing the chances for frost, and causing more problems than usual for healthcare workers, police officers and firefighters. The full autumn moon is especially conducive to quitting work, elopement, proposals of marriage – and sudden divorce, so think before you act.

Fishing or hunting might temper the strong emotional effect of the moon this week. Be on the water or in the woods as the barometer falls prior to the October 17 cool front. The moon will be overhead (its most favorable time for those activities) at night, so try the second-best lunar time for fish and game activity at full moon: right in the middle of the day.

### Week Three

On October 22, the Frog and Toad Migration Moon comes into its final quarter at 2:14 p.m. The moon rises late at night this week, moves overhead by dawn, and sets in the middle of the afternoon.

As the moon wanes through its third quarter, its influence on the ocean tides and human tides wanes also. The upcoming weekend will, consequently, be relatively calm for public service employees, parents, and partners.

Seasonal stress is only partly related to the moon, however, and the increasing cloud cover, the shortening of the day, and the changeable weather keep gathering momentum, escalating the likelihood that many people will begin to suffer from S.A.D. (seasonal affective disorder).

Falling barometric pressure may also affect your outlook this week, especially before a cold front comes through the region on or about October 23. Although the days prior to the arrival of that front may increase your irritability, fish and game should be more active (and farm animals more rambunctious) toward the end of the week, especially towards dawn—when the moon is overhead.



A herd of horses gather in an autumn field in Central Vermont.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

### Week Four

The Frog and Toad Migration Moon wanes through the last of its fourth quarter, becoming the Second Spring Moon at 7:12 p.m. on October 30. Rising after midnight and setting in the afternoon, the dark moon lies over Vermont in the middle of the day.

This week of the darkening moon is, a perfect lunar time for completing garden planting of bulbs and perennials. New moon on October 30, however, will increase seasonal affective disorders in some people. Since this week also brings down most of the last of the sugar maples and radically transforms the landscape, lunar position will have more negative power than during the summer or during a period in which seasonal changes are not so obvious.

Fishing and hunting are favored when the moon is overhead these late mornings, and your luck should increase as the Halloween cold front and the fronts of November 2 and 6 approach. Look for fish and game as the barometer falls in advance of these weather systems.

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— Henry David Thoreau

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This turn-of-the-century photo of the Harwood Family in Rupert, Vermont, was taken along Old Town Road, the main route that cuts through Merck Forest and Farmland Center. The barn at the left, now known as the Harwood Barn, is still used by the educational farm today, though the house pictured only survived until the 1940s. photo courtesy of Merck Forest and Farmland Center

**Rupert, VT**

# Autumn Events at Merck Forest and Farmland Center

Merck Forest and Farmland Center in Rupert, VT is a nonprofit educational organization with a mission to teach and to demonstrate the benefits of innovative, sustainable management of forest and farmland. It is composed of 3,162 acres and includes a 3,100 acre managed forest, a certified-organic sugaring operation and a 62-acre farm. They offer demonstrations, apprenticeships, workshops, and school programs as well as recreational and volunteer opportunities.

Visit the farm, venture into the forest or stay overnight in a rustic cabin or lean-to. There are over thirty miles of trails for hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and horseback riding. Stop by the Joy Green Visitor Center to learn more about their activities and land use. Certified organic pure Vermont maple syrup and other farm and forest products may be purchased at the Visitor Center or the Online Store.

Merck Forest and Farmland Center is open to the public year round, seven days a week from dawn to dusk. Merck is

community-supported through donations, membership fees, cabin rentals and product sales. There is no admission fee.

### Tale Trail is Open

Merck Forest's Tale Trail is now open! Spaced at intervals along the Discovery Trail (an easy, family-friendly hike from the Visitor Center to the farm), the Tale Trail features pages from a picture book which relate to the surrounding woods. Parents will be able to read a story to their children and introduce them to the environment at the same time.

The first Tale Trail story features Anthony D. Frederick's *Around One Log*, a story about a rotting log and the creatures who make it their home. Visitors to Merck Forest are invited to take a hike, read the story, and explore the woods with their youngsters.

### Be Brave Hike-a-Thon, October 2

The second Annual Be Brave Hike-a-Thon fundraiser will take place at Merck Forest on Sunday, October 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Join the hikers as an individual or as part of a team; set a hiking goal and find sponsors to support your efforts. Funds raised during the festivities assist individuals affected by benign brain tumors and support research for a cure. Additional events for the day include a scavenger hunt, silent auction, basket bonanza, food & beverage, and a performance by pop recording artist, singer and songwriter Brielle. Check the BeBrave website for additional details and to register or donate at [bebrave.life](http://bebrave.life).

### Happy Birthday Henry David Thoreau!

The Bicentennial of Henry David Thoreau's birth is July 12, 2017, and the Merck Forest & Farmland Center commu-

nity will honor his legacy of self-reliance, intentional living, and intellectual rigor with a project in keeping with Merck's own mission: the construction of a facsimile of Thoreau's Walden Pond cabin.

The cabin project will use materials harvested at Merck Forest or sourced locally, and local artisans will lead construction workshops using hand tools and work techniques consistent with the historical period. Details of each workshop will be listed on the website at [www.merckforest.org](http://www.merckforest.org). Participation for most workshops is limited to ten people; young people aged 12-16 may participate if accompanied by a participating adult.

### The Workshop Schedule

October 15 & 16 – Sitework and Laying the Stone Foundation at Racey Pond.

November 12 & 13 – Hewing Workshop: Prepare timbers for construction.

December 10 & 11 – Joinery Workshop: Timber-framing, Mortise/Tenon Joinery.

January 2017 – Board Feathering, Shingle and Peg Workshop.

February 2017 – Overflow-Catch-up Workshop.

May 2017 – Cabin Raising.

May 2017 – Sheathing Workshop: Roof and Walls.

June 2017 – Shingling of Cabin.

July 12, 2017 – Thoreau's Birthday, Cabin Dedication.

August 2017 – Plaster and Lathe Workshop.

Date tbd – Chimney Workshop.

Merck Forest & Farmland Center is located at 3270 Rt. 315 in Rupert, VT, west of Manchester. (802) 394-7836. [info@merckforest.org](mailto:info@merckforest.org). [www.merckforest.org](http://www.merckforest.org).

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## You Had to Have Been There

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

A little while ago my son was cleaning out an old house in Castleton, VT, the former home of a really ancient person, and he said to me, "I was thinking that one day I'll be like you, and I'll be telling stories about the old character who used to live here and what life was like years ago."

He'll be able to reminisce with the town people who also remember this eccentric Castleton woman. But I was thinking he'll never have the earlier memories I share with a number of old-timers, and these are an even greater group-bond than his will be because my remembered old-time practices, preoccupations, and assumptions were so startlingly different from today's. To grasp mine, you really had to have been there.

I grew up in an unapologetically risky world. Thinking back, that's what sometimes, now, causes many of my contemporaries and me to laugh out loud.

When I go into Rutland, I run into people who are eager to reminisce about the long-ago Economy Store's shoe department X-ray machine. We are a sobered crew, those of us who repeatedly sought out that fascinating size-checker apparatus.

When my mother was spending a dull-for-me hour looking at fabric and patterns in the top floor notions department, I would creep down to the bulky machine, shove both my feet inside, see the shadowy, luminous outlines of the bones of my foot pressed up tight against the front of my Keds, and get a blast of radiation. I thought it was terrific! I couldn't wait to go back.

So many activities in those days, and earlier days, are now recognized as near-suicidal. My father grew up in Fair Haven, VT, a slate town that thrived on risk. He told me about the boys who, unnoticed, every winter would hitch their sleds to the back of cars and enjoy a thrilling ride that occasionally—but predictably—resulted in terrible injury or death.

Work in the Fair Haven and Castleton quarries was notoriously dangerous, but men were willing to do hazardous jobs. The Staso, half a mountain carved away over the course of years at the south end of town, was the major Castleton quarry. A number of the lives of the local men who worked there were shortened, and a number of them died of lung disease.

But my father's generation of local old-time Vermonters had a fatalistic turn of mind. Life was perceived to be so inescapably unsafe and unfair that, finally, people just shared a lot of terrible stories and had a good laugh. This black humor attitude survived into my generation.

A few years ago, I was talking with someone who'd had the same Castleton experiences as mine. "Remember when the Staso was blasting?" he said. "They'd set enormous charges and the whole town would shake."

I remembered, and it brought back Beacon Feeds, too, which was the same sort of story. Beacon Feeds was a grain mill that once stood beyond the railroad tracks at the east end of town. The land is now a quiet cul de sac of trim modular



Lake Bomoseen through the pines. photo courtesy of Rutland Historical Society

homes. But back then the feed mill was an industrial site, and the grain elevator always full of floating, highly-combustible chaff that any spark could set off.

Sometimes, in the 1970s, in our early days owning the Castleton Village Store, there would be a terrible explosion and the sound of an ambulance on the way. We'd all run out into the street. "Anyone hurt?" we would ask anxiously. (Coal mining towns must be like that.)

Thinking back to the mill explosions, I stood there with my fellow Castleton old timer, and we laughed together at the absurdity. How could it have been allowed to continue? But it did. Year after year.

I moved on to recount the Ellis orchard spraying. The Ellis orchard apple trees, now long abandoned and overgrown, cover the hillside behind our house and behind all the north-facing houses on Main Street. Every spring the crop dusting plane would arrive. We looked forward to it roaring low overhead trailing a long white plume of who knew what?

All my family turned out, racing across our back, then-field, now manicured lawn, and waved excitedly to the pilot as if he were a gallant RAF fighter in the Battle of Britain. His little plane dove and swooped over our heads and made a tremendous, exhilarating racket.

After a few years, the diminutive aircraft stopped coming, probably because 'Old Ed' Ellis, the family patriarch owner, died, and the orchard was struggling financially. Cheaper apples were being imported from China; the pick-your-own part of the operation was too difficult to manage. And probably the EPA had figured out what was up out here in

Castleton. But my family and I missed the crop duster plane and the yearly spring spraying. "You know, that had to have been something like DDT," my fellow old-timer said. We laughed together. Of course it was.

*Pamela Hayes Rehlen has written and lived most of her life in Castleton, VT. She is the author of stories, articles, essays and magazine features, and of two books: **The Blue Cat and the River's Song** (\$17 plus shipping and handling) and **The Vanished Landmarks Game—Vermont Stories from West of Castleton** (\$20 plus shipping and handling) available at the Castleton Village Store, P. O. Box 275, Castleton, VT 05735, and at a number of Vermont bookstores. To reach the store, call (802) 468-2213.*

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## October Longing

My brother and I used to hurry away,  
Over a fence and an old stone wall,  
After the frost had cracked the buffs  
On the beechnut trees. Now every fall,  
When the first frost comes and the sun shines out  
And the mountains are blue and the sky is clear,  
I hear his voice exultantly call:  
"The nuts are falling! Come here! Come here!"

Then the years are gone. I am there again  
Searching for nuts in the woods with him,  
And I fill my little brown paper bag,  
And he fills his three-quart pail to the brim.  
Then we sit and rest on a little brown knoll,  
And a family of skunks go prancing by,  
And a little bronze squirrel runs hurrying home,  
And a bird in a tree makes a lonely cry.

I could find my way to the beechnut trees,  
I know every corner and stick and stone.  
But what is the use? He wouldn't be there.  
And I never could gather nuts all alone.

—NELLIE RICHARDSON, SPRINGFIELD, VT 1946



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# Vermont Country Calendar

See the end of the daily event calendar for ongoing activities; museums, exhibits, and galleries; horseback riding and wagon rides; and farmers markets.

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

**BURLINGTON.** Japanese Dance Theater: About Kazuo Ohno. Tickets \$30. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org. Also September 28.

**CABOT.** Vermont's Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festival. Coffee, donuts, crafts and entertainment will be served at the Willey Memorial Building from 9 am until 3 pm, where you can also sign up for tours and make lunch and supper reservations. Spend your day touring historical locations. Hike to Nichols Ledge. Enjoy a corn chowder and chili lunch (\$6 for adults, \$2.50 for children) at the Cabot Church at 11:30 am, 12:30 and 1:15 pm. Turkey supper (\$12 adults, \$5 children) at the Cabot Church at 5 pm and 6:15 pm. Ticket reservations call (802) 563-2715. Information: call (802) 917-2992. www.nekchamber.com.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

**PLAINFIELD.** Vermont's Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festivals. Coffee hour and registration at 9 am at Grace United Methodist Church. Foliage tours at 10 am and 1 pm. Self-guided tours of the quarries, Owl's Head and Plainfield Village. Cafeteria-style luncheon from 11:30 am to 1 pm for \$5. Barbecued Chicken, Mostaccioli and Baked Bean Supper at 5 pm and 6 pm for \$12. For reservations, contact Joanne Martin at (802) 454-7301. www.nekchamber.com.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Summer Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm. Downtown in Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 26.

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

**LYNDONVILLE.** Vermont Symphony Orchestra "Made in Vermont" Annual Statewide Tour. Tickets \$25, children 6-17 \$10, under 5 free. Alexander Twilight Theater, Lyndon State College, 1001 College Rd. (800) 876-9293.

**PEACHAM.** Vermont's Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festival. Arts and crafts sale. Tickets for bus ride, lunch, ghost walk and dinner available there. Lunch at the Elementary School from 11 am to 1:30 pm, \$7. Ghost walk at the church at 2 pm. Harp music concert (by donation) at the church from 4-6 pm. Spaghetti Supper in the church social hall with seatings at 5 pm and 6:30 pm. For information call Marilyn Magnus at (802) 592-3320. www.nekchamber.com.

**PUTNEY.** Dinner and a Movie: *Primary Colors*. This month, the chefs at the Gleanery will serve a special Louisiana-themed menu at 5:30 pm, in time for diners to make it to the hosted 7 pm film screening around at the newly-renovated and air-conditioned Next Stage. Tickets \$23; movie only, \$5-\$10. 7:30 pm. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org.

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

**BARNET.** Vermont's Northeast Kingdom Annual Fall Foliage Festival. Come to the Barnet Center Church vestry for a Pancake Breakfast, including Vermont maple syrup and sausage 8-11 am. Arts & crafts, bus tour. A soup and sandwich lunch is served starting at 11:30 am at the Barnet Village Church. A European Coffee Hour open from 1-4 pm at the West Barnet Church. Ham Dinner. \$10, take-out available at the Barnet Center vestry starting at 4 pm. For reservations/information contact Bob at (802) 633-2242. On the day of the event, call (802) 633-4397. www.nekchamber.com.

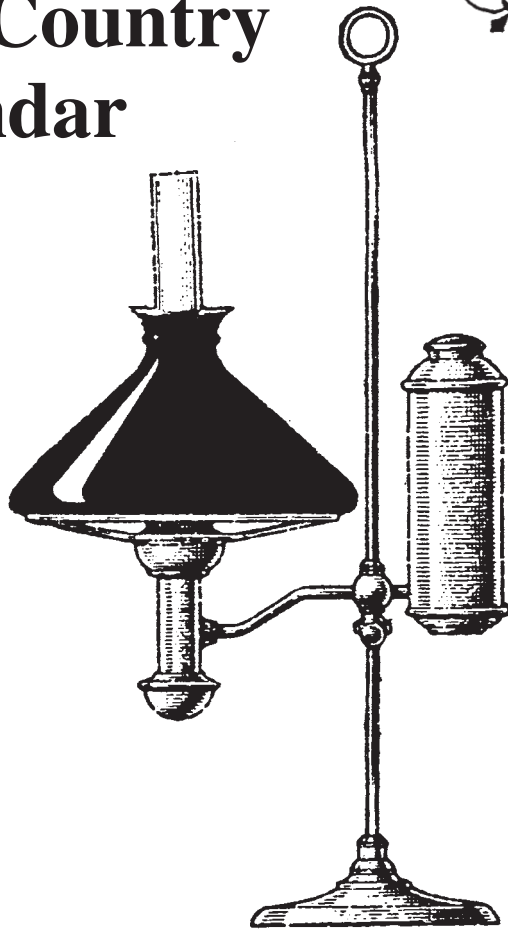
**BRATTLEBORO.** Vermont Symphony Orchestra "Made in Vermont" Annual Statewide Tour. Guest conductor Anthony Princiotti's own arrangement of Alexander Borodin's String Quartet No. 2, which provided much of the music for the Broadway musical *Kismet*. Tickets \$25, children 6-17 \$10, under 5 free. Latches Theater, 50 Main St. (800) 876-9293. www.vsc.org.

**BURLINGTON.** Concert: Ifrikyia Spirit. Tickets \$15. 8 pm. FlynnSpace, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org.

**DANVILLE.** Dead North. This years haunt will include a short ride, a mile walk of terror through a haunted cornfield and buildings including animatronics, the mostly live residents of Dead North and special effects. Not recommended for young children or persons with health concerns. Tickets are \$25 per person. 7 pm. Great Vermont Corn Maze, 1404 Wheelock Rd. (802) 748-1399. deadnorth@screampass.com. www.vermontcornmaze.com. Also October 1, 7 & 8.

**HANOVER, NH.** Concert: Martha Redbone. Singer-songwriter digs deep into her Native American, African American and Appalachian roots with stirring acoustic song cycle. Tickets: \$17-\$25. 8 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

**MANCHESTER.** 28th Annual Manchester Fall Art and Craft Festival. 200 fine art and craft exhibitors, dining and beverages, specialty foods, live music, and more. 10 am - 5 pm. Admission \$10, weekend pass \$12, kids free. The Practice Tee at Riley Rink, Rt 7 N. craftproducers.com. Also October 1 & 2.



## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

**ADDISON.** Dead Creek Annual Wildlife Festival. Activities for everyone from beginning birders to carving (soap and wood!) to hunting dog trials to nature journaling. Waterfowl calling contest, bird watching, archery range, nature walks, working dog demonstrations, fishing how-to, wildlife photography tips, building bluebird boxes, nature arts & crafts. Free admission and parking. Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, Rt. 17 one mile west Rt. 22A and Rt. 17. (802) 828-1000. www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

**BARRE.** Michael Jackson Tribute. Who's Bad: The Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute Band, a power-packed performance of Michael Jackson's expansive catalog. Tickets \$21-\$43. 7:30 pm. Barre Opera House, City Hall, 6 N. Main St. (802) 476-8188. www.barreoperahouse.org.

**BELLOWS FALLS.** A Celtic Harvest Celebration Concert. With Aine Minogue, harp and vocals. Tickets \$17/\$13. 7:30 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 12 Church St. (802) 460-0110. www.stonechurcharts.org.

**BENNINGTON.** Chicken Pie Supper. Menu includes chicken pie with lots of chicken with gravy topped with homemade biscuits, mashed potatoes, butternut squash mashed with butter and a touch of maple syrup, apple cabbage salad, homemade orange-cranberry relish, hot biscuits, coffee, tea and milk. Apple crisp and real whipped cream for dessert. Adults \$12, under 12 is \$5, under 3 no charge. Two seatings, call for reservations. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 200 Pleasant St. (802) 442-2911.

**BETHEL.** Community Forward Festival. See the world's slowest parade of pumpkin people along the sidewalks and lawns. Crafts, musical entertainment, food, including the Fire Departments chicken BBQ, art and a real live magic show featuring Magic by George. A block of downtown will be transformed into a pedestrian friendly area with pop-up businesses lasting all weekend. Saturday evening there will be a soup-a-thon at the White Church and a penny sale at the High School. (802) 234-9722. www.townofbethelvt.com. Also October 2 & 3.

**BONDVILLE.** Antiques at Stratton Mountain. 30+ select dealers. Breakfast preview 8-10 am, \$15. Admission \$10. 10 am - 5 pm. Stratton Mountain Lodge, Stratton Mountain Rd. (802) 989-1158. stratton.com. Also October 2.

**BRANDON.** Concert: Durham County Poets. Five guys from Canada's Chateaugay Valley who play in blues bands, gospel groups, Cajun, folk, rock and country bands. Tickets \$20. A pre-concert dinner is available for \$25. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. Venue is BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. brandon-music.net.

**BRATTLEBORO.** Vermont Jazz Series Concert. With the Caili O'Doherty Quartet. Tickets \$20-\$40. 8 pm. Vermont Jazz Center, 72 Cotton Mill Hill Rd. For tickets call (802) 254-9088. www.vtjazz.org.

**DANVILLE.** Dead North. This years haunt includes a short ride, a mile walk of terror through a haunted cornfield and buildings. Not recommended for young children or persons with health concerns. Tickets \$25 per person. 7 pm. Great Vermont Corn Maze, 1404 Wheelock Rd. (802) 748-1399. deadnorth@screampass.com. www.vermontcornmaze.com. Also October 7 & 8.

**DERBY LINE.** Performance: The King Returns. World-Class Elvis Presley impersonator, Mark Shelton! Tickets \$15. 2 & 7 pm. Haskell Opera House, 93 Caswell Ave. (802) 274-8050. haskellopera.com.

**EAST MONTPELIER CENTER.** Chicken Pie Dinner. Menu: chicken and biscuits, squash, peas, cranberry sauce, coleslaw, and apple crisp for dessert. \$12 adults, \$6 children under 12. 12 noon, 5 pm, 7 pm. At the Old Meeting House, 1620 Center Rd. For reservations call (802) 223-6934.



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# Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, October 1, continued)

**HANOVER, NH.** Revels North: HopStop Family Show. Live music and dance from the rousing Québécois tradition fill this sampler of scenes from Revels North's annual holiday performance. In the folk tale of *The Flying Canoe*, lumberjacks in the northern forest go on an exciting journey home for one night, making magic and mischief along the way. Free admission. 11 pm. Alumni Hall, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

**MANCHESTER.** 28th Annual Manchester Fall Art and Craft Festival. 200 fine art and craft exhibitors, dining and beverages, specialty foods, live music, and more. 10 am – 5 pm. Admission \$10, weekend pass \$12, kids free. The Practice Tee at Riley Rink, Rt 7 N. www.craftproducers.com. Also October 2.

**MENDON.** Ski & Snowboard Swap and Sale. A huge selection of new and used equipment from Killington Sports, Peak Performance, Basin Sports and First Stop, along with consignment clothing and equipment from Pico Ski Club. 9 am – 2 pm. 73 Alpine Dr. (802) 422-6200. www.picoskiclub.com. Also October 2.

**PUTNEY.** Concert: Jazz Vocalist Kendra Shank with Draa Hobbs Quartet featuring Special Guest Rich Greenblatt. Tickets: \$15. 7:30 pm. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org.

**RANDOLPH.** Concert: Hard Days Night—A Beatles Tribute Band. Tickets \$35/\$25/\$10. 7:30 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.chandler-arts.org.

**RIPTON.** Ripton Community Coffee House. Joe Crookston performing—songwriter, singer, guitarist, painter, fiddler, banjo player, eco-village member and believer in all things possible. Refreshments available. Admission \$15/\$10/\$3. Doors open at 7 pm, open mic at 7:30 followed by featured performers. Ripton Community Coffee House, Rt. 125. (802) 388-9782. rcch.org.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am – 2 pm. Downtown at Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 29.

**RUTLAND.** Rutland Railway Association and Model Railroad Train Expo! Model train layouts will be running. Fun for the kids and everyone. Admission \$10 for 10 and older, 9 and under free. 10 am – 3:30 pm. College of St. Joseph gymnasium, 71 Clement Rd. (802) 776-5214. www.therutlandrailwayassociation.com

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

**STATEWIDE.** Fall Open Studio Weekend. In conjunction with American Craft Week. A statewide celebration of the visual arts and creative process, offering a unique opportunity for visitors to meet a wide variety of local artists and craftspeople in their studios, and purchase high quality, hand made artwork. The Vermont Crafts Council publishes a free map booklet with directions to participating sites. The Vermont Open Studio Guide is available throughout the state at Tourist Information Centers, galleries and studios and on the VCC website starting at www.vermontcrafts.com or by calling (802) 223-3380. Also October 2, 8 & 9.

**STOWE.** Oktoberfest. The Town of Stowe's event field will be transformed into a Bavarian village, under a traditional tent this year for this annual celebration of the harvest and fall foliage. From Oompah bands to authentic Bavarian foods and freshly brewed Vermont beers to traditional sing-a-longs and dancing, even a silent auction. Tickets \$5-\$10. 11 am – 3 pm. At Stowe Events Field, Week Hill Rd. (802) 253-7321. www.gostowe.com. Also October 2.

**TUNBRIDGE.** 28th Annual Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival. Sheep, goats, alpacas, llamas, rabbits. Vendors offering all your favorite fibers and yarn along with equipment and supplies. Shepherd workshops, fiber arts classes, contests, fleece show & sale, cashmere goat exhibit and show, sheep herding demonstrations. Delicious local food. Admission: adults \$6, seniors \$5, children under 12 \$1. 10 am – 5 pm. Tunbridge Fair Grounds, off Rt. 100. (802) 592-3062. www.vtsheepandwoolfest.com. Also October 2.

**WOODSTOCK.** Annual Pumpkin and Apple Celebration. Horse-drawn wagon rides. Cider pressing, hands-on activities and program plus pumpkin and apple displays highlighting these two important fall crops. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12N. & Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org. Also October 2.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

**BENNINGTON.** Moonlight In Vermont. A celebration of Milton Avery's Vermont with a concert featuring jazz songs from the mid-1930s to the mid-1940s sung by Kerry Ryer-Parke. She is joined by Mowgli Gianniti on bass, Peter King on guitar, and Bruce Williamson on piano and saxophone. Free. 2 pm. Paresky Wing of the Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org.

**BONDVILLE.** Antiques at Stratton Mountain. 30+ select dealers. Admission \$5. Admission \$10. 11 am – 4 pm. Stratton Mountain Lodge, Stratton Mountain Rd. (802) 989-1158. Stratton.com.

**BRANDON.** Gallery Talk by Stephanie Stouffer. Part of her current exhibit 'The Creative World of Stephanie Stouffer,' original paintings, along with selected licensed products. 2 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Dr. (802) 247-4295. cmacvt.org. Exhibit runs through October 29.

**BROOKFIELD.** Harvest Market and Apple Picking. Harvest focused afternoon of eating, and shopping inside Brookfield's Old Town Hall. Enjoy apple picking at Liberty Orchards. Local, seasonal fresh farm produce, pasture-raised meats and poultry, cider, caramel, honey, maple syrup, herbal teas, flowers, pickles, canned items, beeswax candles, soap and much more at this festive, seasonal market. Library book sale. Lunch and snacks available. 12-3 pm. Brookfield Old Town Hall, Stone Rd. (802) 276-3939. www.floatingbridgefoodandfarms.com.

**CLAREMONT, NH.** Concert: Newmont Military Band. Donations welcome. 2 pm. West Claremont Center for Music and the Arts, Union Episcopal Church, 133 Old Church Rd. (802) 738-0022. www.wcc-ma.org.

**DANVILLE.** Autumn on The Green. Over 100 vendors, artisans, crafters, cottage industries and businesses. Visitors roam among the wares and displays while musicians play from the bandstand. Demonstrations by the American Society of Dowsers, a blacksmith, chair maker, and wood turner, plus delicious food. The Pope Library hosts a chicken and biscuit lunch at the Creamery Restaurant. Free admission. 10 am – 4 pm. On the Green. (802) 626-8511. www.autumnonthegreen.org.

**DUMMERSTON.** Discussion: Making Hard Cider. Jason MacArthur, co-owner of Whetstone Cider Works, will discuss making hard cider. Learn about apple varieties, techniques, equipment, yeast strains, fermentation, bottling and racking for producing this delicious, affordable, easy-to-make elixir at home. Basic cider equipment and fresh cider for fermenting for sale. Fee: \$40. Pre-register at (802) 254-6868. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. www.ScottFarmVermont.com.

**DUMMERSTON.** Orchard Stroll. Join orchardist Zeke Goodband to learn about the history of our heirloom fruits and discuss orchard ecology, how grafting was used to create the orchard, scout for pests and how to manage them. 10 am. Orchard-related items will be available for sale in the farm market. No charge for the stroll. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. ScottFarmVermont.com

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## Pittsford, VT

### 23rd Annual Pittsford Sheep Festival

The Rutland Area Shepherds will hold the 23rd Annual Pittsford Sheep Festival on Sunday, October 9, 2016. The Festival will be held at the Pittsford Recreation Center on Furnace Rd. in Pittsford, VT. The Festival hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

The Festival will feature sheep and wool products and activities. A variety of sheep breeds will be on display. Sheep shearing demonstrations will be held at 11:15 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Sheep dog handling demon-

strations will be held at 12:45 p.m. and 2:45 p.m. There will be children's craft activities at 11:45 a.m. The Leaping of the Lambs, an exclusive Rutland Area Shepherds activity, will be held at 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

A number of vendors will have wool, fiber, and craft products available for sale with some vendors demonstrating their crafts.

Food, including lamb products, will be available. Enjoy live music throughout the afternoon.

A silent auction and a

raffle will be held throughout the Festival. Among the gifts being auctioned are a selection of sheep hides and a night at the historic Peabody House in Pittsford, VT. The raffle gifts include a harvest basket; a selection of jams; and sheep nick-knacks;

Rutland Area Shepherds is a non-profit group that

represents local shepherds. They support local farms and the local community and provide information on raising sheep and on sheep and wool products.

For more info about the Rutland Area Shepherds and the festival contact Don Spruit at (802) 342-3176.

## Wild Swans

I looked in my heart while the wild swans went over.  
And what did I see I had not seen before?  
Only a question less or a question more;  
Nothing to match the flight of wild birds flying.  
Tiresome heart, forever living and dying,  
House without air, I leave you and lock your door.  
Wild swans, come over the town, come over  
The town again, trailing your legs and crying!



—EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY

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Wednesday 3-6 pm, through October 26  
Depot Park, downtown Rutland, VT



# Vermont Country Calendar

(Sunday, October 2, continued)

**MANCHESTER.** 28th Annual Manchester Fall Art and Craft Festival. 200 fine art and craft exhibitors, dining and beverages, specialty foods, live music, and more. 10 am – 5 pm. Admission \$10, weekend pass \$12, kids free. The Practice Tee at Riley Rink, Rt 7 N. craftproducers.com.

**MARSHFIELD.** Marshfield Harvest Festival. Free family-friendly activities: face painting, cider pressing, popcorn popping, arts and crafts, field games, music from local bands and more! Book sale and bake sale. Chili-Cook-Off in our Chili Tent! Salads and corn bread will complement the chili. Barbecue: hamburgers from a local farm, hot dogs, and veggie burgers. 11 am – 2 pm. 122 School St. (802) 426-3581. www.marshfield.lib.vt.us.

**MENDON.** Ski & Snowboard Swap and Sale. A huge selection of new and used equipment from Killington Sports, Peak Performance, Basin Sports and First Stop, along with consignment clothing and equipment from Pico Ski Club. 9 am – 4 pm. 73 Alpine Dr. (802) 422-6200. www.picoskiclub.com.

**RUPERT.** Be Brave—Hike-a-thon Fundraiser. Join as a team or join as an individual. Set a hiking goal – between 1-4 hours – and get sponsors to support your efforts. Scavenger hunt, silent auction, basket bonanza, food & beverages, and a performance by pop recording artist, singer and songwriter Brielle. Free, donations appreciated. 10 am – 2 pm. Merck Forest and Farmland Center, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. merckforest.org.

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

**SHELBURNE.** Family Program: Terrific Tractors & Other Cool Machines. From John Deere tractors to some of the trucks we drive – climb aboard and pretend you are the farmer for a day! Admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, children 3-17 \$5, ages 2 and under free. 10 am – 4 pm. Farm Barn Courtyard, Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8442. www.shelburnefarms.org.

**SHOREHAM.** Pickin' Party. We'll have live music, pick-your-own apples, as well as horse & wagon rides and free cider tastings. Champlain Orchards, 3597 Vermont Route 74 West. (802) 897-2777. www.champlainorchards.com.

**STATEWIDE.** Fall Open Studio Weekend. In conjunction with American Craft Week. A statewide celebration of the visual arts and creative process, offering a unique opportunity for visitors to meet a wide variety of local artists and craftspeople in their studios, and purchase high quality, hand made artwork. Free map booklet with directions to participating sites available throughout the state at Tourist Information Centers, galleries and studios and on the VCC website at www.vermontcrafts.com or by calling (802) 223-3380. Also October 8 & 9.

**TUNBRIDGE.** 28th Annual Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival. Sheep, goats, alpacas, llamas, rabbits. Vendors offering all your favorite fibers and yarn along with equipment and supplies. Shepherd workshops, fiber arts classes, contests, fleece show & sale, cashmere goat exhibit and show, sheep herding demonstrations. Delicious local food. Admission: adults \$6, seniors \$5, children under 12 \$1. 10 am – 4 pm. Tunbridge Fair Grounds, off Rt. 100. (802) 592-3062. www.vtsheepandwoolfest.com.

**WOODSTOCK.** Classical Concert. Pentangle will present Leslie Stroud and Matthew Odell in "A Paris Afternoon" featuring chamber music for flute and piano by French composers Albert Roussel, Michel Merlet, Francis Poulenc, Olivier Messiaen and César Franck. Donation \$10. 4 pm. North Universalist Chapel, 7 Church St. (802) 457-3981. www.pentanglearts.org.

**WOODSTOCK.** Annual Pumpkin and Apple Celebration. Horse-drawn wagon rides. Cider pressing, hands-on activities and program plus pumpkin and apple displays highlighting these two important fall crops. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12N. & Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355. info@billingsfarm.org. www.billingsfarm.org.

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

**BELLOWS FALLS.** Ghost Hunting Program. Vermont Paranormal Investigators from the Springfield/Ludlow area will share their paranormal experiences. Learn about the theory and science behind ghost hunting and the equipment they use. 7 pm. Free. Rockingham Library, 65 Westminster St. (802) 463-4270. programming@rockinghamlibrary.org. www.rockinghamlibrary.org.

**HARTLAND.** Author Event. Angela Palm Riverine & Robin MacArthur. Half wild stories & memoir by Vermont writers. 7 pm. Hartland Library, 1 Quechee Rd. Sponsored by Norwich Bookstore, 291 Main St. (802) 649-1114. info@norwichbookstore.com. www.norwichbookstore.com.

**MANCHESTER CENTER.** Book and Author Event. Michael Puett and Christine Gross-Loh present their book, *The Path: What Chinese Philosophers Can Teach Us About the Good Life*. A Vermont Humanities program. Free. 7 pm. First Congregational Church, 3624 Main St. (800) 437-3700. www.northshire.com.

**RUTLAND.** Rutland Free Library October Book Sale. Thousands of organized books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for sale. 4-8 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Summer Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm. Downtown in Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 26.

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

**BARNARD.** Feast and Field Farmers' Market. 4:30-7:30 pm, music at 5:30 pm. Campfire jam to follow at 8 pm. 1544 Royalton Turnpike. (802) 999-3391. clovermont@gmail.com. feastandfield.com. Every Thursday through October 20.

**BRATTLEBORO.** Panel Discussion: Guns in Our Community. Ann Braden of Gun Sense VT, Clai Lasher-Sommers of Everytown for Gun Safety, Game Warden and Vermont Hunter Safety Instructor Kelly Price, and a representative of the Brattleboro Police Department share their perspectives on guns in our community. Free. 7 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

**BURLINGTON.** Book and Author Event. Celebrate the launch of Séan Moran's new book, *The Diary of a Movie Greaser: Remembering Grease from Start to Finish*. In 1977 Séan Moran moved to Hollywood to shoot Grease with John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John. \$3 (includes a coupon for \$5 off the featured book). 7 pm. Phoenix Books, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. phoenixbooks.biz.

**MANCHESTER CENTER.** Book Launch Party. Jack Mayer presents his book of historical fiction, *Before the Court of Heaven*. Free. 6 pm. Northshire Bookstore, 4869 Main St. (800) 437-3700. www.northshire.com.

**MONTPELIER.** Humorous Comedy. *Sylvia* – a comedy by A.R. Gurney is love triangle with a dog at its heart. Empty-nesters Greg & Kate, with the mongrel mutt Sylvia, prove that a dog is not only man's best friend, but sometimes his salvation! Sylvia, the dog – who talks – is played by Courtney Wood. 7:30 pm. Tickets \$15-\$30. Lost Nation Theater, City Hall Arts Center, Main St. (802) 229-0492. www.lostnationtheater.org. Daily Thursdays-Sundays until October 23.

**RANDOLPH.** Classic Repertory Theater presents Romeo and Juliet. 10 am. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.chandler-arts.org.

**SHELBURNE.** House & Formal Gardens Tour at the Inn at Shelburne Farms. Join our knowledgeable guide for an in-depth tour of the Inn and its formal gardens followed by self-service afternoon tea featuring sweets and savories made by the inn's pastry chef. Fee \$18, pre-registration required. 2:30-4 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8442. www.shelburnefarms.org. Every Tuesday and Thursday through October 13.

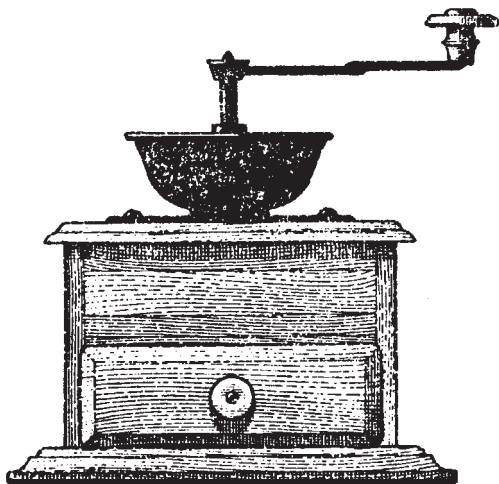
## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

**BENSON.** Benson Volunteer Fire Department's Haunted Hayride. Cost: \$10. Ticket booth opens at 6:30 pm. To reserve seats call Kathleen Dole at (802) 537-3315. bensonhayride@gmail.com. Benson Volunteer Fire Department, 2646 Stage Rd. Also October 8.

**BRATTLEBORO.** Documentary—Walk With Me: The Trials of Damon J. Keith. America's journey from the time of a segregated army to the time of an African-American president, as seen through the eyes of a man who helped make that transition possible. Free. 8 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

**BRATTLEBORO.** New Exhibit Opening Reception: "Windows to Creative Expression"—Young Poets & Artists from the Poetry Studio. Free. 5:30 pm. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, 10 Vernon St. (802) 257-0124. www.brattleboromuseum.org.

**BURLINGTON.** Performance: Rennie Harris Puremovement. Tickets \$15-\$42. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org.



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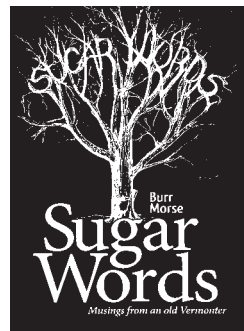
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Every Saturday, 9 am – 2 pm  
— Through October 29 —

Every Wednesday, 3-6 pm  
— Through October 26 —

Fair Haven Market: Fridays, 3-6 pm  
— Through October 28 —

vtfarmersmarket.org





# Vermont Country Calendar

(Friday, October 7, continued)

**DANVILLE.** Dead North. This years haunt will include a short ride, a mile walk of terror through a haunted cornfield and buildings. Not recommended for young children or persons with health concerns. Tickets are \$25 per person. 7 pm. Great Vermont Corn Maze, 1404 Wheelock Rd. (802) 748-1399. www.vermontcornmaze.com. Also October 8.

**KILLINGTON.** Killington Ski Club Ski & Bike Sale. 5-9 pm. Ramshead Lodge, Killington Resort, Killington Rd. (802) 422-6894. Also October 8 & 9.

**LYNDONVILLE.** Cobleigh Library's 13th Annual Huge Book Sale. 9 am - 2 pm. Cobleigh Public Library, 14 Depot St. 802-626-5475. Also October 8.

**PUTNEY.** Concert: Rani Arbo and daisy mayhem. Tickets: \$24. 7:30 pm. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill. (802) 387-0102. www.nextstagearts.org.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

**BENNINGTON.** Sixth Annual Norshaft OktoberFest. Bratwurst, knockwurst, wienerschnitzel, golabki (stuffed cabbage), pirogies, and other great tasting German foods along with specialty German brews, fall brews on tap and delicious wines. fun-filled fall family day with dancing to the toe-tapping music provided by the Rymanowski Brothers. art and craft vendors offering Vermont products, and children's activities including hayrides and face-painting. Admission: \$5. 11 am - 5 pm. Colgate Park, Rt. 9. (845) 641-6007. savoia@aol.com. norshaftlions.org.

**BENSON.** Benson Volunteer Fire Department's Haunted Hayride. Cost: \$10. Ticket booth opens at 6:30 pm. To reserve seats call Kathleen Dole at (802) 537-3315. bensonhayride@gmail.com. Benson Volunteer Fire Department, 2646 Stage Rd.

**BRANDON.** Concert: Dave Keller. One of the finest blues and soul men of his generation. Concert tickets \$20. A pre-concert dinner \$20. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. Venue is BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. Call (802) 247-4295 or e-mail info@brandon-music.net for reservations. www.brandon-music.net.

**BRANDON.** Stone Bench Dedication. Students at the Carving Studio and Sculpture Center in West Rutland developed the theme, produced scale models in clay and then carved the limestone bench given to partnering municipalities. Dedication at 1 pm, Kennedy Park, Rt 7. (802) 438-2997. info@carvingstudio.org.

**CHESTER.** A Huge "Christmas Under the Tent" Sale. Decorating, entertaining and gift giving needs—toys, gifts, items for the holiday table, artificial trees and decorations galore priced \$1-\$10. Bake sale and free hot dog lunch. 10 am - 3 pm. Chester Andover Family Center, 908 Rt. 103. (802) 875-3236. www.andover-chesterfamilycenter.org.

**DANVILLE.** Dead North. This years haunt will include a short ride, a mile walk of terror through a haunted cornfield and buildings. Not recommended for young children or persons with health concerns. Tickets are \$25 per person. 7 pm. Great Vermont Corn Maze, 1404 Wheelock Rd. (802) 748-1399. deadnorth@screampass.com. www.vermontcornmaze.com.

**HUNTINGTON.** Green Mountain Woodcarvers: Monthly meeting and carve-in. Carvers are always happy to explain how they carve and to share their expertise with others. Ask questions and become a member! 9 am - 1 pm. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. www.birdsofvermont.org.

**HUNTINGTON.** Leaf Garlands with Lori Hinrichsen. Gather leaves and use needle and thread to make a cascade of color. Maximum size: 12 participants, so please pre-register. Ages 7 and up. Suggested donation: \$5. 2-4 pm. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. www.birdsofvermont.org.

**JAMAICA.** Landscape Tour. Meet up with Bennington Museum curator Jamie Franklin who will guide you to the landscapes that inspired artist Milton Avery during his extended summers in Vermont. 11 am - 2:30 pm. Reservations. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org.

**KILLINGTON.** Killington Ski Club Ski & Bike Sale. 9 am - 4 pm. Ramshead Lodge, Killington Resort, Killington Rd. (802) 422-6894. johnny@killingtonskiclub.com. Also October 9.

**LYNDONVILLE.** Cobleigh Library's 13th Annual Book Sale. There is a great selection with hundreds of books in all genres with something for everyone at bargain prices. 12-6 pm. Cobleigh Public Library, 14 Depot St. 802-626-5475. abbyjohnson3@gmail.com.

**MANCHESTER.** Fall Orvis Days. A Weekend celebration at The Flagship Store. Fly fishing seminars and classes, free food, local brews, free pumpkin painting, VINS Birds of Prey demonstration, live dog demonstrations from Snowbound Kennels, local food vendors and artists, free gun fitting, save up to 75% on merchandise. 9 am - 6 pm. Orvis Flagship Store, 4180 Main St. (802) 362-3750. Orvis.com. Also October 9.

**MOUNT HOLLY.** 28th Annual Cider Days. Revolves around a 100+ year old antique cider press which employs the "rack & cloth" method of pressing cider. Hot and cold cider, homemade apple pie and apple crisp with ice cream or Crowley cheese for sale. 36 local artisans, bakers, farmers, and food vendors. Library book sale and calendar photo contest. The historical Perkins House and blacksmith shop will be open. Roast beef supper family style with selection of 40 homemade pies for dessert - seatings at 5 & 6 pm. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 at the Odd Fellow Hall. Events on the Green in village of Belmont, part of Mount Holly. 9 am - 4 pm. www.mounthollyvt.org. Also October 9.

**NORWICH.** Book & Author Event. David Macaulay discusses his book, *The Way Things Work Now*. 1 pm. Norwich Bookstore, 291 Main St. (802) 649-1114. info@norwichbookstore.com. www.norwichbookstore.com

**POULTNEY.** Poultney Fall Town Wide Yard Sales. 9 am - 4 pm. (802) 287-2010. poultneyvt.com.

**RUTLAND.** 55th Annual Fall Art in the Park. Sponsored by the The Chaffee Art Center. Art, food, music, craft demonstrations, and kids activities. 10 am - 5 pm. Main Street Park corner of West St. and Rt. 7. (802) 775-0356. www.chaffeeartcenter.org. Also October 9.

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

**RUTLAND.** Fall Foliage Family Nature Hike. Led by a retired science educator. 10 am - 12 pm. Pine Hill Park. (802) 775-7976. rutlandrec.com.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am - 2 pm. Downtown at Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Sats thru Oct. 29.

**SHOREHAM.** Annual Harvest Fest. Serving Champlain Orchards BBQ pork with their own applesauce, apple cider and fresh baked apples pies and great side dishes—all to the sounds of down-home acoustic folk music. A fun and delicious way to celebrate the fall season! 12:30-9:30 pm. Champlain Orchards, 3597 Vermont Route 74 West. (802) 897-2777. www.champlainorchards.com

**SPRINGFIELD.** Annual Vermont Apple Festival and Crafts Fair. Over 60 vendors. Crafts, food, apple cider making, amusement rides, pony rides, train for kids & adults, apple pie contest, kids' races, pie-eating contest, and more! Free admission. 9 am - 4 pm. 13 Fairground Rd. (802) 885-2779. springfieldcoc@vermontel.net. www.springfieldvt.com.

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2016 DATES	Tuesday	Thursday	Saturday	Sunday
			Sept 17	Sept 18
	Sept 20	Sept 22	Sept 24	Sept 25
	Sept 27	Sept 29	Oct 1	Oct 2
	Oct 4	Oct 6	Oct 8	Oct 9
	Oct 11	Oct 13	Oct 15	Oct 16

Trains 1 & 3: Chester to Ludlow • Train 2: Chester to Rockingham

SCHEDULE	Train 1				Train 2		Train 3	
	Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive
	Chester	Ludlow	Chester	Rockingham	Chester	Ludlow	Chester	Rockingham
	10:00 AM	10:55 AM	1:00 PM	1:35 PM	11:15 AM	12:00 PM	1:40 PM	2:15 PM
	3:00 PM	3:55 PM	—	—	4:15 PM	5:00 PM	—	—

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# Vermont Country Calendar

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** Fall Festival and Dog Party at Dog Mountain. activities for the whole family, from foot-tapping live music by Vermont folk duo The Endorsements, to a bounce house for the kids, door prizes, food, dog contests, and more. Free. 12-4 pm. Rain or shine. 143 Parks Rd. (802) 748-3075. info@dogmt.com. www.dogmt.com.

**STATEWIDE.** Fall Open Studio Weekend. In conjunction with American Craft Week. Free map booklet with directions to participating sites available throughout the state at Tourist Information Centers, galleries and studios and on the VCC website at [www.vermontcrafts.com](http://www.vermontcrafts.com) or by calling (802) 223-3380. Also October 9.

**TUNBRIDGE.** Anything Apple Celebration. Wide variety of apple foods for lunch, sampling and takeout. Silent auction and lawn activities. Proceeds benefit The Tunbridge Church painting fund. 11 am – 3 pm. Free. Tunbridge Town Hall. 279 Rt. 110. (802) 889-5528. kjayvt@gmail.com

**WEST NEWBURY.** Family-Style Turkey Supper. Meal served on china includes turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, squash, coleslaw, cranberry sauce, rolls. Pie—apple, pumpkin and mince meat. Coffee, tea or cider. Adults \$13, children (10 and under) \$6, take-outs \$13. Craft & bake sale. Settings at 5, 6:15 & 7:15 pm. West Newbury Hall, 219 Tyler Farm Rd. Reservations recommended. (802) 429-2632. [www.westnewburyhall.org](http://www.westnewburyhall.org).

**WESTMORE.** Annual Harvest Ham and Bean Supper. Ham, homemade baked soldier beans, winter squash, cole slaw and roll. To support the Westmore community activities. 5-7 pm. Westmore Fellowship Hall, 27 Hinton Hill Rd. (802) 525-1108.

**WINDSOR.** History Happens at Old Constitution House. Demonstrations. 11 am – 5 pm. The Old Constitution House, on Main Street at the northern end of the village. (802) 672-3773. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov). Also October 9.

**WOODSTOCK.** 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Harvest Weekend. Husking bee and barn dance, plus a variety of 19th century harvest activities and programs for the entire family. The husking bee begins at noon, followed by a barn dance from 1-4 p.m. Lend a hand pressing cider, preserving apples, threshing grain, and making butter and ice cream. Children can help dig potatoes and other root crops and learn how crops are “put up” for the winter. Other activities include shelling beans, fence building, apples-on-a-string, and 19th century games. Hot-spiced cider and homemade doughnuts. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12N & Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org). Also October 9.

**BRANDON.** Brandon HarvestFest (Make Your Own Leaf Person). 1-4 pm. The first “Harvest Person” per family is free of charge. After that, they are only \$5 each. Hayrides and pumpkins. The Lion’s Club’s delicious grill, apple pies, St. Mary’s Church coffee, cider and donuts. Central Park, 20 Park St. Rain location will be the Methodist Church. (802) 247-6401. [brandon.org](http://brandon.org).

**CHARLOTTE.** Annual Tractor Parade. More than 200 tractors including some being ferried across Lake Champlain from New York. Craft fair, face painting, farmers market, animals, rope making, pony rides, free games for children, a toy tractor display and more. Music featuring The Bulls Eye Barbershop Quartet, The Unpredictables, The Mayfly Girls and The Silver Leviathan Band starting at 11 am. Parade at 1 pm (rain or shine). Free. [www.facebook.com/tractorparade](http://www.facebook.com/tractorparade).

**DUMMERSTON.** 14th Annual Heirloom Apple Day. Taste some of the farm’s 120 varieties and hear the enlightening history of these unique fruits with Orchardist Zeke Goodband. Heirloom apples and cider as well as Whetstone Cider Works hard cider samples and Rigani Wood-Fired Pizza available. Tastings at 10 am, noon & 2 pm. Talk and tastings are free. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. [www.ScottFarmVermont.com](http://www.ScottFarmVermont.com).

**EAST DUMMERSTON.** 48th Annual Apple Pie Festival. Fifteen hundred apple pies baked in the church basement ovens available for sale at \$16 per pie. Also available apple cider donuts and homemade ice cream, apple cider, and Grafton cheddar cheese. Apple pie by the slice or whole pie. Fire Department’s annual pancake breakfast 7-11 am. The Grange hosts crafters selling homemade items from wooden pens, knitted and stitched crafts, soaps and alpaca socks to homemade jams, jellies, pickles, as well as maple syrup and candy. Huge, multi-family tag sale. Lunch with hamburgers, hot dogs, homemade baked beans and corn chowder. Exhibit at Dummerston Historical Society. Free. 10 am – 5 pm. Dummerston Congregational Church. 1535 Middle Rd. (802) 257-0544. [www.dummerstonchurch.org](http://www.dummerstonchurch.org).

**EAST THETFORD.** 14th Annual Pumpkin Festival. Fun for the whole family with kids’ activities. Horse-drawn wagon rides, storyteller/musicians, pumpkin picking, organic good food concession, live music featuring Off the Rails from 10:30-12:30 pm and the Stovepipe Mountain Band 1-3 pm. Lunch with pasture raised pulled pork tacos (vegetarian option) with kitchen crafted krauts, seasonal organic soups, salads, and pumpkin brownies. NOFA wood-fired artisan pizza. Parking in designated fields for \$10 per car, carpooling encouraged. Everything free except the food. No pets please. Cedar Circle Farm, Pavillion Rd. just off of Rt. 5. [www.cedarcirclefarm.org](http://www.cedarcirclefarm.org).



**FERRISBURGH.** Presentation: Up Country Furniture. Longtime Vermont auctioneer and collector Duane Merrill will discuss three decades of finds, highs and lows, gems and surprises in the Vermont antiques trade with special attention to Nathan Burnell, a mid-nineteenth century cabinetmaker from Milton, VT. 3 pm. Admission \$2. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. [rokeby@comcast.net](mailto:rokeby@comcast.net). [www.rokeby.org](http://www.rokeby.org).

**HUNTINGTON.** International Big Sit! The world’s most sedentary birding event. How many birds can we perceive from a 17-foot diameter circle? Snacks and coffee provided. Bring your own binoculars. Dawn to dusk. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. [museum@birdsofvermont.org](mailto:museum@birdsofvermont.org). [www.birdsofvermont.org](http://www.birdsofvermont.org).

**KILLINGTON.** Killington Ski Club Ski & Bike Sale. Unbelievable deals on new & used ski and snowboard equipment. 9 am – 2 pm. Ramshead Lodge, Killington Resort, Killington Rd. (802) 422-6894. [johnnyo@killingtonskiclub.com](mailto:johnnyo@killingtonskiclub.com).

**MANCHESTER.** Fall Orvis Days. A Weekend celebration at The Flagship Store. Fly fishing seminars and classes, free food, local brews, free pumpkin painting, Live dog demonstrations from Snowbound Kennels, local food vendors and artists, save up to 75% on merchandise. 10 am – 5 pm. Orvis Flagship Store, 4180 Main St. (802) 362-3750. [orvis.com](http://orvis.com).

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# Vermont Country Calendar

(Sunday, October 9, continued)

**MIDDLEBURY.** Houses of Worship Tour. The Henry Sheldon Museum is sponsoring a tour of eight houses of worship in Middlebury village, embodiments of two centuries of religious culture and architectural craftsmanship, organized by Glenn Andres, Middlebury College Professor Emeritus of History, Art and Architecture. Visit these churches in any order between 1 and 5 pm. Tickets and maps on sale at \$25 per person at the Sheldon Museum, One Park St. (802) 388-2117. [www.henrysheldonmuseum.org](http://www.henrysheldonmuseum.org).

**MOUNT HOLLY.** 28th Annual Cider Days. Revolves around a 100+ year old antique cider press which employs the "rack & cloth" method of pressing cider. Hot and cold cider, homemade apple pie and apple crisp with ice cream or Crowley cheese for sale. 36 local artisans, bakers, farmers, and food vendors. Library book sale and calendar photo contest. The historical Perkins House and blacksmith shop will be open. Roast beef supper family style with selection of 40 homemade pies for dessert – seatings at 5 & 6 pm. \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 at the Odd Fellow Hall. Events on the Green in village of Belmont, part of Mount Holly. 12-4 pm. [www.mounthollyvt.org](http://www.mounthollyvt.org).

**MOUNT INDEPENDENCE.** Hike into History. Stephen Zeoli leads this fall tour, which explores what author, historian, and illustrator Benson Lossing saw on his 1848 visit to the Mount. Wear walking shoes and dress for the weather. 1-3 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 272-2509. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**NORWICH.** English Country Dance. Music by Trip to Norwich. Adina Gordon calling. Sponsored by Muskeg Music. 1-4 pm. Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. (802) 785-4121. [tinyurl.com/LeveyECD](http://tinyurl.com/LeveyECD).

**PITTSFORD.** 23rd Annual Sheep Festival. Sponsored by The Rutland Area Shepherds. Variety of sheep and wool products and activities including sheep breeds on display, sheep shearing and sheep dog demonstrations, vendors, live music, silent auction and raffle. Free. 11 am – 4 pm. Pittsford Recreation Center, Furnace Rd. (802) 342-3176. [info@vermontshepherds.com](mailto:info@vermontshepherds.com).

**RUTLAND.** 55th Annual Fall Art in the Park. Sponsored by the The Chaffee Art Center. Arts, crafts, food, music, craft demonstrations, and kids activities. 10 am – 5 pm. Main Street Park at the corner of West Street and Route 7. (802) 775-0356. E-mail: [info@chaffeeartcenter.org](mailto:info@chaffeeartcenter.org). [www.chaffeeartcenter.org](http://www.chaffeeartcenter.org).

**STATEWIDE.** Fall Open Studio Weekend. In conjunction with American Craft Week. Free map booklet with directions to participating sites available throughout the state at Tourist Information Centers, galleries and studios and on the VCC website at [vermontcrafts.com](http://vermontcrafts.com) or by calling (802) 223-3380.

**WEST PAWLET.** Pancake Breakfast. Variety of pancakes with local maple syrup as well as waffles, West Pawlet's world-famous home fries, scrambled eggs, sausage and bacon, coffee, tea, milk and orange juice. Prices are \$10 for 12 years and up, \$5 for 5-12 years and free to children under 5. 7-11 am. West Pawlet Volunteer Fire Dept., 2806 Rt. 153 (Main Street). (802) 345-4312. [wp5801@yahoo.com](mailto:wp5801@yahoo.com).

**WOODSTOCK.** 32nd Annual Harvest Weekend. Husking bee and barn dance, plus a variety of 19th century harvest activities and programs for the entire family. Lend a hand pressing cider, preserving apples, and making butter and ice cream. Hot-spiced cider and homemade doughnuts. Admission: adults \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12N & Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355.org. [billingsfarm.org](http://billingsfarm.org).

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

**CLAREMONT, NH.** Concert: Bassel and the Supernaturals. Blues and funk from Chicago. Donations welcome. 7 pm. West Claremont Center for Music and the Arts, Union Episcopal Church, 133 Old Church Rd. (802) 738-0022. [www.wcc-ma.org](http://www.wcc-ma.org).

**MANCHESTER CENTER.** Book and Author Event. Geraldine Brooks presents her book, *A Secret Chord*. A rich and utterly absorbing novel about the life of King David. Tickets \$5. 7 pm. Northshire Bookstore, 4869 Main St. (800) 437-3700. [www.northshire.com](http://www.northshire.com).

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

**BURLINGTON.** Concert: Dream Theater. A band whose cerebral compositions already define the vanguard of progressive hard rock. Tickets \$46.61-\$75.64. 7:30 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. [flynncenter.org](http://flynncenter.org).

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Summer Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm. Downtown in Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. [info@vtfarmersmarket.org](mailto:info@vtfarmersmarket.org). [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.org). *Wednesdays through October 26.*

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

**BARNARD.** Feast and Field Farmers' Market. 4:30-7:30 pm, music at 5:30 pm. Campfire jam to follow at 8 pm. 1544 Royalton Turnpike. (802) 999-3391. [clovermont@gmail.com](mailto:clovermont@gmail.com). [feastandfield.com](http://feastandfield.com). *Every Thursday through October 20.*

**BURLINGTON.** Concert: Art Garfunkel. Tickets \$50-\$90. 7:30 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. [flynncenter.org](http://flynncenter.org).

**ESSEX.** Book & Author Event. Join Archer Mayor for a talk on his new Joe Gunther mystery, *Presumption of Guilt*. Mayor, in addition to writing the New York Times bestselling Joe Gunther series, is an investigator for the state medical examiner and has 25 years of experience as a firefighter/EMT. Free. 7 pm. Phoenix Books Essex, 21 Essex Way. (802) 872-7111. [www.phoenixbooks.biz](http://www.phoenixbooks.biz).

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

**BARRE.** Concert: De Temps Antan. A power trio that uses Quebec's vibrant living music tradition as a springboard for musical innovation performing bilingual songs that feature the fiddle, accordion, harmonica, guitar and bouzouki. 7 pm. Barre Opera House, City Hall, 6 N. Main St. (802) 476-8188. [www.barreoperahouse.org](http://www.barreoperahouse.org).

**BURLINGTON.** Concert: Esperanza Spaulding. Firmly rooted in contemporary jazz of the highest order. Tickets \$25-\$58. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. [flynncenter.org](http://flynncenter.org).

**HANOVER, NH.** Concert: The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra with Jeremy Denk, piano. A program of Mozart and Schubert. Tickets: \$17-\$50. 8 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts. (603) 646-2422. [hop.dartmouth.edu](http://hop.dartmouth.edu).

**SPRINGFIELD.** Exhibit Opening: Signs of Life. Contemporary paintings and intricate collages. Mary Welsh's collages are made of found materials; Roger Sandes's paintings look like silk and feel like eggshell. Wine and light refreshments. Free. 5-7 pm. The Great Hall at One Hundred River Street. Use Pearl Street entrance only for the opening. (802) 885-3061. Facebook: [com/GreatHallSpringfield](http://com/GreatHallSpringfield).

**TINMOUTH.** Concert. Dana and Susan Robinson are two guitar-playing, banjo-frailing, fiddle-sawing, and harmony-singing interpreters of contemporary songwriting and traditional Appalachian music. Donations \$10, homemade refreshments available for sale. Doors open at 7 pm, concert at 7:30 pm. Old Firehouse Stage, Rt. 140 and Mountain View Rd. in the middle of downtown Tinmouth. (802) 446-3953.

**TUNBRIDGE.** Family Contra Dance with the Ed Larkin Old Time Dancers. All dances taught. Refreshments at intermission. Admission \$8. 7:30-10 pm. Tunbridge Town Hall, 279 Rt. 110. (802) 436-1152. [clydo46@gmail.com](mailto:clydo46@gmail.com).

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## Brandon, VT

# The Creative World of Stephanie Stouffer

With a personal, first-hand experience of truly earning a living as a freelance artist, Stouffer will give a Gallery Talk at the Compass Music and Arts Center in Brandon, VT, as part of her current exhibit 'The Creative World of Stephanie Stouffer', on Sunday, October 2 at 2 p.m.

Following a ten year period designing for Hallmark,

Belmont artist Stephanie Stouffer had a 35 year career as a freelance artist. She designed more than 1,500 original gouache paintings used for licensing by companies like Caspari, Certified International, and Peking Handicrafts. However, after being scanned for use on mugs, tapestries, greeting cards, pillows, rugs, and

more, the original paintings collected in piles in her studio closet. The imaginative designs were never exhibited or offered for sale—many having never been seen by anyone but Stouffer and her licensing agent.

The artist will share both the creative compromises and rewards of a freelance career in licensing, acknowledging the role her time with Hallmark took in preparing her for her chosen path.

Stouffer will discuss the demands and frustrations of staying 'on top' of the market, of staying creatively fresh and innovative while meeting the commercial interests of manufacturers, but also why she feels her work proved to be so appealing and successful.

Now retired, Stouffer has continued to paint, in a larger format and using a different medium. She will share her efforts in trying to step away from 35 years of focusing her

creative imagination on what might appeal to the commercial needs of manufacturers, rather than herself.

For Stouffer, she hopes visitors "will gain a better understanding of what it can take for an artist to earn a 'real living' and a greater appreciation for what went into the card they bought or received, or the product that caught their eye in the market place." This talk will be of particular interest to anyone with a career or interest in the world of graphic design and illustration.

The exhibit 'The Creative World of Stephanie Stouffer' showcases many of Stouffer's original paintings, along with selected licensed products, and represents a significant chapter of her life's work. It runs through October 29.

*The Compass Music and Arts Center is located in Park Village at 333 Jones Dr., Brandon, VT. [cmacvt.org](http://cmacvt.org).*

## WELCOME TO THE 2016/2017 SEASON!

Jaime Laredo, music director



Ran Dank  
piano

Anthony Princiotti  
conductor

Katherine Winterstein  
violin

Joseph Kalichstein  
piano

Nokuthula Ngwenyama  
viola

October 29  
Flynn Center  
Burlington

December 3  
Flynn Center  
Burlington

January 21  
Flynn Center  
Burlington  
January 22  
Paramount Theatre  
Rutland

March 18  
Flynn Center  
Burlington  
March 19  
Paramount Theatre  
Rutland

May 6  
Flynn Center  
Burlington



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# Vermont Country Calendar

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

**BRANDON.** Concert: The Twangtown Paramours. Sophisticated Americana. Concert tickets \$20. A pre-concert dinner \$20. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. Venue is BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. Call (802) 247-4295 or e-mail info@brandon-music.net for reservations. www.brandon-music.net.

**CABOT.** 17th Annual Apple Pie Festival. Silent auction, lunch bar, craft fair, and pie contests for adults and youths. Pie entry fee \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for youth. Admission is free to festival. Cabot School Gym, 25 Common Rd. (802) 563-3396. www.cabothistory.com.

**DUMMERSTON.** Heirloom Apple Pie Workshop. Pastry chef Laurel Roberts Johnson, the queen of tarts, tackles "pie dough anxiety". Make flaky pie dough and bake an apple pie with our heirloom apples. Take home your pie, dough, and a tote of heirloom baking apples. 10 am - 1 pm. Fee \$50. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. Pre-register at (802) 254-6868. www.ScottFarmVermont.com.

**RUPERT.** Thoreau's Cabin Project. Help with sitework and laying the stone foundation at Racey Pond in the construction of a facsimile of Thoreau's Walden Pond cabin using materials harvested at Merck Forest or sourced locally. Local artisans will lead workshops using hand tools and work techniques consistent with the historical period. Details of each workshop are listed on the website. Merck Forest & Farmland, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. www.merckforest.org.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am - 2 pm. Downtown at Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Sats thru Oct. 29.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

**DUMMERSTON.** How-to Brew Beer. Visit a hop yard and learn home brewing techniques from master brewer Thomas Coleman, former owner of Black River Brewing Co. He'll show making extract/partial mash beer and evaluating craft brew styles. 10 am - 2 pm. Fee: \$50. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. Pre-register at (802) 254-6868. www.ScottFarmVermont.com.

**POULTNEY.** The 4th Annual Vermont Fermentation Festival. Hour-long fermentation workshops highlight making flavorful and fizzy kombucha, beer brewing, vegan yogurt, ethnic fermented food and more. Keynote speaker is Marisa Mauro of Ploughgate Creamery. Tickets \$12-\$15. 9 am - 4 pm. Green Mountain College, 1 Brennan Circle. (802) 342-4640. www.rutlandfarmandfood.org.

**READING.** Film Screening: Mr. Turner. Explores the last quarter century of the life of J.M.W. Turner (1775-1851), the single-minded artist who worked hard and traveled extensively. Following a tour of the exhibition, the screening will take place at the nearby Reading Public Library. Light refreshments and snacks will be provided. Free of charge but pre-registration required. 1 pm. Hall Art Foundation, 551 Rt. 106. (802) 952-1056. vermont@hallartfoundation.org. www.hallartfoundation.org.

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Hooked in the Mountains XVIII. A hooked rug and fiber arts exhibition of the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild. Tickets \$8, \$6 65 and older, children under 12 free. 9 am - 5 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. gmrhg.org. Through October 23.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Summer Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm. Downtown in Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. info@vtfarmersmarket.org. www.vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 26.

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

**BURLINGTON.** Lecture—The Children's Crusade: How Patrick Leahy's 1974 election changed modern campaigns in Vermont. In this talk, Phil Baruth focuses on Patrick Leahy's stunning underdog election to the Senate in 1974. 7 pm. Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building, University of Vermont. (802) 479-8500. vermonthistory.org.

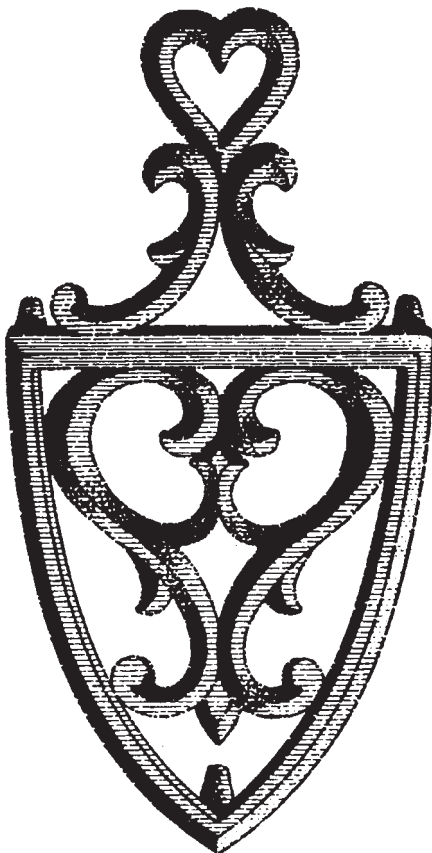
**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Nightmare Vermont. A thrilling, interactive haunted house. Tickets \$12. 7-10 pm. At Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. info@nightmarevermont.org. www.nightmarevermont.org. Also October 21, 22, 27, 28 & 29.

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Hooked in the Mountains XVIII. A hooked rug and fiber arts exhibition of the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild. Tickets \$8, \$6 65 and older, children under 12 free. 9 am - 5 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. gmrhg.org. Through October 23.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Nightmare Vermont. A thrilling, interactive haunted house. Tickets \$12. 7-10:30 pm. At Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. info@nightmarevermont.org. www.nightmarevermont.org. Also October 22, 27, 28 & 29.

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Hooked in the Mountains XVIII. A hooked rug and fiber arts exhibition of the Green Mountain Rug Hooking Guild. Tickets \$8, \$6 65 and older, children under 12 free. 9 am - 5 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. gmrhg.org. Through October 23.



**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Spookyville Vermont. A family-friendly Halloween walk through using storytelling, dance and theater, and special effects to evoke the magic of the season. Tickets \$10. 7-9:30 pm. At Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. spookyvillevermont.org. Also October 22, 28, & 29

**HARDWICK.** 8th Annual Vermont Vaudeville. Presenting "Vaudeville, Eh?" Adults \$15 & kids \$8. Matinee \$12/\$6. 2 and 8 pm. Hardwick Town House, Church St. (802) 472-1387. www.vermontvaudeville.com. Also October 22.

**MANCHESTER CENTER.** Book & Author Event. David Hinton presents his book, *Existence: A Story*. The meaning of life as expressed in a single Chinese landscape painting. Free. 7 pm. Northshire Bookstore, 4869 Main St. (800) 437-3700. www.northshire.com.

**RANDOLPH.** Concert: A Symphony of Whales. Vermont Symphony Orchestra plays this special Halloween themed concert for children. Tickets \$6. 10 am. Chandler Music Hall, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. www.vso.org.

**TINMOUTH.** Contra Dance. Music by Shindy with Luke Donforth calling. Admission \$10, \$8 for teens, 12 and under free. Refreshments available. 8-11 pm at Tinmouth Community Center, Rt. 140, 5 miles west of Wallingford. For info or directions call (802) 446-2928. tinmouthvt.org.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

**BELLOWS FALLS.** Trivia Night. "Books, Brains & Beer" event includes cash bar provided by Donovan's, complimentary sweet and savory snacks, prizes for the best Halloween costumes and a harvest-themed basket raffle. Sign up for a table (of up to 6 people) for \$75. Or register as a single for \$15. Space is limited. Rockingham Library, 65 Westminster St. (802) 463-4270. rockinghamlibrary.org.

**BRANDON.** Concert: Bob MacKenzie Blues Band. Tickets \$20. A pre-concert dinner \$20. Reservations recommended for the show and required for dinner. Venue is BYOB. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. Call (802) 247-4295 or e-mail info@brandon-music.net for reservations. www.brandon-music.net.

**BROWNINGTON.** Candlelight Harvest Dinner. 6 pm - 10 pm. Old Stone House Museum, The Samuel Read Hall House, 109 Old Stone House Rd. (802) 754-2022. oldstonehousemuseum.org.

**BURLINGTON.** Live Interactive Stage Show: The Price is Right! With host Jerry Springer. Tickets \$50.25 to \$49.75. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. flynncenter.org.

**EAST POULTNEY.** 14th Annual Horace Greeley Writers' Symposium. Explore the art of writing as presented by publishers and writers in the fields of literature, poetry, philosophy, and history. Keynote speaker David Elliott is the author of picture books and novels for young people, including *The New York Times* bestselling *And Here's to You!* Presenters include Hope Ferguson, freelance writer; David Mook, writer and poet; Jean Yeager, blogger and tweeter. Fee \$75., students \$20. 9 am-5 pm. United Baptist Church On the Green. (802) 287-2577. www.horacegreeleyfoundation.org.

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Spookyville Vermont. A family-friendly Halloween walk through using storytelling, dance and theater, and special effects to evoke the magic of the season. See Spookyville Manor, a mysterious old house and Spookyville Village, lit by hundreds of jack-o-lanterns. Sneak into the classic stories of the season. Tickets \$10. 2:30 pm & 6-9:30 pm. At Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. info@spookyvillevermont.org. www.spookyvillevermont.org. Also October 28 & 29.

## Horse in Pasture



All fall the farm horse at the bars  
Just stands, not watching the passing cars,  
Not moving his eyes across the view,  
Not even—unlike the cattle—feeding.  
Poor horse, I say; nothing to do,  
Like knitting or whittling, rocking, reading.

—JAMES HAYFORD  
Orleans, VT, 1962

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# Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, October 22, continued)

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Hooked in the Mountains XVIII. A hooked rug and fiber arts exhibition. Tickets \$8, 65 and older \$6, children under 12 free. 9 am – 5 pm. Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. [gmrhg.org](http://gmrhg.org). Also October 23.

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Nightmare Vermont. A thrilling, interactive haunted house. Tickets \$12. 6-10:30 pm. At Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. [nightmarevermont.org](http://nightmarevermont.org). Also October 27, 28 & 29.

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Farmers' Market. 9 am – 2 pm. Downtown at Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.org). Sats. thru Oct. 29.

**WARDSBORO.** Annual Gilfeather Turnip Festival. It's "Turnip Time" again honoring Vermont's New State Vegetable. Bushels and bushels of turnips along with 40 craft and farmers market vendors "take over" the small village, inside and outside of Town Hall and under tents along Main Street. Turnip contest, cart with 150 pounds of turnips and seeds for sale and raffles. 'Artist of the Month' exhibit (9 am – 1 pm) features original paintings, fiber arts, ceramics and photography. Turnip cafe serving homemade cider donuts and coffee and then lunch featuring delicious, creamy gilfeather turnip soup starting at 11 am. Jimmy Knapp will serenade visitors in the town hall. 10 am – 3 pm. (802) 896-3416. [friendsofwardsborolib.org](http://friendsofwardsborolib.org).

**WINDSOR.** American Precision Museum's 17th Annual Model Engineering Show and Maker Space. 9 am – 4 pm. Windsor Recreational Center, 29 Union St. (802) 674-5781. [www.americanprecision.org](http://www.americanprecision.org).

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Hooked in the Mountains XVIII. A hooked rug and fiber arts exhibition. Tickets \$8, \$6 65 and older, children under 12 free. 9 am – 3 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. [gmrhg.org](http://gmrhg.org).

**FERRISBURGH.** Program: Western Abenaki Artifacts at Rokeby with Fred Wiseman. Admission \$2 or free with museum admission. 3 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 US-7. (802) 877-3406. [rokeby@comcast.net](mailto:rokeby@comcast.net). [www.rokeby.org](http://www.rokeby.org).

**EAST POULTNEY.** Gathering of the Clans Event. The Poultney area St. David's Society is sponsoring a 'Gathering' featuring "A Story of a Clock" about the Mark Robert's family's grandfather clock which was made in northwest Wales 202 years ago. Light refreshments. Freewill offering. 2:30 pm. United Baptist Church, 1500 E. Main St. (802) 287-5744. [pads88@yahoo.com](mailto:pads88@yahoo.com).

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26

**BURLINGTON.** Performance: Capitol Steps. The widely-heralded lampooners of the political sphere. Tickets \$15-\$42. 7:30 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. [flynncenter.org](http://flynncenter.org).

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Summer Farmers' Market. 3-6 pm. Downtown in Depot Park (across from Walmart). (802) 342-4727. [info@vtfarmersmarket.org](mailto:info@vtfarmersmarket.org). [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.org). Wednesdays through October 26.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

**CALAIS.** Bluegrass Concert with The VT Bluegrass Pioneers—Banjo Dan, Willy Lindner and the great Danny Coane. Fine brews, eats and vibes, and real bluegrass music. 7:30 pm. The Whammy Bar at the Maple Corner Store. (802) 229-4329.

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Essex Fall Craft and Fine Art Show. Admission \$8, includes admission to the Fall Vermont Antique Expo and Sale the same weekend also at the Expo. Free parking. 12-6 pm. Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. [vtcrafts.com](http://vtcrafts.com). Through October 30.

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Fall Vermont Antique Expo and Sale. 12-6 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. [cvexpo.org](http://cvexpo.org). Also October 29 & 30.

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Nightmare Vermont. A thrilling, interactive haunted house. Tickets \$12. 7-10:30 pm. At Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. [www.nightmarevermont.org](http://www.nightmarevermont.org). Also October 29.

**MANCHESTER CENTER.** Book Launch Party. Jane Klonsky celebrates her new book, *Unconditional: Older Dogs, Deeper Love*. Free. This party will kick off with some wine and cheese and will follow with a conversation and presentation of some of the amazing stories and images that inspired this beautiful book. 6:30 pm. Northshire Bookstore, 4869 Main St. (800) 437-3700. [northshire.com](http://northshire.com).

**RANDOLPH.** Concert. Singer-songwriter Greg Brown. A storyteller who moves his audiences with his warmth, humor and deeply human musical vision. Tickets \$24-\$35. 7:30 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St. (802) 728-6464. [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org).

**TINMOUTH.** Concert. Sutherland and Posse. Pete Sutherland, Oliver Scanlon, and Tristan Henderson perform old, new and lyrical tunes. Donations \$10, homemade refreshments available. Doors open at 7 pm, concert at 7:30 pm. Old Firehouse Stage, Rt. 140 and Mountain View Rd. (802) 446-3953. [tinmouthvt.org](http://tinmouthvt.org).

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

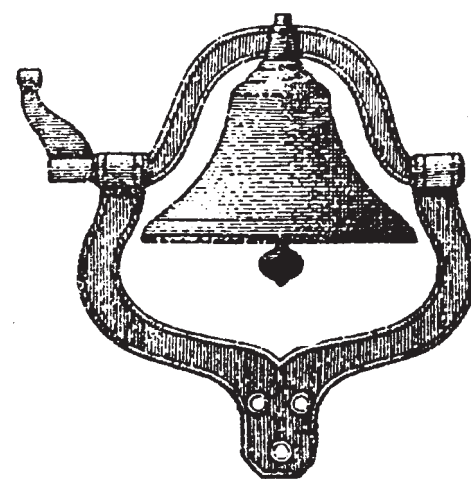
**BENNINGTON.** Fallpalooza. Events include farmers' market, wagon rides, food vendors, children's activities and live entertainment. Bring the kids for store-to-store trick-or-treating for gifts and games. Free. 10 am – 3 pm. 215 South St. (802) 442-5758. [betterbennington.com](http://betterbennington.com).

**BURLINGTON.** Concert: Vermont Symphony Orchestra Masterworks. Ran Dank, piano, performing Beethoven's Piano Concerto. No. 3. Tickets \$61-\$16. 8 pm. Flynn MainStage, 153 Main St. (802) 863-7992. [flynncenter.org](http://flynncenter.org).

**DUMMERSTON.** 9th Annual Heirloom Apple Harvest Dinner. Scott Farm and Vermont Fresh Network co-host a five-course harvest dinner showcasing the farm's heirloom apples and cider and local foods prepared by Chef Tristan Toleno of Entera Catering. Tickets: \$45. Reservations needed. Scott Farm Orchard, 707 Kipling Rd. (802) 254-6868. [www.ScottFarmVermont.com](http://www.ScottFarmVermont.com).

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Spookyville Vermont. A family-friendly Halloween walk through using storytelling, dance and theater, and special effects to evoke the magic of the season. Tickets \$10. 2:30 pm & 6-9:30 pm. At Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. [info@spookyvillevermont.org](mailto:info@spookyvillevermont.org). [www.spookyvillevermont.org](http://www.spookyvillevermont.org).

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Nightmare Vermont. A thrilling, interactive haunted house. Tickets \$12. 6-10:30 pm. At Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. [www.nightmarevermont.org](http://www.nightmarevermont.org).



## Way Back Then

# Growing Up With Golden Retrievers During WWII

by Charles Sutton

During World War II my parents decided to breed dogs as an additional source of family income to what my father made as a stock broker. They choose Golden Retrievers which were at the start of their popularity today.

I remember the day a German man named Michael Bishoff came to our home in Fairfield, CT to show off the Golden Retrievers he was selling.

Before seeing what such a dog could do he made point of explaining that he tried to enlist in the US Army, but being of German background, they were suspicious, so he ended up working in a mental hospital in the Midwest during the war.

To show us how well retrievers 'retrieve' he threw three items—a dead duck, a stuffed doll and a ball—into three different locations in a hay field next to our property. His demonstration dog sat and watched, and on his command located and retrieved each item according to his orders. My brother and I were impressed and thought 'good dog', we must have one.

Our parents were equally impressed and they ordered a female golden which Mother named Molly. Mr. Bishoff also provided a visiting male dog at the appropriate time to

'help' with the breeding which us children were not allowed to witness. Over a period of a few years Molly produced several large litters of puppies, Mother being the midwife if Molly needed any help.

Our property included an old carriage house where a birthing room was set up for Molly with an attached enclosed outdoor run. (My brother and I later used the run for our chicken raising business.)

Everyone in the family of course fell in love with the baby Golden pups. Most were of a lighter shade although Molly was darker. Mother's dog Molly became so attached to her that she would follow Mother around the house, and even wait outside the bathroom door for her to reappear.

We were allowed to pick and raise one puppy as our own. We choose an overly friendly male (all Golden are friendly) whom we called Jeff. We loved Jeff and took good care of him, including allowing him to rough-house with us. Sadly the day came when Jeff started nipping visitors, nothing serious to go to the doctor for or to get lawyers involved, but Jeff had to go. We figured he had a vision or scent problem as he would run up to a stranger thinking it might be us, and when it wasn't, he'd nip.

The story had a sad ending for us boys, and I will never forget the day we took Jeff in the car for a long drive to New York State to meet his new owner. Much to my relief the new owner was a pretty young woman who had a gentle manner about her and she and Jeff made friends instantly. Fred's and my loss was tempered by knowing Jeff would have a good life with a woman who loved him.

Molly became everyone's family's pet and she lived to an old age, probably because Mother had the sense not to over-breed such a nice companion, and I'm sure Molly appreciated that.



Charles Sutton with a family puppy circa 1937.

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David Wisniewski, Head (1984), Hall Collection  
Photo: Mark Woods.com © David Wisniewski

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# Vermont Country Calendar

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Essex Fall Craft and Fine Art Show. Admission \$8. Free parking. 9 am – 6 pm. Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. [vtcrafts.com](http://vtcrafts.com). Also October 30.

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Fall Vermont Antique Expo and Sale. \$8. 9 am – 6 pm. Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. [cvexpo.org](http://cvexpo.org). Also October 30.

**JERICHO.** Bluegrass Concert with The VT Bluegrass Pioneers—Banjo Dan, Willy Lindner and the great Danny Coane. 7-10 pm. Jericho Café and Tavern, 30 Rt. 15. (802) 899-2223.

**MOUNT INDEPENDENCE.** “Go Home Guy Carleton.” A walk commemorates Oct. 28, 1776, when the defensive strength here helped convince Gen. Guy Carleton and his British fleet to head back to Canada. Artillery fire. Wear walking shoes and dress for the weather. 1-3 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 272-2509. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

**RUTLAND.** 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Parade. Line-up at 5:30 pm, parade at 6:30 pm. Parade route: Madison St. & Strongs Ave. to Wales St., left to West St., left onto Merchants Row ending at the plaza. (802) 773-1822. [www.rutlandrec.com](http://www.rutlandrec.com).

**RUTLAND.** Vermont Farmers’ Market. 9 am – 2 pm. Downtown at Depot Park. (802) 342-4727. [www.vtfarmersmarket.org](http://www.vtfarmersmarket.org). Saturdays through October 29.

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Essex Fall Craft and Fine Art Show. Admission \$8, includes admission to the Fall Vermont Antique Expo and Sale the same weekend also at the Expo. Free parking. 10 am – 4 pm. Champlain Valley Expo, 105 Pearl St. [vtcrafts.com](http://vtcrafts.com).

**ESSEX JUNCTION.** Fall Vermont Antique Expo and Sale. \$8. 10 am – 4 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 878-5545. [cvexpo.org](http://cvexpo.org).

**MIDDLEBURY.** Ninth Annual Middlebury Spooktacular. Halloween event for kids of all ages! Dress in costume and play games and activities then trick-or-treat down Main Street! 1 pm. On the Middlebury Town Green. [bettermiddleburypartnership.org](http://bettermiddleburypartnership.org). Also October 31.

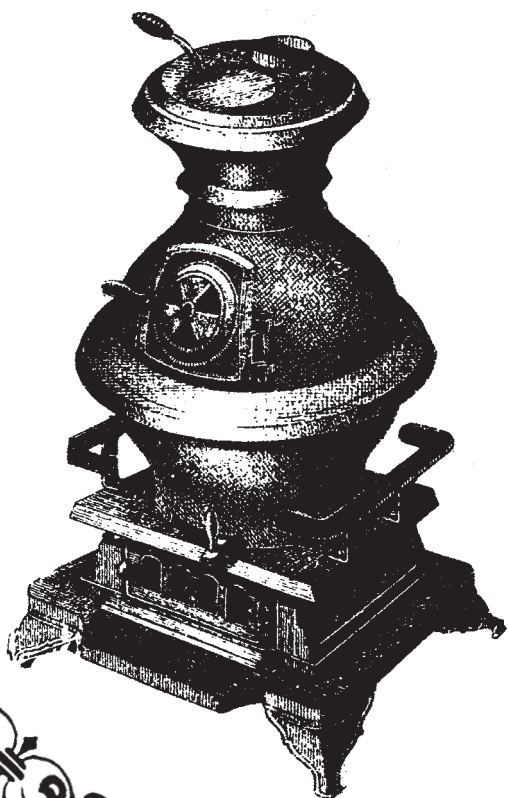
**SPRINGFIELD.** Benefit Concert. Join The Sky Blue Boys for an afternoon of music to benefit services for local folks in need. 4 pm. Donations accepted for the North Springfield Warming Shelter. 4 pm. St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 33 Fairground Rd. (802) 899-2223. [farm@tds.net](mailto:farm@tds.net)

**WOODSTOCK.** 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Family Halloween. Pumpkin carving, doughnuts-on-a-string, wagon rides, cranking pumpkin ice cream, plus “not-too-scary” Halloween stories, pumpkin games, and animal programs will be featured. Costume parades around the farm will be held at 12 & 2 pm, and all children will receive a ribbon. Children in costume receive free admission when accompanied by an adult who pay the regular admission fees of \$14, 62 & up \$13, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12N & Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [info@billingsfarm.org](mailto:info@billingsfarm.org). [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org).

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 31

**BENNINGTON.** Third Annual Haunted Monument. Ghosts and ghouls take over the Monument for a spooky Halloween tour. 6-9 pm. Bennington Battle Monument, Old Bennington. (802) 447-0550.

**MIDDLEBURY.** Ninth Annual Middlebury Spooktacular. Halloween event for kids of all ages! Dress in costume and play games and activities then trick-or-treat down Main Street! 1 pm. On the Middlebury Town Green. [bettermiddleburypartnership.org](http://bettermiddleburypartnership.org).



## ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2016

**ADDISON.** Chimney Point State Historic Site. The newly updated and expanded permanent exhibit on the Native American, French Colonial, and early American history of the Chimney Point area incorporates archaeological findings from the Lake Champlain Bridge project. Admission \$5, children 14 and under free. Wednesday through Sun and Monday holidays 9:30 am – 5 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Rt. 17W. (802) 759-2412. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov). Through October 10.

**BENNINGTON.** The Bennington Battle Monument. A brand new elevator takes visitors to the observation floor for a spectacular view of three states. \$5 adult admission, \$1 for youth, five and under free. The Monument and gift shop are open seven days a week from 9 am – 5 pm. Bennington Battle Monument, 15 Monument Circle, (802) 447-0550. [marylou.chicote@vermont.gov](mailto:marylou.chicote@vermont.gov). [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov).

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

**GRANITEVILLE.** Rock of Ages Visitors Center. Order custom granite house plates, desk plates and street number plates. Rock of Ages Visitor’s Center, 558 Graniteville Rd. (802) 476-3119. [rockofages.com](http://rockofages.com). [rockofagesgiftshop.com](http://rockofagesgiftshop.com).

**HARTLAND.** Upper Valley Seed Savers meet on the second Thursday of the month at 5 pm at member’s gardens. Our mission is to further knowledge about seed saving and to work on projects that will help develop a body of locally-adapted open-pollinated vegetable seeds. For information, or if you can’t come to meetings but would like to receive a monthly email with our minutes which contain information on our projects, please contact Sylvia Davatz at [sdav@valley.net](mailto:sdav@valley.net) or call (802) 436-3262.

**HUBBARDTON.** Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Admission: adults \$3, children 14 and under are free. Open 9:30 am – 5 pm Thurs through Sun, and Monday holidays. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. [historicsites.vermont.gov/Hubbardton](http://historicsites.vermont.gov/Hubbardton). Through October 10.

**ORWELL.** Mount Independence State Historic Site. Celebrating “Strong Ground,” the 240th anniversary of the start of American construction of the Revolutionary War’s Mount Independence and the military road to Hubbardton and Rutland, the 50th anniversary of the trail system, and the 25th anniversary of the Mount Independence Coalition. Admission \$5 for adults, free for children under 15. Open daily, 9:30 – 5:30. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. [www.historicsites.vermont.gov](http://www.historicsites.vermont.gov). Through October 10.

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

**PLYMOUTH NOTCH.** President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Adults \$9, children 6 to 14 \$2, under 6 free. Family pass \$25. 9:30 am - 5 pm daily. 3780 Rt. 100A. (802) 672-3773. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov). Through October 16.

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

**RUPERT.** Tale Trail is Open at Merck Forest and Farmland. Spaced at intervals along the discovery trail (an easy, family-friendly hike from the visitor center to the farm), the trail features pages from a picture book relating to the surrounding woods. Parents can read a story to their children and introduce them to the environment. The first trail story features Anthony D. Frederick’s *Around One Log*, a story about a rotting log and the creatures who make it their home. Open daily. Merck Forest & Farmland, 3270 Rt. 315. (802) 394-7836. [www.merckforest.org](http://www.merckforest.org).

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

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

**SHELBURNE.** Shelburne Farms. Welcome Center, Farm and Farm Store. Family programs, workshops, events. Open year round 10 am – 5 pm. Enjoy eight miles of walking trails in woodlands and meadows. Walkers, check in with the Welcome Center. Admission: adults \$8, seniors \$6, children 3-17 \$5, ages 2 and under free. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. off Rt. 7. (802) 985-8686. [www.shelburnefarms.org](http://www.shelburnefarms.org). Through October 16.

## Fall Birdwatching



Now is the moment for goodbyes,  
When trees shed leaves like tears  
And bright birds leave us empty skies  
Until spring reappears.

We northerners accept our fate  
When bluebird goes away.  
We soon learn to appreciate  
The junco and the jay.

We lower sights, accommodate,  
But never sink so low  
As to do more than tolerate  
The starling and the crow.

—MARY LOU HEALY

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# Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities, continued)

**STRAFFORD.** Senator Justin Morrill Homestead and Education Center. Adults \$6, children 14 and under free. Open Wednesday-Sunday and Monday holidays 11 am – 5 pm. Justin Morrill Homestead, 214 Morrill Memorial Hwy. (802) 765-4484. [morrillhomestead.org](http://morrillhomestead.org). *Through October 10.*

**VERGENNES.** Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Adult \$12, seniors \$11, youth 6-17 \$8, children 5 & under free. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. off Rt. 22A. (802) 475-2022. [cmm.org](http://cmm.org). *Through late October.*

**WEYBRIDGE.** UVM Morgan Horse Farm. Visit the grounds, see the horses. The farm's gift shop offers many UVM Morgan and horse related gift items. Small admission fee. 9 am – 4 pm. UVM Morgan Horse Farm, 74 Battell Dr., two miles from Middlebury. (802) 388-2011. [www.uvm.edu/morgan](http://www.uvm.edu/morgan). *Through October 31.*

**WEST RUTLAND.** Vermont Herbal General Store. Owned and operated by a registered pharmacist. Tai' Chi Gung classes, Tuesdays at 5 pm at the store. Free intro classes. Usul & Karuna Reiki Healings & Classes. Handmade Herbal Medicines, Oils, Essences, Crystals, Gemstones & Books. Teas, Lotions, and Capsules. All are welcome. Open Tuesday & Wednesday 1-6, Thursday-Saturday 12-6, Sunday 1-4, closed Friday. Vermont Herbal General Store, 578 Main St. (802) 438-2766. [info@vermontherbal.com](mailto:info@vermontherbal.com). On Facebook and Twitter. [www.vermontherbal.com](http://www.vermontherbal.com).

**WINDSOR.** Old Constitution House. Admission: adults \$3, children 14 and under free. Open weekends and Monday holidays 11 am – 5 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 N. Main St. (802) 672-3773. [www.historicsites.vermont.gov](http://www.historicsites.vermont.gov). *Through October 10.*

**WINDSOR.** Cider Hill Gardens & Gallery. Come and explore our gardens. 10 am – 5 pm, Fri-Sun in October and November. 1747 Hunt Rd. (802) 674-6825. [www.garymilk.com](http://www.garymilk.com). [www.ciderhillgardens.com](http://www.ciderhillgardens.com).

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

## MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

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

**BENNINGTON.** The Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont. Museum shop. Admission is \$2 for children three and older, \$4 for adults and \$10 for families. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 pm. 212 Union St. at the corner of Valentine St. (802) 681-3767. [www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com](http://www.dollhouseandtoymuseumofvermont.com).

**BENNINGTON.** Bennington Center for the Arts. Permanent collections, theater productions, workshops. Adults \$9, seniors & students \$8, families \$20, under 12 are free. Open Wed-Mon, 10 am – 5 pm. Bennington Center for the Arts, 44 Gypsy Lane. (802) 442-7158. [www.thebennington.org](http://www.thebennington.org).

**BENNINGTON.** Bennington Museum. Founding documents, fine art, Bennington Pottery, the 1924 Wasp Touring Car, Vermont furniture, and the Bennington Flag—one of America's oldest flags. Lectures, workshops, concerts, films, and the George Aiken Wildflower Trail. Adults \$10, seniors and students over 18 \$9. Admission is never charged for younger students, museum members, or to visit the museum shop. Open 10 am – 5 pm every day except Wednesdays. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. [www.benningtonmuseum.org](http://www.benningtonmuseum.org).

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

**BRANDON.** Unique Art Exhibit—The Creative World of Stephanie Stouffer. See many of the Belmont, VT artist's internationally known images. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Dr. (802) 247-4295. [www.cmacvt.org](http://www.cmacvt.org). *Through October 29.*

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

**BURLINGTON.** ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center. Admission: \$9.50 adults, \$7 ages 3-17, \$8 seniors and students, under 3 free. Monday-Sunday, 10 am – 5 pm. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center at Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, One College St. (877) 324-6385. [info@echovermont.org](mailto:info@echovermont.org). [www.echovermont.org](http://www.echovermont.org).

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

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

**FERRISBURGH.** Rokeby. From 1793 to 1961, Rokeby was home to four generations of Robinsons — a remarkable family of Quakers, farmers, abolitionists, artists, and authors. \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$8 students, children under 5 are free. Admission free on Tues afternoons 1-5 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rt. 7. [rokeby.org](http://rokeby.org). *Through late October.*

**GLOVER.** Bread & Puppet Theater & Museum. One of the oldest, nonprofit, self-supporting theatrical companies in the country. A massive accumulation of the puppets, masks, paintings and graphics of the Bread and Puppet Theater, housed in a 150-year-old barn in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. One of the largest collections of some of the biggest puppets and masks in the world. Performances and tours. Bread & Puppet Theater & Museum, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. [www.breadandpuppet.org](http://www.breadandpuppet.org).

**HUNTINGTON.** Birds of Vermont Museum. Features over 500 carved wooden birds, representing 259 species. Adult \$7, senior \$6, child 3-17 \$3.50. Daily 10 am – 4 pm. The Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. [birdsofvermont.org](http://birdsofvermont.org). *Through October 31.*

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

## Free Calendar Listings

Send us your community or church events & we'll list them free of charge in our calendar.

### Vermont Country Sampler

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# Vermont Country Calendar

**MANCHESTER.** Visit Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home. Admission: \$18 adults, \$5 children 6-14, under 6 free. Open daily 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Hildene, off Rt. 7A, just south of the village. (802) 362-1788. [www.hildene.org](http://www.hildene.org).

**MARLBORO.** Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. Adults \$5, seniors \$3, children 5-12 \$2, kids 4 and under are free. Open 10 am - 4 pm weekdays, 10 am - 5 pm weekends. Rt. 9, Hogback Mountain. (802) 464-0048. [museum@sover.net](mailto:museum@sover.net). [www.vermontmuseum.org](http://www.vermontmuseum.org).

**MIDDLEBURY.** Middlebury College Museum of Art. Free. Tuesday through Friday 10 am-5 pm, Saturday and Sunday 12-5 pm, closed Mondays. 72 Porter Field Rd. (802) 443-3168. [museum.middlebury.edu](http://museum.middlebury.edu).

**MIDDLEBURY.** Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont. The oldest chartered community history museum in the United States, welcoming visitors since 1882. Adults \$5, youth 6-18 \$3, senior \$4.50, family \$ 12, under 6 free. Open Tues-Sat 10 am - 5 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, One Park St. (803) 388-2117. [henrysheldonmuseum.org](http://henrysheldonmuseum.org).

**MIDDLEBURY.** Vermont Folklife Center. Free admission. Open Tues-Sat 10 am - 5 pm. Vermont Folklife Center, 88 Main St. (802) 388-4964. [info@vermontfolklifecenter.org](mailto:info@vermontfolklifecenter.org). [www.vermontfolklifecenter.org](http://www.vermontfolklifecenter.org).

**MIDDLEBURY.** The National Museum of the Morgan Horse. Exhibits. Gift shop full of Morgan horse t-shirts, books, and posters. Free admission, donations accepted. Open Thursday & Friday 1-5 pm, Saturday 10 am - 5 pm. The National Museum of the Morgan Horse, 34 Main St. (802) 388-1639. [www.morganhorse.com/museum](http://www.morganhorse.com/museum).

**MONTPELIER.** Vermont History Museum & Bookstore. Adults: \$5; families: \$12; students, children, seniors: \$3; members and children under 6: free. Open 9 am - 4 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Pavilion Building, 109 State St. (802) 828-2291. [vhs-info@state.vt.us](mailto:vhs-info@state.vt.us). [www.vermonthistory.org](http://www.vermonthistory.org).

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

**PROCTOR.** Vermont Marble Museum and Marble Gift Shop. Admission. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. Vermont Marble Museum, 52 Main St. (800) 427-1396. [www.vermontmarblemuseum.org](http://www.vermontmarblemuseum.org). *May 21 - October 31.*

**QUECHEE.** Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Adults: \$14.50, seniors (62 plus) \$13.50, youth (4-17): \$12.50, children 3 and under free. Open April 9-October 31: 10 am - 5 pm. November 1-April 8: 10 am - 4 pm. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 6565 Woodstock Rd. (802) 359-5000. [www.vinsweb.org](http://www.vinsweb.org).

**RANDOLPH.** Ceramic Exhibit: "Sleight of Hand". Thursdays 10 am - 5 pm, Fridays 10 am - 6 pm, and Saturdays 12-6 pm. Chandler Gallery, 71-73 Main St. (802) 431-0204. [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org). *Through November 6.*

**READING.** Art Exhibit. "Landscapes after Ruskin: Redefining the Sublime" which includes paintings, photographs and sculptures selected by Joel Sternfeld from the Hall Collection. Admission is free. Open weekends and Wednesdays by appointment. Also open August 26 and September 30 from 5-8 pm for a tour at your own pace and without a guide. Hall Art Foundation, 551 VT Rt. 106. (802) 952-1056. [www.hallartfoundation.org](http://www.hallartfoundation.org). *Through November 27.*

**ROCHESTER.** BigTown Gallery. Wed-Fri 10-5, Sat 12-5, Sun-Tues by appointment. 99 N. Main St. (802) 767-9670. [info@bigtowngallery.com](mailto:info@bigtowngallery.com). [bigtowngallery.com](http://bigtowngallery.com).

**RUTLAND.** Chaffee Downtown Art Center. Tuesday-Friday 12-6 pm, and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm. Chaffee Downtown Gallery, 75 Merchants Row. (802) 775-0062. [www.chaffeeartcenter.org](http://www.chaffeeartcenter.org).

**SAXTONS RIVER.** River Artisans Cooperative. Over 50 craftspeople keep the shelves stocked with a wide variety of handcrafted items. Year round, weekdays from 12-5 pm and weekends from 10 am - 3 pm. The River Artisans Cooperative, in the center of Saxtons River on Main Street, across from the Saxtons River Inn, 26B Main St. (802) 869-2099. [www.riverartisans.com](http://www.riverartisans.com).

**SAXTONS RIVER.** Main Street Arts. Exhibits, concerts, workshops, lectures, and classes for adults, teens, and children. Something for every interest. 35 Main St. (802) 869-2960. [www.mainstreetarts.org](http://www.mainstreetarts.org).

**SHELBURNE.** Shelburne Museum. Renowned for its collection of American folk art and quilts. Admission: adult \$24, ages 5-17 \$5, under 5 free. 10 am - 5 pm daily. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. [shelburnemuseum.org](http://shelburnemuseum.org).

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

**SPRINGFIELD.** Gallery at the VAULT. A Vermont State Craft Center featuring fine art and hand-crafted gifts from over 125 local and regional artists and craftsmen. Tuesday - Saturday 11 am - 5 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111. [galleryvault.org](http://galleryvault.org).

**SPRINGFIELD.** Exhibit: Signs of Life. Contemporary paintings and intricate collages. Mary Welsh's collages are made of found materials; Roger Sandes's paintings look like silk and feel like eggshell. The Great Hall at One Hundred River Street. (802) 885-3061. Facebook.com/ GreatHallSpringfield. *October 14 through April 21.*

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

**ST. JOHNSBURY.** The Stephen Huneck Gallery at Dog Mountain and Dog Chapel. Free. Summer hours: Gallery open seven days a week. Dog Chapel open seven days a week from dawn to dusk. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. off Spaulding Rd. (800) 449-2580. [contact@dogmt.com](mailto:contact@dogmt.com). [www.dogmt.com](http://www.dogmt.com).

**WEST RUTLAND.** Carving Studio and Sculpture Center Gallery. Monday-Friday, 10 am-1 pm, or by appointment. 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. [carvingstudio.org](http://carvingstudio.org).

**WHITE RIVER JUNCTION.** Russian Exhibit. We take on a comet called "67P" and the Soviet space dogs, Belka and Strelka. Open Thurs-Sun 1-6 pm. Parking adjacent to the rear of the building. Located at the Main Street Museum, 58 Bridge St., Studio 6, near the underpass. (802) 356-2776. [www.mainstreetmuseum.org](http://www.mainstreetmuseum.org).

**WINDSOR.** American Precision Museum. The Museum preserves the heritage of the mechanical arts, celebrates the ingenuity of our mechanical forebears, and explores the effects of their work on our everyday lives. The American Precision Museum, housed in the original Robbins & Lawrence Armory, now holds the largest collection of historically significant machine tools in the nation. Adults \$8.50, students \$5, children under 6 free, families \$20. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm. American Precision Museum, 196 Main St. (802) 674-5781. [americamprecision.org](http://americamprecision.org).

**WOODSTOCK.** ArtisTree Community Art Center. Exhibits, classes, music, special events. Tues 11 am - 8 pm, Wed-Sat 11 am - 4 pm. Mount Tom Building, 1206 Rt. 12. (802) 457-3500. [www.artistreevt.org](http://www.artistreevt.org).

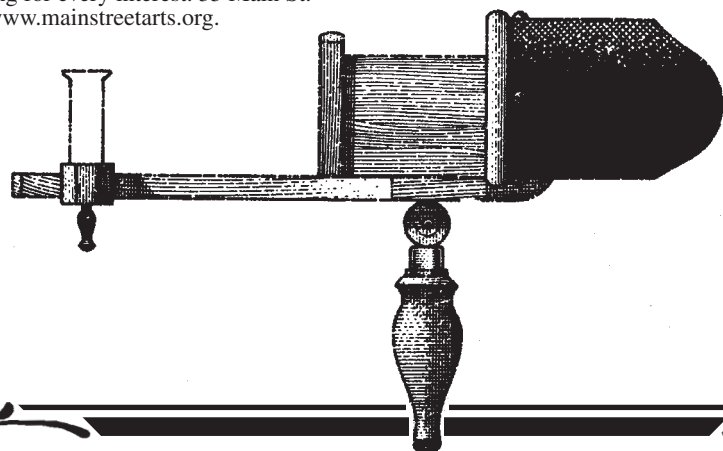
**WOODSTOCK.** Billings Farm & Museum. Adults \$14, age 62 & up \$13, children ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. Open May 1 through October 31, 10 am - 5 pm. Open weekends November through February and Christmas and vacation weeks, 10 am - 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. [www.billingsfarm.org](http://www.billingsfarm.org).

## HORSEBACK RIDING & WAGON RIDES

**BRATTLEBORO.** Fair Winds Farm Wagon Rides. Half-hour reserved horse-drawn rides through fields and woods. Adults \$12, kids 3-12 \$8, minimum \$75, additional after 5 pm. Visit our farm store. Fair Winds Farm, 511 Upper Dummerston Rd., off Rt. 30. (802) 254-9067. [fairwinds@fairwindsfarm.org](http://fairwinds@fairwindsfarm.org). [www.fairwindsfarm.org](http://www.fairwindsfarm.org).

**LONDONDERRY.** Wagon Rides at Taylor Farm. On the hour on the weekends. Rides last 45 minutes. Our wagons each hold up to 10 adults. Prices: \$20 for everyone over age 7, \$10 for ages 7-3, under 2 free; private rides \$150 for 1-5 people, \$200 for 6-10 people. Mid-week private rides available on request with advance notice. Taylor Farm, 825 Rt. 11. By reservation only, call (802) 824-5690. [www.taylorfarmvermont.com](http://www.taylorfarmvermont.com).

**WILMINGTON.** Scenic Horseback Trail Rides. \$25/40 minutes. Children over 6 can ride alone. Year round seven days a week by reservation. Flames Stables, Rt. 100 south. (802) 464-8329.



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## Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival



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## GREEN MOUNTAIN BIKES

Rochester, VT

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## An Apple for Every Taste Bud

by Burr Morse

Back when I was young, Vermont agriculture included a very healthy apple industry, second only to dairy farming. We had three major apple growing areas: the Champlain Islands, Western Addison County, and down in the southern Vermont towns of Dummerston and Putney. I well remember visiting my mother's people down in Putney and seeing those Vermont hills rolling out seemingly endless rows of apple trees with folks employed year-round pruning, picking, packing, and processing everything "apple". These days it seems the only "apple economy" worth a shake of salt has to do with iPhones, iPads, and MacBooks!

The turn of events responsible for this Vermont apple crunch seems to be as numerous as varieties of, well, apples (7500

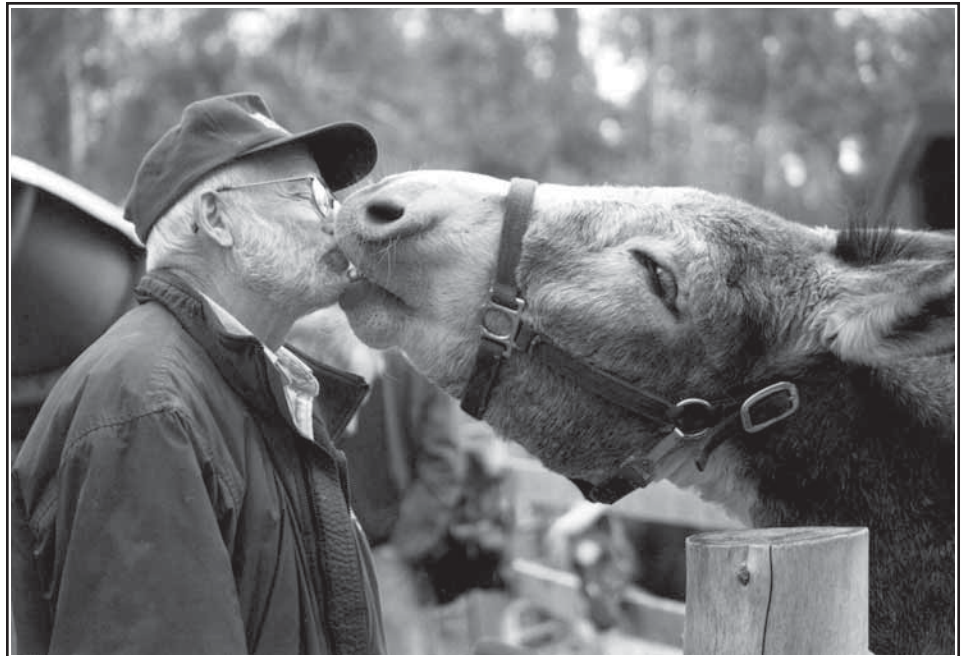
worldwide). I've found that a major villain has been the "new world order" of retailing. Most major US retailers these days have bushels of love for buying cheap but a desire to support local farmers that comes by the quarter peck—they'll go anywhere for a deal. In fact nationwide, there are now only ten buyers buying half the US crop of apples and offering rock-bottom prices, take 'em or leave 'em. The other half of the apple crop is being sold on a retail level by orchardists who still offer not only cream-of-the-crop fruit but well polished creativity. Whether it's hard cider soirées, wagon rides to the orchard, or pie contests, they'll do anything to garner their slice of the market.

There's no apple guy more creative than Ray Allen from Allenholm Farm up in South

Hero, VT. The other day I had occasion to visit Ray's place. At early blush, his neat little store reminded me of my own...maple syrup for sale, lots of it, jams, jellies, and maple creamees that I would find, rival my own. Although the store, the place where sales are rung up, is the muscle system of a small business, it's what brings folks to the store that's the "heart beat". In Allenholm's case, the heart beat is its "everything apple" image plus more. As the present owner of the 146 year old farm, Ray responded to this recent apple "crunch" with a "By God, I'll show them" attitude.

**"There's no apple guy more creative than Ray Allen from Allenholm Farm up in South Hero, VT."**

He started making Papa Ray's Home-made Pies, with his own apples, raspberries, blueberries, and tart cherries. Then came his yard full of farm animals. The day I visited, I found that if it bleated, brayed, clucked, or mooed, it was there. Representing the "moos" was a huge Scottish Highlander cow named Fergy. Fergy is an 18-year-old whose Allenholm job consists of split-second gulping whole ice cream cones full of grain...you gotta buy at least three grain cones for entertainment this good! My favorite Allenholm animal was Willy the donkey, though. Willy has an open range privilege which is totally based in practicality—you see, Willy rarely ever moves. When I first saw her, she resembled an ancient taxidermal donkey placed right in front of their main entrance. A pat, however, proved two things: an adequate degree of body heat and a deadpan personality that could rival Rodney Dangerfield's. In fact,



Papa Ray Allenholm gets a kiss from Willie, the orchard mascot at Allenholm Farm in South Hero, VT.

the only thing that drew a sign of response from old Willy was when Ray produced a peppermint candy and instructed me to hold it in my lips and stand up straight. Willy nonchalantly reached up for the candy and I suddenly received one of the the softest, most sensual kisses of my life! Ray stood by with his own deadpan: "Congratulations Burr" he said. "You've just kissed my (long pause) donkey."

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit that day. As I got in my car to leave, other folks streamed in for a world-class Allenholm visit. Backing out of my space in their small parking lot, I envisioned a time coming up shortly when a hundred cars will be parked on the side of South Hero's South Street, clear to the village. Those cars will be bringing happy people to pick their own apples, proving Ray Allen a survivor in the world of Vermont's

most crunchy enterprise, "appletainment", if you will, and it's worth much more than the price of admission.

Allenholm Farm is located at 111 South St. off Rt. 2 in South Hero, VT. It is open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until December 24th, closed Thanksgiving Day. They have pick-your-own apples and a farm store with plenty of apples, cider, pies, crabapple jelly, maple products, and all sorts of Vermont gifts. Come visit the farm animals and enjoy the orchard. (802) 372-5566. [www.allenholm.com](http://www.allenholm.com).

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### Tunbridge, VT

## 28th Annual Vermont Sheep And Wool Festival

The 28th Annual Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival will be held on the weekend of Oct 1 & 2 at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds in Tunbridge, VT. The festival is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Central to the Festival is a marketplace of vendors, including farmers and artisans, offering fiber for handspinning and felting, yarns, patterns, needles & hooks, buttons, books and dyes. Also on offer will be a wide variety of equipment and supplies for spinning, weaving, knitting, crocheting, felting and other fiber arts. Handcrafted garments, accessories and household items will be available along with baskets, soaps and other handmade and farm raised products.

The Fleece Show & Sale will highlight top quality fleeces from a variety of animals. Licensed local farm producers will feature meat, cheese and more.

The Animal Barn includes sheep, goats, llamas, alpacas and angora rabbits. This is a great opportunity to talk directly to producers about raising fiber animals. The Cashmere Goat Association will hold its 2016 CGA North American Cashmere Goat Show in our Riverside Barns.

Fiber classes take place beginning Friday, September 30, at the Tunbridge

Town Hall and will include spinning, felting, knitting and weaving. For a full description of classes, teacher biographies and online registration, visit our website.

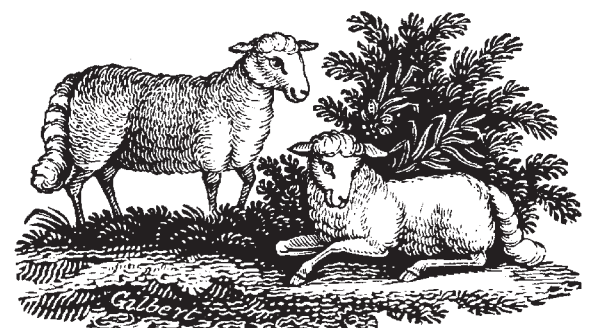
For those interested in showing off their skills, this year's contests will offer a chance to compete for ribbons and prizes in Fiber Arts categories as well as alternative categories in photography, drawing, painting and poetry. Contest rules and entry forms are available on our website.

Shepherd Workshops and Vendor Demos allow vendors, farmers and fiber artists the chance to share their knowledge and skills. Music by Royalton Community Radio provides a background rhythm as visitors wander from building to building and visit outdoor demonstrations including the popular Border Collie herding demos and sheep shearing with Jim McRae.

Food vendors will offer delicious local food featuring everything from lamb, pizza, soups, salads, sandwiches and desserts to the best maple creamees.

Admission to the Festival is \$6 a day, \$5 for seniors and \$1 for children under 12.

For more information call Naomi LaBarr at (802) 685-3267. Visit [vtsheepandwoolfest.com](http://vtsheepandwoolfest.com).





# Cajun Band BeauSoleil Performs at Chandler Music Hall

BeauSoleil, one of the leading Cajun bands in the world, plays on the Chandler Main Stage on October 15th, at 7:30 pm.

For the past 37 years, BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet has been making some of the most potent and popular Cajun music on the planet. Born out of the rich Acadian ancestry of its members, and created and driven by bandleader Michael Doucet's spellbinding fiddle playing and soulful vocals, BeauSoleil is notorious for bringing even the most staid audience to its feet. BeauSoleil's distinctive sound derives from the distilled spirits of New Orleans jazz, blues rock, folk, swamp pop, Zydeco, country and bluegrass, captivating listeners from the Jazz and Heritage Festival in New Orleans, to Carnegie Hall, then all the way across the pond to Richard Thompson's Meltdown Festival in England.

Since becoming the first Cajun band to win a Grammy with *L'amour Ou La Folie* (Traditional Folk Album—1998) and then a second Grammy in 2010 for *Live at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival*, BeauSoleil has garnered many accolades, including twelve Grammy nominations, the latest being their 2009 release *Alligator Purse*.

They are regular guests on Garrison Keillor's National Public Radio show *A Prairie Home Companion*, where Keillor has dubbed them "the best Cajun band in the world," and their music is so integral to the Cajun culture that they have been featured on the New Orleans-based hit HBO program *Treme*. Critics unanimously agree that it is "bon temps, every time they play," (*New York Times*).

Though fascinated by music of all kinds, Michael Doucet is defined by his deep connection with, and dedication to, the music of the French-Cajun culture. A Folk Arts Apprenticeship from the National Endowment of the Arts spurred Doucet to seek out every surviving Cajun musician and learn from them in person; he studied genre fathers Dewey Balfa, Dennis McGee, Sady Courville, Luderin Darbone, Varise Connor, Canaray Fontenot and many others, even inspiring some to return to publicly performing. In 2005 the National Endowment of the Arts again recognized Doucet's integral involvement with the Cajun world, awarding him the esteemed National Heritage Fellowship as well as the United States Artists Fellowship in 2007.

Doucet has gained acclaim by developing his own flavor of Cajun music and he and his band represent many 'firsts' for the genre. Early on they focused on the lead and twin fiddle styles of the originals of Acadian folk music over the more popular 1920s adoption of the German diatonic accordion.



BeauSoleil avec Michael Doucet is coming to Chandler Music Hall in Randolph, VT.

They performed with the communal integrity characteristic of early Cajun music, choosing to perform unplugged like a group of friends playing together in a Louisiana living room, rather than plugging in. They broke ground as the first band to feature an acoustic guitar as the lead instrument, replacing the lead accordion or steel guitar. They were the first

to include the frottoir, the rub board borrowed from Cajun music's Zydeco cousin, and they were the first to feature a female vocalist. All of these innovations were fueled by Doucet's determination to rejuvenate Cajun and Zydeco music, breathing into it a new relevance.

Randolph, VT

## Singer-Songwriter Greg Brown Comes to Randolph

Singer-Songwriter Greg Brown will be performing at Chandler Music Hall in Randolph, VT on October 28th at 7:30 pm.

It is a great honor to have Greg Brown perform at Chandler as a part of the 2016-2017 Main Stage Series. Brown has been writing songs, touring and performing since the 80's, and has recorded over two dozen albums. Brown is a storyteller who moves his audiences with his warmth, humor and deeply human musical vision.

With roots in small town Iowa, Greg Brown's rich folk style is heavily influenced by his origins. His mother played electric guitar, his

grandfather was a banjo player and his father was a holy roller preacher. Brown's songwriting has been lauded by many, and his songs have been covered by Willie Nelson, Carlos Santana, Joan Baez, Mary Chapin Carpenter and more.

At the personal request of Jeff Bridges, Brown also contributed songs for Bridges' Oscar-winning role in the film *Crazy Heart*. Rolling Stone's four-star review of *Further In* called Brown "a wickedly sharp observer of the human condition." 1997's album *Slant 6 Mind* (Red House Records) earned Brown his second Grammy nomination.

Brown has a strong ties to

Vermont, having performed here many times over the years. Most recently, he recorded on Vermont-born songwriter Anais Mitchell's album *'Hometown'*. His deep and distinctive voice fits the role of Hades, and brings a sparkle of fame to the record.

Every Greg Brown performance is a unique experience. *The Live One*, an album released in 1995, proved to be a fan favorite capturing the humor, warmth, insights, and spirit of his legendary live shows.

This show is presented in part as a benefit for the Tom Sustic Fund which supports families with children with life-threatening conditions.

The fund has distributed approximately \$50,000 to families.

Tickets are \$26 for adults and seniors and \$11 for students and are available by calling the Chandler box office from 12 noon to 5 pm, Monday-Friday at (802) 728-6464 or buy online at [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org).

For more information on Greg Brown, visit [www.gregbrownmusic.org](http://www.gregbrownmusic.org).

Chandler Center for the Arts is located at 71-73 Main St., Randolph, VT. Chandler's Main Hall and galleries are handicapped accessible. For information call (802) 728-9878. [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org).

Chandler Center for the Arts is located at 71-73 Main St., Randolph, VT. Chandler's Main Hall and galleries are handicapped accessible. Box office hours: 12-5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1.5 hours before the show on the day of a performance. For tickets call (802) 728-6464. For information call (802) 728-9878. [www.chandler-arts.org](http://www.chandler-arts.org). For more info on BeauSoleil, visit [beausoleilmusic.com](http://beausoleilmusic.com).

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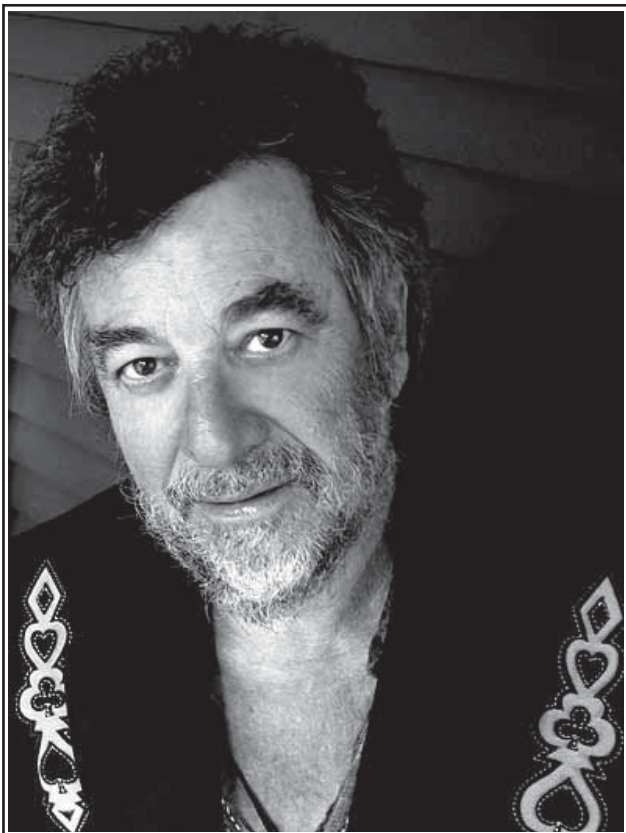
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## North Country Reflections

# Mellow Fruitfulness

by Judith Irven

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness!  
Close bosom friend of the maturing sun;

—John Keats: Ode to Autumn

A couple of weeks ago, as I was strolling past my veggie garden, this beautiful bunch of berries caught my eye. There it was—casually poking its head out from among the long grass at the edge of the woods.

I was captivated by the dramatic shape of the cluster, almost six inches long, as well as its ripening berries—from pure white to ruby red.

A quick look at the leaves suggested I was looking at some False Solomon's Seal (*Smilacina racemosa*).

### From flower to fruit: an amazing transformation

False Solomon's Seal, with a fluff of tiny white flowers at the end of a long stalk, is a familiar if somewhat mundane spring wildflower. So I was completely unprepared for its dramatic transformation into a bouquet of spectacular berries.

In springtime a variety of small bees and beetles love to visit these flowers, thus assisting in pollination. Months later the resulting berries will be enjoyed by a variety of birds, including ruffed grouse, as well as mice and other rodents, thus contributing to the sustenance of a number of creatures.

It is also said that, although not particularly tasty, the berries of False Solomon's Seal are edible for humans as well. But I am certainly not about to sample these or any other unknown berries I may come across!

### It's all a matter of perspective

Of course we gardeners love plants for their flowers! It is those beautiful blossoms that catch our eyes, contribute to our overall garden pictures and sometimes, create an aroma for our noses.

But if we look at things from the plant's perspective, those lovely flowers are merely the means to reach its desired end—which is to ensure its ova are pollinated and grow into viable seeds. After all, it's the seeds that will produce the next generation and thus continue the cycle of life for that plant species.

The flower is a signal, telling insects that there is nectar waiting inside. The unsuspecting insect seeks out the nectar and then visits other flowers. As it makes its rounds, the insect obligingly passing along some of the pollen to the next flower's ova.

Also, for the cycle of life to continue, not only must the ova be fertilized and grow into seeds, but those seeds need to be dispersed well beyond the parent plant, thereby expanding the territory of the species.

Some kinds of plants use the wind to distribute their seeds—as with the featherweight dandelion seeds or the maples' winged samara.

But many plants hide their seeds inside delicious fruits and berries, a subtle inducement for birds and mammals of all sizes to assist in the distribution of those seeds.



False Solomon's Seal with it's berries.

photo by Dick Conrad

The animal happily eats the berry and is nourished by it. Then, after the seeds pass right through its digestive system, the animal unwittingly spreads the seeds far and wide. It is a symbiotic relationship—the plant feeds the animal and the animal helps the plant disperse its seeds.

### Beautiful berries in the garden

I love to include plants with lovely fruit and berries in my garden. Not only do I enjoy looking at them but they also attract lots of different birds to stop in for a feast.

As the gardening year draws to a close, our native holly, the winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) is a star performer. Although their June flowers are completely inconspicuous, the drama comes in October when the bushes are covered with shiny-red berries.

As the leaves turn yellow the berries start to ripen. Soon the leaves fall to the ground—leaving the bare branches completely covered in berries. And, unless an eager crowd of robins discovers them first, those berries will remain on the bushes to create an extra-special holiday decoration.

Also, providing your soil is naturally acid, blueberries are a great garden plant. Not only do they produce the fruit that we all love to eat, but they are also a very attractive ornamental shrub which turns a delightful red color in the fall.

Some garden plants offer us the best of both worlds—first beautiful flowers and then luscious berries. Serviceberries, small trees that grow along the hedgerows of Vermont, are true harbingers of spring. Every year around the third week of April these little trees are covered with delicate white blossoms. And furthermore, with their diminutive size and delicate branches, they are perfect garden trees.

Serviceberries (species of *Amelanchier*) get their unusual name because they flower just as the ground fully thaws at the end of winter, a time when people can finally hold burial services for loved ones who died during the previous winter.

And by June those little trees are full of small fruit that entices all manner of birds to come for a meal. Hence their other name is Juneberries! Finally each fall the serviceberry leaves turn a lovely red and the season draws to a close.

Of course, everyone loves crab apples! For ten days in May each crab apple tree is a mass of flowers, in shades from pure white to deep pink, depending on the variety.

But, before you buy a new crab apple for your garden do a little research on the different varieties: in addition to beautiful flowers some of them also have lovely fruit. The handy reference book of trees and shrubs for Vermont gardens, *Landscape Plants for Vermont*, (available through

the UVM Master Gardener website) lists different varieties of crab apple and what color and size of fruit they produce.

Like the serviceberries, our native Wild Raisin Viburnum (*Viburnum cassinoides*) can be found growing wild along our hedgerows. And it too makes a delightful garden shrub. The Wild Raisin Viburnum has fluffy white flowers in late May which are nice enough. But what I really enjoy are the clusters of fruit—like small grapes—in late summer. And then something magical happens—the ripening fruit is discovered by the visiting cedar waxwings, who find it delicious. Thus the fruit is spread abroad by these lovely little birds.

There are many types of viburnums, and for a number of years they have been plagued by the Viburnum Leaf Beetle. But the good news is that research has shown that our native Wild Raisin Viburnum is among the least susceptible varieties of Viburnum. And indeed my shrubs (I have three) have never been attacked whereas a nearby American Cranberry Bush (*Viburnum trilobum*) is among the most susceptible and, after several successive years of defoliation by the beetles, it has now died. Check the Cornell website ([www.hort.cornell.edu/vlb/suscept.html](http://www.hort.cornell.edu/vlb/suscept.html)) for specifics.

Rugosa roses (*Rosa rugosa*) are indeed tough and rugged! Originally from Asia, today they flourish all along the coasts on Southern New England, where they are subject to almost continuous salt spray.

Their pink (and occasionally white) flowers are very pretty. And their abundant fruits—known as rose hips—are both lovely to look at and also an excellent source of Vitamin C. During the war-time rationing in England I remember my mother making Rose Hip Syrup for the vitamin C.

Today hybridizers have used Rugosa Roses as the basis for several lovely cultivated varieties—or cultivars—of garden roses. I am especially fond of one called 'Charles Albanel': its clear-pink fragrant flowers are transformed into lovely red fruit by the fall. It grows about three feet high and gradually expand into a nice clump about six feet across.

So, as you consider which plants you might want to include in next year's garden, give thought to including some that will give you lovely fruit as well as lovely flowers.

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

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

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Take a horse-drawn wagon ride to the Pumpkin Patch at Cedar Circle Farm in East Thetford, VT.

photo by Rori Kelleher

**East Thetford, VT**

**14th Annual Pumpkin Festival at Cedar Circle Farm**

Cedar Circle Farm will hold its annual Pumpkin Festival this year on Sunday October 9th from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Now in its fourteenth year, the Pumpkin Festival offers fun for the whole family with kids' activities, storytelling, live music, horse-drawn wagon rides, pumpkin picking, and an organic Good Food Concession.

Children's activities include storyteller/musicians the Swing Peepers in the Circle of Cedars Enchanted Forest playing three sets throughout the day. Live music will also feature two great Upper Valley bands: Off the Rails from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and the Stovepipe Mountain Band from 1-3 p.m. Children will love the live owls brought by VINS, face painting, educational activities, and crafts.

Be sure to arrive hungry! Lunch and dessert line will open at 10:30 a.m. with a delicious, farm-fresh meal

prepared by Alison and her crew in the kitchen. The fall menu will include pasture raised pulled pork tacos (vegetarian option also) with kitchen crafted krauts, seasonal organic soups and salads. Our pumpkin brownies are just one of the delicious desserts we'll be offering. We'll also have a new Kid's Plate this year and the NOFA wood-fired artisan pizza will return as well. The farmstand and coffee shop will be open until 5 p.m.

"There's always a great reason to visit the farm, Pumpkin Festival is one of the best reasons to come out the Cedar Circle Farm. We love that the festival brings so many of our community members together to celebrate the bounties of the season," stated CCF's education manager Eric Tadlock.

Raffle tickets will be sold to raise funds for CSA shares for limited income Vermonters through the Farm Share Program which is subsidized

by NOFA-VT and Cedar Circle Farm.

The Pumpkin Festival is a "Green Event" with a waste recovery station, which has yielded only two bags of trash for more than 1500 visitors in previous years. Bring a plate, utensils and cup to help reduce waste.

Parking is available in designated fields for \$10 per car, and carpooling is encouraged. The fee covers all the events and entertainment—only food is charged a modest extra fee. No pets please.

Cedar Circle Farm is a

forty-acre certified organic farm, dedicated to "growing for a sustainable future" through the production of certified organic vegetables and berries, bedding plants, and quality flowers and herbs.

The farm offers a CSA program, harvest festivals, cooking classes, and guided educational farm tours.

Cedar Circle Farm is located on Pavillion Rd. along the Connecticut River, just off of Rt. 5 in East Thetford, VT. For details and directions, go to CedarCircleFarm.org.



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# North Country Book News

Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

## It's Fall, Back-to-School and Halloween!

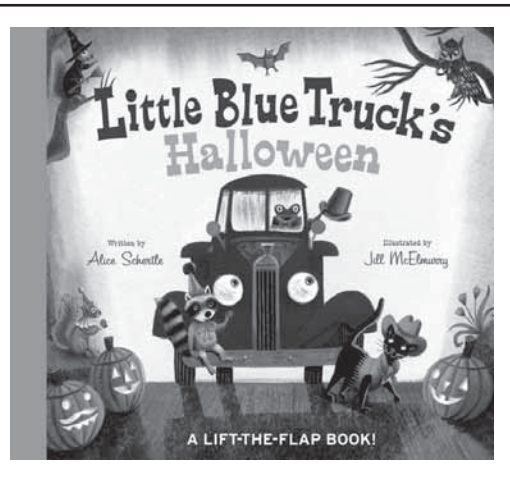
To see just how black cats are as vital to Halloween as pumpkins and witches on a broom join *Jenny's Moonlight Adventure* by Esther Averill (\$12.95, *New York Review of Books, Children's Collection, www.nyrb.com*). Jenny may be just another member of the 12-member Cat Club of mixed breeds about to celebrate Halloween when she suddenly finds herself in the role of returning the lost flute belonging to Madame Butterfly, a Persian cat who is bedridden with a paw injury. However, en route she is captured by a gang of street dogs, but our Jenny cleverly escapes and gets the flute delivered. Grateful Madame Butterfly, very happy to get her precious flute back, remarks "How I have been longing for it. I was afraid I had lost it. Now I'm sure I'll get well."

The story is illustrated with the author's charming drawings of the Cat Club shenanigans and the black cat Jenny with her bright red scarf.

Author Esther Averill (1902-1992) wrote and illustrated her first book about the red-scarfed, mild-mannered cat, Jenny Lindsy, in 1944, modeling her after her own shy cat. This led to 12 more tales about Jenny and her friends. We are fortunate these books have been reprinted by The New York Review of Books as part of its series of classic children's stories.

See how a whole array of barnyard of animals get together for a costume party in

*Little Blue Truck's Halloween* by Alice Schertle and illustrated by Jill McElmowry (\$12.99, *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, www.hmhc.com*). In this charming 'lift-a-flap' larger board book a



blue truck driven by top-hatted toad picks up brightly costumed and masked animals for the trip to a Halloween party. Readers must guess what the mystery animal is under a flap carefully interwoven in the artist's work. The entourage includes a duck, sheep, cow, pig, hen with a baby chick and a horse. The toad driver later covers the truck up as a ghost. Lots of other animals show up at the party. See lots of jack-o-lanterns and goodies to eat!

Frosty nights will be with us soon so it's the right time to decide which flowers should be brought in for the winter. If you are keen on saving them all you will enjoy reading *Saving Kate's Flowers* by Cindy Sommer and illustrated by Laurie Allen Klein (\$9.95, *Arbordale Publishing, www.arbordalepublishing.com*) about a family of rabbits whose daughter Kate decides the whole flower garden (annuals and perennials) must be potted and brought in. While her mother is busy on the phone Kate does just that, but we sadly learn later the father is seriously allergic to flowers, and they must go. The story has a happy ending as the plants are given to neighbors and even to some animals that spend the winter underground! In addition to large appealing illustrations the book has information on plant parts, their life cycles, flower

identification and how to pot plants. Readers will learn to identify black-eye Susans, geraniums, snapdragons, impatiens, marigolds and goldenrod.

Summer is over and school has started for returning and new students. Learning the school routine might be hard for some kids. Being accused of being slothful is one thing, but what if you are a sloth and that's just who you are? When you read *Score One for the Sloths* by Helen Lester and illustrated by Lynn Munsinger (\$8.99, *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, www.hmhc.com*) you can't help but admire the seven sloths at Sleepy Valley Sloth School. The sloths sleep through classes, barely get through a three-hour lunch of berries at the slotheteria, then nap through study hall and even recess. One day a new sloth comes to school named Sparky, who is perky and full of vim and vigor, and drives the other sloths crazy. Yet as the story unfolds Sparky will ingeniously save the day for the sloths when the school passes an inspection by a boar representing the Society for Organizing Sameness. The sloths come awake enough to recite the poem they've known since babies: "The way of the sloth is gentle and kind. It hangs from a tree with nothing in mind. It doesn't make faces, or throw fits, or holler. It never gets heated under the collar. It's surely no bother, that's easy to see. It just hangs around, contented to be." It's good to be yourself, whoever that may be.

Back-to-school may not be a suitable place to find quiet and peace of mind as our hero finds out in *Charlotte and the Quiet*

by Deborah Sosin and illustrated by Sara Woolley (\$16.95, *Plum Blossom Books, Parallax Press, www.parallax.org*). Anyone bothered by too much noise (at any age and any place) will relate to this young girl's reaction to the TV bellowing and blaring, school lunchroom trays clattering and crashing, and the constant noise all around. But Charlotte does find peace of mind by accident one day when her dog Otto gets loose in a park and chases a squirrel. Charlotte ends up under tree trying to catch her breath. Making rhythmic 'hoooo and ahhhh' sounds she discovers the stillness and quiet that is in each one of us when needed—which gets her serenely through the noise-filled days ahead.

Parallax Press is a nonprofit publisher, founded and inspired by Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh.

The first apple dropping on its own from a certain tree marks the opening of this touching family story *Applesauce Weather* by Helen Frost and illustrated by Amy June Bates (\$14.99, *Candlewick Press, www.candlewick.com*) told in little, blank verses resembling sets in a play. This is the year Uncle Arthur returns to visit the farm, but for the first time without Aunt Lucy, his wife of many years who has died. His niece and nephew Faith and Peter notice immediately he has lost that twinkle in his eye and seems reluctant to resume his role as family storyteller. Faith's love and patience and Peter's antics over his growing interest in a girl next door encourage their uncle to start telling interesting stories again, especially about the old days when Peddler Joe would visit with his cart full of "ropes and marbles, gumdrops and gobstoppers, Cracker Jack, licorice sticks and root-beer barrels." Learn, too, how Peddler Joe may be a key player in Uncle Arthur's missing finger. This is an enjoyable storybook for children of all ages during applesauce weather (which is right about now).

If you crave a different kind of book extolling beautiful, colorful fall leaves, then leaf through *My Leaf Book* by Monica Wellington (\$16.99, *Penguin RandomHouse, www.penguin.com/young readers*). The artist's own unique graphic style presents fall leaves in a new, eye-catching way. She also introduces us to leaves we may not be used to seeing in our fall canopy: ginkgo, honey locust, linden, cherry and sassafras. More familiar leaves like oak, maple and willow get equal space on large full color pages. Readers will be inspired to create with leaves including leaf rubbings, prints and leaf books using a handy how-to bonus at the book's end.

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## Horace Greeley Writers' Symposium October 22nd

The 14th Annual Horace Greeley Writers' Symposium will be held on Saturday, October 22nd, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the United Baptist Church on the Green, in East Poultney, VT.

The Horace Greeley Writers' Symposium is a celebration of Horace Greeley's life. The symposium explores the art of writing as presented by publishers and writers in the fields of literature, poetry, philosophy, and history.

This year's keynote speaker is David Elliott, the author of many books for young people, including *And Here's to You!* Featured presenters are Hope Ferguson, freelance

writer; David Mook, writer and poet; and Jean Yeager, blogger and tweeter. This event draws writers and authors from across New York and New England to Poultney every year.

Registration is \$75, with a special student rate of \$20. Registration is available online at [www.horacegreeleyfoundation.org](http://www.horacegreeleyfoundation.org) or at local businesses. Registration will be available at the event as well.

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## Children's Book Review

### The Tale of Kitty-in-Boots

by Beatrix Potter

The author of the world-reknown *Tale of Peter Rabbit* left behind an unfinished manuscript about a mischievous cat on-the-hunt. Now coinciding with the 150th anniversary of Beatrix Potter's birth, her charming story, *The Tale of Kitty-in-Boots* illustrated by Quentin Blake (\$20, *Penguin Random House, www.penguinrandomhouse.com*) has been published for the first time. The book includes an audio CD of the story read by Helen Mirren.

In this story our poacher-hunter-cat gets into all kinds of trouble while prowling around the countryside at night. Behaving like a 'loose cannon' Kitty has an awkward air-gun loaded with pellets that misfires or her shots hit sticks and stones and not mice. Kitty at one point is even disarmed by two ferrets.

That is scary enough, but nothing like being caught in

Mr. Tod the fox's leg-hold trap. Who will rescue her? See how our animal-caring author cleverly uses a hedgehog to free the wayward cat!

The treasured blue-coated Peter Rabbit also joins in the mischief. Although he's somewhat older and slower, he is still agile enough to drive off the ferrets.

Beatrix Potter (1866-1943) published her first book, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* in 1902 and went on to publish 22 more tales and collections of rhymes about rabbits as well as eight other books about animals.

An avid conservationist (ahead of her time) she purchased scenic and valuable farmland that later was put into a National Trust.

Today more than two million of her "little books" are sold globally every year with *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* selling more than 45 million copies since 1902.

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# A Bounty of Winter Vegetables!

Disappointed now that summer gardens with their seemingly endless fresh bounty have to be put to bed and replaced by a diet mostly of cold weather root vegetables?

Not so, says Andrea Chessman, author of *Recipes from the Root Cellar—270 Fresh Ways to Enjoy Winter Vegetables* (\$18.95, Storey Publishing, storey.com). The author of this 390-page recipe book says, “It is time for root vegetables to come out the cellar and be fully appreciated for the nutritional and flavor powerhouses that they are. Roast a rutabaga today!”

We learn the large rooted rutabaga started in eastern Europe in the 17th century, but got a bum rap as the ‘famine food’ of World War I. And the fact it was livestock food for the winter didn’t help its image.

Readers are advised on how 30 winter vegetables

can be roasted or prepared in other delicious ways in 270 recipes written up so enthusiastically that any would-be cook or chef will say “I’ve got to try that.”

But what about something like those cabbagey-tasting Brussel sprouts that keep growing even with snow on the ground? Andrea has 14 ways to prepare them with chicken or duck, in salads, roasted, pan-seared or sautéed. As with other so-called ‘humble’ vegetables, she says, their unruly flavor can be tamed by roasting.

Her book discusses and has recipes for a wide variety of vegetables plus dried beans. They are grouped by families: greens include Brussels spouts, red, savoy and Chinese cabbage, bok chop, collards, kale and mustard greens. Under onions we find garlic, leeks, white, green and yellow onions and shallots. Tubers include Jerusalem artichokes, various kinds of potatoes and sweet potatoes. Root vegetables such as beets, carrots, celery root, parsnips, rutabagas, salsify, kohlrabi and turnips including a whole page write-up on Vermont’s famous Gilfeather turnips. On the winter squash list are acorn, banana, buttercup, butternut, calabaza, delicata, hubbard,

pumpkin, red kuri, spaghetti, sweet dumpling and turban.

Background information is provided on each vegetable as well as tips on storage, advice on buying, preparation, cooking ideas and recipes.

The author’s favorite is salsify also known as oyster plant. “What could be better than a root vegetable that lasts and lasts in the root cellar and tastes like oysters even though it grew in my landlocked garden?” She said she planted her first crop some 30 years ago without success until she figured out salsify needs deep, loose loam, not clay soil. She describes it as a terrific vegetable with a taste a “cross between globe and Jerusalem artichokes.”

## Book Review by Charles Sutton

Andrea’s book is seasoned throughout with interesting and informative anecdotes. We learn about

burdock, a noxious weed with its surprisingly tasty edible taproot, used in Asia as a folk medicine and as a staple in macrobiotic diets. For our purposes it can be added to salads, soups, stews and stir-fries.

If you have a root cellar or cool basement she recommends growing Belgian endive (also known as witloof chicory) She says the plant has a bracing bitterness and a juicy texture, but cooking will mellow the bitterness.

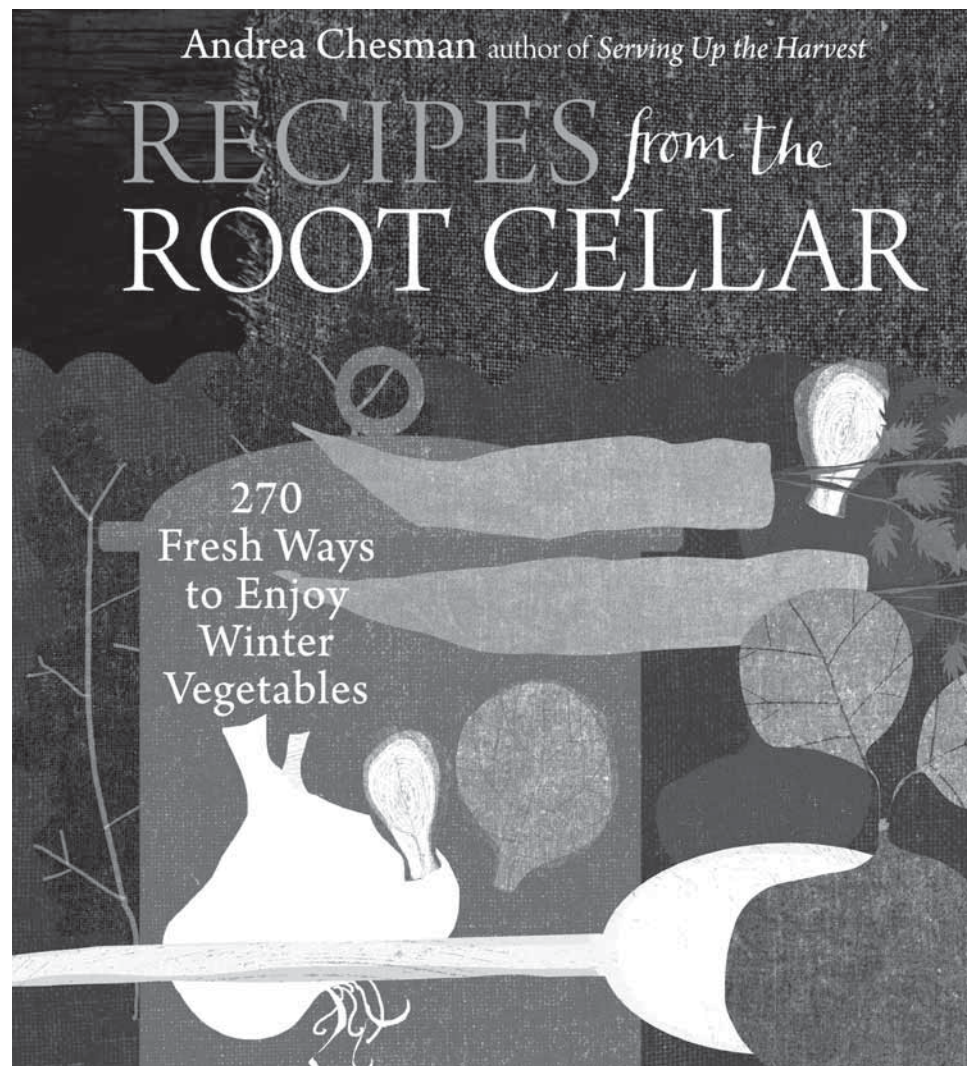
As with the author’s previous book, *Serving Up the Harvest*, many recipes are ethnic and represent the cuisines of China, Thailand, Japan, North Africa, South and Central America, Germany, France, Italy, Portugal and others countries. Examples follow.

**Salads & Pickled Vegetables:** Greek Lahanosalata featuring Cabbage, Feta Cheese and Kalamata Olives.

**Soups:** Borscht, Udon with Bok Choy and Tofu, and Portuguese Kale Soup.

**Simple Vegetable Dishes:** Maple Balsamic Root Vegetables, East-Meets-West Braised Cabbage, and Neeps and Tatties, a combination of mashed potatoes and turnips.

**Beans, Rice and Grains:** Black Beans in Chipotle Sauce, Curried Dahl made with Red



Lentils or Yellow Split Peas, and Mujdhara, a Syrian Rice and Lentil Classic.

**Vegetable Main Dishes:** Potato-Leek Frittata and Vegetarian Lo Main with Spicy Tofu.

**Main Dishes with Fish and Seafood:** Saffron Fish Stew, Thai Coconut Curry with Shrimp.

**With Poultry:** Chicken Stew with Root Vegetables and Chicken Paella.

**With Meat:** Reuben Pie and Braise Beef Rigatoni.

Andrea begins many of her dishes with

garlic. She writes that garlic was shunned by cooks in the 19th century because of its strong odor and they variously called it “trifle of Provence,” “stinking rose,” and “Bronx vanilla.” Today cooks can pick from 600 cultivars of garlic with flavors from mild to hot. In cooking, Chessman says, “don’t let it scorch or turn black.”

Andrea Chessman is a food writer and author of many cookbooks. She lives in an historic farmhouse in Vermont, where she finds and grows all the best winter vegetables.

## Cast-Iron Cooking

### Recipes & Tips for Getting the Most Out of Your Cast-Iron Cookware

by Rachael Narins

If you don’t have a cast-iron frying pan already then surely pick one up at the next yard sale or flea market. Not only are they valuable as collectibles, but they will cook food in a delicious and unforgettable manner.

To learn more about how well cast-iron cookware cooks, feast your eyes on *Cast-Iron Cooking* by Rachael Narins (\$12.95, Storey Publishing, www.storey.com).

We learn that cast-iron cookware can be used on any stove top or grill, in the oven and even over an open fire. Best all it is a natural alternative to chemical nonstick coated pans. My mother and father who loved to cook treasured their cast-iron pans especially the ones molded to make popovers and corn bread wedges.

The most popular iron cookware made are skillets, grills with raised ridges and the five or eight quart Dutch ovens. Other shapes include the aebleskiver pan for creating pop-over style doughnuts, outdoor kettles with legs and handle (up to 40 gallons), and griddles that rest over two or more burners on the stove.

Collector-cooks should look for skillets with unusual manufacture’s names like Griswold. Prices for ‘antique’ pans can run from \$20 to \$200. Author Rachael tells us that there is only one major manufacturer left in America, named Lodge.

“Happily,” she writes, “there are at least two very small craftsmen making pans to order: Finex in Portland, OR, and Borough Furnace in Syracuse, NY.”

If you buy a used cast-iron skillet or kettle chances are it will be rusty as its ‘seasoning’ is long gone. Don’t worry. Rachael has useful instructions how to bring the pan back to life if it isn’t warped or doesn’t have any cracks or major pitting.

Hints are given on the best way to get rust and grime off

(even if it is stubborn) and she notes that if you are interested in trying a natural method. “There is always molasses,” which is mixed one part to nine parts water for a rust remover. This is finished off with a rinsing and salt scrub.

To properly care for your cast-iron you should follow instructions for seasoning the the pans by lightly treating them with an organic vegetable oil to create a nonstick surface. Once oiled the pan only has to be heated in a 350-degree oven for an hour and then wiped.

Her recommendations for cast iron care is simple and sensible—like not putting the pan in a dishwasher or microwave or storing food in one in the freezer. One must also always be careful exposing the iron pan to any water.

She says avoid using acidic foods, such as wine and tomatoes, for prolonged periods unless the pan is well seasoned.” Acid reacts to iron, causing discoloration and off-tasting and even pitting.”

One of the advantages cited for cooking in cast-iron is that it can withstand high heat which in turn creates a desirable browning and crisping.

She offers 40 recipes where this crispy effect can be readily seen in pan-seared pecan-crusting fish, salmon cakes, pan pizza, flatbreads, fried chicken with spices, Korean chicken, and brick chicken with sage.

Each recipe is accompanied with a beautiful, full-page illustration with many showing the prepared dish still in the skillet. Among the eye-catchers are oven-style s’mores, a graham cracker treat); sausage & kale with lentils; and Greek spanakopita with pine nuts.

The author is a food writer and chef residing in Santa Monica, CA. She is a cofounder of Chicks with Knives, a catering service that puts on suppers in people’s homes.

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Moose are more likely to be crossing roadways at this time of year, especially after dark or early in the morning. photo courtesy of VT Fish & Wildlife

## Be Alert to Avoid Moose on the Highway

Drivers need to be alert and cautious because moose will be on the move, according to the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department.

Moose are more likely to be crossing roadways at this time of year, especially after dark or early in the morning. The peak of their breeding season is late September and the first two weeks of October.

"Seeing a moose is one of the most treasured wildlife memories for many Vermonters, an experience they will take with them the rest of their lives," said Vermont Fish & Wildlife Commissioner Louis Porter. "We want you to enjoy

seeing them from a distance. But keep in mind that moose are very active this time of year, and they will be crossing highways more often."

Moose are a threat to motorists, but there are measures you can take to avoid hitting them, according to Fish & Wildlife.

- Always be aware of the danger—moose cross the road randomly, as well as at their regular crossings.

- Increase your roadside awareness and reduce your speed when you see MOOSE CROSSING signs along the highway. When on secondary roads, the recommended speed is 40 mph or less in these moose crossing areas.

- Drive defensively and don't overdrive your headlights. Moose are more active at night and early morning, and they are difficult to see because of their dark color.

- If you see a moose ahead, slow down or stop. Trying to

speed past them before they move can be a serious mistake.

Vermont highway sections most frequented by moose:

- Rt. 105 from Island Pond to Bloomfield.
- Rt. 114 from East Burke to Canaan.
- Rt. 2 from Lunenburg to East St. Johnsbury.
- Interstate 91 at Sheffield Heights.
- Interstate 89 from Bolton to Montpelier.
- Rt. 12 from Worcester to Elmore.
- Rt 118 near Belvidere Corners and Rt. 109 intersection.

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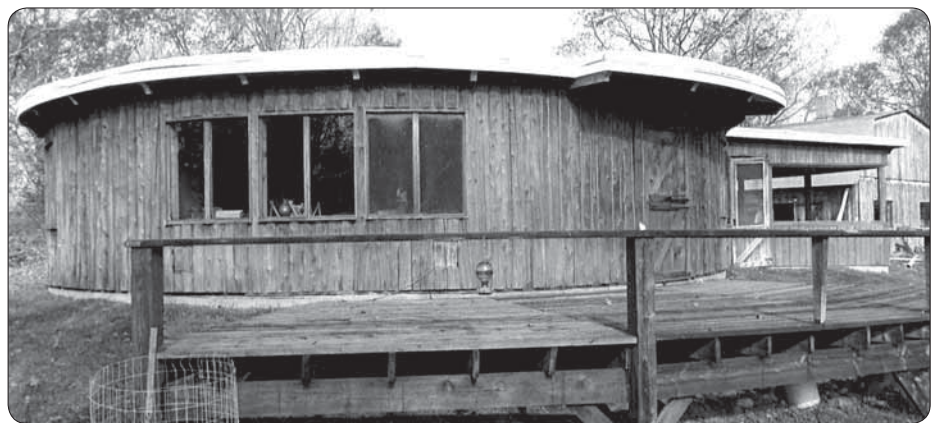
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## A Vagabond Song

There is something in the autumn that is native to my blood—  
 Touch of manner, hint of mood;  
 And my heart is like a rhyme,  
 With the yellow and the purple and the crimson keeping time.  
 The scarlet of the maples can shake me like a cry  
 Of bugles going by.  
 And my lonely spirit thrills  
 To see the frosty asters like a smoke upon the hills.  
 There is something in October sets the gypsy blood astir;  
 We must rise and follow her,  
 When from every hill of flame  
 She calls each vagabond by name.

—BLISS CARMAN



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## Autumn Harvest Bounty

### Our Own Apples & Cider

Over 30 varieties of apples! We have Empire, Macoun, Gingergold, Northern Spy, Cortland, Honey Crisp, Mutsu, Gala, McIntosh, Red & Golden Delicious, Liberty, and more.

# DUTTON



# FARMSTAND

"Buy Direct From a Farmer"

### Plenty of Fresh Fall Produce

Winter Squash • Potatoes (in 50 lb. bags)  
 Fall Raspberries • Gilfeather Turnips  
 Carrots • Beets • Onions • Peppers • Kale  
 Broccoli • Brussels Sprouts • Cauliflower  
 Eggplant • Swiss Chard • Green Beans  
 Zucchini & Yellow Squash • Salad Greens  
 Scallions • Herbs and more

### Autumn Holiday Decor

Pumpkins • Fall Mums & Asters  
 Cornstalks • Kale • Indian Corn • Gourds

### Homemade Baked Goods

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

### Choose & Tag Your Christmas Tree Now

— Order Your Wreaths —



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