

Vermont Country Sampler

October
2019

Free

- Statewide Calendar of Events, Map
- Inns, B&B's, Dining, Real Estate

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N. Cassidy

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October Journal

I Have Nothing Left I Need to Do

by Bill Felker

This past summer, I spent an inordinate amount of time sitting on the back patio just looking out into the garden. Every few days the blossoms of the shrubs and flowers changed. I filled the bird feeders every morning, and the birds rewarded my care with their presence.

Lounging on the patio, I saw more butterflies than I ever had before, watched more bees than I had ever watched before—hover bees, carpenter bees, bumblebees, bee flies, and even a few honeybees.

I loved it.

"I'm at the beach," I told my wife. "It's like I'm at the beach, and all I have to do in life is watch the waves!"

"Well, yes, but not quite," she replied with her sceptical smile, reminding me I was hundreds of miles from the coast.

But I couldn't help myself. The fantasy grew stronger. I

formed tides of the clouds that moved onto me from the west above the back locust trees, tides that dissolved as they rolled above me, then rose from the locust trees again. In the sound of cars passing by on the street, I heard waves breaking on my empty shore, soothing my concerns, disconnecting me from things I thought I might accomplish. The white, crescent moon above me became the prime mover of my inland sea, cradling me, rocking me back and forth in its motherly phases.

Now in October, my brain has been so washed and lulled by the sea that I no longer have illusions that I will earn my way, justify my existence or discover answers. Spoiled, as well as instructed by the beach, I watch and listen to the new surf of falling leaves telling me I have nothing left I need to do.



photo by Kelly Fletcher Photography

Visitors enjoying apple picking at Scott Farm's Heirloom Apple Days, Dummerston, VT.

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Dummerston, VT

17th Annual Heirloom Apple Days at Scott Farm

Due to the popularity of this annual harvest event, Scott Farm in Dummerston, VT has extended Heirloom Apple Day, now in its 17th year, to two days on Sunday October 13 and Monday October 14!

Apple lovers of all ages are invited to come to Heirloom Apple Days and visit the 571-acre historic farm and orchard and experience some of the 130 varieties of heirloom apples grown there—fresh, baked and squeezed!

In addition to the popular heirloom apple talks and tastings, hard cider tastings, dry stone wall tours by The Stone Trust, live music, and food vendors, new activities are in store for families such as make-your-own caramel apples.

At the 10 AM and 1 PM talks on both days, Scott Farm's Orchardist Zeke Goodband entertains guests with the enlightening history of the orchard and its ecologically-grown fruit, accompanied by a complimentary tasting of some of the heirloom apples in season, to include Old World and Early American varieties such as Reine des Reinettes, a French apple from the 1700s, Blue Pearmain, a New England apple dating back to the 1700s, and Knobbed Russet, a lumpy russeted apple from the early 1800s, sometimes known as "old maid winter". Following the talks and tastings, guests can fill bags with their favorite selections, all available for purchase.

According to Scott Farm's operation manager Kelly Carlin, "This is our favorite time of the year, when we get to share these amazing apple varieties and their interesting stories with customers new and old."

Visitors can also pick their own apples in the PYO orchard or find them in the Farm Market, along with heirloom cider, fruit pies, jams, and other Vermont-made specialty products.

On Sunday, October 13 festival goers may also want to stop by the 50th Annual Apple Pie Festival in Dummerston Center, a Top 10 Fall Event by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce.

For more information visit scottfarmvermont.com/heirloom-apples/heirloom-apple-days, call (802) 254-6868, or email events@scottfarmvermont.com. Rain or shine. No pets please. The Scott Farm Market, located at 707 Kipling Rd in Dummerston, VT is open daily 9-5 through November 29, and you-pick apples are available into October.

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 130 ecologically-grown heirloom and uncommon apple varieties. The farm also grows peaches, plums, nectarines, pears, grapes, cherries, blueberries, figs, ginger, currants, quince, medlars, gooseberries, and hops. Four authentically restored historic vacation rental homes, surrounding the farm, are available for short or long term self-catered stays throughout the year. Details at LandmarkTrustUSA.org.

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Vermont Country Sampler

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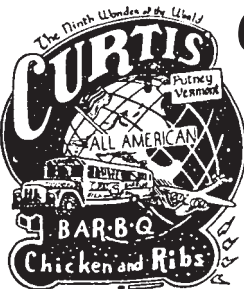
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EVENTS

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- Heirloom Apple Days - Oct 13-14
- Apple Harvest Dinner - Oct 26

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Scott Farm

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Details at ScottFarmVermont.com



Visitors enjoying an autumn wagon ride at Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, VT.

Woodstock, VT

Autumn Events at Billings Farm & Museum

Autumn Wagon Ride Weekend—October 5 & 6

Billings Farm & Museum, gateway to Vermont's rural heritage, will feature the Annual Autumn Wagon Ride Weekend on Saturday and Sunday, October 5 & 6, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Capture the brilliant colors of a Vermont autumn on a scenic narrated wagon ride around the farm fields.

The dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and restored and furnished farmhouse—plus programs and activities, including cider pressing—are included in the entrance fee.

variety of 19th century harvest activities and programs for the entire family.

A traditional husking bee will begin at noon each day, followed by a barn dance from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Lend a hand pressing cider, preserving apples, threshing grain, and making 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.

Other activities include shelling beans and apples-on-a-string. Hot-spiced cider and homemade doughnuts will be on hand for all! Admission includes all programs and activities.

A Family Halloween—October 27

Billings Farm & Museum will feature A Family Halloween on Sunday, October 27, from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 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, hand-cranked 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 12:00 & 2:00 p.m., and all children will receive a ribbon.

Admission to A Family Halloween includes all programs and activities, plus the working dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and farm house.



Family Halloween, October 27, at Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, VT.



Kids grinding corn at Harvest Weekend, October 12 & 13, Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock, VT.

Harvest Weekend—October 12 & 13

Billings Farm & Museum will host its Annual Harvest Weekend on October 12 & 13, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 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.

through February, and Christmas & Presidents' weeks, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission: adults: \$16; 62 & over: \$14; children 5-15: \$8; 3-4: \$4; 2 & under: free.

The Farm & Museum are located one-half mile north of the Woodstock village green on VT Rt. 12. For more information call (802) 457-2355 or visit www.billingsfarm.org.



Billings Farm & Museum hosts a year-round calendar of programs and family-friendly events. It is open daily April 1 through October 31, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends November

50th Annual
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Festival
and
Celebration

2019

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9:30 a.m.
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1969

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Newfane Heritage Festival—Almost 50 Years and Going Strong!

For almost 50 years volunteers have organized the Newfane Heritage Festival in the center of historic Newfane Village, VT. Once again, this Columbus Day weekend, people will celebrate community, crafts, food and entertainment. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Saturday and Sunday, October 12th and 13th, rain or shine.

Over ninety juried artists and craftspeople will display and sell their work in the tents set up in front of the Windham County Courthouse. Vendors range from organic body products, glass, stone, metal work, paper arts, silver jewelry, fiber arts, and woodworking to local honey, CBD infused products, and handmade brooms. Vendor chair Samantha Harlow reports that some vendors have been coming for over 40 years, while about ten vendors will be new this year.

Variety of delicious food

Food! It will be everywhere. The outdoor food booth will serve breakfast sandwiches hot off the grill to go with your morning coffee, not to mention the warm homemade doughnuts. Later in the day they will serve chili, chowder, burgers, dogs, cider and more. According to Maggie Bills, who heads up the outdoor booth, “all will be served up with a smile by the faithful volunteers, some of whom have been working in the tent for 15 years.”

The inside deli will dish up autumn inspired flavors and comfort foods made with as many locally sourced ingredients as possible. The menu includes New England chowders and bisque, pulled pork and baked beans, baked potatoes, pumpkin cheesecake, flourless chocolate torte and—of course—the famous homemade apple pies and crisps, made with love by members of the Newfane Church. Says deli head Sandy Hamm, “We look forward to serving you.”

Super Raffle is coming

The Super Raffle in the Union Hall will be missing its long-time chair, Bea McFarland. Bea recently passed and left big shoes to fill. Doris Knechtel will be supported by Bea’s family who plans to return this year to honor her service to the Super Raffle. The Super Raffle features donated items, including gift certificates, quilts, lift tickets, a cord of wood, items from vendors, and a doll house.

The flea tent outside the Union Hall this year has new management with Apple Gifford and David Hull. “There are always great treasures to be found.” says event chair Linda Bastian. Please contact the church for donation drop off times. “We are busy lining up entertainment for the afternoons.” Entertainers will play music, sing, and dance.

Proceeds of the event go to benefit the wider missions of the Newfane Church including community support. This summer Newfane Church hosted the Community Table. Its aim is to provide meals to support those who lost meals because school was not in session. The church’s mission is to make a difference in lives worldwide and in our community. For more information, go to the Newfane Heritage Festival page on Facebook or the website: newfaneheritagefestival.blogspot.com or telephone the Newfane Church at (802) 365-4079.



There’s plenty to do at the Newfane Heritage Festival, October 12 & 13, in Newfane, VT.

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!”

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

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.



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October 12 & 13, 2019
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Husking Bee: 12:30 PM
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Stone Church Arts Events

Retreat/Workshop: Hildegard of Bingen, Magistra, Mystic, Musician with Ruth Cunningham, Melinda Gardiner & Robert Bowler. Friday-Sunday, October 11-13, Currier Hall, Bellows Falls, VT. Saint Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179 CE) was a German magistra or monastic leader, mystic, healer, artist, author, counsellor, and composer of music. This weekend retreat/workshop will explore the several facets of her prolific life. Experiences of Hildegard will be enhanced by contemplative prayer, song, music, informal discussion and personal time as well as the main group sessions. The weekend also includes a public concert of Hildegard's music on Saturday at 7:30 pm.

Concert: The Fire & the Ecstasy: The Music of Hildegard of Bingen. Saturday October 12 at 7:30 p.m. The Chapel, 20 Church St., Bellows Falls, VT. \$20-\$30. A public concert of Hildegard's music performed by Ruth Cunningham and Melinda Gardiner. This concert is a part of the weekend workshop/retreat, "Hildegard of Bingen: Magistra, Mystic, Musician", taking place this same weekend, October 11-13.

Workshop: An Introduction to Celtic Shamanism with Jane Burns. Friday-Sunday, October 18-20, Currier Hall, Bellows Falls, VT. This workshop will lead you into the hollow hills, the icy sea, and the splendor of the sky, as they once were experienced by the ancient Celtic races. Through discussion and shamanic journeying, we will unravel their unique and poetic vision, their wild and courageous heart, and their deep reverence for the natural world, both seen and unseen. We will learn how to access the Otherworld, and locate our spirit allies there. We will try our hand at shapeshifting, omen hunting and love-talking to nature. We will make power bracelets and bring back a cloak of power

from the Otherworld. We will swim with the salmon and run with the deer, as the storied Fianna once did. We will explore the Celtic Medicine Wheel, Samhain and the dark time of the year, the spiritual intention of ordeal, and the transmigration of the soul.

Workshop: Deadstring Trad Guitar Immersion Day. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, October 26, Currier Hall, Bellows Falls, VT. Attention guitarists: Join Flynn Cohen and Matthew Heaton for a full day of guitar immersion. Students will choose from 9 different class options in three different guitar tunings—Standard, Dropped-D & DADGAD. The goal of this experience is to move you closer to a complete understanding of the accompaniment of traditional fiddle music through immersion in specific fingerboard knowledge, as well as drills and exercises to broaden the scope of your acoustic guitar playing. Students of all levels are welcome and there will be a small group of 15 slots available.

Concert: Pete's Posse. Saturday, October 26th at 7:30 p.m. The Chapel, 20 Church St., Bellows Falls, VT. \$20-\$30. Vermont's own trad-roots power trio! Composed of acclaimed musician Pete Sutherland, his talented protégé Oliver Scanlon and the uber-dynamic Tristan Henderson, Twin fiddles in tight, wild harmony over high-powered guitar and pounding foot percussion with mandolin, clawhammer banjo, jaw harp, rocking keyboards, and soaring vocal harmonies adding color to the Posse's sonic landscape. Since 2014 the Posse has racked up over 150,000 miles of touring, released 5 albums, and played numerous festivals.

For information on tickets and registration contact Stone Church Center, 12 Church Street, Bellows Falls, VT, (802) 460-0110. www.stonechurcharts.org.



Hildegard of Bingen

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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Poor Will's Guide to Farming & Gardening

by Bill Felker

October 1: Cottonwoods and the rest of the box elders lose their leaves, and great openings form in the tree line. Fencerows are shedding their Virginia creeper. Grape vines hold on yellow green. Beggarticks stick to your pants as scattered watercress blooms for the second time this year.

October 2: The first juncos return now to the Middle Atlantic states just after almost all the dry onions and the potatoes have been harvested.

October 3: Even before all the leaves come down, "second spring" is underway. Wood mint grows new stalks. Watercress revives. Waterleaf reappears. April's sweet Cicely, May's sweet rockets, ragwort, dock, and poison hemlock, June's cinquefoil and hollyhocks, July's avens and caraway, September's zigzag goldenrod and small-flowered asters send up fresh leaves.

October 4: Get out your rose collars and fill them with dirt. Offer manure to your rhubarb and asparagus. Transplant new trees and shrubs, and then mulch all perennials and new transplants after watering. Don't forget to put in shade trees for the pasture.

October 5: In mild Octobers and Novembers, cardinals briefly renew their late-winter songs. Cabbage white butterflies reappear. The grass continues to grow, glowing in the low sun. Newly planted winter wheat creates patches of emerald green in the countryside.

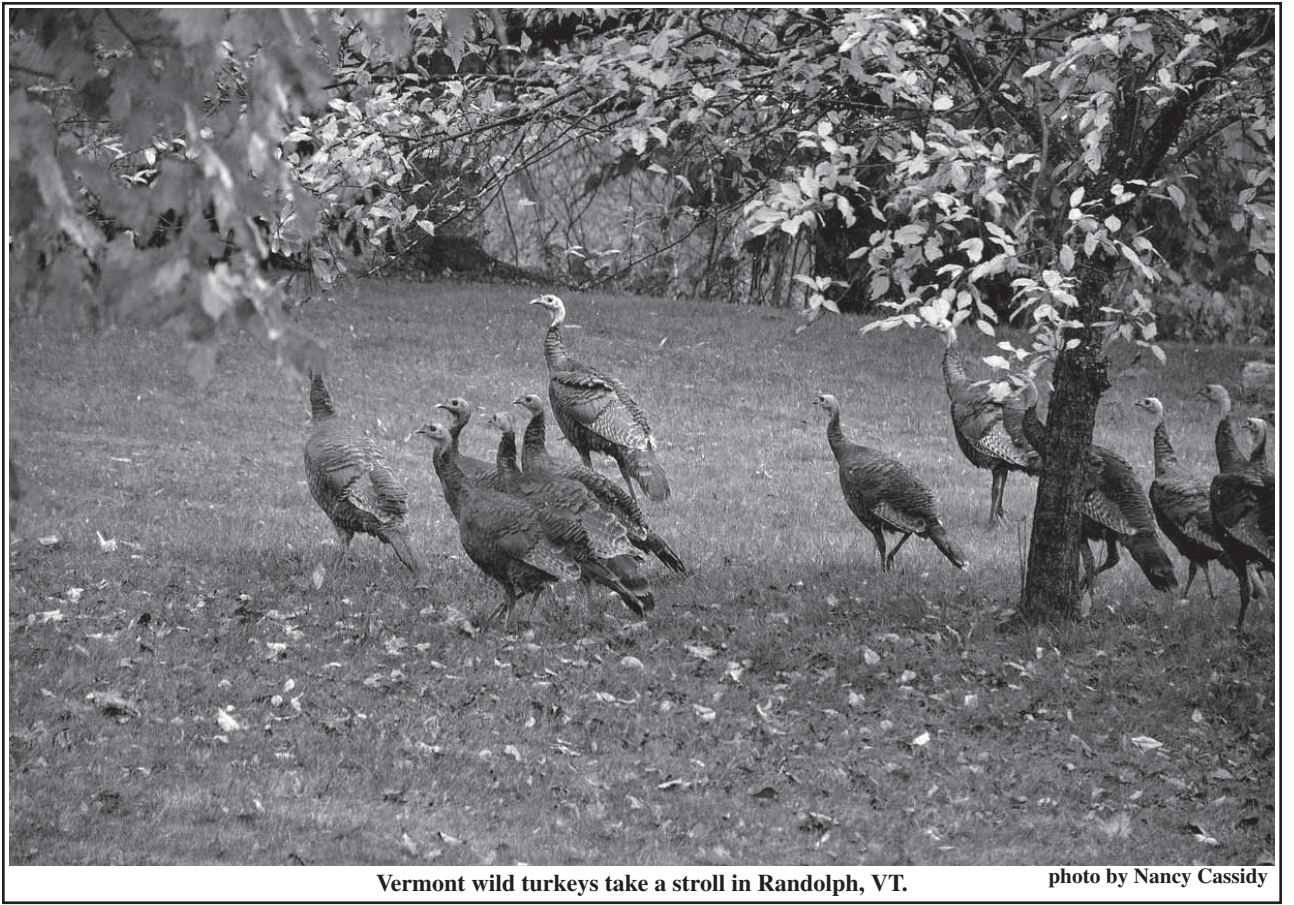
October 6: In the swamps, skunk cabbage comes up again. In the garden, red knuckles of rhubarb sometimes push to the surface, anticipating spring. Ginkgo fruits, which will be on the ground by late November, are turning pink.

October 7: The days after the October 7th front are often favorable for harvest, but precipitation increases (along with the chances for snow) as the October 13th system approaches.

October 8: Terns and meadowlarks, yellow-rumped warblers and purple martins migrate south. Chimney swifts, wood thrushes, barn swallows and red-eyed vireos join them as early fall comes to a close.

October 9: Peak leafturn is starting to occur in woodlots where maples, ashes, buckeyes, wild cherry, and locusts predominate. Many Osage leaves are yellow now, a few ginkgos starting to fade.

October 10: Plants and bulbs intended for winter and spring forcing should be placed in light soil now and stored



Vermont wild turkeys take a stroll in Randolph, VT.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

in a place where temperatures remain cool (but not freezing). Dig and store your caladiums, dahlias, tuberous begonias and gladiolus bulbs before the ground freezes.

October 11: Half of the winter wheat is normally in the ground by now, just as beech leaves rust at the edges. Robins are at the honeysuckle berries. Water willow is yellowing in the rivers.

October 12: New hepatica leaves are dark and strong on the hillsides. Although most pasture growth has stopped along the Canadian border, fields may be regreening with secondary growth and fall varieties in some areas now. Provide plenty of free choice hay to livestock in order reduce the chance they will gorge themselves on fresh growth.

October 13: Middle fall begins today as most grapes and apples have been picked. The coldest morning so far in the season often occurs as the October 13th cold front arrives, and chances of a low in the teens or 20s reach 20 percent in the northern half of the country for the first time since spring. This front is also the first front to bring a serious chance of snow flurries.

October 14: Along the roadsides, asters and goldenrods

show obvious declines. In garden ponds, water lilies stop blooming, a sign of cooler water temperatures and lower amounts of sunlight.

October 15: Late pastures often contain less nutrition when soil temperatures drop near 40 degrees. Consequently, late autumn feeding can be tricky; your animals may have plenty to eat, depending on the weather, but their grazing may give them less nutrition and energy than in the summer months.

October 16: The heaviest time of Halloween market sales begins in the middle of October.

October 17: In the alleys, only the pink smartweed seems impervious to the shortening days. Along the fencerows, brown beggarticks stick to your stockings, and the winged seeds of Japanese knotweed fall. Witch hazel, the last of the flowering shrubs, comes into bloom.

October 18: In the cooler, wetter nights, crickets and katydids are weakening, but woolly bears are suddenly everywhere on the back roads when the sun breaks through. Monarch butterflies have left the Midwest for Mexico. Rose hips are turning orange. Blueberry bushes are red. Only a few swallowtails and fritillaries visit the garden, and just a few fireflies glow in the grass.

October 19: Mulch root crops to keep them from turning to mush when the ground freezes solid. And you may want to heap leaves or straw around kale and collards in order to keep these hardy vegetables alive through numerous heavy frosts.

October 20: In the northern woods, large patches of sky show through the thinning canopy. White oaks are crimson, but the end of soybean harvest and the browning of goldenrod finally subdue the glowing fields.

October 21: Wild asparagus yellows by the roadsides. The final sedum blossoms are closing for the year. Wild cucumber fruits are dry and empty. The day's length falls below eleven hours as stonecrop completes flowering in the fall garden.

October 22: If you are running out of pasture, plan for next year's fields: late producers like oats, and summer-seeded brassicas such as turnips could extend your pasture season considerably. If you ran out of forage in mid summer, try putting more Bermuda grass.

October 23: One year in three brings frost with the October 23rd cold front everywhere above the Border States. The period between the 23rd and the 31st, however, is often one of the mildest and driest times of autumn.

October 24: As foliage thins, Eastern phoebes, yellow-bellied sapsuckers, catbirds and house wrens depart. The last turkey vultures circle the West Virginia mountains. Mice look for shelter from the cold inside your home and RV.

October 25: Silver maples are champagne gold, and the sugar and red maples are down or are shedding quickly. Tulip trees are almost gone. Some ginkgos are green, others fully gold and losing foliage.

October 26: Morning fogs become more common as harvest continues all around the country. Testing of stored forage soon can pay dividends by helping you prepare balanced winter rations for your flock and herd.

October 27: In the cranberry regions of the country, most of the berries have been brought in from the bogs. At night, sluggish crickets fill in for the silent katydids. Cattails begin to break as the final giant jimsonweed opens in the cornfields.

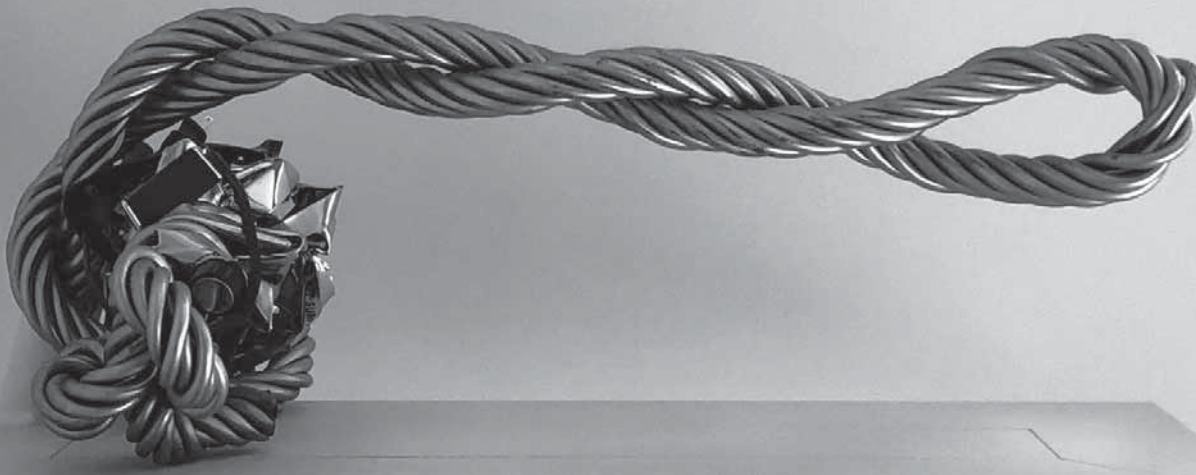
October 28: Fertilize the lawn. Then feed the trees after all their leaves are down. If you put the leaves in bags and leave them behind the barn a couple years, they will turn to compost and be ready for the garden in March of 2022.

October 29: High pollen counts are over in most of the country until next spring. Average mold counts are typically low at this time too: usually less than 2,000 out of a possible 7,000 grains per cubic meter.

October 30: The last raspberries of the year redden in the low October sun. After the last weather system of the month comes across the country, milder but rainier weather typically follows for the first few days of November.

October 31: As the winter months approach, the percentage of available sunlight declines quickly throughout the nation, and more in the northern states than in southern areas. Since sunlight is an effective germicide, be alert for the gradual increase in the possibility of disease in the months ahead.

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A Vermont Almanack for Middle Autumn

by Bill Felker

Hail, old October, bright and chill,
First freedman from the summer sun!

—Thomas Constable

The High Leaf Color Moon And the Sleeping Frog Moon

At the close of Late Summer, the year begins its ascent to the barometric highs of December. By the beginning of October, the waves of barometric pressure that reflect the weather are stronger; the peaks become taller; the lows are deeper, with almost every valley bringing rain or flurries.

The tapering of floral sequences and the gradual surge of leafturn occur amid the remnants of Early Fall. From the broad lowland of warmth with its six months of birdsong and its hundred days of insect calls, the Sun pulls the land up into the foothills of the year where asters and goldenrod bloom and where trees are gold and red.

As the High Leaf Color Moon waxes and wanes throughout the month, the chemical changes in the foliage that became noticeable six weeks ago now accelerate until the fragile landscape turns all at once.

Black walnuts, locusts, buckeyes, box elders, hackberries, ashes and cottonwoods are almost bare, but shagbark hickories, sweet gums, oaks, sassafras and sycamores reach their finest colors.

When the most intense leaf color appears in the maples, then yellow jackets swarm on the windfall apples, New England asters reach the end of their blooming cycle and wild asparagus yellows by the roadsides. When maple color peaks, then the day has lost about four hours from its summer length, and light snow occurs one year in a decade along the 40th Parallel. Orange bittersweet opens, all its foliage fallen, and the first of last year's Christmas cactus flowers in a south window. And when the High Leaf Color Moon becomes the Sleeping Frog Moon at the end of the month, light morning frosts become more frequent, and long flocks of blackbirds cross the sky, their passage sometimes lasting five minutes. Winter starlings cackle and whistle in the trees.

October 4: The High Leaf Color Moon enters its second quarter at 11:47 a.m.

October 10: The Moon reaches apogee at 1:29 p.m.

October 13: The Moon is full at 4:08 p.m.

October 21: The Moon enters its final quarter at 7:38 a.m.

October 26: The Moon reaches perigee at 5:41 a.m.

October 27: The Sleeping Frog Moon is new 10:38 p.m.

The Planets

Passing retrograde into Libra, Venus rises too late and sets too early to be easily seen this month. And Mars, in Virgo, will also be difficult to find for the same reasons. Briefly visible in the southwest after Sunset, Saturn quickly sinks into the far west with Sagittarius. On the other hand, Jupiter remains the great Evening Star, easily seen when it shines in Ophiuchus in the far west after dark.

The Stars

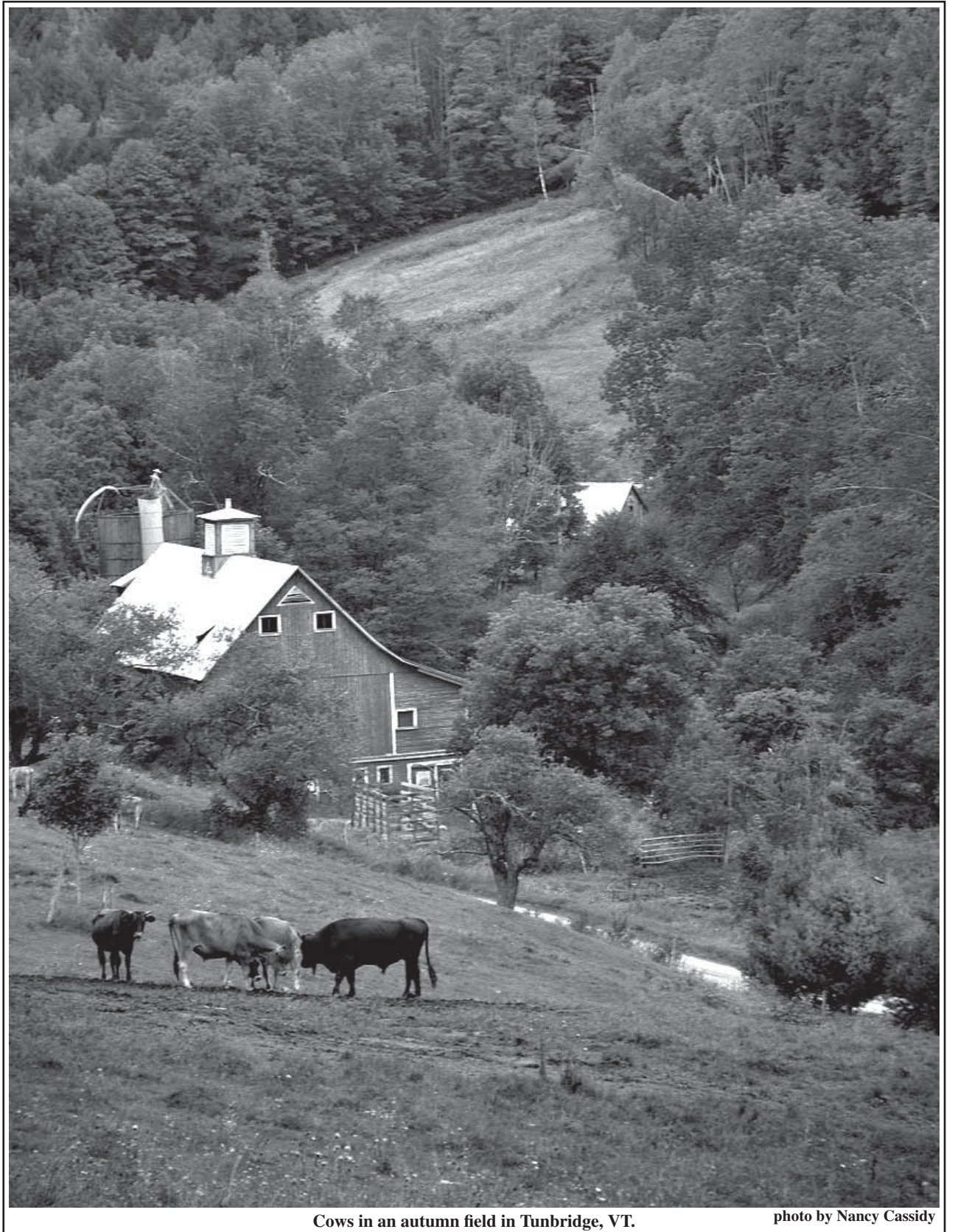
Evenings of late Libra bring the Northern Cross setting in the west, accompanied by Aquila and Lyra. Above you the Great Square lies below the Milky Way. In the east, winter's Orion rises behind Taurus and the Pleiades. In the northern sky, the Big Dipper hugs the horizon. Deep in the southwest, Fomalhaut hovers above the tree line. An hour or so before sunrise, all the winter constellations will be in place, Orion due south, brilliant Sirius and Procyon in the southeast. In the south-southwest, red Aldebaran and the Pleiades will be following the Great Square. There will also be a promise of warmth: Regulus, the bright planting star of Middle Spring, will be rising ahead of the Sun.

The Shooting Stars

The Draconid meteors fall at the rate of about ten per hour from the constellation Draco to the northwest of the North Star after midnight between October 6 and 10. The crescent Moon is not likely to obscure these shooting stars. The Orionid meteors appear in Orion in the night of October 21 and 22 at the rate of 15 to 30 per hour. The waning gibbous Moon may obscure some of those meteors with its light.

The Sun's Progress

October 24 is Cross Quarter Day, the halfway mark between autumn equinox and winter solstice. The Sun enters the Late Autumn constellation of Scorpio at the same time.



Cows in an autumn field in Tunbridge, VT.

photo by Nancy Cassidy

Meteorology

Weather history suggests that the cold waves of Middle Fall are likely to reach the Northeast on or about October 2, 7, 13, 17, 23 and 30.

Full Moon on October 13 is likely to intensify the weather system due on that date, and lunar perigee on the 26th and New Moon on the 27th are likely to bring frost to the upper United States as well as the increased likelihood of hurricane formation in the Atlantic.

Best Lunar Planting Times

Late Fall and Early Winter are prime periods for seeding flowers under lights. Sow your seeds as the Sleeping Frog Moon becomes the New Moon (October 27). Also set in your amaryllis and paperwhite bulbs around this time for holiday blossoms.

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Big Woods Voices & Pete's Posse to Perform

October 11: Big Woods Voices

Big Woods Voices unites four veteran Vermont singers from the Brattleboro area in celebrating their common passion for a cappella harmony: Alan Blood, Will Danforth, singer-songwriter, traditional acoustic artist, and the group's arranger/composer; Becky Graber, and Amanda Witman. They marry singing traditions from around the world with various American roots genres. They concoct original compositions and arrangements in which harmony and dissonance dance in riveting yet accessible soundscapes. Imagine lyrical settings of poetry by David Whyte, Mary Oliver, W. B. Yeats, and others; richly-harmonized standards of the American roots lexicon; and completely original compositions. Add to that gems by musicians such as Pete Sutherland, The Finest Kind, and the Stanley Brothers, and you have the ear-thrilling experience called Big Woods Voices. www.bigwoodsvoices.com.



Big Woods Voices

October 25: Pete's Posse

Pete Sutherland has played and sung everywhere in Vermont, including Tinmouth contradances and many trips to the Old Firehouse. He has decades of concert touring, teaching and studio production behind him. His all-Vermont "POSSE" includes his teenage fiddle protégé Oliver Scanlon, and the dynamic accompanist Tristan Henderson. Featuring Pete's rootsy songs, original and traditional fiddle music, and a few out there covers, this band is a fine opportunity for an intimate listen to an ever-evolving musical relationship that spans generations! The Old Firehouse, with its modest size and outstanding acoustics, is the place to hear them. www.petesposse.com.



Pete's Posse, performing at The Old Firehouse, 9 Mountain View Rd., Tinmouth, VT, October 25th.

All concerts are at 7:30 on a Friday night; doors open at 7:00. Coffee and tea will be hot soon after the doors open; refreshments available as well. Donation for the concert is \$10-15. 90% goes to the musicians; 10% to the down for maintenance of the Old Firehouse. Donations for the refreshments go to support local projects. The Old Firehouse is at 9 Mountain View Road at the intersection of Vermont 140 and Mountain View Road in the heart of downtown Tinmouth. www.facebook.com/TinmouthOldFirehouseConcerts.

Woodstock, VT

Working Woodlands Workshops

Informative, hands-on and exciting workshops for the woodland enthusiast. Learn from forestry professionals, scientists, landowners and inspiring community members. Explore diverse topics ranging from tree identification, low-impact harvesting, sawmilling, Timber Stand Improvement, animal tracking, trail maintenance, invasive plant control and more. Learn techniques and knowledge to help you understand, manage, conserve and experience woodlands.

Secret Lives of Bats. Saturday, October 19th, 10-11 am. Did you know that 1 out of every 4 mammals in the world is a bat? That over 50 million years of evolution have gone

into shaping the exotic shapes and behaviors exhibited by bats? And that of the 9 species of bats currently known to inhabit Vermont, over half are listed on either state or federal threatened or endangered species lists? In anticipation of Bat Week (Oct 24th - 31st), come join us at the National Park to participate in an interactive presentation by NPS biologist Adam Kozlowski designed to raise your awareness of bat species (local and global alike) and the specializations that make them both so fascinating and misunderstood. During his hour-long presentation, Adam will provide an overview of bat ecology, physiology, and mythology to help us better understand the threats bats are facing, delve into the world of both echolocation and hibernation, and review local species and the characters that make them who they are.

Emerald Ash Borer in Vermont. Saturday, October 26th, 9-11 am. The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a nonnative invasive forest pest first discovered in the United States in 2002. EAB has been confirmed in Vermont and it is important to prepare for and manage the impacts of EAB and loss of Ash trees. Join Windsor County Forester Hannah Dallas for this 2-hour workshop to learn about the biology and identification of EAB, how to report a suspected infestation, and what EAB means for woodlot management. The workshop will begin with an indoor presentation and then we will head outside to look at the Ash trees in the park. Please come dressed appropriately for outdoor activity!

These free workshops are co-sponsored by Vermont Coverts and the Vermont Woodlands Association. Check out the website for more information and full line-up of workshops: www.nps.gov/mabi/learn/nature/working-woodlands-workshops.htm. Location: Forest Center, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP, Woodstock VT. Parking is available in the Billings Farm & Museum overflow lot, located on Old River Road. Please pre-register as space is limited. Call (802) 457-3368 x 222, or email leah_marshall@partner.nps.gov. Be sure to specify how many are coming.

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Harvest Festival at Equinox Valley Nursery

Come out Saturday October 19th for the Equinox Valley Nursery Annual Harvest Festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 1158 Main St in Manchester, VT. There will be many fun activities for the whole family to enjoy including live music, hay rides, pumpkin carving and painting, homemade cider donuts made on site, miniature horses, corn maze, face painting, a fun pumpkin patch and over 30 craft and food vendors selling their goods. This wonderful community event will support The Dorset Equine Rescue.

The Dorset Equine Rescue's mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and re-home abused, neglected, and slaughter bound horses. To date they have helped over 120 horses out of dire situations. When horses arrive at DER they receive all needed medical care. Once they are physically ready, their training is evaluated and continued for as long as they are at DER. Each horse is available for adoption to qualified and pre-screened forever homes. DER is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization and donations are tax deductible in accordance with the law. Please consider making a contribution today to help us further their mission. Thank you for your support! Donations can be mailed to: The Dorset Equine Rescue, P.O. Box 92, East Dorset, VT 05253. For more information, please visit: dorsetequinrescue.org.



Visitors enjoying the Equinox Valley Nursery Harvest Festival in Manchester, VT.

Rupert, VT

October at Merck Forest & Farmland Center

It's a great time of year at Merck Forest & Farmland Center, with gorgeous clear days and crisp starlit nights. They have plenty of organized activities and events, but you may also bring family and friends to enjoy a stroll around the farm, or an invigorating hike along our 30+ miles of trails.

October Event Schedule

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

Who Lives in our Woods? October 5 @ 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Who do you think lives on a wild hillside in Vermont? Come find out! Please preregister for the Who Lives in Our Woods Program at <https://www.merckforest.org/product/family-programs>; admission: \$5pp.

BeBrave Hike-a-thon & 5k Trail Run. October 6 @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. The Be Brave for Life Foundation works to improve the quality of life for those affected by cavernous malformations and non-cancerous brain tumors by raising awareness and funding innovative research. Their signature Annual Hike-A-Thon, Basket Bonanza and Scavenger Hunt take place at Merck Forest and Farmland again this year. Check out the good work being done by this foundation at <https://bebrave.life>.

Second Saturday Hike. October 12 @ 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. This staff-guided hike will be of moderate difficulty and will take place even if it's raining. Participants must be dressed appropriately for the weather with sturdy footwear, water & snacks. Please preregister for the hike at www.merckforest.org/product/hikes-volunteer; admission \$5pp.

Volunteer Workparty Saturday. October 26 @ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. It's war on the honeysuckle! Volunteers will aid in conservation efforts on the property by working to remove invasive honeysuckle. This will be a moderately strenuous activity, involving digging, pulling, cutting, and dragging of small and large honeysuckle plants. Volunteers will need to bring sunscreen, water, long pants, hat, work gloves, snacks/lunch, and close-toed shoes. Please preregister for the party at www.merckforest.org/product/hikes-volunteer. Free.

Merck Forest and Farmland Center is a non-profit educational organization in the Taconic Hills of southwestern

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

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

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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Shoreham, VT

Autumn Festivities

In 1794, the residents of Shoreham organized the First Congregational Church and Society of Shoreham, which became the Shoreham Congregational Church. The Church has served as a meeting house, a place of worship, an emergency shelter, and a community gathering space. This year they note its place in the community with Celebrate Shoreham! on Saturday, October 1 at the Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd, Shoreham, VT.

Choir Concert: The celebration begins with a concert by the Shoreham Ecumenical Choir at 4 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary. Solos, duets, small group pieces, sing-a-long pieces and the whole choir. A free will offering will be collected.

Raffle: Showcasing the variety of items and services produced in Shoreham. Apple products from Douglas Orchards and Champlain Orchards, chocolate from Steve Jackson, quilted items, maple products from VT Trade Winds Farm, a gift item from Whistle Pig, a free oil change from Jolee's Garage, and a gift certificate to the Halfway House Restaurant. Drawing after the Harvest Pork Dinner.

Harvest Dinner: The Harvest Dinner, 5:30 to 7 p.m., will feature roast pork loin, roasted fall vegetables, apple desserts, and beverages. \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$5 children over 5, under 5 free.

Bring your appetites and enthusiasm. For information call (802) 897-2687.



Shoreham Congregational Church hosts October events.

Middlebury, VT

Quilt Appraisals Available at Local Quilt Show

Do you have an heirloom quilt and have always wondered about how old it is and what fabrics were used to make it? Or a modern quilt that everyone remarks about how beautiful it is? Would you like to include your quilts on your homeowner's insurance, but don't know what they are worth?

Now is your chance to have a certified quilt appraiser help answer your questions. The Milk & Honey Quilters' Guild has invited Sandra Palmer, an American Quilter's Society certified appraiser, to their biennial

quilt show on October 12 and 13, 2019.

Sandra will provide an appraisal for all quilts based on the current market, records of past sales, or comparable sales, if available.

Appraisals are for insurance replacement or fair market value; the cost is \$50 per quilt, by appointment only. Contact milkandhoneyquilt@yahoo.com. "Quilting in the Land of Milk and Honey" will feature quilts by guild members, local youth, and area quilters.

The show also features vendors, a raffle quilt, con-

signments, refreshments, and basket raffles. The guild is selling ornaments with the proceeds to benefit Habitat for Humanity of Addison County. The quilt show is at the Middlebury Recreation Center, 154 Creek Rd. in

Middlebury. Saturday Oct. 12 from 10 to 5 and Sunday Oct. 13 from 10 to 3.

For further information or to join the guild, the website is www.milkandhoneyquilters.com

Fair Haven, VT

Historical Society Events

Senior Tea: The Fair Haven Historical Society is sponsoring a senior tea on Friday October 25 at the Castleton Senior Center from 2-4 p.m. Refreshments and

entertainment. All seniors are welcome. RSVP appreciated. Please call Ceil Hunt at (802) 265-7913 or Mary Jane Spaulding (802) 265-3843.

Talk: The Fair Haven Historical Society and the Fair Haven Library are sponsoring a talk by Howard Coffin: "Vermont, 1800 and Froze to Death: The Cold Year of 1816." At the Library on Sunday October 27 at 2:00 p.m. Free.

Mansion Tour: On December 14, The Fair Haven Historical Society will be sponsoring tour of the Marble Mansion on the West side of the park. Donations accepted

For more info contact Lorraine Brown (802) 265-3843.

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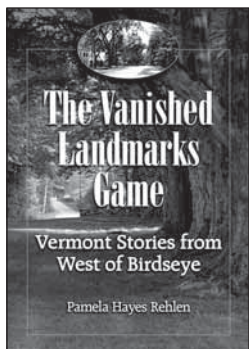
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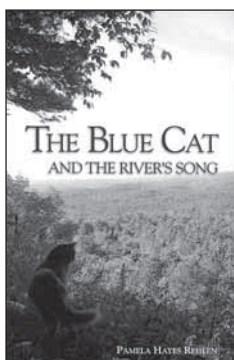
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A Curious Old Vermont Household

by Pamela Hayes Rehlen

The Langdon house was built about 1800, and is Castle-ton's oldest Main Street residence. It sits next door to the Federated Church and was once its parsonage. Sisters-in-law Belle and Laura Langdon and their maid-of-all-work Ella Gray lived for many years in the house. Theirs was a curious—and precarious—domestic arrangement which lasted into the 1970s and is hard, now, to imagine.

The Langdons—Henry 'Hen' Langdon and his family, including his daughter Martha Langdon Towers—left their Fort Warren Farm and moved into town when Henry bought the long-time church parsonage. An elderly Federated parishioner had willed her grand Greek Revival house—which sat across the street and came to be called the Manse—for use as a new rectory.

After Henry's death, his wife Belle and his sister Laura Langdon threw their lots in together and divided the building between them. They lived for decades in a household of three women made up of the two of them and local carpenter Dick Gray's sister Ella Gray, who in exchange for a home with the ladies, and maybe some pocket money, did most of the work of the place.

Because they were probably the town's oldest family, the Langdon residence became ground zero for the most-rooted Castle-tonians. Every Colonial Day, they held court with local friends on their front porch.

When many were wearing reproduction costumes made up from Butterick patterns, these Langdon ladies had their own 19th century family dresses brought out from attic trunks. For years, Martha Langdon Towers wore a dress which had come down to her from a distant ancestress and is presently a star in the Higley House costume collection.

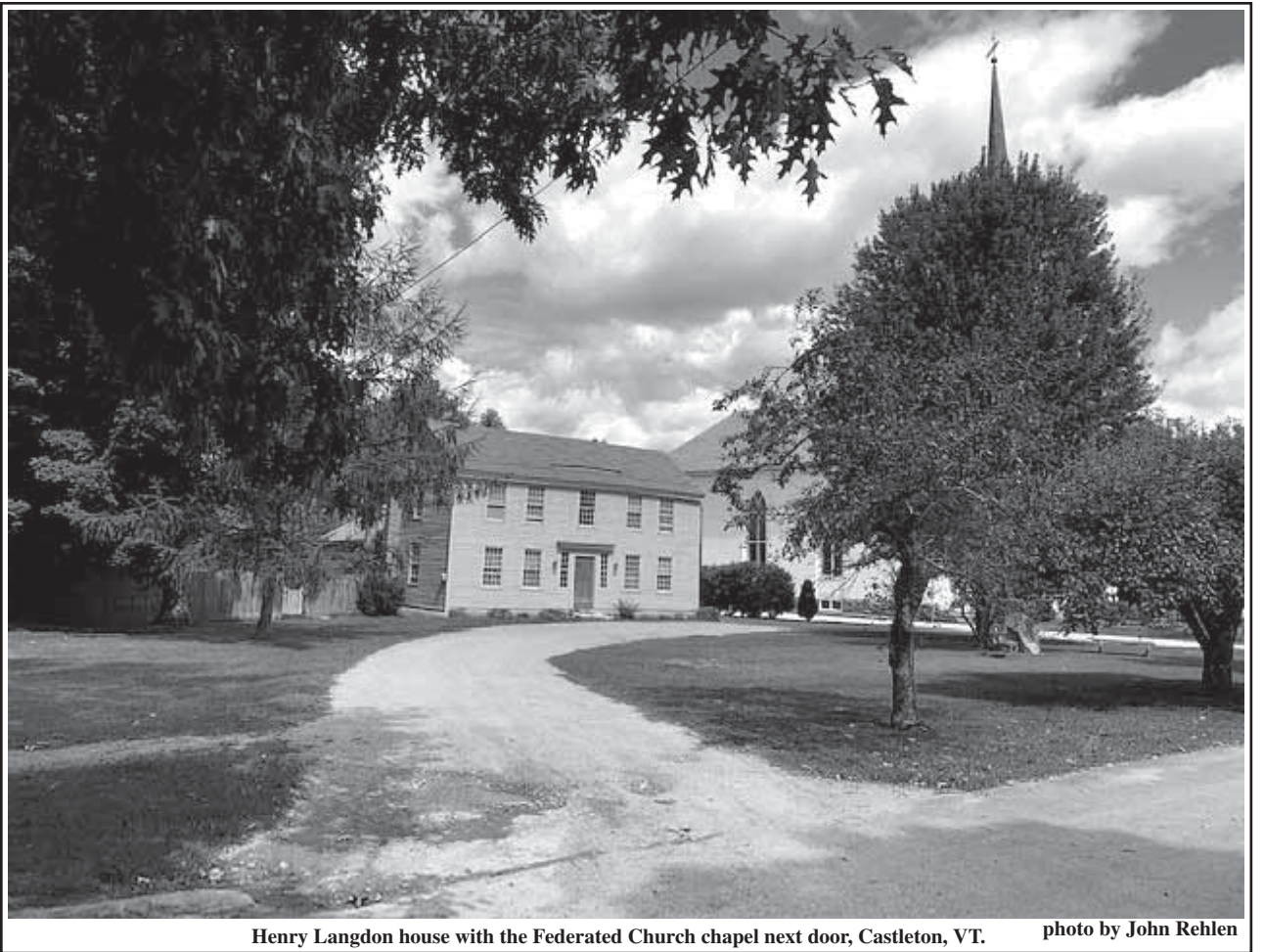
"Belle had a front west parlor where she sat most of the day, and Laura had a front east parlor."

Every 1950s Colonial Day—with my sister and me in tow—my mother would stop to visit these women she'd known all her life. The two ladies—Belle was a warm agreeable person, but her sister-in-law was difficult—sat out on the porch while Ella stayed busy somewhere behind them in the shadowy recesses of the old house.

I'd be settled on their steps, waiting for the grown-ups to finish, watching guests from the lake hotels and out-of-state tourists walking past.

What always comes back to me now is the remembrance of peals of laughter, and the telling of stories. All the Langdons were great story tellers. On that porch, there was a warm and powerful sense of shared town history and remembrance of, and accounts of, often-dubious town events and clearly-dubious town characters.

In 1965, the Pelletiers bought the Federated Church next-



Henry Langdon house with the Federated Church chapel next door, Castleton, VT. photo by John Rehlen

door Chapel, which had been built in the 1930s. They put the little building on logs, rolled it back from the street and sold it as a residence to Ray and Lois Shaw Ladd, a newly-married couple.

The young Ladds found that, now living behind the Langdon place, they were looking out at a neglected field of long grass, milkweed, and burdocks, so Ray went over and asked Belle if he could scythe her back yard. From then on, he took care of Belle's property.

The Ladds came to have a good sense of their elderly neighbors' lives. The core of the Langdon house—one room deep with a central staircase—had been well suited to division. Belle had a front west parlor where she sat most of the day, and Laura had a front east parlor.

Both ladies had parlor stoves, and Ella carried coal in from a back shed which was next to a two-hole privy. Ella's tasks also included carrying chamber pots to this outhouse.

In addition to the parlor stoves, there was a third coal stove in the kitchen on which Ella cooked. Even with the three stoves, it was difficult to keep the house warm. At night, Ella slept in a tiny, winter-frigid, lean-to room, built against the back wall of the house on Laura's side of the building.

Lois Ladd remembers Ella had a narrow bed, and there were strips of paper hanging loose from the walls. In the winter-time, ice backed up against this part of the house. The little sleeping arrangement was demolished sometime after 1977.

I had no real sense of Ella's life. I liked her. She seemed to be a gentle soul, much like my grandmother, and when my husband and I returned to town in the early seventies and bought the Manse, I would talk to her and learned that she loved candy.

Whatever her dental situation, caramels posed no threat, but that wasn't the case with me, so whenever I got a box of Fannie Farmer chocolates—I think the little Rutland Fannie Farmer shop, next to Wilson's Men's Clothing, was still there at that time—I took the caramels over to Ella.

It came to be a bond between us. I had no idea she lived such a 19th century, drudgery-filled, life. I don't think she saw it that way. As long as that little household lasted, the three of them bumped along together, and she always seemed content.

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

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

Addison, VT

Enjoy Dead Creek Wildlife Day on Saturday, October 5

If you enjoy wildlife be sure to make plans to attend the 18th annual Dead Creek Wildlife Day in Addison, Vermont on Saturday, October 5.

Activities at Dead Creek Wildlife Day are especially for people who enjoy hunting, fishing, birdwatching, or learning about Vermont's diverse wildlife. The event will be held at the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department's Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) on Rt. 17 west of Route 22A.

Early risers can begin the day with a bird banding demonstration at 7:00 a.m. Two large tents at Dead Creek WMA headquarters will open at 9:30 a.m. featuring wildlife-related exhibits and activities such as decoy carving and building blue-bird boxes. The Dead Creek Visitor Center will be open for its regular hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and features displays and talks about conservation and wildlife management in Vermont.

A highlight of the festival is always the live crit-

ters where visitors can see snakes, turtles, hawks, and more up close and learn about their ecology. There are many new events, as well as some of the old favorites. Bear biologist Forrest Hammond will discuss the growing bear population and how to be good neighbors with bears. Nature walks, illustrated talks, hunting dog demonstrations, hunting tips, and much more will be held until 4:00 p.m. All events are free, and a free shuttle bus will provide regular access to nearby field events throughout the day.

The festival is hosted by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation and Otter Creek Audubon Society.

For more information and a schedule of events, visit Vermont Fish & Wildlife's website (www.vtfishandwildlife.com) and check under "Watch Wildlife" or use this link: <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/watch-wildlife/dead-creek-wildlife-day>.

Addison, VT

Join Vermont Fish & Wildlife for Bird Banding

Bird-lovers are invited to join the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department in Addison at the Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and nearby Snake Mountain to learn more about bird banding and conservation.

Fish and Wildlife is partnering with Otter Creek Audubon to hold bird banding demonstrations. Members of the public will help identify the birds, observe the banding process and help release the birds. Licensed bird bander Rodney Olsen of Vergennes will lead.

Evening owl banding sessions will take place at Snake Mountain from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. on October 11 and 18.

Participants are invited to come learn why owls are banded and about some of the techniques that are used.

Songbird banding will take place from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on October 26 near the Dead Creek WMA Visitor Center. In addition to songbird banding, there will be several stations set up about bird identification, bird biology and birding techniques.

"Birds are currently on a massive migration headed southward, and many people aren't even aware of it," said Olsen. "Dead Creek is a great location to witness this migration. I encourage people to come learn more about the conservation work that goes on at Dead Creek and

Vermont Fish and Wildlife's other wildlife management areas."

Bird banding is a conservation tool that helps biologists track the health of bird populations in the wild. It can also help biologists better understand bird movements to target high-priority habitats for conservation efforts.

For info about the event,

contact Corey Hart at corey.hart@vermont.gov. For cancellations due to weather, check the Vermont Fish and Wildlife's Facebook page.

The Dead Creek WMA Visitor Center is located at 966 Vermont Route 17, Addison, Vermont. The owl banding session will take place approximately 1.2 miles east of the intersection of Route 17 and 22A—look for the signs.



Kids enjoy the workshops at Dead Creek Wildlife Day.

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Vermont Map



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Vermont Country Calendar

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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

POULTNEY. Birding Walk on Endless Brook Trail, looking for fall warblers and other migrating birds. About 3 miles, 3 hours, easy to moderate terrain (250 ft. elevation gain), at a slow pace with lots of opportunities for observing and photographing. Bring water, bug repellent, binoculars, cameras, field guides. Meet at Endless Brook Trailhead (Endless Brook Rd, on left, 0.9 miles in from Rt. 30), at 7:30 am. For more info contact leader: Joel Tilley, jptilley50@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

RICHMOND. Chicken Pie Supper. Chicken pie, mashed potatoes, winter squash, coleslaw, apple or pumpkin pie. Takeout available. Adults \$12, children \$6, Three seatings: 5 pm, 6 pm, and 7 pm. Richmond Congregational Church, 20 Church St. (802) 434-2053. church@rccucc.org. rccucc.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses, and more. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Wednesdays through October 23.*

RUTLAND. Comedy Performance. So This Happened: a Comic Confronts Cancer. Comic and storyteller Josie Leavitt takes the audience on her almost year-long cancer journey, pulling no punches in an intimate performance about her treatment. 7 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org.

WALLINGFORD. Concert: DaddyLongLegs. Three of Vermont's finest acoustic musicians. Donation. 7 pm. Town Hall, 75 School St. (802) 446-2872. townadmin@wallingfordvt.com.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

RUTLAND. Concert. Wynonna Judd, world-renowned vocalist and entertainer: Wynonna & The Big Noise. Tickets: \$45-\$65. 7 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. paramountvt.org. wynonna.com.

STOWE. Poetry Reading and Discussion with Rajni Eddins. Helen Day Art Center, 90 Pond St. (802) 253-8358. helenday.com.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

BENNINGTON. Fall Social, honoring award recipients Ada and Paul Paresky Wing, Greg Van Houten, and volunteers of the George Aiken Wildflower Trail. Light knoshes, brews and wine for purchase. Time to socialize with honorees and friends. Tickets: \$30. Reservations required by September 27. 5-7:30 pm. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org

BRANDON. Concert: Singer-songwriter Kyle Carey performs 'Gaelic Americana'. Tickets: \$20; pre-concert dinner available for \$25. Reservations required for dinner, recommended for show. Venue is BYOB. Concert begins at 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. info@brandon-music.net. brandon-music.net.

BRATTLEBORO. Book and Author Event: Megan Price, author of the bestselling Vermont Wild, Adventures of Fish & Game Warden series will share secrets behind the series, sign books and answer questions from fans. 6 pm. Everyone's Books.

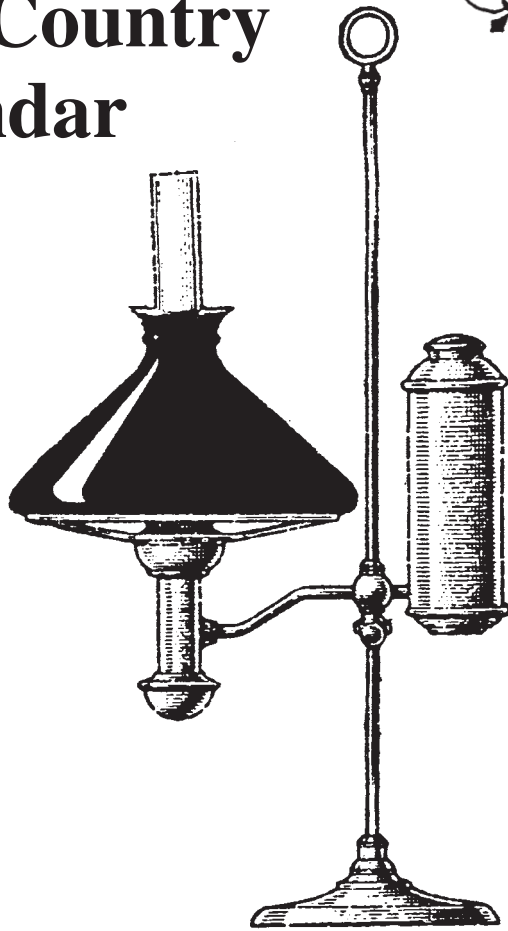
GRAFTON. Mighty Acorns Preschool Explorers Club: Autumn Learning Adventures. Learn about why fall is a special time for the plants, animals, and humans who call Vermont home. Take an adventure into the fall forest to explore and discover with new eyes. Then share about our experience, with local apple cider. Fee: \$5 per child, drop-ins welcome for \$8. 10-11:30 am. The Nature Museum, 186 Townshend Rd. nature-museum.org.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Jon Batiste and Stay Human, widely known through their gig as the house band for The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. Tickets: \$30+. 7:30 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 E Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

MANCHESTER CENTER. Fall Art and Craft Festival. 150 artists and artisans displaying and selling original art and contemporary crafts, indoors and outdoors. Craft demonstrations, food court, Vermont craft beers, light entertainment. Specialty food tent with Vermont wines and distilleries. Tickets: \$10. 10 am - 5 pm. Riley Rink at Hunter Park, 410 Hunter Park Rd. (802) 316-5019. info@craftproducers.com. craftproducers.com. *Through October 6.*

MIDDLEBURY. "Spinning Plates" Food Truck Event. Tourterelle, casual French fare. Live music and mural paintings. Free admission and outdoor entertainment. Rain or shine. Lunch 12 noon - 4 pm. Dinner 5-10 pm. In the alleyway next to Town Hall Theater. (802) 388-1436. townhalltheater.org.

RANDOLPH. Concert: Revenants, exciting mix of Bluegrass, reimagined Pop and well-crafted original music. Admission by donation. 7:30 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71 N Main St. (802) 728-9878. chandler-arts.org.



READING. Free First Fridays. View exhibitions without a guide, at your own pace. Wood-fired pizza prepared in a vintage truck with a wood-burning oven. Rain or shine. Admission free. 5-8 pm. Hall Art Foundation, 544 VT Route 106. (802) 952-1056. hallartfoundation.org. *Also November 1.*

RUTLAND. October Book Sale. Thousands of organized gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for all ages. Most items are \$.25-\$3. Discounted rare and antique books. All mysteries buy-one-get-one-free. Friday 10 am - 4 pm, Saturday 10 am - 2 pm. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. (802) 773-1860. rutlandfree.org. *Through October 5.*

RUTLAND. Concert: Arlo Guthrie, Alice's Restaurant Back By Popular Demand Tour with Sarah Lee Guthrie. Tickets: \$40-\$70. 7 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. paramountvt.org.

SHELBURNE. Seventh Annual Draft Animal Power Field Days. Friday: workshops and training, music and fun in the evening. Saturday and Sunday: timber framing, plowing, field work, logging, horseshoeing, teamster round tables, wagon rides, activities for kids, demonstrations. Saturday evening auction and raffle. Friday-Saturday 8 am - 10 pm, Sunday 8 am - 2 pm. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd. (802) 747-7900. dapnetinfo@gmail.com. draftanimalpower.org/dap-field-days. *Through October 6.*

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

ADDISON. 18th Annual Dead Creek Wildlife Day. Bird banding demonstration at 7 am. Two large tents open at 9:30 am. Wildlife-related exhibits and activities, decoy carving, building bluebird boxes. 8 am - 4 pm displays and talks. Live critters. Nature walks, illustrated talks, hunting dog demonstrations, hunting tips, and much more. Free. Free shuttle bus to nearby field events. Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA), on Route 17 west of Route 22A. vtfishandwildlife.com.

BARNET. 16th Annual Ben's Mill Rubber Ducky Derby. Food truck, kids table, planter raffle, lap quilt raffle (ducky motif). Ducks swim at 11 am. Multiple prizes. Mill tours. Tickets: \$5-\$20. 9:30 am - 3 pm. Ben's Mill, 2236 West Barnet Rd. (603) 653-3046. lgahea1308@gmail.com. bensmill.com.

BARRE. Concert: EagleMania, the world's greatest Eagles tribute show. Tickets: \$29-\$38. 7:30 pm. The Barre Opera House. (802) 476-8188. barreoperahouse.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. Book and Author Event: Megan Price, author of the bestselling Vermont Wild, Adventures of Fish & Game Warden series will share secrets behind the series, sign books and answer questions from fans. 11 am. Village Square Bookstore.

BRANDON. Support Our Vets Vendor Craft Fair. Crafts, vendors, raffle, and get to help our local veterans. Free admission. Free raffle entry with a donated item from the Dodge House website wish list: dodgehousevt.org/wish-list. 11 am - 4 pm. American Legion Post 55, 55 Franklin St. (Rte. 7). (802) 342-3920. gbgmail@comcast.net. dodgehousevt.org.

BRANDON. Concert: The Umoya Trio, classical recorder music. Tickets: \$20; pre-concert dinner available for \$25. Reservations required for dinner, recommended for show. Venue is BYOB. Concert begins at 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. brandon-music.net.

Country Woman

Have you picked up a quince to smell it
And thought of grape jam on cellar shelves,
Of honey, brown eggs in water glass,
Of the braided bulbs of garlic and onion
Hung from the rafter?



There is sage and bay in the autumn wind,
There are apples that have not dropped from the bough,
Red withering brown in the smoke and the haze.
The cows are slow to pull at the frost-grey grass;
There was ice on the pond last night.

The city is miles away.
The quince in your hand
Is warm as a grandmother's cheek.

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Rutland Downtown Farmers Market
Depot Park (next to Walmart), Downtown Rutland, VT
Saturdays 9-2, Wednesdays 3-6, through end of October

Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, October 5, continued)

BRATTLEBORO. Oak Meadow Annual Fall Open House. Celebrate homeschooling. Meet teachers and staff, view curriculum, and ask questions. Play, sing, create, and sample delicious Vermont treats. 11 am – 1 pm. Oak Meadow, 132 Main St. (802) 251-7250. oakmeadow.com.

COLCHESTER. Sam Mazza's Harvest Family Days. Face painting, corn maze, hayrides, pumpkin picking, music, food, and more. Cost: hayrides \$10/rider with pumpkin, \$3 for just a rider; corn maze ages 12+ \$9, ages 3–11 \$6, under 2 free; pony rides \$4, bounce house \$2. 12 noon – 3 pm. Sam Mazza Farms, 277 Lavigne Rd. (802) 655-3440. sammazzafarms.com.

EAST FAIRFIELD. Summer Concerts with Vermont Treasures: The Revenants. Suggested donation: \$10. 7 pm. 53 School St. (802) 827-6626. meetinghouseonthegreen.org.

FAIRFIELD. 190th Birthday Party for President Chester A. Arthur. Period games. Learn remarkable facts about President Arthur on the history treasure hunt. Birthday cake. 10 am – 2 pm. President Chester A. Arthur State Historic Site, 4588 Chester Arthur Rd. (802) 828-3051. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/arthur.

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra performs Ravel's Tzigane and Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations and Violin Concerto. Tickets: \$25+. 7:30 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 E Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

KEENE, NH. Book Event: Megan Price, author of *Vermont Wild, Adventures of Fish & Game Warden* series will share secrets behind the series, sign books and answer questions from fans. 2 pm. Toadstool Books.

LUDLOW. Ludlow Elementary School Parent Teacher Group's 36th Annual Harvest Fair. Donkey Doo Bingo: grand prize of \$1,000. Bake sale and vendors. 10 am – 4 pm. On the front lawn of Black River High School, 45 Main St. (603) 219-3491. facebook.com/ludlowvtharvestfair.

MARLOW, NH. Marlow ATV Club Fall Festival. 10 am - 4 pm at the Marlow ATV trail head parking lot. Trail Riding, Games, Vendors, Food, ATV Simulator, Fire Pits. Rain or Shine. See Marlow NH Family ATV Club FB page.

MIDDLEBURY. Concert: Heath Quartet perform Beethoven. \$22, 18 and under \$10, students \$6. 7:30 pm; pre-concert lecture 6:15 pm in MAC 221. Robison Hall, Mahaney Center for the Arts, 72 Porter Field Rd. (802) 443-5258. middlebury.edu/arts.

ORWELL. The Autumn of 1776: "Making Preparations to Receive the Enemy." Historian Paul Andrisin offers an illustrated talk on the busy autumn of 1776 when Mount Independence and Fort Ticonderoga were being prepared for the arrival of the British. 1–2:30 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicites.vermont.gov/mount-independence.

RANDOLPH. Vermont Symphony Orchestra Made in Vermont Tour. Bartók's Romanian Folk Dances, Haydn's C Major Cello Concerto, a concerto by Francois Devienne, and a world premiere commission from Matthew Evan Taylor with a screening of a new film, "The Greatest Night." Tickets: \$10–\$25. 7:30 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71 N Main St. (802) 728-9878. chandler-arts.org.

RICHMOND. Lake Champlain Salmon Festival. Live salmon on display. Learn about the work being done to protect salmon and their habitats in the Lake Champlain basin. Talks and film screenings at the Richmond Community Library. 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. Richmond Volunteers Green, 286 Bridge St. (802) 662-5306. LCBP.org/Salmon.

RIPTON. Ripton Community Coffee House: Swedish band Kolonien, a playful synthesis of traditional and contemporary expressions. 7:30 pm open mic followed by featured performers. General admission \$10, generous admission \$15. Doors open at 7 pm. Open mic sign up: (802) 388-9782. rcchfolks@gmail.com. Ripton Community Coffee House, 1305 Rte 125. (802) 349-3364. rcch.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses. Live music. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 26.

SOUTH HERO. Harvest Festival. Grape stomping, food trucks, live band. Wine tastings. Take a walk up Fox Hill. Free wagon rides around the vineyard. Picnic area, dog friendly. 12 noon – 4 pm. Snow Farm Vineyard, 190 West Shore Rd. (802) 372-9463. snowfarm.com.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Annual Fall Dog Party. Live music by Vermont folk duo The Endorsements. Bounce house, door prizes, food, dog contests, and more. Free. 12 noon – 4 pm. Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd. (802) 748-3075. info@dogmt.com. dogmt.com.

STRAFFORD. Put the Garden to Bed. Assist the site's head gardener in preparing the kitchen and ornamental garden beds for the winter and the next growing season. 9 am – 12 noon. Senator Justin Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Justin Morrill Hwy. (802) 828-3051. tracy.martin@vermont.gov. historicites.vermont.gov/directory/morrill.

TUNBRIDGE. 31st Annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival. Over 70 vendors offering fleece and yarn, fiber animals, hand-spinning and fiber crafting equipment and supplies, handcrafted wool items, local meat and cheese. Contests, fiber arts classes, demonstrations, shepherd workshops, herding and shearing demos, and fleece sale. Saturday 10 am – 5 pm, Sunday 10 am – 4 pm. 1 Fairground Ln. (802) 592-3062. vtsheepandwoolfest.com Thru Oct. 6.

WOODSTOCK. Autumn Wagon Ride Weekend. Scenic narrated wagon ride around the farm fields. Dairy farm, farm life exhibits, restored and furnished farmhouse, plus programs and activities, including cider pressing, included in entrance fee: adults \$16, 62 & over \$14, children 5–15 \$8, 3–4 \$4, 2 & under free. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, north of the Woodstock village green on Vermont Rte. 12. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. Thru October 6.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

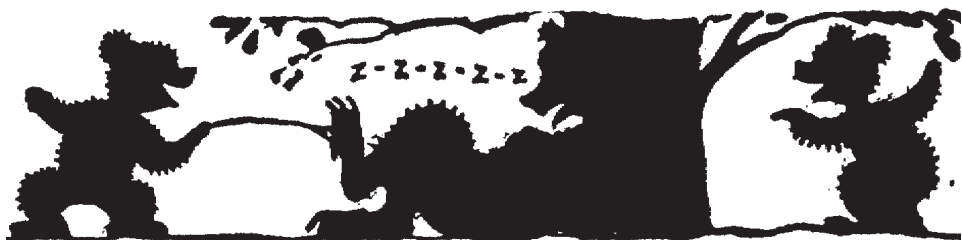
DANVILLE. Autumn on the Green. Artisans, crafters, cottage industries, and businesses amidst the spectacular views and color of autumn. Free and accessible. 10 am – 4 pm. Danville Town Green, Park St. (802) 227-3113. info@danvillevtchamber.org. danvillevtchamber.org.

GREENSBORO. Vermont Symphony Orchestra Made in Vermont Tour. Haydn's C Major Cello Concerto, a concerto by Francois Devienne, and a world premiere commission from Matthew Evan Taylor with a screening of a new film, "The Greatest Night." Tickets: \$20, seniors \$16, students \$10. 3 pm. Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St. (802) 533-2000. highlandartsvt.org.

HUBBARDTON. 22nd Annual Mount Zion Hike. Enjoy the autumn colors and views of the battlefield. Mount Zion is now part of the Taconic Mountains Ramble State Park. Wear sturdy shoes, dress for the weather, and bring water. 1:30–4:30 pm. Meet at visitor center, Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. (802) 273-2282. historicites.vermont.gov/hubbardton-battlefield.

NORWICH. Concert: Folksinger/Songwriters Emily Mure and Caroline Cotter. Tickets: \$20–\$25. 4:30–6:30 pm. Unitarian Universalist Church of the Upper Valley, 320 US Rt 5. (802) 649-8828. office@uucuv.org. uucuv.org.

VERGENNES. Take a Cruise with the Sheldon: Hour-long cruise along the shores of Lake Champlain. Thomas Rogers from The Nature Conservancy will present a brief talk about how climate change has affected fish and wildlife in Vermont. Tickets: \$50, includes complimentary beverage; reservations required. Basin Harbor Marina in Vergennes at 3 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum. (802) 388-2117.



49th Annual Newfane Heritage Festival

**Saturday and Sunday
October 12 & 13
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

On the Common in the Village of Newfane
Vermont Route 30 - 14 miles north of Brattleboro

90+ Juried Arts, Crafts & Specialty Products

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FREE ADMISSION

More Info - www.newfaneheritagefestival.org

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10th Annual Chocolate Festival and Silent Auction

The Rutland United Methodist Church (RUMC) will be holding its 10th annual Chocolate Festival and Silent Auction on Friday, October 11th, 2019 at the Holiday Inn, 476 US Route 7 South in Rutland, VT, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. \$5 admission.

A ticket includes a sampling of numerous decadent chocolate desserts, along with a bidding number to participate in the continuous bidding throughout the evening. Door prizes will also be awarded. There will be approximately 300 pieces on display to bid on, including many attractive and useful items from local businesses and artisans, and gift certificates. Stop by and start your holiday shopping!

The fundraiser will help to support local organizations and programs for those in need in our area, including an emergency fund for people directly asking for help from our church. Thanks to the generosity of businesses and auction goers, this annual event has contributed over \$100,000 to our neighbors in need.

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Vermont Country Calendar

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

BURLINGTON. Talk. March: Book One. Congressman John Lewis and his March Trilogy co-author Andrew Aydin will discuss their transformative and award-winning graphic novels. Free, by lottery. 7:30 pm. MainStage, Flynn Center. flynncenter.org.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

CASTLETON. Birding Walk. Joel Tilley from Rutland County Audubon will lead a fall birding walk on the Castleton University trails, looking for fall warblers and other migrating birds. Easy to moderate terrain. Meet at the D&H trail crossing on South St., at 7:30 am. Visitor parking is behind the Stafford Academic Center in the Stafford lot. For more information contact leader: Joel Tilley, jptilley50@gmail.com.

RUTLAND. Class: The heART of Cookie Decorating, with cookie artist Chrissy Moore. Cost: \$25. 6-8 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. chaffeeartcenter.org. Also November 12.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

MIDDLEBURY. Opera Company of Middlebury performs Puccini's Tosca. Sung in Italian with English supertitles. Tickets: \$50-\$65. 7:30 pm. Town Hall Theater, 65 S Pleasant St. (802) 382-9222. townhalltheater.org. Also October 11 at 7:30 pm, October 13 at 2 pm.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses, and more. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Wednesdays through October 23.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

HANOVER, NH. Concert: St. Lawrence String Quartet perform Haydn's String Quartet in D-Major and String Quartet in C Major, John Adams' Second Quartet, and Osvaldo Golijov's Yiddishbuk. Tickets: \$30+. 7:30 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 E Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

RANDOLPH. "VeggieVanGo" Produce Van. Area residents in need of food assistance can pick up free vegetables and fruits. 11:30 am - 1 pm. Gifford Medical Center visitors entrance, 44 S. Main St. (802) 728-2377. vtfoodbank.org/veggievango. Second Thursdays.

BURLINGTON. Author Appearance: Peter Shea and Bob Shannon, authors of *Vermont Trout Streams*. \$3. 7 pm. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

ADDISON. Bird Banding Demonstration: Owl Banding. Learn why owls are banded and about some of the techniques that are used. Help identify the birds, observe the banding process and help release the birds after they are banded. 8-11 pm. Snake Mountain, Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, approx. 1.2 miles east of the intersection of Rte 17 and 22A; look for signs. corey.hart@vermont.gov. vtfishandwildlife.com. Also October 18.

BELLOWS FALLS. Workshop: Hildegard of Bingen, Magistra, Mystic, Musician. Contemplative prayer and other spiritual practices, song, music, optional spiritual direction, informal discussion and personal time. Faculty: Ruth Cunningham and Robert Bowler. Cost: \$390-\$490. Friday 5 pm - Sunday 1:30 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org. Through October 13.

CLARENDON. Grocery Bingo, to benefit Clarendon Fire Association Auxiliary. Refreshments will be available. One strip for \$4, four strips for \$12, specials \$1 each. Doors open at 6 pm, bingo starts at 7 pm. Clarendon Elementary School. bradjoey222@gmail.com.

LUDLOW. 10th Annual Big Buzz Chainsaw Carving Festival. Featuring 25 international carvers. Daily one-hour quick carves and auctions. Food trucks. Saturday at dusk will be fire sculptures, live music, and Smokey D's BBQ Truck. \$6 admission, kids 12 and under free. 10 am - 5 pm. The Ice House at Jackson Gore Inn, Okemo Mountain Resort. (508) 965-3211. barrepinske.com. Through October 14.

RICHMOND. Pasture-Raised Fried Chicken Dinners on the Farm. Fried chicken with all the fixin's. Lawn games, local live music. Farm to cone ice cream. Rain or shine. Bring camp chairs/blankets in case we run out of indoor seating. Take-out available. Tickets: adults \$24, under 12 \$14; vegetarian \$16/\$10. 5:30 pm. Maple Wind Farm, 1148 E Main St. beth@maplewindfarm.com. maplewindfarm.com.

RUTLAND. Tenth Annual Chocolate Festival and Silent Auction. Door prizes. Approximately 300 pieces to bid on. Tickets: \$5, includes sampling of chocolate desserts, and a bidding number. Sponsored by Rutland United Methodist Church (RUMC). 6-9 pm. Holiday Inn, 476 US Route 7 S.

STOWE. Foliage Arts Festival. 175 artists and artisans under majestic Camelot tents. Specialty food exhibitors, food court with seating. Live music. Rain or shine, most exhibitors under cover. No pets please. 10 am - 5 pm. Topnotch Field, 3420 The Mountain Rd. (802) 316-5019. Through October 13.

WILLISTON. Brick Church Music Series Concert: Ray Vega Quartet will perform classics from the great American song book as well as great jazz composers... and some originals. Featured visual artist: Olga Verasen, "Listen to your heart." Tickets: \$15. 7 pm. Old Brick Church, 100 Library Ln. (802) 764-1141. rmcguire@willistonvt.org.

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

BARRE. Annual Vermont Granite Festival. Music, artist demonstrations, interactive exhibits, food and drink, and much more. The Starline Rhythm Boys perform 1-3 pm. Free entry. 10 am - 4 pm. Vermont Granite Museum, Jones Brothers Way. (802) 476-4605. info@vtgranitemuseum.org. vtgranitemuseum.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert. The Fire and the Ecstasy: The Music of Hildegard of Bingen, with Ruth Cunningham and Melinda Gardiner. Tickets: premium \$25 (seniors 60+ \$20), standard \$20 (seniors \$15). 7:30 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org.

KILLINGTON. Harvest Faire. Live music, craft beer, pumpkin painting, horse-drawn hay rides, bounce house, apple launching, and stein hoisting. Free. 9 am - 5 pm. Killington Resort, Snowshed Base, 3861 Killington Rd.

LUDLOW. Light Up the Night, community pumpkin carving and illuminating, to benefit charities. Make a donation, pick out your pumpkin and carve. Seed toasting, music, face painting, children's craft table. Wood-fired pizza, lemonade stand. 4-8 pm. The Gazebo at Veteran's Memorial Park, 1 High St. (802) 228-2386. lora.miele@trsu.org. tedysteam.wixsite.com/lightupthenight.

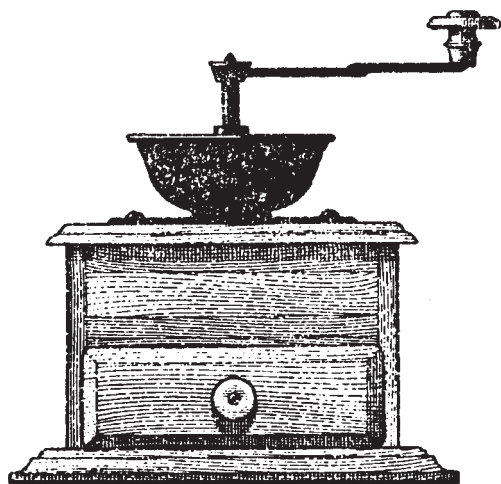
MIDDLEBURY. Quilting in the Land of Milk and Honey. Quilts, vendors, basket raffle, consignments, ornaments, raffle quilt, and a quilt appraiser. Refreshments available. Admission: \$7, under 12 free. Saturday 10 am - 5 pm, Sunday 10 am - 3 pm. Middlebury Recreation Center, 154 Creek Rd., Middlebury, VT. milkandhoneyquilters.com. Through October 13.

NEWFANE. Newfane Heritage Festival. Over 90 juried arts, crafts, and specialty product vendors. Great food including homemade apple pies & crisps. Super raffle, books, fleas, live music. Free Admission. 10 am - 4 pm. Newfane Village Common, VT Rte. 30, 14 miles north of Brattleboro. (802) 365-4079. newfanechurch@gmail.com. newfaneheritagefestival.org.

NORWICH. Contradance. Live music by Atlantic Crossing (Peter MacFarlane fiddle, Rick Klein guitar, Viveka Fox fiddle, bodhran). Caller: David Millstone. Admission: \$12, students \$8, under 16 free (additional contributions gratefully accepted). Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. marthadmcDanielmd@gmail.com. 2nd and 4th Saturdays.

PLYMOUTH. Plymouth Notch Antique Apple Fest. Tour the heirloom orchard. 10 am second annual Coolidge 5K Race (and "I do not choose to run" one-mile walk). 1:30 pm Anne Collins speaks about heritage harvest recipes (and shares samples). Cider pressing, wagon rides, historic farm & craft demonstrations, barbecue & harvest treats, cheese making. Guided tours of the Plymouth Cheese Factory. Admission: adults \$10, children 6-14 \$2, under 6 free, family (up to 8 people) \$25. 10 am - 4 pm. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicites.vermont.gov/calvin-coolidge. william.jenney@vermont.gov.

POULTNEY. Opening Reception: 20th annual ICE (International Collage Exchange) Exhibit. Found papers, ephemera and objects, painting, drawing and digital pictures, by 76 artists from around the globe. Free. 5-8 pm. Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill, 145 East Main St. (802) 325-2603. stonevalleyartscenter@gmail.com. stonevalleyarts.org. outofight.co.nz. Exhibit runs October 4 through November 3.



Recipes from a Century Past

Tips for Harvest-Time Preserving, circa 1902

Annie Gregory wrote, in 1902: "Our grandmothers used a pound of sugar to a pound of fruit—but then they used, too, the old-fashioned stone crock or open jar in which to store the fruit. Now, most preserves are put in sealed cans and only three-fourths of a pound of sugar is required to preserve fruit perfectly. Keep in a dark dry closet. If the closet is cool so much the better but always have it dry."

Candied Quinces

Select firm quinces, rub them over with a damp cloth, peel, core and cut each one into several pieces. The peels and cores should be tied in a muslin bag and boiled with the quinces. Place all in a preserving kettle on the stove, pour over them enough boiling water to nearly cover, and allow them to boil slowly until they are tender; then drain off the water and let cool. Weigh the quinces and allow an equal weight of sugar. When cold put them into glass jars in alternate layers, first sugar, then quinces, and so on, and seal. The juice in which they are boiled should be saved; add to its weight in sugar and make into jelly.

—Blanche

Preserved Pears

If the seckle pear can be obtained select that on account of its size and flavor but if not to be had then any other pear will answer. Pare off the peeling with a thin knife so as not to waste the fruit. If a seckle leave it whole; if another variety, separate it in halves. Make a syrup of sugar and water, using three-fourths of a pound of sugar to every pound of fruit to be preserved and one cupful of water to a pound of sugar. Drop in the fruit and carefully cook. Just before taking from the stove drop in a few whole cloves, about two to every pear. Cloves are a great addition as they help bring out the flavor of the pear.

—Mrs. R. A.

Tomato Figs

Select small-sized, ripe tomatoes, either the red or yellow; scald and peel. To nine pounds of tomatoes add four pounds of brown sugar; cook slowly in the sugar without water till they are thoroughly preserved; then take out, spread on plates and dry in the sun. Pack them in layers with sugar sprinkled between.

—Tillie Barker

These recipes were contributed by "one thousand home-makers" to *Woman's Favorite Cookbook* by Annie R. Gregory, circa 1902.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, October 12, continued)

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses. Live music. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 26.

RUTLAND. 58th Annual Art in the Park Fall Foliage Festival. Juried fine artists, craftspeople, and specialty food producers. Food vendors, live music, kid's activities, community art project, pet area, live demonstrations. Saturday 10 am – 5 pm, Sunday 10 am – 4 pm. Main Street Park, Junction of Routes 4 & 7. (802) 775-0356. chaffeeartcenter.org. Through October 13.

SALISBURY. Climb the Moose Uphill Trail Run and Mountain Bike, at Moosalamoo National Recreation Area. 3-mile uphill trail run, and mountain bike, to Silver Lake trailhead in Goshen. Start and awards ceremony at Branbury State Park on Lake Dunmore. Camping available. 8–11 am. Branbury State Park, 3570 Lake Dunmore Rd. (802) 989-6980. execdir.moosalamoo@gmail.com. runreg.com/climb-the-moose.

SHOREHAM. Celebrate Shoreham! Concert at 4 pm, followed by a raffle of Shoreham items, and a Harvest Dinner from 5:30 to 7 pm, featuring Roasted Pork and Fall Vegetables, side dishes, apple desserts and beverages for only \$12 for adults, \$10 seniors, \$5 for children over 5, and younger children free. Raffle items will be drawn after the dinner. Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School Rd. (802) 897-2687.

SOUTH BURLINGTON. Pollinator Workday, with co-curators Debbie Wolf-Page and Charlotte Albers. Help put our Pollinator Garden to bed, and learn about perennial division, transplanting, and seasonal maintenance. Bring gloves and tools or use ours. Qualifies for Extension Master Gardener education hours. Free. 10 am – 12 noon. UVM Horticulture Center, 65 Green Mountain Dr. fhvt.org.

SOUTH HERO. Fall Family Fest. Open-house-style event. Local apples, cider, and donuts. Ages 6–14+. Free. 1–4 pm. YWCA VT Camp Hochelaga, Hochelaga Rd. (802) 862-7520. contactus@ywcavt.org. ywcavt.org/camp-hochelaga.

SOUTH POMFRET. OktoberFast Weekend. Downhill (Fun) Race on Saturday at Suicide Six Bike Park. Enduro Event featuring 5 timed sections on Sunday at Mt. Peg Network in Woodstock. Awards and food at Suicide Six Bike Park both days. 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. Suicide Six, 247 Stage Rd. (802) 457-6661. s6info@woodstockinn.com. suicide6.com. Through October 13.

ST. JOHNSBURY. Vermont Philharmonic Annual Opera Gala. Young singers from the Bel Canto Institute in Florence perform arias from the Italian bel canto opera repertory, overture to Wagner's opera Rienzi and Mendelssohn's 4th Symphony (the Italian). Adults \$20, seniors \$15, students \$5. 7:30 pm. Fuller Hall, St. Johnsbury Academy, 1000 Main St. 802-748-2600. support@catamountix.org. catamounts.org.

STRATTON MOUNTAIN. Harvest Fest. A weekend of family fun: foliage views from the summit, hay rides, pumpkin painting, mountaintop yoga. Chili cook-off, Brewfest, with ales, beers, and ciders crafted by more than 100 purveyors. North Face Race to the Summit. 7 am – midnight. Stratton Mountain Resort, 5 Village Lodge Rd. (800) 787-2886. stratton.com. Through October 14.

WEST DOVER. 22nd Annual Mount Snow Oktoberfest. Beer, schnitzel and Oom-pah music. Kids' games, pumpkin painting, apple sling shot, "schnitzel toss." Kid's Zone with beanbag toss, bouncy house, pumpkin painting, donut eating on a string. German and domestic beers, authentic German fare. Tickets: adult drinkers \$30, designated drivers and ages 7–20 \$15, under 7 free. 11 am – 5 pm. Mount Snow Resort, 39 Mount Snow Rd. (802) 464-1100. kking@mountsnow.com. mountsnow.com. Through October 13.

WEST DOVER. 46th Annual Harvest Arts and Crafts Show. 50+ vendors including local artisans, specialty food makers, and more. Original works of art, handmade jewelry and furniture, homemade fudge. Free admission. 10 am – 5 pm. Main Base Lodge and base area, Mount Snow Resort, 39 Mount Snow Rd. (802) 464-1100. Through October 13.

WOODSTOCK. Annual Harvest Weekend. Husking bee, barn dance, cider pressing, preserving apples, threshing grain, making ice cream. Activities for the whole family. Admission. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. Also October 13.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

ADDISON. Amateur Radio Demonstration. Addison County Amateur Radio Association sets up a radio station, to communicate with other operators elsewhere and to talk with the public about what they do and how you can get involved. 10 am – 4 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicsites.vermont.gov/chimney-point.

CHARLOTTE. Tractor Parade. Over 100 antique and modern tractors parade down Spear St. Open air market, food, music, free pony rides, children's games, barnyard pets. Shuttle from parking lots. Parade starts at 1 pm rain or shine. Free. 11 am – 5 pm. Spear St. (802) 425-4444. facebook.com/tractorparade.

CHESTER. Fall Foliage Train Rides. Two-hour round-trip to Ludlow, passing through historic villages, along rivers, through the Green Mountains, and over a high bridge. Historical narrations. Tickets: adults \$25, children \$20, under 2 free. 12 noon – 2 pm. 563 Depot St. (800) 707-3530. passenger@vrs.us.com. trainridesvt.com/fall-foliage-ludlow. *Departs once a day Tuesday–Sunday at 12:30 pm (all aboard at 12 noon).*

DUMMERSTON. Apple Pie Festival. 1500 "church-made" pies sold whole or by the piece, served with homemade ice cream, fresh donuts, hot cider and Vermont cheddar cheese. 7:30–11 am Fireman's Pancake Breakfast. 10 am Apple pie contest. 10 am – 4 pm Craft Fair. Rain or shine, indoors or under a tent. Free. 7 am – 4:30 pm. On the Commons, 1038 East West Rd. (802) 257-0544. dummerston.org.

MANCHESTER. Sunday Farm Concert. Music by Funk on the Farm Fest. Certified organic vegetables, wood-fired bakery, vegetarian farm-to-table event catering, farm store & world music venue. 5 pm. Earth Sky Time Community Farm, 1547 Main St. just south of town off Rt. 7A. (802) 384-1400. www.earthskytime.com.

NORWICH. English Country Dance. Dances taught by David Millstone. Music by Thal Aylward (violin and viola), Carol Compton (piano and recorders). All dances taught and prompted to live music. Bring shoes to change into at the hall, no high heels. Potluck snacks at the break. Admission: \$10. 1–4 pm. Tracy Hall. davidmillstone7@gmail.com. Also Nov. 10, Dec. 1, Jan. 26 3–6 pm, Feb. 23 3–6 pm, Mar. 29 3–6 pm, Apr. 19 3–6 pm.

ORWELL. Hike into History. Walk in the footsteps of Revolutionary War soldiers, with Stephen Zeoli as your guide. Wear walking shoes and dress for the weather. 1–4 pm. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicsites.vermont.gov/mount-independence.

PITTSFORD. The Pittsford Sheep Festival. Local craft vendors, felters and spinners will have booths. Sheep shearing demonstrations. Sheep dog handling demonstrations. The Leaping of the Lambs. Live music, food for sale. Visit with local shepherds. Sponsored by the Rutland Area Shepherds. Free. 11 am – 4 pm. Pittsford Recreation Area, off Furnace Rd. Contact Don at (802) 342-3176. www.vermontshepherds.com.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

BURLINGTON. Book Talk: Susan Ritz, author of a new mystery, *A Dream to Die For*. \$3. 7 pm. Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St. (802) 448-3350. www.phoenixbooks.biz.

October Notes

circa 1883

by Edward Martin Taber

This afternoon in the swamp, the south wind stirred the remaining leaves of the birches and lifted the flat sprays of hemlock and fir. Looking southward the light was soft and glittering on the moving foliage, and made of the naked twigs a silver net, like a spider's web. The voices of the red squirrel, of the snowbird, and the nuthatch and the drum of the woodpecker were heard.

From beneath a fallen spruce a rabbit started and leaped in a wide circle, pausing at shelter by a hemlock stump or among the debris of a fallen tree, sitting erect with ears laid back. No hint yet of winter in her coat. A young white pine tree, smooth of bark, slim and tapering, with boughs of a bright green—

the brightest piece of color in the swamp—lay half-uprooted by the heavy wind of last Saturday.

Tonight there was a filmy thickening of the air, a blue haze upon the mountains, soft but bright. Against this, the dark forms of young spruces, the curving lines and triangles of bare boughs, the pale surface of the pasture; above, a moon less bright, but more golden in color, and surrounded by a circle of faint radiance.

The sunset very beautiful, lilac, purple, magenta, those reposeful combinations of red and blue predominating—the clouds long, flimsy, scattered and wild in distribution, like mares'-tails.

Much charm in the evening, something caressing yet startling in the soft but gusty wind. There is mystery with repose, and yet a sense of hurry and flutter.



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Vermont Country Calendar



MIDDLEBURY. Fourth Annual Producer Buyer Forum: The Rewards & Risks of Growth. Farmers, food producers, manufacturers, buyers at all scales, distributors. B2B learning and sharing. Speakers, round-table conversation. 8:30 am – 2:30 pm. Middlebury College. (802) 922-7060. annie@acornvt.org. acornvt.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses, and more. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. *Wednesdays through October 23.*

RUTLAND. Concert: Pink Martini, featuring China Forbes. Twelve musicians (and sometimes a string section) perform multilingual repertoire. Tickets: \$49-\$69. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. paramountvt.org. pinkmartini.com.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

BRATTLEBORO. 18th Annual Brattleboro Literary Festival. Readings, panels, and special events. Free. 10 am – 8 pm. Various venues in downtown Brattleboro. (802) 365-7673. brattleboroliteraryfestival.org. *Through October 20.*

CAMBRIDGE, NY. Opera Company of Middlebury performs Puccini's *Tosca*. Sung in Italian with English supertitles. Tickets: \$50-\$65. 7:30 pm. Hubbard Hall. (802) 382-9222. townhalltheater.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Vermont Tech Jam. Talk with recruiters, connect with tech professionals, find out about training programs, and learn about professional development from industry experts. 9 am – 5 pm. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 864-5684. techjamvt.com.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

ADDISON. Bird Banding Demonstration: Owl Banding. Learn why owls are banded and about some of the techniques that are used. Help identify the birds, observe the banding process and help release the birds after they are banded. 8-11 pm. Snake Mountain, Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area, approx. 1.2 miles east of the intersection of Rte 17 and 22A; look for signs. corey.hart@vermont.gov. vtfishandwildlife.com.

BELLOWS FALLS. Workshop: An Introduction to Celtic Shamanism with Jane Burns. A journey into the hollow hills, the icy sea, and the splendor of the sky, as experienced by the ancient Celtic races. \$340-\$450. Friday 4 pm – Sunday 1 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org. *Through October 20.*

EAST FAIRFIELD. Summer Concerts with Vermont Treasures: SHAKE. Suggested donation: \$10. 7 pm. 53 School St. (802) 827-6626. meetinghouseonthegreen.org.

ESSEX JUNCTION. Nightmare. Indoor, interactive, theatrical haunted house. Its sister show, Spookyville Vermont, is a kid-friendly, daytime Halloween walk through the Champlain Valley Expo. Champlain Valley Exposition, 105 Pearl St. (802) 355-3107. info@nightmarevermont.org. nightmarevermont.org. *Through October 27.*

GRAND ISLE. A Haunted Slay Ride. Ghastly ghosts, grim ghouls, and gruesome goblins. Ages 14-17 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Rain or Shine. Tickets: \$15. Reservations highly recommended. Friday and Saturday 6:30 pm – midnight, Sunday 6:30-11 pm. Breakaway Farm, 16 US 2. (802) 778-9178. hauntedslayridevt.com. *Through October 20, and October 25-27.*

MIDDLEBURY. Second Annual Middlebury Song Fest. Three concerts over three days. Singers and pianists from the Northeast explore the classical song repertoire, from Vermont's Gwyneth Walker, to French composer Germaine Tailleferre, to Fanny Mendelssohn and Alma Mahler. Vermont debut of Juliana Hall's *Through the Guarded Gate*. Tickets: \$15-\$25. 8-10 pm. Middlebury Community Music School, 6 Main St. (802) 388-2884. middleburysongfest@gmail.com. middleburysongfest.org. *Through October 19.*

RUTLAND. Musical. *Trumpilton: An American Musical Parody*. Light-hearted, tastefully irreverent musical parody, takes a look at Trump's life and presidency. Broadway show tunes sung by a host of characters. Adult content, not recommended for children under 12. Tickets (at door only): \$12, seniors \$9. Friday and Saturday 7:30 pm, Sunday 2 pm. B&G Gallery, 74 Merchants Row. (802) 922-8662.

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

ADDISON. You Can't Get There from Here: Stories from the Day the Bridge Closed, on the 10th anniversary of the closing of the Lake Champlain Bridge. Exploration of the history of the bridge area and archaeological findings. Moderated panel discussion of stories and memories. Lunch included. Pre-registration required. Fee. 10 am – 4 pm. Chimney Point State Historic Site, 8149 VT Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicites.vermont.gov/chimney-point.

BRANDON. Concert: Jeremy Mohney Colorado Swing Band. With infectious energy, Jeremy Mohney and His Band, based out of Colorado, capture the sounds of swing with a feel that can't be reproduced by many alive. \$20. 7:30 pm. Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. (802) 247-4295. info@brandon-music.net. brandon-music.net.

BRATTLEBORO. A Celebration & Book Signing for Archer Mayor's 30th Novel in Joe Gunther's Hometown. Stop by the Brooks Memorial Library to cheer Archer Mayor on, enjoy cake and ice cream, have your copy of *Bomber's Moon* signed, and enter a drawing for a doorprize. Everyone's Books will have books for sale. 6:30-8:30 pm. Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main St. brookslibraryvt.org.

COLCHESTER. Vermont Genealogy Library Annual Conference. Speakers on: The Expression of French-Canadian Culture in Winooski, Howard Coffin on Vermont Women in the Civil War, the Honor of Merit, and Exploring New England Town Records. \$35. 8:30 am – 4 pm. St. John Vianney Parish Hall. (802) 350-1333. vtgenlib.org.

EAST POULTNEY. Horace Greeley Writer's Symposium. Accomplished speakers with backgrounds in creative non-fiction, traditional and independent publishing and more. For more information contact Linda Knowles, (802) 287-2577.

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Vermont Country Calendar

(Saturday, October 19, continued)

HANOVER, NH. Concert: Carla Bley Trio and the Barbary Coast Jazz Ensemble. The student players of the Coast perform Bley's music for big band, and Trio plays a second half of the intimate, thinky music of Bley's present. \$20+. 7:30 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 E Wheelock St. (603) 646-2422. hop.dartmouth.edu.

MANCHESTER. Harvest Festival, to benefit Dorset Equine Rescue. Live music, hay rides, pumpkin carving and painting, homemade cider donuts, miniature horses, corn maze, face painting, pumpkin patch. Over 30 craft and food vendors. 11 am - 4 pm. Equinox Valley Nursery, 1158 Main St. dorsetequinerescue@yahoo.com. dorsetequinerescue.org.

RANDOLPH. Concert: John McEuen and the String Wizards. One of the figures who conceived and originated the fusion of folk, rock, and country. Tickets: \$10-\$39. 7:30 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71 N Main St. (802) 728-9878. chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. Book Event: Megan Price, author of the bestselling Vermont Wild, Adventures of Fish & Game Warden series will share secrets behind the series, sign books and answer questions from fans. 2:30 pm. Phoenix Books, 2 Center St. (802) 855-8078. phoenixbooks.biz.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses. Live music. 9 am - 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org. Saturdays through October 26.

RUTLAND. *Once—The Musical*, the enchanting tale of a Dublin street musician. Tickets: \$35-\$45. 7:30 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. paramountvt.org.

SHELburne. Truckload and Carboy Sale. Fill your car trunk or pickup for a great deal, and/or fill your carboy with a blend of apple varieties for making hard cider. Cost: fill your car for \$25, truck for \$50, oversized truck for \$75. 9 am - 6 pm. Shelburne Orchards, 216 Orchard Rd. (802) 985-2753. shelburneorchards.com.

STOWE. Opera Company of Middlebury performs Puccini's *Tosca*. Sung in Italian with English supertitles. Tickets: \$50-\$65. 7:30 pm. Spruce Peak Arts. (802) 382-9222. townhalltheater.org.

WARDSBORO. Concert: Marty Wendell, Rockabilly Hall of Fame, rockabilly and country. Tickets: \$10, includes concert & refreshments. BYOB. Doors open 6:30 pm. Wardsboro Town Hall Café, 71 Main St.

WEST RUTLAND. Audubon Marsh Bird Monitoring Walk. 3.7-mile loop, or go halfway. Kids, new birders and non-members always welcome; friendly and accomplished birders will help you grow your bird identification skills. Meet at the boardwalk on Marble St. at 8 am. rutlandcountyaudubon.org.

WINDSOR. Fall Arts and Crafts Fair. Amazing works of art created by our residents. Framed original paintings, framed signed prints, notecards, and all kinds of beautiful items. Pre-orders for 2020 calendars. Free. 10 am - 3 pm. Cedar Hill Continuing Care Community, 49 Cedar Hill Dr. (802) 671-2254. info@cedarhillccc.com. cedarhillccc.com.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

FERRISBURGH. History of Beekeeping in Vermont. Ross Conrad will give an overview of the history of beekeeping with a special emphasis on Addison County. \$5, free with Museum admission. 3-5 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. (802) 877-3406. rokeby@comcast.net. rokeby.org.

WOODSTOCK. Opera Company of Middlebury performs Puccini's *Tosca*. Sung in Italian with English supertitles. Tickets: \$50-\$65. 7:30 pm. Town Hall Theatre. (802) 382-9222. townhalltheater.org.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

HANOVER, NH. The Magic Flute (Impempe Yomlingo) by Isango Ensemble. Mozart's best-loved opera transposed to South Africa—and marimba—in a production that entwines European music with African storytelling and dance. Tickets: \$20-\$50, 40% discount for 18 and under. 7:30 pm. Spaulding Auditorium, Hopkins Center for the Arts at Dartmouth College. (603) 646-242. Also October 23.

WEATHERSFIELD. Public Informational Meeting about Eastern Coyotes, with Vermont's Furbearer project leader Kimberly Royar and wildlife ecologist Dr. David Person. Understand them from a scientific perspective. 7 pm. Weathersfield Conservation Commission, Weathersfield Community Center Rd. john.vtfishandwildlife.com.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses, and more. EBT and debit cards. 3-6 pm in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

WATERBURY. Book and Author Event: Author and storyteller Megan Price, creator of the bestselling Vermont Wild, Adventures of Fish & Game Warden book series. Bridgeside Books. (802) 244-1441.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

FAIR HAVEN. Senior Tea. Refreshments and entertainment. All seniors welcome. 2-4 pm. Castleton Senior Center. Sponsored by The Fair Haven Historical Society. RSVP: Ceil Hunt at (802) 265-7913 or Mary Jane Spaulding (802) 265-3843.

STOWE. Stowe Mountain Film Festival. Documentary short films curated from the Mountainfilm festival in Telluride, Colorado. \$20, seniors and students \$10, kids free. Friday 7 pm, Saturday 3 pm & 7 pm. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, 122 Hourglass Dr. (802) 760-4634. Through October 26.

WILLISTON. Brick Church Music Series Concert: United States Airforce American Clarinet Quartet. Classical repertoire, patriotic marches, Klezmer music, Broadway, Jazz, Latin and South American music, and original arrangements. Featured visual artist: "Humanitarian Work," photography by Vermont National Guard members. Free. 7 pm. Old Brick Church, 100 Library Ln. (802) 764-1141. rmcguire@willistonvt.org.

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

ADDISON. Bird Banding Demonstration: Songbird Banding. Learn about bird identification, bird biology and birding techniques. Help identify the birds, observe the banding process and help release the birds after they are banded. 8 am - 12 noon. Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area Visitor Center, 966 Vermont Rte 17. corey.hart@vermont.gov. vtfishandwildlife.com.

BELLOWS FALLS. Workshop: Deadstring Trad Guitar Immersion Day, with Flynn Cohen and Matthew Heaton. All levels are welcome, 15 slots available. Cost: \$125-\$140. 10 am - 5 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org.

BELLOWS FALLS. Concert: Pete's Posse. Traditional folk-roots. \$20-\$25. 7:30 pm. Immanuel Episcopal Church, 20 Church St. (802) 460-0110. stonechurcharts.org.

BURLINGTON. Performance. Nick Offerman: All Rise. An evening of deliberative talking and light dance. Genuflection optional: in my church, you kneel as you please. 7-9 pm. Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St. facebook.com/events/1497498060384025.

Way Back Then

Wilkie For President?

by Charles Sutton

My parents always voted—it was a duty like going to church, paying taxes, supporting community events and charities. Although they were traditional Republicans, they never considered wearing campaign buttons, putting a political bumper sticker on the car, or erecting political signs in the front yard.

However, they made one exception that was exceptional. It was for Wendell Wilkie, the GOP nominee for president in 1940 who ran unsuccessfully against

Franklin D. Roosevelt who was seeking his second term. Unbelievable as it may seem my parents put a life-size black & white picture of Wendell Wilkie in a window pane upstairs over the front door. It had come from the front page of Life Magazine and was a perfect fit. Wilkie looked so human that many a passerby must done a double-take and wondered what's going on there.

Although my brother and I were privy to most 'grown-up' conversations,

there wasn't much talk about their candidate and why they supported him.

Wilkie projected a very friendly, positive manner and in a short time proved that he a person of integrity, a true statesman. Initially he was cool to having the United States get involved in the war in Europe but changed his tune after Pearl Harbor and supported all the war efforts until his untimely death at age 52 in 1944. He became FDR's personal envoy to Russia, China and the Middle East to help formulate plans for the post-war years.

In 1943 Wilkie wrote a book entitled One World, a plea for international peace-keeping after the war. The book sold millions of copies and encouraged the country to come out of its isolationism.

As a civil rights activist Wilkie was 'ahead of history' by supporting efforts to integrate the civil service and the armed forces. He also attempted to get Hollywood to give African-Americans better treatment in films. After Wilkie's death the NAACP named its headquarters the Wendell Wilkie Memorial Building.

After he lost the election to Roosevelt, we took down his picture from our window and it disappeared. But my brother and I continued to prize his campaign buttons among our collection. The button said WILL...with an attached small key hanging from the bottom.

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Vermont Country Calendar

COLCHESTER. Class: Basic French for Translation and Travel. Marc Juneau will cover basic French vocabulary, some standard grammar, and a bit of "travel French." Cost: \$15. 10:30 am – 12 noon. Vermont Genealogy Library, Hegeman Ave, Fort Ethan Allen. (802) 350-1333. vtgenlib.org. *Two optional sessions on Tuesday afternoons will also be offered.*

GREENSBORO. Concert: USAF Heritage of America Band—American Clarinet Quartet. Traditional classical, rousing patriotic marches, Klezmer music, Broadway, Jazz, Latin and South American music, and their own original arrangements. Free. 3–5 pm. Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St. (802) 533-2000. boxoffice@highlandartsvt.org. highlandartsvt.org.

HUNTINGTON. Monthly Bird Monitoring Walk, outdoors on trails in forest and meadow. Coffee afterwards at our viewing window. For adults and older children (10+) with some birding experience. Bring your own binoculars. Free, donations welcome. 8–9 am. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. birdsofvermont.org. *Last Saturday of each month.*

NORTH FERRISBURGH. Survival Doe Camp. Women's Survival Courses with Jessica Krebs. Four four-hour classes. Saturday: Core Survival Basics 9 am – 1 pm, Natural Navigation Techniques 2–6 pm. Sunday: Animal Encounter Do's and Don'ts 9 am – 1 pm, Basic Camouflage and Evasion Movement Techniques 2–6 pm. Women aged 18 years and up, \$50 per class. Vermont Outdoor Guide Association. (802) 425-6211. info@voga.org. voga.org. *Through October 27.*

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

NORWICH. Contradance. Live music by Cuckoos Nest (Chip Hedler guitar, Rick Barrows mandolin etc, Bernie Waugh fiddle). Caller: Luke Donforth. Admission: \$12, students \$8, under 16 free (additional contributions gratefully accepted). Tracy Hall, 300 Main St. marthadmcDanielmd@gmail.com. *2nd and 4th Saturdays.*

RANDOLPH. Indoor Flea Market. Household objects, bric-a-brac and crafts. 9 am – 3 pm. Our Lady of the Angels Church, 43 Hebard Hill Rd. (802) 728-4322. rbohnyak@gmail.com.

RANDOLPH. Concert: Nico Muhly Project. Small, intimate pieces and a large-scale new work for wind ensemble with 30 performers, by Nico and a few of his contemporaries. 7 pm. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71 N Main St. (802) 728-9878. chandler-arts.org.

RUTLAND. Vermont Farmers' Market. From farm fresh veggies and fruits to artisan cheeses. Live music. 9 am – 2 pm, in Depot Park across from Walmart. (802) 342-4727. vtfarmersmarket.org.

RUTLAND. Concert: Kip Moore Room to Spare Acoustic Tour, with guest Tucker Beathard. Tickets: \$45–\$60. 8 pm. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St. paramountvt.org. kipmoore.net.

WEST NEWBURY. Square Dance. Round and square dances from the mid-1900s, accompanied by live music (fiddles, piano and guitar) and two callers. All dances taught. Refreshments. Price: by donation. 7:30–10 pm. West Newbury Hall, 219 Tyler Farm Rd. (802) 429-2316. donjuliaelder@hotmail.com.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

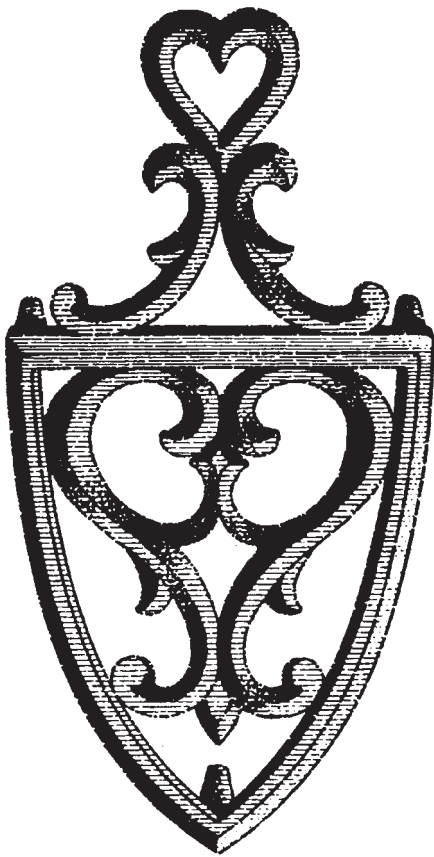
FAIR HAVEN. Talk: Howard Coffin: "Vermont, 1800 and Froze to Death: The Cold Year of 1816." Sponsored by The Fair Haven Historical Society and the Fair Haven Library. Free. 2 pm. Fair Haven Library.

GREENSBORO. Vermont Folk Horror Roadshow. Transformations and The Animal, two films set and created in Vermont and recently preserved by the Vermont Archive Movie Project. Introduced by Andy Kolovos. Free. 3–5 pm. Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St. (802) 533-2000. highlandartsvt.org.

JOHNSON. Concert: Heliand Consort, a virtuoso woodwind & piano chamber music group that performs engaging classical music from the baroque through 20th century and contemporary repertoire. \$10. 3 pm. Dibden Center for the Arts. (802) 635-1476. www.northernvermont.edu.

SHELburne. Haunted Happenings. Trick-or-treating throughout the Museum. Ghoulish games. Miniature haunted village, locomotive model train. Master swordsmiths. Super heroes and fairytale royalty. Spooky music live. Hot chocolate, mini cider donuts, popcorn, and other delicious food. Cost: ages 3 and up \$7, children 2 and under free. 10 am – 1 pm. Shelburne Museum. (802) 985-3346. info@shelburnemuseum.org. shelburnemuseum.org.

WARREN. Tiny House Fest. Workshops, panels, design reviews, building resources and more, in the ever-growing world of tiny homes. Tickets: \$15, seniors \$12, under 5 free. 10 am – 5 pm. Sugarbush Resort, 1840 Sugarbush Access Rd. (802) 583-6369. mpage@sugarbush.com. sugarbush.com.



WEYBRIDGE. Day of the Morgan. Drawing for the 2019 raffle foal. Free cider & donuts. Admission: adults \$5, ages 5–15 \$3, 4 and under free, discount for seniors (over 65), Addison County residents, and UVM ID holders \$4. 10 am – 2 pm. UVM Morgan Horse Farm, 74 Battell Dr. (802) 388-2011. uvm.edu/cals/morganhorsefarm.

WOODSTOCK. A Family Halloween. Pumpkin carving, doughnuts-on-a-string, wagon rides, hand-cranked pumpkin ice cream, "not-too-scary" Halloween stories, pumpkin games, and animal programs. Costume parade at 12 noon and 2 pm. Admission (includes all programs and activities, working dairy farm, farm life exhibits, and farm house): adults \$16, 62 & over \$14, children 5–15 \$8, 3–4 \$4, 2 & under free. Children in costume free when accompanied by a paying adult. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, north of the Woodstock village green on Vermont Rte. 12. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

Happy Halloween!

ONGOING ACTIVITIES 2019

ADDISON. Chimney Point State Historic Site. Exhibit: Salmon and People in a Changing World. Hallway exhibit: A Brush with Nature: the Art of Lillian Kennedy. Hands-on: Learn how to use the atlatl (ancient spear thrower). Children's French Colonial dress-up basket. Lake Champlain Bridge Heritage Area Quest. Chimney Point history trail. Access for boating and fishing. Admission: adults \$5, under 15 free. Open Wednesday–Sunday and Monday holidays, 10 am – 5 pm. 8149 VT Route 17W. (802) 759-2412. historicites.vermont.gov/chimney-point. *Through October 13.*

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

BRATTLEBORO. The Cotton Mill. Housed in a three-story, 145,000 square foot renovated mill building dating back to 1910, The Cotton Mill is home to over 60 small businesses and artists' studios. 74 Cotton Mill Hill. info@thecottonmill.org. www.thecottonmill.org.

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

BURLINGTON. Champlain Valley Dinner Train. Three-hour round-trip dinner train from Burlington to Middlebury. Three-course gourmet dinner created on board, as the beautiful Vermont landscape rolls by your window. 5:30–8:30 pm. Main Street Landing/ Train Station, 1 Main St. (800) 707-3530. *Through October 27.*

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

CHESTER. Artisans Alley Market. Local crafts, creations and food! The Market is just steps off the Chester Green every Sunday from 9 am to 1 pm. 78-80 The Common. (802) 875-3000. sharon@vermontel.net. *Thru October 13.*

EAST MONTPELIER. Corn Maze. Kid-friendly corn maze, PYO apples and pumpkins, fresh-pressed cider. Free hayrides on the weekends. 9 am – 5 pm. Peck Farm Orchard, 750 Sibley Rd. (802) 249-1223. peckfamilyproductions@gmail.com. peckfarmorchard.com. *Thru October 31.*

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SPORT & FITNESS CLUB

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

Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities, continued)

FAIRFIELD. President Chester Arthur Historic Site. Admission: donation appreciated. Open Saturday and Sunday, 10 am – 5 pm. Chester Arthur Historic Site, 4588 Chester Arthur Rd. (802) 933-8362 during open hours; all other times (802) 828-3051. *Through October 13.*

FERRISBURGH. Three new gallery exhibits. Workshops, lecture programs, and special events. Family-friendly festivals. Guided tours and the museum's multi-media exhibit "Free & Safe: The Underground Railroad in Vermont." Open daily, 10 am – 5 pm. Rokeby Museum, 4334 Rte. 7. (802) 877-3406. director@rokeby.org. rokeby.org. *Through October 27.*

GLOVER. Diagonal Life Circus and Pageant at Bread and Puppet Theater. Tour of museum at 2 pm, little street shows and happenings starting at 3 pm, followed by the circus and then the pageant. Puppets (of all kinds and sizes), masks, costumes, paintings, buildings, and landscapes. \$10 suggested donation. Bread and Puppet Theater, 753 Heights Rd. (802) 525-3031. breadpup@together.net. breadandpuppet.org. *Every Sunday.*

HARTLAND. First Friday Short Story Group. Sign up at the library and pick up a copy of 100 Great Stories. Each month we'll read two stories, then discuss them on the First Friday. 10:30–11:30 am. Hartland Public Library, 153 US-5. (802) 436-2473. director@hartlandlibraryvt.org. hartlandlibraryvt.org. *First Friday of every month.*

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

HUNTINGTON. Art Show: Pollinate This! Artists and photographers explore, examine, and express pollination—metaphorical and otherwise. Included with museum admission; donations welcome. Open daily 10 am – 4 pm. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. museum@birdsofvermont.org. birdsofvermont.org. *Through October 31.*

JOHNSON. Guided adventure stops at three local breweries, from the seat of your electric bicycle. Almost exclusively on the car-free Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. 12 noon – 4:30 pm. Lamoille Valley E-Bike Tours, 661 Railroad St. (802) 730-0161. lamoillevalleybiketours.com. *Through October 26.*

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

MANCHESTER. Tour: Revolutionary/Civil War. Designed for history buffs; given by local bestseller author. Visit over 35 sites between Manchester and Bennington, involved in the Battle of Bennington & Ethan Allen's capture of Fort Ticonderoga. Also sites associated with the Civil War. Advance reservations necessary. Tickets: \$35. 9:30 am – 12 noon. Tours meet at black sidewalk benches in front of 21 Bonnet St. (802) 362-4997. bckrddisc@aol.com. *Through November 30.*

MANCHESTER CENTER. Tour: Fall Foliage Sampler. In a comfortable 10-passenger tour vehicle, local guide will present an overview of the area and offer suggestions of what else to do and where to dine. View mountain/valley vistas and up-close cascades of color. Cost: \$35. Advance reservations necessary. 1–4 pm. Tours meet at black sidewalk benches in front of 21 Bonnet St. (802) 362-4997. bckrddisc@aol.com. *Through October 30.*

MIDDLEBURY. "Spinning Plates" Food Truck Event. Every Friday (and other dates) through the summer local food trucks will be parked outside Town Hall Theater. From French to Ethiopian to Dominican and more, rain or shine. Lunch noon to 4 pm. Dinner starts at 5 pm. Cash or cards accepted. Free admission and outdoor entertainment. (802) 388-1436.

NORTHEAST KINGDOM. Annual Northeast Kingdom Fall Foliage Festival. Seven festivals in seven days, each in a different town. Music, crafts, farmer's markets, parades, tours, history and great food! Specialty church suppers each night. More details for each town under each date. Marshfield, Walden, Cabot, Plainfield, Peacham, Barnet, and Groton. (802) 748-3678. nekchamber.com. *Thru October 5.*

ORWELL. Mount Independence State Historic Site. Exhibits and activities. Children's discovery corner. Six miles of walking and hiking trails. Admission: adults \$5, under 15 free. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. 497 Mount Independence Rd. (802) 948-2000. historicites.vermont.gov/mount-independence. *Through October 13.*

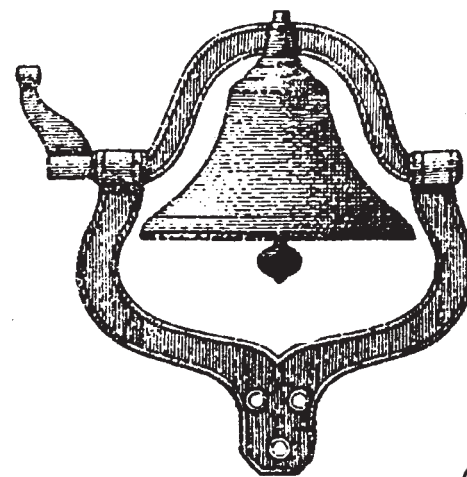
PLYMOUTH. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site. Admission: adults \$10, children 6–14 \$2, under 6 free, family (up to 8 people) \$25. Open daily, 10 am – 5 pm. Aldrich House open Monday through Friday year-round. President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 Route 100A. (802) 672-3773. historicites.vermont.gov/calvin-coolidge. william.jenney@vermont.gov. *Through October 20.*

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

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

QUECHEE. Vermont Institute of Natural Science. Wildlife exhibits, workshops, and special events. Wildlife rehabilitation. Admission: adults: \$15.50, seniors (62 plus) \$14.50, youth (4-17): \$13.50, children 3 and under free. Open 7 days a week 10 am – 5 pm. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, 6565 Woodstock Rd. (802) 359-5000. info@vinsweb.org. www.vinsweb.org.

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

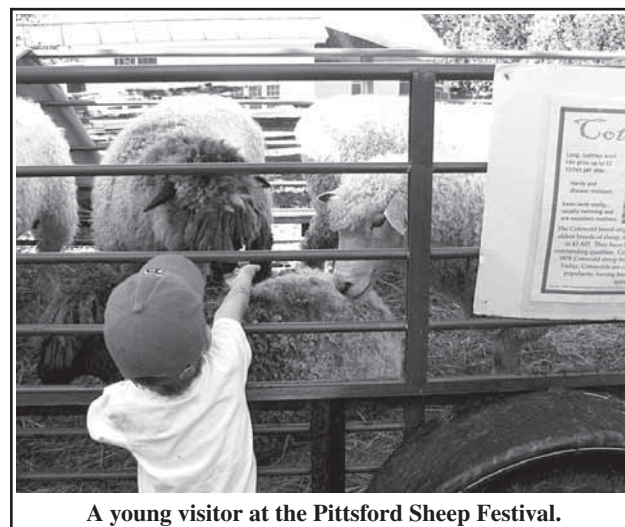


Pittsford, VT

The Pittsford Sheep Festival

The Pittsford Sheep Festival has been offering free entertainment for over 25 years. This year it will be held on October 13, the Sunday before Columbus Day, from 11 am to 4 pm, at the Pittsford Recreation Area off Furnace Road in Pittsford, VT.

Local craft vendors, felters and spinners will have booths featuring their skills and products. Sheep shearing demonstrations will be held at 11:15, 1:30 and 3:30. Sheep dog handling demonstrations will be held at 12:45 and 2:45. The Leaping of the Lambs, an exclusive RAS activity, will be held



A young visitor at the Pittsford Sheep Festival.

at 12:30 and 2:30. Live music will add to the festive atmosphere. There will be food for sale featuring tasty local lamb.

The sheep are in training for their big event: The Leaping of the Lambs. Here the sheep compete against each other by running through an obstacle course to reach a treat at the finish line.

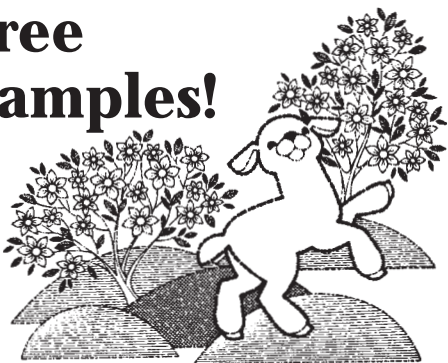
You will have the chance to visit with local shepherds and learn about raising sheep in Vermont. This event is sponsored by the Rutland Area Shepherds. For more information check our website, www.vermontshepherds.com, or contact Don at (802) 342-3176.

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English Country Dancing

Music by Trip to Norwich
Carol Compton and Thal Aylward
David Millstone, caller

All dances taught, no partner necessary, all are welcome!
Bring a separate pair of clean, non-marking, soft-soled shoes or socks. Bring refreshments to share at the break.

Sunday, October 13th from 1–4 p.m.

Tracy Hall, Norwich, VT

Admission \$10

Info: (802) 785-4121 (Chris)
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Vermont Country Calendar

READING. Free First Fridays. View exhibitions without a guide, at your own pace. Wood-fired pizza prepared in a vintage truck with a wood-burning oven. Rain or shine. Admission free. 5–8 pm. Hall Art Foundation, 544 VT Route 106. (802) 952-1056. hallartfoundation.org. *First Fridays through November 1.*

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

RUTLAND. Men's Yoga with Brian Sylvester every Tuesday. Focus on flexibility, strength and stress reside. \$5 for first class; \$10 per class/\$8 members. 6:30-7:30. Studio Serpentine at Cobra, 56 Howe St. (802) 772-7011. cobravt.com.

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

RUTLAND. Children's Classes: All About the Arts. Explore a variety of arts and crafts. Cost: pre-registered \$10; drop-ins \$15. 11 am – 12:30 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *First Saturday of the month.*

RUTLAND. Children's Classes: Paint & Sip for Kids. Kids paint on canvas. Follow along with the instructor or create your own. Cost: pre-registered \$10; drop-ins \$15. 11 am – 12:30 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Second Saturday of the month.*

RUTLAND. Children's Classes: Let's Get Crafty. Featuring a hands-on craft experience. Cost: pre-registered \$10; drop-ins \$15. 11 am – 12:30 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Third Saturday of the month.*

RUTLAND. Children's Classes: The heART of Cooking. Aspiring Chefs will explore culinary arts from creating delicious treats to presenting them. Plus, themed table decorations and table scapes to make any occasion special. Cost: pre-registered \$10; drop-ins \$15. 11 am – 12:30 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Fourth Saturday of the month.*

RUTLAND. Open Studio Hub, for teens and young people. Draw, paint, craft. Do homework; Listen to music; Read; Create a book club, chess club, music club, writer's/poetry club, art club. Join Yoga, Ukulele Group, CreativeSpace, and more. Free. 3–6 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Wednesdays.*

RUTLAND. Figure Drawing Class. Live model, drawing benches, boards & easels. Bring own drawing materials. Cost: \$15. 4–6 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *First and third Thursdays.*

RUTLAND. Sip N Dip Painting Class. Cost: \$30. 6–8 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Second and fourth Thursdays.*

RUTLAND. Meditation Group. Donations appreciated. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7:15-7:45 am; Sunday 5:30–6 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org.

RUTLAND. Walking Group for All Ages. Donations appreciated. 5:15 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Mondays.*

RUTLAND. The heART of Ukulele. Informal group lead by volunteers. Donations appreciated. Beginners 5–5:30 pm; other levels join 5:30–7 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Second and fourth Wednesdays.*

RUTLAND. Yoga for the Mindful heART. Please Bring your own mat. Cost: \$5. 6:30–7:30 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Thursdays.*

RUTLAND. CreativeSpace. Bring tools/supplies to create your works of art along with other inspiring artists. Open to all arts: fine artists, quilters, jewelry, musicians, etc. Some supplies available to purchase; call ahead. Donations appreciated. 10 am – 12 noon. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Fridays.*

RUTLAND. Writers Group. Donations appreciated. 12 noon – 2 pm. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *Fridays.*

RUTLAND. Mindful heART Book Group. Donations appreciated. 9:30–11:30 am. Chaffee Art Center, 16 S Main St. (802) 775-0356. info@chaffeeartcenter.org. chaffeeartcenter.org. *First Saturdays.*

SHELBURNE. Exhibit: William Wegman: Outside In. Over 60 works of art in a variety of media exploring over four decades of the renowned artist's ongoing fascination with the natural world. 10 am – 5 pm. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. shelburnemuseum.org. *Through October 20.*

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

STATEWIDE. Salvation Farms. Volunteer opportunities to glean and process Vermont raised, surplus fruits and vegetables for use by vulnerable populations. For more information contact (802) 522-3148. info@ourfarmsourfood.org. salvationfarms.wordpress.com.

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

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

WEST RUTLAND. Annual SculptFest Exhibition. Sculptural installations on this year's theme of "Changes." The Carving Studio & Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097. info@carvingstudio.org. carvingstudio.org. *Through October 20.*

WEST TOWNSHEND. Townshend Farmers Market. Local farmers, artists, food vendors and local nonprofits. Fresh veggies, ceramics, tinctures and salves, soaps, food, drink, dessert and more. 4:30-7 pm. 5-7:30 pm wood-fired pizza, with local, seasonal toppings. Music by Ray Mason. On the lawn of the historic West Townshend Country Store, 6573 VT Route 30. *Every Friday through October 11.*

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

WILLISTON. Corn Maze and Pumpkin Pickin' Time. Enjoy getting lost in the directional corn maze and the beautiful views at the Isham Family Farm, 3517 Oak Hill Rd. Wagon rides to the pumpkin patch on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Pumpkins \$10, includes wagon ride. Wagon rides are \$3, kids under 13 free. (802) 872-1525. *Through October.*

WINDSOR. Old Constitution House State Historic Site. Admission: adults \$3, children 15 and under free. Open Saturday and Sunday, 10 am – 5 pm. Old Constitution House State Historic Site, 16 North Main St. (802) 672-3773. william.jenney@vermont.gov. historicites.vermont.gov. *Thru October 13.*

Middlebury, VT

Puccini's Tosca Performed At Town Hall Theater

Perhaps the most dramatic opera ever written, Puccini's *Tosca* remains among the top 5 operas staged since it opened in 1853.

"It's also surprisingly and sadly relevant," says Opera Company of Middlebury director Douglas Anderson. "This is a nation in the middle of a bloody uprising, and the battle has unleashed the worst in some human beings. We've seen in countries around the world how basic human morality withers as the body count grows."

Maestro Jeffrey Rink returns to conduct the OCM orchestra. Puccini's score, with its arching melodies and lush orchestration, contains three famous arias, one in each act. In Act One, the artist Cavaradossi sings "Recondita armonia," reflecting on his deep love for Tosca. In Act Two, when the villain Scarpia is striking a terrible bargain with Tosca, she sings the haunting "Vissi d'arte." In the final act, while awaiting execution, Cavaradossi sings "E lucevan le stelle" to a striking melody that captures his profound despair.

Soprano Suzanne Kantorski plays the demanding title role. Last seen at OCM in the role of Suor Angelica, she has played more leading roles than any singer in OCM's 16-year history. Suzanne will make her debut at the Lyric Opera of Chicago later this year, in a production with Renée Fleming.

Tosca will be performed at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater on October 9 and 11 at 7:30 pm, with a matinee on October 13 at 2 pm. It then goes on tour, playing Hubbard Hall in Cambridge, New York on October 17, Spruce Peak Arts in Stowe on October 19, and Woodstock Town Hall Theatre on October 20. Local singers will join the professional cast in each of the towns on the tour, creating a large chorus for the famous "Te Deum" that brings Act One to a thundering close. Sung in Italian with English supertitles.

Tickets are available at www.townhalltheater.org, (802) 382-9222, or at the *Town Hall Theater box office* (noon-5 pm, Mon-Sat.)

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10th Anniversary

Scenic Pleasure Trail Ride

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Monday, October 14, 2019

Green Mountain Horse Association, South Woodstock, VT

Register at KomenNewEngland.org 

Vermont Country Calendar

(Ongoing activities, continued)

WOODSTOCK. Foodways Fridays. See how seasonal vegetables and herbs from the heirloom garden at Billings Farm & Museum are used in historic recipes. Different take-home recipes each Friday. Price: \$4-\$16. 10 am – 5 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org. *Every Friday through October 25.*

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. Visit the Jersey herd, draft horses, oxen, chickens, pigs, and sheep and tour the restored and furnished 1890 Farm House and farm life exhibits. *A Place in the Land*, Academy Award nominee film shown every hour in the theater. Adults 16-61 \$16, seniors 62 and over \$14, student 16 and up \$9, children 5-15 \$8, children 3-4 \$4. 10 am – 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355. billingsfarm.org.

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

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITS & GALLERIES

ARLINGTON. Visit the Canfield Gallery and the Russell Collection. Library hours: Tues & Thurs 9 am – 8 pm, Wed 9 am – 5 pm, Fri 2-6 pm, Sat 10 am – 3 pm. The Russell Collection is open Tues 9 am – 5 pm. Martha Canfield Memorial Library, 528 East Arlington Rd. (802) 375-6153. marthacanfieldlibrary.org.

BARRE. Vermont History Center and Leahy Library. Thousands of books, manuscripts, photographs, maps, audio, video and film recordings, and many other items which shed light on the lives and times of past Vermonters. Admission: Adult \$7, seniors \$5, students free, families \$20. Open Mon-Fri, 9 am – 4 pm. Vermont History Center, 60 Washington St. (802) 479-8500. vermonthistory.org.

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

BENNINGTON. The Dollhouse and Toy Museum of Vermont. Dolls and dollhouses, puppets, trucks and trains, toys, and educational displays. 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.

BENNINGTON. Laumeister Art Center. Permanent collections, theater productions, workshops. Open Wed-Mon, 10 am – 5 pm. Laumeister Art Center, 44 Gypsy Lane. (802) 442-7158. artcenter@svc.edu. www.artcenter.svc.edu.

BENNINGTON. Exhibit. Fields of Change: 1960s Vermont. Explore a complex time that in many ways has come to define Vermont as it is today. Open daily, 10 am – 5 pm. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. *Through November 3.*

BENNINGTON. Exhibit. Color Fields: 1960s Bennington Modernism. A group of artists who were pushing the possibilities of abstraction in pared-down, color-based works. Open daily, 10 am – 5 pm. Bennington Museum, 75 Main St. (802) 447-1571. benningtonmuseum.org. *Thru December 30.*

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. Artisan food and crafts, Treasure Chest, and more. Open Monday-Saturday 10 am – 5 pm. Compass Music and Arts Center, 333 Jones Drive, Park Village, 1.5 miles north of downtown off Rt. 7. (802) 247-4295. www.cmactv.org.

BRATTLEBORO. Hooker-Dunham Theater & Gallery. Your community arts venue since 1999: art exhibits, live music, photography, film, comedy, live theatre, film and literary festivals, and community events. 139 Main St. (802) 254-9276. www.hookerdunham.org.

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

BRATTLEBORO. First Fridays Gallery Walk. Monthly celebration of the arts in downtown and nearby locations. 40-50 or more exhibit openings, many with meet-the-artist receptions and live music, plus occasional readings, dance, circus arts, theater, and more. Free. 5:30-8:30 pm. (802) 257-2616. www.gallerywalk.org. *Monthly on first Fridays.*

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

BURLINGTON. Fleming Museum of Art. More than 20,000 objects that span the history of civilization, from early Mesopotamia through contemporary America. Adults \$5, family \$10, students and seniors \$3, children 6 and under free. Tue, Thu, Fri 10 am – 4 pm, Wed 10 am – 7 pm, Sat-Sun noon – 4 pm. Fleming Museum of Art, 61 Colchester Ave. (802) 656-0750. flemingmuseum.org.

CENTER RUTLAND. The Rutland Railroad Museum. Housed in the Rutland Depot, built in 1917. See railroad artifacts and historical exhibits including HO & N scale model railroad layouts and a children's layout. The museum is also available to educational groups and schools for tours by appointment. Open Saturdays from 11 am – 1 pm. Rutland Railway Association, 79 Depot Lane. For info John Schaub (802) 768-8427. www.rutlandrailroadmuseum.org.

HARTFORD. Hartford Historical Society Museum. Tours and exhibits cover the history of Hartford, including the Abenaki tribes. Free. Monday-Friday 9 am – 1 pm. Garipay House, 1461 Maple St. (802) 296-3132.

HUNTINGTON. Art Show: Pollinate This! Artists and photographers explore, examine, and express pollination—metaphorical and otherwise. Included with museum admission; donations welcome. Open daily 10 am – 4pm. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd. (802) 434-2167. birdsofvermont.org. *Through October 31.*

LEBANON, NH. AVA Gallery and Art Center. 11 am – 5 pm. 11 Bank St. (603) 448-3117. avagallery.org.

MANCHESTER. Hildene House Tours of Robert and Mary Lincoln's home. The museum store in our 100-year-old carriage barn welcomes visitors for distinctive gifts. Tours daily at 2 pm with a prior reservation, not recommended for children under 10. Admission \$20 adults; children 6 to 14, \$5; under 6, free. A fee of \$7.50 for the tour is added to the general admission. No admission charged for Welcome Center and Museum Store. Open daily year round 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home, Rt. 7A, south of the village. (802) 362-1788. www.hildene.org.

Shelburne, VT

Statewide Gardening Conference—Registration Open

On November 2 gardeners will have an opportunity to hear from several horticultural experts at the University of Vermont (UVM) Extension Master Gardener Conference in Shelburne, including keynote speaker Gary Oppenheimer, founder of AmpleHarvest.org.

Oppenheimer will describe how his national non-profit organization uses technology to connect gardeners who have extra fruit and vegetables with food pantries to help end food waste and hunger in the U.S. The conference will take place at the Pizzagalli Center for Art and Education at the Shelburne Museum (6000 Shelburne Rd.) from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Anyone interested in gardening is invited to attend the conference, which is sponsored annually by the UVM Extension Master Gardener Program. This year's theme is Caring for People, Plants and Our Planet.

Registration to attend in person is \$70 (\$60 for Master Gardeners) and includes a light breakfast, lunch and access to the Shelburne Museum and exhibits in the Pizzagalli Center. New this year is the option to watch the conference online for a \$58 fee (\$48 for Master Gardeners).

The registration deadline is October 25 or November 1 for the online option. For conference information or to register,

visit go.uvm.edu/emgconference. To request a disability-related accommodation to participate, please call Beret Halverson at (802) 656-1777 by October 11.

The program will feature talks by Julie Moir Messervy, a Bellows Falls landscape designer, on creating beautiful and meaningful landscapes, and Matthew Benson, a New York photographer, writer and organic farmer, on growing extraordinary vegetables and fruits. Benson also is the co-founder of Cultivate Apothecary, a farm-grown botanical beauty and wellness brand.

Ann Hazelrigg and Victor Izzo, UVM Plant and Soil Science Department, will discuss pests and plant diseases in a changing climate. Charlie Nardozzi, a nationally recognized horticultural consultant, speaker and radio and TV host, will provide tips to help gardeners identify native, weed and invasive plants in their gardens.

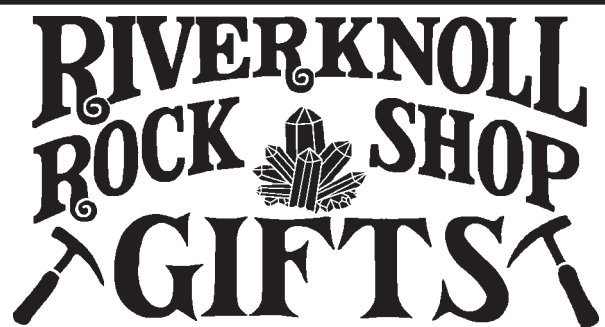
For more information contact the UVM Extension Master Gardener Program office at (802) 656-9562 or mastergardener@uvm.edu.



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Vermont Country Calendar

MARLBORO. Southern Vermont Natural History Museum. Perched on an overlook—on a clear day the horizon is 100 miles away! See mounted specimens of over 600 native New England birds and mammals, a Raptor Center with live hawks and owls, amphibian and reptile exhibit and fall wildflower exhibit. Hogback Mountain Gift Shop next door. Admission: adults \$5, seniors \$3, children 5-12 \$2, kids 4 and under are free. Open 10 am – 4 pm weekdays, 10 am – 5 pm weekends. Rt. 9, Hogback Mountain. (802) 464-0048. www.vermontmuseum.org.

MIDDLEBURY. Exhibits: Conjuring the Dead, Spirit Art in the Age of Radical Reform. The Animals are Innocent, ceramics and paintings by Dana Simson. Whimsical Wonders, Fairy Houses from Nature by Sally J Smith. Admission: adults \$5, youth (6-18) \$3, seniors \$4.50, family \$12. Tuesday-Saturday 10 am – 5 pm, Sundays (through October 13) 12 noon – 4 pm. Henry Sheldon Museum, One Park St. (802) 388-2117. henrysheldonmuseum.org. *Through December 1.*

MIDDLEBURY. Exhibit: Paintings by Peter K.K. Williams. Landscapes inspired by Vermont, Lake Champlain and the rainforest of Costa Rica, and by Paleolithic cave paintings in France. Monday-Saturday, 12 noon – 5 pm, and an hour before any public events in the building. The Jackson Gallery at Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. (802) 382-9222. *Through November 10.*

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.

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

MONTGOMERY CENTER. Montgomery Center for the Arts. Exhibits, classes, special events for all ages. 2 Mountain Rd. montgomerycenterarts@gmail.com. montgomerycenterforthearts.com.

MONTPELIER. Vermont History Museum & Bookstore. One admission fee gives access to both the Vermont History Museum in Montpelier and the Vermont Heritage Galleries in Barre. Admission: adults: \$7; families: \$20; students, children, seniors: \$5; members and children under 6: free. Open 9 am – 4 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Pavilion Building, 109 State St. (802) 828-2291.

NEWFANE. County Museum. Early Vermont furniture, folk art, Civil War artifacts, clothing, toys, and tools. West River Railroad Museum: artifacts, documents and photographs documenting the Railroad's impact in the West River Valley. County Museum hours: Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays 12 noon – 5 pm (and by appointment). West River Railroad Museum hours: Saturdays and Sundays 12 noon – 5 pm (and by appointment). Railroad Museum, Cemetery Hill Rd.; Historical Society's County Museum, Main Street (Route 30). historicalsocietyofwindhamcounty.org.

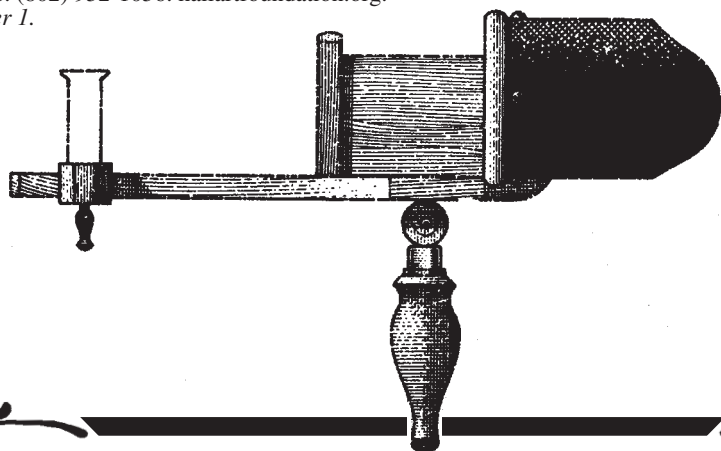
NORWICH. Montshire Museum of Science. Trails, programs, and museum store. Open 10 am – 5 pm daily. Admission \$14 adults, \$11 children 2-17, under 2 free. Open daily 10 am – 5 pm. One Montshire Rd. (802) 649-2200. www.montshire.org.

PROCTOR. Vermont Marble Museum and Marble Gift Shop. The world's largest marble exhibit. Admission adults \$9, seniors \$7, children/teens \$4. Advance tickets reduced rate. Open seven days 10 am – 5 pm. Vermont Marble Museum, 52 Main St. (800) 427-1396. www.vermontmarblemuseum.org. *Through late October.*

POULTNEY. 20th annual ICE (International Collage Exchange) Exhibit. Found papers, ephemera and objects, painting, drawing and digital pictures, by 76 artists from around the globe. Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill, 145 East Main St. (802) 325-2603. stonevalleyarts.org. outofsite.co.nz. *October 4 through November 3.*

READING. Exhibit: Made in Vermont. Group exhibition of new and recently completed work by Vermont artists. Paintings, works on paper and sculpture. Appointments available 11 am and 2 pm, Sat-Sun. \$10 pp. First Friday of every month, 5-8 pm, free without a guide. Hall Art Foundation, 544 VT Route 106. (802) 952-1056. *Through December 1.*

READING. Exhibition by American artist Richard Artschwager. Approximately forty paintings, sculptures and works on paper. Appointments available 11 am and 2 pm, Sat-Sun. Admission: \$10. First Friday of every month, 5-8 pm, free without a guide. Hall Art Foundation, 544 VT Route 106. (802) 952-1056. hallartfoundation.org. *Through December 1.*



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

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

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

SHELBURNE. Exhibit. William Wegman: Outside In. Over 60 works of art in a variety of media, exploring over four decades of the renowned artist's ongoing fascination with the natural world. 10 am – 5 pm. Shelburne Museum, 6000 Shelburne Rd. (802) 985-3346. *Through October 20.*

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) 349-9957. www.shorehambellmuseum.com.

SO. POMFRET. Exhibits, workshops, classes, events. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd. (802) 457-3500. artistreevt.org.

SPRINGFIELD. Gallery at the VAULT. A Vermont State Craft Center featuring fine art and hand-crafted gifts from over 125 local and regional artists and craftsmen. Classes, workshops. Mon 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, Wed-Sat 11 am - 5 pm. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St. (802) 885-7111.

SPRINGFIELD. Exhibit: "Alchemy, Metal, Mystery & Magic, The Art of Transformation." The Great Hall, One Hundred River St. (802) 258-3992. www.facebook.com/GreatHallSpringfield. *Through February, 2020.*

STOWE. Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum. Exhibits, events, and gift store. Suggested admission donation: \$5 per person. Open Wednesdays-Sundays, 12 noon – 5 pm. The Perkins Building, One South Main St. (802) 253-9911.

STOWE. Exhibits. Unbroken Current: photography, painting, sculpture, and mixed media. Studio of Archo-virtual Spiritings, paintings by Vasilis Zografos. Helen Day Art Center, 90 Pond St. (802) 253-8358. *Thru November 9.*

ST. JOHNSBURY. Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium. Exhibits, programs, special events, wildflower table, collections. 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.

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

WEST RUTLAND. Carving Studio and Sculpture Center Gallery. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 am-1 pm, or by appointment. 636 Marble St. (802) 438-2097.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Main Street Museum. A small, public collection of curiosities and artifacts, each one significant and telling a story about human beings and the universe we are part of—an alternative experiment in material culture studies. Open Tues & Wed 4-7 pm. Parking adjacent to the rear of the building. Located at 58 Bridge St., Studio 6, near the underpass. (802) 356-2776.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. Exhibits and workshops. Open 11 am – 2 pm Tuesday – Friday. Two Rivers Printmaking Studio, 85 North Main St. (802) 295-5901.

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.

WOODSTOCK. Billings Farm & Museum. Visit the Jersey herd, draft horses, oxen, and sheep and tour the restored and furnished 1890 Farm House. Admission: adults \$16. 62 & up \$14, students 16 and up \$9, ages 5-15 \$8, 3-4 \$4, under 3 free. Open Saturday and Sunday, November through February from 10 am – 4 pm. Also open February vacation week from 10 am – 4 pm. Billings Farm & Museum, Rt. 12 & River Rd. (802) 457-2355.



By Design

Lil's maple is golden now,
And the Danielsons' bright orange
Across the street.

Every fall, I watch the passage
Of those trees through October
Even though Lil died
And the Danielsons moved
To a nursing home years ago.

Each tree is a guide
That shows a different time in place.
Lil's maple is later than all the others on High Street,
Often waiting to turn until the first day
Of November. Lil's maple is the far anchor
Of middle autumn. When Lil's comes down,
I know the ginkgoes have fallen
Near my old office window,
And the white mulberry behind our house
Will be bare within a week.

The Danielsons' tree never varies,
Always marks the leafturn center,
And I could stay here at my window
And attend to nothing else, knowing that the whole world
Was really spinning by design,
And I could never lose my way again.

— BILL FELKER



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October Concerts At Chandler Center for the Arts

The Revenants. Friday, October 4 at 7:30 p.m. The Revenants play an exciting mix of Bluegrass, reimagined Pop and well-crafted original music. Taylor Armerding, Andy Greene and Kirk Lord have decades of performing experience playing in the following bands: Northern Lights, Jonathan Edwards, Breakaway, The Modern Grass Quintet and The Bluegrass Gospel Project. Their compelling, intricately braided vocals, richly textured instrumentals, and solid innovative rhythms make them standouts in the contemporary Americana genre. *Admission by Donation.*

Vermont Symphony Orchestra—"Made in Vermont." Saturday, October 5 at 7:30 p.m. Now in its 85th year, the VSO was the first state-funded orchestra in America. This season marks Jaime Laredo's 20th anniversary as Music Director, and he's excited to conduct a program that features Ifetayo Ali, a teenage cellist from the Sphinx Program, playing Haydn's famous C Major Concerto. (Her teachers think she could be the next Yo-Yo Ma!) Also in the spotlight is principal flutist, Melissa Mielens, with a concerto by Francois Devienne, often called "the Mozart of the flute." In collaboration with the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival, they will pair a world premiere commission from composer Matthew Evan Taylor with a screening of a new film by JLee MacKenzie. The program opens with Bartók's lively Romanian Folk Dances. *Tickets \$10-\$25.*

John McEuen. Saturday, October 19 at 7:30 p.m. A founding member of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, McEuen is one of the seminal figures who (nearly 50 years ago) conceived and originated the fusion of folk, rock and country. Will thrill fans of rock, country and folk alike! *Tickets \$10-\$39.*

Nico Muhly Project. Saturday, October 26 at 7:00 p.m. A unique concert with small, intimate pieces and a large-scale new work for wind ensemble with 30 performers, by Nico and a few of his contemporaries: Cynthia Huard, Missy Mazzoli, Caroline Shaw, and Padma Newsome. A sonic journey exploring today's most exciting new music. A unique concert



The Magic Flute: Impempe Yomlingo, by the South African theater company Isango Ensemble.

which will range from small, intimate pieces to a large-scale new work for wind ensemble with 30 performers, as well as other chamber works by Nico and a few of his contemporaries: Cynthia Huard, Missy Mazzoli, Caroline Shaw, and Padma Newsome. A sonic journey exploring today's most beautiful and affecting contemporary music.

For ticket information, contact Chandler Center for the Arts, 71 N Main Street, Randolph VT. (802) 728-9878. www.chandler-arts.org.

Hanover, NH.

From Late-Night TV to the Hop: Jon Batiste and Stay Human, in Concert

Pianist Jon Batiste and his band Stay Human, who reach millions each night as the house band for The Late Show with Stephen Colbert, bring their boundless music and charisma to Dartmouth in a concert Friday, October 4, at 7:30 pm at the Hopkins Center for the Arts in Hanover, NH.

From his perch on the Late Show bandstand, Batiste and his band brings to the masses a unique brand of smart, inspiring jazz—"some of TV's best music, night in and night out" (Vox). He comes up with perfect tunes to intro-

duce guests, to complement Colbert's jokes and keep the audience energized, often with one of his captivating original songs. Handsome, hilarious and always smartly attired, Batiste also has flexed his comedy muscles in his four years on the show, in repartee with the host as well as video segments like "Hey, White People" and his "Piano 1-Oh-Fun" series of mock instructional videos.

Beneath the jokes and show-biz polish, however, is a musician of enormous skill and cultural heritage, as well as dedication to mu-

sic as a means for healing social divides and lifting up humanity. A child prodigy from a large musical family in Louisiana, he began performing in New Orleans while in grade school, earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Juilliard, and has composed works for choirs and orchestra as well as his band. Even with his nonstop Late Show schedule, he manages a concert schedule that takes him to leading jazz venues and festivals. His 12 albums include his Grammy-nominated 2018 album *Hollywood Africans*, which explicitly honors the musical legacy of such African American artists as Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong and Nina Simone.

Batiste goes out of his way to make one-on-one connections, regularly leading Stay Human in "love riots"—spontaneous live musical shows on the city streets that have become his calling card. Whatever the size of the audience, Batiste is a firm believer in the power of music to uplift humanity—"a virtuoso with a resolute commitment to music's power to unite" (Rolling Stone).



Jon Batiste

Batiste began playing in local bands in New Orleans at age 8, and released his first album at the age of 17. His follow-up album came while he was a student at the Juilliard School in New York City. Batiste went on to play in some of the most prestigious concert halls in the world, and alongside some of the biggest names in pop and jazz (Billy Joel and Wynton Marsalis among them).

For tickets contact Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 East Wheelock Street, Hanover, NH. (603) 646-2422. hop.box@dartmouth.edu. hop.dartmouth.edu.

Hanover, NH.

An African Take on Mozart's Magic Flute

One of Mozart's best-loved operas is enchantingly transported to a South African township in *The Magic Flute: Impempe Yomlingo*, by the South African theater company Isango Ensemble, playing Tuesday and Wednesday, October 22 and 23, 7:30 pm, at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, Hanover, NH, \$20-\$50.

"Mozart would have loved it," wrote one reviewer. And it's easy to imagine the delight that wildly creative 18th-century Austrian would feel at seeing this reinvention of this tale of love, jealousy and magic. ("Impempe yomlingo" is "magic flute" in the South African language of Xhosa.) Internationally renowned for productions that transpose classical European works to South African settings, Isango retains the opera's charming arias but reorchestrates them for a marimba-based orchestra and trumpet player in the style of South Africa's great Hugh Masakela. The story—a fusion of the opera's original Masonic-based tale entwined with a Tsonga folktale also involving a magic flute—is punctuated with rollicking tradition dances.

Impempe Yomlingo has been performed worldwide to powerful acclaim. The Washington Post called it "an exuberant fusion of 18th-century European and 21st-century African storytelling, music and rhythm." Wrote The New Yorker, "A cast of twenty-three, costumed variously in modern camouflage, tribal tunics, and corseted black

feathered gowns, gather as if in a village center to sing their story, in English and occasionally in Xhosa and Tswana."

It's an inspired cross-cultural experience, writes the Chicago Tribune. "This production makes the argument—with verve, passion, determination and craft—that what we might think of as canonical European opera easily can be loosened from the cultural specificity with which it's usually played and imbued with the spirit of contemporary globalism."

You can get to know Isango and the show through two additional events: a discussion of opera and the history of *The Magic Flute*, with music professor Steve Swayne, on Tuesday, October 22, 6:30 pm; and a post-show discussion with the artists on Wednesday, October 23.

Isango creates performances with a strong South African flavor by re-imagining Western theater classics within a South African or township setting and by creating new work reflecting South African heritage. The ensemble draws its artists mainly from the townships surrounding Cape Town. Committed to creating theater that is accessible to all, they strive to draw a truly ethnically mixed audience.

For ticket information contact Hopkins Center for the Arts, 4 East Wheelock Street, Hanover, NH. (603) 646-2422. hop.box@dartmouth.edu. hop.dartmouth.edu.

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The 31st Annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival

The 31st Annual Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival will be held October 3-6 at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds in Tunbridge, Vermont.

The mission of the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival is to showcase small farmers and handcrafters, with an emphasis on those businesses which grow and create with natural fibers.

The Festival theme for 2019 is Heritage Breeds of Sheep. Our contests and classes reflect this theme in an effort to promote the recognition and use of wool from rare and endangered breeds.

Central to the Festival is a marketplace of vendors, including farmers and artisans, offering natural fibers 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.

Animal barns and workshops

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 2019 CGA New England North American Cashmere Goat Show in our Riverside Barns.

Fiber classes take place beginning Thursday, October 3, at the Tunbridge Town Hall and will include spinning, felting, knitting, weaving and more. 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 words, pictures and baskets. 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. These talks and demos are free and offered throughout the weekend. The schedules of workshops and demos for this year are listed on our website.

Food, music, and demos

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. Visit the sugarhouse operated by the Orange County Maple Producers for maple syrup, maple cream and more.

Admission to the Festival is \$7 a day, \$6 for seniors and \$1 for children under 12 years. The Festival is open Saturday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., rain or shine.

You can find details such as vendors, workshops, contests and directions at www.vtsheepandwoolfest.com.



Wool vendors and llamas at the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival, Tunbridge, VT.



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Bareboat, 2019, Dana Simson.

photo courtesy The Henry Sheldon Museum

Middlebury, VT

Take a Cruise on Lake Champlain

The Henry Sheldon Museum invites you to take an afternoon cruise along the beautiful shores of Lake Champlain on Sunday, October 6. The one-hour cruise departs promptly at 3 p.m. from Basin Harbor Marina in Vergennes, VT. Enjoy a complimentary beverage as we take in the extraordinary

fall scenery. Passengers are welcome to bring binoculars and cameras onboard—we may see a bald eagle nest or spot an osprey on Otter Creek!

Thomas Rogers from The Nature Conservancy will join us on the cruise and present a brief talk about how climate change has affected fish and wildlife in Vermont. The talk is offered in conjunction with the Sheldon's current exhibit, the animals are innocent, of whimsical ceramics and paintings by

Dana Simson. \$50/person includes one complimentary beverage; space is limited, advanced reservations are required.

Proceeds benefit the Sheldon Museum's education programs. You may purchase your ticket by calling the Henry Sheldon Museum at (802) 388-2117. Or online at www.henrysheldonmuseum.org. No refunds unless cruise is cancelled due to inclement weather. Refunds are charged a \$10 processing fee.

For more information, call the Sheldon Museum, 802-388-2117 or visit the website www.henrysheldonmuseum.org.



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Useful Vermont Websites

- Vermont Tourism Site: vermontvacation.com
- Vermont Chamber of Commerce: visitvt.com
- Vermont State Parks: vtstateparks.com
- Green Mountain National Forest: fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl
- Vermont Outdoor Guide Association: voga.org
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The Best Place You've Never Heard Of!

by Burr Morse

We're often asked here at Morse Farm for recommendations for other interesting Vermont attractions to visit. The usual things, Ben and Jerry's, Trapp Family Lodge, and Rock of Ages, pop up quickly. Not to put down these quality sites, but we usually stay mum about the best one of all.

The Busy Bee, world's most pleasant "hole in the wall", rests up in the Northeast Kingdom town of Glover. Betsy and I stopped there a few days ago with our granddaughter Caitrin.

It was well past the noon hour but still, one peek inside verified that the 15 seat diner could not accommodate us unless we stood at attention with guts sucked in. A "busier'n a bee" young lady behind the counter, however, pointed to one of the three outside tables. "Plenty a' room out there" she said as she flipped a fat burger with one hand and buttered a bun with her other.

We were led out to one of the tables by a combination of big hunger, great weather, and, frankly, curiosity of how that young lady could possibly add us into her mix. We sat at a table next to some young out-of-state campers. Like us, they seemed to have little expectation of quick service but, by golly, somehow the same young lady appeared almost instantly and took our orders.

We learned that her name is Marissa and she, in addition to owning the place, is also short order cook, dishwasher, custodian, hostess, and waitress. She closes up at 2:00 p.m. (I don't even want to think about when she opens!) but after 2:00 p.m. is when she does the bookkeeping, ordering, meal



The Busy Bee, Glover, VT.

planning, pricing, and anything else that may come up. In fact, the only thing this old guy sees that is not much work for busy bee Marissa is the payroll...it appears she has just two part-time employees, her mother and her sister!

Betsy, Caitrin, and I had a great eating experience that day, right down to the last homemade French Fry. It was a good chance to show Cait, six years old, the way eating out was before the age of fast food. And our kudos to the hardest working person in the world, Marissa up at the Busy Bee. We had a prime, Vermont adventure that day but, please,

forget I told you about it...this "Vermont-class" attraction is busy enough!

Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks is located at 1168 County Rd., Montpelier, VT and is open year-round. Visitors welcome! Come see the Country Store with Vermont products and gifts, maple, and pasture-raised local beef and bacon. Tour the Sugarhouse, Woodshed Theater, Outdoor Farmhouse Museum and more. Order Cabot cheddar cheese and maple products at (800) 242-2740 or morsefarm.com.

The Cow



'Let it be winter now,' says the cow.
'I am all haired in for cold weather
The grass is all dried up,
I'm getting tired of moseying around the pasture.
Let the cold come.'

'Let the cold come,' says the cow.
'Everything is ready for it.
I see where the mow is all full of clover
and cornstalks for me to eat,
And the barnyard is all full of straw
for me to sleep on.
I smell chopfeed and oilmeal in the feeding aisle.
Let her come cold.'

'What's keeping the winter, anyhow?
By this time of year
you'd expect every morning to be frosty
And you'd expect to see the sky hanging
over the world
Like a pewter bowl over an old plate.
Something's gone wrong somewhere.
I hope it gets straightened out before there's
another generation of flies.'

'I remember last spring how sick and tired I was
of the barn.
All you can do in a stable is stand a while
and lie down a while.
It got to be so that it was a pleasure
To go out into the cold in the evening in the ice.
And drink water out of a hole chopped
Next spring, if I'm still living, I'll feel the same way.
Now I wish it would freeze in.'

'If it could always be summer,' says the cow,
'That would be fine.
I would like it when the grass grows high
So I can get me a bellyful in an hour.
That leaves the cream of the day
For standing under the tree
with your feet in the water.
Listening to birds, watching the snake-feeders,
Thinking things over.'

'Summer is all right.
Spring is good for awhile, because you're
sick of winter,
Fall is no good at all. Fall is just waiting for winter.'

The flies bite hardest in fall
And the grass gets toughest.

'At night in winter, after the lantern goes
And the lights go out in the house,
After the old dog rounds a nest in the hay-pile,
There will be feelings to feel.
'Feelings that make the hair prick
where it sticks in the hide—
Feelings that make the old dog growl out
And the horses stamp in the stable.
When I was a heifer I bawled
when the cold ghosts came.
Now I am old, and I get so I like the feeling.'

'Let it get cold,' says the cow.
'What's keeping winter?'
The world has been biding its dread like a man
coming down with sickness,
Let the cold come, so we know what we're in for.'


—JAKE FALSTAFF



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North Country Book News

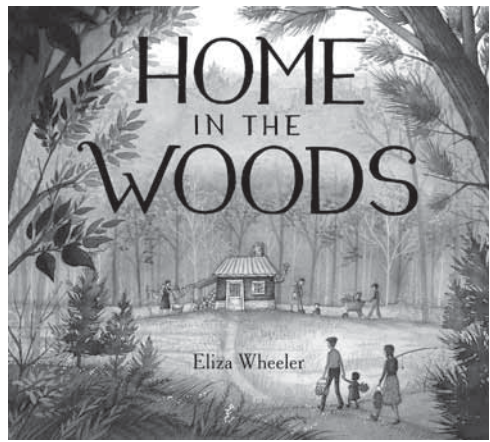
Children's Book Reviews by Charles Sutton

Pumpkins, Halloween, Winter is Coming

It seems easy now for most of us to enjoy getting the harvest in and processed and enough wood for the winter. But this was never easy, almost impossible, during the Great Depression when families were mostly completely on their own for survival.

In this sensitively written and illustrated *Home In The Woods* by Eliza Wheeler (\$17.99, Penguin Random House, www.penguin.com/kids) the author recreates what actually happened to her family back then in northern Wisconsin, getting ready for and making it through winter under the most difficult circumstances.

Her grandmother was one of eight children who had to move into a tar-papered shack in the woods alone with their mother after her husband, a munitions factory worker, died of cancer. The author's luminous watercolors show the family getting through the seasons always making the best of their situation with courage and finding joy in being together. For this family it is an adventure fortunately surrounded by the natural world which supports their own garden and a terrain full of wild berries, fish and game. At the time of this writing four of the siblings were still alive, aged 87 to 97. This book is a tribute to all who deal with adversity with courage and hope.



growing all over the city streets, up and growing on buildings roofs, really just all over the place. The towns people love and play with the pumpkins and even build catapults to toss them from rooftops. They hold a pumpkin festival where pumpkin bread, pie and sweet pumpkin spice are featured. Giant pumpkins are collected, cut in half, and turned into small houses and boats. Finally when Halloween comes there's a need for all the pumpkins to be made into jack-o-lanterns. Two full double page spreads show all these jack-o-lanterns shining through the night. What a sight. But all good things must come to an end and the pumpkins are turned into mulch which is spread throughout the town. What's you guess if any come up the next year.

Youngsters who will be creating their own jack-o-lanterns this Halloween can see how much fun it will be by starting with *Pick a Pumpkin* by Patricia Toht and illustrated by Jarvis (\$16.99, Candlewick Press, www.candlewickpress.com).

In this seasonally colorful large-formatted book, enlivened by a rhythmic read-about text of poems, one will see the end results with unusual pumpkin designs and happy-faced children. But on the way jack-o-lantern makers will still have to "Reach down deep into the hole, grab the seeds, and give a pull. Lumpy chunks. Sticky strings. Clumpy seeds. Guts and things. With a spoon, scrape sides neatly. Clean the inside out completely." The text then goes on with advice, also in poems, for making the pumpkin's face and other Halloween decorations. The narrative ends with a two-page spread of Jack-O'-Lantern: "Its red-hot eyes will glaze and flicker. Its fiery grin will blaze and snicker, to guard your house while you have fun." Yes, have some fun.

Fall is a special time for youngsters and their pets who have fun outside playing in the leaves, flying kites, and other adventures. But this isn't always easy if the boy wants his pet, a young owl, to start flying. After all, aren't owls supposed to fly?

But in *Max and Marla Are Flying Together* by Alexandra Boiger (\$17.99, Penguin Random House, www.penguin.com/kids), it will take some time, effort and loving encouragement to get the owl Marla to try flying. Max takes her kite-flying to show how much fun there is soaring through the skies, but reluctant Maria would rather hide in a pile of leaves. This is a charming story of how a close friend helps one face their fears. The line drawings are simple and to the point: Maria does fly and will again tomorrow.

Originally from Germany the author now lives outside San Francisco. She has illustrated other Max and Maria books and the Tallulah series about an aspiring ballerina by Marilyn Singer.



Book News

Megan Price Presents Vermont Wild on October Book Tour

Megan Price, author of the bestselling *Vermont Wild, Adventures of Fish & Game Wardens* series will share secrets behind the series, sign books and answer questions at bookstores around the state. Newly released, volume six will be available as well as *Maine Wild*.

Friday, October 4th, Brattleboro, VT. Everyone's Books, 23 Elliot St., beginning at 6 pm. (802) 254-8160. everyonesbks.com.

Saturday, October 5th, Bellows Falls, VT. 11 a.m. at Village Square Bookstore, 32 the Square. (802) 463-9404. villagesquarebooks.com.

Saturday, October 5th, Keene, NH. 2 p.m. at Toadstool Books, 12 Emerald Street. (603) 352-8815. toadstoolbooks.com.

October 19th, East Poultney, VT. Horace Greeley Writer's Symposium, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Writers of all genres invited to attend. Featuring accomplished speakers with backgrounds in creative non-fiction, traditional and independent publishing. Contact Linda Knowles, (802) 287-2577. horacegreeleyfoundation.org.

Saturday, October 19th, Rutland, VT. 2:30 p.m. at Phoenix Books, 2 Center St. (802) 855-8078. phoenixbooks.biz.

Thursday, October 24th, Waterbury, VT. Bridgeside Books, 29 Stowe St. Book-signing 4-5:30 pm. Price also appears at Extempo, 8-10:30 pm, \$5, true, first person storytelling. (802) 244-1441. bridgesidebooks.com.

Rutland, VT

Halloween Tales With Joseph Citro

Phoenix Books Rutland invites community members to get ready for Halloween on Thursday, October 24th at 6:30 p.m. Joseph A. Citro, the Vermont author and folklorist who has been referred to as the "Bard of the Bizarre" and "the Ghost-Master General," will offer insight into the folklore, hauntings, ghost stories, paranormal activity and occult happenings of New England.

Joseph A. Citro has written five novels on supernatural themes—four of them based on actual New England history—including *Lake Mon-*

sters, The Gore, and Guardian Angels. He is also author of *Green Mountains, Dark Tales, The Vermont Ghost Guide, Passing Strange, and Green Mountain Ghosts, Ghouls, and Unsolved Mysteries.*

This event is free and open to all. Phoenix Books Rutland is located at 2 Center Street in downtown Rutland, VT. Copies of the featured title will be available for purchase and to have signed. For more information, please call (802) 855-8078 or visit www.phoenixbooks.biz.



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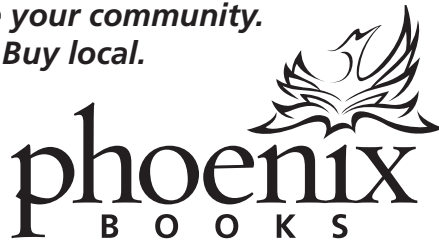
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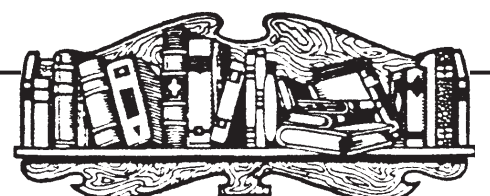
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Wilding

Returning Nature to Our Farm

by Isabella Tree

(\$19.95 New York Review of Books .www.nyrb.com)

Imagine a 3,500 acre working family farm in England that despite continually modernizing and taking other economic measures continues to fail. Income from milk, dairy products, and even a carp fish farm, don't enable them to make ends meet.

Also, its once successful Castle Dairy luxury ice-cream can't compete when Häagen-Dazs comes to the UK with a \$32 million advertising budget and display freezers in thousands of outlets.

By the year 2000, the husband and wife farming team Charlie Burrell and Isabella Tree of the Knepp Castle Estate in southwest Sussex are facing bankruptcy. After much soul-searching and deliberations (what about loyal employees?) decide to quit farming and to do something radical—like letting the property go completely wild.

What happened next has been carefully documented in this thoughtful and thorough 365-page treatise *Wilding—Returning Nature to Our Farm* which could well serve as a textbook on biodiversity in this age of climate change and continuing environmental degradation.

It took the couple several years to realize the farm was doomed despite their best efforts and determination. And Isabella writes: "The complexity of mixed-farming business—dairy, sheep-dairy, beef, and a rotation of nine different arable crops—made it difficult to identify the profitability of each enterprise month-to-month, and year-to-year, throwing a smokescreen over a yawning chasm of costs."

Forced out of business

Events out of their control also were hurting their business: cheaper cereals coming from Asia, Russia, America and other countries grown on giant factory-farms; huge fluctuations in milk prices and quotas; declining farm subsidies; rising costs of farm labor and equipment; and endless governmental regulations. (Ironically when the farm went "wild" the couple still faced countless regulations from official and non-governmental agencies on what they could or couldn't do.)

We learn early on that even the idea of rewilding the property enraged fellow neighbor-farmers and local townspeople. Charlie's and Isabella's alleged "thoughtlessness" would make the property an eyesore and no longer would portray the postcard scenes of English landscapes with manicured lands and fields bordered by trim hedgerows where a lowing herd would always graze contentedly "o'er the lea."

Isabella chronicles the history from farm to wild estate from the 12th Century through 2019.

Effects of World War II

During World War II the farm's Ripton Park was part of the "Dig for Victory" program where the whole country helped grow food to prevent starvation having been cut off from its usual foreign food sources by Nazi submarines.

In the year 2000 the couple started its rewilding project by selling off its dairy herds and farm machinery and putting its arable land out to lease.

Two years later the couple brought in fallow deer, the first in a continuing decision to restore large grazing animals to the wild, hopefully the same or similar breeds that roamed there in primitive times.

They gradually added old English long-horns, Exmoor ponies—a living image of horses depicted in the Palaeolithic cave drawings; Tamworth pigs—ideal to 'disturb' the soil like wild boars; and red and roe deer. Other species came or were brought in, too: the first raven in March, 2007. In that same year 34 nightingales seen (from not one in 2002); and in December, 2016, 34 white storks were released. Applications pending today hope to bring in beavers and bison.

The word got out in the nature world that this was a safe haven where every kind of species (plants and animals) was welcomed.

Wildlife successes

By 2009 a five-year monitoring survey revealed surprising wildlife successes, "including breeding skylarks, woodlarks, jack snipe, ravens, redwings, fieldfares and lesser redpolls, 13 out of the UK's 17 bat species, and 60 invertebrate species of conservation concern including the rare purple emperor butterfly whose presence drew to the site "hundreds of butterfly-watchers bristling with telescopic lenses." We are told why:

"The emperors themselves seem to play to the crowd. Pugnacious males dart around the crowns of oaks, staking out their territory, jetting about with muscular flicks of their wings, twirling on their own axes, elevating a hundred feet into the air."

Even more amazing than the arrival of the purple emperors was the 'perfect storm' of painted lady butterflies in May, 2009, when 11 million of them journeying from the Atlas Mountains in Morocco and picked the Knepp wilds to be their landing field.

Isabella describes this experience: "Standing in the middle of a butterfly blizzard, eyes closed, as I did that extraordinary day, is discombobulating. The sound of a single butterfly is imperceptible. But tens of thousands have breath of their own, like the back-draught of a waterfall or an accumulating weather front..."

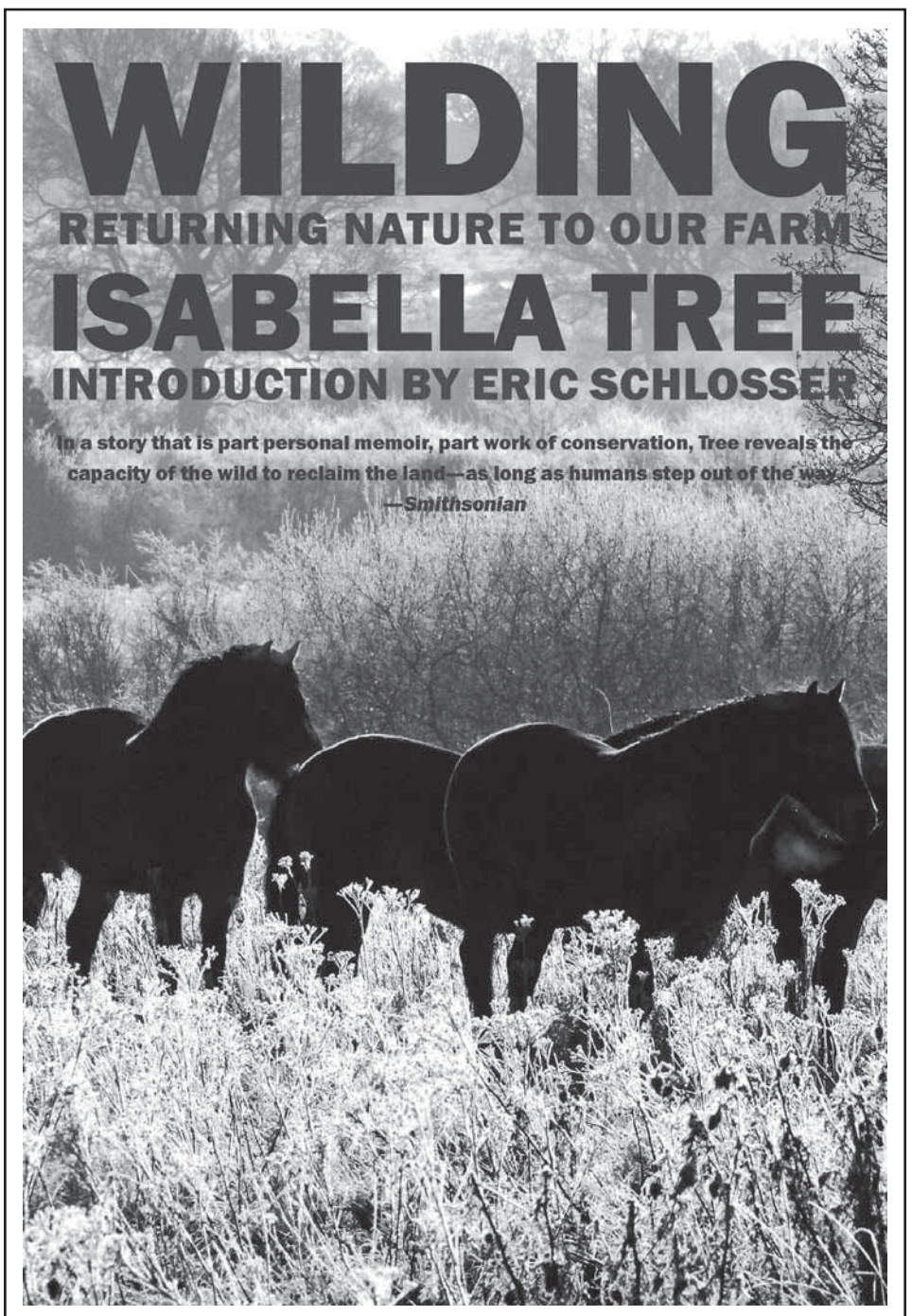
Butterflies ate this!

These painted ladies miraculously solved the problem of some 60 acres of the run-away weed—the creeping thistle—upon which the butterflies landed, laid their eggs, and from which the caterpillars later emerged and completely devoured. And Isabella writes:

"Sooner or later, it seems. A perfect storm weather, pathogen and predation converges to wipe creeping thistle out. Its clonal method of reproduction—its most pernicious characteristic to most people—is also its greatest weakness."

"It was a lesson that has since saved us a great deal unnecessary stress. Now when people stand shaking their heads in our fields of ragwort or—latterly—acres of the pioneer fleabane, we smile benignly and shrug off their concerns. Not even plagues of injuries last forever."

Farmers from the start at Knepp had to deal with a mostly clay soil that didn't hold life-supporting water too well. Since rewilding and with the help of all sorts of wildlife, including many kinds of worms, the soil has improved and Isabella writes; "soil carbon, organic matter, and microbial biomass has more than doubled, and fungal biomarkers (mycorrhizae) has more than tripled." This remarkable book contains essay-like discussions of how our environmental-human



relations have gone off course worldwide, the most obvious today being climate change. She also warns that today's new "baselines" blank out the wonderful natural world of our grand and great-grand parents: "How many trees, flowers, bird, and insects can the average person identify today?" she asks.

As a sad commentary on what is happening today she points to the Oxford Junior Dictionary, aimed at seven-year-olds, which has dropped the words: almond, blackberry, crocus, acorn, buttercup, heron, kingfisher, lark, leopard, lobster, magpie, minnow, mussel, newt, otter, ox, oyster and panther. You guessed right—they have been replaced with computer-age words like blog and chat room.

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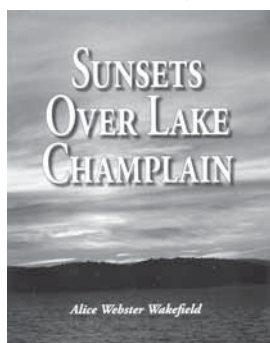
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North Country Reflections

Welcoming Birds & Butterflies to Our Gardens

by Judith Irven
Photograph by Dick Conrad

We all love the flowers we grow in our gardens—an ever-changing palette from spring to fall—and by contrast, the stark beauty of winter.

But birds and butterflies add their own ephemeral magic to our gardens—they are like the icing on the cake. For me, the opportunity to observe these winged visitors as the seasons pass is an endless source of pleasure and wonder.

Here a few of the highlights from my Goshen garden:

This year the waning weeks of summer were pure delight, as butterflies and hummingbirds savored those last mellow days of the season.

Not long ago I watched a lone Monarch butterfly with a consort of 'Painted Ladies' all feasting on a large patch of 'Autumn Joy' Sedum, while nearby half a dozen Monarchs fluttered above the tall stands of New York Ironweed and Joe Pye Weed. Meanwhile hummingbirds zipped all around, also seeking nectar from the late summer flowers.

By the third week of September—when the Fall Equinox signaled the official end of summer—the hummingbirds had already set out on their epic journeys to spend their winters in Central America. Soon the final Monarchs will leave on their own amazing trips to their wintering ground in central Mexico.

Fall is when I love to watch the various sparrows and warblers as they forage on the ripening seeds of grasses and perennials, including a huge stand of Purple Moor Grass and clumps of *Heliopsis* outside our bedroom window.

Sometime in early November (once I am convinced the big bear, who lives up in the forest near here, should finally be hibernating) I will put out the winter bird feeders. Then, right on cue, in less than five minutes, the first chickadees of the season will arrive. Chickadees are regular visitors at our feeders all winter long, sometimes joined by house finch, siskin, goldfinch and the occasional grosbeaks.

Also each year in early November I can count on a host of robins and cedar waxwings to discover the succulent fruit on the six winterberry bushes that grow around the corner of our driveway.

Throughout the winter other birds come and go. Just this past December we watched in amazement as an emboldened flock of turkeys landed in the crabapple tree near the house and proceeded to devour the remaining fruit.

Then, somewhere around the Spring Equinox the bird mix changed, as sparrows and other small birds scratched through the mulch beneath my shrubs in search of a succulent insect meal.

In early May I rehung the hummingbird feeders, and on May 7 the first hummingbird appeared. And by the third week of May the garden was alive with Tiger Swallowtail butterflies—perfectly timed for them to feast on the emerging lilac flowers.

Soon they were joined by many others—including Painted Ladies, Monarchs, White Admirals, Mourning Cloaks—which also remained in the garden throughout the summer, visiting the many different flowers in search of nectar.

And it is always fun to watch the nesting patterns of the various birds. For the past three years, a pair of catbirds has made use of the dense trio of Miss Kim Lilac shrubs outside our kitchen window as a safe spot to raise their brood. And all summer long a song sparrow—perching at the top of an evergreen—kept watch over his growing family in a nearby group of spires.

Meanwhile the acrobatic phoebes, who tuck their nests under the eaves of our barn, delighted us as they dart down and capture their insect prey in mid-air.

Every year, I watch in awe and delight as these and many



Painted Lady butterfly enjoying the nectar in some Autumn Joy Sedum. photo by Dick Conrad

other small miracles unfold before my eyes, all adding to the many pleasures I get from being a gardener.

Supporting wildlife in our gardens

Beyond passively enjoying these winged visitors, I also strive to make my garden a truly hospitable habitat which I hope will encourage them not only to visit but also to stay awhile.

If we all do this, taken together our gardens can make a vital contribution to the larger environment. Today, as human development relentlessly expands—everything from housing and roads to farming—it fragments our wild places, making it harder and harder for all kinds of wildlife to find places where they can successfully reproduce and maintain their species. By creating a network of wildlife-friendly gardens, people can actively help these beautiful creatures propagate and flourish.

So, with that in mind, here are several ways we can transform our gardens into welcoming oases for the birds and butterflies we love to see:

Grow native plants

Back in 2007, Douglas Tallamy, professor of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware first published his landmark book 'Bringing Nature Home,' which was based primarily on his own extensive research.

In this eminently readable book he starts by describing how, for many birds, caterpillars and other insects form a major component in their diet.

In turn, the individual insect species, which of course includes butterflies, lay their eggs on very specific plants that their emerging caterpillars can eat. And, because insects evolve relatively slowly, most often these will be native plants that have been here for hundreds of years.

Hence, for many birds and butterflies, native plants form the bottom tier of the food chain. And growing a good mix in our gardens—including perennials, shrubs and trees—will indirectly contribute to the food supply of many kinds of butterflies and birds. His book provides extensive lists of plants that support different insects and birds.

Grow trees and shrubs that produce fruit or nuts

Especially in the colder months, fruit and nuts are another important food source for many birds. And there are literally dozens of shrubs and trees that can flourish in Northeastern gardens which are also excellent food sources for birds.

To help you choose the best species of woody plants for your garden check out the excellent book: 'Trees, Shrubs and Vines for Attracting Birds' by Richard DeGraaff. The author provides a detailed description of over a hundred

species, including many of my personal favorites such as serviceberries, crab apples, winterberries, mountain ash, and two native species of viburnum—the wild raisin and the American cranberry bush—as well as several kinds of roses.

Adopt bird and butterfly friendly gardening practices

Finally there are many simple things we can do to make our gardens more appealing to birds and butterflies. Here are five to consider:

- Even in winter many flowering perennials and ornamental grasses are a source of viable seeds. Wait until spring before cutting them back so that they can contribute to the food supply for birds that winter in our region.

- Don't be afraid to leave your garden a bit messy, especially in winter! Butterflies as well as other insects often overwinter in garden debris and dead leaves. And, once the ground warms in springtime, you will see returning sparrows and other small birds scratching the soil in search of insects to eat.

- Lawns take both time and energy to mow and upkeep, while they contribute very little to the overall environment. So, if you have a large lawn, consider letting part of it revert to meadow. Mow this area just once or twice a season; in a year or two it will be full of beneficial wild flowers and grasses. And for the lawn you do mow regularly—raise your mower blade to 3 inches or higher. Not only will this result in healthier greener grass, but your lawn will also support small insects and worms that too contribute to the food chain.

- Birds need safe cover, both for nesting and to avoid predators. When planting shrubs, rather than dotting them around singly, mass them together in irregular groups of three or five.

- We often hear about the need to support the many kinds of pollinators—especially the different species of wild bees that in many cases are nearing extinction. As they visit our flowers bees and butterflies (as well as hummingbirds) are looking for nectar, but in so doing they also distribute pollen to adjacent flowers. Thus planting flowers identified as 'pollinator-friendly' will bring both bees and butterflies to your garden. Check the informative website of UVM's Jane Sorenson at <http://www.riverberryfarm.com/pollinator-plants-at-river-berry-farm/> for charts of pollinator-friendly garden flowers by height, color and bloom-time.

Plant it and they will come

Fall is a wonderful time not only to make plans for the future gardens, but also to get digging, divide and move perennials and even buy new plants.

So, if creating a garden oasis for winged visitors is on your wish list, this is the perfect time to start.

And, if you live in a communal setting with common land, why not get together with your neighbors to create a neighborhood garden that both people as well as butterflies and birds will enjoy.

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

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

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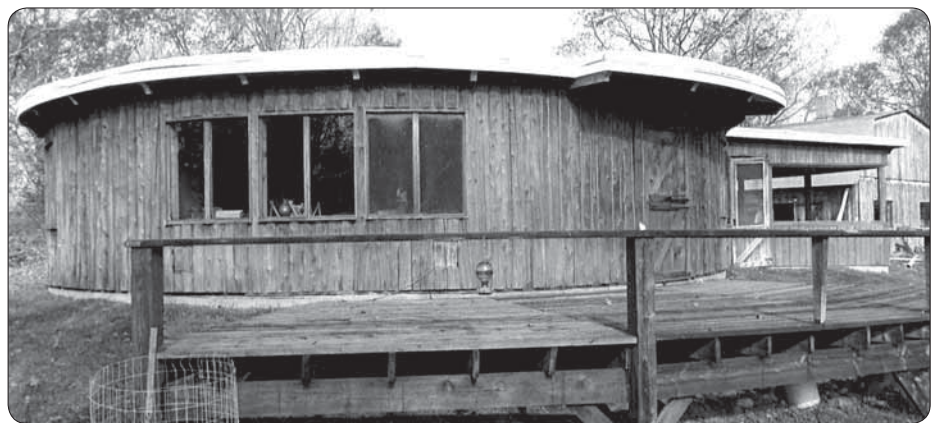
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